

## DAILY AIRMAIL BULLETIN

## INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

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Monday, February 11, 1952.

Mr. Claxton And Mr. Pearson To Attend Funeral Of King George VI: Ottawa, February 10 (CP) -- The Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, will leave Canada Wednesday instead of Monday for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization meeting at Lisbon and will be among Canadians attending the funeral of King George VI, February 15. Others who will attend are the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, Governor General designate, and Mr. L. Dana Wilgress, Canadian High Commissioner in England..

Mr. Pearson, Mr. Claxton and Mr. Wilgress will leave London Feb. 16 for the NATO meeting.

Canadian Aid To Europe: Ottawa, February 8 (CP) -- The Cabinet approved a substantial new boost this week in the aid Canada proposes to give Europe for defence in the fiscal year starting April 1. It is expected to bring Canada's investment in European defence close to the half-billion-dollar mark.

The investment will fall into three main classifications:

- 1. Mutual aid, embracing shipments of arms and equipment to Europe and training of European air crew in Canada.
- 2. So-called "infrastructure" costs-airfield construction, communications, signals setups and other things to back up frontline units.
- 3. Armed forces contributions, including maintenance of an Army brigade already in Germany and establishment of about five jet fighter squadrons in Britain or France. In addition, barracks are to be built for the brigade.

Parliament, meeting in three weeks, must approve the outlay. The figures now are secret but the indications are that they will go well beyond \$400,-000,000 and approach \$500,000,000 in all the programme's ramifications.

Members of Parliament will get their first broad look at the cost when the Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, tables estimates, expected to include a record \$2,200,000,000 for defence of Canada and her allies.

The money for Europe will be within that total.

The Cabinet met this week to consider the defence estimates and authorized two Cabinet Ministers to go to the Lisbon meeting of the Atlantic Pact Council next week with an offer to raise Canada's existing offer of mutual aid in the next fiscal year.

The offer to date is \$228,000,000 for mutual aid alone in 1952-53. Mr. Pearson and Mr. Claxton have been authorized to say this can be boosted to a new level. It is not likely to be less than \$300,000,000.

Not all the \$300,000,000 need be included in the estimates, however, because more than \$100,000,000 voted by Parliament in the past is still available and unused.

Parliament To Open With Nation In Mourning: Ottawa, Feb. 10 (Globe and Mail) -The short period of court mourning ordered by Queen Elizabeth is likely to
have the effect of curtailing the session of Parliament which opens, Feb. 28.

In 1936, the end of the period of mourning for King George V was followed almost immediately by the coronation, and if this plan is followed again it may mean that members of the Cabinet, Speakers and others will be anxious to get overseas. Under the circumstances, there will probably be an attempt to get prorogation as soon after May 31 as possible.

At the moment the legislative budget looks light. There was an unusual cleanup of legislation last session, leaving over only one major bill, the bill to amend the Annuities Act. This will be reintroduced in different form at the coming session.