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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

COLOMBO PLAN CONFERENCE: Marking the first occasion that Colombo Plan discussions have been held in Canada, economic and financial experts from the 14 Colombo Plan countries commenced preliminary talks in Canada's Parliament Buildings at Ottawa on September 20. They will continue deliberations this week and next and on October 4 talks will move to the Ministerial level.

At the opening meeting on September 20, Mr. Kenneth W. Taylor, Canada's Deputy Minister of Finance, was elected chairman of the preliminary discussions, from which will emerge a progress report for the meeting of the Ministers.

The six-year, \$5,000,000,000 Colombo Plan program was begun in 1951 to strengthen and aid undeveloped countries.

The Canadian Parliament voted \$25.4 million for use under the Colombo Plan in 1954/55, making a total of approximately \$102 million which has been made available by Canada for capital and technical assistance in the first four years of the Plan. In addition, there has been a special \$5 million grant of wheat to Pakistan, from which counterpart funds have been generated for use in agreed developmental projects. Although funds are voted on a yearly basis, unexpended moneys are carried over from year to year.

The Department of External Affairs released on September 17 the names of delegates from

fourteen countries that will be attending the Colombo Consultative Committee meeting October 4-9.

The leaders are as follows:

<u>AUSTRALIA</u>	-	Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey, Minister of External Affairs
<u>BURMA</u>	-	U. Tun Shein, Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Office
<u>CAMBODIA</u>	-	Mr. Phlek-Phoeun, Director of National Planning
<u>CANADA</u>	-	Hon. L. B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs
<u>CEYLON</u>	-	Hon. M. D. H. Jayawardene, Minister of Finance
<u>INDIA</u>	-	Hon. C. D. Deshmukh, Minister of Finance
<u>INDONESIA</u>	-	Dr. Sunarjo, Minister of Foreign Affairs
<u>LAOS</u>	-	H. E. Ourot Souvannavong, Minister to United States
<u>NEPAL</u>	-	Major-General Maahabir Shumshere Jung Bahadur Rana
<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>	-	H. E. T. C. A. Hislop, High Commissioner for New Zealand in Canada, Ottawa
<u>PAKISTAN</u>	-	Hon. Chaudri Mohammed Ali, Minister of Finance
<u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>	-	The Hon. Marquess of Reading, Minister of State, Foreign Office