

Ike Initiates Economy Program

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — President Eisenhower yesterday ordered the return beginning Jan. 1 of 284,000 dependents of U.S. troops abroad as part of a sweeping seven-point government economy program.

Eisenhower personally announced the moves at a special news conference at his vacation headquarters. He said the emergency steps were urgently needed to guard the nation's gold and dollar resources.

"A definite improvement in our balance of payments situation is mandatory not only to insure our economic well-being and military security here at home but also to insure that the United States can continue as a strong partner in the future growth and military strength of the free world," he said.

The President's most drastic move was to order dependents of servicemen abroad to come home at a rate of 15,000 monthly.

A total of 200,000 will be allowed to remain abroad. At present there are about 484,000 military dependents scattered around the world.

The White House said that the President's far-reaching decisions had been made known yesterday to President-elect John F. Kennedy's representatives.

Kennedy Visits LBJ in Texas

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — President-elect John F. Kennedy traveled to Texas yesterday for conferences with the vice president-elect, Lyndon B. Johnson. Kennedy also arranged for talks here Monday on transition of power from the Eisenhower administration.

The switch of power from Republican hands in January also will be high on the agenda during the Kennedy-Johnson discussions which began last night and will continue today at Johnson's LBJ Ranch.

The president-elect and the No. 2 man in the new administration are expected to deal also with preliminary formulation of a congressional legislative program.

Absentee Ballots Push Nixon Ahead In His Home State

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A flood of absentee ballots late last night swept Vice President Richard M. Nixon into the lead for California's 32 electoral votes, with the prospect that the final count would name him the victor over President-elect John F. Kennedy, in California.

Nixon's edge was 1,702 votes, with the counting still in progress. Kennedy had led all the way in the tally of regular ballots, ending with a majority of 34,568.

Kennedy's election on the Democratic ticket as the next president was not jeopardized by the California swing, but his margin was reduced and Nixon's prestige in his home state was strengthened.

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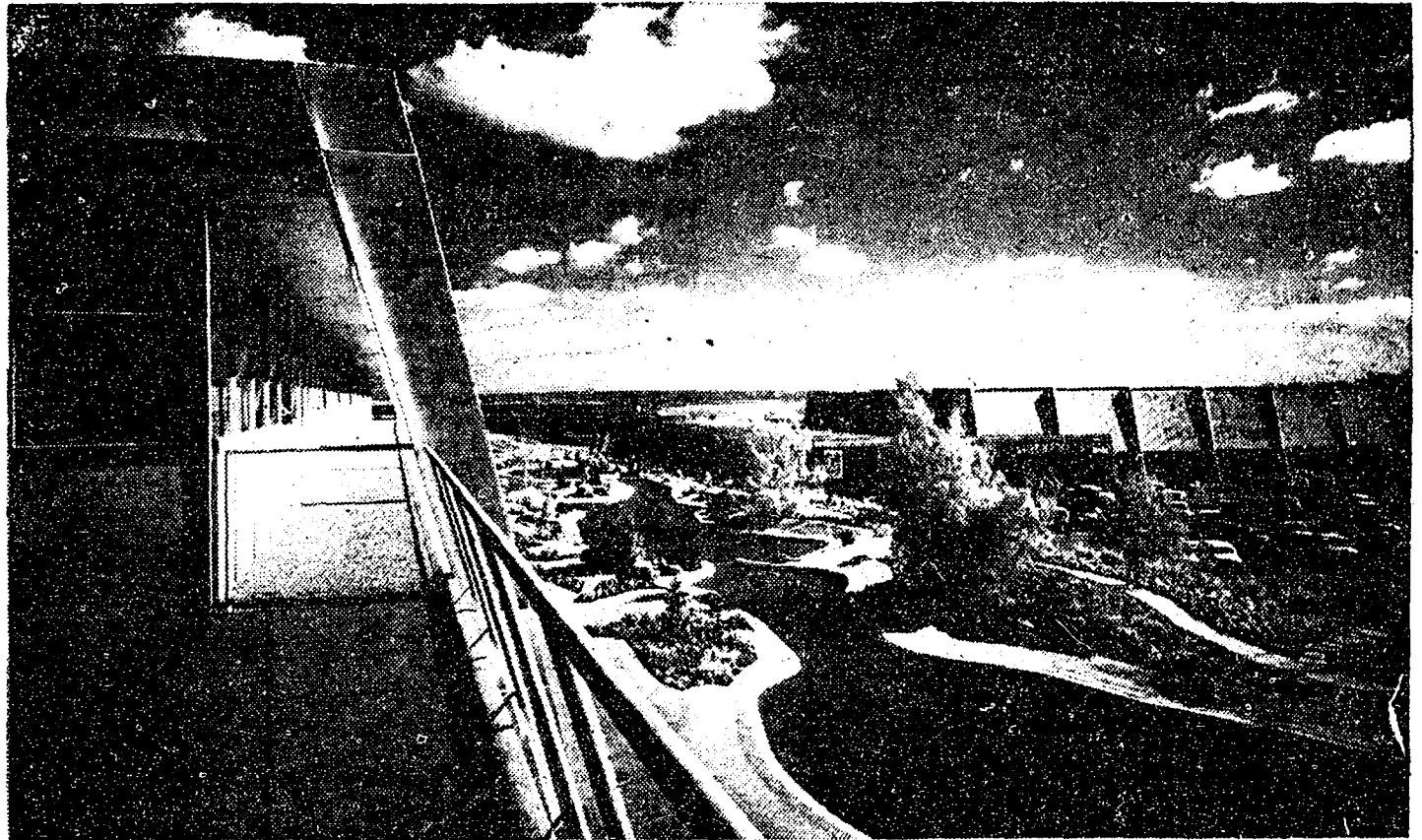


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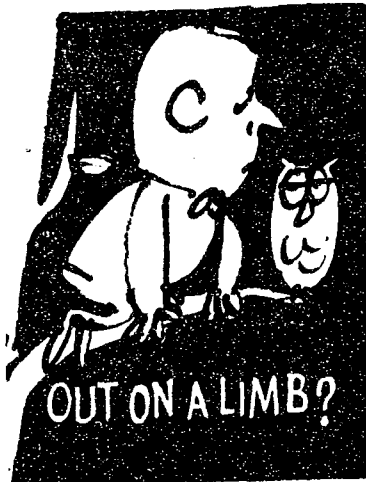
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