

FLASHES

Premier Mendes-France was the loneliest man in the assembly. He knew he was going to be defeated and probably *see* all his good work for European unity thrown away.

20 French political irresponsibility had triumphed again.

Colonial representatives were interviewed and M. Pinay was asked to form a Government. French agreement on German rearmament looks like being postponed.

An x-ray apparatus light enough for use on the battlefield was demonstrated at Fort Knox. It's powered by a little piece of thallium, ^{a mineral} which stays radio-active for a year.

To frontline casualties the 48-pound machine is easily carried. It needs no water, electricity or dark room.

The developer is a self-contained film-holder with radio-active paper instead of film, and within ten minutes of setting up, the finished radiograph is ready. It's for the U.S. Army to begin with. But imagine what a boon it will be everywhere before long.

The Latest vertical take-off plane ~~is~~ was tested in America.

Two jet engines on either side of the fuselage can be turned round, first to take the plane off the ground, then ~~back~~ to normal position for level flight. That part of the programme is still secret, so on this test the plane rose and hovered ~~only~~.

(flag) 20 The descent was just as easy. It's beginning to look as if the problems of vertical take-off are being solved. Perhaps large aerodromes will soon be thing of the past.