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48 Countries Now Sending Envoys To Vatican State

This Is An Increase of Ten Nations Since the Accession of Pope Pius XII

Vatican City (Radio (C)).—The number of countries maintaining a diplomatic representation at the Holy See has grown during the Pontificate of His Holiness Pope Pius XII from 38 to 48. This becomes clear from the new "List of the Diplomatic Corps" which has been issued by the Vatican Secretariate of State and which explains the status of the various countries as of December, 1951. Countries whose diplomatic representations are at present suspended are included in the list of 48.

In 1939, the 38 countries with diplomatic representatives at the Vatican maintained 12 embassies and 25 legations, while one country was represented by a charge d'affaires. The new tabulation of the diplomatic corps lists 23 embassies, 24 legations and one country, China, listed separately as having a charge d'affaires.

Three of the 23 embassies listed—those of Germany, Japan (Continued on Page 27) and the United States—have a distinct status. The embassies of Germany and Japan have been without a titular head since the end of the war. The post of personal representative of the President of the United States, with ambassadorial rank, has not been occupied since the resignation of Myron C. Taylor. The other 20 are listed as follows: Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Peru, Poland, Philippines Portugal, Spain, Venezuela and Paraguay. (Paraguay recently raised the legation to the status of an embassy and the first ambassador of that country w ill soon present his credentials.)

The 24 legations are listed as follows: Austria, Czechoslovakia, Costa Rica, Britain, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Guatemala, Holland, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Order of Malta, Monaco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Rumania, San Marino, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

Of the legations, three are at the present time without a titular head: Guatemala, Honduras and Yugoslavia, while two are in a suspended status: those of Czechoslovakia and Rumania.

During the present pontificate, the following countries have established or resumed relations with the Holy See: China, Egypt, Philippines, Finland, Japan, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Holland, Paraguay, Pakistan, United States and Uruguay.