



As I See It

BY

Elmore Philpott

Indo-China Test

ALL THE reports coming in from Indo-China indicate that an even bigger battle than that at Dien Bien Phu is shaping up at Hanoi.

Even so level headed an observer as Walter Lippmann writes that the French army there may soon be fighting under much the same conditions as the British fought at Dunkirk.

The comparison is ominous. For the British army at Dunkirk was saved only by a miracle. Hitler's major blunder is not closing the trap on the escaping British army; and the ingenious use of the famous big fleet of "little ships" which snatched the British army literally from the jaws of death.

THE difference in Indo-China is that just off the coast of that country is a powerful fleet of the U.S. navy—which is by far the most powerful. There has been in the history of man that U. S. navy is armed with weapons devastating enough to wipe out entire cities—and some say—devastating enough to wipe out whole countries—as well as to poison the very air, and sea and all living things in it and on it. And also, just a few score miles to the north, is the border of Red China, now ranking again as one of the world's great powers, as it always was for thousands of years, until the defeat by the west about a hundred years ago.

The difference between the

ray ...

Reflects and Reminisces

Forty years need not be thought an unduly long time to remain suspicious of communism. This is the candid opinion of President Eisenhower and he said it with considerable force.

Guards on each of Canada's B.C. provide a year-round spectacle to our visitors who take the trouble to investigate the north-centre areas of the province. Incidentally, the paper says Smithers is sixty miles from Prince Rupert. North-central British Columbia hastens to give assurance that all this is well worth investigating.

Canada will experience all sorts of sport this summer, ranging from Royalty all the way down to plain, everyday sportiveness and then some. In other words less of what might remember war.

Guards on each of Canada's coasts will be considered, according to recent advice from Ottawa. But it's just as well to be calm, and assume more or less doubt. Heaven knows a coast guard is badly wanted (British Columbia in particular) but that's not saying it is on the way.

Dunkirk of 1940 and the threatened Dunkirk in Indo-China is this:

It will be big U.S. ships which may go into action. And if they do, only a miracle will hold back direct intervention by Red China, exactly as it happened in Korea.

CANADIANS are solemnly pledged by the UN Charter to come to the aid of any country attacked by some other country. Thus, if Red China were to incite an aggression, Canada would be clearly bound to help repel that aggression. However, this would by no means automatically apply in case the U.S. navy had first intervened in the Indo-China war.

There is no obligation whatsoever on the part of any UN member to intervene in any colonial war.

Canada is even more explicitly bound to help defend the European areas of the NATO members. But this obligation specifically excluded the colonial possessions of those NATO countries, including France. It is well to remember that Canada and other NATO members might never have signed the NATO pact had it been stretched to cover colonial areas, for confused "nationalist" movements were clearly on the rise in all such areas.

BUT apart from the legal obligations under UN and NATO there are considerations of common sense.

The world Communist movement has developed a technique of creeping extension of its world power, through native underground armies.

The only places where they have been successfully checked in that part of the world are in Indo-Burma and Indonesia. We should ASK those countries how we can help them check Asian Communism—and not try to pressure them into helping us our way. It is their Asia.

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OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

Informed wheat circles here are unable to understand why the cut of ten cents per bushel in the price of wheat announced by Washington and followed by Ottawa should be interpreted as possibly the first shot fired in a trade war between the two countries.

Actually, the ten cents per bushel cut by Washington, instead of suggesting dumping tactics, indicated the very opposite. It was just the minimum reduction that could be made with the hope of getting North American wheat to move.

Specifically, it simply enabled United States and Canadian wheat to meet the price which Argentina has been quoting to importing countries.

The situation is that last year North American wheat, principally Canadian, enjoyed almost a monopoly of the South American import business. Brazil bought the bulk of her requirements from Canada. Peru imported exclusively from Canada.

But this year the picture has changed. Brazil has taken only a fraction of her imports from Canada. Peru has imported only a single shipload. The rest of the business has been going to Argentina at prices just about 10 cents per bushel lower than Canadian and United States quotations.

Actually Canadian wheat is worth more than wheat from Argentina. Its protein content and consequent milling qualities are substantially superior. This has been the Canadian argument in bidding for a higher price. But the year's experience has shown that South America is not a particularly quality-conscious market and that price rather than a superior product is the determining factor in making sales.

But from the standpoint of assessing the possible trade war significance of Washington's re-

cent price cut, the important factor is that United States wheat is being offered at exactly the same price as is Canadian wheat. That leaves a definite advantage still with Canadian wheat. For its protein content and milling qualities are known to be higher. Price factors being equal, it logically, therefore, will get the call.

What Ottawa wheat experts realize is that if Washington had been intent simply on dumping

wheat, it would have dropped the price substantially below the minimum which the competitive Argentinian price required. And it would have seen to it that United States wheat was offered at a more favorable price than Canadian wheat.

In other words, all that has happened has been a joint Washington-Ottawa move to meet Argentinian prices. There has been no move whatever in the direction of a dumping war.

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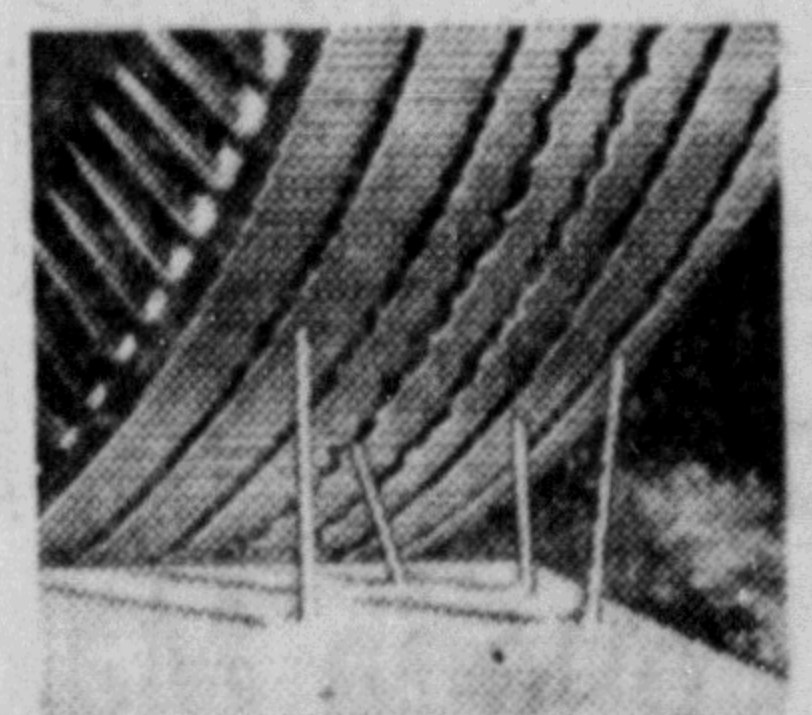
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The forger is a more practiced crook than the run of the mill "rubber cheque" passer, who writes his cheques against depleted or non-existent accounts. The forger cleverly imitates signatures, and because of his artistry the cheques too rarely bounce.

No perfect system to frustrate the forger has yet been applied, but he is handicapped most where credentials, or an identifying mark such as a fingerprint, are required before cheques are cashed.

A \$600,000,000 a year forgery is big business, with a proportionate toll of victims.

—Windsor Star.

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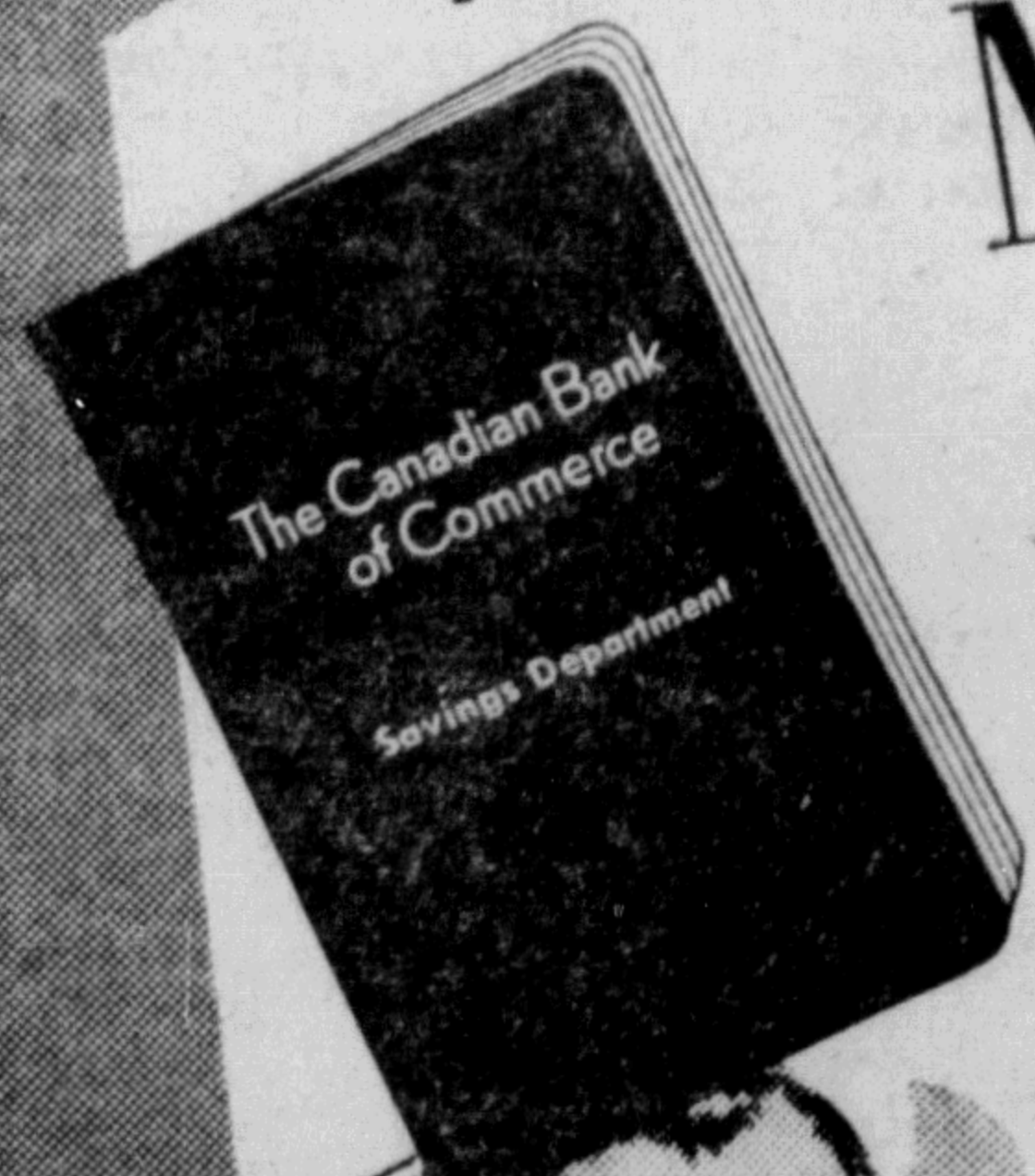
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