Belgium -N.

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## CANADIAN LEGATION

61 Nieuwe Parklaan
The Hague.

January 18th, 1940.

No. 24.

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I have the honour to submit below a brief review of the recent "alarm" which has disturbed the Netherlands and Belgium. Telegraphic reports, to be followed by despatches, have gone forward from the Brussels Legation describing the situation as affecting Belgium in particular, and as seen from that post of observation. The present summary will therefore be mainly confined to the situation as affecting Holland and as seen from the Haguel Needless to say, closest contact by telephone, several times each day, was maintained between the Legations in Brussels and The Hague, and with Paris; and constant touch was also kept with the diplomatic circles in each post.

## 1. The Recent Crisis Background.

- 2. Apparent evidence of a new danger to Holland can be constructed, as has been done by various foreign press correspondents in Holland, by piecing together a number of disparate facts. These include the following:
  - opposite the Dutch frontier has recently been increased, and is said to include infantry troops, mechanized units, cavalry units, heavy artillery, and other specialized services, all designed for specialized operations on this front.

The Right Honourable,

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, OTTAWA.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 383, pages C268550-C269295

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