

## **Gordon Sinclair**

### **"The Americans"**

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The United States dollar took another pounding on  
German, French, and  
British exchanges this morning, hitting the lowest point  
ever known in  
West Germany.  
It has declined there by 41 since 1971, and this  
Canadian  
Thinks it's time to speak up for the Americans as the  
most generous and  
Possibly the least appreciated people in all the world.  
As long as sixty  
Years ago, when I first started to read newspapers, I  
read of floods on  
The Yellow River and the Yangtze.  
Well, who rushed in with men and money  
To help?  
The Americans did, that's who.  
They have helped control floods  
On the Nile, the Amazon, the Ganges, and the Niger.  
Today, the rich bottom land of the Mississippi is  
underwater, and no foreign land has sent  
A dollar to help.  
Germany, Japan, and to a lesser extent Britain and  
Italy, were lifted out of the debris of war by the  
Americans who poured in  
Billions of dollars and forgave other billions in debts.  
None of those countries is today paying even the  
interest on it's remaining debts to the  
United States.  
When the franc was in danger of collapsing in 1956, it  
was the Americans who propped it up, and their reward  
was to be insulted and  
Swindled on the streets of Paris--and I was there, I saw  
that.  
When distant cities are hit by earthquake, it's the  
United States that hurries  
In to help; Managua, Nicaragua is one of the most  
recent examples.  
So far this spring, 59 American communities have been  
flattened by  
Tornadoes--nobody has helped.

The Marshall Plan, the Truman Policy--all  
Pumped billions upon billions of dollars into  
discouraged countries, and  
Now newspapers in those countries are writing about  
the decadent, war-mongering Americans. Now, I'd like  
to see just one of those countries  
That is gloating over the erosion of the United States  
dollar build it's own airplanes.  
Come on, now you--lets hear it!  
Does any country in the world have a plane to equal the  
Boeing jumbo jet, the Lockheed Tristar, or the Douglas  
Ten.  
If so, why don't they fly them? Why do all  
International lines except Russia fly American planes?  
Why does no other land on earth even consider putting  
a man or a woman on the moon? You  
Talk about Japanese technocracy, and you get radios.  
You talk about German technocracy, and you get  
automobiles.  
You talk about American technocracy, and you find  
men on the moon, not once, but several times, and  
safely home again.  
You talk about scandals, and the Americans put  
Theirs right in the store window for everybody to look  
at.  
Even the draft dodgers are not pursued and hounded.  
They're right here on our streets in Toronto. Most of  
them, unless they're breaking Canadian laws, are  
getting American dollars from ma and pa at home to  
spend up here.  
When the Americans get out of this bind, as they will,  
who could blame  
Them if they said to hell with the rest of the world.  
Let somebody else buy the bonds.  
Let somebody else build or repair foreign dams, or  
design foreign buildings that wont shake apart in  
earthquakes.  
When the railways of France and Germany and India  
were breaking down through age,  
It was the Americans who rebuilt them. When the  
Pennsylvania Railroad and  
The New York Central went broke, nobody loaned them  
an old caboose.  
Both of them are still broke.  
I can name to you five thousand times when the  
Americans raced to the help of other people in trouble.  
Can you name to me even one time when someone  
raced to the help of the Americans in  
Trouble?  
I don't think there was outside help even during the San  
Francisco earthquake.

Our neighbors have faced it alone.  
And I'm one Canadian who is damned tired of hearing  
them kicked around.  
They'll come out of this thing with their flag high, and  
when they do, they're entitled  
To thumb their noses at the lands that are gloating  
over their present trouble.  
I hope Canada is not one of these.  
But there are many smug, self-righteous Canadians.  
And finally, the American Red Cross was told at  
It's 48th annual meeting in New Orleans this morning  
that it was broke.  
This years disasters, with the year less than half over,  
have taken it  
All, and nobody, but nobody, has helped. --

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