

## MEDIATION OFFERED WILSON AND HUERTA ACCEPT

Brazil, Argentina, and Chile Will Try to Stop War—President Wilson Agrees Provisionally.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson accepted the proposal of Argentina, Brazil and Chile that they be allowed to mediate between the United States and Mexico for the purpose of ending the present conflict.

President Wilson made clear in his acceptance that the United States would be ready, while the attempt for peace was being made, to quickly meet any armed force which Huerta might see fit to use, or punish immediately any killing of American citizens in Mexico.

Events in Mexico do not augur well for the success of mediation, but the President takes the position that the United States can afford to take the first step by showing its willingness to do anything to prevent bloodshed, while standing firm to the edict that the insults to the American flag by Huerta must be avenged.

During the move for peace the United States will make no further invasions of Mexican territory and will hold to a tentative truce, unless forced to the use of arms by Huerta.

No troops will be withdrawn, however, and preparations for war will continue. Orders to ships now proceeding south will not be changed and officers of the Army and Navy, now at the front, will be allowed to use their own discretion in any situation which may arise.

The mediators have several alternative plans. They wish to get a complete apology from Huerta for insults to the American flag at Tampico or to eliminate Huerta from the situation entirely, or to bring the Constitutionalist and Federalists together and re-establish constitutional government in Mexico, which would likewise eliminate Huerta.

Official Washington is skeptical of mediation proving successful. The Offer of Mediation and President Wilson's Acceptance.

The offer made by the three countries is as follows:

"Mr. Secretary of State:  
"With the purpose of subserving the interest of peace and civilization in our continent in all confidence and with the earnest desire to prevent any further bloodshed to the prejudice of the cordiality and union which have always surrounded the relations of the governments and the people of America, and the plenipotentiaries of Brazil, Argentina and Chile, duly authorized hereto, have the honor to tender to your Excellency's Government our good offices for the peaceful and friendly settlement of the conflict between the United States and Mexico.

"This offer puts in due form the suggestions which we have had occasion to offer heretofore on this subject to the Secretary, to whom we renew the assurances of our highest and most distinguished consideration.

"D. da Gama,  
"R. S. Naon,  
"Eduardo Suraz Mujica."

The reply of the President, made through the Secretary of State to the diplomatic representatives, was as follows:

"The Government of the United States is deeply sensible of the friendliness, the good feeling and the generous concern for the peace and welfare of America manifested in the joint note just received from your Excellency tendering the good offices of your Government to effect, is possible, a settlement of the present difficulty between the Government of the United States and those who now claim to represent our sister Republic of Mexico.

"Conscious of the purpose with which the proffer is made, this Government does not feel at liberty to decline it. Its chief interest is in the peace of America, the cordial intercourse of her republic and their people and the happiness and prosperity which can spring only out of frank, mutual understandings and the friendship which is created by common purpose.

"The generous offer of your government is therefore accepted.

"This Government hopes most earnestly that you may find those who speak for the several elements of the Mexican people willing and ready to discuss terms of satisfactory and, therefore, permanent settlement. If you should find them willing, this Government will be glad to take up with you for discussion in the frankest and most conciliatory spirit any proposals that may be authoritatively formulated and will hope that they may prove feasible and prophetic of a new day of mutual co-operation and confidence in America.

### THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

The Huerta officials and Admiral Fletcher arranged for the safe departure of Americans from the Mexican capital and the free exodus of Mexicans from Vera Cruz.

The mediators resented public reports that one of the underlying purposes of their good offices was to bring about the elimination of Huerta.

Many American refugees were taken from trains and imprisoned at Aguascalientes.

"This Government feels bound in candor to say that its diplomatic relations with Mexico being for the present severed it is not possible for it to make sure of an uninterrupted opportunity to carry out the plan of intermediation which you propose. It is, of course, possible that some act of aggression on the part of those who control the military forces of Mexico might oblige the United States to act to the upsetting of the hopes of immediate peace, but this does not justify us in hesitating to accept your generous suggestion. We shall hope for the best results within a brief time, enough to relieve our anxiety lest most ill-considered hostile demonstrations should interrupt negotiations and disappoint our hopes of peace."

Washington, D. C.—Spanish Ambassador Riano received advices from Mexico City stating that General Huerta had accepted the offer of Argentina, Brazil and Chile to use their good offices to bring about an amicable settlement of the difficulty between the United States and Mexico.

The interests of the Huerta Government in the United States were taken up by the Spanish Embassy when Charge d'Affaires Algara asked for his passports and left Washington for Canada.

Ambassador Riano received the offer of good offices from the three peace envoys after the offer had been accepted on the part of the United States by President Wilson. It was cabled at once to the Spanish Minister at Mexico City and by him presented to President Huerta.

When the formal acceptance from Mexico City is in hand the South American diplomats will be ready to proceed with their plan, no intimation of the nature of which as yet has been given.

It has been generally understood here, however, that the peace envoys expect to deal directly with the situation created by the resentment by the United States Government against the Tampico incident and other offenses against its honor and dignity, hoping to bring about a peaceful settlement. Administration officials here appeared to be much gratified at the prospect of having the proposals of the great South American republics listened to by General Huerta. Until the nature of the plan is known, no officer of the Administration will have any comment to make.

### AIRSHIP FLIES OVER VERA CRUZ.

Naval Aviator Circles Outskirts and Observes Position of Mexicans.

Vera Cruz.—An aeroplane from the American fleet made a flight over Vera Cruz. On attaining an altitude of several hundred feet the naval aviator circled the city and then passed over the outskirts and observed the position of the Mexicans Federal forces. American naval officers on duty in the city became convinced after an investigation of the sniping that they had to deal with a secret organization which posts snipers after dark at points where their fire is most effective.

Mexicans desiring to reach the interior from Vera Cruz are to be exchanged for American refugees who wish to reach the coast.

Admiral Fletcher's declaration of martial law at Vera Cruz is approved by officials here who realize his difficulties with housetop sharpshooters and concealed enemies. While extreme measures will be adopted to enforce order in Vera Cruz, to hold the waterworks and necessary points in the vicinity of the city, to insure protection of the inhabitants, no further steps of aggression will be taken while peace plans are being considered.

### GUNS BEGIN TO POP IN ARIZONA.

Armed Mexicans Start For the Border Robbing As They Go.

Nogales, Ariz.—A raid of armed Mexicans on the United States side of the border occurred about 20 miles east of Nogales, when a dozen Mexicans well equipped with guns, started from Patagonia, Ariz., to rob mining camps on their way to the border. Americans from Nogales and surrounding towns quickly armed themselves and started in pursuit of the Mexicans. The orders of the Americans are to shoot if the Mexicans show fight. Americans in the copper mining region west of here have been terrorized by the rising of the Mexicans.

It was said that at least 100 members of Congress had expressed themselves in favor of more aggressive action toward Mexico by the Administration.

Newspapers at the capital published stories to the effect that American forces at Vera Cruz slaughtered women and children, and called on all Mexicans to retaliate in similar manner.

Definite instructions from Admiral Badger to all American non-combatants to leave Vera Cruz by the steamer Mexico were posted.

# PANAMA CANAL ON WAR FOOTING U. S. PLANS TO CAPTURE HUERTA

## WOULD CAPTURE GENERAL HUERTA

War College Plans Two Expeditions To Mexico City And Siege Of Capital.

WANTS 50,000 VOLUNTEERS

Expeditions To Start From Vera Cruz And Juarez.

AEROPLANES TO BE USED.

Enemy To Be Dislodged By Dropping Bombs From Aircraft—Employment Of Siege Guns Also Contemplated. Garrison Has No Funds For Army Moves.

Washington.—First details of the Administration plans for the investment of Mexico City and the capture of General Huerta came out after these plans had been submitted by the War College and been given favorable, if not final, consideration by the General Staff of the army.

These plans contemplate two expeditions into the heart of Mexico, one from Vera Cruz and one from Juarez or some other northern base. They provide for the use of the Regular Army, supported in one instance by the marines and in the other by a volunteer army of not less than 50,000 men.

The army to be mobilized at Vera Cruz is to proceed through the mountains to Mexico by the route of the present line of the Mexican Central Railroad. If this line can be maintained the troops are to be moved over it. If not, they are to proceed along the highway which pierces the mountain gorges and finally ends at the capital of the republic.

The siege guns are to be thrown ahead and a way cleared. Aeroplanes are to be used to mark the presence of sharpshooters and fortifications of the Federalists. These machines are also to carry bombs with which to dislodge the enemy who may be in the mountain passes.

Following the heavy field artillery will come the light infantry. In the wake of this will be infantry. The cavalry will, of course, be used by the field artillery to aid in clearing the path.

The line from Vera Cruz to the rear of the invading army is to be protected by the marines and sailors from the ships. This will be kept open to provide supplies from the base at Vera Cruz and to give full and free communication from the interior.

### Plateau Route For Second Force.

The second expeditionary force will start from the northern border and will penetrate Mexico over what is described as the plateau route. This route lies between the two ranges of mountains and extends from the frontier to Yucatan.

This force will push ahead through the Constitutionalist lines, if necessary, to Mexico City and will form a junction there with the invading army from the coast.

The two armies will then demand the surrender of the city and the personal surrender of Huerta.

This in a general way is the campaign plan as it now stands. It may, of course, be altered somewhat. All such plans that are merely on paper are altered when the armies get into the field. But unless the President vetoes the scheme, Huerta will be proceeded against from two sides and his fate is obviously a foregone conclusion.

### Volunteers For Expedition.

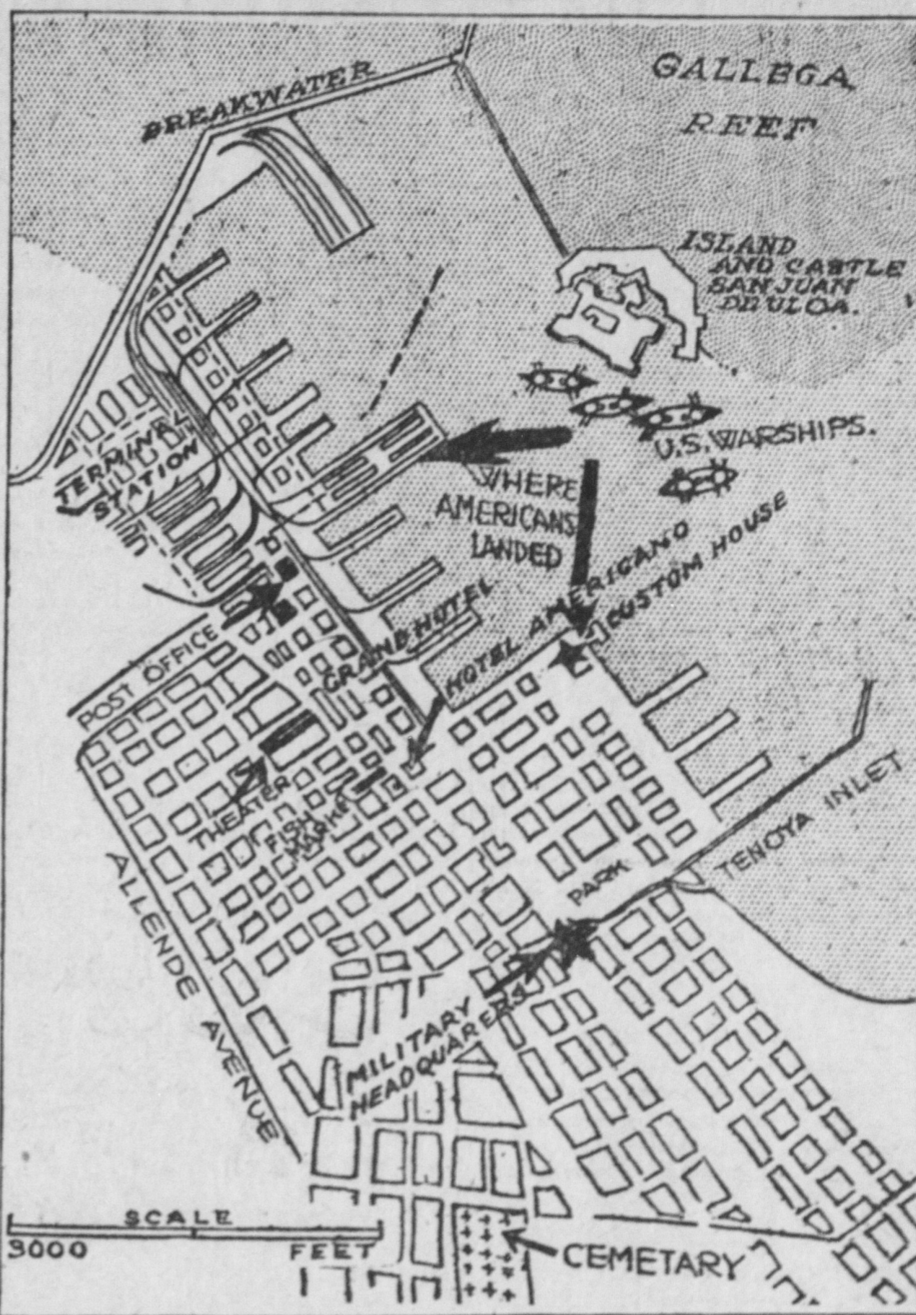
In order to make up the expedition that goes from the northern base the volunteers will be ordered for the most part to Texas. Those who are not sent along with the regulars will be left behind to guard the border against raiding parties and to maintain a line of communication for the invading force.

The employment of aeroplanes in this campaign will be the first time they have been used in war on this continent, and the greatest interest centres in their availability and the usefulness as it may be demonstrated by the invasion of Mexico and the siege of the capital.

Fear of Texans along the Mexican border that the Constitutionalist forces might invade the border towns brought a flood of telegrams to Representative Garner, of Texas, who immediately conferred with the War Department.

Mr. Garner told the War Department authorities that there were 30,000 or 40,000 people standing in line in Texas towns awaiting an opportunity to buy guns. Telegrams he received appealing for military protection were from the mayors and other citizens of Eagle Pass, Mission, San Benito, Arlington, Mercedes and Brackettville.

### MAP OF VERA CRUZ CITY AND HARBOR



### LATEST WAR FEATURES

Mexican federals burned the border town of Nuevo Laredo and attempted to dynamite the international bridge connecting the Mexican town with Laredo, Texas.

There were several skirmishes between the United States border patrol and the Mexicans were put to flight. A Mexican who tried to blow up the American bridge was killed. The property loss in Nuevo Laredo is half a million. The United States consulate was burned.

The Fifth Infantry brigade, of nearly 6,000 men, in command of General Frederick Funston, sailed from Galveston for Vera Cruz. The American forces at Vera Cruz now number over 11,000.

Refugees from Mexico City who reached Vera Cruz asserted that mobs in the capital were trampling under foot the Stars and Stripes and threatening all Americans when they left.

The United States Charge O'Shaughnessy, with his wife and child, arrived safely at Vera Cruz from Mexico City.

Major General Leonard Wood and his entire staff, with Brigadier General Hugh L. Scott as second in command, sailed for Vera Cruz. General Wood will be in charge of all the military operations in Mexico.

The Japanese in Mexico City cheered before the foreign office, and Huerta's foreign minister addressed them upon close union between Japan and Mexico.

Admiral Fletcher reports that a rumor has reached Mexico City that Mexicans were being detained at Vera Cruz, and that as a result, General Huerta had ordered that no more Americans be permitted to leave the Mexican capital.

The Panama Canal Zone has been placed on a strict war footing, and companies of infantry are guarding the locks.

For the present the American troops will make no effort to seize the international bridges on the border, although several of them are of American ownership.

General Carranza was advised by his representatives in Washington to remain neutral.

He was told that by assuming a hostile attitude he would draw all Mexico into a war.

President Wilson considers that the United States could push its way into the interior of Mexico to obtain redress for wrongs without being in a state of war with the Mexican people as a whole.

The initiative in a declaration of war will have to come from Mexico before the President appears before Congress to ask for more power or funds.

Both houses of Congress passed the Volunteer Army bill.

President Wilson announced that no appropriation for war purposes was required "for the present."

The State Department was informed that there was uncertainty abroad whether a blockade had been declared or a state of war existed.

No blockade has been declared and no interference with commerce will be attempted by the United States.

Four countries came forward with inquiries to the United States about possible means of mediation between Huerta and this country.

All American consuls in Mexico were authorized by the American State Department to leave the country.

The Mexican casualties there were: Dead, 126; wounded, 195. The total Americans killed thus far is 17, and 75 wounded.

Refugees are boarding American war vessels at nearly all the ports where ships have been stationed.

### "QUARREL NOT WITH MEXICO."

Dealing With Territory Huerta Controls and Not With Mexican People.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson issued the following comment on the Carranza statement:

"I wish to reiterate with the greatest earnestness the desire and intention of this Government to respect in every possible way the sovereignty and independence of the people of Mexico.

"The feeling and intention of the Government in this matter are not based upon politics. They go much deeper than that. They are based upon a genuine friendship for the Mexican people and a profound interest in the re-establishment of the constitutional system.

Where Dignity is Flouted These In Control Will Be Dealt With.

"Whatever unhappy circumstances or necessities may arise, this object will be held steadily in view and pursued with consistent purpose so far as this Government is concerned.

"But we are dealing with facts. Wherever and whenever the dignity of the United States is flouted, its international rights or the rights of its citizens invaded, or its influence rebuffed where it has the right to at-

tempt to exercise it, this Government must deal with those actually in control.

"It is now dealing with General Huerta in the territory he now controls. That he does not rightfully control it does not alter the fact that he does control it. We are dealing, moreover, only with those whom he commands and those who come to his support. With those we must deal. They do not lawfully represent the people of Mexico.

"In that fact we rejoice, because our quarrel is not with the Mexican people and we do not desire to dictate their affairs. But we must enforce our rightful demands upon those whom the existing authorities at the place where we act do, for the time being, represent."

### CHARGES GET PASSPORTS.

Both Nelson O'Shaughnessy and Senor Algara Ordered To Leave.

Both Nelson O'Shaughnessy, the American charge d'affaires, and Senor Algara, the charge d'affaires of the Mexican Embassy, have been given their passports. This is not regarded by the Washington Government as presaging war, but a declaration of war by Huerta would not be unexpected.

## AMERICAN LINE PUSHES INLAND

Marines And Sailors At Vera Cruz Control Five-Mile Radius.

REFUGEES LEAVE THE CITY

Three Hundred, Mostly Women And Children, Start Home.

ADDITIONAL FORCE LANDS

Only Three Of Men Wounded In Recent Fight Likely To Die—Hospital Service Is Efficient—Many Mexican Dead Remain Unburied—Order Is Being Restored.

Vera Cruz.—American marines and bluejackets control a radius of at least five miles around the city of Vera Cruz, in which normal conditions had been virtually restored.

Outposts were pushed further out in a southerly direction to the water supply station at Tejar and marines and sailors were dispatched there on a train to obtain control of all pipe lines into the city. They took with them oil fuel to run the pumping plant.

To the west and northwest Capt. Smedley Butler and his marines are stationed. Thus Rear-Admiral Fletcher commands all the approaches to the city.

Within the city sniping has ceased. A close watch for sharpshooters is kept up by patrols that march through the streets. Orders had been issued that all civilians should keep within their residences after 7.30 o'clock in the evening and these were strictly obeyed.

As a result, the night hours are quiet. It is generally expected that unless some untoward incident occurs this "curfew hour" will be extended.

Rear-Admiral Badger, at Vera Cruz, reported to Washington that his forces are so strongly posted that no attack from the Mexicans is expected at present.

He said there had been no further casualties.

### Three Wounded May Die.

Only three of the American wounded are in a critical condition, according to the report issued from the hospital ship Solace.

These are First-Class Fireman H. Pullian, Ordinary Seaman E. G. Wright and Private Jeremiah J. Peoples.

Owing to the prompt and efficient field hospital corps and the quick transportation of the wounded men to the Solace no infected wounds were discovered. The dead have been embalmed and their bodies are lying on board the Solace ready to be sent North at the first opportunity.

Naval surgeons say that the majority of the wounded men will be able to return to their duty in a short time.

The outposts have been equipped with 12 machine guns and several 3-inch field pieces, which were taken to the front by teams of six horses to each gun. The animals were frightened by the unaccustomed work and the marines had a hard struggle with them.

The commissary, ordnance and quartermaster departments worked very efficiently, so that along the docks there were no piles of merchandise as is usually the case when an armed force is landed. All supplies were promptly distributed among the troops, which also received distilled water from the ships under the superintendence of the medical department.

### "DRAGS US INTO UNEQUAL WAR."

Not Justified In Occupying Mexican Territory, Says Carranza.

Chihuahua.—Replying to a telegram from Secretary Bryan at Washington, General Carranza telegraphed that the United States is not justified in occupying Mexican territory.

"The invasion," says the note, "will drag us (Mexico) into an unequal war with dignity, which we desired to avoid."

General Carranza's note declaring the seizure of Vera Cruz by American forces a violation of the national sovereignty of Mexico, inviting the United States to suspend hostile operations and withdraw its forces, and suggesting that the Constitutionalist government should receive demands for reparations of offenses committed by Huerta, stirred the Mexican situation to a new and acute crisis.

Opposition to the American government's action, coming from an unexpected quarter, after the Washington administration had hoped for an attitude of neutrality from the Constitutionalist, brought the government face to face with possible hostility from the great body of Mexican forces lying in proximity to the southern border of the United States.