

BIG DUTCH LINER SUNK, ALL SAVED; MINE IS BLAMED

Tubantia Goes Down in
North Sea Off North
Hinder Sands

JUST LEFT AMSTERDAM

AMSTERDAM, March 16.—All the passengers and crew of the Dutch liner Tubantia are believed to have been saved. The vessel remained afloat for three hours after she had been struck by a mine or a torpedo. Several lifeboats arrived at North Hinder lightship with 28 passengers and seamen of the Tubantia on board. These survivors said that it was certain all had been saved. There were several ships in the vicinity of the Tubantia when she began to sink. There were 87 passengers on the Tubantia and her crew numbered more than 300.

LONDON, March 16.—The Dutch steamship Tubantia, 13,911 tons, has been sunk either by a German submarine or a mine. The liner went down in the North Sea north of Hinder Sands, about 20 miles from Amsterdam yesterday, bound for Buenos Aires. A Central News dispatch received shortly after noon said: "All on board the Tubantia were saved."

Conflicting reports were received here relative to the cause of the disaster. The first advice left the fate of the crew and passengers in doubt, but it is believed that they succeeded in taking to lifeboats.

A Lloyd's message and a dispatch from Dover stated that the vessel had struck a mine; a telegram to the Reuter Agency, however, said that the ship had been sunk by a submarine.

The Tubantia was one of the finest ships in the South American trade and was practically a new boat, carrying passengers and mail.

The destruction of the ship occurred in waters which are said to have been recently mined by German submarines.

The Tubantia carried a miscellaneous cargo, and it is reported a large number of passengers. She is the largest and fastest liner in the South American service.

The first messages received here brought no reports of the progress of the work of rescue, stating only that several ships had gone to her aid.

SENDS OUT S. O. S.
The wireless stations along the southern coast began picking up "S. O. S." calls from the Tubantia about 2 o'clock this morning and tugs were at once sent to her assistance from Dover.

The wireless operator on the liner reported that the vessel was badly damaged and that she was sinking fast.

In addition to her passengers the Dutch ship carried a crew of 300.

A big hole was torn in the Tubantia's midships and she instantly began to fill with water.

The disaster occurred between 2 and 3 o'clock. There was a mighty explosion and the ship rolled on the surface of the water and then began to settle on her side. Survivors were unable to say whether a mine or a torpedo had caused the destruction of the vessel, but most of them believed it was a mine. This opinion was based upon the belief that it was too dark for a submarine to aim a torpedo.

Although no definite information was received on the subject, it was believed that some of the crew were on the United States coast.

Eighty passengers were booked to board the Tubantia at Falmouth and she was also to take on board \$3,750,000 in specie at that port.

MAY BE AFLOAT.
Virtually all reports received here agreed that the vessel had gone to the bottom, but at 8:30 the agents of the line towing the vessel stated that she was still afloat. This was regarded, however, as an attempt to allay the fears of persons having relatives on board.

The following Americans were booked to sail on the Tubantia from Falmouth: A. V. Luck, E. P. Kenny, R. H. Graves and five American students. Falmouth was the Tubantia's first port of call after leaving Amsterdam.

It is believed possible the liner struck one of the mines the Germans are reported to have been sowing recently in the North Sea.

The Tubantia displaces 13,911 tons and is owned by the North Holland Lloyd. She was completed less than a year ago and has been in service only a few months. She is 640 feet long, has a 55.8-foot beam and a depth of 35.3 feet.

The Tubantia was built at Glasgow and fitted out elaborately as the pride of the company's fleet of liners. She has two decks and a shelter deck. Her commander is H. K. H. Wytman.

PARIS, March 16.—The British steamship Manoussa has been sunk. The crew of 43, according to dispatches passed by censor, has been landed at "an unnamed place."

FRENCH LINER ATTACKED
BY U-BOAT, BUT ESCAPES

Torpedo Just Misses Stern of Patria. Had 1900 Passengers

NEW YORK, March 16.—The French liner Patria, which arrived today from the Mediterranean ports was attacked without warning by a submarine off the coast of Tunis on March 14. A torpedo was fired at the liner and missed the stern by only 20 feet.

The Patria, a vessel of 11,825 tons, carried no armament and had 1900 passengers on board.

Captain Dechelles, commander of the Patria, notified the cable line offices of the attack as soon as the liner docked today. The cable line announced that the American State Department would be informed of the attack. There were 20 Americans on board.

The attack occurred at 9:15 o'clock in the morning. Captain Dechelles stated the submarine had not been seen until the torpedo was launched and had made no effort to stop the vessel.

The Patria left Oran, Algeria, on February 18, proceeding to Naples and then to Palermo. It sailed from the latter port on February 29.

Meeting to Aid War Victims
A meeting to aid war victims will be held this afternoon at the home of Mrs. Charles Tarnal, 17th and Locust streets. Receipts will be sent from letters from friends in the countries at war. The proceeds of a collection will go to the fund for the relief of the French Red Cross.



ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ
Berlin admits that the German naval chief has resigned. Admiral von Tirpitz, Director of the Administration Department of the Admiralty, is named as the successor of "Whiskers" as the British affectionately call von Tirpitz.

ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ QUITS GERMAN POST

Continued from Page One

though this was no fault of the head of the navy. However, it increased the worries of the Admiralty.

The Kaiser, it is said, accepted Admiral von Tirpitz's resignation with reluctance, and in expected to create him a count in recognition of his services. It is certain that decorations and probably a pension will be conferred upon the retiring official.

There are some who believe that the departure of Admiral von Tirpitz marks a change in the naval policy of Germany, and that the high seas fleet will now come forth to give battle to the British fleet.

AMSTERDAM, March 15.—Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is bringing strong pressure to bear upon Reichstag leaders to accept the resignation of Admiral von Tirpitz and the German navy. The resignation and military policies at the present session, according to advices received here today.

QUITTING OF VON TIRPITZ GIVES LONDON EARLY PEACE HOPE

First Defeat of "Prussian Militarism," Experts Say

LONDON, March 16.—The resignation of Grand Admiral von Tirpitz has brightened the prospects for an early peace, several well-informed persons, in close touch with British officials, declared today. The London viewpoint is that von Tirpitz's resignation is the first severe defeat administered to the so-called "Prussian militarism." The triumph of the Bethmann-Hollweg forces of conciliation over the von Tirpitz forces is expected to be followed by the further victories over that element in the army which has flaunted the "Deutschland über Alles" banner since the outbreak of the war.

Premier Asquith, the French and Russian Ministers, it was pointed out, have emphasized in all their speeches that the crushing of "Prussian militarism" is the most important aim of the Allies, and must necessarily precede any peace discussion. Territorial claims, it is realized, can be adjusted by any board of mediators without insurmountable difficulties, but the elimination of "Prussian militarism" must be accomplished by the German people themselves.

It is accepted here that von Tirpitz's downfall will be followed by a large number of resignations in the Marine Department. It is believed certain, too, that it will create great dissatisfaction among active naval officers, despite the Berlin official statement that no change in policy will result. Officials here divided their discussion between speculation as to whether Zeppelin raids on English towns will be abandoned as the result of the von Tirpitz resignation, and guesses as to the probable effect on German-American relations.

ITALIANS REPULSE AUSTRIANS ON CARSO

Rome Admits Yielding Small Part of Newly Won Positions

LONDON, March 16.—The new battle on the Isonzo, which is looked for as a result of the last few days' continuous, violent artillery action on both sides, is said to have been won by the Italians. 24 hours saw some strong attacks by the Italians.

The Austrian War Office issued the following report on the Isonzo front today: "We drove out the enemy, who succeeded in entering our lines at Podgora. An enemy night attack on the Isonzo front was repulsed. The Austrians failed southwest of San Martino, where 1000 enemy corpses were left behind in fighting of the past few days."

Italian airmen threw bombs on Trieste, but did no damage. The following official communication from Italian general headquarters was issued today:

In the Alpine zone our artillery activity extends from Tonale to the upper Fella, and grows livelier, aided by the infantry, whose offensive movements bring out targets useful to our batteries.

On the Isonzo front there were lively artillery duels and infantry attacks yesterday. We progressed somewhat in the Rimbos zone and on the eight dominating Lucinico.

Southeast of San Martino, on the Carso, after an intense preparatory fire, the enemy attacked at dawn from positions won by us the previous day, but was everywhere repulsed with serious loss. Nevertheless, the concentrated artillery fire of the enemy during the whole day impelled us to evacuate at night a little redoubt in order to avoid useless losses. The position, however, is held safe through the curtain of fire of our guns.

During bold infantry raids we took 30 prisoners, of whom three were officers, and also rifles, munitions and other material.

Turkey to Break With Portugal
BERLIN, March 16.—Turkey and Bulgaria will break off diplomatic relations with Portugal in a few days, following similar action by Austria, according to advices received here today.

WEIRD FIGHTING WAYS OF SONS OF THE DESERT

Wounded British Sergeant
Draws Graphic Picture
of Senussi Snipers

ARABS' TERRIBLE POWER

By ELLEN ADAIR
Written specially for the Evening Ledger.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—A weird story of recent wild fighting in the Egyptian desert has been given me today by a certain stalwart soldier, Sergeant Guthrie, who formed a part of a reconnoitering party in the desert of Senussi snipers. The deadly fire of the Senussi snipers and the Arabs' power of marksmanship are known all over the East. And it was this very fire which the little handful of British soldiers had to face.

"I've been through fighting in all parts of the world," said the sergeant, "but the Egyptian desert's the place to give you the creeps. Can you picture it? A world of yellow sand, ever drifting, ever shifting, its horizons stretching to the farthest skirts of heaven! Monotonous, did you say? No, not that. You're 'seeing' things all the time, wonderful things, too beautiful to last—and you're thinking things that quite surprise you, beautiful thoughts that go on and on into eternity. Just like the sands of the desert. And yet the things you see and the things you think out there in the waste places just give you the creeps—like a game we used to play when we were kids, called 'Conjuring Visions'."

MOCKERY OF THE MIRAGE

"It gets a strange grip of you—the desert does! Twice when I was on outpost duty I saw an exquisite lake of deepest blue lying in a great hollow, with green trees growing to the very edge, and cool shadows playing on its surface. The sun was blazing down on us, and we were parched with thirst. Onward and onward we marched to that cool heaven of promise, but the only way to get farther and farther from us. After hours of walking, lake, trees and land of promise disappeared—and we were left, worn out and too utterly disappointed for speech. That's the desert for you!"

"The fighting wisdom of the Arabs is wonderful—positively 'uncanny.' They kept us always on the qui vive. Out of the Nowhere they suddenly would spring into being, magnificent men on magnificent chargers, their silhouettes rising sharply from the blazing sands and standing out against a cruel, burning sky. As suddenly, they would disappear behind some great sand-dune, or gallop off into the wastes of the desert. But always after these sudden appearances and disappearances we knew there was trouble in store for us."

"Like moths on a cloth of gold our little company would creep along, watching and waiting for those merciless horsemen."

SUDDEN AND TERRIBLE

Bending down to move a bandaged foot, the sergeant paused. "It doesn't seem to get much better," he said. "Yes, that's what the Arabs did to me in the desert—A Senussi sniper, it was. Great marksmanship, these snipers. It happened like this: One blazing morning I was watching the eternal sandpiles, thinking of home and the joys of cold, wet London, when out of the Nowhere they came, the Arabs, shrieks and imprecations, these suddenly wheeled a party of Senussi horsemen: 'Crack! Crack!' went their rifles. 'Bang! Bang!' in a volley of flame and shouts. 'With a wild dash, our reconnoitering party raced to envelop the whirling enemy. The world narrowed down to one choking crowd of dust and blood and steel! Never was such a hand-to-hand fight, such bayoneting, such trampling under foot!"

"Through clouds of dust I could see nothing clearly. Slashing right and left with the bayonet was the only thing to do in such a mix-up. Suddenly the sounds ceased, the background cleared and the Arab tribesmen were revealed far off, still almost unbroken in their ranks and ready at the signal of their leaders to renew attack."

"The signal was given, and in one menacing rush the Arabs were upon us again! Bending low in their saddles, they whirled their sabres like flails in a cornfield! A moving picture of that terrible scene would make a fortune for the owner."

"With flashing eyes and furious shouts, the Arabs again retreated to a distance, and it was then I first discovered the dreadful disaster that had befallen the particular platoon of which I was in charge. A mere handful of men, we were cut off by a narrow strip of sand from the main body of our party! The Arabs saw our plight, too, and sent a volley of fire over that strip of sand, just to show what would happen to us should we venture forth on a rush to cross it."

DASH FOR LIFE OR DEATH

"The only way to escape annihilation or capture was to make a dash across the intervening space. Could I? he done? The problem was one of life or death. 'At last we decided to risk it, not in a body, but individually. One by one the men sprang out of the zone of death, with the Arab snipers sweeping the air with bullets. At last, only one other man and I were left. We tossed a coin to see which should venture first. It fell to the other man to go, and I was left."

"My friend rose up from the big desert stone behind which we were both sheltering, and made a dash for the open. Alas, poor chap, he hadn't gone 10 yards when suddenly he pitched up both arms and fell backward in a writhing heap—a bullet had gone through his heart."

"Removing the offending headgear which had served as such a target, I very cautiously raised my head and eyes. Less than 40 yards away were two dark forms, almost hidden behind another stone. I took steady aim with my rifle and fired. The shot went home, for one of the figures rolled out on to the sand and then lay still."

"Crack! went a rifle, and 'Sting!' went a bullet in my foot. The other man had got me at last. The duel was ended."

RUSSIANS PUSH NEAR TURKS IN BAGDAD RUSH

Co-operation Probably Established With Gen. Lake's Army on Tigris

RETREAT IS EXPECTED

LONDON, March 16.—Germany has refused to send troops to Mesopotamia and Armenia to reinforce the Turks, according to a message transmitted by the Rome wireless today.

Another dispatch from the same source says that Austria has called to the colors the class of 1918.

PETROGRAD, March 15.—Russian progress in Persia toward Bagdad has been generally declared in military circles, exceeded the most sanguine expectations, and it was now believed the Russian pressure on the flank and rear of the Turks facing the British in Mesopotamia, below Bagdad, will soon become a factor of importance.

It is the general belief that virtual co-operation has already been established between the Russian troops around Kermanshah and General Lake's army on the lower Tigris.

Before the Russians penetrated the mountain passes guarding Kermanshah, very few persons here thought the Grand Duke, Nicholas, had any aims in Persia beyond tranquillizing the country, crushing German and Turkish influence and putting Russian interests on a solid foundation.

When the Russians reached Kermanshah the Turks were the first to recognize the approaching danger to their hold on Mesopotamia, and they consequently sent forward reinforcements from Bagdad and Mosul, by way of Sulaimanah and Selma (75 miles north of Kermanshah) to take the Russians in the flank.

But the British, still farther north, compelled these forces to withdraw hurriedly without accomplishing anything of importance. The Russians, consequently, are opposed only by such frontal resistance as the already beaten army have before them all the way from Hamadan.

From Kermanshah westward the road, sometimes little more than a mountain path, winds through the high ridges of Luristan, and in this region the Russians already have penetrated for 50 miles. They will have 50 miles to go to Khamkin, on the Turkish border, the last difficult pass before the Bagdad.

Once at Khamkin the Russians will have the open plains of Mesopotamia before them, and will be only 70 miles from the sole line of communication of the Turkish army which is facing the British, and which is 105 miles below Bagdad—the Russians debouching on the plain about 50 miles north of Bagdad. If the Russians reach Khamkin, consequently, a hurried Turkish retreat from below Bagdad is looked for here.

HALT GERMAN ATTACKS ON LINES AT VERDUN

Continued from Page One

French to dislodge the Germans from their positions on Le Mort Homme (Dead Man's head), still farther north, in Champagne, have all been frustrated, the German War Office announced today.

In Flanders there has been violent artillery actions, particularly on the coast. A battle of the French against the German lines in Champagne broke down, it was announced.

The following is the text of the official report: "In Flanders, especially upon the coast, artillery actions were violent. There was heavy artillery fire at Rœux, Ville-Aux-Bois and in the Champagne."

South at St. Souplet and west of the Somme-Py-Souain road, in Champagne, the French unsuccessfully attacked our positions. We captured two officers, 150 men and two machine guns."

On the left bank of the Meuse attempts by the enemy to dislodge us from the positions on Le Mort Homme and the woods to the north of the hill were frustrated at the very outset.

Between the Meuse and Moselle Rivers the positions are unchanged. South of lower Aspreux we penetrated a trench of the enemy, destroyed the position and returned to our own lines with a few prisoners. A French aeroplane was shot down at Beine. The occupants were burned to death.

An enemy aeroplane on March 13 and 15 bombarded the German military hospital at Labry. No damage of military importance was done, but two women and two children were injured.

SEARCH CREEKS FOR MISSING ENGINEER WHO WENT GUNNING

Drag River for Body of Howard Closs. Disappeared Last Tuesday

Every effort is being made by searching parties today to find the body of Howard Closs, the engineer of the Sun Oil Works, who disappeared on Tuesday after starting on a gunning trip. The river is being dragged today along the Jersey shore and in the vicinity of Haddon Creek.

Sailors on a steamship anchored in mid stream said they heard a shot and cry for help early on Tuesday morning. Some of the men said they saw a man and a small boat disappear below the surface of the water.

The boat used by Closs was of the gunning skiff type. It is believed that when he fired the shot, the gun kicked and caused him to fall overboard. Mrs. Closs is seriously ill as a result of her husband's disappearance.

BRITISH CHECK TURKS WITH BAYONET ATTACK Ottoman Troops Occupy Advanced Positions on the Tigris

LONDON, March 16.—The following British official communication concerning the Mesopotamia operations was issued last night:

General Lake reports that on March 10 information was received by the Tigris corps (General Aspinwall's army) that the Turks had occupied an advanced position on the Tigris. A column was sent before dawn on the 11th to turn the enemy out. Infantry assaulted the position and bayoneted a considerable number of Turks. The column then withdrew with two officers and 15 men prisoners.

I RIBELLI ALBANESI SI RIBELLANO AI BULGARI

Minacciano di Abbandonare gli Austriaci se gli Slavi Procederanno da Elbassan

Un telegramma da Roma dice che l'Idea Nazionale pubblica un dispaccio dall'Albania nel quale si afferma che le forze austriache operanti in quella regione si sono fermate ad Elbassan dove non hanno avanzato più oltre. La ragione di questo arresto dell'avanzata austriaca verso Valona e' nel fatto che i ribelli albanesi, che si erano uniti agli austriaci contro i serbi e gli italiani, minacciano ora di abbandonarli come alleati se si permettera ai bulgari di partecipare alle operazioni in Albania.

Il rapporto del generale Cadorna pubblicato ieri sera a Roma dice che l'artiglieria e' attesissima su tutta la fronte alpina, ma la battaglia dell'Isonzo non si e' ancora sviluppata non essendo finito il periodo di preparazione della battaglia stessa che deve essere compiuto dall'artiglieria. Nondimeno gli italiani hanno preannunciato parecchi importanti attacchi locali. Essi sono stati costretti ad abbandonare la ridotta di San Martino, che avevano occupato il giorno precedente, a causa dell'intenso fuoco dell'artiglieria nemica, ma l'artiglieria italiana impedisce con una densa cortina di fuoco che la ridotta sia riacquisita dagli austriaci.

ADMITTS HE MADE BAD DIMES

Young Man Gets Fifteen Months. Girl's Trial Later

Pleading guilty of making seven counterfeit dimes, and with having moved to the manufacture of spurious dimes, and nickels in his possession, Louis Chapparrone, alias Sheppard, 25 years old, of Waukegan street near Catharine, was today sentenced to 15 months in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., by Judge Thompson in the United States District Court.

Chapparrone was arrested on February 16, in a room at 239 South 5th street, after Besse Brown, a young woman, had tried to pass two spurious dimes on Lawrence O'Toole, a restaurant keeper. The girl was indicted for attempting to pass the counterfeit, and her case will be disposed of later.

Locomotive Sparks Blame for Fire

Sparks from a shifting engine on a spur of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway are thought to have been responsible for a fire, early today, in the Smith and Holt-house coal yards, Jasper street and Lehigh avenue. A large shed, used for storing tools, baskets and coal bags, was destroyed. Policeman Anthony discovered the blaze and sent an alarm, thereby preventing the fire from spreading to adjacent buildings. The damage is estimated at \$500.

LE BATTERIE ITALIANE TUONANO DAL TONALE AI MONTI DEL FELLA

La Battaglia dell'Isonzo Ancora nel Periodo di Preparazione, Sebbene la Fanteria Operi Attacchi Locali

UNA RIDOTTA EVACUATA

ROMA, 16 Marzo.

Sebbene in questi ultimi due giorni, gli italiani abbiano pronunciato alcuni violenti attacchi qua e la' sulla fronte dell'Isonzo, la grande battaglia alla quale e' stato preludio il violentissimo bombardamento del giorno scorso deve ancora considerarsi nel suo periodo preparatorio. Il comunicato ufficiale pubblicato qui ieri sera dice che gli attacchi da parte delle forze italiane continuano, e questo significa che gli italiani prendono l'iniziativa delle nuove operazioni e si impongono al nemico. Essi infatti hanno fatto attacchi locali importanti, ma che entrano per conto loro nella fase preparatoria della battaglia. Il comunicato ufficiale austriaco, invece, dice che gli italiani erano riusciti a penetrare nelle linee austriache di Podgora, ma che ne furono subito dopo sacellati.

Ecco intanto il testo del rapporto del generale Cadorna pubblicato qui ieri sera dal Ministero della Guerra: "Nella zona alpina l'attivita' della nostra artiglieria si estende dal passo del Tonale alla valle del Fella e diventa sempre piu' vivace ed in molti punti e' integrata dall'azione delle fanterie, le cui mosse offensive asprono importanti bersagli per le nostre batterie."

Sulla fronte dell'Isonzo si sono avuti

violenti duelli di artiglieria ad estremo di fanteria nella giornata di ieri (martedì). Noi facciamo qualche progresso nella zona del Monte Rombon e sulle alture da cui si domina Lucinico.

La ridotta di San Martino del Carso, dopo un'intenso bombardamento di artiglieria, il nemico attacco' all'8-14 le posizioni che noi avevamo conquistato nella giornata di lunedì, ma fu respinto dappertutto con gravi perdite. Nondimeno il fuoco concentrato dell'artiglieria nemica ci obbligo' verso sera ad evacuare una piccola ridotta allo scopo di evitare perdite inutili. La posizione pero' e' ancora grazie alla fitta cortina di fuoco delle nostre batterie che la protegge.

"Durante alcune audaci incursioni da parte della nostra fanteria noi facciamo una trentina di prigionieri, di cui tre ufficiali, e prendiamo al nemico sacelli, munizioni ed altro materiale da guerra."

Il comunicato austriaco annuncia che iaviatori italiani hanno fatto una incursione su Trieste su cui hanno lasciato cadere bombe che pero' non hanno fatto alcun danno. Il rapporto del generale Cadorna non accenna a questo raid.

Giungono da Bucarest notizie che i bulgari, che si erano uniti agli austriaci abbandonano in massa la Rumania, evidentemente per il timore che da un momento all'altro il governo rumeno dichiari la guerra all'Austria ed alla Bulgaria.

Nel Mar Nero le navi da guerra russe stanno facendo una ricerca coraggiosa, e continua dei sottomarini tedeschi a cui danno attivamente la caccia. Questi sottomarini hanno fatto recentemente alcuni audaci raid partendo dai porti bulgari. Pero' un tentativo di questi sottomarini di attaccare il convoglio di trasporti russi che si dirigevano verso Atina e' fallito.

Benefit for X-ray Work of Hospital

A card party for the benefit of the X-ray department of the Women's Homeopathic Hospital will be given tonight at the Acorn Club. The committee in charge includes Mrs. George H. Earle, Jr., Mr. Frances Van Gasken and Dr. Caroline M. Farnell.

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