

HERRERA REVOLT IS DENIED BY U. S. CONSUL LETCHER

Reported Carranza Deserter Still at Chihuahua. Says American Agent

BORDER STILL UNEASY

WASHINGTON, March 24.—General Luis Herrera, Carranza's commander in the State of Chihuahua, has not been reported to have left his post under Villa, according to a telegram to the State Department today from United States Consul Marion Letcher at Chihuahua City.

Consul Letcher stated that General Herrera was now at Chihuahua City, that he has not left there with his men, as reported, and that he and his men were loyal to the Carranza government.

The consul's message confirming the report that Herrera was loyal was the first received from Chihuahua City in more than 48 hours; in fact, since the desertion of the Carranza general first was reported.

The State and War Departments made repeated efforts yesterday to get in communication with him, but all attempts failed. Grave fears had been felt for his safety in view of the reports that Herrera had deserted.

Coming direct from the scene of Herrera's reported desertion, United States officials were inclined to take the denial at its face value. In spite of the many rumors to the contrary, the State Department officials plainly showed relief. They frankly admitted they had, up to this time, feared the original report concerning Herrera might be true.

Officials regarded the previous Herrera reports as offering possibility of grave complications in the Villa hunt, since they undoubtedly have been telegraphed back into Mexico. Such stories, officials pointed out, even if afterward proved untrue, tend to have a bad effect on the inflammable Mexican mind, especially in the rural districts through which American troops must pass.

The War Department later today received the following message from General Funston, confirming the Letcher dispatch:

"General Herrera, in a telegram to General Gavira (Juarez) strongly denies all reports that he has gone over to Villa."

"General Gutierrez, Governor of Chihuahua, in a letter to General Gavira, also strongly denies that Herrera has gone over to Villa."

U. S. TROOPS IN CLASH WITH VILLISTA BANDS

Continued from Page One

way out, and that his capture was momentarily expected. Those familiar with Villa's tactics and his hatred for Americans believe he will never be taken alive, and that his entire command may be wiped out in the predicted fight.

Garcia said Villa might try to escape by a surprise attack during the night. Bertani reported that in the preliminary engagement the Villistas were defeated to El Paso, after losing several killed and about 100 horses captured.

The courier who brought reports of the conflict also confirmed reports that General Pershing and General Benard, commander of Carranza field forces, were co-operating fully, and that the arrangements for the attack on Villa had been made at a conference between the two leaders at Namiquipa yesterday afternoon.

This conference, he said, was wholly informal. The two dust-covered commanders shook hands as they met and discussed the proposed movements in the shade of an adobe hut. When they parted, according to the courier, Pershing returned to his headquarters.

The announcement that Villa has been forced to stand at bay at El Paso was received by the military authorities at Fort Bliss, where the headquarters are, as an indication that the bandit leader's plan to escape had at least been thwarted for the time being. The road that runs south of Choyas forms a junction at that town with two other roads, one running southeast, the other southwest. If he were able to reach Choyas, Villa could divide his forces there and confuse his pursuers as to which trail he had taken, with the probability that they would have to divide their forces also. Villa's delight is to weaken his enemies in this fashion and then make a sudden attack.

Although Villa in person was reported at El Paso, it was difficult to believe that the "fox of the Sierra Madre Mountains" had allowed himself to be trapped so easily. Other rumors had Villa at other points. Jose Garcia Flores reached El Paso with the story that Villa himself had stopped a train at Moctezuma, half way between Chihuahua and Juarez, and had searched the train for Americans.

"I know Villa well and I saw him," said Flores. "He is a very clever man. Luis Herrera had joined him to fight the common enemy and that Colonel Cano also would fight under his command."

Efforts will be made today by Andrews Garcia, Mexican Consul, to effect the release from the El Paso jail of Melchor Herrera, brother of the general reported leading the mutiny against Carranza in Chihuahua.

Despite series of denials from official Mexican sources, reports persisted that General Herrera had quit Chihuahua with 2000 troops to take the field against the common enemy, and in Mexico "the common enemy" is the United States.

Major Sample, commander at Columbus, stated he had absolutely no information of any engagement between Pershing's troops and Villa. The army's wireless is now in good working order. Sample said, but early today he had received no information.

Majority of Mexicans Are of Mixed Races

The population of Mexico is divided as follows:

Whites	15
Mixed	54
Indians	30
Blacks	1

Illiteracy has been variously estimated as running from 75 to 95 per cent.

VILLA DOOMED, SAYS SCOUT RETURNING FROM FRONT

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 24.—Scout J. C. Marlowe, one of the vanguards of the American column, returned to Columbus today with the declaration that the pursuit of Francisco Villa probably would terminate successfully in a brief time.

The bandit chief, according to Marlowe, is hemmed in by the great Gordon of American and Carranza troops and, even though he may retire to the hills of the Guerrero district, he cannot long evade the tightening net.

"The water supplies constitute the biggest factor in the campaign," said Marlowe. "The men are standing on top of the hills under conditions that are terrible to any one unused to the climate and the sand. The first day I saw infantrymen walking along with their feet blistered and swollen, but at their eyes bright and their heads high in spite of the agony."

"It was bad enough for the cavalry, and they deserve all the praise in the world. But it was worse for the infantrymen, and the American people may wish to be proud of the spirit they displayed."

The cry of the soldiers along the front for newspapers and other reading matter is being duplicated at the base camp of the American soldiers. The censorship has been so strict in so far as the movement of troops and the actual progress of the expedition in Mexico is concerned that few of the officers and none of the men here know even the minor details.

Daily, an east and west train passes through Columbus, men gathering along the track and beg or buy newspapers, current or old.

Among the troops here at present are men from cities and towns in every section. When a paper from some trooper's home town drifts in, that trooper will pay an exorbitant price for it. Copies of "Chicago" and those from New York and other Eastern cities sell commonly for as high as 20 cents per copy.

One soldier, from Bangor, Me., heard a troop of another company had received a copy of a nation from home. After a dicker he obtained it for 60 cents and a pair of army shoes. It was the first news he had received from his home town in three weeks.

VILLA CLAIMS GEN. HERRERA AS HIS AID, SAYS MERCHANT

EL PASO, March 24.—Garcia Flores, a Spanish merchant of the City of Chihuahua, who arrived here last night, said that Villa had held up a train on which he was traveling, at Moctezuma, 35 miles northeast from Namiquipa, where the Carranza authorities have insisted the bandit chief was located. Flores is well known in El Paso.

"We were near Moctezuma on Wednesday afternoon," said Mr. Flores, "when we encountered a large force of men mounted and on foot. According to my best estimate there must have been 1500."

"When we reached the station we were ordered to see Pascual Villa himself enter the train. We had supposed he was many miles to the west. He walked through every carriage, declaring that he was searching for Americans. A large force of men would kill any he found. I am not fighting Mexicans," he announced, "except the First Chief and those traitors with him who have turned Mexico over to the Americans."

"Villa stopped to chat with some friends of his who were on the train. He told them that General Herrera had joined him there since with 2000 men, fully equipped and armed, who had followed him from Chihuahua City. He finally left the train without molesting any one, but he took some supplies which he said he needed badly."

Mr. Flores said the wires between Chihuahua and Torreon were cut three days ago and that the people throughout the country traversed knew little of what was going on.

TELLS OF U-BOAT ATTACKS

American Sailor Also Describes Death of Submarine Crew

A Jonah is Thomas Johnson, an American sailor. British seafaring men will tell you.

Johnson, who said his home is at Rockdale, Tex., related his experiences as a "booby" for German submarines, at the Maritime Exchange, today. He was on two ships attacked by submarines before he said. The first was the Baron Erskine, bound from New Orleans to Cardiff, torpedoed last July off the British Isles. The crew was picked up after being adrift in boats six hours. Johnson then slipped the Nicolson. He told of the killing of the crew of the German submarine U-38 on the decks of his ship by a boarding party from a British warship, which sank the U-boat and pursued the crew, which took refuge on the Nicolson.

Spring Suits \$30 To Measure

BRADBURN & NIGRO Tailors to Particular Men Cor. 13th & Sansom Suits \$25 to \$30

MISSING AVIATOR FOUND, HUNGRY, BUT ON THE JOB

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 24.—Lieutenant Edgar G. Gorrell, the army aviator who, with his aeroplane, was lost from a squadron of eight aeroplanes that left here Sunday for Casas Grandes, has been found. He had spent 24 hours alone on the sand-swept plains in Mexico 10 miles north of Ascension, which is 33 miles from the border, unaware that a company of American infantry was less than 12 miles south guarding the line of communication. He had been without food for 24 hours.

Lieutenant Gorrell had to descend Sunday for lack of gasoline. He had three days' rations with him, the quantity carried by each of the aviators. Sunday night, Monday and Tuesday he waited alone. But the hoped-for searching party did not arrive. Neither did any Mexicans, for he was in a deserted expanse where men seldom passed and none lived.

Wednesday the lost aviator, his rations exhausted, left his aeroplane for the first time and walked due east in the direction he knew the road connecting General Pershing's column and the base of operations at Columbus must be. He found the road after walking about eight miles. But still no human being was in sight.

Lieutenant Gorrell wrote a note telling of his predicament, tucked it to a post, then returned to his aeroplane. When Lieutenant J. L. Parkinson, of the 20th Infantry, was traveling north along the road in early yesterday, he found the bit of paper. A halt was at once ordered and a rescue party hurried to Lieutenant Gorrell.

They found him asleep under his machine. He had suffered slightly from exposure to the sun. His aeroplane was intact save the gasoline tank, which had leaked, causing the total loss of his fuel.

Several barrels of gasoline, and with the aid of some tools obtained from the truckmen, Lieutenant Gorrell soldered his tank and rose in a flight which he predicted would end in his rescue in an hour. He left the earth with a wave of the hand as he shouted, "I'll get there this time, boys."

BORDER HAS "SOME" FAITH IN LOYALTY OF MEXICANS

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 24.—Consul Letcher's report to the State Department, affirming General Luis Herrera's loyalty to Carranza, has relieved the tension among both military officers and civilians on the American side of the border today, but there will be no relaxation in the measures being taken to prevent attacks on border towns.

At threatened points on the Texas, New Mexico and Arizona frontier home guards are being organized. These are army equipped and armed. The three States are preparing their militia for active service. In case of an attack in force by Carranza, the militia would have to be called upon, owing to the fact that to increase the size of the expedition in Mexico, General Funston has been compelled to withdraw many of the border patrol detachments.

Major General Funston has as yet received no confirmation of the Mexican report that Villa was defeated at Santa Gertrudis ranch yesterday and later surrounded at El Paso. Only an official report from Pershing to this effect will be credited.

General Funston, however, believes that the rumors of widespread revolts among the Carranzistas in northern Mexico are greatly exaggerated. Commercial dispatches from Torreon and Chihuahua City are coming through without difficulty, and this would hardly be the case, General Funston believes, if rebels had captured these two cities.

NEW FORCE AT CASA GRANDES BACKS UP PERSHING'S DETAIL

EL PASO, March 24.—The 6th and 16th Regiments of Infantry have reinforced General Pershing at Casas Grandes, the field base of operations against Villa. Heretofore they have been guarding the line of communication south of Columbus. Other regiments will be moved in to guard this line.

The shift of infantry regiments was made on account of the need of the troops to guard the supply line for the mounted troops which have moved southward toward Namiquipa in pursuit of Villa. The 24th Infantry will be moved over the border, with the exception of one battalion, which will be held for patrol of the international boundary and will patrol the supply line from the border to Casas Grandes.

Detachments will be stationed at Palomas, Guzman, Ascension and at many places between those towns. The 24th is the strongest regiment in the army numerically and the only one recruited to war strength with companies numbering 100 men.

The 6th and 16th Regiments will be broken up into detachments stationed south of Casas Grandes.

Mexico May Tax U. S. Stores

EL PASO, Tex., March 24.—A report that the Mexican Government might place a duty on all army provisions carried across the border prevailed today. Mexican Consul Garcia declared no official action had yet been taken, but did not deny that it might be. The Mexican railroads have not yet been given over for the transportation of troops or munitions.



Photo by Harris & Ewing. MARION LETCHER United States Consul at Chihuahua, Mexico, where Gen. Luis Herrera was reported to have revolted against Carranza. Consul Letcher, silent for two days, today wired denial of the revolt. Fears for his safety had been aroused in Washington.

U. S. WIRELESS IN MEXICO FAILS; WILL BE ABANDONED

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 24.—Two wireless messages from General Pershing, possibly containing important news of operations from the field, received by General Funston today, were so badly garbled that Funston announced wireless communication is to be abandoned as soon as a company of engineers can patch up the shaky line between Columbus and Casas Grandes.

It was stated at headquarters that an insulated wire between Casas Grandes and Columbus is expected to be in working order shortly.

In the meantime Company 1, of the United States Signal Corps, ordered from El Paso to Columbus today, will take charge of the communication problem and attempt to put the wireless apparatus in better order.

The only intelligible message received from Casas Grandes at 11 o'clock today stated that high winds there were forcing the aeroplanes to remain in camp.

WILL NOT CALL ON MILITIA. PRESIDENT'S CABINET RULES

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The National Guard will not be called upon to aid the Mexican punitive expedition, at the present time, at least. This was made plain today by Secretary of War Baker as he left the White House executive offices after the Cabinet meeting. Secretary Baker was asked pointblank if the militia would be called out.

"Not a chance," he curtly replied. All of the Cabinet members made it clear that no steps were being taken to call on the National Guard or call for volunteers in connection with the Mexican situation.

TROOPS FROM PORTLAND, ORE., ORDERED TO THE BORDER

WASHINGTON, March 24.—A battalion of the 21st Infantry, located at Vancouver Barracks near Portland, Ore., was today ordered to proceed to El Centro, Cal., in compliance with a request from General Bell.

El Centro lies in the Imperial Valley, about 10 miles from the international boundary. An irrigation project centers there, but its source is within Mexico. The reason for the request was not revealed, but it was assumed that perhaps danger to the irrigation system was feared.

HARDWOOD FLOORS

PINKERTON

Now is the time to have hardwood floors laid to make your new decorations entirely complete. The cost is moderate—far less than you would expect to pay for the added beauty and convenience hardwood floors provide.

PINKERTON

3034 West York St. Both Phones

U. S. READY FOR CRASH AS CARRANZA'S FORCES MASS ON MEXICO FRONT

Funston Details Stronger Guards for Possible Uprising. Mystery in Concentration of Troops on Border

COAST GUARD PREPARED

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Continued conflicting reports today from the Mexican border were gravely concerning officials who find their efforts to get accurate knowledge of the exact situation unaccountably interfered with.

The War Department says it is unable to learn just how strong the disaffection among the Carranza forces in northern Chihuahua actually is, while the State Department agents have as yet made no report. No word has come from the Tampico oil region and not only at the State Department, but at the British Embassy is concern felt. The battleship Kentucky will reach Tampico today and from then wireless communication will be maintained with Key West.

Although officials were much interested over reports from the border that Villa was surrounded and had been attacked by Americans and Carranzistas, Secretary Baker said on reaching his office that he had no confirmation of the report from General Funston.

While in no way questioning the good faith of General Carranza, army officers today are studying the apparent massing of his forces at strategic points only a short march from the border. There is no way of ascertaining here whether these dispositions have been authorized directly by the "First Chief" or whether they were ordered by his War Secretary, General Obregon, formerly army commander-in-chief.

At least at half a dozen points not more than five or six hours from the border, however, strong bodies of Carranzista troops are being held, and it is admitted that they could cause much trouble should a break between the United States and the de facto government in Mexico come.

It is understood that General Funston quietly is gathering data of the dispositions of these troops, their commanders and equipment. Meanwhile the border patrols on this side have been so adjusted as to be in readiness for any possible emergency. In addition the Pershing expedition has been so strengthened that it can maintain its positions for a reasonable length of time.

The United States Coast Guard is quietly getting into trim for possible action should a blockade of the Mexican coast be ordered. The coast guard fleet was of great service during the Spanish-American war, and would duplicate that success if called on now.

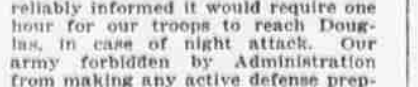
DOUGLAS, ARI. IN TERROR. BEGS FOR STRONGER PATROL

WASHINGTON, March 24.—With a Mexican army of 3000 cavalry and 40 pieces of artillery camped within 10 blocks of the center of Douglas, Ariz., and with American forces ordered not to prepare for active defense for fear of offending Mexicans, the Arizona city is in grave danger of imminent attack, according to a telegram received today by Senator Ashurst from D. A. Richards, a Douglas attorney.

"Do all you can for us before it is too late," said the telegram. Senator Ashurst was undetermined this morning whether to present the telegram to the Senate or to the War Department. In both quarters, he declared, his pleas for aid had been received rather lightly.

The telegram read: Mexican general has 40 pieces of artillery and 3000 cavalry stationed in blocks from center of Douglas. Seven thousand cavalry stationed six miles south of Douglas. We have only 1800 infantry, 300 cavalry and 4 pieces of artillery. Our troops stationed two miles east of Douglas. Am reliably informed it would require one hour for our troops to reach Douglas, in case of night attack. Our army forbidden by Administration from making any active defense preparations.

EL PASO, Tex., March 24.—A telegram was received here today denying the story sent out from Douglas that 2000 Mexican troops have been seen recently in the neighborhood of Agua Prieta, across the border from Douglas. Rumors to the effect that a large body of Mexican troops are moving northward had been observed by an American soldier had caused some apprehension.



NEUBAUER

An Old Established Tailoring Shop in a New and Convenient Location

High Grade Garments at Moderate Prices

Come here with confidence—you will be \$20

littered perfectly in style, workmanship and price. Our long experience insures your satisfaction. Suits to order

1121 WALNUT ST.

GEORGE W. JACOBY

Phone—Walnut 1905

820 Chestnut St.

35c A PAIR 3 PAIRS FOR \$1.00

Men's Wear

Phonograph

TRY THIS EDISON DIAMOND DISC Phonograph IN YOUR HOME AT OUR EXPENSE

This is the Official laboratory model EDISON PHONOGRAPH. With this instrument you need not change needles—the tone reproduction is made by a genuine diamond point.

SEND COUPON TODAY

This instrument so perfectly re-creates the human voice that it is not possible to tell voice and instrument apart! In beautiful finish, the instrument complete is \$250.

Have it in YOUR OWN HOME for a trial—AT OUR EXPENSE. We deliver it upon receipt of coupon below. YOU PAY NOTHING until satisfied. Then make SMALL MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

Other Style Edison Diamond Disc Phonographs, from \$80 Up

SEND IN COUPON TODAY

STORY & CLARK PIANO CO.

Pianos and Player Pianos on our Liberal Payment Plan.

1705 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

STORY & CLARK, 1705 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Deliver to my home the Edison Phonograph shown here at YOUR expense. If instrument is satisfactory will make monthly payment of \$.....

Name

Address

Children's Footwear With the New Smart Toppings

These are the beautiful new designs that keep the young folks in step with mother's fashions. And they look extremely well. The Button Gaiterboot makes a neat Sunday Shoe for the Little One. Patent Colt with White Calf or Gray Kid top.

The Dress Shoe for the Young Miss, Patent or Dull Calf, with Gray Kid top, Bronze Kid with the Metallic Brown top. All-White or Blue Kid. Priced \$2.50 to \$4, according to size.

Correct Shoes for all the faults. Write for "The Feet" and measurement blanks.

Dalsimer Shoes and Hosiery 1204-06-08 Market St.

Opens Tomorrow Continues to April 2 Convention Hall Broad and Allegheny Avenue Admission, 50 Cents

ATLANTIC FLORAL SHOW

Now is the time to have hardwood floors laid to make your new decorations entirely complete. The cost is moderate—far less than you would expect to pay for the added beauty and convenience hardwood floors provide.

PINKERTON

3034 West York St. Both Phones

30.75 6-Piece Mission Library

Suits : As Illustrated

Complete

\$1 A WEEK

Extra Special For Saturday Only

The Settee: Very massive; luxuriously upholstered; elegantly finished.

The Table: Generously proportioned, stoutly constructed; has magazine and book shelf.

The Arm Chair and Rocker: Designed with one thought; durability, beauty, comfort.

The Hall Clock: 58 inches high, 18 inches wide, with brass hands, numerals and pendulum ball.

The Lamp: Beautiful art metal lamp, with elegant opalescent shade.

STERN & CO.

Packard Auto-Truck Delivery 712-714 Market Street Open Saturday Evenings