

SLAVS HALT TEUTONS ON NAROCZ FRONT German Attack Repulsed, Petrograd Says—Russian Aero Station Raided

LONDON, April 10.—While artillery has been generally active since the execution of the Lake Narocz region there has been no infantry attacks on the east front. On the latter the Germans yesterday attempted an assault, but it was checked promptly by the Russians. The Petrograd statement says: "In the Riga region the enemy has been halted. There has been a sharp exchange of fire in the Jacobstadt region. In the vicinity of Dvinsk the Germans exploded a counter mine near one of our saps."

"At many places along the front of the Dvina River German aviators dropped bombs. Our aviators made effective flights against the enemy. One of our aircraft, of the Mikoyan type, threw many bombs on enemy camps in the Riga region."

"There has been a violent exchange of fire in different parts of the region around Postavy; and north of Lake Narocz. In the latter sector the Germans, after artillery preparation, tried to approach our trenches, but were repulsed."

A successful attack by four German seaplanes on a Russian aviation station on Osel Island at the entrance to the Gulf of Riga, was announced in an official statement yesterday by the chief of the German Admiralty staff. The statement says: "On April 8 four naval planes attacked the Russian aviation station on Osel Island, near Kielkind, on Osel Island. Twenty bombs were dropped. Two of our enemy seaplanes which rose were forced to descend. In spite of heavy anti-aircraft fire our seaplanes returned safely."

U-BOAT FEAR INCREASES; MORE SHIPS SUNK

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almond hailed from London. The Yonne was engaged in the Glasgow trade. Three members of the crew of the Silkenworth Hall are missing. Thirty-one others were picked up and landed today.

The crew of the Rostand was saved. All the members of the crew of the Yonne, 40 in number, were saved. They declare that the Yonne was unarmed and that she was attacked without warning. The Yonne was formerly the Kastalia. It is stated that the Yonne was unarmed and that she was torpedoed without warning.

BERNSTORFF ASKS LANSING FOR CONFERENCE TODAY

May Have Proposition Concerning Sussex—President Waits on Data

WASHINGTON, April 10.—German Ambassador von Bernstorff requested and was granted a conference with Secretary Lansing for this afternoon, presumably to discuss the Sussex case. Lansing would not discuss the substance of the meeting further than to say it was at the envoy's request. It is thought von Bernstorff might deliver certain propositions on the situation.

Germany's official denial that a German submarine attacked the Channel liner Sussex was expected to reach the State Department some time today. As a result of this denial, definite action by the United States to bring the submarine conspiracy to a head has been seriously interfered with.

Officials admit that the case is seriously complicated by the positions taken by the rival belligerents. England and France specifically have declared the vessel was torpedoed. Germany says that none of her U-boats were responsible. There is no conclusive evidence from an independent source that will permit of the United States reaching a verdict.

Officials said it was unlikely that any action could be taken for several days inasmuch as the text of all of the affidavits taken by the embassy representatives in Paris and London cannot reach here before next Thursday, when the liner St. Paul is due to arrive at New York. It had been expected that this evidence would be ready for consideration at tomorrow's Cabinet meeting, but it was explained at the State Department that this would be impossible.

It is thought that the Sussex finally may be eliminated from consideration in the submarine situation. Ambassador Gerard is understood already to have transmitted confidential reports, which show that his investigation of the charges made from French and British sources that Germany has issued secret instructions to submarine commanders to attack without warning, and then to avoid detection, are without foundation. The Ambassador is understood to have reported that he was fully confident that the German Government was endeavoring to carry out its promises to the United States without any qualifications.

The reports dealing with the torpedoing of the Manchester Engineer, the Englishman, and the Eagle Point are also on the St. Paul and it is stated that until they are examined it will be impossible to determine whether they will furnish material to address Berlin on the general submarine question.

Secretary Lansing announced at noon that he had received only the preliminary report from Ambassador Gerard, explaining that he had been handed the German reply in the Sussex case and would forward it as soon as it could be checked. The Secretary declined to say whether the Gerard statement showed that Germany was also outlining her position in connection with the other inquiries made about other steamships. The Secretary incidentally remarked that he had received several reports from Ambassador Gerard during the last few days, but that none of them would be made public at this time. It is believed that these reports had to do with the denial by the Ambassador that Germany had issued secret orders to her submarine commanders.

Girl's Club Leases on Pine Street

The four-story residence 104 Pine street has been leased by C. W. Spilhaus, of the office of Lewis A. Taulane, representing the trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, to the Church Settlement Society, which will conduct a Business Girls' Club in the property. The leases were represented by J. T. Jackson Company.

VILLA HUNT PRESSES SOUTH, DESPITE RUMORS NOT A CHANCE TO QUIT VILLA HUNT, SAYS FUNSTON

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 10.—"There's not a chance of the American troops being withdrawn from Mexico."

This was Major Funston's comment today when he was told of unofficial reports that Carranzista leaders declared Francisco Villa had escaped into Durango, and that the United States forces would therefore have to leave the country. Funston said that, judging from what he had heard from Washington, the hunt for Villa would continue. Latest official advices said that Colonel Dodd and Colonel Brown were pushing southwestward from Saltillo and Comahuac respectively, the advanced cavalry screen having already passed Parral.

"As a matter of going south," said General Funston. From Columbus the American commander received word that the guard over the lines of communication in Mexico had been strengthened during the last three days by the dispatch of additional American forces. Trenches have been constructed at strategic points along the supply route and General Funston is so satisfied with the situation from a military standpoint that he sees no reason for shifting his headquarters from San Antonio.

General Funston was indignant today over the demand of the citizens of Del Rio that the negro troops there be withdrawn owing to a clash with Texas troops. Several days ago the de facto government troops in these towns were ordered south. Immediately after the departure of the Carranza troops there was an outbreak of Villa supporters in that region.

Funston today regarded as highly significant reports of Carranza's conference with the Carranzista leaders received from Carranzistas by the American aviators who landed at Chihuahua was gratifying in addition to these advices General Pershing's report on his visit to San Geronimo, where General Luis Herrera called upon him, tended to brighten his outlook. Herrera, once reported to be revolting against Carranza, promised Pershing full co-operation, the general said.

Pershing's report reiterated the story of Villa having been wounded. Funston believed this might account for the comparatively slow progress of the Villistas indicated by recent advices on Villa's whereabouts. His dispatches strongly indicated increasing activity by the Carranzista troops. Herrera and Pershing discussed the situation in friendly terms and exchanged views on running down the bandit. At Chihuahua there was no indication of an effort to withhold supplies from Americans, according to headquarters reports, but the shortage of provisions made it difficult to obtain them. Storekeepers were liberal with their stocks.

VILLA BEYOND DURANGO LINE, FAR AHEAD OF FOE

EL PASO, Tex., April 10.—Mexican reports reaching the border today asserted that Francisco Villa had escaped from Chihuahua and crossed the line into Durango, his native State, through which his couriers have been galloping for several days, calling upon outlaw bands of that wild section to join the brigand chief and fight the pursuing Americans. According to Carranzistas, the Chihuahua-Durango State line was the limit of the pursuit by the American expedition. They declare that the withdrawal of the United States troops from Mexico might be expected within a few days. A censored dispatch from the headquarters of the expedition says that General Pershing has gone to the extreme southern front and that on Sunday he was camped only a few miles behind the American troops who tried to intercept Villa before he reached Parral.

CONSUL GARCIA QUOTED

Andreas Garcia, Carranza consul in El Paso, is quoted in an interview as having authorized the statement that the southern boundary of Chihuahua was fixed by President Wilson and First Chief Carranza as the deadline of the American pursuit. (The agreement between the American and Mexican Governments as given out recently in Mexico City, did not contain any clause covering this, but Article 7 of the pact was not made public at that time, nor has it been revealed since.) It is possible that the diplomatic communications which recently passed between Carranza and Washington may have had to do with this phase of the situation. General Pershing's dash in an automobile 48 miles to get to the front indicates that important developments are pending.

Whatever the diplomatic exchanges may lead to, it is apparent that Villa in his flight southward had a well-formulated plan of campaign. While his rear guard held back the Americans, he sent into Durango two trusted messengers, who opened negotiations with General Domingo Arrieta and General Mariano Arrieta, brother rebels, who have in the neighborhood of Durango City an armed force of 3000 men eager to take the field against either Carranza or Americans—preferably Americans, according to the threats that the Arrietas have made.

VILLA SEEKS RECRUITS

Villa's envoys are said to have won the support of the Arrieta brothers and when word was received today that Villa had passed Magistral, a Durango mining camp six miles from El Oro, which is 30 miles south of the Chihuahua border, it was predicted that he would lay his course direct from Durango City. The bandit chief is said to have crossed the State boundary line last Saturday. This information is contained in private dispatches which reached El Paso today. These said that Villa had turned from a

ON DEAD MAN'S LINE AT VERDUN



This point on the west bank of the Meuse has been the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting in the German attack on Verdun. The French name for it is "Le Mort Homme." It is about seven miles from the city. Both assailants and defenders have died by thousands here, progress being slow for either side on account of the dense thicket which covers its slopes and which is plainly revealed in this picture of an observation post.



Photo by Underwood & Underwood.

branch line of the Mexican railway on Friday, 18 miles east of Parral and moved directly toward the south.

This course took him to Las Cuevas on the Rio Florida, whence he proceeded to Magistral. This route lay open to Villa because of the removal of Carranza garrisons from El Oro and Magistral. Several days ago the de facto government troops in these towns were ordered south. Immediately after the departure of the Carranza troops there was an outbreak of Villa supporters in that region.

VILLISTA UPRIISING

They dropped the promise of loyalty to Carranza which had been forced on them and took to the saddle, arming themselves with weapons which they had hidden when the Carranza soldiers came. Then they awaited the appearance of their leader, who came speedily. From all points came and the Villistas to the rendezvous set by Villa's couriers.

All reports agree that Villa had carefully planned his escape from the American troops pursuing him. At frequent points along his route of flight from the border horses had been hidden. These were utilized by the chief and his followers just at the time when the pursuing American troops were close behind, but badly needing remounts.

From San Geronimo Villa gained steadily on his pursuers and when he passed Parral the Americans were 24 hours behind him. He was victor in the race, but there was no long halt in his progress toward the Arrieta forces. These occupy two camps at the head waters of the Tepehuacan River, which runs through Durango City. The camps are on a rail-way which also leads to the town.

When Villa reaches his destination he will be in a position to defend himself as well as to send raiding parties into the surrounding country.

SALAZAR, EX-HUERTA CHIEF, REPORTED HEADING REVOLT

EL PASO, April 10.—Jose Salazar, former Huerta general, is said to have crossed into Mexico with intentions avowedly hostile to the United States. The report of his crossing was told the police by a man who had been closely associated with Salazar. The police believe the report. Mrs. Salazar, questioned, said her husband was away from home, but she did not know where he was. She denied he had entered Mexico.

In the meantime, a proclamation was discovered, purporting to be signed by Salazar, in which he called on all patriotic Mexicans to join him in the protection of the United States.

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CARRANZISTAS AIDING U. S., FUNSTON TELLS WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Carranzista forces are co-operating fully with the Americans in Mexico, according to a dispatch received by Secretary of War Baker today from General Funston. The dispatch stated General Pershing had had a "very satisfactory" conference with General Herrera, and expected to hold another meeting with General Gutierrez, Carranza commander at Chihuahua.

General Funston again confirmed earlier reports that Villa had been wounded in the house. He also confirmed the report that one American aeroplane had been disabled, leaving five in service.

The summary of Secretary Baker's dispatches, as given out officially, follows: A dispatch, dated April 8, explains infrequency of communications by saying that the wireless has not been able to work, and aeroplane communication has been difficult because of lack of suitable landing place.

This dispatch again confirmed the earlier report of Villa being severely wounded in the right leg.

General Pershing reports that he has had a very satisfactory conference with General Herrera, and expects today to meet General Gutierrez to whom he sent messages by aeroplane to Chihuahua, and received replies offering full co-operation. General Pershing's comment is that every indication shows a desire of the troops of the de facto government to aid to the extent of their ability.

General Pershing further reports that one aeroplane was badly disabled in landing on the 6th, leaving only five out of the original eight now in serviceable condition, but it is evident that the aeroplanes in use are performing valuable, and that great reliance is placed upon them.

Secretary Baker said he had no information concerning a difficulty at Del Rio, Texas, in which a soldier of the 24th Infantry (colored) was killed in a clash with a Texas Ranger.

Further satisfactory word was that large quantities of supplies are being shipped from El Paso to private consignees in Mexico for distribution to the American forces.

El Paso reports that Carranza had ordered withdrawal of American troops elicited from Secretary Baker only the comment: "I don't believe General Carranza is communicating with us through El Paso."

Baker would not comment on reports that Carranza had established a "dead line" of time and distance for the American expedition, but other officials said there had been no agreement.

U. S. SOLDIERS HAVE JOLLY TIME AT SUNDAY SERVICE

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN MEXICO, Sunday, April 9 (wireless to Columbus, N. M., April 10).—With a shallow arroyo as a tabernacle, the star-spangled sky for an altar, the khaki-clad soldiers to-night attended religious services.

"Barbarous Mexico" for notes around school to the surrounding Anglo-Saxon hymns of "Onward, Christian Soldier" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." A touch of modernism was added in "Billy Sunday's" "Brighten the Corner Where You Are."

Churchgoers in the "States" might have stood aghast at the absence of sectarian niceties in the conduct of the service. The four chaplains were cheerful and applauded each in turn clambered onto the soap-box rostrum to preach or lead the singing. Cigarettes and pipes glowed in the darkness.

They preceded their sermons with amusing anecdotes and personal observations that drew unrestrained laughter from their hearers. By invitation of the chaplains the sermons were interrupted by what Father Joyce termed "vaudeville numbers."

The service ended with the singing of "America."

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