

# GERMANY THE NEXT REPUBLIC?

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**After Germany's Campaign of Justification Failed in All the Neutral Countries and the Submarine Blockade of February 1, 1917, Was Declared, the Authorities Realized That It Was Necessary to Obtain the Support of the Entire German People in the Employment of Ruthlessness**

**That is the Reason for the Publication by Rear Admiral Hollweg, Called the "Bernhardi of the Seas," of a Voluminous Book Explaining in Detail the Reasons Why It Became Necessary for the Central Powers to Engage in a Warfare of Piracy—Needless to Say, the Work Fulfilled Its Predetermined Function**

AFTER the new blockade of the Allied coast was proclaimed, effective February 1, 1917, some explanation had to be made to convince the public that the submarine war would be successful and would bring the victory which the people had been promised. The public was never informed directly what the arguments were which convinced the Kaiser that he could win the war by using submarines. But on the ninth of February there appeared a small book written by Rear Admiral Hollweg entitled, "Unser Recht auf den Uboot-krieg." (Our Right in Submarine Warfare.) The manuscript of this book was concluded on the fifteenth of January, which shows that the data which it contained and the information and arguments presented were those which the Admiralty placed before the Kaiser on his birthday. The points which Rear Admiral Hollweg makes in his book are:

- First. America's unfriendly neutrality justifies a disregard of the United States.
- Second. The loss of merchant ships is bringing about a crisis in the military and economic conditions of the Allies.
- Third. England, as the heart of the Entente, must be harmed before peace can be made.
- Fourth. Submarines can and must end the war.

### The "Bernhardi of the Seas"

This book is for the German people a naval textbook, as General von Bernhardi's book, "Germany and the Next War," was a military textbook. Bernhardi's task was to school Germany into the belief in the unbeatableness of the German army. Hollweg's book is to teach the German people what their submarines will accomplish and to steel the people for the plans her military leaders will propose and carry through on this basis.

The keynote of Hollweg's arguments is taken from the words of the German song, "Der Gott der Eisen wachsen Liess," written by Ernst Moritz Arndt. Hollweg quotes this sentence on page 23: "Lieber ein Ende mit Schrecken, als ein Schrecken ohne ende." ("Rather an end with Terror than Terror without End.")

In the chapter on "The Submarine War and Victory" the writer presents the following table:

Status of merchant ships in 1914:

	Subs captured	Percentage
England (exclusive of colonies).....	19,256,766	16.2
France .....	2,319,438	18.8
Russia .....	1,053,818	13.8
Italy .....	1,668,296	18.8
Belgium .....	352,124	9.3
Japan .....	1,708,386	37.391
(Figures for December, 1916, estimated)		
The world tonnage at beginning of war was.....	49,089,553	
Added 1914-16 by new construction.....	9,000,000	
	51,089,553	

Of this not usable are:	
Tonnage, Germany .....	5,459,296
Austria .....	1,055,719
Turkey .....	133,158
In German and Turkey held enemy shipping .....	200,000
Ships in U. S. A. .....	2,352,764
Locked in Baltic and Black Sea.....	700,000
Destroyed enemy tonnage.....	3,885,000
Total .....	13,785,937
Destroyed neutral tonnage (estimated) .....	900,000
	14,685,937

Requisitioned by enemy countries for war purposes, transports, etc.—	
England .....	9,000,000
France .....	1,400,000
Italy .....	1,100,000
Russia .....	400,000
Belgium .....	250,000
	12,150,000

Remaining for world freight transmission still usable at the beginning of 1917.....	
	26,835,937

To the Entente argument that Germany has not considered the speedy construction of merchant ships during wartime the author replies by citing Lloyd's List of December 29, 1916, which gave the following tonnage as having been completed in British wharves:	
1913 .....	1,977,000 tons
1914 .....	1,722,000 "
1915 .....	649,000 "
1916 .....	582,000 "

"These figures demonstrate that England, which is the leader of the world as a freight carrier, is being harmed the most." Admiral Hollweg cites these figures to show that ship construction has decreased in England and that England cannot make good ship losses by new construction.



"The manuscript of this book contained information and arguments which the Admiralty placed before the Kaiser on his birthday."

Based on German Prize-Law Regulations

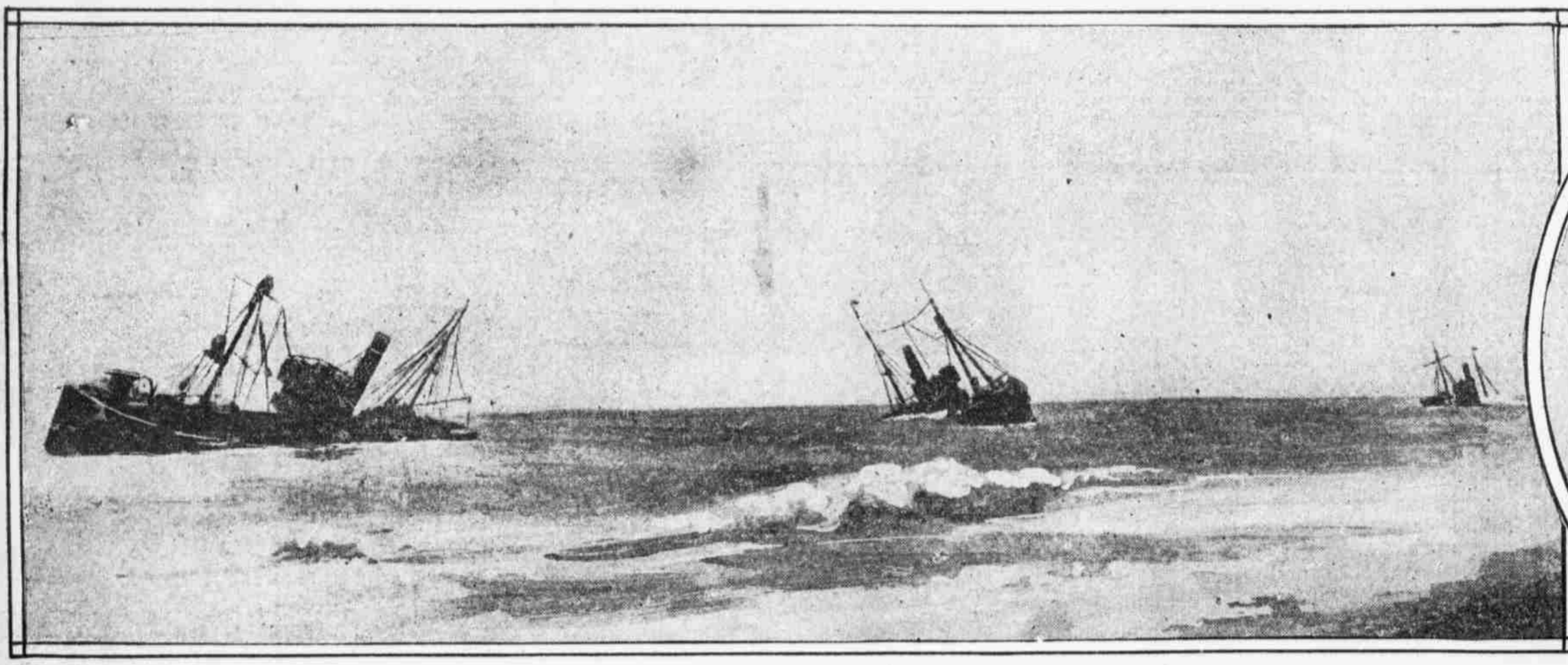
On page 17 Rear Admiral Hollweg says: "We are conducting today a war against enemy merchant vessels different from the methods of former wars only in part by ordinary warships. The chief method is by submarines based upon the fundamentals of international law as dictated by German prize court regulations. The German prize regulations were at the beginning of the war based upon the fundamental principles of the London declaration and respected the modern endeavors of all civilized States to decrease the terrors of war. These regulations of sea laws were written to decrease the effects of the unavoidable consequences of sea warfare upon noncombatants and neutrals. As far

as there have been changes in the regulations of the London declaration during the war, especially as far as changes in the contraband list have been extended, we Germans have religiously followed the principle set by the English of 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'"

On page 19 he states: "Americans would under no circumstances, not even today, if they were faced by a superior sea power in war, refuse to follow the method of warfare by the ruthless use of pirate ships. May our submarine campaign be an example for them! The clever cruiser commander of U-53 off the Atlantic coast gave them clearly to understand what this method was. Legally they cannot complain of this warfare. The other neutrals cannot complain either against such sea warfare because they have ever since the Middle Ages recognized the English method of sea warfare."

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

## ARMED GERMAN TRAWLERS DRIVEN ASHORE DURING BATTLE WITH BRITISH DESTROYERS



TEUTON CRAFT SEEK REFUGE ASHORE FROM DESTRUCTIVE FIRE OF ENEMY WARSHIPS  
When a British patrol fleet sighted the German boats off the coast of Denmark, a running battle ensued. Outgunned by the foe, the Teutons made for the coast, where four of them were wrecked. The photograph shows three of the ill-fated vessels, from which nearly a hundred men were landed, many of them badly wounded.



MAY COMMAND MARINES ABROAD  
Brigadier General John A. Lejune has been detailed to command the marine cantonment at Quantico, Va., indicating that he will lead the first division of marines to be mobilized in France.



GRADUATES OF THE MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA ON TRAINING AT CAMP GREENLEAF, FORT OGLETHORPE, GEORGIA, FOR COMMISSIONS IN THE MEDICAL CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY