

U. S. GUNS SHELL MONTDIDIER LINE

Patrol Penetrates German Lines at Ancerville, in Luneville Zone

BLOW UP MUNITIONS

Other Towns and Roads Under American Artillery Fire

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN LORRAINE, May 6.

An American patrol penetrated German lines in the village of Ancerville to a depth of 300 yards yesterday, overcoming an observation post, taking four boches prisoner and killing three.

Elsewhere everything is quiet. Ancerville is about three miles and a half northwest of Badonviller and is six miles and a half south of the German border.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY WEST OF MONTDIDIER, May 6.

American guns are shelling Montdidier, Cantigny, Mesnil-St. Georges and other towns and roads in this vicinity captured by the Germans some time ago.

Montdidier, which can be seen from observation posts in the American lines, has been badly knocked about, but the church is still standing.

The American artillery blew up what probably was an ammunition dump near Cantigny, the fire lasting half an hour.

American artillery in the Luneville sector has chased completely the Germans from their front positions and has wiped off the map certain sections of the targets in the enemy rear area within the last three days.

On the present occasion, so far as all investigation shows, the Germans have entirely abandoned the territory at least as far back as a point beyond their second line.

Terrific Havoc Seen

The sections affected by the work of these American artillerymen are the line south, southwest and southeast of Halloville. The American raiders have found that the shells had worked terrific havoc at many places plainly visible, where the big projectiles from the heavy guns had fallen.

Halloville is about thirteen miles almost directly east of Luneville and about six miles from the German border. It was in the Halloville sector that the Americans in a raid last Friday penetrated through three German lines.

One of the American patrols in the Luneville sector entered the hamlet of Ancerville early this morning and penetrated the German lines to a distance of 300 yards. On the way back the patrol discovered an enemy observation post in which were a corporal and six men.

The first the Germans knew that the American patrol was near was when a shower of hand grenades followed by bullets, hit the post. The patrol ceased firing when the enemy cried "Kamerad!"

Shells Smother German Sortie

The Germans today again attempted to occupy one of the former American trenches in the Bois Brule, west of Apremont, in the Toul sector, which was the scene of the fighting April 10 and 12.

Soon after midnight the American patrols discovered the Germans had crept into the position, with a large number of machine guns and tools, apparently intending to consolidate the trenches with the German system.

The American artillery went into action quickly, sweeping a high-explosive barrage back and forth across the newly occupied ground.

There appeared to be reason for believing at one time, after the Germans were discovered, that another attack on the Americans was about to be launched, probably to cover the consolidation effort.

The Germans seem determined to carry out their designs against this position, and it is not unlikely more sharp fighting will be seen here, for it is valuable to the enemy, although not very valuable to the Americans, because of the nature of the terrain.

American in Air Battles

Four more aerial battles were reported today by American airmen flying in the sector northwest of Toul. All of the combats were indecisive, although one of the American machines returned with bullet holes in its wings and two others with holes torn by fragments of shells from anti-aircraft guns.

The first report was from the pilot of a pursuit airplane, who encountered the enemy over the lines at a height of 5000 meters (16,250 feet). The pair fought a duel for several minutes, the German finally turning quickly and, running into the direct line of the sun in his homeward way, getting clear.

HURL BOTTLED GAS TOWARD AMERICANS

With the American Army on a new French battlefield, May 6.—A new German liquefied gas has been projected against the Picardy front, where American troops are fighting.

The gas, in its fluid form, is contained in glass bottles. On bursting they give off some substance from which heavy, white fumes, transparent in texture, continue to arise for five minutes.

No detonation was heard as the bottles were hurled through the air and apparently they were thrown by a spring. The gas caused nausea, sneezing and coughing, but did not harm any of the Americans.

RUSSIAN BLACK SEA FLEET IN Foe's HANDS

Ships Are Found in Harbor by Troops Who Occupy Sebastopol

Constantinople (via London), May 6.—German troops occupying Sebastopol (in the Crimean peninsula) found in the harbor most of the Russian Black Sea fleet, including cruisers, destroyers, torpedo-boats, submarines and merchant ships. It was officially announced here today.

The Sultan Selim and the Hamidieh, formerly the German cruisers Groeben and Breslau, respectively, have arrived at Sebastopol, where the capture of the fleet was effected.

The Black Sea fleet consists of the dreadnoughts Empress Maria, Emperor Alexander III, Empress Catharina II and Ivan Grozny, each of 22,500 tons displacement; the pre-dreadnoughts Evstafy, 12,840 tons; Ioann Zlatoust, 12,840 tons; Panteleimon, 12,582 tons; Rostislav, 10,140 tons; Tri Sviatellia, 13,312 tons; Gheorghia Pobledonosets, 11,750 tons, and Sinope, 10,181 tons.

When the turbulent days after the Bolshevik assumed control of the Russian Government a mutiny broke out on the Black Sea fleet and it was seized by Bolshevik sympathizers. There was a terrible massacre of naval officers.

HURT IN LONDON

West Chester Soldier Loses One Leg in Accident

West Chester, May 6.—News has been received here that George Mahan, a young chauffeur, of this place, has been seriously injured in London, losing one leg in an accident.

He was a member of a signal corps unit of the army.

EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER AT FRONT



Even the grim realities of life in the trenches have their lighter and pleasanter moments, and high among them Edgar Ott Garrett, serving in France with the United States army ambulance corps, places reading the Evening Public Ledger. He is seen enjoying all the news of Philadelphia in this fashion in the above picture, which he sent to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Garrett, of Ashbourne, Montgomery County. He writes of many thrilling experiences, and he recently observed at close range a battle between German and Allied airplanes.

BRITISH DRIVE FORWARD GAINS GROUND ON BOTH SIDES OF SOMME

Continued from Page One

In the night time an enemy party that was attempting to approach our advanced posts in the region of Neuport on the coast was dispersed by our fire.

Initiative With Allies

The Allies still retain the initiative on the western battle front, Field Marshal Haig's report shows. In Picardy the British advance on a "considerable front" on the Somme and between that river and Albert, six miles north, confirms this heartening analysis.

May Be New Drive

Between Neuport and Dinan the country is flooded and there is a barrier three or four miles wide in front of the boches. On the Yser canal the Germans hold positions on the bank that they captured in a surprise attack last August.

ARTILLERY ACTIVE ON ITALIAN FRONT

Amsterdam, May 6.—The Austrian War Office announces that heavy artillery duels continue all along the Italian front, said a dispatch from Vienna today. The text was: "On the lower Piave River Italian reconnaissance was frustrated. Artillery duels continue all along the southwestern front."

BRITISH WAR MISSION REPORT IS HEARTENING

Washington, May 6.—With French and the British reserves now available the allied situation in France "has considerably improved" although certain to be "anxious for some time yet" the British War Mission here announced today.

"The enemy has not renewed his attack in France since his fifth failure on April 29, when the divisions engaged suffered so severely that they had to be withdrawn. Fresh divisions will have to be substituted before the enemy can renew the offensive," the statement said.

"Despite the ordeal through which they have passed and their casualties, the British have never been in finer fettle and are showing a line in to be found the quiet confidence of men who have faced the worst and overcome it."

"In spite of the absence of deep dugouts and shellproof structures the new trenches, without the aid of the continuous rain of high explosives and gas shells, and when the enemies masses and gas bombardments, the survivors drove them back with the heaviest casualties time and again."

"During the present fighting the enemy's expenditure of ammunition has been enormous. The intense bombardments previous to the attack of April 29 lasted for fifteen hours, and carried out as it was, with the utmost intensity and concentration, cost the lives of thousands of men."

"The German army occupying the Somme and between that river and Albert, six miles north, confirms this heartening analysis. Haig's troops encountered 'strong opposition,' but inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy while suffering slight losses themselves, a fact that indicates British strength and morale."

Though only local fighting was reported in Flanders, and this on the southern portion of the battle front, British improvement of their position in the neighborhood of Locon and on the Lave is also significant.

(Locon is about three miles north of Bethune. The Lave flows northward, crossing the lines about a mile east of Locon and converging with the Lys near Estaires.)

WOMAN OFF TO FRONT

Sergeant Major Flora Sandes Returns to Her Serbian Regiment

London, May 6.—Sergeant Major Flora Sandes, an English woman who has been serving with the Serbian army, is leaving England today for Salonica, to join her regiment after a furlough here.

She joined the Serbians as a nurse, later becoming a private soldier. She won her promotion through bravery at the front and has been decorated.

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