

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCHES SHOW GERMAN NATION'S STRENGTH SAPPED BY WAR CONDITIONS

TWO TINY BOATS FIGHT SQUADRON

Rizzo Describes His Attack on Austrian Dred-noughts

DESTROYERS OUTWITTED

Tells How Motorboats Slipped Inside Lines, Got Big Warships

London Times-Public Ledger Service Special Cable Dispatch Copyright, 1918, by Public Ledger Co.

Venice, June 14. Your correspondent has just seen...

He was cruising off the Dalmatian coast, along its islands, in one of those motorcraft, flotilla which he commanded...

The two small craft, which between them had thirty men aboard, were quickly going along the coast when a great column of smoke was seen...

"Wondering what it was," said Commander Rizzo, "I changed our course and was soon running northward. I could make out in the dim dawn—it was about 2:15 Sunday, and strangely enough, the anniversary day of the sinking of the Wisconsin...

Rizzo Describes Encounter "I said to myself, 'You'll never get a chance like this again, you've got to go about it.' I ordered Anzo to attack as he thought best. I made straight for the destroyer. They did not see me nor hear me. When I judged the moment had come I slipped between the second and third escorting destroyers...

"It let go my torpedoes. One struck on a line with the funnels. The second struck further aft, but also exploded with full force."

There was Commander Rizzo inside the Austrian ship, he saw the torpedoes and his own and weapons; so, at least, the second Austrian destroyer seems to have judged, for it turned to run him down.

But he had another resource left in two depth charges. Judging from the speed of his own little vessel that of the destroyer, he dived one in. It did not explode. Another lightning calculation and in went the second.

"I saw the destroyer lift in the sea," he said, "and roll like a drunken man."

She was badly hit and in the gap, though the third escorting destroyer tried to ram him, Rizzo slipped away. The whole thing had not lasted more than twenty minutes.

Midshipman Scores a Hit Meanwhile Anzo's boat had its turn sided up in the rear of the convoy and fired two torpedoes at the second dreadnought. The first slipped past her bows, but the second hit her full toward the stern. Those in Anzo's boat saw the first battleship heeling over deeply. Anzo's boat sped away after its companion. There was a little desultory firing in their direction, but they were not pursued.

Sixteen hours later, Italian aircraft flying over the scene saw masses of wreckage drifting away toward the North Adriatic. That so much wreckage should have been seen so long after may confirm the loss of the battleship. The damaged destroyer was seen earlier, being towed back to Pola. The wreckage did not come from her.

The aircraft visited Pola and reported there is only one dreadnought there, having once there were four. One dreadnought was recently torpedoed at Pola.

GERMANY'S DEATH RATE MOUNTS AS PERIL TO HEALTH INCREASES

Documents and Prisoners Captured by Americans Show Scientists' Fear of Ravages of Disease. Due to Malnutrition

By EDWIN L. JAMES Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

American Army Headquarters on the Meuse, June 14. Evidence of the greatest importance as to internal conditions in Germany has just come into the possession of the Americans through captured documents and the testimony of a captured medical officer.

On May 8 at Heidelberg there was held a meeting of scientists and physicians from all parts of Germany, at which resolutions were sent to the Kaiser, the Chancellor and the Reichstag demanding immediate governmental aid to combat serious health conditions.

This resolution set forth that the death rate among infants and women and children had risen to 48 per cent, and pointed out the increasing peril to the German civilian population. It was pointed out that sanitary conditions were bad and getting worse; that four years of not enough food had placed the civilian population in a position where it would not offer normal resistance to disease. Special attention was drawn to the ravages of spring epidemics due to malnutrition.

Physicians reported the great prevalence of abscesses among war factory workers. It was also stated that the death rate from 200 grammes to 160 grammes, stated that the reduction was caused until crops arrived from the East. It was stated that the German people were coming to doubt the receipt of food supplies from the Ukraine, and there was general dissatisfaction with what was made with the Russians.

Respectful of Austrian Treaty The recent treaty with Austria raised the suspicion that the people were the victims of the annexationists and the prospect of a general state of war brought a serious blow to the German Government.

According to captured officers, the German people have the greatest dread of

SHOOT ESCAPING AMERICANS

Prisoners Trying to Get Back Are Killed by Germans

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The Hague, June 14.—A report in circulation here that a number of American prisoners had been shot for attempting to escape.

The Deutsche Tageszeitung says that Americans were put on the front near Chateau Thierry on June 10 for moral effect and to fulfill Clemenceau's promise of American help. The paper says that the commencement was not very encouraging and that the Americans' attack was interrupted by the support of the French. They would not be allowed the responsibility of attacking alone.

"The Americans, perhaps a division, have been shown on the French section of the front," it says.

The paper says that strategically things are uncertain at the Entente.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH WORRYING GERMANS

Teuton Newspapers Make Sarcastic Comments to Hide Concern

SCOFF AT DECLARATIONS Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

The Hague, June 14. President Wilson's recent speech to the Mexican journalists has caused considerable concern in the German press.

The Rhenish Gazette asserts that one of the original aims of the American flag and asks why America is trying to out-Germany from South America if not for commercial reasons.

The paper declares that America will also demand compensation from Russia in the shape of the Iron district of Siberia and the Ural Mountains, as well as supervision of the Siberian Railway.

"And then the Monroe Doctrine, Wilson's favorite theme, one that he has so often handled in an epic manner, will soon be applied to the Americas, but big brother with a big stick."

The Koelnische Zeitung says Wilson sinks deeper and deeper, referring to a certain article in the Kaiser's speech, which the President approved of and which he had hundreds of copies published.

The Frankfurter Zeitung comments on the fact that even American school children are being taught to fight German propaganda and to be patriotic, and says that a new lesson called "Americanism" is to be introduced in the schools.

The same paper sees in the President's speech an appeal to European public opinion, which, it asserts, does not believe in Wilson's idealistic war aims. The appeal can only be made to the Central Powers or neutrals.

The paper says unless Washington is afraid that the Entente is unconvinced of Wilson's ideals. As not one of the Central Powers can believe the President's speech proceeds, then his speech must have been made for neutral, anxious and uncertain in spite of his "arrogance and brutality."

"The recent speech," says the paper, "reads like a comic apology to harmless Mexican journalists. It is questionable whether this speech will have success in America, where they know the suddenly gentle brother well enough to criticize his kinder speeches."

Caranza will say that Wilson's apology for the past almost looks like a warning or menace about future mistreatment of Washington's idealistic declaration.

The paper says that one reason for ill feeling is that the present Mexican Government does not allow Americans to exploit Mexico's rich American capital and that another reason is Mexico's strict neutrality. It tells its readers of petroleum companies which are so rich that they could pay for a revolution every year, and concludes that even this speech will not convince Mexicans or any one else of Wilson's idealistic policy.

Badly in Need of Peace That Germany is banking greatly on winning the war quickly is shown by the fact that fifty prisoners captured the other day by the Americans, ever one carried a new pocket mirror with picture of Hindenburg on the back and also a post card showing the German soldier, Austrian soldier, a Turkish soldier under their flags with the caption "Last and winning drive." All this shows that Germany is in desperate need of peace.

To one who has seen as much misery of refugees and evacuees as I have, there is the greatest satisfaction in the contents of a letter from home taken from a captured officer just back from leave. It told of the terror of British night-raiding on the Rhine towns and of thousands of people leaving those towns for safety. It said the exodus from Coblenz, Cologne and Metz was very large. It also told how a bomb, falling on a German troop train, had killed 120 soldiers on the way to the American front. Another British aviator crashed the German station and destroyed a big picnic factory. The station was hurriedly repaired, but was wrecked again two nights later by British bombers in Paris the other day, and asked him how he felt while dropping bombs on civilians. He replied quietly: "They killed my sister in London."

DECORATION OF A FRENCH CHAPLAIN FOR BRAVERY



COURIERS WAR PROFITEERS Are Accused of Making Money Out of Exchange Differences

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

Paris, June 14.—The ingenious way which certain diplomatic couriers between Switzerland and Paris have been able to make substantial profits by taking advantage of the currency exchange differences existing in exchange values has just become generally known.

Several of these messengers have been making a practice of buying British sovereigns and American dollars each time they arrived in Paris and changing them on their return into Swiss francs, which on the next trip into France they changed into French gold and notes. It is known that a single operation of this kind, in which the original capital involved amounted to the equivalent of \$5000, enables the man concerned to divide between themselves a profit of \$600 francs, or nominally \$1600.

These operations were made possible through the fact that diplomatic luggage is not subject to customs inspection at the frontier. Two of the couriers are to be prosecuted for breach of the law of April 14 last, which prohibits the export of capital, and five other persons are said to be implicated. The only penalty provided under the law is a fine.

GERMANS LEARN U. S. IS FIGHTING

Papers Permitted to Tell People Americans Are on Front ORDERS SENT TO PRESS

By GEORGE RENWICK Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

Amsterdam, June 14.—"America has hitherto only threatened us by means of military statistics, but now she appears herself on the field of battle." She has come out of the stage of preparation for war and entered that of the actual fighting," so says General von Liebert, military critic of the Tageliche Rundschau of Berlin. He terms the United States "Germany's new enemy."

He cannot help expressing surprise that nothing has been heard about the sinking of American troops by U-boats, and hopes that Germany's latest undersea cruisers are after that prey.

The Tageliche Rundschau editorially informs its readers that the war has entered the American stage, the last and greatest of all, and that the German authorities know full well that this final part of the struggle is not far off.

Such statements are in keeping with the information I have from a reliable source to the effect that instructions have been sent around to the German press informing the newspapers that it will be advisable gradually to prepare the country for the news of the active participation of American forces in strength.

Two hours after the Americans started through the Bois de Belleau, the Germans launched their heavy attack to regain Bourches. A dark and cloudy night had aided their preparations for the rush, but the Americans, expecting something of the sort, had the northern side of the town lined with machine-guns, and had artillery all trained on the railroad embankment over which the boche had to come. The Americans seemed to have excellent targets on the German movements; and when, at 5 o'clock, the Germans came over, they met a terrific machine-gun fire, while a heavy barrage was put right behind the attacking party and gradually lowered on it, not only cutting off re-enforcements for it, but killing many in it.

Heavy Slaughter of Germans The slaughter of Germans in this attack was the heaviest the Americans have yet been able to inflict. Our men, in excellent positions at the edge, suffered almost no losses. In this operation we took fifty prisoners, including one officer.

This is the best reason to suppose that for the present the Germans expect to settle Bourches on the morning of the Thiersy sector and let well enough alone. But the Americans are not satisfied simply to hold the line protecting important roads to Paris. In eight days' fighting, in which there have been five prominent engagements, they have had the best of it every time.

It is not to be supposed that this work has been done without losses to our forces, but evidence found in the captured terrain has shown that the Germans suffered much more, with the exception of one day. I have talked with officers from the other American sectors today, and all say that the accomplishments of the marines and the Ninth and Twenty-third infantry in the last week have inspired the whole American army. Every doughboy is proud that the Americans have shown they are not "buffaloed" by the terrible boche.

RED FINN MONEY BANNED Director of Finnish National Bank Out-laws It

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

Copenhagen, June 14.—The Berlingske Tidende's Helsinki correspondent says the director of the Finnish national bank has been ordered not to redeem the red rebel government's counterfeit paper money. The money heretofore redeemed amounts to 25,000,000 marks.

WANT PETROGRAD PORT FREE Russian Paper Urges Move in Fear of Baltic Harbors

Copenhagen, June 14.—The Russian paper, according to the special correspondent of the Extrablade, reports a meeting of representatives of the Russian government to consider a proposal to establish Petrograd as a free port. Petrograd is now in great danger of losing its position as a industrial center, owing to the Russian Baltic harbors being in German hands. To keep up its export trade, Petrograd, it is argued, must be made a free port.

HERTLING THREATENS DIET Says He Will Not Hesitate at Dissolution

Amsterdam, June 14.—The Berlin Tageliche commenting upon the result of the debate upon the suffrage reform bill in the lower house of the Prussian Diet, says: "Chancellor von Hertling told the representatives of the Left he already had in his hand a royal decree for dissolution of the Diet, and he would not hesitate to use it when called upon to do so. He also said if things were not cleared up before winter he would dissolve the lower house and appeal to the electors."

MAURICE INCIDENT DUE TO POLITICS IN THE WAR

British Generals Welcomed Unity of Command, but Politicians, Including Lloyd George, Opposed It

BY ROBERT DONALD Editor of the London Daily Chronicle

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

London, June 14. In supreme command the armies in the west would not have been able to withstand the recent onslaught by the enemy. The appointment of General Foch was welcomed by British generals and by none more enthusiastically than General Maurice. It was regarded as a practical war measure long overdue and took the place of what the British soldier considered the utterly impracticable executive committee of the Versailles council.

Just before the great German offensive an executive committee was set up to be connected with the Supreme War Council, with General Foch as chairman. General Robertson contended that the system would not work and that no change of personnel would make it a workable piece of war machinery. General Robertson relinquished his office as chief of the Imperial General Staff over the matter, regarding it as a question of principle. No sooner had the great offensive begun on March 21 than the committee system broke down, and this led inevitably to the appointment of Foch as generalissimo of the combined Allied forces.

It was unfortunate that this change had to be made in the midst of a great battle, but General Foch is a commander of resource and imagination, and it is due to his superb generalship that the progress of the enemy has been checked.

Don Seydler Resigns Again London, June 14.—Dr. von Seydler, the Austrian Premier, tendered his resignation to Emperor Charles on Wednesday, but the Emperor has not yet accepted it, according to a report from Amsterdam.

British Generals "Westerners" Almost without exception British generals have been "westerners," and any diversion of effort by distant expeditions would meet with their approval. If the war had produced a great British general he would have been able to combine political unity with military achievement. But unity of command in the west is quite another matter and so far as I know the British generals were never opposed to it. Politicians have pursued an inconsistent policy regarding it. Mr. Asquith was opposed to it.

Speaking in the House of Commons on November 12, 1917, Prime Minister Lloyd George condemned the appointment of a generalissimo in the following unqualified terms: "I am utterly opposed to that suggestion for reasons into which it would not be desirable to enter. It would not work. It would produce real friction and might really produce not merely friction between the armies, but friction between the nations and the governments."

Foch Appointment Welcomed Fortunately the Prime Minister's fears have not been justified. Without Foch

PAINT RED CROSS ON DEBRIS German Trick to Show Allies Bomb Hospital Trains

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

Paris, June 14.—In a letter to the Figaro a correspondent who recently succeeded in returning to France from Sedan narrates a characteristic trick of the aerial bombardment, and witnessed German in the act of painting the red cross which was swamped by an Allied photograph the vehicles in order, as he suggested to Paris newspapers to reproduce photographic "proof" of Allied attacks on hospital trains, and thereby justify their own bombardment of Allied hospitals.

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WANTS CZECHS DISARMED

Russian Soviet Confident of Their Loyalty, However

By ARTHUR RANSOME Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co.

Moscow, June 14.—A compromise is possible with regard to the Czecha. The Soviet regards their disarmament as essential, but it recognizes that the Czecha, as a whole, are loyal. The Soviet is willing to let them proceed if there is assurance that they will not join General Semenov or other anti-Soviet forces in the Far East.

The trouble with the Czecha, besides increasing the difficulties of obtaining a food supply from Siberia, is also lightening the task of the Germans. In the south, the Don Cossacks, with German officers, are approaching Tsaritsyn and Saratov, and the Soviet is finding difficulty in sending re-enforcements against them because of the need of sending troops to deal with the Czecha in the Urals.

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