

GERMANS BLAME POLITICAL STRIFE

Leaders Criticised for Allowing Bulgarian Dissatisfaction to Grow

DEMAND EARLY REFORM

Trouble at Sofia Declared to Have Been Brewing Since Malinoff's Selection

By GEORGE RENWICK

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

Amsterdam, Oct. 1. Last week was perhaps more crowded than any week before with its important and startling events.

For a while it seemed as if the thunderbolt from the Balkans would clear away all thoughts of political strife, but a little reflection showed that Malinoff's action really threw Germany's domestic confusion into higher relief.

The press is uttering its views with unwonted freedom, and it is generally insisted that very serious political reasons forced Malinoff to move some time before the Salonica offensive began.

Malinoff Is Blamed

The Tagliche Rundschau, like numerous other journals, points out that the mischief really began when Malinoff became Prime Minister.

"For a long time it has been an open secret in Vienna, Budapest and Berlin," says the journal mentioned, "that since the Malinoff ministry came into power Bulgaria's relations with her allies have suffered."

"In Bulgaria," the Rundschau goes on, "the desperate economic conditions have been made worse by political strife. Democracy, as in Germany, has made strides there and party warfare has demoralized the troops that they are not able to withstand the Entente offensive."

The Berliner Tageblatt, too, holds that the root of evil is of no recent growth. "Even all the wisdom of 'Caesar Ferdinand' it declares, 'could not hold back the rising storm of opposition to a continuance of the war. In June he was not able to prevent the formation of the Malinoff cabinet, though his shrewd eye could not have failed to see the danger.'"

Privations Endured

The German press lays emphasis on the privations that Bulgaria had to endure for months.

The Vorenews says that the people had been living on "maize bread which crumbles easily and is difficult to digest."

"To hold out for a long while and endure privations at the time is not," says the Cologne Gazette, "the character of the Bulgarian people."

There is also in Germany a very general agreement on the point that Malinoff began to throw out his feelers before the opening of the Entente offensive.

The Frankfurter Zeitung is certain that there were preliminary suggestions to the Entente from the Bulgarian side about a fortnight ago.

The Entente, it is stated, "sought to make a diplomatic code and it is now clear for what reason that was done, while from that fact can also be calculated the time when the feelers first were thrown out."

Berlin Not Surprised

From information which I have received myself I have every reason to believe that the Berlin Government was not so ignorant as it makes itself out to be, but that it had pretty accurate knowledge, as early as the beginning of last spring, regarding the direction in which Bulgarian events were tending.

The German press in its anger turns fiercely upon Bulgaria and even more savagely on the German Government, while it recognizes to the full the deadly seriousness of the situation.

The Cologne Volks Zeitung openly charges Malinoff with having indulged in a week-long agitation in order to accomplish his treason. It sternly condemns the German Government for not bitterly denouncing that Malinoff's ally is losing heart, while England knows how to keep her allies and bind them close to her, and Malinoff seeks to stab the German army in the back.

Diplomats Robbed

If it be true, says the Frankfurter Zeitung, that the German Government was surprised, then why on earth have we a Foreign Office and diplomatic representatives abroad?

It utters a warning that no hopes should be built on the impossibility of an agreement between Bulgaria and the Entente, for a "government without Bulgaria, and Malinoff seeks to leave the ship he believes to be sinking."

So serious is the situation, the same paper says, that Germany is now forced to gain all her strength for the task of national defense and to create political conditions for that action.

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It was bitter cold for the brave troops, and Monday morning some of them met with chattering teeth, after a night without sleep, but they endure these discomforts bravely, and the vision of victory keeps them warm in soul, if not in body.

"My men," said an officer of the Third Division today, "keep asking when they are going on again."

That is their only thought. Yet call them men of the Iron Division, as it is called, because of its great history in this war, had been fighting a long time. In the past, it had been fighting in many days in line before their very attack last Friday, their most glorious day, when they took as many prisoners as a corps would be proud to take in one day and went straight through the Hindenburg support lines to the left of Havincourt.

The north county troops and Royal Fusiliers stormed the Hindenburg line trenches, and after hard fighting all the way with troops of the Twentieth and Sixth German Divisions, their best troops in this sector, captured the village of Ribecourt on their final objective. Scottish and Shropshire men worked on the left and smashed a way through most formidable trench systems with tanks, whose pilots and crews did gallant service, and were then hop-frogged by north and east county troops of this same old division. Who went through Fressquier village, although their ranks were broken three times, and the Third Division together can take anything with any luck.

The death of the German defense, with all these battalions supporting each other, shows that the enemy intended to hold this part of the Hindenburg line at all cost, but that the intention failed with crushing defeat.

The British Machine Guns Fall

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They were seen to attack, full of confidence and enthusiasm because they believed that they would do well and help in the day of the big victory, and they led the assault on one sector of the Cambrai front, where the Australians were to pass through them to the extension of the attack.

Later in the day they stormed through the German lines, secured the canal and struck on toward Gouy and Maucroy, and the only fault to find with them, was the laughing criticism from the British tanks that were following the pace too hard and were too eager to get forward. That is a fault on the right side, the gift of the freemason, in this hard old university of possible snags and make very sure of the ground behind them before they tread on again.

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AMERICANS NOT ONCE STOPPED BY GERMANS

Every U. S. Operation Proved Machine Gun Resistance May Check, but Cannot Halt Attack—Yankee Dash Gains All Objectives—Enemy Strength Ebbs

By CAMERON MACKENZIE

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

front, but in new additional divisions, bidding them hold to the last, but in the long run such sacrifice by him must be possible a more orderly retreat sooner or later. Retreat it must be, for the hoche and his tactics of the moment are the tactics of defeat.

At the hour of telegraphing the battle continues. No tribute to the Americans can be superfluous, for no troops could be fighting with higher and finer courage. Whatever may be lacking, the First American Army in experience is compensated by the high spirit of self-sacrifice and pride in individuality. Few, indeed, are there of General Pershing's following without some sense of the greatness of the hour and of the bigness of the part he is playing.

One lad I saw. Like most soldiers from the land of superabundant youth, he seemed extraordinarily young. He was a German who set it had intended it should and had thrown up liquid fire or was that had scoured this lad unrecognizable and had left him upon nearly every inch of exposed flesh more black than a negro.

"I don't care," the boy managed to say as he waded through the water, "I got into this thing, and I couldn't get out."

Machine guns, no matter how numerous, no matter how adroitly planted, no matter how skillfully and stubbornly worked, can accomplish nothing more than to slow a man in an attack by fresh, determined troops which they cannot frustrate, for invariably in due time the objectives can and have been gained.

Not once have they been repulsed, and they are now being systematically misled and misused by oppressive rulers.

The home front has now become a matter of great anxiety to the military. This is chiefly due to a most thorough propaganda for a democratic constitution which is hearing extraordinary and widespread results, the chief of which is that more than three-quarters of all German families now regard the Prussian militarists' ambitions as the curse of the nation and the cause of all its miseries.

One of the German surprises Sunday was to meet American troops in the attack against them on this front. It was no surprise to one who had seen them moving up, day by day, nearer the fighting zone, so that as the British passed them, they said to each other: "These men are out for business, and by Jove, how well they look."

These two divisions, with men from New York State and North and South Carolina and Tennessee, were quartered in the villages, full of history made by English troops during those four years of war, so that every ruined cottage, in them is saturated with English and Scottish names.

The Americans had come newly to these places and had the look of new men, and their map tents and gear up with their guns and transport to the edge of the battlefield. They drew nearer and went further into the stricken land among the shell craters and all the wreckage of human life, and then on the first day of this new battle I saw some of them coming down in a cloud of smoke, and they were going up with their guns and transport to the edge of the battlefield.

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FOCH NOW BEGINS GREATEST FIGHT

Other Strokes Preliminary to Mighty Effort in Progress

WILL DRIVE OUT FOE

Onslaughts on Flanks of German Line Designed to Compel Vast Retreat

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

Paris, Oct. 1. It is now becoming clear to observers here that Foch, after a long series of gloriously successful preliminary operations, which have been in progress since July 18, has now begun his great battle of the western front in earnest.

The objects of these preliminary operations were to accomplish the reduction of the three dangerous enemy salients, known respectively as the Montdidier, Marne and Meuse salients, and to drive the enemy back on the main line of defenses of the so-called Hindenburg line and its extensions. This having been accomplished by a series of brilliantly successful operations, which the whole world has been admiring during the last three months, the ground was ready for the decisive series of operations that have for their object to drive the German out of France.