

### ANY PLANS NEUTRAL ZONE

Does Not Expect Allies to  
Occupy Territory She  
Evacuates

### SCHEME TO GAIN TIME

Gen. Maurice Declares Junkers  
Are Trying to Escape  
Punishment for Crimes

By MAJOR GEN. SIR F. B. MAURICE,  
Director of Military Operations of  
the British Air Force.

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger  
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While we are waiting for the Allied Governments to put forward the terms of the armistice which they decide to impose upon Germany, it may prevent disappointment if we have before us the views expressed in Germany upon her peace proposals. The offer to evacuate the territory of the Allies in occupation by her armies is in appearance an open confession of defeat by Germany. It would mean the abandonment of the gains now in her hands, while leaving us in possession of all the German colonies and of large stretches of territory of Germany's allies. The offer was not accompanied by any reservation, and it is preposterous to suppose that the Allies would agree to any limitation upon the power of the French and Belgian Governments to resume at once full control over the whole of their countries and to move troops up to the frontier of Germany.

I pointed out at the time when the German note was received that this alone would allow us to keep a pistol at Germany's head, and that the moral effect of the presence of our bombing squadrons on the German frontiers might well be decisive.

German Idea Different  
It now appears from the German press that the German Government has no intention of placing such guarantees in our hands and that their interpretation of the term "evacuation" is very different from ours. On October 13, the following inspiring paragraph appeared in the Lokai Anzeiger:

"It would help not a little to quiet the anxiety of our people to know that he who sends their answer to President Wilson our army command first made a special investigation of all the military necessities involved in the event of our armies being unable to come to an agreement with us; so that we can rest assured that the Fatherland will not be endangered when the evacuation takes place."

On October 14, the Koinische Zeitung contains a very similar statement; and on the same day the Berliner Zeitung, Am Mittag is more explicit. On October 15, Baron von Ardenne, who is known to be in close touch with German headquarters, said in the Berliner Tageblatt:

"If the enemy countries were to move into the liberated territory they would immediately impinge on our boundaries, and the latter would then be exposed to the very danger which the German invasion of France in 1914 had so happily removed. It, therefore, seems obvious that the enemy troops will not occupy

the ground we have evacuated, and that the country we leave will in the first instance remain a neutral zone. The gradual evacuation also must not be disturbed by any kind of fighting."

Want Neutral Zone Left

The complete unanimity of opinion in the German press on this matter is an indication of some of the difficulties which stand between us and peace. It also shows very clearly why we must have absolute guarantees in our hands before there can be any cessation of hostilities. The German interpretation of evacuation is a means of getting their armies out of an embarrassing situation and placing them in a position where they would rest, refit themselves, and establish fresh Hindenburg lines for the defense of Germany, 150 miles shorter than their present front. It is very easy to see why such proposals are made, and it is also easy to see that it is a part of a game of the military to gain time.

The Prussian autocrats are fighting for their lives, and while their position is weakened by the collapse of Ludendorff and the extremists, it is still a long step from their point of view to ours. Doubtless they are hoping that the publication of the Allied terms will rally the German people round them. Meantime the moral for us is that we must allow no anticipation of an early peace to interfere in any way with the vigorous prosecution of the war.

### GREATER SERBIA PROCLAIMED

Reported That Assassins of Archduke Ferdinand Have Been Freed

Nasel, Switzerland, Nov. 1.—A Vienna dispatch received here says that, according to Austrian newspapers, the kingdom of Greater Serbia has been proclaimed at Sarajevo, Bosnia, and that the assassins of Archduke Franz Ferdinand have been released by soldiers.

The assassination of Franz Ferdinand and his consort at Sarajevo in June, 1914, was one of the indirect causes of the commencement of the world war.

### GERMANS REMOVE CIVILIANS

Round Up All Frenchmen Between Fourteen and Sixty

By the Associated Press

With the American Army in France, Nov. 1.—The Germans now are removing the civil population in advance of the retreat of their armies from French soil. A document captured by American soldiers contains instructions for rounding up the male population capable of bearing arms, and all cattle.

All division commanders are ordered hereafter to search each district systematically and to deliver under guard to the local commander all men between fourteen and sixty, together with all cattle. Concentration camps will be established for the civilians who are to be removed. The German order also provides that all horses must be taken, and concludes:

"The purpose in view cannot be accomplished except by proceeding without the slightest consideration."

### WILSON STREET IN PRAGUE

Tridentists Plan Monuments to Honor the President

By the Associated Press

Amsterdam, Nov. 1.—A Prague dispatch to the Tagblatt of Berlin says that the Graben, the finest business street in Prague, has been renamed Wilson street.

Rome, Nov. 1.—Tridentists are planning to erect monuments to President Wilson in Trent and Trieste in recognition of his leading part in the struggle for the principle of the right of peoples to decide their own destinies.

### CROATS UNITE WITH ITALY

Copenhagen Says Proclamation of Union Has Been Issued

London, Nov. 1 (By I. N. S.).—The Croats have proclaimed a union with Italy, said a Central News dispatch from Copenhagen today.

The Croats were formerly under Austro-Hungarian rule.

### END OF THE WAR DRAWS NEARER

Allied Victory Measured  
by Hours as Result of  
Turkish Collapse

### GERMANY MUST YIELD

Figaro Urges Preparation for  
the "Last Convulsive Effort"  
of Kaiser

By the Associated Press

Paris, Nov. 1.  
In commenting on the receipt by General Duan of a request from the Austrians for an armistice, the Matin says that "it is evidently necessary, before going further, to carefully examine on

whose orders the plenipotentiaries who crossed the Italian lines are acting." Alfred Capus, in the Figaro, writes: "How much longer can isolated Germany withstand the formidable recoil of the war she caused? The main fact is that now there is none, even Germany herself, who doubts that the hours are numbered. It remains for us to be prepared for her last convulsive effort without allowing the frightful spectacle to arouse any pity. Who would dare urge that the enormity of her crime should profit the criminal?"

Commenting on the Turkish collapse, the Echo de Paris says: "The event was not unforeseen. It has been delayed by the presence of German forces in the Turkish capital and waters. They obliged us to display a threat of a land and sea offensive. We are happy to record that in view of the incontestable superiority of our arms everywhere the affair was settled without a battle. It is the most convincing testimony of the complete victory which will be ours in the near future."

Captain Edmund Thery in the Oeuvre sums up the situation with a quotation from Martin Luther:

"There are moments when our God loses interest in the game and throws the cards under the table."

ing feature of the latest developments in the "postponed drama of victory." The effect of this isolation upon her armies, coupled with the desperate internal conditions in Germany, is regarded almost everywhere as bringing the end of the war very near, although in some quarters warning is raised that the German army and navy are still in existence and in the hands of desperate men are formidable and dangerous.

The general tenor of comment, however, indicates a belief that Germany must sooner or later accept virtually any terms the Allies impose. There is considerable speculation as to the extent Germany will be able to oppose the carrying out of the terms Turkey has accepted.

It is unknown whether German garrisons still hold the Dardanelles forts and other defenses of Constantinople, while resistance by the Germanized Russian Black Sea fleet is regarded as a serious possibility. Even if the forts are evacuated, passage of the Straits may not, it is suggested, be without danger, as it is assumed they are still mined and must, in any event, be swept before ships can pass through.

The Express however, learns that the location of all mines is known to the Turks and that paper believes that when they undertook to open the Straits the Turks also agreed to help the British to clear the mine fields.

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