

ATTACK ON AMERICA!

Startling Expose of U. S. Lack of Defense

By
GENERAL ARED WHITE

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S HAPPENED

Unprepared America is under attack by Mexican forces directed by Military Leader Van Hasek.

GENERAL HAGUE, chief of staff of U. S. army.
COLONEL FLAGWILL, chief of U. S. military intelligence.
CAPTAIN BENNING, intelligence officer on the trail of Van Hasek's spies, the Austrian Fincke, and Italian Colonel Boggio of the Mexican air force.

COLONEL BRAYOT, Benning's chief of section in Van Hasek's espionage service in Mexico, when Benning was masquerading as Lieutenant Bromitz.

Mobilization is incomplete and the country is panic-stricken.

CHAPTER XX

There were only three other regular regiments within the United States, the 62d at Fort Totten, New York, short one gun and two machine-gun batteries, the 63d at Fort McArthur, California, short two guns and three machine-gun batteries, and the 65th at Fort Scott, California, likewise short two guns and three machine-gun batteries. The 66th was in the Philippines, the 64th in Hawaii. The ten national guard anti-aircraft, in various stages of equipment, were being mobilized as rapidly as possible.

Benning left the hotel at nine o'clock and walked to the Empire State building. During the night he had collected available information of the Andes Gold Mining and Milling company. The firm had been operating in New York for ten years past. It was a small but regular dividend payer, was not listed on the stock exchange, and had conformed to all laws and requirements in regard to its operations and transactions. Since Salvatore was a Chilean, had recently taken over as managing director.

On reaching the forty-fifth floor, Benning went direct to the company's offices and stepped inside. A fat roly-poly of a man with catlike smirk stamped on his round face came up to Benning at once to search him with small round eyes that glinted suspiciously through horn-rimmed glasses.

"I am Mr. Oldier, office manager," he said in an ingratiating purr. "Is there something I can do for you?"

"I am a stockholder," Benning said, intent on completing his reconnaissance of the room in the shortest possible time. "I wish to inquire if it is true the company is disposing of two mines, the Palacito Quatras and the Silver Sabers?"

Oldier's upper teeth gnawed nervously at his lower lip at this blunt identification of the visitor as a Van Hasek agent.

"Maybe," Oldier hesitated, "you want to see Senior Salvatore?"

"Nonsense!" Benning said with authority. "You say you are the office manager and I have just introduced myself fully. I'm in a great hurry, Oldier."

Benning stepping decisively past the fellow went to the open "B" cabinet at which a ruddy clerk of Slav features was working. While Oldier pattered up with muttered protests, Benning thumbed through the Baltimore entries, Ramsey, Ringold, Roser, Rouse, Rumold. He noted that after each listed stockholder there were symbols purporting to show number of stock shares held, dates of dividend payment, and other listed data.

His eyes caught the pertinent detail that in the Baltimore file, as compared with other files through which he hurriedly skimmed, there were many more entries on each card. Baltimore, headquarters of the army's third corps area, and flanked by some of the army's important arsenals and secret proving grounds, was a logical breeding of espionage activity.

"Very good, your Baltimore file shows the proper activity," Benning announced, turning abruptly away to face Oldier. "Thank you for your courtesy."

"Senior Salvatore will be here very soon," Oldier said. "It is necessary that you talk with Mr. Salvatore before you leave."

"Tell Salvatore," Benning said, growling at his watch, "that I'll be back by eleven at latest. Just now I'm in a hurry."

"Oh, no, but you will wait," Oldier whined. "Ja, you will wait, or Senior Salvatore would never forgive me." He turned to the clerk and cried, "Here, Backrop, you will keep the gentlemen company until Mr. Salvatore arrives!"

A barrel-chested man whose aquar legs, long angular face, and flail-like arms gave him the aspect of an orangutan, stepped forward with a nod. The others moved closer. Benning saw that only by force might he pass out the door of the Andes Gold Mining and Milling company.

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of my mission I am not permitted to disclose to you. Beyond that I've nothing to say."

Without taking his eyes from Benning, Bravot slowly opened a drawer of his desk and brought out an automatic pistol.

As he leveled the weapon across the desk Bravot's left hand went to a call button which sent a ringing summons into the outer office. Oldier came in at once.

"We have had a close call, Oldier," Bravot said. He passed his left hand across his forehead, now wet with perspiration. "This man is an army intelligence agent who shot at me once, and whom I stupidly overlooked in Mexico due to my preoccupation with other matters."

Benning heard the outer door open. Oldier, terror leaping into his little eyes, jumped across the room and slammed Bravot's door. Benning sprang to his feet, but the apellike arms of Backrop were about him in an instant with all the crushing force of motor-driven prongs. A ponderous hand closed over Benning's mouth and shut off articulation.

Benning felt himself lifted clear of the floor by a strength against which his own sinews were powerless. Backrop carried him across the room to the Bravot concrete vault that lay open behind heavy steel doors. The ape-man hurled him inside with a stunning violence and heaved the doors shut.

Benning picked himself up and shook his head to clear his wits from the shock of his fall. Only the habit of self-discipline saved him from panic as he found himself engulfed in this black, steel-encased void. He heard the vague click of bolts as the door was locked, then silence.

He felt about the interior of his prison and estimated its dimensions as some six feet wide by ten feet in depth.

(To be continued)

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SQUASH	10c
Individual squash, dozen	
PARSNIPS	10c
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CARROTS	10c
3 bunches	
NOW is the time to buy Citrus Fruits.	
Oranges	19c
Large, dozen	
Lemons	19c
Sunkist large, dozen	
Grapefruit	19c
Large and juicy, 10 for	
EGG PLANT	10c
Fancy large, each	
PARSLEY	5c
Large bunches, each	
APPLES	23c
10 lb. for	

DRIED PRUNES	29c
Local Pack, wood box, 5 lb.	
RAISINS	20c
Thompson's Seedless, 4 lb.	
BLACK FIGS	17c
2 lb.	
POP CORN	13c
2 lb.	
BROWN RICE	15c
2 lb.	
BEANS	27c
Small White, 5 lb.	
BEANS	25c
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3 cans .. 23c

SAFEWAY QUALITY MEATS

BACON BACKS Mild, Sugar Cured, Lb. 13 1/2 c

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BEEF STEAKS	Rib or sirloin, lb.	17 1/2 c
POLISH SAUSAGE	Each ..	10c
Beef Roasts	Swift's young, tender, lb.	12 1/2 c
BOILING BEEF	Short ribs, tender, lb.	10c
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GRAPEFRUIT Glenaire, No. 2 tin 10c

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SPINACH Full o' Gold, 2 1/2 tins, 2 for 25c

TOMATOES Josephine, 2 1/2 tin 11c

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TANG

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PEANUT BUTTER 2-lb. jar 25c

CANDY CREME MIX, lb. 10c

CRACKERS SNOW FLAKES, 2-lb. box 25c

WINE FIDELIS, quart 49c

SPREAD LUNCH BOX, quart jar 35c

SOUP CAMPBELL'S TOMATO, 3 cans 23c

CHEESE OREGON CHEDDAR, lb. 19c

BEER BROWN DERBY, 3 cans 29c

PALMOLIVE SOAP 3 bars .. 17c

SUN-MAID RAISINS 2 Pkgs. 15c

15-oz. Seedless

ASPARAGUS 2 for 27c

Stokely Picnic Tin

PORK AND BEANS 2 for 19c

Van Camp's tall Tins

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