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MR. WILSON SPEAKS

U. S. BREAKS WITH GERMANY

AMBASSADOR GERARD ORDERED HOME

Bernstorff Is Given His Passports This Afternoon

U. S. GETS READY FOR WAR

Germany's note that unrestricted submarining will be carried out despite the rights of neutrals is cause of break. There has been but one instance in the history of the world where a break of diplomatic relations has not meant war. War with Germany would mean, most likely, that the influence of the United States would be given to the Allies. The American navy would probably act as convoy to merchantmen and would attack any ship which interfered.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 3.--President Wilson has broken off diplomatic relations with Germany, and so notified Congress at two o'clock this afternoon--ten o'clock La Grande time. Ambassador Gerard has been ordered home. Count Von Bernstorff, German ambassador at Washington, was handed his passports at 1:55 P. M. Friendly relations between Germany and the United States have been definitely ended.

Washington, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—President Wilson addressed the joint session of Congress this afternoon. He first reviewed the whole situation and read portions of German-American diplomatic correspondence following the Sussex torpedoing. He announced that all diplomatic relations were severed on account of the new submarine order. He charged that Germany "deliberately withdrew its solemn assurance given in the Imperial government's note of May 19, 1916."

President Wilson said: "This government has no alternative consistent with the United States' dignity and honor but to follow the course which it declared in April, 1916, would be followed unless Germany effected the abandonment of its submarining methods."

He said he couldn't make himself believe that Germany intended to abandon ancient friendship and break its solemn obligations and to kill American citizens on the high seas. He asked all neutrals to follow America's course.

President Wilson said: "If American ships and American lives be sacrificed I shall take the liberty of coming before Congress again and ask for authority to use any means necessary for the protection of our seamen. I can do nothing less."

It is believed this means President Wilson would sanction a declaration of war.

Tremendous cheering broke out on both sides of the chamber. The galleries followed.

Secret service men surrounded the President.

Supreme Court Justices heard the speech.

The diplomatic and executive galleries were jammed.

The situation is the tensest.

President Wilson went directly into conference with War Secretary Baker, and Navy Secretary Daniels. The War and Navy buildings were closed to all visitors.

Spain handles the American diplomatic business with Germany.

The Kaiser is expected to give Americans fifteen days to leave Germany.

UNITED STATES OFFICIALS SEIZE GERMAN PRIZE STEAMER APPAM.

Norfolk, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—United States officials seized the interned German prize steamer Appam. A dozen representatives of navy and customs department boarded the steamer. A revenue cutter trained its guns on the Appam.

(BY ROBERT J. BENDER.)

Washington, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—President Wilson this morning definitely decided to break diplomatic relations with Germany.

He called Secretary Lansing to the White House this morning and announced his decision.

The President will address the joint session of Congress this afternoon and announce the break.

Ambassador Gerard is ordered home.

German Ambassador Bernstorff will be given passports immediately.

Friendly relations between the United States and Germany are definitely ended.

Actual declaration of war depends on Germany.

It is learned the United States has been rushing preparations for war for several weeks.

President Wilson decided upon the break yesterday morning.

He delayed the announcement pending the final settlement of all details.

President Wilson will break with other Central Allies if they wage unrestricted submarining.

News of President Wilson's action aroused the greatest consternation at the capital.

The navy department issued orders to bar outsiders from naval stations.

The League Island Navy Yard has been placed on a war basis.

The American liner St. Louis, scheduled to sail to Liverpool from New York today cancelled its sailing.

REPORTED AMERICAN STEAMER SUNK.

New York, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—It is reported that the American steamer Housatanic was torpedoed and sunk.

GENERAL PERSHING OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED OF THE NEWS.

Columbus, Feb. 3.—(United Press censored dispatch).—The news of the break was flashed to Pershing. Army camps were electrified. It is unofficially declared that preparatory orders have already been issued.

NEWS OF BREAK ELECTRIFIES LONDON.

London, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—The news electrified

London. Newspaper extras sold furiously. The American colony is particularly jubilant.

GREAT EXCITEMENT PREVAILS IN GERMANY.

Copenhagen, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—Berlin dispatches reported that the greatest excitement prevailed throughout Germany before the break was announced. The newspaper, Tidende, said: "Germans agree that the worst period of the war has arrived. Zeppelin raids are next."

WHITE STAR LINER SAILS, PASSENGERS CHEER.

New York, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—The White Star liner Adriatic sailed for Liverpool today. Passengers lined the rail cheering the United States as the steamer moved away.

NEW YORK BRIDGES AND VIADUCTS GUARDED.

New York, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—Special guards have been established at bridges and city aqueducts. The Customs office and Department of Justice agents prepared a definite plan in the event hostilities were declared, the nature of which was not divulged.

DREADNAUGHT TRAINS GUNS ON INTERNED GERMAN RAIDERS

Philadelphia, Feb. 3.—(United Press)—The dreadnaught North Dakota trained her guns on the interned German raiders, Prinz Eitel Frederick and Kron Prinz Wilhelm. Officers said this was merely a precautionary measure.

WHEAT MARKET OPENS UNDER BUT REGAINS MORE THAN LOSS

The Chicago wheat market opened this morning five cents under yesterday's closing, but at eleven o'clock (Chicago time) came back nine cents. Ed. Kiddle of Island City, the recipient of the message, said, however, that this action probably meant the market was being purposely bolstered.

New London, Conn., Feb. 3.—(United Press)—The cargo store here, awaiting the submarine Deutschland, is burning. The fire started immediately after the diplomatic break with Germany was reported.