

BEFORE THE BATTLE

Chinese Were Strongly Entrenched at Peit Sang. PROBABLY HAD 30,000 SOLDIERS

Part of Their Force Was Protected by Inundated Ground—Strength of the Allies.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—The War Department has received the following cablegram from General Chaffee:

"The Foo, Aug. 7.—Adjutant-General, Washington: Tien Tsin, August 3.—Conference today decided to give battle on Sunday. Chinese are entrenched east and west through Peit Sang. Part of the Chinese is protected by flooded ground, practically unassailable. Japanese, English and American forces, about 30,000 strong, will attack the Chinese right, west of the river in flank. Other forces, Russian, French, about 4000 strong on the opposite side, between the river and railroad. The Chinese position is apparently strong. Army reported 30,000 between Pei Sang and Yang Tsun or crossing of road over the Pei Ho. Yang Tsun is the objective. Our force, 2000 and battery, Cossack arrived with the Sixth Cavalry, which has been left at Tien Tsin for the guard of the line and are awaiting mounts. Ministers were safe on the 25th of July. CHAFFEE."

The dispatch of General Chaffee written before the battle of Sunday, confirms the dispatches received by the War Department yesterday, and also the present dispatches received today concerning the attack on the Chinese at Peit Sang. General Chaffee's dispatch, dated Friday, was not sent from the Foo until today, as it was impossible.

The most interesting feature of the dispatch is the information regarding the positions of the Chinese Army, and the fact that the advance upon Peit Sang is made by two columns, one on the right side of the Pei River. The international force, as given by General Chaffee, would aggregate about 30,000 men, while the other dispatches which have been received, as can easily be accounted for, as more men might have been available when the movement began than when the conference was held on the 3d inst.

Chinese conferences have been held between the several commanders present at Tien Tsin. It is evident that the foreign commanders do not underestimate the task which they have before them, as the dispatch clearly shows. A thorough reconnaissance of the Chinese position has been made, and that even before the advance of the international force from Tien Tsin, the Chinese position and possession of full information relative to the Chinese position. This is one of the most welcome features of the dispatch, as it proves conclusively that the international column does not intend upon an untroubling position of the enemy.

According to the War Department's map, the town of Peit Sang covers both sides of the river, but the main portion of it is on the left side, where the Japanese, English and American forces have arranged, according to General Chaffee's dispatches, to attack the enemy in flank. The left of the Chinese on the other side of the river, on the right side of the Pei River, was partially protected by flooded ground and practically unassailable for that reason. According to the map there is a lake five miles from the river, at this point, and the ground around it is flooded from this lake through the dikes which gridiron the country thereabouts.

The Russian and French forces were to attack the enemy from the right bank of the river between the Pei River and railroad. This makes it probable that the flooded district only extended to the line of the railroad, which at this point is about a mile and a half from the river.

General Chaffee's dispatch also shows another important feature of the plan of campaign agreed upon by the international commanders. The main objective point of the column is Yang Tsun. This is a town about 15 miles beyond Peit Sang, at the point where the railroad crosses the Pei River from the right bank to the left bank. Once in possession of this point, the international force would have both the railroad and river in its rear for keeping open communication with Tien Tsin. It is certainly a most important base from which the operations on Peit Sang can be projected. At this point the river veers to the right, and from it the column would have to move over and along the line of the river.

The Chinese are evidently as much impressed with the strategic advantages of Yang Tsun as the international commanders themselves. General Chaffee says in his cable that the enemy is reported 30,000 strong at the crossing of the road over Pei River. Without doubt the Chinese are determined to fight the Chinese force there, if the reports of General Chaffee that it was forced to retreat proves correct, retired to Yang Tsun.

There is no information as to the number of the enemy which met the advance of the international force. It must have been large, and may, perhaps, double the Chinese Army which the column met at Peit Sang. The general feeling at the War Department is that unless the Chinese Generals have been completely demoralized by the Peit Sang attack, there is every reason to believe that the international forces, and the ground will be disputed all the way to Peit Sang.

CHINESE FORCE. About 170,000 Men Between Tien Tsin and Peit Sang.

NEW YORK, Aug. 7.—A special to the Journal from Shanghai says: There are 30,000 troops at Yang Tsun, under General Sun. 40,000 at Peit Sang, under General Lung Tui Shing; 40,000 at Peit Sang already and more arriving daily; and 60,000 in camp 30 miles west of Tien Tsin.

FISHING FORWARD. Allies Slowly Advancing on the Chinese Troops.

LONDON, Aug. 7.—The special dispatch to the Associated Press from Tien Tsin, dated Sunday, August 5, at 8 A. M., via Shanghai, August 7, is the only press communication which has not passed through Tien Tsin since the battle at Peit Sang. Various Tien Tsin dispatches of earlier dates allude to reconnoitering encounters with the Chinese preparatory to a general attack on the Chinese position, which, at a distance of five miles long, the reconnaissance has developed that the Chinese are in greater strength than expected and the allies, according to a general dispatch from Tien Tsin, dated August 2, are each pushing nearer to the Chinese position.

The Russians who have been fighting around Tien Tsin have reported, according to a dispatch from Shanghai, dated August 4, to have killed 3000 Chinese. The Tiaol of New Chwang has refused the Russian demand to give up the forts there.

A dispatch from Hong Kong under today's date, says trade with the West River is at a standstill. It is now fully confirmed that a fourth brigade of Indian troops has been ordered to China.

NO GOVERNMENT AT PEKIN. Minister Conger Appeals for Immediate Relief.

NEW YORK, Aug. 7.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from Shanghai says: Colonel Meade, of the Marine

BRUTALITY BY RUSSIANS

THEY LOOTED, TORTURED AND MURDERED AT TIEN TSIN. No Respect Paid to Women—Children Tossed on Bayonets Before Their Fathers and Mothers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 7.—A story of Russian brutality in China is told by Mrs. E. B. Drew, wife of the British Commissioner of Customs at Tien Tsin, who arrived from the Orient on the transport Logan. She says: "During the bombardment we lived most of the time in the cellar of our house. Our house was partially wrecked by big shells. Sleep was out of the question most of the time, and so unstrung were we that but little food satisfied us. There was ever present the haunting fear

PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE.

How England Will Deal With the Chinese Government. LONDON, Aug. 7.—The Parliamentary Secretary of the Foreign Office, Mr. Broderick, in the House of Commons today, answering a question, said Her Majesty's Government had informed the Chinese Government that its members would be held personally responsible if the members of the foreign Legations or other foreigners at Peit Sang suffer injury. Mr. Broderick added that Her Majesty's Government did not think any useful purpose would be served by further communications.

Answering another question, Mr. Broderick stated that the Chinese Government had no confirmation of the statement attributed to Li Hung Chang to the effect that the foreigners had left Peit Sang for Tien Tsin under escort.

MACARTHUR FOR LEADER.

Americans Said to Have Put Him Forward in China. NEW YORK, Aug. 7.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: "The correspondent of the Address at Tien Tsin believes that the advance of the allied troops on the capital will be strongly resisted, the time consumed in international conferences having enabled the Chinese to concentrate an enormous opposition. The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail reports that there has been great friction among the allies as to the appointment of a Commander-in-Chief. General MacArthur has, it is stated, been put forward for the place by the Americans, while an unofficial Paris telegram says that General Voyron, the commander of the French expeditionary corps, has actually been appointed.

May Soon Leave Peit Sang.

ROME, Aug. 7.—Information received here from Taku, from the Foo, August 7, says the commander of the Italian cruiser Elba has sent a note of the Governor of Shan Tung, dated August 30, saying the Ministers and foreigners are safe; that provisions have been supplied to them and that conferences had taken place on the subject of measures to be taken to protect the Ministers during their trip to Tien Tsin where, it is added, they were to establish their headquarters.

Hospital Corps Going to China.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 7.—Two Hospital Corps destined for service in China passed through Kansas City this morning on their way to San Francisco. One corps,

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SHOT FROM THIRD STORY

GOEBEL NOT FIRED UPON FROM POWERS' OFFICE. Corporal of Military Company Testifies That He Was in Frankfort Under Secret Orders.

GEORGETOWN, Ky., Aug. 7.—The trial of ex-Secretary of State Caleb Powers today developed that both sides in the case are dealing exclusively in contradiction and impeachment of some of the witnesses who have testified. The most important testimony heard today was given by Corporal Milt Trasper, of the military company at Barboursville, which Caleb Powers' brother John was Captain. Trasper gave testimony indicating that the shot which killed Governor Goebel was fired from the third story of the Executive building, and not from the Secretary of State's office, which is on the first floor. He declared that he and other members of the military company had been in Frankfort since January 25, under secret orders from Governor Taylor.

At the afternoon session of the court the defense further sought to contradict W. H. Culton by introducing two witnesses who testified that Culton told them he had an agreement with the prosecution by which he was not to be confined in jail. Culton on the stand denied that he ever made such a statement, and it was also proved that he had been confined in jail since his preliminary examination.

ADMIRAL GEORGE C. REMEY.



COMMANDER OF UNITED STATES ASIATIC STATION.

Admiral George C. Remy, chief of the American naval forces in Chinese waters, was appointed commander of the Asiatic station early in March last. At that time everybody was pleased with the selection of Admiral Remy for this important post. His jurisdiction extends over the Philippines and Guam, the coast of China, and, in short, over all territory in which the United States has an interest, lying west of the Sandwich Islands. The Admiral is described by his associates as able, polite, generous, hospitable, modest, a thorough sailor, and a man of mature judgment. He was selected by Admiral Walker to be the first commander of the Asiatic station. That he was chosen because of his superior capabilities as a commander and strategist, and his well-known discretion in emergencies, is a matter of common knowledge. He was selected by Admiral Walker to be the first commander of the Asiatic station. That he was chosen because of his superior capabilities as a commander and strategist, and his well-known discretion in emergencies, is a matter of common knowledge. He was selected by Admiral Walker to be the first commander of the Asiatic station. That he was chosen because of his superior capabilities as a commander and strategist, and his well-known discretion in emergencies, is a matter of common knowledge.

and are at the mercy of the Empress Dowager and of Prince Tuan. Troops are massed between Tien Tsin and the Cape and are strongly entrenched in order to warn the foreign commander that they will be forced to fight their way into the city.

The communications between the Ministers and the governments are closed because the Empress Dowager professes to leave the civilized world utterly in the dark. Such reports as are allowed to pass out to the coast are designed to stop the further entrance of supplies into the British legation, or confessions of terror in the popular mind. Prince Tuan has put to death Yuan Shi Ki and other Viceroy, or glittering promises like the assurance that the Legations are under the escort of a strong force and are journeying to the coast.

All these rumors are signs that the Empress Dowager is determined to keep the allies out of Peit Sang. Her motive is plain. She is convinced that if they once enter the capital some of them will not go out until provisions have been ceded to them in place of indemnities.

The situation is so perplexing that it is not strange that several powers are hesitating to sanction the advance of the relief column, but it is evident that the Empress Dowager is strengthened by every day of inaction and delay. The Legations are in a most deplorable situation when Vice-Admiral Seymour hesitated, and ordered the first relief column to retreat and to them was finally accorded a reprieve in consequence of the defeat of the Chinese army at Tien Tsin. The powers are now exposing them through vaccination to a renewal of the attack when their ammunition is well-nigh exhausted and they are dependent upon the Empress Dowager for supplies of food, while the Generals and Admirals are holding conferences and delaying an advance which is being urged by the more desperate and the situation of the Legations more critical in consequence of the long halt and the intrigues which are apparently in progress.

The only alternative to a march to the capital is negotiation through Li Hung Chang for the delivery of all the foreigners at T