

MAKING HER WAR

China Must Punish Japan if
Lives Were Lost at Chefoo.

SITUATION FULL OF DANGER

Advices From the American Consul-
General Tend to Show Mikado's
Ships Flagrantly Violated
International Law.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The report of the capture by the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers of the Russian destroyer Ryschikoff, in the harbor of Chefoo, as conveyed to Washington by Consul-General Fowler today was received with the deepest interest, and also concern, for it was realized that there were in this incident the germs of serious international trouble. Mr. Fowler spoke of the affair as a "cutting out" expedition, thereby differing in an important point from the press dispatches, which at first reading appeared to indicate that the seizure of the Russian boat was in at least some degree caused by the action of the captain of the craft in attacking the Japanese boat. It is pointed out that upon this point will turn the decision as to whether there has been a violation of Chinese neutrality by the Japanese.

If the expedition was genuine cutting-out, then there is no question in the minds of the officials here that the Japanese have committed an offense against international law by violating Chinese neutrality, and in addition have broken the agreement they entered into at the beginning of the war, at the instance of the United States Government, to abstain from the field of warlike operations to Manchuria and Korea and their waters. Should this prove to be the case, the result probably will be grave and serious. Under the terms of international law the captured vessel must be returned to the custody of the Chinese government, and an apology rendered for an offense against the neutrality of the country. If, on the other hand, the Japanese are held to have acted in self-defense, the result will be a greater complication will follow, for Russia in turn will hold China responsible for the capture of the Japanese ship when under the shelter of the Chinese port authorities.

Altogether the situation is full of danger, and many apprehensions of the officials here is that it may be the incident that will break down the agreement of the powers and plunge the world into a full-fledged belligerent and ally of Japan. The consequences of such an act on China's part upon existing alliances between Great Britain, Japan and Russia, and the prospect is so alarming that it is not doubted the State Department will do its utmost to bring about a settlement of this incident as shall preserve the agreement as to China in full force.

RUSSIA FORMALLY PROTESTS.

Through France, She Takes Exception to Action of Japan.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 12.—The Associated Press is able to announce that Russia has already formally protested to Japan, through France, against the action of the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers in attacking the Russian torpedo-boat destroyer Ryschikoff at Chefoo and towing her away from that port, and that the protest has been communicated to the powers.

This prompt action is based upon the official report of the Russian Consul at Chefoo, which is very explicit on the subject of dismantling of the Ryschikoff, saying that not only were the breach blocks of her guns and all her small arms removed, but her engines were rendered useless.

The vessel therefore was reduced to the condition of a hulk. The Consul also reported that the Japanese fired upon Russian sailors while they were in the water.

While the Admiralty declares it has received no further news of the Part Arthur squadron or of the sea fight, the foreign dispatches, however, have been so contradictory that the Russian hopes that the squadron had succeeded in escaping, and it seems now to be only a question of the extent of the Russian sea disaster.

The action of Japan is regarded in diplomatic circles as being a very grave matter for Japan.

Aids from the possible questionable right of an uninvited warship to seek a sanctuary in a neutral port when not forced to do so by stress of weather or lack of coal and provisions, all the diplomatic circles are now looking to the Japanese side of the question.

The only possible justification conceived for the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers is that the Russian destroyer may have first fired upon the Japanese and afterward entered the port of Chefoo.

It is intimated that possibly Russia may represent to the powers that this act was a violation of Japan's neutrality of China under the guarantee given in response to Secretary Hay's note.

The Admiralty has received a telegram from the Russian Consul at Chefoo reporting that the majority of the crew of the destroyer survived. Captain Shestakovskiy was severely wounded.

France and Germany Support Her.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 12, 4 A. M.—It is said here that both France and Germany are supporting at Peking the protest of the Russian government against the action of the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers in attacking the Russian torpedo-boat destroyer Ryschikoff in the harbor of Chefoo.

AMERICA DEEPLY CONCERNED.

Great Britain, Too, Must Take Notice of the Occurrence.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—The British officials and foreign diplomats regard the action of the Japanese in cutting out the Russian torpedo-boat destroyer Ryschikoff at Chefoo as raising a serious question of importance to all nations.

The Foreign Office this morning received a dispatch from the British Consul at Chefoo confirming the capture of the Ryschikoff and her removal by her captors from the harbor. The Consul added that the Japanese immediately reported to the Chinese Governor and the foreign diplomats at Peking. The former evinced considerable concern, not so much at the fact that the attack was made on the destroyer as at the precedent established by Japan, which Russia may follow in case of emergency, thereby extending the area of hostilities which Secretary Hay sought to circumscribe.

It is believed that Japan will promptly

BROKE HIS WORD

Japanese Commander Agreed
to Return Cruiser.

CHINESE BOAT STOPPED HIM

Captain of Russian Destroyer Seized
Gives a Vivid Account of the
Fight and How He Tried to
Blow Up Ship.

CHEFOO, Aug. 12 (Noon).—Captain Shestakovskiy, of the Ryschikoff, who was wounded in the leg by a bullet, and two of his men were saved by boats from the Chinese cruiser Hai Yung.

Interviews with Admiral Sah and Captain Ching, who is in command of the Hai Yung, indicate that the Chinese naval authorities were more active than was at first supposed. When the first Japanese torpedo-boat destroyer, towing the Ryschikoff, departed to the northward, the second Japanese destroyer steered a course past the flagship and the cruiser Hai Chi. The latter cleared for action and signaled to the destroyer to stop.

This was done.

Admiral Sah informed the commander of the Japanese destroyer that the Ryschikoff must be returned, as neutrality had been flagrantly violated. To this the Japanese commander replied that he would undertake the first destroyer and return to Chefoo. Admiral Sah accepted the word of honor of the Japanese commander and allowed him to depart.

The Chinese Admiral is deeply chagrined at this occurrence, and is ill as a result. He has turned the command of his squadron over to Captain Ching.

Informed Ship Was Dismantled.

Captain Ching says that when the Japanese destroyer entered the harbor of Chefoo he sent an officer on board and ordered the Ryschikoff to be dismantled. The Ryschikoff was disabled, and that her officers and crew were ordered to leave the ship. The Japanese commander personally repeated this information at length, whereupon Commander Fujimoto said he had no designs on the Ryschikoff.

Admiral Sah next sent an officer in a small boat to the lightship, which was near the Ryschikoff, to watch developments.

Captain Shestakovskiy, feeling insecure, requested that his ammunition and one torpedo be returned to him, or a Chinese cruiser prepared to guard him. To this the Chinese officer on the lightship replied that he had been ordered merely to report developments. Accordingly Captain Shestakovskiy assembled his crew and addressed them, saying an attack was possible. All the men of the Ryschikoff slept that night on deck, with life-preservers under their heads.

When the Lieutenant from one of the Japanese destroyers boarded the Ryschikoff at 3:30 o'clock in the morning, the crew of the boat which brought him, with bayonets affixed to their rifles in their hands, followed their officer. Captain Shestakovskiy protested against this, saying: "I am unable to resist, but this is a breach of neutrality and courtesy."

Captain Shestakovskiy then secretly commanded one of his Lieutenants to prepare gunpowder with which to blow up the Russian destroyer. To gain the time necessary to make ready for this step, Captain Shestakovskiy argued international law with the Japanese Lieutenant, who replied to all his contentions of the Russian officer invariably was: "Come to the open sea and fight or prepare to be towed out."

In the meanwhile, the command was issued quietly to the Russian sailors to resist the Japanese with their fists in the manner which would be shown them by their Captain.

Insult Caused Russian to Strike.

Continuing his account of the occurrence, Captain Shestakovskiy said:

"The Japanese officer told me to surrender and that as a prisoner my life would be spared. This insult so stung me that I struck the Japanese before I intended. I was afraid that the Japanese would blow up my vessel had not yet been prepared. My blow knocked the Lieutenant overboard. In falling he dragged me with him. He fell into the water, alongside, while I fell into the water. I clung to his throat and pummeled him until my hold was broken."

The crew of the Ryschikoff in the meanwhile, had begun fighting with the Japanese sailors, who used their rifles and bayonets. The fighting men scuffled over the deck and fell overboard in struggling pairs, after the example of the Russian sailors fighting on the deck of the Ryschikoff.

There were 15 Russian officers and men on board the Ryschikoff. Only 25 have been accounted for. A number of the Japanese attackers also are believed to have perished.

Being unable to regain the deck of his ship, Captain Shestakovskiy swam toward a near-by junk, from which he was driven away by three Japanese boats. He remained in the water for 30 minutes, swimming in spite of his wound, and was finally picked up by one of the three boats sent to the Ryschikoff.

Acting Under Admiral's Orders.

Before leaving Chefoo Commander Fujimoto issued an outline report of the occurrences of the night to the Japanese Consul here. This report differs from that sent by the Associated Press, only in that it does not say that the Japanese have perished. It says that the Japanese have perished in the water. It adds that the commander was acting under his Admiral's orders to fight or capture the Ryschikoff.

Captain Shestakovskiy is unable to explain why his vessel was not sunk by the explosive made for that purpose. He declares that he is disgraced, although the Russian refugees here insist that he is a hero. His sailors say that he told the Japanese officer to kill him, but that he would never surrender.

The nature of Captain Shestakovskiy's mission to Chefoo is not known, although it is doubtless important. During the interview with the Russian sailors while the latter were in the water. It adds that the commander was acting under his Admiral's orders to fight or capture the Ryschikoff.

LAUNCH AND TAKEN IN CHARGE BY THE

Chinese authorities. The destroyer then anchored in the Chinese cove and officers aboard the harbor lightship.

Two Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers, which were observed scouting about the harbor entrance during the afternoon, entered at 8 P. M. and anchored 300 yards from the Russian destroyer. An official report of the master of the lightship to the commissioner of customs, filed this morning, states that about midnight he observed a small boat lowered from one of the Japanese vessels run alongside the Russian destroyer. One officer and five armed men were on the Japanese boat.

They boarded the destroyer and began firing. Hand to hand fighting continued for about an hour. Some of the crew of the Russian destroyer jumped overboard; others were thrown over. The entire affair was witnessed by the master of the lightship, which was only 100 feet away. He had a boat lowered and rescued one officer and two men. It is thought several of the crew were killed and that some were drowned. Captain Shestakovskiy, of the Russian destroyer, was wounded. He is now aboard the Hai Chi.

Towards morning the two Japanese torpedo-boats approached the Russian destroyer, fastened a rope to the bow, raised the anchor and began to tow the vessel from the harbor. Just then a loud explosion took place in the forward part of the destroyer, resulting in little damage. One of the officers rescued by the lightship states that the moment the Japanese began to seize the vessel the captain gave orders to the remainder of the crew still aboard to explode the magazine. The attempt, however, was a partial failure. When the Japanese torpedo-boats towed the Ryschikoff out of the harbor they were compelled to pass in full view of three Chinese cruisers.

There is no doubt that the Russian destroyer was completely in the hands of the Chinese authorities. Mr. Haggerty, of the Associated Press, with an interpreter, was on board the Ryschikoff and witnessed the negotiations. He has a document recording the conversation of the Chinese officer with the Russian captain, conducted through his interpreter.

Legation at Peking Unadvised.

PEKING, Aug. 12.—The Russian Legation here declares it has received no word of the capture by the Japanese of the dismantled torpedo-boat destroyer Ryschikoff at Chefoo, and further, in case it does this day, it is a newspaper. The Legation cannot say what demands will be made on the Chinese government by Russia.

The Chefoo incident is discussed freely here and it is the general opinion in diplomatic circles that Japan has committed, to say the least, a grave indiscretion. The report current here that the Chinese warship Chefoo was being towed to prevent the capture of the Ryschikoff is declared to place China in an unenviable position.

ALL ON BOARD LOST.

New Version of Rumor That Japanese Cruiser Was Sunk.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—A dispatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from St. Petersburg says that the Japanese armored cruiser Kasagi, formerly the Argentine warship Albatros, was sunk with all on board during the engagement off Port Arthur on Wednesday last.

(It was reported from Chefoo yesterday that the Japanese protected cruiser Kasagi was sunk off Round Island, 48 miles east of Port Arthur, during the naval engagement of Wednesday last.

The vessel then referred to may have been the Kasagi reported in the dispatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from St. Petersburg as having foundered with all hands off Port Arthur the same day. On August 10, the Japanese newspaper, the Homei, announced in a dispatch from Tokyo that the Kasagi had been sunk and this was subsequently denied from Tokyo.)

GERMANS GIVE RUSSIANS AID.

Czarevitch, Which is Badly Damaged, Is Being Repaired.

CHEFOO, Aug. 12, 10 A. M.—A late report from Tsin Chou says the Russian warships still there are the battleship Carevitch, the protected cruisers Pallada and Novik and three torpedo-boats.

Czarevitch, which is badly damaged, is being repaired with German assistance, it is alleged.

A report also has been received here to the effect that Admiral Witthoft was killed in the naval battle off Round Island last Wednesday.

It was also learned of Japanese warships is reported to have sailed south for the purpose of intercepting the Vladivostok fleet, which it is believed has not yet reached the Japanese coast.

SHELL KILLS TWO HUNDRED.

Japanese Are Five to Eight Miles From Port Arthur.

CHEFOO, Aug. 12.—A junk which has arrived here, having left Port Arthur on Tuesday, reports that the Japanese have been firing at Port Arthur for several days, and that they have killed two hundred men.

It is roughly estimated that the Japanese are from five to eight miles from Port Arthur.

Four More Cruisers Expected.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Consul-General Goodnow cabled the State Department today from Shanghai that a Russian torpedo-boat destroyer, the Ryschikoff, arrived there and that four Russian cruisers were expected tomorrow. It is understood here that if these vessels intend to remain in the harbor at Shanghai, they must dismantle and remain tied up until the end of the war. Probably the treaty of peace which will finally decide the war between Russia and Japan will contain a paragraph making disposition of the Russian vessels which have taken refuge in Chinese waters; if Japan is the victor she probably will claim the ships; otherwise they will be again armed and returned to Russian ports.

Boats to Regain Harbor.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—A dispatch from Tokyo to the Japanese Legation here says: According to reports received up to the present, the Russian squadron emerged from Port Arthur, was attacked by the fleet south of Yantai, and dispersed. The Russian fleet, however, is reported to have taken refuge at Kiao Chou.

Another destroyer took refuge at Chefoo. On August 11, five Russian battleships, a cruiser—probably the Diana—a hospital ship and several torpedo-boats—destroyed seemed to regain Port Arthur. Our fleet is believed to be undamaged.

Deciphering Message to Czar.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 12.—The Emperor has received a long telegram from Kiao Chou, which is now being deciphered.

The latest news that four of the Russian battleships are off Shanghai is received with great satisfaction at the Admiralty, indicating that the bulk of the squadron has escaped.

The telegram to the Emperor probably contains an official account of the sea fight.

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Oregon View Paperettes 27¢
Featherweight Eyeshades 18¢
10 Colored Postals, Oregon view 18¢

NOVOK ESCAPES TO SEA.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 12.—The Emperor has received the following dispatch from Viceroy Alexieff, dated August 11: "According to a report of the commandant at Port Arthur, the squadron put to sea August 10. The Russian fleet was followed the squadron. The following Japanese vessels were on the horizon—three first-class cruisers, eight small cruisers and 17 torpedo-boats. The port was bombarded with siege guns for the past four days."

Japan Orders Two Battleships.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—According to the Shipping Gazette, Japan has just ordered two large battleships of 23 knots fromickers, Maxim & Armstrong, Ltd., to the battleship already building there.

Men Lost by Togo in Battle.

TOKIO, Aug. 12.—The casualties in the Japanese navy on August 10 numbered 170.

ANXIETY TEMPER JOY.

Russia Glad Her Is Born, but Is Much Worried About Fleet.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 12, 3:30 A. M.—St. Petersburg is divided between rejoicing over the birth of an heir to the throne and anxiety as to the fate of the Russian fleet. The Russian fleet is reported to have sailed south for the purpose of intercepting the Vladivostok fleet, which it is believed has not yet reached the Japanese coast.

SIGNS POINT TO LIAO YANG.

ANSHANSHAN, Aug. 9.—(Delayed in transmission.)—A Russian correspondent of the Associated Press says: "We are awaiting developments here, and speculating as to what will be the next move, how many men and guns the Japanese have at their disposal, and where the expected big battle will occur. It is impossible at present to say whether a stand will be made at Liao Yang, which is excellently fortified, at Mukden, or, as some say, at Harbin. The indications, however, point to Liao Yang."

"There is a general feeling that our cavalry and infantry in open country will be at a greater advantage than they would in the hill fighting further south."

"It is believed the Japanese force consists of from 240,000 to 260,000 men with 600 guns. It is expected that they will develop a portion of their troops near Port Arthur also before pushing home the great attack."

"They are expected to bring up siege guns, but we are well equipped with field guns."

"It is also no secret here that the Japanese are trying to flank us and to cut off our reinforcements from the North, but there is considerable question as to their ability to do so, as such a move would necessitate from 350,000 to 400,000 troops which it is not believed the Japanese have at their disposal."

Rain Probably Delayed Battle.

LIAO YANG, Aug. 12.—A Russian correspondent of the Associated Press, who has arrived here says:

"We are daily expecting a big battle in the direction of Anshanishan. It probably has been delayed by the rains. The Japanese were checked at Benitzu, 23 miles east of Liao Yang, while advancing on the Yantai coal mines. It is reported that there was a panic among the troops resulting in great loss of life but this cannot be confirmed. The town is swarming with Japanese spies, whom it is impossible to distinguish from Chinamen. They are

COACHES ARE DERAILLED.

RACINE, Wis., Aug. 12.—Some of the coaches of the southbound Chicago & Northwestern passenger train, leaving Racine at 11:35 A. M., today, were derailed near Barryville. The passengers were uninjured.

JAPANESE ADVANCE STOPPED.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 12.—Lewis Nixon, of New York, has closed a large contract with the Department of Mercantile Marine for building ships for the Black Sea. The correspondent of the Associated Press is unable to learn the number or class of ships to be built, but it can be stated that they will be constructed in the yards at Sebastopol. The work of construction will begin next winter. Mr. Nixon will personally supervise the building of the ships.

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