

MEXICANS FIRE ON AMERICAN TROOPS

Bullets Near El Paso Come From Mounted Constitutionalists Is Belief.

YANKEES EAGER TO REPLY

Campaign on Tampico by Villa Expected to Begin Within 24 Hours and Success of Battle May Affect Mediation Plans.

EL PASO, Tex., May 3.—(Special.)—Three mounted men, presumably constitutionalist soldiers from their make-up and the rifles they carried, opened up the fire early today upon a squad of the Twelfth Cavalry, which was patrolling between line monuments close to the camp of the Sixteenth Infantry from the Presidio of San Francisco. The shots of the Mexicans for the most part went wild, although two or three passed sufficiently close to the American cavalrymen that their whining note in the still morning air could clearly be heard.

The cavalrymen failed to reply to the fire and remained on their mounts awaiting a further demonstration on the part of the Mexicans. Such demonstration did not come, however, and the Mexicans wheeled away southward.

Soldiers' Patience Wanes.
For the last two weeks in this vicinity there has been occasional "sniping" at American soldiers from the Mexican line, and the patience of the soldiers rapidly is becoming exhausted. While they realize that the shooting comes from no orders on the part of the Mexican leaders and probably is the result of over-enthusiasm superinduced by too much alcohol consumed by individual Mexicans, it is freely predicted that the next time American soldiers are made the targets of bullets on the border they will not let the fire, and that if there are not any casualties the fault will not lie with the Americans.

The garrison at Juarez has been augmented considerably in the last two days, and today a visit there showed that a large proportion of the male population of the city is either going openly armed or else has been made into soldiers of Villa. There is nothing significant in this, however, seeing the fact that more arms may somewhere have been smuggled over the line in spite of the strict embargo. If any have been taken across it has been in large numbers.

Villa Sees Need of Men.
Villa, recognizing the necessity for every man he can arm in his present campaign against Saltillo, and later against Tampico, would scarcely concede an increase of the Juarez garrison unless he could well spare the rifles needed for the bigger work to the southward. And, up to a couple days ago, he could spare no guns or ammunition either in view of the campaign he is planning and which will take him out of Chihuahua, en route to Monterrey, which is to become the temporary constitutionalist capital during the Tampico campaign, within 24 hours, it is believed here.

At this point, where Villa is so well known and Huerta is not, it is taken for granted that the rebel general will be successful in his Saltillo and Tampico campaigns. If he is he will gain a tremendous advantage over Huerta. If he fails, however, and is driven back upon Monterrey, the effect upon the negotiations between Washington and Mexico City will be far-reaching. Huerta may be willing to consent to mediation provisions when the outcome of his fight against Carranza hangs in the balance. Victorious, he may himself push the fight against the rebel leader, and if he can possibly drive him back to the ravaged northern portion of Mexico and keep him there, undoubtedly the thousands of Villa's tattered troops will desert to Huerta's banner.

HUERTA'S BENEFIT ONLY, SEEN

Carranza Says Constitutionalists Would Produce Peace.

EL PASO, Tex., May 3.—General Carranza has formally declined the suggestion of the mediators that he cease hostilities against Huerta pending the outcome of the plan of mediation. His note, sent to Washington yesterday, was made public here today.

No importance is attached here to the report that the rebels and federals at Tampico are arranging a truce. It is assumed that, if there is, the cessation of hostilities is for the purpose of burying the dead or removing the wounded. The text of General Carranza's telegram declining the armistice follows:

"I again direct myself to you for the purpose of answering your respectful message relative to the armistice, willing your determination of the fact that the international conflict with the United States was intentionally provoked by Carranza, and for the solution of this I hurriedly accepted, in principle only, the good offices of Brazil, Argentina and Chile and which act is independent of our internal strife for liberty.

"I consider it inconvenient for the rebel cause that I represent to suspend hostilities and military movements because said suspension would only accrue to the benefit of Huerta in the civil war now going on in Mexico between the usurper Huerta and the constitutionalist army under my command. The sovereign citizenship is in arms with all activity to re-establish as soon as possible the constitutional order which will produce peace.

"By virtue of the above I state to you that I cannot accept the armistice which you propose.

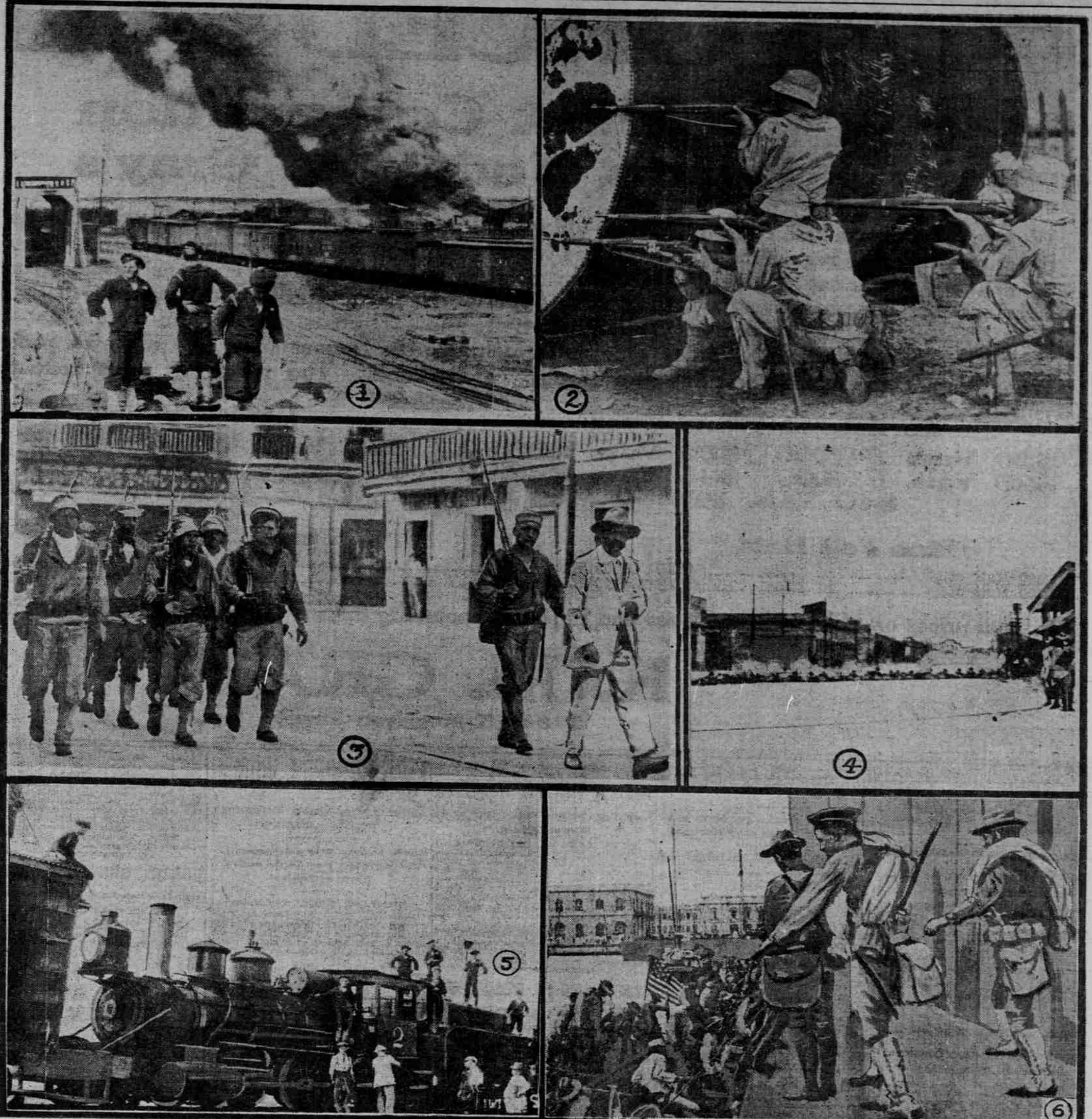
"Consider my acts solely as one who is acting with the determination of doing what he considers best for the interests of his native country."

General Carranza shortly after his arrival at Torreon next week in principle only, the good offices of Brazil, Argentina and Chile and which act is independent of our internal strife for liberty.

The situation there has caused the supreme chief much anxiety because of the dominance of the Arrieta brothers, Bertramin and Demingues. These men, having recruited three or four thousand men, announced allegiance to Carranza but it is alleged that they have merely used the rebel banner as a cloak for looting and outrage.

At the battle of Torreon General Villa assigned them the position of forming a link to his lines around the city. The Arrietas, intent on their looting, refused to do this. By their general, Velasco, had no difficulty in capturing them and evacuating the city. For their disobedience Villa ordered the brothers under arrest, but as the execution of the order would have required an army, it was never made effective.

FIRST ACTUAL WAR PHOTOGRAPHS FROM VERA CRUZ



1. JACKIES BURNING HOUSE FROM WHICH SNIPERS HAD WORKED—2. JACKIES RETURNING SNIPERS' FIRE—3. MARCHING A CAPTURED SNIPER TO PRISON—4. AMERICAN MARINES PHONE IN STREET BATTLING WITH MEXICAN TROOPS IN DISTANCE—5. JACKIES OPEN RAILWAY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN VERA CRUZ AND INTERIOR—6. MARINES

WAR HEADS CONFER

General Funston's Message Causes Session at Capitol.

RUMORS ARE DISCUSSED

Report That Mexicans Around Vera Cruz Have Reinforcements Handy Said to Have Inspired Move. Statement Is Issued.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—(Special.)—Dispatches from Brigadier-General Funston on the situation at Vera Cruz were the subject of a long conference at the War Department tonight between Secretary Spooner and Major-General Wetherston, chief of staff of the Army. It was said General Funston has asked for instructions in view of the hostile attitude of the Mexican army near the city.

After the night's conference, Secretary Garrison said no new orders had been issued and that he had been discussing with General Wetherston and Secretary Breckinridge and others certain rumors that had reached General Funston. It was reported that General Funston had heard that the Mexicans around Vera Cruz were able to be reinforced.

Earlier in the day the General had reported that the American outposts at Vera Cruz were being watched by Mexicans and there were over 10,000 Mexican troops encamped in the vicinity. These dispatches were summed up by Secretary Garrison in the following:

"I am in receipt of dispatch from General Funston regarding the incident at the pumping plant. He says that the officer in command of the Mexicans was Major Zapata, of the engineer corps of the Mexican army. He refers to the fact that very little dependable news about the conditions in the interior is coming in because no more refugees are arriving at Vera Cruz."

"It is reported to him that General Maas has about 4000 men at Soledad, and there are an unknown number,

not large, watching our lines. He understands that the Mexicans have 6000 troops at Jalapa and about 1500 at Palma, where they are throwing up defenses. He says there are many wild rumors afloat which are not worthy of credence.

"The city is quiet. A Mexican officer, who was in Vera Cruz in civilian clothes, was directed to leave."

MEXICANS STEAL 50 HORSES

Land and Cattle Company in Lower California Raided.

CALEXICO, Cal., May 3.—Mexicans raided the camp of the California-Mexican Land and Cattle Company at Pescadero, Lower California, 45 miles south of Calexico, Friday night, and stole about 50 saddle horses, according to a report reaching here today. Whether the Mexicans were federalists or bandits is not known.

Captain James G. Harbord, ranking officer of the United States regulars here, ordered the cavalry border patrol to watch for any attempt to bring the horses across the line.

SEATTLE PURCHASE MADE

Portland Packers Buy Business Property for \$200,000.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 3.—(Special.)—The southeast double corner of Fifth avenue and Pine street, formerly occupied by the Olympic stables and bought from the Washington & Michigan Investment Company by Dr. Rufus Smith about seven months ago, was sold Saturday to O'Shea Bros., packers of Portland, Or., for a consideration reported to be \$200,000.

This double corner is directly across the street from the Westlake Public Market. It is understood that O'Shea Bros. later will improve the structure with a modern fireproof building. The property has a frontage of 120 feet on Pine street and 113 feet on Fifth avenue.

The investment in Seattle property was made by John F. O'Shea and James R. O'Shea, Portland capitalists, who went to Seattle several days ago and who will not return for two or three days. The O'Shea Bros. sold the street front last night by James R. O'Shea, Jr., that the purchasers intend to improve the property, but that they have not determined what character of building will be erected.

At the Minnesota School of Agriculture a course of study for men is to be included in the curriculum.

REBEL CHIEF FIRM

Carranza Declares He Will Not Treat With Huerta.

PEACE ENVOYS PROGRESS

United States' Delegates Will Be Men Not Directly Identified With Government and Neutral Scene Is Considered.

(Continued From First Page.)
States and Huerta at the east, and if possible between Huerta and Carranza. It became definitely established today that General Carranza would not agree to the request of the mediators that he suspend military operations against Huerta, pending the mediation proceedings. It is said this will have no effect on checking the general plans of mediation.

Close associates of Carranza, who have now arrived here, say that no mediation between them and Huerta is possible and that any move on the part of the mediators to include in their programme a scheme for the general adjustment of Mexican affairs, will be regarded as being outside the scope of their labor.

Rebels Lose No Time.
Meanwhile the campaign against Huerta forces is proceeding full force, the mediation work not being considered by the rebels as having any bearing on the relations between Huerta and themselves. The march on Mexico City, according to those near Carranza, is to be undertaken as soon as military operations will permit.

Carranza's refusal of an armistice between him and Huerta is the first adverse reply the mediators have received. On the other hand, favorable comment is made in circles close to

the envoys upon the amiability Huerta has shown.

The mediators have discussed whether it may become desirable to go to some neutral point outside Washington to carry forward their negotiations with the three parties concerned. The only purpose in this would be to forestall the feeling that their sessions at the seat of Government here might tend to a leaning toward the viewpoint of the United States, the desire being to make their deliberations as detached and independent as possible.

It is regarded as possible that if some point outside of the American capital is decided upon it will be at some mountain resort in New England at one of the points frequented by members of the diplomatic circles.

EGGS AT TAMPECO \$1 EACH

Conditions in City Gradually Growing Worse Says Report.

VERA CRUZ, May 3.—Conditions in Tampico are daily growing more serious, according to Captain Blackadder, of the Ward liner Camaguey, which arrived here today, flying the Cuban flag. He said the water supply had been cut off and that conditions were filthy. The inhabitants were bordering on famine and prices were continually increasing, eggs selling for \$1 a piece, potatoes and tomatoes 50 cents a pound and other foods in proportion.

With the exception of Consul Clarence A. Miller and his assistant there are probably not half a dozen Americans in Tampico, according to the captain.

He said the captain of the Hermione (British) had chartered the steamer Antillian (British) to take off refugees and among those who had gone on board were a few Americans.

Rear-Admiral Mayo, of the American fleet, remains on board the Dolphin outside Tampico harbor. The rebels remain in possession of all the river towns in the vicinity.

160 AMERICANS AT CAPITAL

Many Prefer Not to Leave Mexico City, Says Brazil Envoy.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—One hundred and sixty Americans are in Mexico City, according to a message received by the Brazilian embassy here and given to the State Department today. This number includes those who have arrived from interior points.

City has been promised trains to carry Americans from Mexico City, but reports that many of the Americans have no intention of leaving.

Thief Enters Two Homes.

Patrolman J. C. Gill was the victim of one of the two robberies reported to the police last night.

Patrolman Gill reported that a prowler entered his house at 508 East Thirtieth street, some time yesterday afternoon and stole a revolver, safety razor and a suit of clothes.

A robbery was reported by H. L. Hall, of 534 East Thirty-second street, two blocks from Mr. Gill's residence, where the thieves' loot consisted of two small gold watches and a gold fob.

The police believe that both robberies were the work of the same man.

Effort

Before the time of Western Union Day and Night Letters business men used the telegraph in emergency as a final effort. Today, many of these same business men take advantage of letter length at telegraphic speed and minimum cost and make that final effort first—with astonishing results.

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T. J. CLEETON



Candidate for the Republican Nomination for Justice of the Supreme Court of Oregon is composed of seven members. Four of the seven places are to be filled at the forthcoming election. Multnomah County is not represented on the Supreme Bench. Judge Cleeton is the only candidate for the Supreme Bench from Multnomah County.

Do not forget that Judge Cleeton closed the bridges, thereby giving to those who had to cross the bridges during the busy period, some time yesterday for three half hours each morning and evening.

Remember, also, that he upheld the minimum wage law, and declared the tax penalty law invalid. (Paid Adv.)



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