

# JAPAN'S SHIPS DRAW FIRE OF TSING-TAU

## One German Shell Said to Have Found Mark in Opening Engagement.

### FLEET THEN SAILS AWAY

#### Pekin Report Says Vessels' Guns Have Greater Range and Are Inflicting Damage Without Danger From Shore.

TSING-TAU, China, Aug. 28.—Two small Japanese cruisers yesterday drew the first shots from the Tsing-Tau fortifications. Several shots dropped around one of the cruisers, whereupon the vessel fired one shot in reply and withdrew. It is reported that one German shell found its mark.

The Japanese vessels approached, evidently with the purpose of reconnoitering. They were within seven miles and plainly visible. Several shots from the forts dropped around the leading cruiser, raising columns of water, whereupon the vessel veered east and departed at full speed after having fired one shot.

#### Aeroplane Flies Over Sea.

In the course of the engagement a German aeroplane flew out over the sea.

It is estimated that the forts will be able to last eight months. They are still receiving fresh food supplies. The Shan-Tung trains are arriving and departing.

German reservists from distant parts of China still are entering Tsing-Tau. Many of them, khaki-clad, are along the railway between Wei-Hai-Wei, Feng-tai and Tsing-Tau.

The first German outposts are at a village 13 miles from Tsing-Tau. There the bridge has been broken.

The outer line of German runs from the small River Litsu through the mountains about eight miles from Tsing-Tau. This line is not strongly fortified and the real defense probably will be made across a narrow neck of land only three-quarters of a mile long, three miles from Tsing-Tau.

#### Artillery Duel to Follow.

The mountains within this line are named Mottkeberg, Blumberg, and Illsberg. Powerful guns are in position on the slopes leading to these mountains. The defenses are strengthened by barbed-wire entanglements on the plain between the two ranges of mountains, while the trees have been cut and villages burned.

The Germans expect the Japanese will easily take the outer line of defenses, after which an artillery duel will follow between the attackers and forts on the mountains.

PEKIN, Aug. 28.—Advices received here say that several of Japan's largest warships are bombarding the eastern defenses of Tsing-Tau and owing to the fact that they carry heavier guns than those of the Germans they are inflicting damage without danger from the shore.

No information is available here as to the whereabouts of the general plans of the Japanese land forces. The German Governor of Kiau-Chau has proclaimed martial law, which affects the Chinese residing in the leased territory, who are forced to carry ammunition and work on the land defenses within the zone of fire.

#### Chinese Certain to Suffer.

Chinese here are indignant at the action of the Germans. It is believed that if Tsing-Tau holds out eight months the German army will be likely to get a fair share of food after supplies run short.

The Germans destroyed several Chinese villages near the hinterland yesterday, forcing the natives to clear out on the shortest notice.

Chinese who try to escape from the leased territory are treated as criminals. It is certain that many of them will be killed by shells, though they have no interest in the war.

TOKIO, Aug. 28.—(Special.)—The idea that Japan will be inconvenienced seriously by the rupture of trade with Germany is declared to be an error, because Japan is rather a purchaser than a seller of supplies, so far as Germany is concerned. Japan's exports to that country are mostly raw materials valued at only 13,000,000 yen (\$2,500,000), while the imports from Germany are worth \$8,000,000 yen (\$14,000,000) annually. The United States is chief of machinery and other manufactured articles which can be supplied here, with the exception of dyes and chemicals. The United States now has a golden opportunity to capture the trade in these articles.

#### FORMAL BLOCKADE DECLARED

Text of Japan's Kiau-Chau Note is Received in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—The text of the Japanese note declaring the Kiau-Chau blockade, signed by Vice-Admiral Kato, is here received in error, the second fleet, was cabled to the Japanese embassy here today. It follows:

"I hereby declare that on this 27th day of August, 1914, the entire coast, extending from 120 degrees 10 minutes east and 35 degrees 54 minutes north to 123 degrees 15 minutes east and 36 degrees 7 minutes north (the entire coast of the leased territory of Kiau-Chau), has been placed in a state of blockade by a competent force of His Imperial Majesty's ships under my command, and that the said blockade continues in force; and, further, that the neutral vessels in the zone of blockade are allowed 24 hours within which to withdraw from the said zone.

"Any vessel that attempts to violate the blockade will be dealt with in conformity to the laws of nations and the respective treaties between the Empire of Japan and the neutral powers.

"Given on board His Imperial Majesty's ship Suo this 27th day of August, 1914."

#### AUSTRIA'S COURSE IS PUZZLE

Interning of Cruiser in Far East Once Agreed to by Japan.

TOKIO, Aug. 28.—The attitude of Austria during the conversations regarding the Austrian cruiser Kaiserin Elizabeth is causing comment among the diplomats, and it is said also to have puzzled the Japanese foreign office greatly.

It appears that a few days ago the Austrian government ordered its Ambassador in Tokio, Baron Muller de Senzgyorgy, to approach Baron Kato, Japanese Minister of foreign relations, and request his consent that the Kaiserin Elizabeth be allowed to proceed to Shanghai and there be interned. Baron Kato agreed to this and the British Ambassador, through Baron Kato, also signified his willingness on the following day.

The Austrian Ambassador later visited Baron Kato and announced that the Kaiserin Elizabeth had been dis-

## MAP SHOWING DIFFICULTIES OF GERMAN ADVANCE ON PARIS.



LINES OF DEFENSE OF FRENCH WHICH ARE NOW BEING ASSAILED.

### ATLANTIC DOTTED WITH SHIPS ON WAY

#### More Than 8000 Passengers, Mostly American Refugees, Due in Few Days.

#### NEW YORK HARBOR FULL

Count Shows 161 Steamships in Port, of Which 125 Are Idle on Account of War—Britons Plan to Resume Service.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 28.—That the Japanese will be unable to take Tsing-Tau by sea because of its impregnable harbor defenses is the belief of many of the passengers who arrived today on the Pacific mail liner Siberia from the Orient. The port, which has several well-armed mobile forts, is reached through a narrow channel and it would be well nigh impossible for a hostile fleet to get close enough to fire effectively, these men say.

On the other hand, the passengers agreed, the Japanese might easily take Tsing-Tau by a land attack. The Japanese, it is said, could enter from the British port of Wei-Hai-Wei and from there march on the Tsing-Tau land defenses, which could not hold out long.

According to the Siberia's passengers the German soldiers at Tsing-Tau, numbering from 5000 to 8000 men, will fight to the death, even though the odds are against them when Japan strikes.

Among the Siberia's passengers were several globe trotters who had to cut short contemplated world tours because of the war. They were unable to secure transportation over the Trans-Siberian Railroad, which is now being used solely for the mobilization of troops. Much European mail formerly routed via the Suez Canal was also brought by the Siberia, seeking destination via New York.

NEW YORK, Aug. 28.—Shipping felt today the effects of the European war to an unusual degree. No trans-Atlantic liner sailed and none arrived.

Two are due tomorrow and one on Sunday, and there are nine, all of the International Mercantile Marine, on their way to American and Canadian ports with 3880 passengers, most of them American refugees.

Heading for New York are two White Star liners, the Adriatic and the Olympic; two of the American line, the New York and the St. Paul, and the Minnaha of the Atlantic Transport Line. The Adriatic and the Olympic are due tomorrow with nearly 3800 passengers, and the St. Paul is expected on Sunday with 550. The Merion of the American line is on her way to Philadelphia; the Cunard liner Devonian and the White Star liner Arable to Boston, and the Canada of the Dominion line to Quebec and Montreal.

The Alliance, a Panama liner, arrived here from Cristobal today with 30 German reservists among its passengers.

The Hamburg-American liner Graecia, which risked capture by venturing out to sea last night, bound ostensibly for Cadiz, Spain, and carrying coal and stores, had not returned from here today. Another German vessel, the Grosser Kurfuerst, of the North German Lloyd Line, was reported to be taking on coal at her Hoboken pier today, preparatory to sailing. The line's agents denied she intended leaving port.

A census of steamships in this port today showed their number to be 161, of which 125, with a total tonnage of nearly 421,000, are idle because of the war abroad. Of the vessels inactive, 24 are German and Austrian. The others, a majority of them flying the British flag, are planning to resume service within the next few weeks, according to local steamship men, as the owners have regained confidence in the power of the British cruisers to afford safety.

The Handley, a Lamport & Holt liner, was to have sailed today for Argentina, but her agents here received advices from the British Admiralty directing that the departure be postponed until September 2. Shipping men assumed that British warships would attempt meanwhile to clear Southern waters of hostile vessels, which have been a menace to British shipping.

#### POLES SHOW ENTHUSIASM

Author Says 400,000 Are Enlisted in Russian Army.

LONDON, Aug. 28.—Atona D. Swan, the Polish author, has sent the following telegram to the Spectator:

"The mobilization was carried on in Warsaw with indescribable enthusiasm. For the first time since the partition of Poland our peasants took an active part in a national movement. There are more than 400,000 Poles in the Russian Army."

LONDON, Aug. 28.—A buffet has been opened by the Societies of actors and actresses for needy stage people, of whom there are thousands in Paris. Not a theater here is open. Two meals a day will be given to any actor, actress or theater employe at the buffet.

#### LOSSES TO NAVIES OF CONTENDING POWERS FIRST MONTH OF WAR.

Destruction at sea during the first month of the general war has been greater than the naval losses during the entire Spanish-American War when the value of the merchant vessels captured is taken into consideration. The cost of these vessels with their cargoes in many instances valuable ones, must be added to the warships that have been destroyed. The following are the naval losses thus far reported:

August 2—German and Russian fleets fight off Aland Islands; Russians reported to have lost one ship.

August 5—German mine-layer Koenigsm Luise sunk by British torpedo boats in North Sea.

August 6—British cruiser Amphion sunk by mine in North Sea.

August 9—German submarine sunk by British cruisers in North Sea.

August 16—Austrian cruiser Zenta sunk off Antivari, Montenegro.

August 17—Unnamed German dreadnought reported out of action and ashore at Tordelmy, Norway.

August 17—Austrian battleship Zrinyi reported sunk by French warships.

August 25—German cruiser Madgeburg blown up by her commander in the Gulf of Finland to avoid capture.

August 27—German converted cruiser Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse sunk off West African coast by British cruiser High Flyer.

August 28—Austrian destroyer sunk off Corfu by British destroyer; German torpedo-boat destroyer sunk near Chee-Foo, China, by British torpedo-boat destroyer Welland; two German cruisers sunk, one benched and burned and three torpedo boats sunk by British off Heligoland.

# FORTS GUARDING PARIS ARE MANY

## City's Defenses Will Be Strengthened to Utmost Without Delay.

### MILITARY EXPERTS BUSY

#### Fortifications of French Capital Consist of Three Distinct Circles, Sweeping Around City, Covering Area 400 Square Miles.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—The fortifications of Paris and their ability to resist a siege are receiving the close attention of military observers, now that Paris is the announced objective point of the German forces, and the French Ministry of War has adopted urgent means of strengthening the city's defenses to the utmost.

While the city's detailed defenses are surrounded with secrecy by French military authorities, yet their general character and formidable strength are known to military experts, who describe them as among the strongest fortifications of the world.

The fortifications consist of three distinct circles sweeping around the city—first, the solid wall of masonry, 18 feet high extending for 22 miles around the old sections of Paris; second, the system of 17 detached forts arranged at intervals, two miles beyond the wall and making a circuit of the city 35 miles long; and third, the outer circle of forts 75 miles long on the heights commanding the valley of the Seine.

#### Forts Strongly Linked.

Each of these circles of masonry and steel is a complete defense in itself and the inner wall is linked together with redoubts, bastion and glacis which permit a cross fire against approach from any direction.

The magnitude of the system is shown by its area, which exceeds 400 square miles.

The wall around Paris and the 17 detached forts, two miles beyond the wall were built by Louis Philippe. They sustained the German siege of 1870-71 and the outer forts have since been greatly strengthened. The third line of forts on the hills of St. Germaine, Cormelles and Villiers, are of modern construction with the latest type of batteries and heavy guns.

The inner wall about Paris surrounds the best-known and most important sections of the city, including the business sections along the grand boulevards, the residence section on the north and west of the city and the Latin quarter and other sections of the left bank of the Seine. On the outside of the wall a circle of suburbs extends for many miles, including Neuilly, Argenteuil, Versailles, Vincennes and many others.

#### Suburbs Dotted With Defenses.

The forts of the second and third line of defenses are dotted among these suburbs, protecting Paris and the approaches to the capital. The wall contains 33 bastions and 67 gates. Some of these have been abandoned, owing to the pressure of modern construction, but the most important ones are still in use.

Recent advices received here from Paris state that all the gates still existing are now closed at 8 P. M. with rigid regulations of movements from within or without.

The second line of forts includes the famous fortress of Mont Valerien, which was the seat of the German siege of 1870. It is strengthened by two groups of works—Hautes Bruyeres and the Chateillon fort and batteries. South of the city is the row of forts at Neuilly, Courcouronnes, Vanves and Issy. North and east of the city are three great forts around St. Denis and two others at Fort Auberjivert and Fort de Vincennes.

According to military experts, it would require a force of 500,000 men to invest these defenses.

#### Half Million Besiegers Needed.

General Von Moltke, field marshal of the German forces at the time of the siege of Paris of 1870, states in a report on that siege that the French artillery armament consisted of more than 2627 pieces, including 209 of the largest caliber of heavy ordnance. There were 500 rounds for each gun. Von Moltke points out that the bombardment of a fortified place in the heart of an enemy's country is difficult if not impossible if the invader is master of the railways or waterways by which heavy siege artillery can be brought up in full quantity. He explains the failure of the Germans at the outset of the former siege by saying it would have required 300 heavy guns with 500 rounds for each gun. The movement forward of these heavy guns would have required 4500 four-wheeled wagons and 10,000 horses, which were not available.

At a later stage the Germans brought up their big siege guns, attacking the entente and ports and dropping 300 to 400 15-centimeter shells daily into the heart of the city. It is estimated that the Germans, Paris withstood the siege for 132 days. Since then the entire new and outer third line of defense has been completed in immediate readiness for the fortifications as a whole are far more formidable than those which resisted the former siege.

#### BANK CONFERENCE CALLED

Reserve Board Hopes to Agree on Opening of New System.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—A conference between bankers of the 12 reserve cities and other business centers and the Federal Reserve Board, which was called in immediate response to the announcement of the time for the opening of the new banking system, was called today by the board for September 4.

Two bankers have been invited from each reserve city and six others from non-reserve cities. The hope of the board is that the conference will lead to a thorough understanding between the bankers and the Government and result in co-operation in the taking of the remaining steps before the new system can be launched. The board will try to be in a position to lay before the bankers a definite programme of what, if any, minor changes it expects to see made in the new currency act, and by soon if he decided the new system should be opened for business.

In the last 40 years the freight traffic through the Suez Canal has more than tripled, while the number of passengers has increased only about 53 per cent.

Gertrude Atherton's Latest Book, "Perch of the Devil,"  
Now on sale at our Book Shop.  
Mezzanine Floor.

New Modart Corsets  
**Lipman Wolfe & Co.**  
"Merchandise of Merit Only"  
Picture Framing  
Lowest Prices

Today--  
**The Most Important Waist Sale of the Summer**  
Offering \$2.50 to \$4 Models  
**At \$1.65**

Of Voile, Crepes and Lingerie, with Trimmings of Lace and Embroidery Tuckings and Organdie Collars—Third Floor.

JUST RECEIVED, 200  
New Shell Combs  
Which We Will Offer at  
**75c Each**

—Beautifully carved combs in the artistic fan shape, which are worn at various angles in the hair, either at the side, in the back or holding the front hair in place.  
—They are set with French rhinestones and carved in a most attractive design. These combs are at present the most fashionable you can buy and at 75c offers a very unusual opportunity to buy the most popular of hair ornaments.  
First Floor.

**\$3.00 W. B. Corsets**  
In Several Different Models  
**\$1.95**

—Give yourself ease and comfort and a stylish figure by purchasing one of these splendid models.  
—They are made of soft coutil and brocade with low and medium bust and long over the hips and back. They are embroidered trimmed and have three pairs of serviceable hose supporters attached.  
—Suitable for the average and slender figures. In sizes from 19 to 27.  
Fourth Floor.

**Today—MILLINERY**  
NEW READY-TO-WEAR HATS  
NEW UNTRIMMED SHAPES  
NEW MILLINERY TRIMMINGS

—Come and see the new Autumn styles—enjoy the display—you will not be urged to buy.  
Second Floor.

**Final Clearing of Girls' Wash Dresses**  
**\$1.50 to \$2.25 Dresses, Sizes 6 to 14 Yrs.**  
**\$1.35 to \$1.75 Dresses, Sizes 2 to 6 Yrs.**  
**Today 98c**

—Crepes, corded gingham, madras, plain and figured percale, galatea, pique, poplin, checked and plaid gingham dresses in dozens of pretty styles and colors. Dresses that can be worn time and time again, as laundering will not hurt them. For school wear nothing could be more suitable.  
Fourth Floor.

**Junior Wash Dresses \$3.49**  
Dresses Selling to \$19.50

—They show the Summer fashions, the long tunic and ruffled skirts, vest effects and kimono sleeves. And the materials are linen, ratine, voile, plain and figured crepe, striped and plaid ginghams, Sizes 13, 15 and 17 years.  
Fourth Floor.

**Natural Wavy Switches**  
Selling to \$13.95  
Mounted on Three Separate Stems of French Quality,  
**\$7.95 Each**  
Also Fine Quality Gray Switches at  
**\$6.95**  
Selling Regularly at \$9.95; Mounted on Three Separate Stems and of a Fine Quality.  
Second Floor.

**Belgian Congo Raided**  
Territory Lies in Center of Africa, Has Area Exceeding 800,000 Miles and 15,000,000 Population.

PARIS, Aug. 28.—A dispatch to the Havas Agency from Libreville, in the French Congo, says that the Belgian Congo has been attacked by German troops.

The Belgian administration, in accordance with Great Britain, has taken defensive measures and has informed the French government of its action.

The Belgian Congo lies in the center of Africa. It is separated from Kamerun, the German colony of Western Equatorial Africa, by the French Congo. The area of Belgian Congo is estimated at more than 800,000 square miles. The native population is given at 15,000,000. The European population in 1912 numbered 3445. Of these 3307 were Belgians. The colony possesses a force of native troops numbering 18,000 men.

French Congo, or French Equatorial Africa, is west of the Belgian Congo. It has an area of 6069 square miles and a native population estimated at 3,000,000. The principal cities are Libreville and Brazzaville, with a total French population of about 700. The military force consists of two regiments and two battalions of native infantry and one squadron of irregular cavalry. Kamerun adjoins British Nigeria on the northwest. It has an area of 191,000 square miles and a native population of 2,500,000. In 1913 there were 1871 white residents, of whom 1643 were Germans. The military force is given as 209 Germans and 1550 native troops.

**GERMAN AIDS FRENCHMAN**  
Wounded Alsatian Carries Injured Man Into French Lines.

PARIS, Aug. 28.—A dispatch to the Havas Agency from Coulommiers, France, says: "Among the wounded who have arrived here is a German infantryman, an Alsatian by birth, who came into the French lines during the fight in Belgian Luxemburg, carrying on his back a French wounded sergeant, thus saving him from falling into the hands of the enemy. The Alsatian himself was wounded while rescuing the Frenchman."

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