

SIEGE OF ANTWERP AFFAIR OF SYSTEM

City Is Damaged in Spots, to Prove Vulnerability With Minimum Loss.

MARINES FIGURE LARGELY

Effect of Great Guns, as Seen at Fortifications, Even More Striking That at Liege—Fall Sooner Than Expected.

HEADQUARTERS GERMAN MARINE DIVISION, Antwerp, Oct. 12.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—Roads to the south of Antwerp by which the correspondent of the Associated Press came into Antwerp today are jammed with unbroken columns of siege artillery, mortar batteries and baggage trains trekking away from the just captured fortress. The infantry and field artillery of General von Beseler's besieging army are well on their way south to turn the scale, if possible, like Nogi's army at Mukden, in the great battle of the Aisne.

The bluejackets and marine infantry from Kiel, Cuxhaven and Wilhelmshaven, in a campaign of more than a month through Belgium, remain at Antwerp for further disposition, but whether to engage in a naval campaign from their new base or merely to garrison this quarter of Belgium, the world will have to wait before this letter reaches America. It may be significant that detachments of sailors recruited from the German mercantile marine and armed only with cutlasses and revolver have laid for several weeks behind the army, taking no part in the fighting, and evidently destined for sea duty after the capture of the port.

Marines Figure in Siege.

The story of the siege of Antwerp, from the German side, as related to the correspondent of the Associated Press by an officer seconded to the staff, is largely the story of the marine division, of the pioneers and of the artillery, which formed the backbone of the heterogeneous army of landwehr, landsturm and marine formation, adjusted to General von Beseler's attack on one of the strongest fortresses in Europe.

It is a story of easy victory where hard fighting was expected and of desperate resistance in a formidable position where little trouble was looked for by volunteers in life preservers crossing moats and rivers with hand grenades to attack the entrenched Belgians; of assaults twice abandoned in the face of infantry fire; of pioneers swimming flooded rivers by night to lay bridges for the troops; of battles always a story of the irresistible effect of the German heavy artillery.

Siege Unexpectedly Brief.

Antwerp fell, it is learned, eight days earlier than General von Beseler had expected it would. This unexpectedly quick termination to the siege was due in part to the determined engagement of the Belgian forces disengaging in nine weeks of defeat and with little hope of prolonging the resistance until relief could arrive, and partly to the fact discovered by the Germans when they took possession of the city that the fortress lines had been practically penetrated when the fortified positions behind the Nete River were carried October 6 and 7. The Belgian engineers, apparently realizing that the inner ring of forts was too close to the city, set up this second line of defense behind the flood barrier of the Nete, dammed up to inundate a belt of land about a quarter of a mile wide and had robust stone lines of their own heavy guns to arm this improvised but exceedingly strong position.

Since this line was carried the inner forts could offer comparatively little resistance and the city itself lay open to bombardment.

Defenses Systematically Scattered.

The outer fortifications seen in the day through miles of city streets, suffered less from the bombardment than might have been expected. Signs of the German shells are observed in all quarters of the city, but the destruction is usually confined to individual houses or groups of houses, widely scattered intervals, the great mass of intervening buildings being untouched.

At German headquarters it was said that this was due to a definite plan of bombing that aimed at rendering Antwerp, with a minimum damage, that all parts of the city were at the mercy of the German guns and that further resistance was useless. The heavy 12 and 16½-inch guns were not used against the city, shells from the smaller mortars were dropped into section after section of the town, one or two shells to each section, until every quarter had been systematically visited. The artillerists, working with maps of the city, gave particular attention to the vicinity of the harbor works and of the monumental public buildings, such as the palace, the City Hall and the Church of Our Lady, placing their shells as close as possible to the buildings without actually hitting them.

Plan Accurately Carried Out.

How accurately this was done in the case of the City Hall is shown by a shell hole in the pavement at the side entrance to the building and in a demolished house across the street. Some explanation is given with regard to the Church of Our Lady, which has a shell hole eight or ten feet in diameter in one of the transept windows and the adjoining wall about 20 feet above the door. Across the church, the pride of Antwerp, is undamaged.

Dead All Shot in Head.

The Belgian machine guns, with steel shields pierced only with narrow slits for aiming, gave particular trouble to the Germans, who, in the course of the German trenches, shelter pits and bomb-proofs had been built for the infantry; positions for the field guns were scattered everywhere; wire entanglements had been laid even in the flooded valley of the river Yser, the latter also hiding deep trenches dug at irregular intervals in all directions; and everywhere before the lines were dug "wolf holes," deep conical pits, filled to the brim with mud which hid sharp steel spikes to impale anyone stepping into them.

TURKS IGNORE ULTIMATUM

(Continued From First Page.)

mine layer Prut, which was carrying several hundred mines, and the torpedo-destroyer Kubanets captured a collier and severely damaged a coast defense ship.

The official Bureau tonight gave out the following on the Turkish situation:

"Russia, by threats, is now attempting to incite Bulgaria to make war on Turkey. Bulgaria firmly resists the coalition."

"The German officials of Rome points out that Turkey, by inciting the Muslim, could deal heavy blows to Russia in Armenia and Caucasus, to the Great Britain in Egypt and India, and to France in North Africa."

TURKS HOLD RUSSIAN CONSULS

Assurances of Safe Conduct of Ottoman Agents Demanded of Czar.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Turkey has announced that Russian Consuls in the Ottoman Empire will not be permitted to leave until assurances of safe conduct are given Turkish Consuls in Russia, according to a cablegram from Ambassador Morganthau to the United States Government, received today. The Turkish Minister informed Mr. Morganthau that Turkish Warships within the last three days had bombarded Sebastopol.

Great Britain and France have placed their interests in Turkey in the hands of the American Embassy, and the Turkish Consul at Havre has turned over his consulate to the United States and is preparing, along with other Turkish Consuls, to leave France.

No mention was made in Mr. Morganthau's dispatches of any declarations of war. Communications with Constantinople was interrupted last night and the last message, which was dated at 11 P. M. October 31, referred only to the status of the embassy, mentioning incidentally that conditions in the capital were quiet.

With this success the Belgian defense practically collapsed. The Belgian troops fell back rapidly from their river lines, abandoning their heavy artillery and struck fear and put out of action with single shots. In another heavy steel beds for the guns are broken in two and the heavy masses of metal hurled bodily five or six yards from their original positions. An attempt capable of resisting any shell, is pierced like cheese and the steel turns upright.

Turret Completely Upended.

A turret of the railroad redoubt is upended completely and now lies with its base pointing skyward and the gun below. Behind the embankment of Fort Wheelen, where a 12-inch shell penetrated the magazine,

a heavy engine, for the electric light plant, was blown 20 yards to the rear of the fort.

Sixty men of the garrison are said to be buried beneath the ruins. Other turrets were put out of action by shells striking the concrete embankment of the earth in front of them, cracking or displacing the cement walls so that the turrets could no longer be turned.

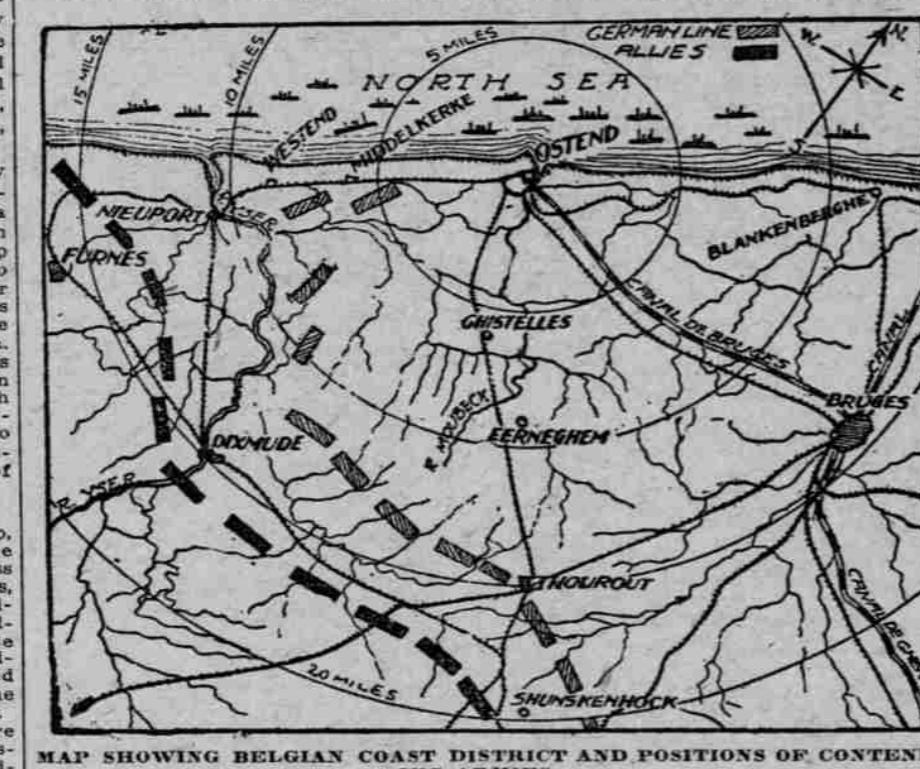
The line of attack against the fortress, as already described in headquarters, was directed against the southern section of the fort girdles, between Malines and Lierre.

The marine division under Admiral Schroeder conducted the attack against the middle of this line, the land troops being placed on either flank of the assault and marines. Below them lay the heavy artillery so far back as to be out of reach of shells from the forts.

Fire was opened on September 28, and by nightfall of September 29, Washington was ready for storming. A night attack was ordered. Volunteers were called for. Pioneers, marines and sailors competed for the dangerous honor. A forlorn hope storming party was selected for the advance, given live grenades and hand grenades and sent forward to cross the moat, cut the wire entanglements and cover the advance of the main storming column. When within 150 yards of the fort, however, a German gun opened with such a murderous fire, particularly from Belgian cannisters, that further advance was impossible.

"I never dug myself in so quick in my life," interjected at this point a Lieutenant of pioneers, who had been listening to the staff officers' description.

WHERE ALLIES AND GERMANS ARE FIGHTING FIERCEST.



FOE LEARN FRENCH MOVES BY WIRELESS

German Station Secreted in Enemy's Lines Shows Thoroughness of Plans.

LATE' ATTACK PARIS TOPIC

Power of Offensive Against Allies Is Admitted and Remarkable
Soldiery of Teutons in Close Fighting Is Appreciated.

PARIS, Nov. 1.—A wireless station, the situation of which has not been discovered, is being used by the Germans to report all movements of French troops, according to statements made to General Pierre Chérifé.

Embassy yesterday. The presumption is made that the German wireless station had sent a similar message to the department, which had been delayed in transit, as has been the case with many messages from Constantinople.

It was taken for granted by officials generally, however, that even though no declarations of war have been made, a state of war between Turkey and the powers of the triple entente shortly will be recognized to exist.

Sir William's request that the American Embassy look after her interests in Turkey was regarded as particularly significant, forecasting the intention of the Balkan monarchy to throw her forces into the field against the Ottoman empire once more.

The American government's desire to obtain all Russian consuls in Turkey was viewed as a consequence of the arrest of Turkish consuls in Russia when the raid of the ports on the Black Sea was made by the Turkish navy. Their release and safe conduct undoubtedly will be one of the first problems with which the Italian government will be confronted as the guardian of Russian interests in Turkey.

Discrepancy from the American Embassy at Rome confirmed the reports that the Italian cabinet had resigned, but gave no intimation of what course the government would follow toward recent developments in the Levant.

RUSSIA DENIES INITIATIVE
Report Fleet Opened Hostilities
Called "Common Invention."

PETROGRAD, Nov. 1.—The following official statement was given out here tonight:

"The communications from Berlin and Vienna agencies saying that the Russian fleet opened hostilities against the Turkish squadron are common inventions. They are trying manifestly to lead into error public opinion in Constantinople, which has been most in ignorance concerning the perfidious attack on our coast by Turkish warships under the command of German officers."

"The same proceedings were employed when Germany declared war on us, it being said that Russian soldiers invaded German territory, while, as a matter of fact, not a single Russian soldier crossed the frontier before war was declared.

"Previous to the Turkish hostilities our fleet undertook no action. It is evident that if the initiative had been taken by the Russian fleet the bombardment of the ports and the sudden attack of the Turkish fleet could not have taken place."

MOVE EXPECTED BY RUSSIA

Ambassador Says Special Army Is Ready to Meet Turks.

ROME, Oct. 31.—M. Krupenski, the Russian Ambassador to Italy, after receiving a long communication from his own government, appeared optimistic today regarding what he called "Turkish brigandage."

The Ambassador said:

"The Turks will get what they deserve, as Russia is quite prepared, having known for a long time of the German machinations in Constantinople, and also that Turkey was only waiting to strengthen her position and to receive definite instructions from Berlin to enter this war."

"For this reason a special Russian army was kept at Bessarabia, Kerch, the Crimea and Caucasus, to face the Turk without removing a single soldier or a single gun from the Austro-German frontier."

"I cannot say what the attitude of the Balkans will be," the Ambassador said, "but, anyway, here the sentiments of Greece toward Turkey and the sentiments of Roumania toward Russia."

MOHAMMEDANS FAVOR ALLIES

Mosques Prayerfully Urge Turkey to Change Position.

SIMLA, British India (via London), Nov. 1.—The announcement of the friendly attitude of Turkey toward the allies was made throughout India today in an official communication, wherein the Viceroy of India deplored the endeavor of a Chauvinistic element to draw Turkey into a war with Great Britain in the benefit of Germany and Austria.

The reception of the announcement in outlying districts will not be known for some days, but responsible leaders of the Mohammedan community already are pronouncing prayers for the success of the British arms. The mullahs are preaching homilies urging Turkey to remain neutral or side with the allies.

DEFINITE WANTS EXPLANATION

Sultan Tells Turks His Sovereign Will Has Been thwarted.

London, Nov. 1.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent sends a telegram received in Amsterdam from Berlin which says that during the last few days British and French agents have hastily left Constantinople.

"The Russian Ambassador," the dispatch from Berlin says, "advised all Russian subjects to depart immediately from Constantinople and the British Ambassador sent his family home. Many thus far demonstrations have been placed in the streets of Constantinople."

It is argued, it is said, that the general breaking of the equilibrium, to accomplish which a different strategy would be required.

The fate of the German forces which succeeded in retaking the Yser is a matter of speculation. They have attempted to maintain neutrality, though probably with great losses, is admitted.

KHEDIVE WANTS EXPLANATION

AMBUSSADORS LEAVE TURKEY

Passports Given Russian, British and French Representatives.

CONSTANTINOPLE (via London), Oct. 31.—The Ambassadors of Russia, Great Britain and France have received passports to leave Constantinople tonight. The Russian and British Ambassadors will leave Constantinople tomorrow.

GENERAL CHAFFEE IS DEAD

Former Chief of Staff, Once Private, Passes in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 1.—Lieutenant-General Adna R. Chaffee, former chief of staff of the United States Army, died at his home here today. He had been ill almost a month and passed away at 1:45 P. M., after a period of unconsciousness. His body will be interred in Arlington National Cemetery.

General Chaffee's condition became grave a few days ago. Late yesterday he sank into unconsciousness and this morning, in a brief period of lucidity, he told Mrs. Chaffee his end was near. Then he expressed a wish to be laid to rest at Arlington.

Mrs. Chaffee and her daughter, Mrs. John Hamilton, his wife, of an Army officer, were at the bedside when he came. Two other children, Mrs. George French Hamilton, wife of an Army Captain, and Adna R. Chaffee, Jr., a Lieutenant in the Army, are in the Philippines.

General Chaffee rose from the rank of private to that of Lieutenant General in the United States Army. He was wounded three times.

Avalanche Overwhelms Swiss.

BERNE, Switzerland, Nov. 1, via BORDEAUX, Nov. 1.—It is officially announced that the French, British and Russian Ambassadors to Turkey asked for their passports yesterday and left Constantinople today. The American Ambassador, Henry Morgenthau, has taken charge of French interests in Turkey.

PRINCE'S DEATH INDICATED

Private Letter Describes Funeral of German Emperor's Son.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—A private letter received by a young woman in Washington from a Lieutenant in the German army refers to "the funeral of the Crown Prince."

The letter, addressed to the attention of the State Department official whom she engaged to be married. The request was denied, as it had been many similar ones. The letter made only a casual reference to the funeral, speaking of the big crowds which poured out to see it.

A week ago dispatches from London also reported the receipt there of private letters from business houses in Constantinople to its home office in New York, transmitted by the American

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