

BAPAUME ENTERED BY HAIG'S FORCES

Swift Rush Carries British to the Edge of Bullecourt; Other Towns Fall.

HINDENBURG LINE IS NEAR

Heavy Fighting Proceeds in Strategic Sector; 17,000 Huns Captured; Tanks Working Havoc on Fleeing Foe.

(Continued From First Page.)

gust 21 and passed through the collecting stations now exceeds 17,000.

Boche Attack Fails.

"A counter-attack attempted by the enemy early last night against our positions recently gained to the north of Baillieu (in the Lys salient) broke down under our fire."

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 25.—(By the Associated Press.)—The British continue smashing the Germans toward the old Hindenburg line, which almost has been reached in the northern battle line.

Bapaume Defenses Taken.

The defenses of Bapaume already have either been captured or are in process of being captured.

Bapaume itself must fall shortly.

Meanwhile some of the heaviest fighting of the war is going on in this section of the battle front, for the Germans are loath to part with the town, which has great strategic value.

Warlencourt, an important position just south of Bapaume on the road to Albert which has been widely crossed, was taken by the British after a bitter struggle in which the Germans suffered very severe losses.

Captures Are Numerous.

Great numbers of the enemy were captured during the day, among them a large party from the third German naval division.

So fast was the British advance last night and today that it is impossible to be certain where the front lines will be located from one hour to the next.

The Germans exhibit signs of cracking at some places but are offering desperate resistance. Many more guns, some of large calibre, have been taken. One British corps alone has counted 80 guns.

There is evidence of confusion in the enemy rear. Units of the same divisions hurled into the battle have been taken at points separated by many miles. Quantities of material are falling into British hands because the Boche has not troubled to apply the torch or explosives.

High Wood Falls.

Pozières, to the north of Albert, fell this morning. British patrols were seen entering Martinpuich, where apparently the Boche made good his escape.

High wood, a strong position near Longueval (northwest of Comblès) is reported captured, while Faucourt l'Abbaye, Contalmaison and Courcellette have been occupied by the British.

Sapiègnies is completely in British hands after hard fighting. At last reports a local battle within the big battle was fought at Mory and its environs, where the lines run through the town.

Drive Passes St. Leger.

St. Leger was captured and left far behind. After having once been reported in Croisilles, the British withdrew to the outskirts. The Germans counter-attacked heavily, and the British retired to the edge of the town and poured shells into the place, while pressing forward on the sides.

This practice of withdrawing from any place where heavy counter-attacks are being delivered, then shelling the area and driving past to the north and south, eventually getting into a position somewhere near the rear, has given wonderful results, not only in saving British troops, but in netting large numbers of prisoners or killing Germans.

At Neuville-Vitasse and almost up to the Scarpe, the line at last reports revolved at headquarters, ran through the outskirts of the village, and severe fighting was in progress there.

The Bapaume-Péronne road was attacked by British aircraft, which during the past 24 hours have been performing wonderful service, scouting far ahead of the infantry. Some of them have dashed through the country, overflying retreating enemy transport columns and inflicting terrible damage upon them and bodies of troops with their machine guns.

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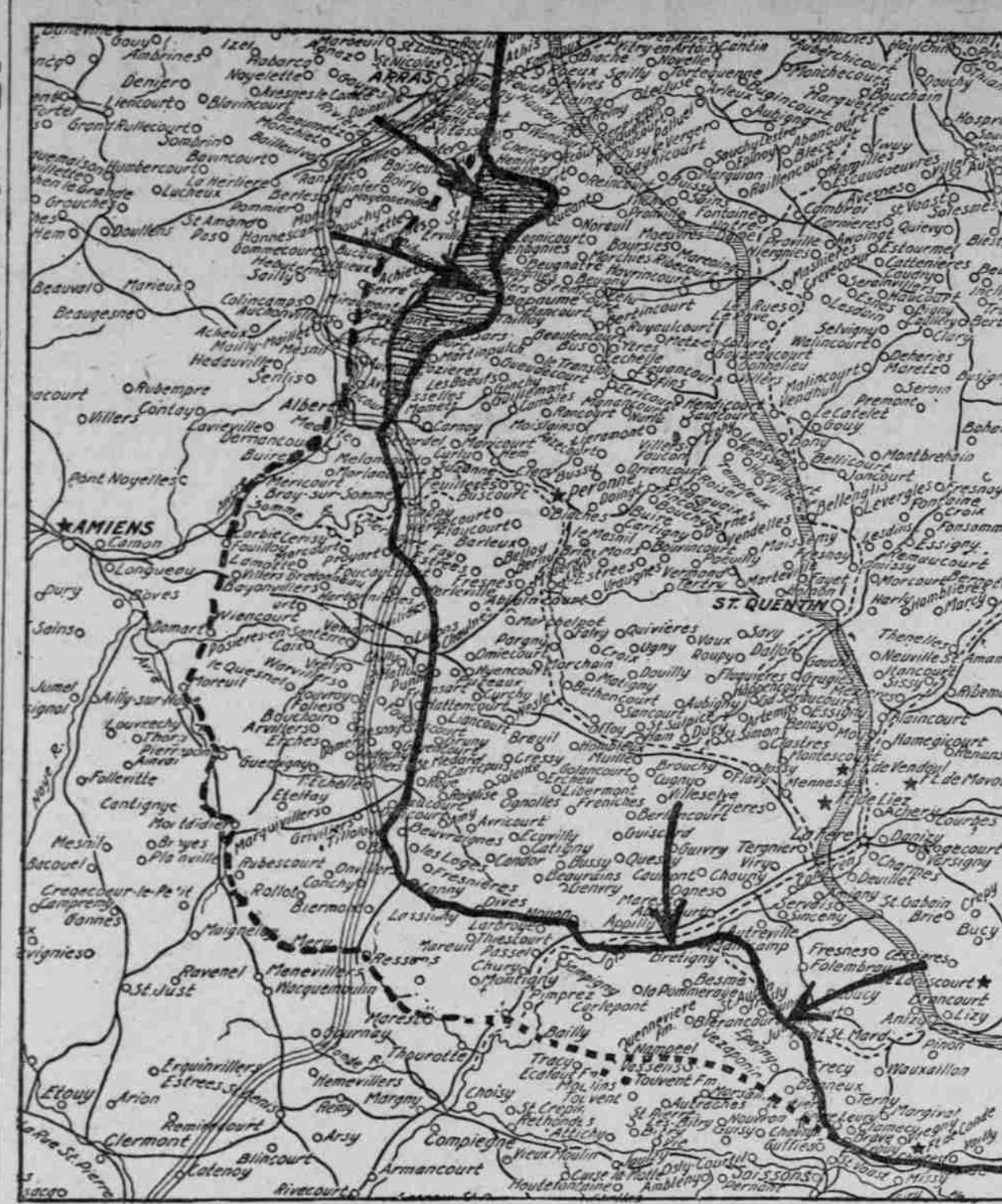
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MAP SHOWING AREA OF PRESENT BATTLE OPERATIONS AND RECENT GAINS OF ALLIES.



Heavy Black Line Indicates Approximate Front as Reported in Yesterday's Dispatches; Dotted Line Indicates Farthest Advance of Germans in Offensive Begun March 21; Shaded Area in North Shows Gains Made by British in Sunday's Fighting; Double Line at Right Shows Battlefront Prior to German Offensive Triple Line at Left of Map Shows Farthest Advance of Germans in Their Attack on Southern Portion of Line Where Germans Have Launched Counter Offensive in Effort to Block French Advance; Arrows in North Show Where Greatest Pressure Is Being Exerted by British.

the tanks again have been in action, some rolling into towns in advance of the infantry, sweeping over debris and finishing off enemy strong points in the face of a perfect deluge of fire.

Many tanks returned to their line with all paint shot off their steel sides by machine gun bullets. At some points the tanks approached the tanks and other armor as they saw them, with hands high above their heads, fearfully shouting "Kamerad!"

When Thiepval ridge fell into British hands yesterday troops pressed forward at both sides and large numbers of Germans were pinched. They promptly threw away their helmets and other equipment and without even guards walked toward the British rear.

In the neighborhood of Thiepval a British detachment through the early part of the advance reached the town, but found itself surrounded on all sides by the enemy.

An airplane saw the detachment's plight and dropped a message, "attack it," and soon after heavy British formations attacked at this point and drove off the enemy, relieving their hard-pressed comrades.

Since then Pys has been left well behind. Posters, southeast of Thiepval, fell in morning and afternoon, and occupied by the British. There were no signs of the Boche around Martinpuich, although just to the south bitter fighting continued.

Everywhere the Boche is taking advantage of shell craters and these ready-made strong points have in many cases caused considerable trouble before being silenced. The craters west of La Boisselle were especially troublesome. One large one there, after holding out for several hours, fell during the night, while the other smaller holes were silenced at daylight.

The worst of this shell crater country now is being passed at many points, however, and there is a prospect that the ground may be more favorable to the British.

Huns Bring up Fresh Troops.

It seems certain that the Germans have brought up fresh troops, but it is believed they are still some distance in the rear. It is problematical whether the German high command intends to throw them into battle now or to use them to hold the line to which the enemy is now being driven.

Among the prisoners taken in today's and last night's fighting, which progressed under a brilliant moon, are many Saxons. The officers among these in comparison with the Prussians, who apparently care not for such things, as soon as they got to the front, stripped themselves and naked for water with which to bathe from their upturned shrapnel helmets. Alsatians also appeared in the prisoners' cages. Happier men than these it would be hard to find anywhere. They fell on their faces, embraced their captors and spoke in French with "liberated" pride. They said that all the Alsatians had been placed in German regiments.

Female Relatives Punished.

"It goes hard with us if we are caught deserting," said one youth. "If it is ever found out that anybody deserts, his family is punished, and even his female relatives are sent to dig in the front line and other trenches."

One of the prisoners said he was carrying food to an advanced post when the British appeared. He cried, "We surrender," as he, with the men in the post, gave themselves up.

Prisoners taken when Miramont fell, after a brave resistance by its garrison, said they have been fighting for three days without food.

The high ground in the northeast of Bray has been captured, and the Australians here are pushing forward. One force is now nearing Longueval, and more Germans may be pinned up there, as they are in a position to be cut off by a strong force.

A general locality, which was lined with machine guns, had been reported captured, probably by a flanking movement, and a large number of machine guns have fallen into British hands here as well as many at other places. Many thousands of machine guns have been taken away from the Germans during the past two days.

North of Bapaume severe fighting has taken place in Favereuil and about Mory and Croisilles. Progress has been made by our troops east of Bapaume and in Neuville-Vitasse.

A counter attack delivered by the

enemy against our new positions in the Givency sector was repulsed.

"On the remainder of the front there is nothing of special interest to report."

If the Germans intend to make a stand there, however, it will probably be a different story this time than it was previously because instantaneous success on shells have been perfected to a degree which will make it extremely uncomfortable for the enemy in such a position as the Hindenburg line offers. Shells fitted with instantaneous fuses explode immediately on the slightest contact. They do not explode underground and without even guards walked toward the British rear.

Artillery Fire Diminishing.

In the southern battle zone the artillery fire, particularly from the big guns, is diminishing. It is possible that further enemy counter attacks may develop here and there.

The British troops display the most extraordinary tenacity and sustained power in action. The units which Friday night waded the Ancre and later passed through Thiepval in heavy fighting, are still shoving ahead.

In many places the Hindenburg line has been crossed and south of Albert the British have pushed a considerable distance eastward. It is reported that the British have reached the line at various points in front of the infantry. This is possible because the "crater country" has been passed at many points. This fact gives the cavalry its opportunity because that arm could not be used over ground seamed with trenches and shell holes.

BRITISH FRONT IN FRANCE (Havas Agency).—Forty-two German divisions have suffered considerable losses in the present drive, losing 40,000 soldiers, including several hundred officers, in prisoners alone.

The German officer and four gunners of an Austrian battery confirm the presence of Austro-Hungarian artillery on the western front.

(By the Associated Press.)

Notwithstanding strong German reinforcements on both wings of the battlefront the British and French forces everywhere have beaten off the enemy and continued their victorious progress.

More Towns Captured.

Many additional towns have been captured by Field Marshal Haig's men in the north, while the French have reached territory north of Soissons, which adds further to the danger of the Germans in the Noyon sector and to the line running eastward from Soissons to Rheims.

Along the Somme the Germans are being driven back to the old Hindenburg line by the British. Along the Somme the enemy is being harassed by the British and French forces.

Also captured in the prisoners' cages, everywhere have been beaten off the enemy and continued their victorious progress.

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the Alsine is in prospect. The Americans and French in this region continue to shell heavily the enemy's back areas.

Further east in the Vosges regions the Americans are keeping up their patrol activity against the enemy. The Americans have bombed German points behind the line. Thirty-eight bombs were dropped from airplanes on Conflans Saturday and ten direct hits were scored. Considerable fighting in the air also is taking place. One American airplane apparently has disposed of two German Fokkers and each of two other Americans has sent down one enemy plane.

LONDON, Aug. 25.—The following communiqué issued this evening by the Air Ministry:

"On the 25th instant our machines successfully attacked a hostile airfield and the railway stations at Beaumont and Luxembourg. Excellent results were obtained on the railway stations."

Enemy attacks also were shattered before Mory.

"Enemy forces stormed many times against our front, extending after the battles of August 22, from west of the Bapaume-Bapaume-Warlencourt line. The attack was initiated by bringing in numerous tanks in the center against Bapaume itself. These attacks collapsed and were repulsed."

"Lieutenant Eberhard during the last few days has been destroyed eight armored vehicles."

The enemy pressed forward sharply against our lines which had been taken back from the Ancre, and in the afternoon came from Courcelles and Pozières the British and French forces.

Prussian troops thrust themselves in a counter-attack on the flank of the enemy and threw him back beyond Pozières.

"From the Somme to the Oise fighting activity remained limited to artillery fire and minor infantry battles north of Roye and west of the Oise. On the Aisne the fighting activity continued down. Between the Aisne and the Alsine many strong attacks which were brought forward in especially thick waves against the French positions, followed up by a heavy fire against Crecy-au-Mont and on both sides of Chavigny. They were repulsed with heavy losses for the French."

"Our bombing squadrons during Saturday night dropped on harbor works, railway stations, military works and camps of the enemy 75,000 kilos of bombs."

PARIS WILL HONOR FOCH

Sword to Be Presented in Recognition of Service.

PARIS, Aug. 25.—The Municipal Council of Paris has unanimously agreed to present to Marshal Foch a sword of honor in recognition of his services.

War contracts now being filled in Detroit, Mich., amount to more than \$1,000,000,000.

Elks, Attention!

The B. P. O. E. request that all members having automobiles be at the Elks' Temple at 1:00 o'clock Monday and Tuesday afternoon with their cars. Now is the time for Elks to show their loyalty to their organization.

The Committee.

The Committee.

The Committee.

The Committee.

The Committee.

The Committee.

The Committee.

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The Committee.

FRENCH PUSH ON EAST OF BAGNEUX

Germans Launch Violent Attacks on Oise and Ailette River to Stop Poilus.

FOCH'S GAINS ARE MENACE

Counter Assaults by Germans Are Made in Effort to Protect Hun Lines on Chemin-des-Dames.

Austrians on West Front.

PARIS, Aug. 25.—The French have continued their progress east of Bagneux, between Ailette and the Alsine, according to the war office announcement tonight. The report said, in counter attacks west of Crecy-au-Mont 400 additional prisoners have been taken.

Austro-Hungarian reinforcements have arrived on the southeastern end of the western front, a number of soldiers from Austrian units having been captured by French patrols in the Woëvre region.

The text of the War Office statement says:

"Both armies were active in the neighborhood of Lassigny today."

New Gains Recorded.

"Between the Ailette and the Alsine we made new progress east of Bagneux and repulsed enemy counter attacks west of Crecy-au-Mont. We captured 400 prisoners."

"North of Roye an enemy raid obtained no results other than to leave scores of prisoners in our hands. There was quite a violent bombardment in the region of Beuvraignes."

"On the right bank of the Meuse and in the Woëvre our patrols took prisoners of which a number belonged to Austro-Hungarian units."

"It was impossible to carry out any bombing operations during the day. During the night the weather improved and our bombing machines immediately took the air. Eighteen thousand four hundred kilos of explosives were dropped behind the battlefield and on stations, which were damaged, and bivouacs in the region of Ognoulles and Guiscard. Stations, railways and assembly areas at Laon, Oulchy-le-Château, Jussy, Chauny, La Fère, Ham, Semble, Pontavert and Guignicourt were besprinkled with projectiles."

Bombs Start Fires.

"Numerous hits were reported on the objectives and fires broke out at Laon, Ham, Guiscard and Guignicourt."

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 25.—(By the Associated Press.)—The first phase of the battle of the Alsine and Oise has put the French in possession of the entire south bank of the Oise west of the Ailette and of the Ailette River from the Oise to Pont St. Mar.

The Germans are thrown back upon the hilly forest region of Coucy for communication between their troops operating on the Oise above the Ailette and their troops on the Alsine east of Soissons.

Huns Resist Strongly.

Both sides command the Oise with their artillery. French scouts have found it so formidably defended by machine guns and artillery from Noyon to Chauny that it will require considerable work by the heavy artillery before a crossing in force is attempted.

The bank of the Ailette the Germans are resisting stoutly from a strong position along the edge of the forest of Coucy. Small parties of French have been crossing.

General Mangin has won a substantial victory, of which there is plenty of material evidence besides 13,000 prisoners and 400 captured guns. He set out first to drive the Germans from the plateau of Andignicourt, Nampcel and Carlepont by a violent thrust toward the east to drive them off the heights west of the Ailette, thus clearing the south bank of the Oise and leading up to the third army's action in the hills of Thiéroucourt.

General Foch's strategy.

The programme succeeded so rapidly that though the enemy may say that he retired unhindered, some of his staff officers were obliged to flee in scanty attire. A German general was seen running from one of the exits of a cavern at the top of Mount Choisy without boots or suspenders, just as French soldiers appeared at the other entrance. The correspondent who later visited the cavern found in it other evidences of the hasty departure of the German divisional staff that had occupied it. Along with the General's boots and suspenders there were several pairs of costly field glasses and a complete telephone system.

In the piles of arms and ammunition that have been collected on and around the heights there are a considerable number of bayonets with sawtooth blades.

If the Germans did not intend to remain south of the Oise they evidently thought they could hold this position. The correspondent who later visited the cavern found in it other evidences of the hasty departure of the German divisional staff that had occupied it. Along with the General's boots and suspenders there were several pairs of costly field glasses and a complete telephone system.

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