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Germans Gaining in World's Greatest Battle Occurring Today

ALL EUROPE TREMBLES OVER OUTCOME OF ENGAGEMENT

Kaiser Hurls His Forces Against the Combined Armies of France, England and Belgium All Along French and Belgian Frontier Today in Great Onslaught.

GERMAN VICTORY WILL MEAN ADVANCE ON PARIS BY VICTORIOUS ARMIES

Berlin Reports That Five French Army Corps Have Been Defeated and Retreat on Verdun Cut Off—Terrific Slaughter Marks Engagement.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

All Europe trembled today from the shock of the greatest battle in the world's history. Germany's legions, pushing southward through Belgium, engaged the red and olive drab armies of the French and English in an ever lengthening line until the smoke and roar of conflict extended almost the entire length of the France-Belgian frontier.

From Mons eastward to Luxemburg came reports of terrific slaughter.

Brief censored messages from the Allies' front indicated that the Germans are making progress. To the southward the retreat of the Southern French wing on Verdun is cut off by the victory of the Germans at Diederhosen over the five French army corps, according to Berlin reports, which adds that the French were completely routed across the river Meuse. Whether the Allies will be able to check this first main onslaught of the Germans which got under way several days ago, and make them pause before hurling themselves again toward Paris remains to be determined.

RUSSIANS CLAIM BIG VICTORY.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

PARIS, A dispatch from Vilna, Russia, says the Russians, after a victory at Gumbinne, successfully pursued the Germans and occupied Insterberg, Germany, thirty miles from the Russian frontier.

REPORT NANCY CAPTURED.

PARIS, Aug. 24.—A rumor is in circulation that the Germans have occupied Nancy. The report, however, lacks confirmation.

French Version of Battle.

PARIS, Aug. 24.—An official announcement says: "a great battle on a vast line extending from Mons, Belgium, to the frontier of Luxemburg, is raging. The French everywhere are taking the offensive. Action is being carried on with regularity in conjunction with the British army. The allied forces have ranged against them nearly the entire German army, active and reserve."

GERMAN AMBASSADOR RETURNS TO UNITED STATES; CLAIMS VICTORY

COUNT VON BERNITORFF REACHES WASHINGTON FROM BERLIN AND SAYS THAT AMERICA HAS BEEN GIVEN DISTORTED REPORTS OF STRUGGLE—SAYS THAT ENGLAND CALLED JAPAN INTO WAR BECAUSE SHE FEARED LOSING.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—Count Von Bernitorff, German Ambassador to the United States, returned to his post today on the steamer Noordam, and gave out one of the most authoritative interviews yet expressed here on Germany's attitude toward war.

"From the emperor to the lowest unskilled workman in the Fatherland, Germany is united to defend herself against the unwarranted attack of the jealous powers," he said. "The German people will fight to a finish and will be victorious in the end. At the outbreak of the war England cut the cable to this neutral country for the sole purpose of preventing the truth from coming here. There was no excuse except a desire to deceive the people of the United States as to the true conditions of the war."

"The calling of the Japanese into the war shows that England does not feel very safe. The Japanese will doubtless take Kiao Chow and by the end of the war will have the supremacy of the Pacific."

"When the true story of the assault on Liege is told, Americans will have a far different opinion than they have gained from the colored accounts from the Belgian, French and English sources. As a matter of fact, the troops under Von Emmich numbered only five or six thousand. The taking of Liege was one of the greatest military feats in modern times. What was expected to take weeks was accomplished in days by two brigades. Von Emmich was slightly wounded in the leg during the attack, but did not relinquish command."

The Ambassador denied the reports that the German Crown Prince was wounded by an assassin in Berlin. Moreover, he added, the Crown Prince was not wounded at Liege, for the simple reason that he was not there.

JAPAN DECLARES WAR WHEN GERMANY IGNORES ULTIMATUM

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

TOKIO, Aug. 24.—The Emperor of Japan Sunday declared war against Germany.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The Japanese Ambassador here announced that a state of war has existed between Japan and Germany since noon Sunday, Japanese time, and that the declaration of war was issued at 6 p. m.

The time limit of the Japanese ultimatum to Germany demanding the surrender of Kiou Chau expired at ten o'clock Saturday night without an answer having been made by the German government through the U. S. State Department here.

AUSTRIA EVADES WAR WITH JAPAN.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 24.—The danger of war between Japan and Austria was removed today through the agreement of Austria to dismantle her cruiser Kaiserin Elizabeth, now at Tsing Tau.

The Austrian Ambassador was preparing to leave Tokio when the Japanese government indicated its approval of the suggestion for dismantling the cruiser. Austria accepted the proposal and instructed its officers to intern it at Shanghai. The Austrian Ambassador then let it be known that he saw no occasion to leave Japan.

Germany Did Not Waver at Jap's Ultimatum.

BERLIN, Aug. 24.—The rupture of relations between Japan and Germany was affected in a simple manner. The representatives of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs proceeded Sunday morning to the Japanese Embassy and handed the Japanese Charge his passports with a verbal remark that Germany had no response to make to Japan's ultimatum. The Japanese representative turned his embassy and its archives over to the American Ambassador.

CHINA -- JAPAN CABLE CUT; BOMBARD GERMAN FORTIFICATIONS

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

TOKIO, Aug. 24.—Communication between Japan and China has been severed for twenty-four hours. Except for meagre news that reached here from New York, the entire country has been kept in the dark regarding the progress of the war in Europe. Before communication with China ceased, it was reported that the bombardment of Tsing Tau by the Japanese had commenced. It is believed that the cable between Shanghai and Nagasaki was cut. Officers of the army and navy are silent regarding the passage of events in the China Sea. Everything is quiet here, the attitude of the public appearing almost indifferent.

SAYS RUSSIA HAS GIVEN UP POLAND AS INDEPENDENT NATION

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—German Ambassador Von Bernitorff announced on his arrival here today from Rotterdam that his government has been informed that the Russian civil and military authorities had withdrawn from Poland and Poles had set up an independent government with Warsaw as their capital.

War Developments Today

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

A great battle between the allied forces of England and France and the bulk of the German forces, continued today with no word as to the decisive result. "The general engagement continues today with desperation," say official communications of the French War Office this afternoon. "Already both sides have suffered serious losses."

In the vicinity of Neufchateau, the French army was defeated by the Germans, according to the Berlin report.

The bombardment of Tsing Tau by a Japanese fleet has begun.

The Russians, according to Paris reports, now occupy territory fifty miles wide on the German frontier.

The Austrians, defeated by Servians on the river Drina, have decided to abandon the Serbian campaign in order to concentrate on the Russian frontier.

Fishermen in the Adriatic report that the entire Austrian fleet of about 40 units is preceding southward from Pola, the Austrian naval base. The objective is thought to be Cattara, in Dalmatia.

GERMANS ANNOUNCE DEFEAT OF FRENCH AND ENGLISH FORCES

Berlin Official Statement That Kaiser's Forces Have Captured Large Number of French Prisoners and Routed English Cavalry Brigade.

GRAND DUKE ALBRECHT AND CROWN PRINCE WILHELM LEADING VICTORIOUS

Rotterdam Dispatch Says That Over Half a Million German Soldiers are Slowly Advancing on Allies—Three Campaigns Being Waged by Them.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

BERLIN, Aug. 24.—(Wireless to Associated Press from Nauen, Germany via Sayville, L. I.)—Official announcement was made here today that the German army, commanded by Grand Duke Albrecht, of Wuertemberg, defeated the French army at Neifchateau. They captured many guns, flags and prisoners, including several generals.

The German armies under General Rupprecht, Crown Prince Wilhelm and Grand Duke Albrecht, are vigorously pursuing the French. The army under Rupprecht captured 150 guns at Lunville, Blamont and Circy, (in the French department of Meurthe and Moselle.) The army commanded by Crown Prince Wilhelm pursued the French beyond Longwy. The Germans are west of the river Meuse and advancing against Maubeuge.

They have defeated the English brigade of cavalry.

German Armies Total Over 550,000.

ROTTERDAM, Aug. 24.—According to the best information obtainable, the disposition of the German forces in Belgium is broadly as follows:

"Right flank, occupying the entire territory immediately south of Antwerp, is moving southwest in the direction of Lille. The second force is moving on Maubeuge, fifty miles southeast of Lille, and the third is occupied in reducing the Namur forts, which consist of nine defenses of steel and concrete, surrounding the city.

It is estimated that these three columns together comprise a quarter of a million men.

The main northern Germany army advance is slow, with a front extending from Givet, France, to Diederhosen in Loraine. The French defenses from LaFere to Rheims are thought to be the objective points of this army, which is believed to number 300,000 men.

The main body to the south is directing its efforts on the Verdun-Nancy line of defenses and now occupies Strassburg.

REPORT ITALY HAS ARMY OF 800,000 ON AUSTRIAN FRONTIER

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

GENEVA, Italy, Aug. 24.—Italian troops, according to thoroughly reliable information, are concentrating on the Austrian frontier. According to reports, the Italian army has been raised to 800,000 men.

GERMANS WAGE LORAINE CAMPAIGN

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

BASEL, Switzerland, Aug. 24.—According to reports received here, different points in Upper Alsace, the German troops are making another offensive movement against the French army occupying Mulhausen and its environs.

Germans Storm Namur.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

PARIS, Aug. 24.—According to official announcements German forces are making a tremendous assault against Namur, which is being resisted vigorously.

GERMANS OCCUPY THREE CITIES.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

PARIS, Aug. 24.—An official announcement this afternoon says Luneville, Amance and Dieulouard have been occupied by Germans. The French position has otherwise not been modified.

EARLY REPORTS OF BATTLE.

(By Associated Press to The Coos Bay Times.)

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The official Bureau of Information gave out the following:

"The British forces were engaged all day Sunday and until after dark with the enemy in the neighborhood of Mons, Belgium. They held their ground."

PARIS, Aug. 24.—The following announcement was made today: "A great battle between the greater part of the forces of England and France against the bulk of the German army continues today. The mission of the English and French is to hold virtually the entire German army in Belgium while the Russians pursue their successes in the East."