

EXPEDITION SEEKING VILLA THOUGHT TO BE APPROACHING CRISIS

Long Communication Line and Inadequate Transportation Facilities Cause.

RAINY SEASON IS COMING

Troops Hungry for Days and Clothing Is Insufficient for High Altitudes but No Complaints Are Heard.

Villa's Whereabouts Unknown. El Paso, Texas, April 13.—(U. P.)—Francisco Villa's whereabouts were unknown to officials today. The progress of the American pursuit was also clouded in uncertainty. Latest authentic reports said the United States forces were chasing the bandit in Durango.

El Paso, Texas, April 13.—(U. P.)—Army officers at Columbus today believe the American expedition into Mexico is approaching a crisis.

Danger lies in the fact that there are more than 400 miles of communications to be protected and the transportation facilities are inadequate. The troops have gone hungry for days and have suffered from lack of proper clothing for high altitudes, but they are not complaining.

The rainy season is due in about a month and the trails south of Columbus will be impassable for weeks. Officers stated privately that the expedition must then have free use of Mexican railroads or withdraw.

The trouble caused by insufficient equipment was due to the fact that it was never supposed the expedition would penetrate 425 miles into a strange country without using the railroads. The recent commercial use of railroads sanctioned by the de facto government has brought practically no relief, it was declared.

For weeks Colonel Dodd's column has had no salt for either men or animals. When a supply reached them, the men ate salt like children eat candy. Another detachment went without sugar and coffee for 10 days, and upon receiving a supply chewed the grains ravenously. The advances against the railroads run so short of supplies that two officers, with all available cash, were sent to Chihuahua City. They bought food there, paying exorbitant prices.

Myrtle Point Plans Much Improvement

City Council Passes Ordinance Providing for Paving of 24 Blocks of Street; Sewer System Contemplated.

Marshfield, Or., April 13.—The city council of Myrtle Point has passed ordinances for certain street paving. The new work calls for the paving of 24 blocks of streets in that city and the improvement of some others. The city is also planning the construction of a large sewer system which will give service to most of all of the residence district and which will be adequate for some years to come. The plan originally was to drain the sewer into the Coquille river but ranchers below Myrtle Point threatened an injunction on the grounds that they used the river water for domestic purposes. The board of health permission to drain the sewer into the river, so the plan for the system will be carried out.

Portland Bidders Lose. Marshfield, Or., April 13.—Although Porter & Connelly of Portland were the lowest bidders for the contract to construct a new road for part of the distance between Marshfield and Coquille the firm did not get the contract. The Portland bidders bid \$54,370 and E. G. Perham bid \$64,800. As there was a difference of only \$10,000 it was decided by the county commissioners to give the work to the local contractor because he would employ more local labor.

Road Bonds Considered. Marshfield, Or., April 13.—Petitions are being circulated throughout the county for the purpose of bringing before the people for a vote at the May primaries the proposition to issue \$362,000 in road bonds. They are to draw 5 per cent and are redeemable one-tenth annually, according to the petitions. It was at first planned to vote for a \$370,000 issue, but as the O. & C. and Southern Pacific lands cannot be included in the valuation the amount of bonds possible is cut down to \$362,000.

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SCENES ON THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

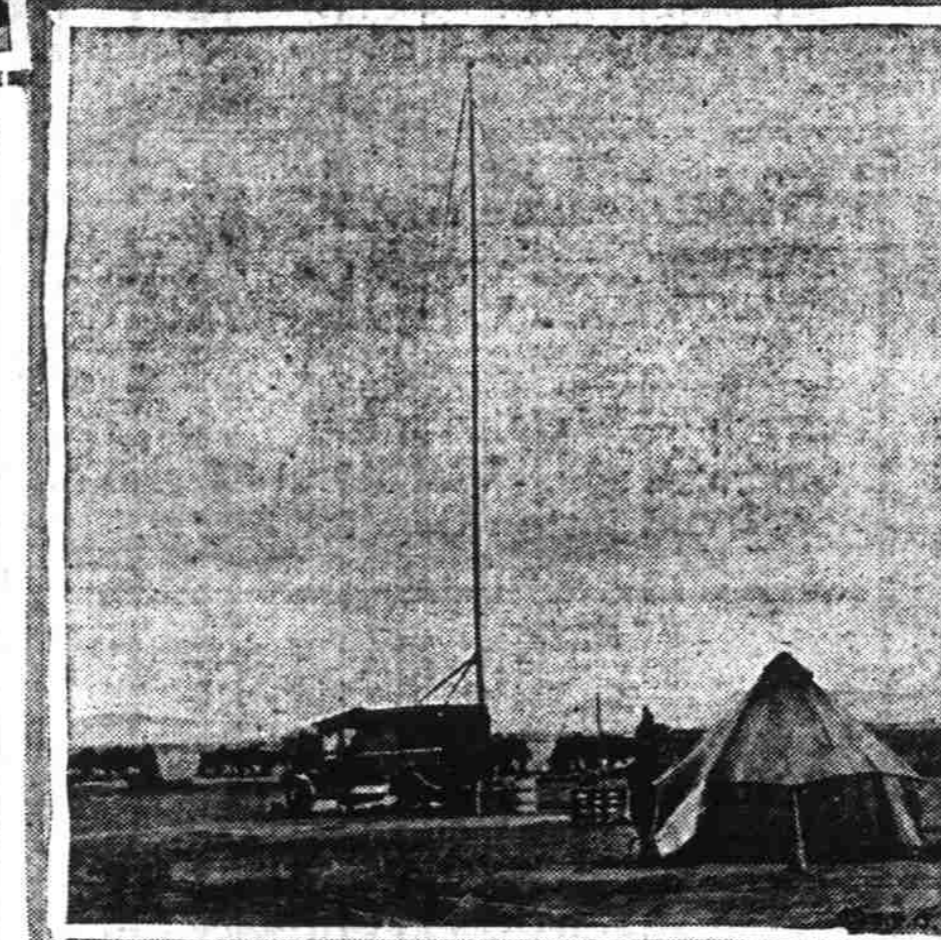


AMERICANS REPORTED TRAPPED BY VILLISTA MEN AT CINCO MINAS

Fifteen Said to Be Surrounded by Two Bands 100 Miles From Guadalajara.

El Paso, Texas, April 13.—(I. N. S.)—J. S. Whitley, an American mining man, who arrived here yesterday from Jalisco, said 15 Americans were trapped at Cinco Minas, 100 miles from Guadalajara, with two Villista bands surrounding the camp, when he left there 14 days ago.

The Americans are F. W. Oldfield, George Hoffman, W. A. Grasser, D. H. Ross, R. Hayden, Albert Conan, Jack Frederickson, J. Leal, B. J. French, L. F. Fisher, Frank Malone, John Wenterwood, D. H. Rogers, Edwin Woodul and Joseph Eddie. Villistas made an attack on the camp the night of March 7. They were commanded by Miguel Aguilera, formerly a surgeon with Villa, and were repulsed by the Carranzistas. The Carranzistas lost ten men. The Villistas fell back, but were threatening to make another attack when he escaped, Whitley said.



Top—Group of Carranzista soldiers interested in the flight of one of the United States aeroplanes over their camp near the boundary line. One of the soldiers is seen drawing a bead on the flying machine. Bottom—Receiving station of the United States wireless plant at Columbus, N. M., the connecting link between General Pershing's army and the base of operations.

SOLDIERS IN MEXICO ARE UNCONVENTIONAL IN SABBATH SERVICE

Despite Smoking and Other Odd Church Conduct Audience Is Attentive.

Beans Are Currency. With the American Army in Mexico, April 13.—(U. P.)—The scarcity of "change" has made the lowly bean legal tender in the soldiers' "indoor sports" of poker, craps, blackjack and the absence of the motorman. The most common currency in the American army are the \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills. Even Mexican silver in small denominations is rare. The beans take the place of chips and cash. The "banker" has a time squaring up afterward. It behooves a player to win in "even money" or he stands to lose the fractional part of the dollar he acquires in beans over the denomination of the currency in the hands of the banker.

By H. D. Jacobs. United Press Staff Correspondent.

With the American Army in Mexico, Sunday, April 9.—(By Courier to Columbus, N. M., April 13.)—With a shallow arroyo as a tabernacle, the star-sprinkled sky for a canopy and a battered soapbox for an altar, several hundred khaki-clad soldiers bared their heads here tonight in the presence of their God.

"Barbarous Mexico" for miles around echoed the resounding Anglo-Saxon hymns of "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." A touch of modernism was added in Billy Sunday's "Brighten the Corner Where You Are."

The smug churchgoers in the "states" might have stood aghast at the absence of sectarian niceties in the conduct of the services. The four chaplains were cheered and applauded as each in turn clambered on to the soapbox rostrum to preach or lead the singing. Cigarettes and pipes glowed in the darkness. But all the polyglot "congregation" was attentive and reverent.

The chaplains met the men in the same spirit. They preceded their sermons with amusing anecdotes and personal observations that drew unrestrained laughter from their hearers. By invitation of the chaplains the sermons were interspersed with what Father Joyce termed "vaudeville numbers." These consisted of solos and quartet selections by the favorite singers of each regiment.

The chaplains each talked straight at the audience, omitting all that savored of creed yet obtaining the most rapt attention by his forceful presentation of the Christian religion.

The service ended with the singing of "America" while the slinking coyote hordes far outside of the rim of the campfire light yelled a weird oblitato.

Motorman Falls From Car, Which Goes on Its Way

Seattle, Wash., April 13.—(U. P.)—Motorman John Moland looked out of the vestibule of an Alki Point car, lost consciousness and fell to a trestle late yesterday afternoon while his car, full of passengers, sped toward the city. The pilotless carrier had gone more than a block when a passenger noticed the absence of the motorman. He ran to the controller and shut off the current. Moland was found lying unconscious with concussion of the brain, where he had fallen from his speeding car.

VILLA IS REPORTED TO BE IN GUADALUPE TO MEET THE ARRIETAS

Brothers Refuse to Join Their Forces With Him Without Complete Understanding.

By H. H. Stansbury.

El Paso, Texas, April 13.—(I. N. S.)—Francisco Villa was said to be in Guadalupe y Calvo last night. His plan to proceed immediately to Durango City by Torreon was changed at San Bernardino, a few miles north of El Oro, on the Nazas river, early Tuesday morning.

Couriers sent north from the Torreon district by Canuto Reyes carried information to Villa that the Arrieta brothers would not join forces with him without first having a thorough understanding.

Villa Needs for Mountains. With less than an hour's time lost in conference with the representatives of Reyes, Villa and his men turned due westward over the trail which crosses the Chihuahua line at a small settlement known as St. Julien.

Twenty-five miles west from this point is Guadalupe y Calvo, located in one of the strongest natural fortresses in southwestern Chihuahua. It is a high plateau, hidden among the mountain peaks and not more than two men on horseback can pass along the ledges at a time.

Villa and his men know this rendezvous of old and there, it is believed, they intend to remain until negotiations with the Durango leaders can be completed.

Villistas Hold Small Towns. Back along the route over which the army has traveled Villista bands occupy practically all of the settlements and small towns.

This information came through the only reliable channels in touch with the extreme advance and is accepted by the military officials as authentic. Villistas are in full possession of the town of Jiminez, the important junction of the Mexican National railroads east of Parral. The Carranzistas who

were in this vicinity are said to have either fled or become Villa followers.

Villistas Raid Sierra Mojada. El Paso, Texas, April 13.—(I. N. S.)—Villista bandits raided and looted the town of Sierra Mojada, state of Coahuila, on April 6, according to information received here today by agents of the American Smelting and Refining company. The company's officers at the smelter were attacked and a safe containing \$12,000 was blown open and robbed.

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Easter Coats for \$10 Fibre Sports Sweaters \$4.35 —Jaunty Topcoats and Sports Coats—velour plaids, checks, coverts—corduroys in rose, gold, emerald and Copenhagen blue. The smartest styles in Coats! Here tomorrow

Silk and Lingerie Waists for \$1.98 Usually Sold at \$2.50 to \$3.50 —Just come and see them—then compare with waists elsewhere at \$2.50 to \$3.50! That's what scores of women have done, and now they're our most enthusiastic blouse patrons.

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