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Elbert Thompson, Mgr.

loss of life in the sinking off Fire Island, N. Y., yesterday of the United States armored cruiser San Diego and the cause of the ship's destruction still were undetermined tonight at the navy department. Announcement was made that 1,185 men from the ship had been landed. Unofficial reports said there were 1255 men aboard and if they are correct, the loss of life would not exceed 72. The names of three of those missing were announced today.

Belief that the San Diego was a victim of a mine grew among naval officials after the commander of the American patrol boats operating off Fire Island reported his craft picked up several mines of foreign design.

Theories Disagree. Among the survivors opinion seemed to be equally divided as to whether a submarine or a mine was responsible for the loss of the cruiser. Many held that an enemy torpedo struck the warship while as many held to the theory that the vessel hit a mine. No reference to the cause of the explosion which was heard aboard the cruiser was contained in the account of the sinking made public tonight by Admiral Palmer. The statement follows:

"Fuller particulars received regarding the sinking of the U. S. S. San Diego show the explosion took place on the port side just aft of the forward port engine room bulkhead. The feed tank and circulating pump were blown in, and the port engine wrecked. Full speed ahead was running and the starboard engine operated until it was stopped by water rising in the engine room.

Travels Four Feet. "Machinist's Mate Hawthorne was at the throttle in the port engine room, was blown four feet under the engine room desk. He got up, closed the throttle on the engine, which had already stopped, and then escaped up the engine room ladder.

Lieutenant Millen, on watch in the starboard engine room, closed the watertight door to the engine room and gave the necessary instructions to the fire room to protect the boilers.

"The ship listed to port heavily so the water entered the gun ports on the gun decks. The vessel listed eight degrees quickly then hung for seven minutes; then gradually listed the speed increasing until 35 degrees was reached. At this time the port quarter deck was three feet under water. Then the ship rapidly turned turtle and sank.

"Captain Christy went down the bridge down two ladders to the boat deck, slid down a line to the armored belt, then dropped down four feet to the bilge keel, and thence to the deck keel, which at that time was eight feet above water. From there he jumped into the water. The ship over after five minutes in turning over but she reached 35 degrees heel.

Torpedo Not Seen. "No wake of a torpedo was seen. The first thing Captain Christy noticed was, while standing on the wheel house, eight feet above the forward bridge, he felt and heard a dull explosion. He immediately sounded submarine defense quarters as the general alarm.

"Everything went quietly and according to drill schedule. The captain rang full speed ahead and sent officers to investigate the damage. At the time he thought the ship would not sink. Two motor sailors were ordered rigged out but not to be lowered until further orders.

"At the submarine defense call the men went quietly to their station and maned the guns. They stood by the port guns until they were washed and by the starboard guns until the list of the ship pointed them up into the air.

"When it seemed obvious that the vessel would capsize the order was given to abandon ship, except the port side gun crew which were to remain at their station as long as the guns would bear. Boats were ordered lowered and two sail boats, one dinghy, one wherry and two punts were lowered. Life rafts were launched and the lumber pile on deck was loosed and set adrift. Fifty mess tables and a hundred kapok mattresses were thrown overboard. Abandon ship was completed before the vessel began to capsize. Perfect order was preserved, the men cheering. When on the rafts they sang 'The Star Spangled Banner,' 'My Country 'Tis of Thee,' and cheered for the captain, the executive officer and the ship and cheered when the U. S. ensign was hoisted on the sailboat.

HUNS HUNTING HOLES

(Continued from page one)

four tons of projectiles were dropped during the day and twenty-eight tons at night on enemy assemblages of troops and communications.

"A violent conflagration broke out at Vouziers, and several fires were started at Fere-en-Tardenois, and the station at Fismes. South of this region explosions were observed at the station of Laon. Simultaneously our infantry airplanes indicated an advance of our troops and tanks between the Aisne and the Marne and reported the arrival of enemy reserves, and by machine gunning the battle.

"Numerous combats were engaged in by our crews in combination with the British airmen and achieved good results.

"Twenty-six German airplanes were brought down or disabled and four captive balloons were set on fire. Everywhere the German aviation service was able to appreciate the dash and superiority of the allied airmen.

Line Holds in East. "Eastern theater—There was reciprocal artillery activity on various sections. On the eCrna bend the enemy attempted against the Italian positions several attacks which were brilliantly repulsed. The Bulgarians suffered serious losses. "Allied aviators carried out suc-

cessful bombardments against the enemy establishments, particularly north of Lake Ochrida. In aerial combats they compelled two enemy aviators to land.

AMERICANS ON FRENCH FRONT

(Continued from page one)

men and material before they reach safety. Still another division of Americans is with General Gouraud, the French leader who commands east of Rheims, where the enemy assault hit against a stone wall defense. General March's explanation of the disposition of American forces indicated that at least 196,000 American fighting troops are in the battle and probably the total force is nearer 300,000 than 200,000. Each division has a fighting strength of 27,000 men and each of the two detached negro regiments a strength of 3600. The full strength of each division with auxiliary units is 45,000 men.

Interest is Shifting

General March said: "Since I last talked with you the field of interest has shifted from the Italian and Balkan fronts to our own sector in France. Last Monday, the fifteenth, the Germans began an attack which covered a sixty-mile front, one-half of which covered the very hilly ground between Chateau-Thierry and Rheims; the other half the plain of the Champagne, between Rheims and the forest of Argonne.

"In the Champagne district the position which was held largely by American troops, with the assistance of one American division and a regiment of United States colored troops, was penetrated only a short distance at a few points. The Champagne district is under the command of General Gouraud of the French army.

Gouraud is one of the most striking personalities in France among army commanders. He is a man about

50 years old, as he seemed to me, erect and soldierly. He has been in action all over the world and he has on his sleeve the five wound stripes. He has lost one arm, and a man of less determination and force could never have survived. The French call him 'Tres Soldat'—'every inch a soldier.' He is a man of such determination and force that in any German drive against his troops his men will be inspired by his presence to die where they are.

Ground More Difficult

"Along the Marne between Chateau-Thierry and Rheims, the Germans made an advance of from four to five miles on a 23-mile front. The terrain at that point is very difficult, wooded hills rising to a height of from 400 to 500 feet perhaps. The general movement has been brought to standstill. The object of the entire German attack was not a great strategic object like an advance on Paris or an advance on English ports. It plainly had for its objective simply the supplying of the nut cracker process in the city of Rheims. If it were possible for them to come in there and squeeze Rheims they could force a surrender in time. Rheims, howl ever as has been shown, is very well organized for defense. Without going into details, it is organized for house to house defense, and that has been the reason why the Germans have not been able to get in.

"As soon as the German advance along the line of the Marne east of Chateau-Thierry had been brought to a standstill, Foch struck hard along the western side of the salient. The series of lines you see on the map represents the German advances.

"produced that salient, day by day, and at the start of this fight which began last Monday our line was along here (indicating a line running southward from the Aisne to the Marne.) The record presents the line I pointed out to you in the larger detailed map, showing former German advances day by day, and our troops held that line when the counter-offensive began. The front over which we advanced 22 miles and the maximum penetration so far reported officially has been to a depth of ten miles, and at the other points indicated to the penetration of seven miles, to which we have gone forward seven miles on a 23-mile front. This is the official statement as to how far we have gone. The last indication we had in the official reports was the fighting was still in progress, and the official reports also indicate the capture of guns and prisoners in very helpful amounts.

Negroes Hoisting Line

"In this advance, and opposing the advance of the Germans, there are seven American divisions and one regiment of colored troops.

"The press has carried during the past few days statements about the number of troops we have continued to send over. It was an estimate made by some person who arrived at his conclusion by assuming that we were sending troops over at the same rate as we did last month, and, like many guesses, it is wrong. The statement published in the papers was that we had sent over about 90,000 men last week, and that the number was now a little short of 1,200,000. The fact of the matter is that we have passed the 200,000 mark on the second million. We have over 1,200,000 embarked. If you

will wait for these things I will tell you the facts; they are always better than when you guess.

Illinois Men Located

"One question asked has been: 'Will you be good enough to tell us where the Illinois national guard, which trained at Fort Logan has root, is situated in France?' The division is commanded by General George Bell, Jr., and is in the English training sector. A unit from that division took part in the fighting which was reported last week where the Australians made an advance accompanied by American troops so that the training has progressed to a point where they can actually take part in the fighting.

"Another question is: 'Where is the 77th division and are they operating as a division, complete under its own commander?' The 77th is in the line near Luneville, and is operating as a division, complete under its own commander."

In answer to questions, General March said:

"Our reports do not indicate that Soissons has fallen. It is under artillery fire. Our troops have come up to the point where they are so close to it that the town must be heavily bombarded, but it is evident the Germans have thrown into the defense of that line a large number of reserves which did not accompany them during the original attack along the Marne, and fighting is going on very heavily at that point.

Seven Divisions on Line

"The American divisions which are on the front of the large offensive are the first, second, third, fourth, 26th and 28th divisions. The colored regiment belongs to the 83rd division. The other division now in line is the 42nd. In the immediate path of the German attack and our own counter-offensive are the seven divisions I have indicated. These divisions are not operating as a corps, but are used wherever it is necessary for us to use them.

"We have nothing to indicate how costly our casualty lists are. No reports on casualties have come in, and we do not know yet what it will cost us.

"I can give no information as to the number of prisoners which were captured by French corps in which American divisions were operating and no disassociation was made in the report; but, as far as I can judge, they followed quite closely in the newspaper accounts.

Railroads Important

"Taking the salient as it stands, one of the prime reasons for making this advance is the position of the Chateau-Thierry by railroad, and it is assumed that the Germans get part of their supplies from Chateau-Thierry, that has an important bearing on how long these troops can stay there."

In response to a question as to the total number of American troops engaged, General March replied:

"If the whole divisions were there the number of combatant troops and erry, from that railroad and of would be 27,000 in each division, and in my talks to you, you can estimate them at 27,000 per division, unless I tell you otherwise. Including service of supply troops and combatant troops a division comes to 45,000 men."

OVER THIRTY THOUGHT KILLED ON SAN DIEGO

(Continued from page one)

aide of Rear Admiral Albert Gleaves.

Before leaving Portsmouth, N. H., officers of the cruisers made duplicate lists of all aboard. One list was retained and was lost with the vessel. The other was mailed from Portsmouth to the bureau of navigation at Washington. It is believed the second is still in the mails.

A member of Admiral Gleaves' staff stated tonight that no official announcement as to whether the San Diego met her fate by torpedo, mine or some other cause would be made until a court of inquiry, which held a preliminary hearing here today completed its investigation, and the proceedings were reviewed by the secretary of the navy.

INFORMATION NOT DEFINITE WASHINGTON, July 20.—The

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of the Marne were withdrawn to the north bank of the river without being noticed by the enemy.

"Northwest of Soissons French advances were sanguinously repulsed.

Little Brother Run-Down

Cried and Fretted—How He Recovered

Mountainville, N. Y.—"My little brother had typhoid fever, and I left him with no appetite, weak, run-down and always crying. I tried a wonderful tonic in building him up and restoring his strength after everything else had failed."—Lucy Sherman.

The reason Vinol was so successful in his little boy's case, is because it contains the very elements he needed to build up a weakened, run-down system, make rich, red-blooded, create strength. Emul A. Schaefer and druggists everywhere.

pulse left prisoners in our hands.

"Between the Aisne and the Marne the battle continues. Again the enemy started an attack with a view to a breach on the whole front. Tanks penetrated early in the morning into parts of our foremost lines. After a desperate struggle the first enemy thrust had been defeated towards noon on the heights southwest of Soissons, west of Hartennes-St. Neully and northwest of Chateau Thierry.

"Between the Aisne and the Oureq an attack broke down under our counter-thrusts, and to the south of the Oureq mostly by our fire, North of Hartennes we threw back the enemy beyond the original line; our troops report the heaviest enemy losses. A large number of tanks were demolished before our front.

"South of the Marne there was moderate firing activity during the day. Southeast of Mareuil enemy partial attacks were repulsed.

"During the night our troops south-