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## GERMANS BREAK THROUGH BRITISH DEFENSE

### HUNS SHELL PARIS AT 62 MILE RANGE

SHELLS OF 240 MILLIMETERS DROPPING IN CITY EVERY 15 MINUTES

### AMERICAN EXPERTS AMAZED

No Explanation as to How Bombardment is Accomplished, But New Invention is Suggested

Paris, Mar. 23.—Germans have been firing on Paris with long range guns. Ten have been killed and 15 wounded.

Paris, Mar. 23.—Shells of 240 millimeters have been reaching the capital and suburbs at intervals of a quarter of an hour, killing and wounding some.

The shortest distance from Paris to the front is over 60 miles. Announcement of the bombardment is made officially. Measures for counter-attacking the enemy's cannon are under execution.

London, Mar. 23.—There is no explanation as yet as to how Paris has been bombarded, but it is possibly a new invention.

Paris, Mar. 23.—Enemy airplanes have bombed Compiègne and other towns. The alarm was given in Paris, but artillery forced the invaders back.

Washington, Mar. 23.—News that Paris has been bombarded by long range guns has astonished American experts beyond belief. No such range was ever before dreamed of. Germans established a record of 22 miles sometime ago on Dunkirk. Regarding the offensive, officials are calm and confident.

London, Mar. 23.—Reuter's Paris correspondent reports that Paris has been bombarded with long range guns at intervals of a quarter of an hour.

### JAPAN'S WAR AIMS ARE NOT SELFISH

Berkeley, Cal., Mar. 23.—"Japan is not in this war for any material gain but is fighting to protect the treaties which she made with honor," said Professor Masaharu Aneaki of the Imperial University of Japan, in an address delivered at the University of California today. Professor Aneaki was speaking upon "Japanese views on present international problems." He said, in part: "Japan is involved in this war to a deeper extent than you realize. We are at war to protect our interests from the common enemy. There should be no distrust on the part of the allies toward Japan, for we are faithful allies doing our share."

"Japan has protected the interests of England, France and the United States in the far east. For a long time there was a pro-German feeling in Japan due to German propaganda, but we would not heed their advances to us."

"The Japanese have not been able to understand the attitude and suspicion on the part of the United States toward them."

Washington, Mar. 23.—The casualty list today contains 29 names, 17 of them officers. One killed in action and one by accident.

### MOST VIOLENT PREPARATION BY ARTILLERY PRECEDES ATTACK BY ARMY OF 600,000 HUNS

#### GERMAN GAS ATTACK BRINGS RETALIATION

With the American Army in France, Mar. 23.—Germans launched a heavy gas attack against a certain town in our lines northwest of Toul last night. There was no wind blowing and the fumes of mustard gas hung low over the lines for several hours. Our artillery retaliated on batteries near Richecourt.

Vienna, Mar. 23.—The war office announces great success is won in the west.

Paris, Mar. 23.—Germans have attacked the French in the Woivre district but were repulsed with losses.

#### PREFECT OF NANCY DECORATES GRAVES

With the American Army in France, Mar. 23.—The prefect of Nancy placed over the graves of more than a score of American soldiers buried a short distance back of the lines in the Toul sector great bouquets of natural and artificial roses. On the ribbons with which the roses were tied is this inscription: "To Our American Brothers Who Have Died on the Field of Honor."

The graves lie in two double lines, some of them being freshly made. Each has over it a little rude wooden cross upon which is one or two identification discs soldiers wear around their necks. The other disc is buried with the soldier's body. The graves are located within range of the enemy's guns and amid fields of barbed wire entanglements extending as far as the eye can see.

East of Luneville today school children visited the graves of the Americans killed in that sector and placed on them French and American flags and large bunches of flowers.

#### AMERICAN-BULGARIAN ATTITUDE UNCHANGED

Washington, Mar. 23.—America's attitude toward Bulgaria will not be altered, at least for the present, by operations of Bulgarian troops on the western front.

Reports that Bulgarian units had been brought upon the western lines opposing the British forces, were received at the state department without surprise and without arousing any apprehension of an immediate diplomatic change.

It was indicated that certainly until the troops of the Balkan state, regarded as Germany's tool, were actually used against lines held by American troops, the present anomalous situation probably would continue. It is known however, that suggestions from foreign capitals have reached Washington that the United States should formally include Bulgaria among its enemies. Some officials think nothing would be gained by declaring war, even if Bulgarian troops should be found fighting against the American front. They contend there is no advantage in declaring war, and that there will be a diplomatic advantage at the end of the war is not having altered the diplomatic status.

#### Front Line of the Assaulting Hosts for Fifty Miles Contained Nearly Three Men to the Foot and Outnumbered Allied Forces at Every Point of Attack

London, Mar. 23.—For the first time since trench systems were established, the defensive zone has been broken through, which many military critics thought impossible. Withdrawal on a wide front may be necessary, unless the British are able to restore the situation by counter attacks.

Violence of the artillery was a feature of the German attack. Germans composing the special assault divisions were new uniforms. The enemy was superior in numbers at all points attacked. It is estimated that there were 600,000 Germans in the offensive.

It is believed the entire British defense zone has not been pierced, although the enemy has broken through the defensive system, repeating what the British did at the battle of the Somme, when they pierced the Hindenburg line. There were 50 German divisions in the struggle, with half as many more in reserve.

The experience of the attacking forces in other operations show that the Germans, as they progress, are likely to find their forward advance more difficult.

The Germans must move forward over devastated areas, while the British will have the advantage of good roads and railroads. Perhaps the greatest problems for the Germans will be to bring up their heavy artillery. In every previous campaign of this nature, it has been necessary for the advancing force to halt frequently while bringing up the heavy pieces.

The extent of the British defenses has been a source of much speculation, but it is known they have been vastly improved during last winter. Earlier in the war, when the offensive rested with the French and British, less attention was paid to positions at the rear. The British in particular were said to scorn elaborate defensive zones, such as the Germans constructed. After the increase of German strength in the west, however, it became necessary for the allies to consider defensive measures to be carried out during the winter.

London, Mar. 23.—Germans have broken through the British defensive system, west of St. Quentin. British are falling back in good order to positions further west, fighting heavily with fresh enemy forces. British on northern portion of the battle grounds, are holding their positions.

British Headquarters, Mar. 23.—The British are still gallantly fighting.

#### BRITISH CROSS TO EAST SIDE JORDAN

Washington, Mar. 23.—British have forced a passage of the river Jordan, in Palestine, and established themselves on the east bank and are continuing to advance.

#### VON HINDENBURG IS IN PERSONAL CHARGE

Amsterdam, Mar. 23.—Although the army group engaged in the attack against the British between the Scarpe river and Vendhuile, on the western front, is under command of Prince Rupprecht, it was reported from a German source today that the German operations were really being directed by von Hindenburg and von Ludendorff in person.

#### GERMANS FEAR SLAY BOLSHEVIKI GERMS

Tokio, Mar. 23.—That Bolshevism is gaining strength in Russia, but that the very gain is likely to cause political changes in the central powers, was the word brought here from Harbin by officials.

The doctrine of the Bolsheviki, they say, is not being killed, but is inoculating enemy prisoners of war, who may carry the principles home with them when they leave Russia.

Germany fears the influence of the Bolsheviki, they declared, and therefore is not making an attempt to drive to the far east. Germany has no intention of crushing Russia, but is relying on two main aims—the concentration of forces in the west and the procuring of food in the Ukraine.

These returning officials urged Japanese help for Russia. Reports of Japanese intervention, they declared, have caused ill feeling.

Unguarded prisoners of war were seen along the trans-Siberian railway.

#### RUSSIAN SOLDIERS REFUSE TO DISARM

Moscow, Tuesday, Mar. 19.—The soviet government is rapidly disarming and disbanding the old army and eliminating its influence from public affairs. The Moscow soviet has removed from its executive committee all soldier representatives and similar action is taking place throughout Russia.

The new voluntary army will select representatives in the various soviets. The old soldiers are unwilling at many places to surrender their arms and return to work. At Petrograd three regiments refused to be demobilized. The Petrograd soviet has issued a statement saying that these regiments were under influences contrary to the revolutionary movement.

#### SENATOR McNARY OUT FOR LONG TERM SENATOR

Washington, Mar. 23.—Senator McNary announced his plan to run for the long term in the United States senate from Oregon, in a statement issued by him today.

#### WAR INDUSTRIES MAY BE MOVED WESTWARD

Washington, Mar. 23.—An extensive survey of the location of war industries now being made by the war industries board and several other government departments may result shortly in the transfer of many government contracts from the industrially congested east to the west and south, where factories are working under less pressure, labor is not quite so scarce and railroad transportation conditions are better. The many ramifications of the subject have recently been discussed. It was learned today between representatives of the war industries board, railroad administration, treasury, shipping board and the labor department. Attempts are being made to formulate a definite policy which probably will be announced soon.

### WASHINGTON AROUSED BY WAR REPORTS

DRAFT LIMIT MAY BE RAISED TO INCLUDE MEN OF 45, DECLARES CHAMBERLAIN

### MAY INCLUDE THOSE OF 18 YEARS

Tremendous Consequences Realized But Officials Are Confident of the Final Success

Washington, Mar. 23.—All official Washington turned its attention almost wholly today to the news from the fighting front.

Dispatches telling of penetration of the British defensive system, the retirement of British troops, Berlin's claims of large captures of men and guns, and finally the news that the Germans were bombarding Paris at a hitherto unheard-of range of about 62 miles, came as one surprise after another.

Embassies and legations, American officials, congressmen and others avid for news of the great battle, besieged the Associated Press offices for the latest news, and crowds surrounded the newspaper bulletin boards.

With full realization of the tremendous consequences hanging on the result, the general attitude of officials here was one of calm confidence.

Although the great battle was not mentioned on the floors of congress in the day's debates, every member was thinking of it, and its effect on the fate of the civilization of the world.

Senators without as much as a record vote, during consideration of some army bills, rejected a proposal by Senator Hardwick to excuse drafted men from liability to military duty if they have passed 31 without entering the national army.

"The nation may need not only men who have passed the age of 30" declared Chairman Chamberlain of the military committee, "but those as old as 45 and possibly those between 18 and 21."

### GERMAN INVASION STILL IN PROGRESS

Moscow, Tuesday, Mar. 19.—Notwithstanding that peace with Germany has been ratified by the Congress of Workmen and Soldiers' delegates, the German advance in Russia still continues, the evacuation of Petrograd having served only to change the German objective to Moscow.

According to reports printed in the newspapers today the Germans are moving toward Moscow from three directions—southwest, west, and northwest. From the southwest, they recently have advanced 25 miles from Konotop, Tchernigov province, in the general direction of Bransk, which is 235 miles from Moscow by rail. From the west the Germans are approaching Smolensk, which is about 350 miles from Moscow. In the northwest they have captured the station of Rosenovskaya, in the government of Vitebsk.

The order to evacuate the hospitals and other institutions in Gzhatsk, 100 miles from Moscow, indicates that a further German advance is considered imminent by the government.