



ATTACK ON AMERICA

By General ARED WHITE
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"Overhead the flock was growing."

THE STORY SO FAR: Intelligence Officer Benning learned in Mexico City that 200,000 foreign troops under Van Hasek were poised along the Rio Grande for an invasion of the United States. He succeeded in gaining the confidence of Fincke and Bravat, two enemy officers, before returning to

CHAPTER VIII

Captain Franklin Boll, in command of two outpost companies of the 11th United States Infantry in the vicinity of Laredo, had patrols along the Rio Grande watching for the first Van Hasek wave. Word had flashed through of the bombing of San Antonio and Boll knew that the land invasion must be shaping itself already for a vital blow at Texas when daylight came.

Colonel Denn had spent a fretful night, well knowing the tight pinch in which he might find his regiment at dawn. His regiment was at peace strength, rifle companies running as low as seventy, total strength 1,132 officers and men. No artillery support had been sent him from Fort Sam Houston, his only supporting weapons were the 37-millimeter and small mortars of his weapons companies. His ammunition supply was less than one day of fire.

Such a thing as interdicting suspected points of enemy river crossing was out of the question. He had given Boll, in outpost, eight machine guns and some light mortars.

Lightning flashed in the distance. A shrill screech came plowing through the night. High explosives crashed in to turn night into bedlam. Fragments found a victim who fell with a howl of pain. The crew of a machine gun was dropped. Men scattered, lay flat on their faces, helpless against this hurricane of destruction that howled down upon them across the Rio Grande.

All existence was now engulfed by the seething uproar of artillery. Boll saw that the regiment was claiming the fullest force of Van Hasek's rage.

Half an hour and Boll's casualties were twenty. Patrols had been sighted, an increasing number of skulkers were reported closing in. Boll saw that his position was becoming untenable.

He started his men slowly to the rear, with two squads covering his withdrawal. The enemy, suspicious of a possible trap in the night, followed cautiously. From this Boll guessed that only the first scattering bridgehead troops were in action. But, having guessed that the Americans were without benefit of artillery, the Van Hasek officers now would use the main bridge and move across the Rio Grande in force.

Boll had covered less than two hundred yards when a runner arrived from Colonel Denn.

"The colonel says get back as fast as you can!" the messenger panted. "Regiment is pulling out right away for the Nueces."

Half an hour later, Boll panted into the regimental position. Captain March, assistant plans and training officer, came hurrying up from a vacated regimental position. "Regiment pulled out twenty minutes ago," March reported to Boll. "You're to follow at once as rear guard. Trucks are ready behind this hill. Colonel Denn left you some baldiers of extra ammunition, but we ought to get back of the Nueces before we fight. Second Division is taking position somewhere back there. Hurry your men along, Captain!"

By jamming his men seventeen to the truck, Boll got his command on wheels. Two trucks went to the wounded, one to his three remaining machine guns. He studied the luminous dial of his watch, an anxious scowl on his face as his convoy made ready to pull out. The hour was a little past three o'clock.

A plane shot overhead, traveling high and fast. Its shrilling motors sent a chill down the captain's spine. "It'll be just too bad for us if we're not at the Nueces by daylight," he muttered to Captain March. "And with light due in half an hour, I'm afraid we just can't make it!"

Major General Brill, area commander, kept his head through tangled hours whose crises might have

INSTALLMENT EIGHT

Washington. Flagwill, acting chief of Military Intelligence, told him that forces were also reported massing in the Mediterranean and the Far East. Benning continued to pose as an enemy agent when Fincke later appeared in the capital. Without warning, four southern cities were attacked from the air. Wash-

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PATTERNS SEWING CIRCLE



draw in to just the slimmest you want, by means of the sash belt in the back.

The high-cut skirt is very slenderizing to the hips and waist. The gathered bodice gives you a nice round bosom-line. Make this of percale, calico or gingham and trim with bright ricrac and buttons. Untrimmed, it's a good style for runabout, if you make it up in flat crepe or spun rayon. Send for the pattern today, and be among the first to wear it!

Pattern No. 8876 is designed for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 40. Size 14 requires 3 1/2 yards of 36-inch material without nap; 1 1/2 yards trimming. Detailed sew chart included. Send order to:

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Beginner Didn't Want Possibility to Be Wasted

The driving instructor was teaching the awkward fellow to drive a car.

"Put out your left hand to signal that you are about to move off. Then with your left foot step in the clutch. With your right hand put the gearshift into first. Gradually ease up on the clutch, the while stepping gently on the accelerator with your right foot.

"When the car has gathered speed, again step in the clutch, shifting with the right hand to second. Then with the left foot slowly let out the clutch, accelerating with the right foot. Then repeat to shift to high speed. Keep your eyes on the road ahead all of the time."

There was a long pause; the pupil appeared to be thinking.

"Well, what are you waiting for?" asked the instructor finally. "There's nothing useful I could do with my nose, is there?" inquired the beginner.

ASK ME ANOTHER ?

A Quiz With Answers Offering Information on Various Subjects

The Questions

1. What is the only state in the Union which is bounded by one state alone?
2. Which of the following is a natural magnet—Capstone, thundestone or lodestone?
3. What are known as cardinal winds?
4. When was the boundary between the United States and Canada finally determined?
5. What are the odors of the principal gases that are used in war?
6. How many shillings are there in a British pound?
7. How small can diamonds be cut?
8. Who said: "I know of no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution"?

The Answers

1. Maine.
2. Lodestone.
3. Winds blowing from due north, east, south or west.
4. The boundary between the United States and Canada was not completely determined until 1925, or 142 years after our country signed the treaty with England.
5. As nearly as can be described, mustard gas smells like garlic; lewisite like geraniums; phosgene

like musty hay; and tear gas like apple blossoms.

6. Twenty.

7. Some diamond cutters have become so expert in cutting very small diamonds for mass settings that they produce regular 58-facet stones so small that as many as 800 weigh only one carat.

8. Ulysses S. Grant (inaugural address March 4, 1869).

NAGGING BACKACHE

May Warn of Disordered Kidney Action. Don't Neglect It!

Modern life with its ceaseless hurry and worry, irregular habits, improper eating and drinking, exposure, contagion, strain, keeps doctors busy, hospitals crowded. The after effects are disturbing to the kidneys and oftentimes people suffer without knowing that disordered kidney action may cause the trouble.

THE REASON DOAN'S ARE FAMOUS

All over the country grateful people tell others: "Doan's has helped me; I recommend them to you." That is why we say, Ask your neighbor!

Symptoms of disturbed kidney function may be nagging backache, persistent headache, dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of strength and energy. Other signs of kidney or bladder disturbance sometimes are burning, scanty or too frequent urination.

In such cases it is better to rely on a medicine that has won world-wide approval than on something less favorably known. Use Doan's Pills. They have been winning new friends for more than forty years. Be sure to get Doan's. Sold at all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS

Two Tragedies There are two tragedies in life—one is not to get your heart's

desire, the other is to get it. And the latter is the greater tragedy.—Oscar Wilde.

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AND **28% LESS NICOTINE**

than the average of the 4 other largest-selling cigarettes tested—less than any of them—according to independent scientific tests of the smoke itself.



THE SMOKE'S THE THING!

CAMEL THE SLOWER-BURNING CIGARETTE

NEXT WEEK Another Absorbing Installment

(TO BE CONTINUED)