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# U. S. TROOPS AID MEXICO FIGHT VILLA

### Bandit in Second Battle With Carranzists Near Los Cruces—Troops Dispatched to Aid in Battle—Villa Defeated at Namiquipa With Considerable Loss—Cordon Drawing Tighter About Elusive Outlaw—Wires Are Cut.

EL PASO, Tex., March 21.—Francisco Villa and his band of outlaws have been forced into another battle with the Carranza troops near Los Cruces. This information came as a report by wireless today to the United States army station at Columbus, N. M., and it was further said that American troops had been dispatched to Los Cruces to aid in the fighting.

The fighting at Los Cruces following the engagement at Namiquipa yesterday, indicates that Carranza troops are pressing Villa hard in his flight northward along the Santa Maria river and that the outlaw may soon be forced to stand and give battle to the American troops now moving southward.

#### Cordon Draws Tighter.

The American and de facto government troops are drawing the cordon closer around the elusive Villa and within a few days, army officers here believe, it will be known whether Villa is to meet his fate in battle or baffle his pursuers by a successful escape into the Sierra Madre. A series of running fights is anticipated.

The telegraph wires were cut somewhere north of Casas Grandes today, and Carranza officials here were without details of the Namiquipa battle in which Colonel Cano whipped the outlaw. A roving band of bandits that scattered from the main Villa command on its flight south after the massacre at Columbus, are believed to have cut the wire communication. Communication may not be restored for some time, and information of Villa's movements will have to come by wireless to the United States army base at Columbus to be transmitted to Major General Emstun, the department commander, at San Antonio.

#### Flight Is Probable.

With the Carranzistas pushing steadily from the north and the two American columns moving southward, Villa can only turn into the mountain ranges on his flanks should he try to avoid battle. If the outlaw decides to flee into the mountains he will probably break up his command into small bands, leave them to their own devices and turn into the puzzling trails of the Sierra Madre which he knows so well.

Marion Letcher, the United States consul at Chihuahua, telephoned to Consul Garcia at El Paso today that the reports about anti-American demonstrations in Chihuahua were all false. Such reports were circulated along the border, he had heard, at the time of Carranza's manifesto, before the crossing of American troops had been settled by the two governments.

During the crisis, said Letcher, the Mexican people kept calm and showed great tact. No trouble of any kind occurred there, nor has any taken place since.

# BRITISH MARRIED MEN PROTEST ENLISTMENT

LONDON, March 21.—The agitation on the part of married men against a call to the colors before eligible single men have all joined the army is increasing in intensity. In some London suburbs such as Dulwich and Camberwell, posters calling up groups of married men who have attested have been torn down. Police are searching for the offenders.

The Earl of Derby received a deputation of married men this afternoon.

# CO-OPERATION IN VILLA'S PURSUIT NOW ASSURED

### Protocol With Mexico Accepted by Cabinet, Which Provides Basis for Co-operation—Railroads Asked for Shipments of Supplies Only, Not for Troop Movements.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—President Wilson and his cabinet today decided to accept a proposal for a protocol between the United States and the de facto government of Mexico for co-operation in the pursuit of General Villa and his outlaws.

General Carranza's ambassadors here and state department officials will not discuss the protocol further. It is expected it will be put in final form in a few days and signed.

It also was decided at today's cabinet meeting that word should be sent late today to General Carranza that the request of the United States to use the Mexican railroads does not include the transportation of troops, but only shipments of supplies to the American troops in Mexico.

Acting Secretary Polk of the state department and Secretary Baker explained to the cabinet overnight dispatches and the situation growing out of the request for the use of the railroads.

Mr. Polk said that in reply to the request of Carranza had asked whether it was planned to transport American troops as well as supplies. The president and the cabinet were disposed to meet any reasonable request. It was indicated that the proposed protocol would be so comprehensive as to include all questions which might arise in connection with the joint pursuit of Villa by the American and Carranza forces. Acting Secretary Polk, Secretary Daniels, Attorney-General Gregory and Postmaster-General Burleson remained in conference with the president after the other cabinet members had left. They did not disclose the subject of the conference.

# AUSTRIANS GAIN IN HEAVY FIGHTING ON ITALIAN FRONT

BERLIN, March 21 (by wireless to Sayville).—Heavy fighting continues on the Austro-Italian front. The official Austrian statement of yesterday says that Italian attacks broke down before the Austrian fire. The announcement follows:

"On the Gorizia bridge head Austro-Hungarians yesterday morning set fire to a position of the enemy before the southern part of Podgora height. In the afternoon Austro-Hungarian artillery shelled heavily the enemy's front before the bridgehead. During the night they ejected the enemy from a trench before Bevna.

"Fighting continued at the Tolmin bridgehead as a result of the enemy's efforts to conquer positions firmly in Austro-Hungarian hands. The number of Italians captured reach 925, and the number of machine guns taken was increased to seven. Several attacks by the enemy against Mezivrh and Krn broke down. At Ronzon the Austro-Hungarians captured a position and took 145 Italians and two machine guns.

"Lovely fighting continues on the Corinthian front. In the Tyrol frontier district the enemy held the Col di Loma section and some points of the front under his artillery fire."

# PERSHING REQUESTS ADDITIONAL TROOPS

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Brigadier General Pershing has asked for more infantry to keep open the lines of communication behind his flying columns. Major General Emstun has forwarded the request to the war department and it has been taken under consideration.

# AEROPLANES MAKE TACTICS OF VILLA USELESS, EXPERTS SAY



Giant aero monsters for use in Mexico, a double hydro-aeroplane, invented by A. S. Richardson, of Lowell, Mass. The machine is one of the largest and swiftest ever built, will carry twenty passengers and go 150 miles an hour, according to the inventor. The aero is, in effect, two great biplanes joined by a deck on which a machine gun is mounted.

# TWO AEROPLANES LOST IN FLIGHT TO MEXICAN FRONT

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 21.—Two aeroplanes of the first squadron have been lost in flight en route from here for the front in Mexico. Captain B. D. Foulois, in command of the squadron, today reported their failure to arrive and said their whereabouts was not known. Six machines arrived safely. Exceedingly high winds have made army air-men's tasks hazardous.

# HOUSE PREPARES SUBSTITUTE FOR SHIELDS POWER BILL

WASHINGTON, March 21.—A substitute for the Shields waterpower and dam bill recently passed in the senate over the fight of conservation forces, has been drafted by the house commerce committee and will be reported in a few days.

While the measure like the Shields bill would provide no revenue for the government in return for dam sites, it incorporates virtually all the other leading features of conservation measures which have passed the house this year with the full approval of most conservationists.

The secretary of war would have absolute control over the granting of sites and state public service commissions would provide that such commissions would regulate waterpower rates.

Combinations would be prohibited, no one purchaser could obtain more than 50 per cent of the output of a single company and no sale of delivery of power could be made to a distributing company without the approval of the secretary of war.

# SINN FEIN RIOTS IN IRELAND OVER ARMY RECRUITING

LONDON, March 21.—Sinn Fein rioters fired on the police last night. Three of the police were wounded.

The rioting occurred at Tallamore, Klags county, Ireland. A police sergeant was wounded seriously and a county inspector and a district inspector received slight wounds.

Tallamore, a town of 5000 inhabitants, is fifty-eight miles west of Dublin. There have been intimations of disturbed conditions in parts of Ireland in several recent dispatches. On March 14 the police of Cork raided the residences of the principal officials of the Sinn Fein party and seized arms and documents.

The London Post last week said the situation in Ireland was serious on account of the activity of the Sinn Fein society. It asserted a vigorous campaign against recruiting was being carried out without serious hindrance in the west and south, and that several persons had been indicted and tried, but had been acquitted.

# AVIATORS SEEK TO LOCATE VILLA IN WILDERNESS

EL PASO, Texas, March 21.—Aviators of the United States army were reported today searching the almost blind trail leading to the passes in the Sierra Madre mountains where the bandit Villa may seek to escape after his defeat by the Carranza forces yesterday at Namiquipa. Details of the flight, in which Colonel Cano, with 900 Carranza forces took part, have it that Villa was badly wounded and that he fled, leaving his dead and wounded behind.

Captain B. D. Foulois is in charge of the seven birdmen selected for the task of scouting for Villa, who after his first fight with Colonel Cano, is expected to scatter his bandits rather than risk an engagement with the American troops who are said to bar his way to the north. Army officers agree that if Villa breaks up his command into small bands and turns to the Sierra Madre as a hiding place, it will be well nigh impossible to capture him. Villa spent his early days as an outlaw in these mountains, through the passes of which an army and its transport may not move. It will take ten to twelve days to negotiate these passes into the Sonora district.

Villa will probably not go into the Sonora country, where he is hated and feared because of his raids, but Mexicans here believe he will hide himself away in the mountain fastnesses until the American troops have given up the chase. Mexican Consul Garcia in El Paso says that Villa would enjoy nothing better than to lead the American troops into a wild chase into these mountains and then laugh at their efforts to find him.

The aeroplanes will also operate from the base established by General Pershing to locate scattered bands of Villa bandits.

# ALLIES PURCHASE OREGON LUMBER

PORTLAND, Ore., March 21.—A contract for 4,500,000 feet of Douglas fir lumber has been awarded by one of the entente powers to the Duncan Lumber Mill here, it was announced today. On account of the scarcity of vessels on the Pacific the entire order will be delivered by rail to the Atlantic seaboard for shipment to Europe. The contract calls for delivery within ninety days. Another rush order from an entente power, placed with the Wagon mill, calls for the delivery on the Atlantic seaboard of 89,000 feet of spruce for the construction of aeroplanes.

During the last few days several large orders have been placed with Columbia river mills by the railroads. The Great Northern railroad has contracted with one mill for 4,000,000 feet of Douglas fir to be used in the construction of box cars.

# SIDETRACK POWER FOR DEFENSE BILLS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21.—A decision to push pending national defense measures ahead of the waterpower bill now before the senate was reached at a conference today between President Wilson and Senators Walsh, Kern, Martin, Swanson, Myers, James and Stogor. It was agreed that waterpower legislation should be passed by this congress, but that it should not interfere with progress of the army bill.

The form of the water power bill was discussed exhaustively at the conference. Opposition has been expressed to some features of the Myers bill now pending in the senate providing for the leasing of water power sites on public lands. Some senators thought the bill gives too much authority to the federal government.

The president has expressed deep interest in the water power bill.

# RUSSIANS DRIVE AUSTRIANS FROM DNEISTER RIVER

### Vienna Reports Evacuation of Bridge Fortifications and Abandonment of Transports—Escape Made Under Cover of Night Through Enemy's Ranks—Russians Occupy Ispaham.

LONDON, March 21.—A Reuter dispatch from Teheran says that Russian forces entered Ispaham, the old capital of Persia, on March 19.

Ispaham, one of the important cities of Persia, with a population of 80,000, is 218 miles southeast of Teheran. The army now reported at Ispaham evidently is striking southward from the main Russian forces in the direction of the Persian Gulf.

LONDON, March 21.—Austrian forces, operating northwest of Usciecko, on the Dniester river, near the Bukovina border, were forced by the pressure of the Russians to evacuate the bridgehead fortifications and to abandon their transports. Under cover of night they succeeded in reaching the Austrian posts north of Zalesky, north of Czernowitz according to the Austrian official statement issued today.

#### Tribute to Troops.

The official statement pays a tribute of admiration to the bravery of the Austrian troops, who gave way only on account of the superior strength of the Russian attacking forces. It adds that the only means left to the Austrians to avoid capture was to break through the Russian positions at Usciecko, and this they did with complete success.

#### Transports Abandoned.

"Smaller detachments and the wounded men reached the south bank of the Dniester in boats. Soon, however, it was necessary to abandon the transports under the concerted fire of the enemy. There remained for our brave troops, composed of emperor's dragoons and sappers, only one way to escape capture. They were under the necessity of cutting a way through Usciecko, which was strongly occupied by the enemy, to our troops ensconced on the heights north of Zalesky.

"The march directly through the enemy's position succeeded. Under cover of the night Colonel Pflanck led his heroic troops to our advanced posts northwest of Zalesky, where he arrived early Monday morning.

The battles for the bridge fortifications at Usciecko will remain for all time a glorious page in the annals of our army."

#### GERMANS FAIL TO SATISFY DUTCH

THE HAGUE, March 21.—The official German declaration that no German submarine was responsible for the destruction of the Dutch steamship Tubantia has failed to satisfy the Dutch people and press, whose resentment has increased to bitter anger since receipt of the news that other ships have been sunk, supposedly by torpedoes.

Under the heading, "Intolerable Attacks," the Amsterdam Handelsblad asserts that President Wilson should take the lead to protect civilization against the new form of submarine warfare.

The ministers of the interior, marine, trade and foreign affairs conferred for nearly two hours at The Hague today with representatives of the principal shipping companies. The conference adjourned without a decision.

# GERMANS FAIL TO SATISFY DUTCH

#### RUSSIANS MASSING IN SOUTHERN POLAND

COPENHAGEN, March 21.—A dispatch to the Politiken from Berlin says that a great concentration of Russian troops is occurring in southern Poland. It is supposed that the Russians are preparing an attack on the line from Czartorysk to Kovel.

# GERMANS GAIN HEIGHTS AT AVOCOURT

### French Positions West of Meuse Are Stormed—2500 Prisoners Captured, According to Berlin—Strong Drive at Left Flank in Progress—Russian Assaults on Eastern Line Reported Repulsed—Liquid Fire Used by Germans at Avocourt.

BERLIN, March 21, via London.—French positions northeast of Avocourt were captured by the Germans, who took 2500 prisoners, the war office announced today.

The text of today's official statement follows:

"West of the Meuse, Bavarian regiments and battalions of Wurttemberg Landwehr after careful preparation stormed the entire strongly fortified French positions in and near the forest northeast of Avocourt. In addition to considerable sanguinary losses, the enemy has so far incurred losses amounting to thirty-two officers, including two in command of regiments, and more than 2500 men in unwounded prisoners, and much war material, the amount of which has not yet been ascertained.

"Counter-attacks attempted by the enemy did not bring him any advantage, but on the contrary inflicted further serious losses upon him.

"East of the Meuse the situation is unchanged.

#### Russians Repulsed.

"Eastern theater: The Russians are extending their attacks on the Altissimo northern wing south of Riga and on the Dvina front and west of Jacobstadt. They were repelled with sanguinary losses. Strong enemy reconnoitering detachments advancing against the German front northwest of Postavy and between Lakes Narocz and Wiszniew, delivered especially strong and fruitless attacks throughout the day and night. The losses of the enemy were proportionate to the number of troops employed.

"A far-protruding, narrow salient of our front due south of Lake Narocz has been withdrawn a few hundred meters toward the heights of Blisniski to avoid the enemy's encircling fire.

"Balkan theater: Apart from unimportant patrol engagements on the lines of the Anglo-French front, the situation is unchanged."

#### French Statement.

PARIS, March 21.—German forces again made violent attacks in the Verdun sector west of the Meuse last night. The war office announced today that the Germans had gained no success except that they obtained a slight footing southwest of Malancourt wood.

East of the Meuse the night was calm.

The text of the statement follows:

"In Belgium an enemy reconnaissance along our lines north of Pont Boesinghe was at once driven back by a counter-attack.

"In the Argonne our artillery has been very active along the southern boundary of the Cheppy wood.

(Continued on page six)

# DEAD MAN'S HILL HELD BY GERMANS

BERLIN, March 21.—The unqualified assertion that the Germans are in possession of Dead Man's hill, northwest of Verdun, is reiterated by the correspondent of the Tages Zeitung at the Verdun front.

Not only Hill 205, called Dead Man's hill, but also the enemy positions on Hill 295, included under the designation Dead Man's hill, are in German hands, he says.

"The French neither hold nor command the position. German advanced posts are south of the summit of Hill 295."

According to German reports the French whose maps designate Hill 265 as Dead Man's hill, began to give this designation to Hill 295 when they were driven from Hill 205.