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MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1918

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BRITISH CUT WIDE GAP IN HUN DEFENSES ITALIANS LAUNCH OFFENSIVE IN ALBANIA

FIGHTING IN OPEN BACK OF HUN LINE

Northeast of St. Quentin, British Break Through Entire Hindenburg Defense System on Five Mile Front and Cavalry and Tanks Pour Through Gap—Only One or Two Thinly Held Trench Lines Beyond—Belgian Drive Makes Progress.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, Oct. 4.—Northeast of St. Quentin the British today are fighting in the open country beyond the Hindenburg line after pushing ahead five miles since Monday. From Lens northward and from Rheims eastward to the Argonne the allies continue to bend back the German flanks in smashing attacks. The breach driven thru the German defenses south of Beaurevoir is on a front of five miles. To the north the British are plunging forward east-southeast from Le Cateau while on the south the French are attacking successfully between Sequehart and Lesdunes. The German resistance is bitter, but there has been no let-up in the strong allied pressure. Thursday, Field Marshal Haig's men captured 4000 prisoners.

With the British in the open country northeast of St. Quentin and the cavalry and tanks pouring thru the breach, the German positions about Cambrai and Laon will become most precarious. Thru the opening in the line Marshal Foch would be able to throw troops to take both Cambrai and Laon in the rear.

Are Nearing Lille
West of Lille the British continue to press the Germans eastward while extending their line south of Lens to Mericourt, where a good advance also has been made. Between Lens and Armentieres the British have moved forward an average of more than three miles on a twenty-mile front and east of the Bois Grenier are within six miles of the outer walls of the fortress of Lille.

Meanwhile the British and Belgians in Flanders are widening the salient east of Ypres, which threatens the German positions on the coast and the network of railroads west of Ghent.

There are no indications that the Germans have halted their retirement in the Lille salient. It is not probable, however, that the Germans will give up Lille without heavy fighting.

Drawing Salient Closer
Around Rheims and east of Suippe, Generals Berthelot and Gouraud are drawing closer the sides of the German salient east of Rheims. American troops have joined the French east of the Suippe and have assisted in the advance northwest of Somme, capturing the strong positions of Blanc Mont and the Meuse farm. Farther east the French have taken Orleuil and Hemont chateaux. North of Rheims the French are working their way across the Aisne canal. Unless the Germans withdraw from the Champagne salient they are in danger of being caught in a trap between the armies of Berthelot and Gouraud.

East of the Argonne forest the American forces facing the Kriemhild-Steeling line appear to be held up by the desperate defense of the enemy. This may be only temporary.

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GREEK TROOPS RECLAIM DEMIR-HISSAR PASS

PARIS, Oct. 4.—Greek troops are continuing to press into Greek Macedonia following in the Bulgarian evacuation. They entered Serres this morning and have occupied the Demir-Hissar pass.

The Bulgarian retreat is being conducted according to the armistice agreement.

GERMANS HURL FINAL RESERVES AT ST. QUENTIN

Beginning of Last Phase of Great Battle—Allies Continue Progress Despite Violent Counter Attack—No Sign of a General Retreat as Yet—French Forcing Way Forward

PARIS, Friday, Oct. 4.—Germany is now throwing in general reserves into the battle on the St. Quentin front. This marks the beginning of the last phase of the great battle.

Notwithstanding violent counterattacks the allies continue to make gains.

British armies commanded by General Byng and General Rawlinson continue to press the enemy hard. They have captured Le Cateau. General Deleney, east of St. Quentin, is slowly pushing the Germans back toward the upper Oise valley. General Berthelot is continuing his advance north of Rheims and has now occupied the whole Aisne line from Vailly to Berry-au-Bac.

French Advancing
Principal interest centers about the operations conducted by General Gouraud in the Champagne sector. Reinforced by the Americans, General Gouraud has pushed forward until he is now within six miles of Vouziers Junction, a base of great importance and is 25 miles from the great railroads connecting the German army with Germany. He is also solidly established at Chalange, which assures eventual junction with the Americans on the other side of Arzonne forest. He has added another 3000 to the 12,000 prisoners taken since September 26.

Better still are the results along the northern sectors of the battlefront. The German retreat over a 17-mile line in the Armentieres section was accelerated yesterday. The enemy is now well east of Lens and Armentieres and the mining region of Bethune is completely cleared.

In Death Grapple
LONDON, Oct. 4.—News from all sectors of the western front tells of giant efforts by the enemy to stem the daily advancing tide of battle.

The Germans are putting in their best troops and according to all correspondents are fighting with the energy of desperation.

Still there is no sign of any great retreat, except the withdrawal in the Flanders sector, where the British have occupied Armentieres and Lens and are closely pressing the retreating enemy.

In the Sequehart-Bony sector the allied breach in the Hindenburg system was extended today and the fighting reached the outskirts of Mont Brehain, where Australian units with tanks are operating.

It cannot be long before an important enemy retreat from the Hindenburg line is bound to occur, according to military opinion here. In the meantime the Germans are putting forth enormous efforts. In counter-attacking heavily the battle is swinging back and forth in a deadly grapple.

1,800,000 YANKS SENT OVER SEAS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—American troops abroad number 1,800,000, members of the house military committee were informed today at their weekly conference at the war department. Spanish influenza in camps and cantonments will retard shipments somewhat in the immediate future they were told, the department having adopted the policy of not sending men overseas who have been exposed or show symptoms of the disease.

Shipment of De Havilland airplanes abroad was greater last week than at any time since their manufacture began, house military committee members were told today at the war department, and the production of Liberty motors also was greatly increased during the week.

NEW MINISTRY GERMAN EFFORT TO FOOL ALLIES

Appointment of Prince Maximilian as Chancellor and Scheidemann to Cabinet Desperate Attempt to Hoodwink Enemies in Belief in Democratization.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—A desperate effort by the Kaiser and his advisers to hoodwink the allies and the German people into a belief in the democratization of Germany is seen by observers here in the appointment of Prince Maximilian as imperial German chancellor, and Scheidemann, the socialist, and Broeber, centrist, as members of the cabinet without portfolio.

It is suspected that Germany is about to make a new peace proposal disguised under a most attractive democratic program. With these new names the Kaiser might point to them as a realization of his recently announced policy of popular rule.

It is noted, however, that nothing is said about relinquishment of power by the military party, or of making the members of the cabinet answerable for their conduct of affairs to the reichstag. The new officials, therefore, apparently will be entirely without power as well as without portfolio and the actual control of affairs may be left entirely in the hands of the junkers.

Appointments Confirmed
AMSTERDAM, Oct. 4.—Prince Maximilian of Baden has been appointed German chancellor, says an official Berlin announcement.

Deputies Groeber, centrist, and Scheidemann, majority socialist democrat, have been appointed secretaries of state without portfolio.

The official statement adds that Prince Maximilian also has been named Prussian foreign secretary. He will announce his program at a full meeting of the reichstag October 6th.

Official announcement of the appointment of Prince Maximilian of Baden as imperial chancellor confirms newspaper reports to the effect emanating from Germany in the last few days. He has been known as a moderate in German politics. His wife is related to the British royal family.

Firm Allies of Kaiser
Adolf Groeber is one of the leaders of the centrist party in the reichstag. Recently before the main committee of the reichstag, he criticized the government and attacked Von Hertling the leader of the centrist.

In the reichstag in March, 1918, he defended Germany's method of making peace with Russia at Brest-Litovsk. Philipp Scheidemann is vice president of the reichstag and the leader of the centrist-social democrats.

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ENEMY DEFEATED ASSERTS BERLIN

BERLIN, via London, Oct. 4.—An attempt was made by the British yesterday to break through the German lines on a broad front between Le Cateau and St. Quentin, German army headquarters announced today. The enemy succeeded in taking Le Cateau and in penetrating Sequehart, but afterward was thrown back, it is declared, on both sides of Le Cateau. Sequehart, however, remained in the hands of the British.

French and American divisions yesterday launched an attack on a wide front in the Champagne between the Suippe and the Aisne rivers. The German statement says the attacks were repulsed.

A counter attack three back the allied forces that had penetrated the German lines in Flanders astride the Staden-Roeters road.

ALLIED COMMANDER IN BALKAN CAMPAIGN



GEN D'ESPEREY
General D'Esperey, the French officer in command of the allied army at Saloniki, who is liberating Serbia and Albania, has knocked out the Bulgarians and proposes to smash the Turk out of Europe.

YANKS CAPTURE VITAL POSITIONS IN CHAMPAGNE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—Capture of Blanc Mont and other positions in Champagne was reported today by General Pershing in his communique for Thursday, announcing further gains by the American forces fighting with the French.

The communique follows: "Section A — American troops fighting with the French have driven back the enemy and taken Blanc Mont and other positions in Champagne. Between the Moselle and the forest of Arzonne, we carried out the usual artillery and patrol activity, taking a number of prisoners.

The capture of Blanc Mont and Monteban was announced in last night's French official statement. It was not made known, however, that American forces had effected its capture. The Americans here are evidently co-operating with General Gouraud's French army in the Champagne, pushing the attack on the left. Blanc Mont is more than three miles northwest of Somme-Py while the captured farm lies just to the east.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—French forces in the Champagne have captured Orleuil and Hemont chateaux, northeast of Somme-Py. Mont Blanc, a position of considerable tactical importance, also has been taken from the Germans.

U. S. CARGO SHIP SUNK IN COLLISION 50 OF CREW LOST

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3.—The American steamer Herman Frasch, a small cargo-carrier, manned by a navy crew and in the overseas supply service has been sunk in collision at sea with a loss of probably fifty of her crew.

The collision was with the American steamer George G. Henry. The Frasch sank in seven minutes. Forty-one survivors have been accounted for.

The collision occurred at sea several hundred miles off the American coast, in latitude 41° 04' north, and longitude 64° 38' west. First reports to the department gave few details. The Henry had her bow crushed, but after standing by all night to pick up survivors, resumed her voyage.

Both vessels were cargo-carriers in army supply transport service. The Frasch was a ship of 1000 tons carrying a crew of about 90 officers and men and the Henry is a tanker. Only 41 of the Frasch's crew are accounted for. It is feared there was heavy loss of life.

SIX BIG BATTLES RAGE AT ONCE ON WEST FRONT

Blow After Blow is Dealt Germans in Their Strongholds—Endurance by Allies Surprise Enemy—Country Behind Flanders Line Ablaze Everywhere.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Oct. 4.—(2 p. m. By the Associated Press.)—The four great battles that have been in progress since September 30 from Flanders to the Meuse were increased to six by the entry into action of General Debeney's men around St. Quentin and General Berthelot's forces northwest of Rheims, and all continue with great intensity. Blow after blow is being dealt the Germans in their strongholds.

The endurance the allies have shown in sustaining with undiminished order the severe struggle over so extended an area against such formidable works surprised the enemy. There were many indications that the Germans expected that exhaustion would have obliged the allies to stop for a breathing spell long before this.

Burning Flanders
The country behind the German lines in Flanders is ablaze virtually everywhere. From prisoners comes the information that the Germans are making hurried preparations to evacuate the dune country of Belgium along the coast. Dugouts are being blown up there.

In the Armentieres sector the retreat of the Germans continues. The British are now well to the east of Lens, Mericourt, southeast of Lens, has been captured by Haig's men.

American Losses Moderate

LONDON, Oct. 4.—(4:30 p. m. By the Associated Press.)—British and French forces continued to advance today north of St. Quentin. They reached the outskirts of Mont Brehain after severe fighting.

The American casualties in the heavy fighting in the Arzonne region are described as moderate. The Germans have been unable to maintain their usual artillery fire and undoubtedly are beginning seriously to feel the loss of the large number of guns captured from them recently all along the western front.

The retreat of the Germans in the region between Armentieres and Lens has reached a depth of six miles. The enemy still is retreating slowly. The allies are now within six miles of Lille.

BULL RUN REGION IN FOREST RESERVE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—Ten thousand acres of land, forming the Bull Run watershed from which Portland, Ore., obtains its water supply, are under the Oregon national forest reserve under a senate bill passed today by the house and sent to the president. The land was originally in the grant to the Oregon and California railroad, but was revested by court decision in the United States.

BULGAR SOCIALISTS CLAMOR FOR PEACE

BASEL.—Oct. 4.—The Bulgarian socialist party will support the government in the Saboran on the sole condition that the government makes peace, according to the social newspaper, Narod, of Sofia, quoted in a dispatch. As a further condition, the socialists demand that the government shall make such negotiations as are necessary to insure good relations between the Balkan peoples and which will tend toward the establishment of a Balkan league.

ALLIES SOON TO DRIVE THE TURK FROM EUROPE

"We Will Soon Direct Our Blow at Constantinople and the Vanquished Turk Will Be Thrown Once and for All Into Asia Declares General Franchet D'Esperey, Allied Leader.

SALONIKI, Oct. 4.—"We will soon direct our blow at Constantinople, and the vanquished Turk will be thrown once and for all into Asia," declared General Franchet D'Esperey, the allied commander-in-chief on the Macedonian front, in replying to a demonstration today.

The allied commander said that the beginning now made would be continued.

The carrying out of the clauses of the armistice between Bulgaria and the allies began Wednesday.

The population of Saloniki to hold an enthusiastic meeting at Place Tour Blanche. Resolutions thanks addressed to General D'Esperey and Premier Venizelos were adopted.

Premier Venizelos said that victory just completed by military convention and by which Bulgaria recognized complete defeat would exercise great influence upon the peace of the world war. The defeat of Bulgaria definitely removed the danger of Bulgarian supremacy in the Balkans and assured a peace of liberty.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 4.—The Turkish minister of the interior has resigned according to a Constantinople message today.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—It is learned in official quarters that residents of Sofia and Constantinople including officers and their families are leaving hastily and going thru Rumania for German points.

There has been no further news as to the attitude of Turkey. It is pointed out that the whole Turkish fleet in the Black sea is manned entirely by Germans, while Constantinople itself and the Bosphorus batteries are garrisoned by Germans and Austrians. There is a report that Persia is beginning to show signs of taking sides with the allies.

In considering the question of the attitude of Austria-Hungary the possibility of Hungary taking action separate from Austria should not be ignored.

CENTRAL POWERS PLAN NEW FRONT IN BALKEN DEFENSE

PARIS, Oct. 4.—(Havas.)—The central powers intend to organize a new front in Serbian and Bulgarian territory for the defense of Nish and Sofia, according to the Nouvelle Presse Libre of Munich. The large extent of territory to be covered, however, will not admit of the establishment of a continuous front, it is pointed out, and the belief is expressed that the hostilities likely to develop will be in the form of a war of maneuver.

According to Swiss newspapers, Bucharest has been put into a state of defense.

ZURICH, Switzerland, October 4.—The defection of Bulgaria is having a serious effect on the central powers from financial as well as political and military reasons, because of the fact that both Germany and Austria-Hungary had made large advances to Bulgaria for the conduct of military operations.

According to the Avenna Neue Freie Presse, the total loan of above one billion francs. In addition to money, the Central Powers delivered large quantities of war material to Bulgaria.

NAVAL BASE OF DURAZZO DEMOLISHED

Fortifications and Depots Located—Italian Troops Pursuing Hungarians in Albania—Berat Captured and Enemy in Full Flight—American Chasers Sink Two Submarines On Front of 50 Miles Offensive is Making Progress.

ROME, Oct. 4.—On a front of 50 miles the Italian forces in Albania continued to advance during the day yesterday, the war office announced today. In addition to occupying Berat they are advancing in the direction of Durazzo.



ROME, Oct. 4.—After the capture of Berat by the Italians, cavalry joined in the pursuit of the retreating Austrians and has made a considerable advance, according to an official note issued today.

During Naval Raid

LONDON, Oct. 4.—In the leveling of the fortifications and depots at Durazzo Wednesday, the entente squadron according to a Central News dispatch from Rome, destroyed much material for the Austrian army in Albania.

In Albania the Austrians are reported retreating in disorder now that their base at Durazzo has been destroyed by entente warships. American submarine chasers sank two Austrian submarines during the attack on Durazzo in which supplies for Austrians were destroyed.

American, British and Italian warships participated in the attack on Durazzo. This sensational exploit, which was carried out Wednesday, seems to have reduced the Austrians to one large naval center in the Adriatic, that of Pola, altho the port of Fiume may be used.

The attack, coming at a time when the Austrians in southern Albania are in dire straits after losing their support lines eastward thru Macedonia, appears to be significant. Italian troops launched an offensive there on Tuesday. It suggests that military operations may be begun along the northern Albanian coast in the rear of the retreating Austrians and the situation holds large possibilities.

Bulgars Burn Villages

SALONIKI, Thursday, Oct. 3.—Burning villages marked the trail of the retreating Bulgarian army in Macedonia, say telegrams from the front.

Bodies of slain civilians were found in the smoking ruins at many places. Advises state that this work of destruction surpassed even that which has been reported from districts in France and Belgium from which the Germans have been driven.

DAKOTA CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR GUILTY

DEADWOOD, S. D., Oct. 4.—O. S. Anderson, candidate for governor of South Dakota on the socialist ticket, who was tried here on a charge of violating the espionage act, was convicted late last night. He will be sentenced tomorrow.