

SUPREME EFFORT MADE BY HUNS ON SUIPPE RIVER

Entire Divisions Used to Counter Attack Small Advances by French—German Holding Secondary Hindenburg Line in Desperate Effort to Re-Establish Front.

LENSON, Oct. 9, 1 p. m.—(By Associated Press.) German troops today are counter-attacking very heavily on the Suippe river front in the Champagne and the French have not been able to make very much progress.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY NORTH OF RHENIMS, Tuesday, Oct. 8.—(By the Associated Press.) Attacks upon the line of the Suippe were resumed this morning and favorable progress is reported. The French crossed the Suippe and took Rheingourt.

German artillery is violently bombarding the new French positions north of the Aisne at Berry-au-Bac.

Desperate Efforts WITH THE FRENCH ARMY NORTH OF RHENIMS, Tuesday, Oct. 8.—(By Associated Press.) German troops holding the line of the Suippe river are making their stand there look like a desperate measure to re-establish a situation rendered most difficult by losses against the front in other sectors. The entire north bank of the Suippe is lined with machine guns, behind which are massed several fresh divisions of Infantry along a secondary Hindenburg line. A strong force of artillery supports them by a heavy and well-organized fire.

Every advance by the French across the river provokes immediate counter-attacks. Entire divisions are thrown against the small detachments of the French which force the passes of the stream. The Germans are reinforcing their line on the banks of the Suippe. French troops which crossed the Suippe near its junction with the Aisne have been heavily attacked but have maintained their hold.

Bridgehead Established Establishment by the French of an important bridgehead on the north bank of the Aisne at Berry-au-Bac increased the danger to the German positions on the Suippe line.

The blow which Marshal Foch has delivered in the Champagne sector have not only wrested from the Germans most important positions which they have held since 1914 but an insupportable sacrifice of men and material, but appear to have thrown gravest apprehensions into the ranks of the enemy. A German soldier found in a ruined village surrounded, trembled with fear.

"What are you afraid of?" his captor inquired. "We are not going to harm you."

With the wild smell of blackened masonry in his nostrils, with smoke still rising from a village fired by his companions in plain sight and with puddles of blue smoke from German poisonous shells marking the line of the Suippe a little farther back, the captive rejoined:

German's Badly Strained "But what will the French soldiers do when they get into Germany?"

With the rumbling line along the Aisne canal north of Rheims, and the line along the Vesle to the east, the Germans abandoned Reperit La Albenesse, to the east of Rheims, and Hrimont to the north. These points have been the pillars of Hindenburg for four years. Hindenburg has been observation point from which the Germans had watched the city and country over a wide area and directed artillery fire which wrecked villages that nestle among the mountains of Rheims and took aim at the wine growers' vineyards, vineyards yards on the slopes, and the peasant girls gathering the grapes that grew in spite of the war.

It was from in front of these formidable positions that the American boys from the foreign legion fired their first shots for France in the fall of 1914. The trenches where they were stationed are still visible in the chalky soil.

Shore Marks of Battle Trenches of the four years of fighting are found all over the ground east of Rheims, from Reperit to the mountains.

All the villages on the main road from Rheims are now silent. For the fighting there was of two years' duration to enable either side to use heavy guns. They all showed signs of repeated shrapnel from street to street and from house to house. Every wall of every house of buildings is pitted by machine gun bullets and shrapnel.

Long stretches of wire before the trenches are almost intact running thru streets or cutting between houses to mark the line where the Germans were still at close grips with the French two days ago. Streets and roads are littered by earthworks and are in some places upheaved by shells, and impassable. The work of destruction done by the enemy in his hurried flight was incomparably less than that done elsewhere, for it had long ago been almost complete.

YANKS CAPTURE CHATEL CHEHERY ON THE ARGONNE

In Difficult Operation Americans Advance Their Lines in Center of Forest Through Use of Snatches—Enemy Forced to Fall Back in Eastern Edge of Forest as Result.

AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 8, Tuesday.—(Reuter.) In a difficult operation the Americans today improved their position on the eastern edge of the Argonne forest, capturing Chatelet Chehery and advanced to the beginning of the Argonne forest. The advance was made at night and the Americans captured the eastern edge of the forest and made possible an advance to the center.

The division on the right flank advanced at 11 o'clock in the morning and crossed the river in a thick mist. There the valley of the Aisne widened westward into a bar, the center of which is an island hill known as 100, while a promontory on the southern end of the bar called 200 200 is connected by a long flat ridge with hill 200, a German artillery position.

Under the ridge between the two hills was Chatelet Chehery which had been captured several days by American troops. The division of the Argonne forest filtered around to the north of hill 100 and working into the woods, began to ascend the ridge from that direction. The Germans finding that their defenses had been turned, withdrew their artillery. The Americans began to dig themselves in on the crest.

The division in the center forced the river at Petit amsil a shower of hand grenades. Undaunted, the Americans stormed the position. The right wing of this division carried hill 200 and the center swept Chatelet Chehery with the capture of 200 200.

The key to the whole position, hill 200, at the further end of the village remained to be taken.

Passing thru the village, some troops worked around the hill and ascended from the east. Others advanced to capture the hill from the west, made the ascent from the south. The hill was captured by 11:45 o'clock.

Consolidate Positions At 1 o'clock in the afternoon the American advance from the heights only began. The enemy had failed at some to fall back from the center of the Argonne. The American troops then passed La Verdun and joined with the rest of the division which had a strong force of Chatelet Chehery, which by 7:30 o'clock the Americans had consolidated "to the new position."

By Monday evening at 8:45 o'clock the American units on the eastern edge of the forest had made possible an advance to the center.

ALLIES WIN BASTION. (Continued from page one.)

They had their progress of Tuesday under a heavy gunnery fire from the British artillery.

The defeated enemy was almost annihilated under the great deluge of steel and explosives.

A large number of guns have been captured by the British and Americans in addition to the great batches of prisoners which continue to arrive in the camp. The American troops alone captured two complete field batteries and a battery of heavy artillery.

There is great confusion within the enemy lines. On the front of the two British armies, elements from 22 enemy divisions have been identified along the 10-mile fighting line. Some of these divisions have been captured almost continuously since August 8 and many are mere shadows of the old organizations.

German Losses Heavy The greatest loss which the great battle has seen tonight is among wild and men and horses. Many Germans are buried under tons of earth in collapsed caverns. Only a few of the prisoners had heard of the Anglo-German plan for an armistice and their ideas on the subject were extremely queer.

From all sources it is learned for a virtual certainty that as far as the wire barriers are ahead of the British and Americans with the Valenciennes line is reached and after that the line of the Meuse river.

The Germans are pouring troops far east of the line on which they now are fighting. Major, between Clary and Bechain, is in flames.

German Resistance is Stiffening Along the Front east of Rheims, but

The Germans are being driven west, for in addition to the batteries, other British guns are hammering their rear lines.

An air force of 500 bombers the day were decided with British airplanes were pouring over the battlefield while others were on their way to add to the general confusion behind the enemy lines by dropping bombs on all sorts of targets.

German's Sure Defeat

The Anglo-American advance proceeded behind an intense barrage fire from the British artillery which the Germans seemed unable to withstand. The Germans now have scolded the north to the beautiful town of Bechain in the general direction of which the Americans are driving from Verdun.

The French command today and special attention to procedure and the work between the roads, and the line was covered by an explosion of shells. The advancing troops found the enemy, however, in good condition.

The Germans in front of the British and American lines were uttering "howls" according to reports. In the front of the Valenciennes front an entire German regiment threw its other course and ran away like a deer caught.

Very hard fighting took place for the high ground in front of Frenchy-le-Grand. The German earthworks were literally alive with machine gunners who poured bullets from their weapons as fast as they could work them. The artillery moved up hurriedly and got to work. Firing three open ranks, the British guns snuffed out one enemy gun after another.

The British used the same shell they use in other battles and were able to bring the German lines scattered and their weapons broad-cast.

GERMAN LINE COLLAPSING. (Continued from page one.)

The German line is rapidly being broken up. Even if it does not give away, this battle is a great number on the line and loss positions. It would seem within the possibilities of the next few days that the Germans will withdraw from the line around the Aisne and the French and Americans on the east and the British and Americans on the north finally are outflanking.

Along the Meuse

German resistance is stiffening along the front east of Rheims, but

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and sufficient to stop the forward movement of General Gouard and Berthold. The Franco-American positions in Champagne and the Argonne to the Meuse have been improved by the successful French and American troops east of the Meuse. The great advance of the Allied armies in France appears to have reached a climax and the next few days may witness epochal events in the history of the war.

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