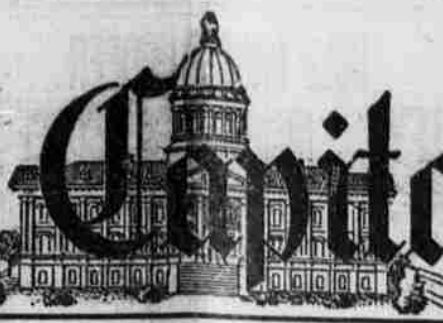


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SALEM, OREGON, MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1915

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GERMANS ADVANCE CAPTURING MORE RUSSIAN FORTS

Field Marshal Von Mackensen Takes Slavatycze Says Berlin

BAVARIAN FORCES TAKE SEVERAL POSITIONS

French Take Mile of German Trenches In Alsace—Other War News

Berlin, via wireless to London, Aug. 15.—Field Marshal Von Mackensen's forces have captured Slavatycze, less than 24 miles south of Brest-Litovsk, the war office announced today.

The Germans under Von Mackensen also captured Ciale.

To the west of Brest-Litovsk, the Bavarian forces of Prince Leopold occupied Loeice and Miedzrzec, making four points in all occupied by the Teutonic forces during the past 24 hours.

The Bavarian right wing is advancing toward Biala, 28 miles from Brest-Litovsk, where the Russians are expected to make a stand before retiring to the outer works of their new fortress base, Biala is on the railway line running from Lukow, captured by the Bavarians last week, to Brest-Litovsk.

Northeast of Sokolof the Bavarian right wing forced a crossing of the Bug river, the official statement declared, keeping pace with the Bavarian center approaching Biala.

Between the Narow and the Bug the Russian line was again broken and the Germans reached Branskill, it was stated. Five thousand prisoners were taken in this region. In the bombardment of Novo Georgiewsk, the Slav defenders were driven back upon the inner defenses of the fortress. East of Loeice, the Silesian landwehr troops have broken on the Russian line between Tocznow and Klukowka.

Russian Bases Hemmed In. Berlin, via The Hague, Aug. 15.—The new Russian base of Brest-Litovsk is now being hemmed in from the west and southwest.

Advancing from the southwest the left wing of Field Marshal Von Mackensen's army is within 30 miles of the stronghold. The Bavarians pushing on from the west through Siedlce and Sokolof have broken the Slav resistance and crossed the Loeice-Kontantynow highway within 40 miles of the Russian fortress. With this rapid advance it is believed the Teutonic forces will soon be attacking the outer defenses of Brest-Litovsk.

The main assault, in the opinion of military critics, will be delivered by the Bavarians. They have swept rapidly eastward since the fall of Warsaw, and though the Russians have delivered counter attacks they have been swept back steadily. Latest reports state that the Slav army again in retreat after having been sharply repulsed by the Bavarians in a new attempt to check their advance.

The fall of Novo Georgiewsk, the isolated fortress to the west of Warsaw, is now expected at any time. Parts of the outer works have been demolished by the German artillery, and the big guns are closing in to batter down the inner defenses.

On the northern end of the battle line the army of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg is again advancing slowly, according to late dispatches. After being driven out of Kubiska the Russians retreated to the northeast. In repulsing a sortie from Kovno, and pressing their positions between the Narow and the Bug river, the Germans have taken upwards of 7000 prisoners during the past two days.

New Landing at Gaba Teba. Athens, Aug. 16.—Having effected a junction with the New Zealand forces near Gaba Teba, the British reinforcements landed at Savia bay are now preparing for an assault against the Turkish fortifications. Mytilene dispatches reaching here stated today.

On the shores of Guff of Saros British artillery demolished rows of enemy trenches and the Turks were thrown into a confused retreat. On Saturday allied warships raided the coast of Smyrna, shelling the encampments of Goozra, Dokli and New Apessa. The Turks withdrew to the interior.

French Capture Trenches. Paris, Aug. 15.—Capture of a mile of trenches between Bernhart and Amertwiler in Alsace by Chasseraux, who first wrecked the German positions by exploding mines and then charged the crumpled works, was announced by the communique from the war office today.

With the blowing up of the German trenches the assaults surged across the broken ground upon the enemy, fought in the debris of the wrecked works or in disorderly retreat. The survivors were pursued while those trapped in the debris were captured. About Souchez, and on the Nonvour plateau, announcing was in progress during the night. South of Arras and

President Is Planning for Defense of Nation

Washington, Aug. 16.—President Wilson today began actively mapping out his new program and policy for national defense.

The president discussed the question of naval preparedness with Secretary Daniels and Admiral Benson, the civilian and service heads of the navy. Daniels submitted during the conference a summary of naval conditions and recommendations for improvements in line with the new policy.

It was understood today that President Wilson will ask the congress to make appropriations for the usual two battleships and also for two battle cruisers; between sixty and seventy submarines and enough torpedo boat destroyers to give each present dreadnaught and the new dreadnaughts a guard of four of these fast vessels.

Masses of information regarding the efficiency of different types of ships, as proven by the European war, were summarized and placed before the president by Secretary Daniels and Benson.

With the first conference with the naval heads out of the way, President Wilson will confer with Secretary of War Garrison soon. It is expected that final reports on both the army and navy will be in the president's hands before the end of the week.

That there will be no radical departure from this government's policy of a large standing army under the new program, is regarded as having been emphasized in the note to Austria denying the necessity of an embargo upon exportation of munitions to the allies. In this note, the administration said: "It has never been the policy of this country to maintain in time of peace a large military establishment of stores of arms and ammunition."

Officials believe, however, that adherence to this policy does not bar plans for a large reserve army and an increased navy or a complete reserve of ammunition supply.

Chaining that "only equipment is needed for this vast number of men trained in military work to constitute a hostile force and that invasion of this country would not be necessary, advocates of military preparedness are planning to use the bureau's figures in carrying on their campaign. The 3,000,000 foreigners who have had military training include 2,500,000 Austrians and Germans and 5,000,000 citizens of the allies.

Gregory would not say whether the German embassy is under surveillance or whether the arrest of an alleged German spy in Florida recently might be connected with the alleged German propaganda.

Whether the department takes cognizance of developments or not depends on what is to be exposed," said the attorney general. "We have not gone deeply into this matter yet."

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BALKAN NATIONS MAY BE FORCED TO ENTER WAR

Bombardment of Belgrade By Germans May Compel Early Decision

DRIVE THROUGH BALKANS TO RELIEVE TURKEY

Greek and Serbian Parliament Meet Today and Decisive Action Is Expected

Rome, Aug. 16.—With the bombardment of Belgrade and the massing of large Austro-German forces on the Serbian frontier, the belief was expressed here today that the prospective new offensive of the Teutons may throw the balance of the Balkans in favor of the allies and involve Bulgaria, Rumania and Greece in the war. The attack upon Belgrade and preparations for a new assault upon Serbia are regarded as coming at a critical time.

At Bucharest and Sofia great alarm is felt that a new offensive against Serbia will be merely preliminary to an Austro-German drive through the Balkans to relieve Turkey. This, it is feared, threatens the national existence of Bulgaria and Rumania, and these governments are watching developments along the Danube with the utmost anxiety.

The Greek and Serbian parliaments met today in what may prove to be the most important session in their history. Their decisions, which may be reached possibly within the night, will probably settle the fate of the Balkans and exert the greatest influence upon the future of the war. The Rumanian crown council also met with King Charles at Bucharest yesterday in an important conference.

The Greek parliament has before it Premier Venizelos's war program, while the Serbians at Nish received a report from Premier Pachitch on the negotiations involving the ceding of Macedonia to Bulgaria in return for the latter's participation in the war.

Despite contrary reports from Nish, diplomats here believe Serbia is ready to make the necessary concessions to obtain Bulgaria's aid. The allies are also hopeful that Premier Venizelos, in Athens, will be able to overcome the opposition to Greece making the necessary concessions, thus removing the last obstacle to gaining the opening wedge in the Balkans for general participation of these powers.

There are some elements among the allies who hope to force the Balkans to the program of the quadruple entente.

It is pointed out that the Turks' lack of ammunition renders conditions for Balkan intervention favorable. Also should the reinforcements lauded by the allies register fresh successes in the Dardanelles, the Balkan powers might lose an opportunity to share in the spoils of victory should Constantinople fall without their aid.

With these points to work in favor of the allies, it is believed that the concentration of the Austro-Germans on the Serbian frontier may prove to be the final development to sway the balance.

The allied diplomats are continuing to make every effort to bring about Balkan intervention in negotiations with the foreign offices at Nish, Sofia and Bucharest.

It is being pointed out that if Germany expects the Turks to hold the Dardanelles the Kaiser must get ammunition to them at any cost. Rumania has refused to permit the transportation of munitions through her territory. And in the preparations for a new assault upon Serbia, diplomats see also a possible attack upon Rumania. The fear of such an assault, it is believed, may influence the Balkans to accept such concessions as can be gained at present and join the allies with the hope of gaining more by such a move in the capture of Constantinople.

Fire at Americans. Washington, Aug. 16.—Thirty Mexicans fired a volley of shots at four Americans who were examining a wagon on the south of Mercedes at dusk Sunday, the war office was advised today. There were no casualties and the Mexicans were driven off.

Warships To Vera Cruz. Washington, Aug. 16.—The battleships Louisiana and New Hampshire were today ordered by wireless to proceed to Vera Cruz. They should arrive at the Mexican port Wednesday. Admiral McLean is in command. The gunboat Marietta was ordered from Vera Cruz to Progreso.

THE WEATHER



German Offensive Checked By Attacks on Both Flanks

(By J. W. T. Mason.)
(Written for the United Press.)
New York, Aug. 16.—The German offensive in Poland is being effectively checked on both flanks and indications are abundant that the Teutonic attack is weakening. Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, particularly, is not doing the work to which he was assigned. The Russians have rallied in exceptional strength against him, not only because he threatens Biala and the entire Baltic coast, but also because he is endeavoring to isolate Poland.

Shortage of ammunition is now hampering the Germans. Novo Georgiewsk and Kovno continue to hold out although neither of these fortresses has the resisting power possessed by Antwerp.

The Teutons are unquestionably storing their new ammunition to resist a possible offensive on the west. The Galician drive and the capture of Warsaw used up most of the winter and spring accumulation of munitions, and not even the Germans can produce ammunition as quickly as it is shot.

Intervals of comparative inactivity are necessary to permit the munition factories to catch up. One is now happening in Russia. The Germans are waiting for shells and simultaneously must subordinate the eastern demands to the necessity of increasing the reserve along the western front.

The Russians must be praised for the stubbornness they have shown in resisting the Germans. There is no evidence of demoralization, and if the eastern conflict should be fought to the end, the Slav genius for defensive rather than offensive was never better exemplified.

Such traffic. Manifestly the idea of a strict neutrality now advanced by the imperial and royal government would involve a neutral nation in a mass of perplexities which would obscure the whole field of international obligation, produce economic confusion and deprive all commerce and industry of legitimate fields of enterprise, already heavily burdened by the unavoidable restrictions of war.

Own Action Cited as Precedent. In this connection it is pertinent to direct the attention of the imperial royal government to the fact that Austria-Hungary and Germany, particularly the latter, have during the years preceding the present European war, produced a great surplus of arms and ammunition, which they sold throughout the world and especially to belligerents. Never during that period did either of them suggest or apply the principle now advocated by the imperial and royal government.

During the Boer war between Great Britain and the South African republics the patrol of the coasts of neighboring neutral colonies by British naval vessels prevented arms and ammunition from reaching the Transvaal or the Orange Free State. The allied republics were in a situation almost identical in that respect with that in which Austria-Hungary and Germany find themselves at the present time. Yet in spite of the commercial isolation of one belligerent, Germany sold to Great Britain and other belligerents hundreds of thousands of kilos of explosives, gunpowder, cartridges, shot and weapons; and it is known that Austria-Hungary also sold similar munitions to the same purchaser, though in smaller quantities.

Principle Is Unchanged. While, as compared with the present war, quantities sold were small (a table of the sales is appended), the principle of neutrality involved was the same. If at that time Austria-Hungary and her present ally had refused to sell arms and ammunition to Great Britain on the ground that to do so would violate the spirit of strict neutrality, the Imperial and Royal government might with greater consistency and greater force urge its present contention.

It might be further pointed out that during the Crimean war large quantities of arms and ammunition and military stores were furnished to Russia by Prussian manufacturers, that during the recent war between Turkey and Italy, as this government is advised, arms and munitions were furnished to the Ottoman government by Germany; and that during the Balkan war the belligerents were supplied with munitions by both Austria-Hungary.

While these latter cases are not analogous, as in the case of the South African war, to the situation of Austria-Hungary and Germany in the present war, they nevertheless clearly indicate the long established practice of the two empires in the matter of trade in war supplies.

Markets Open to All Allies. In view of the foregoing statements, this government is reluctant to believe that the Imperial and Royal government will ascribe to the United States a lack of impartial neutrality in continuing its legitimate trade in all kinds of supplies used to render the armed forces of a belligerent efficient, even though the circumstances of the present war prevent Austria-Hungary from obtaining such supplies from the markets of the United States, which have been and remain, so far as the action and policy of this government are concerned, open to all belligerents alike.

But in addition to the question of principle, there is a practical and substantial reason why the government of the United States has from the foundation of the Republic to the present time advertised and practiced unrestricted trade in arms and military supplies. It has never been the policy of this country to maintain in time of peace a large military establishment sufficient to repel invasion by a well-equipped and powerful enemy. It has desired to remain at peace with all nations and avoid any appearance of menacing such peace by the threat of its armies and navies.

Not if this principle, so strongly urged by the imperial and royal government, should be admitted to obligate a belligerent at sea, might it not operate equally as to a belligerent superior on land? Applying to this the theory of equalization, a belligerent who lacks the necessary munitions to contend successfully on land ought to be permitted to procure them from neutrals, while a belligerent with an abundance of war stores or with the power to produce them should be debarred from

such traffic. Manifestly the idea of a strict neutrality now advanced by the imperial and royal government would involve a neutral nation in a mass of perplexities which would obscure the whole field of international obligation, produce economic confusion and deprive all commerce and industry of legitimate fields of enterprise, already heavily burdened by the unavoidable restrictions of war.

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CARRANZA WILL MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO HOLD APPEAL

Faction Chieftain Will Transmit Message to Zapata Under Guard

GENERAL VILLA'S REPLY IS ON WAY TO CAPITAL

Destitute Americans At Vera Cruz Are Being Assisted By Consul

Washington, Aug. 16.—General Carranza will not attempt to prevent the transmission of the Pan-American peace appeal to various Mexican leaders and governors, Diplomatic Agent Parker reported to the state department today from Mexico City.

General Gonzales informed Parker that he would grant safe conduct to messengers who will carry the note to General Zapata and other factional leaders.

General Villa's reply to the Pan-American peace note is reported to be en route to Washington and is said to be favorable. Carranza's answer is not expected before Saturday. Reports today declared the "first chief" might call a conference of his commanders to frame a joint reply to the communication. An armistice between Villa and Carranza is now in prospect, and at all events military operations are expected to be suspended during consideration of the peace appeal.

While the success or failure of the peace effort hinges largely upon General Carranza's attitude, Secretary Lansing and the Latin-American conferees do not propose to proceed with a second step in their plans if he should reject the proposals. If enough of the Mexican leaders reply favorably to the Pan-American note, another communication will be directed to General Carranza, calling his attention to the fact that everybody but himself desires peace and again urging him to agree to a conference with other factional leaders looking toward that end.

It was reported that General Carranza will ignore the United States in replying to the peace note and send his answer to a friendly Latin-American power.

Villistas Revolt. The Villistas in the state of Durango have revolted, presumably going over to Carranza, according to advices here today.

John Silliman, special agent of the state department at Vera Cruz, is suffering from tropical fever, but his condition is not serious. The same advices on the state department announced that the bishop of Vera Cruz, who was imprisoned by the Carranzistas, had been released.

Diplomatic Agent Parker reported that he is helping 400 destitute Americans in Vera Cruz, 120 of whom are awaiting an opportunity to return to the United States.

Reports that Mexicans occupied an island off Corpus Christi were without confirmation at the state department.

Carranza Makes Denial. New York, Aug. 16.—General Carranza today positively declared in a message to the United Press, that the recent attacks along the Texas border were not made by constitutional soldiers.

The United Press asked General Carranza for a statement as to reports in Washington that the bandits who made the raids on the border were financed by Americans desiring intervention. The "first chief" was also asked as to the knowledge he might have of the identity of the attacking forces, and replied:

"With respect to your message of yesterday, regarding who attacked the cities bordering the frontier, I have no information, but affirm they were not attacked by constitutional soldiers."
(Signed) "V. CARRANZA."

Foodstuffs Shipped to Mexico. Washington, Aug. 16.—Replying to the Pan-American peace appeal, General Calles, constitutionalist governor of Sonora, left everything in the hands of General Carranza, a message to the Carranzista junta stated here today.

Foodstuffs are now being shipped to Mexico City without difficulty. The junta announced, and schools of the city have been reopened.

The junta today made public more telegrams from Carranzista leaders praising the "first chief" support in opposing intervention. General Navarro, commander of Matamoros, who was recently quoted as being willing to lead an invasion of the United States, wired, however:

"I never made such an assertion in my life."

Firing Across Line. Brownsville, Texas, Aug. 16.—American cavalrymen were fired upon by Mexicans across the border along Mercedes last night, according to reports received here today. The shots were returned, but no casualties were reported. Aside from this exchange the border situation was quiet today.