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ACTION NOT DECIDED IN ARABIC AFFAIR

Administration Is Still Awaiting Full Reports and Seems Inclined To Act With Deliberation—Doubts Are Expressed Concerning Nationality of Supposed American Victims—Germany Is Plainly Perturbed Over Loss of Life and May Adopt Some Plan Which Will Modify Situation—Views Are Conflicting

Washington, Aug. 23.—Action to be taken as a result of the sinking of the liner Arabic will not be decided on "fragmentary evidence."

This was stated by a high authority of the state department today and was taken to mean that the administration might need two or three weeks to make up its mind.

The British version of the torpedoing or sinking of the liner is expected to be received with reasonable promptness. Ambassador Gerard at Berlin has been instructed to seek a statement from Germany, it was announced today, but detailed mail advices from Ambassador Page and the report of the submarine commander to Berlin may not be received for a fortnight.

Secretary Lansing today denied stock market reports that Germany had disavowed the sinking of the Arabic, but this was followed by the admission that some such statement might have been made to Ambassador Gerard in Berlin. It was said this explained the action of the state department instructing Gerard to request a statement, and also to inquire whether the German admiralty has received any report from the commander of the submarine supposed to have torpedoed the Arabic.

It was not exactly clear this afternoon why the state department seemed doubtful as to the nationality of Mrs. Josephine Brugniere, of San Francisco and New York, and Dr. Edmund Woods, of Janesville, Wis., two of those who perished when the Arabic sank and heretofore accepted as being Americans. It was declared that officials here had merely accepted the statement of Ambassador Page that they were American citizens. The intimation was that if Mrs. Brugniere and Dr. Woods were not Americans, the situation might be modified as a practical proposition, though in principle the case would remain the same inasmuch as there were Americans aboard the liner when she was supposedly torpedoed without warning.

Many Conflicting Views.

(By C. P. Stewart.)

Washington, Aug. 23.—Ambassador Gerard has been instructed to ask that Germany furnish him with a statement as to the sinking of the liner Arabic at the earliest possible moment, Secretary of State Lansing announced today.

With the step the administration made in its important move in an attempt to learn the facts concerning the sinking of the White Star liner with the loss of two American lives. The instructions forwarded to the ambassador in Berlin made clear that action is to be taken on the British report alone, and Gerard was requested to ask if the German admiralty has yet received a report of the German submarine which is supposed to have torpedoed the Arabic.

Question of Nationality.

The question was even raised today as to the nationality of Mrs. Josephine Brugniere, of New York and San Francisco, and Dr. Edmund Woods, of Janesville, Wis.

At the state department it was said it had not been learned definitely that the victims of the Arabic were Americans. The statement of Ambassador Page that they were has merely been accepted.

Secretary Lansing today said reports received so far as to the Arabic were "fragmentary." He denied a stock market report that Germany had disavowed the attack upon the liner.

Guesses As to Policy.

There were two guesses today regarding action that is to follow the sinking of the big liner last week. The first is: That President Wilson is prepared to "strain a point" to escape the risk of involving the United States in war.

Second, that the president is prepared to sever diplomatic relations with Germany, call an extra session of congress, and take steps looking to possible hostilities unless the kaiser "comes to time" immediately.

There was no way of telling today which of these theories is correct or which is the more nearly correct.

Some Want Stern Measures.

Some theorists, passionately in favor of stern measures, do not believe President Wilson will adopt such means of enforcing the administration's demands for the safety of Americans at sea. Others, who personally are on the opposite side, feared the administration would adopt an attitude which would endanger the nation's peace.

A third group, having American commerce in mind, thought the relations of the United States toward the allies, and Great Britain in particular, a matter of first consideration. They favored subordinating the controversy with Germany to the Anglo-American dispute in which England has so far flatly denied all contentions of the administration as to the seizure and detention of neutral cargoes.

Want War on Allies.

This group is not far from desiring war on the allies and is strong for placing a charge upon shipments of munitions and supplies to the powers of the entente.

The group is composed chiefly of representatives of the cotton interests, packers and dealers in dye stuffs.

Most of the information regarding the Arabic shows that the liner was torpedoed without warning and that she made no effort to ram the submarine or escape. Some unofficial stories, at least, suggested, however, that maneuverers of the Arabic gave the submarine the excuse of thinking the liner was attempting to ram her or was endeavoring to flee. If these reports are verified, they might furnish ground for accepting the German story, assuming that Germany makes an explanation.

Germany Is Perturbed.

Reports from Berlin contained in United Press dispatches as to the perturbation because of the loss of life and the doubt expressed that the Arabic was sunk by a submarine were regarded as hopeful. It is not believed Germany can disprove the liner was submarine, but the reports were regarded in some quarters as indicating the kaiser will try to make out a good case.

Tense Viewing of the Situation with Pessimism were more generally inclined to accept the British version of the attack, in that the Germans, being exhausted, naturally desire to draw in the United States so as to represent that there is no other option than peace, inasmuch as the world is arrayed against them.

ITALY'S DECLARATION CAUSED BY FAILURE Effort To Penetrate Austrian Frontier Is Completely Checked

By J. W. T. Mason.

(Written for the United Press.)

New York, Aug. 23.—Italy's declaration of war on Turkey is due principally to her failure against Austro-Hungary. Italy must compensate elsewhere for the blood and treasure being uselessly expended against Austria, and Turkey is the sacrifice.

Italy now risks losing her new Tripoli colony recently taken from the Moabans. This is doubtless why the Italians delayed entering the war. But confronted on the Ionian and Alpine fronts by deadlocks the Rome government was compelled to risk the possible loss of Tripoli. Turkey has enough soldiers for a Tripolitan campaign, but it is doubtful whether sufficient ammunition can be spared at present.

If Bulgaria should enter the war on the side of the Teutons, Turkey's mutual chances are even. That Tripoli will be retaken by the Turks. Italy may decline to participate in the Gallipoli campaign, or at most send only a small expeditionary force to the Dardanelles.

BALKAN NATIONS EXPECTED TO ACT WITHOUT DELAY

Italy's Declaration of War Against Turkey Will Hasten Developments

By Ed L. Keene.

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

London, Aug. 23.—The Balkan situation has entered an acute stage today. Italy having declared war on Turkey, early action is now expected from the powers whose position has long been a puzzle to diplomats and for whose aid the nations of the entente and alliance have been bidding for months.

Serbia is expected to let it be known, possibly before night, whether she is willing to cede Serbian Macedonia to Bulgaria in return for the latter's participation on the side of the allies. Premier Venizelos will be sworn in during the day as the head of the new Greek cabinet and it is believed a statement may come from him as to the policy of his government.

As yet no hint has come from Serbia as to the course King Peter's government will pursue. Serbian diplomats have characterized Bulgaria's demands as exorbitant.

But important influences have been working at the Serbian capital during the past week. Whether this has brought about a change in sentiment is problematical and it is felt that Italy's declaration of war against Turkey may possibly delay the answer of the Serbs.

Bulgaria has made no fresh move to indicate whether Czar Ferdinand intends to join the allies. From various sources, however, it was learned today that Turkey and the Austro-Germans are not so confident of keeping Bulgaria as they were a fortnight ago.

United Serbia and Bulgaria announced their decisions no change is expected at Athens or Bucharest as to the positions of Greece and Rumania. Diplomats here are convinced that the Greek cabinet will favor continuance of the policy of neutrality until developments make it appear certain that Greece will have something to gain by entering the war. Dispatches from sources which have not always proved to be reliable today declared Rumania has been seized with a war fever, but for the present this statement was accepted with reserve.

It is believed here that the question of supplying Turkey with munitions is becoming more serious, especially from the Turkish standpoint, owing to the landing of British reinforcements in the Dardanelles. It is thought possible that Austria and Germany are attempting to coerce Rumania owing to the extreme necessity of opening the road from Germany to Constantinople for the shipment of guns and ammunition.

Diplomats took no stock in reports that Rumania would declare war on Turkey because of her long standing friendship with Italy. It was pointed out that Rumania did not join the allies when Italy declared war on Austria, though it was believed Rumania and Italy had entered a pact to join in the war at the same time.

RUSSIANS SINK GERMAN WARSHIPS IN RIGA GULF

Thanks Are Given In Churches For Successes In Sea Battle

Petrograd, Aug. 23.—Eleven German warships, including one of the enemy's "best dreadnaughts," were sunk by the Russian squadron in the Riga naval battle, an official statement from the admiralty announced today. One Russian gunboat was destroyed.

The official announcement of the admiralty conflicts with some points with an earlier statement of President Rodzianko, of the duma, announcing the Russian victory, but in the main the claims of a crushing blow being dealt the Germans are borne out.

"One of the best German dreadnaughts was sunk by a British submarine and at least two German cruisers and eight torpedo boats were sunk," the official statement declared.

"The Russian gunboat Sivutich was set afire after brilliant fighting and sank, carrying down with her a German torpedo boat."

President Rodzianko declared that the dreadnaught Moltke, three German cruisers and seven torpedo boats were sunk by the Russians. He said four barges loaded with German troops were captured and the enemy forces destroyed. The admiralty made an claim of the sinking of German troop ships.

In admitting the sinking of the gunboat Sivutich, the Petrograd statement makes no reference to the Korsets, a sister ship, which an official statement from Berlin Saturday claimed was also destroyed.

CALVARY FIGHT WITH INVADING MEXICANS

Three Americans Killed and Many Mexicans Put Out of Action

Patagonia, Ariz., Aug. 23.—A force of United States cavalry and American cowboys fought a four hour battle with Mexicans last night near Lochiel in Santa Cruz county. Refugees arriving here today from the scene reported that three American troopers were killed and about many Mexicans had fallen in the fight.

Three thousand Carranzista soldiers are camped at Zorillo, just across the line from Lochiel. There they threaten to cross the San Rafael valley, according to ranchers. All women were hurried here from the valley by automobile last night.

Then she may decide to concentrate most of these forces along the Smyrna coast where her chief interests are centered. A Smyrna offensive by Italy would decide the question of munitions and contribute indirectly toward the Gallipoli campaign but would not be so helpful as direct participation in the attack upon Constantinople.

GERMANS IN DOUBT WHETHER SUBMARINE SUNK LINER ARABIC

By Carl W. Ackerman.

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

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Berlin, via The Hague, Aug. 23.—Officials here expressed doubt today that a German submarine sank the liner Arabic—especially without warning. They are reading carefully every dispatch, and more telegrams are arriving hourly, but every one in official circles with whom I talked said he doubted if the Arabic was sunk by a German submarine.

I talked at the admiralty with a captain who is in close touch with the American situation. He has just been promoted to be commander of a large ship. "It will be from eight to 13 days before the submarine which is away now can report," this officer said. "Until then we will have no official information."

From excerpts of the English, Dutch and Scandinavian press, it is not certain that a submarine sank the Arabic. No one saw a submarine. The Arabic's captain says he saw a torpedo 300 feet away, but this does not seem probable.

The captain produced a Rotterdam telegram to a Berlin newspaper saying the passengers on the Arabic were provided with life belts when the ship reached the "danger zone."

"What 'danger zone' was reached?" asked the captain. "It is possible the Arabic struck a mine. A Copenhagen statement says mines are floating off the east and west coasts of England. There are so many doubtful points at issue I hope the United States will not jump at conclusions until an investigation determines the facts."

VICTORY IS REGARDED AS ANSWER TO PRAYERS

Paris Official Report Tells of Activity On Western War Front

Paris, Aug. 23.—The Russian victory was regarded by other German warships and Russian troops were captured and the enemy forces destroyed. The admiralty made an claim of the sinking of German troop ships.

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TO RAISE SUBMARINE

Washington, Aug. 23.—Six pontoons are being used in an effort to drag the P-4, the submarine which sank in the harbor at Honolulu, as close inshore as possible, says a dispatch received at the navy department today.

EX-PRESIDENT TAFT IN SALEM TODAY

Will Go South On Shasta Limited, After Address In Portland

Portland, Ore., Aug. 23.—Ex-President Taft, who is to address a joint meeting of the Oregon and Washington Bar association on "Law and Government," this afternoon was up early and received a number of personal friends. The morning was spent quietly.

At noon he was the luncheon guest of Ralph Williams, Oregon member of the republican national committee.

The former chief executive will begin his address to the bar associations at 1:30 this afternoon and two hours and 20 minutes later will depart for San Francisco on the Shasta limited.

An address at the Portland Press club breakfast Sunday, in which Professor Taft advocated military and naval preparedness was widely commented on today as it was the first time he expressed his views in this connection.

"We read of the great European war and the immensity of the struggle appeals us," Professor Taft said, "and when we stop to consider what our preparations are and how near we are to the controversy it ought to give us pause."

"While we ought to be grateful to a kind Providence that we are removed from the conflict, that should not blind us to the necessity on our part to take early action, so that we shall not find ourselves in a humiliating position if an aggressor shall seize on us. We ought to be in a position to defend our honorable rights and to defend ourselves from such aggressions as we ought to honorably resist."

Professor Taft advocating the raising of the United States army to two or three times its present size and the building of a navy equal to any other in the world with the exception of Great Britain.

(The former president will pass through Eugene at 5:43 p. m. The train stops five minutes here.)

ANNEXATION OF BELGIUM DISCUSSED

Amsterdam, Aug. 23.—Cancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg does not desire discussion of the annexation of Belgium in the reichstag, but on the contrary has urged the leaders to support peace talk, according to the Telegraf here today.

The Telegraf is not considered friendly to Germany. It declares that before the opening of the reichstag last week the imperial chancellor and Financial Secretary Helfferich called a secret conference and urged the party leaders to soft pedal all annexation talk and give their support to peace discussion. Helfferich is quoted by the Telegraf as declaring that the new \$2,000,000,000 loan will exhaust Germany's resources and that an early peace is needed.

WOMAN INSTANTLY KILLED WHEN CAR AND RIG COLLIDE

Mrs. Casper Andregg Sustains Broken Neck By Fall To Pavement

HER HUSBAND AND FOUR CHILDREN IN HOSPITAL

Vehicle Rounds Blind Corner In Front of Asylum Avenue Car

Mrs. Casper Andregg was instantly killed at 11:36 last night and Casper Andregg and his three children and a neighbor boy, Arthur Theuer, were sent to the hospital when the asylum avenue car smashed into the rig in which they were riding at the corner of Center and Statesman streets. Mr. Andregg resides at 1656 Center street and was within a block of home when he rounded the corner to turn east on Center street and met the street car which was going west. The corner at this place is known as a blind corner on account of a building which obscures the view of the track.

The Andregg family were driving along in a double rig at a sweeping trot when they turned out of Statesman street to turn east on Center street. Suddenly a car which was coming from the west past the corner of the building, Mr. Andregg said this morning that his son, Casper Andregg, Jr., was first to see the car and the boy grabbed the lines but not in time to stop the team which crossed the track. The car which it is said was going about 16 miles per hour hit the front wheel of the vehicle and threw the family out upon the pavement. Mrs. Andregg struck on her head and it is thought her neck was broken. She was dead when City Physician Caschatt arrived on the scene a few minutes later. Dr. Caschatt administered powerful restoratives but received no response and the indications were that death was instantaneous.

Casper Andregg, Sr., was badly bruised about the chest and left shoulder and suffered minor bruises all over his body. The left side of his head was scraped as he fell headlong to the pavement. Casper Andregg, Jr., was the most seriously injured of the survivors. His left shoulder was so badly bruised that a close examination was impossible but Dr. Caschatt states that the head of the bones of the upper arm is broken off and the collar bone is fractured. The boy's body was badly bruised and a small rock was taken out of his forehead where it was deeply imbedded. Father Andregg, aged 7, was cut about the head and Edna Andregg, aged 5, suffered a badly bruised forehead. Arthur Theuer, aged 11, was badly bruised about the left thigh but none of the wounds of any of the party are likely to prove serious unless some unforeseen complications arise according to Dr. Caschatt. This morning all seemed to have recovered from the shock and with the exception of the usual soreness were on the road to rapid recovery.

The vehicle was almost a total wreck but the team was not injured as both horses broke away when the car struck and proceeded to put plenty of distance between them and the scene of the accident as soon as possible. Mr. Andregg did not place any blame upon any one in particular this morning and his chief worry was about his wife. He said, however, that they did not see the car until they drove into Center street and that they did not hear it coming.

Motorman G. W. Church reported that he was unaware of the presence of the team until they suddenly showed up directly in front of his car. He reversed the current, put on the brakes and brought the car to a stop in 100 feet but did not see the team in time to avoid the accident. Motorman R. Shelleck was in charge of the car.

ATTORNEY IS DROWNED

Portland, Ore., Aug. 23.—The death of Carl J. Wangerien, aged 35, an attorney, who was drowned in the Columbia river Sunday while attempting to save Miss Gertrude Wade from a similar fate, was mourned by hundreds of friends today. Wangerien became entangled in the attempt and sank. Miss Wade was brought to shore by other companions unconscious, but was resuscitated.

THE WEATHER

Oregon: Fair tonight and Tuesday, not so warm interior west portion; westerly winds.

YOUTH IS DROWNED

Woodland, Wash., Aug. 23.—Exhaustion was believed today to have caused the drowning of Edward Mendenhall, aged 20, son of E. J. Mendenhall, of Portland attorney, who went to his death in the Lewis river here Sunday.

GERMAN DESTROYER SUNK

Paris, Aug. 23.—French torpedo boats from the second light squadron sank a German destroyer off Ostend last night, the ministry of marine announced today.

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS

Indianapolis News: And no doubt those farmers who can't thrash their wheat on account of the frequent rains feel like thrashing the weather man.

