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SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1916

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CAPTURE OF VILLA IS CONFIRMED BY OFFICIALS

Whereabouts Mexican Rebel Leader Is Unknown—Story of His Capture With Eighteen of His Followers Lacks Confirmation—Sixteen of San Ysabel Murderers Reported To Have Been Captured and Shot—War of Extinction Against Americans Declared

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 21.—The fate and the whereabouts of General Francisco Villa stood today a mystery in the face of conflicting reports that he had been captured.

Following announcement by Mexican Consul Garcia that the bandit chief was being brought to Juarez for execution, possibly before a large crowd at the race track there, General Luis Herrera, chief commander of the Carranzistas, wired from Chihuahua City today that there was no confirmation of the story.

Officials admitted that after all, he may not be in the toils.

With the fondest hopes of the de facto government thus dissipated, the new revolution around Forrester was reported making progress, with human bodies swinging from poles and bloody corpses left in the streets.

Stories as to Villa came from several sources. They were conflicting and official confirmation of the reported capture was lacking. Earlier private messages from mining sources in Chihuahua stated that Villa had been captured alive on the promise that his life would be spared. This report said that three Carranzista detachments had surrounded him and 18 followers, and had captured them after they had made a pretense of resistance.

Included in the group were said to be Colonel Carlos Lopez, and 15 other participants in the execution of 18 Americans at Santa Ysabel. These sixteen were reported to have confessed and to have paid with their lives for those they had taken. This story, however, was unconfirmed.

A message to the commander of the Juarez garrison contained also a report of Villa's capture, but as with the others it lacked official confirmation.

Terror rules in the Torreón district, according to refugees here. Nearly 4,000 soldiers—Villistas and Zapatistas chief—are said to have declared the lives of Carranzistas and Americans forfeit, and to be in favor of having Felix Diaz at the head of Mexican affairs.

Executions without mercy are the order of the day. More than 100 Carranzistas are said to have been shot down before a machine gun squad, southwest of Torreón, after Americans had been warned to quit the district on a quarter of an hour's notice.

General Argumedo is leading this revolt, and stories say that he is carrying on an outlaw war which included robbing an American mining company of a \$10,000 draft. His forces are said to outnumber the Torreón Carranzista garrison by fully 1,000 men.

EIGHTEEN WHO TOOK PART IN MURDERS SHOT

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 21.—Eighteen Villista bandits paid with their lives today at Chihuahua City because of the assassination of 18 Americans at Santa Ysabel. While details were lacking in the official Carranzista advices detailing the story this afternoon it is believed they were lined up before a firing squad in a public place. Most or all of the 18 are said to have participated in the Santa Ysabel outlaws.

Mayor Makes a Million Through Deals In Ships

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—Mayor James Rolph, Jr., of San Francisco, is one person who does not believe the European war has very materially affected the United States. Rolph's various ship deals in the last 12 months have netted him a million dollars, it is said.

The chief executive of the city is said to have netted \$130,000 on an investment of \$120,000 in the purchase and sale of the steamer General Pasqueri, and he never even let the \$120,000 out of his hands. Before he had paid the money for the vessel he had it sold to a Norwegian ship firm for \$250,000.

Eighteen to Be Shot

Washington, Jan. 21.—Eighteen Mexican prisoners, alleged to have been participants in the Santa Ysabel massacre of 18 Americans, will be publicly executed at Chihuahua City tomorrow, according to an El Paso telegram to the state department today. The evidence connecting them with the Santa Ysabel affair is unknown.

Neither the state department nor the Mexican embassy, however, had confirmation of the report that General Villa has been captured, and they were slow to believe it, particularly in view of the fact that such reports have circulated a score of times recently.

The state department asked Consul Edwards at Juarez for information, and said it would not credit the story until it was confirmed. At the same time the Mexican embassy sought fuller facts.

STUCK TO HER POST

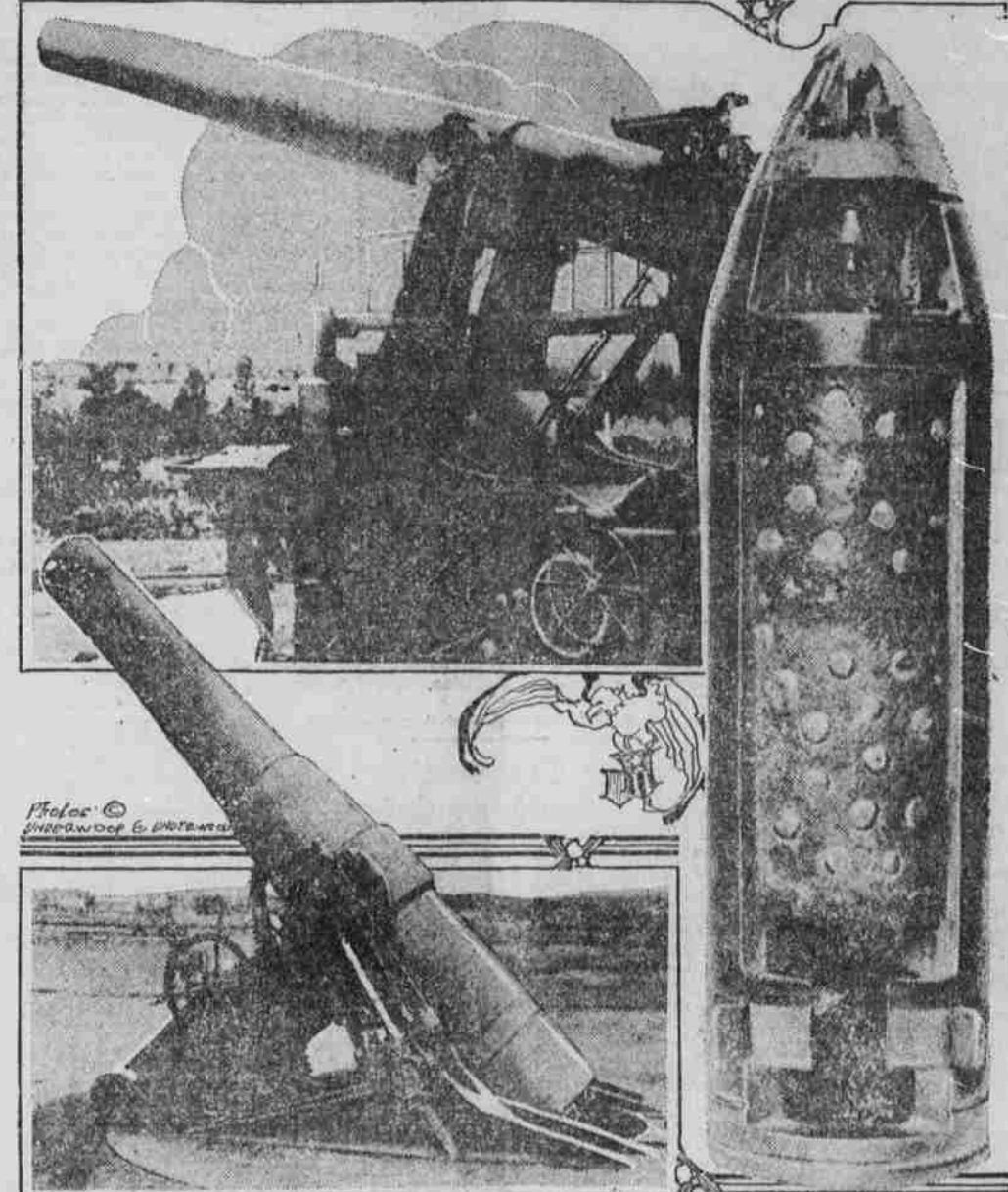
Portland, Ore., Jan. 21.—With her hair and eye brows badly singed, Mrs. Sarepta McDowell today is hailed as a heroine. When the Pacific Waste company's factory caught fire yesterday all the employees but Mrs. McDowell fled. She remained in the burning building until she had telephoned the fire department. Her bravery nearly cost her life.

Abe Martin



We all know th' feller who knocks himself 't git in a boost. Kiefer peeps may be kept indefinitely by tippin' th' stems with sealin' wax.

UNCLE SAM HAS MONSTER GUNS TO DEFEND THE PANAMA CANAL



Two of the big guns defending the Panama Canal, and interior of shrapnel shell containing 252 lead bolts. Some of the biggest guns in the world, shooting a distance of over twenty miles are being taken to Panama where they will defend the canal. At the right of the picture is shown one of the huge shells used by these guns. This particular shell contains 950 lead bolts.

BLACK HAND LOCATED IN SAN FRANCISCO

Terrifies Italians From Whom It Has Gathered More Than \$200,000

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—Driven from New York, and hunted over the entire earth the dreaded black hand, a black mailers' organization, is now operating with this city as its headquarters. Federal officials indicated today that important revelations may be forthcoming in their investigation of this organization. Some of the evidence, it is understood, has already been presented to the federal grand jury.

The black hand struck when Police Lieutenant Petroski of New York, was slain in Italy in 1909; since that time, according to the evidence of secret service men, the black hand plotters operating here, in New York, Milwaukee and elsewhere have garnered \$200,000 toll from panic stricken Italians, have murdered six other men, and have left a trail of dynamite and bombs across the continent.

The present probe is understood to have originated with the arrest of Joe Vetrano and Tony Di Franco at San Jose last fall. Since then a veritable flood of black hand threats and demands for money have come to prominent Italian merchants here and in nearby cities.

A number of indictments are to be returned by the federal grand jury Monday.

Two of these it is said will be against Tony De Franco and Joseph Vetrano, now serving prison terms for blackmail work in San Jose.

The officials admitted today that they have in their possession 150 letters written wealthy San Francisco Italians. Some of \$1000, \$5,000 and \$5,000 are asked for various cases. In each case the letters ask that the money be left in a wood, near Colma, San Mateo county.

BILL PASSES THE HOUSE

Washington, Jan. 21.—The \$12,000,000 urgent deficiency bill passed the house this afternoon, with the \$2,000,000 emergency appropriation for the Alaskan railroad and the \$300,000 to fight citrus canker included.

JUST KEPT THE CHANGE

Fresno, Cal., Jan. 21.—The chap who robbed J. A. Devlin's grocery sent back some checks, which he found were useless to him. He kept the loose change, however.

MIDDLE WEST NOW CENTER OF STORM

RAINFALL IS HEAVY

At Chicago Is 1.72 Inches and at Kansas City 2.24 In 24 Hours

WIND BACKS WATERS INTO CHICAGO SEWERS

Eight Feet of Water In Joliet—Other Illinois Towns Are Drowned Out

Chicago, Jan. 21.—Unusually heavy rains in a "January thaw" caused danger of floods in a dozen towns of the middle west today, according to early reports. Hundreds of cellars in Chicago are flooded.

The rainfall here for the past days has been 1.77 inches; at Kansas City 2.94; at Kankakee, 1.42. The lowlands of the Calumet and Chicago rivers are flooded.

A heavy wind across the lake backed water into the sewers and inundated many blocks of South Chicago. The water is five feet high in some sections of Lombard, and other suburbs where scores are homeless. The village of Cicero is marooned. More rain is forecast.

Rivers on Rampage

Ottawa, Ill., Jan. 21.—Scores of houses and thousands of acres of rich farm lands are inundated as the result of overflowing of the Illinois and Fox rivers. The streams are rising at the rate of two feet an hour.

The worst of the flood in the Illinois, however, is being held back by an ice gorge to the west of Ottawa, though this is damaging up-river points. Inter-urban service is suspended.

Joliet Under Water

Joliet, Ill., Jan. 21.—Fully 1,000 persons are homeless while parts of this city are under from four to eight feet of water following a deluge continuously for the past day. No casualties have been reported, but property damage is around \$100,000. A number of families were rescued in row boats, and hurried to temporary shelter in hospitals.

GERMANY PREPARES HER FINAL ANSWER

Understood Message Concedes American Demands On Practically All Points

By Carl W. Ackerman. (United Press staff correspondent.) Berlin, Jan. 21.—Germany's final reply to America in the Lusitania torpedoing case is being prepared, and while the time of delivery is not determined, officials are confident that it will settle all submarine differences with the United States.

It is understood the message declares a willingness to grant indemnity for the lives lost; again expresses regret for the casualties; but reiterates the German reminder that neutral persons had been warned not to sail aboard her. The message guarantees the future safety of neutrals aboard belligerent passenger ships, and promises not to torpedo them without warning. It maintains the position which Ambassador Von Bernstorff told the state department.

Trial of Mary Parnis Will End This Evening

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—Her eyes shut, her hands clenched and her body quivering, Mrs. Mary Parnis heard today the police stenographer's report of her confession of how she had backed to bite the body of Michael Weinstein, her crippled suitor, and had hidden it in a box.

She begged that her husband be allowed to sit beside her as her trial for the alleged murder progressed; but the court ruled he must stay outside the rail.

The end of the trial is expected by tonight.

THE WEATHER

Salonika, Dec. 11.—Our ambulance rushed down the mountain side at French chauffeur speed and into a valley behind hill number 516 which sheltered us from shell fire and at least, we were so far away from the artillery battle that we could barely hear the guns.

Oregon: Tonight and Saturday occasional rain in west, unsettled, probably rain or snow in east portion; southerly winds.

SOUTHERN BULGARIA IS INVADED BY ALLIES

Anglo-French Squadron Silences Forts at Port Lagos After Two Days' Fierce Bombardment and Lands Troops—Sweden Wants United States To Join In Protest Against English Blockade of German Ports—Spain Making Heavy Purchases of War Munitions in United States

Athens, Jan. 21.—After two days of relentless bombardment, an Anglo-French squadron silenced the forts of Porto Lagos on the southern Bulgarian coast, not far from Greece, and landed Wednesday on Bulgar soil.

The landing party destroyed gun emplacements there, but returned to their ships after a reconnaissance showed superior forces of Bulgarians a few miles north.

The Sofia war office today officially reported the bombardment of Porto Lagos, and Dedeagatch to the eastward by a squadron of 24 warships, but did not mention the landing at Porto Lagos. From the Constantinople war office came the report that another squadron had shelled Turkish positions in the Gulf of Saros.

The Porto Lagos landing may be fraught with significance. The squadron engaging therein was probably Admiral Roebek's from the Dardanelles, and the reconnaissance was possibly preliminary to a landing in force. Though Salonika messages reported heavy damage to Dedeagatch the Sofia war office announced that there were no casualties.

Aviators directed the bombardment but Constantinople reported that Turkish batteries hit a cruiser three times, compelling her to withdraw in flames.

Sweden and Spain Next

Washington, Jan. 21.—Sweden and Spain flashed prominently today in the direction of war politics. The former was reported trying to persuade the United States to join in a protest against the proposed British actual blockade of Germany; the latter is said to be making heavy purchases of munitions in the United States.

As American interests are involved in both of these neutral nations, diplomatic quarters are rife with rumors as to what the outcome of these two situations may mean.

It is understood that Sweden is maneuvering guardedly against British interference with commercial and mail matter of Sweden though fear of trouble is deterring the Scandinavian nation from taking direct action. However, it is known that she would welcome an offer from the United States for a joint protest over English encroachments on neutral rights.

Swedish authorities are in sympathy with the American senate agitation for embargo on exports to Great Britain. They believe indeed that merely cutting off cotton exports to England would be a sufficient reprisal to gain concessions from Great Britain without the more drastic step of preventing exportation of munitions.

The Spanish situation meantime is giving the allies pause, it is understood. European reports that Spain may be preparing to turn the balance against the allies by a stroke against Portugal, coupled with reports of heavy munitions purchases in the United States is making Spain an important factor in the world political situation. Hence, the allies are understood to be keeping a watchful eye on her maneuvers.

Greece Rejects Ultimatum

London, Jan. 21.—That King Constantine, of Greece, has rejected allied demands for rejection of the diplomats of the central powers was one of sev-

eral contradictory German advices about the Athens situation reaching here today. The Berlin Tageblatt said, indeed, that the allies had not delivered their reported ultimatum, demanding that Greece give the central allies "free passage."

The Tageblatt declared that its daily Athens reports contained no mention of an ultimatum, while the Vossische Zeitung replied that this was due to the censorship. The Zeitung reiterated that the ultimatum expired Wednesday and had been rejected by Constantinople. Since then no word had come.

King Asks For Aid

Paris, Jan. 21.—King Nicholas, of Montenegro, has appealed to the allies to rush aid to his nation if they expect it to escape annihilation. The request, transmitted through Italy, asks immediate supplies of food, several batteries of artillery and some ammunition.

May Invade Egypt

Amsterdam, Jan. 21.—With Kaiser Wilhelm returning from Belgrade, officials saw today in his address at Nish a hint that the reported Turko-German invasion of Egypt is about to begin.

"We have been challenged by our enemies, who have envied the peaceful, flourishing prosperity of Germany," he said. "In a light hearted manner, they have endangered the development of Europe in order to strike at us. We have had a hard fight which will soon be spread to other fields."

Dutch Schooner Sunk

London, Jan. 21.—All aboard the Dutch schooner Rongerand perished when that vessel was sunk by a mine off the coast of Denmark, according to a Copenhagen report today.

The British steamer Sutherland was submerged in the Mediterranean Monday. The crew was taken to Malta but one sailor died from exposure in a lifeboat en route.

SHOE-TOP DEEP IN MUD ZOUAVE BAND PLAYED FOR CORRESPONDENTS

(Note—Following is the fifth installment of William G. Shepherd's interesting story of the allied retreat from Serbia. The previous installment described the experiences of a party of American correspondents under fire at the Serbian front just before retreat actually began.—Editor.)

By William G. Shepherd.

Salonika, Dec. 11.—Our ambulance rushed down the mountain side at French chauffeur speed and into a valley behind hill number 516 which sheltered us from shell fire and at least, we were so far away from the artillery battle that we could barely hear the guns.

Valandova, an old Turkish village in southern Serbia, was to be our stopping place. There, in the early evening, General Baillaud, whose brave troops—nearly all of them zouaves—had fought their way to Krievolak and had there tried to reach the Serbians and form a junction with them, was to receive, with field ceremonies, the order of military merit. But we were too late.

The ceremony was over. However, we were astonished to see in a Turkish mosque a French zouave band.

It was the first band that any of us had seen near any battle front. Between the five of us American newspapermen, we had seen every front on both sides. Band music hasn't much place in this grim war. There were ninety musicians and five drummers and they stood in the mud up to their shoe tops.

"Can't you get them to play?" we asked our guide.

"It's the first band we ever saw near a battle field."

"Will you write stories about it?" asked the leader.

We said we would. Whereupon standing in the mud, in the evening dusk that was almost darkness, with the Turkish mosque behind them and two French officers standing fifty feet above us in the mire, the band struck up the song of a certain regiment of zouaves.

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