FRANCIS X. BUSHMAN

BULGARIAN REQUEST FOR ARMISTICE TURNED DOWN BY ALLIED LEADERS

Commanding General Will Receive Delegates But Will Not Stop Fighting

By John De Gandt

(United Press staff correspondent)

Paris, Sept. 28.—High government circles in Paris expressed no surprise today at the Bulgarian bid for peace. To the United Press came the information that the request for an armistice came from these facts:

"Bulgaria is tired of her seven years of fighting. There is much discontent against her allies.

"The parley might have a chance for success if Bulgaria entirely trusts the allies.

"There is little likelihood that the entente will handle the situation with bad feeling toward the Bulgarian people themselves, but Bulgaria must renounce her exaggerated ambitions.

"Peace is only possible in accordance with the already known allied conditions.

"Bulgaria feared that Turkey would beat her in this step and therefore acted quickly in her own interests.

"There is every reason to believe that Turkey is tempted to make a similar offensive."

An armistice to the hard pressed Bulgarian armies fleeing before the allied forces in Macedonia has been refused by General D'Esperey, who commands the French forces in the Balkans, but he has agreed to meet some representatives of Bulgaria if the flag of truce and the request for an armistice are carried to the British lines. General D'Esperey has informed the French government of the request as follows:

"Tonight a Bulgarian officer presented himself upon behalf of General Tomodow, who says he is commander of the Bulgarian armies, proposing an armistice for 48 hours to allow the arrival of two accredited delegates of the Bulgarian government, viz: the finance minister, Liaptcheffet, and General Loukoff, commanding the second army, coming with the permission of King Ferdinand to establish conditions of an armistice and, eventually, peace."

General D'Esperey reported he replied:

"I am unable to grant an armistice but will receive the delegates if they present themselves to the British lines accompanied by a flag of truce."

General D'Esperey also said that he had denied an armistice because he feared the request might be a ruse to gain time for reorganization.

La Liberte, a Paris newspaper, commenting on the request today, said.

"The czar's offer indicates a German defeat in the Occident."

"If the negotiations take place," said Intrasigeant, "they will engage not only France but all the allies."

FLANDERS FRONT

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east of the Apremont-Cierges lines."

"The French and Americans yesterday again lost heavily.

"Enemy attacks on our positions between Ribecourt and Villers-Guislain failed.

"Between Epehy and Bellicourt English and American divisions were repulsed. The enemy was driven back to his starting position at Lempire and beyond."

Artillery In Italy.

Rome, Sept. 28.—Intense artillery fighting in various sectors of the Piave front was reported by the Italian war office.

There was lively local fighting in the mountain sector, especially near Giudicarie.

In the Vallursa sector a large enemy assault was attempted Thursday night, following intense artillery preparation. It was beaten back in disorder.

Russian Operations

London, Sept. 28—The Japanese have efefeted a junction with General Rufulov, and have occupied Zeyapristan, it was announced in the Japanese war office statement received here today.

Japanese mounted troops, converging from the main forces, have effected a junction with General Rufulov," the communique said.

"After overcoming resistance, Japanese cavalry occupied Zeyapristan."

At any rate the footprints smeared all over town this morning follow the straight and narrow chalk line. One shudders to think what the showing might be if the twon were "wet."

Silverton "Over Top" With Little Effort

Silverton went over the top in the fourth liberty loan drive without any particular flurry or fuss. It required just one week to turn the trick. The first work done was Monday evening, September 16, when a meeting was held in the M. E. church parlors to devisie the plans of proceedinig. The plan of operation and the results obtained are evidence enough that the outline was a sucess.

Our quota was $171,000, and by Tuesday evening the pledges filed netted $171,050 and still there is more to come as some of the outlying districts are still working and have not yet reported.

We have every reason to feel proud of our success in this drive and we believe everyone is.—Appeal.

STRING OR NAVY, LET BEAN JOIN RESERVES

Dried beans are great and how to prepare them is best told in the free drying book any reader of this paper can have by sending a two-cent stamp to the National War Garden Commission at Washington.

General Steiner Orders To Confer Sunday

The thirty-eight captains who worked with General Steiner on the Fourth Liberty Loan drive are advised to meet Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Commercial club. Each of the captains have been mailed the following letter:

"We have made our initial advance on this 4th Liberty Loan campaign and I regret to admit that we have been unsuccessful and have been driven back into our trenches, so to speak, by the Generals of our enemies, to-wit: General Apathy, General Indifference General Selfishness, etc.

Our ranks were thin in spots at the beginning of the advance, and the result was that such sectors were unable to hold their own with others who were more fully manned.

"We must reorganize our forces, drill them right, equip them, and send them over the top on another charge, and this time it will be to Victory.

"We will insure victory by being thoroughly prepared and ready to go over the top and forward to our goal, before we undertake to do so. We are all aware, and have been from the beginning, that we were making a premature start on the recent drive, but the same was forced upon us by the State Committee and we had no choice in the matter.

"I am asking all of you Captains to meet with me on Sunday, the 29th, at 3 p. m. at the Commercial club auditorium, for the purpose of enabling me to explain to you what I have in mind and to get your ideas and assistance i nthe planning and arranging of our new drive.

"I earnestly urge that you be present so that I may get a true measure of the assistance that I may expect from my Captains. You will appreciate that the responsibility of raising Salem's quota rests equally with you and the other Captains, individually, as it does with me. It is as much your duty to do your part as it is mine to do my part, as you no doubt realize.

"If by chance you cannot POSSIBLY be there, please call me by phone and advise me to that effect, and arrange to have a lieutenant represent you at the meeting.

"Yours truly,

"R. E. LEE STEINER,

"General 4th Liberty Loan Campaign committee."

Walter Olson Writes From Langley Field

Walter O. Olson, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Olson of rural route 6, Salem, has been doing some flying. He writes in part as follows:

"I have been up six times and go every time I have a chance. Most of our airplanes are camouflaged. We have some of the famous DeHavilands and spads. I have been up in a spad several times. They are quite fast and are used for photography. The DeHaviland has a Liberty motor and is the most powerful machine we have. They use it for bombing here. The other day it crawled to a height of 23,000 feet in one hour. It can also go up at a 60 degree angle. Some prowler, believe me.

Our chances for going over are rather small but if we don't. I will transfer to the infantry. They have quite a few mechonics across and need them worse over here on training planes."

The letter was written from Langley Field, not for from Washington, D. C.

CAMBRAI AT MERCR

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the points reached by the infantry.

The roads and field swarmed with British contingents coming up to the front. There was practically no fire to disturb them as they repaired the canal bridges destroyed by the Germans or built new roads around giant craters in the main road where the enemy exploded mines as he retreated.

Not until the end of two hours did the German guns show signs of renewed activity, dropping high velocity shells here and there in the open fields, seeking out the British field guns, which were methodically pouring out a harrasing fire on the line beyond Cambrai.

Many Burning Villages

To the right on the horizon villages could be seen burning—doubtless the work of the Germans, since no British guns had been turned on them

The canal itself and its surroundings made clear why it was regarded as a central point in yesterday's operations, yet made it harder to understand how the British swept across it as fast as they did. Its steep, smooth sides offered little hold for the Canadians and others who had the job of clambering in and out. Yet, somehow, they managed to do it under fire from machine guns planted all along the ridges overlooking it, notwithstanding that the element of surprise had been eliminated by the time they reached the canal.

Capture of Canal.

It was first necessary to rush down 300 yards of slope and smother the fire of German outposts on this side of the canal. Just beside the main road a scattered brickyard, with kilns forming natural dugouts, afforded the Germans a stronghold. But they were only utilized until it became apparent that the British rush could not be checked. Then the boches cleared out, taking many machine guns with them.

Examination of the kilns, as well as the surrounding emplacements, showed that the Germans had carried away practically all the material.

The same was true of the other side of the canal, where remarkable tunnels were found in the ridges along the bank. Ridges on either side of the road enabled machine gunners to sweep the approaching British almost at will, but when they saw they could not stop the onrush the machine gunners wilted and fled, taking their guns with them.

Bloody Bourlon Wood.

Early reports announced the capture of a thousand prisoners, in connection with the taking of Flesquieres and Ribecourt, while another wave, passing through and relieveing the first, took another 260 and a battery. No britisher ever thinks of Cantaign and Cambrai without remembering last November when Burlon wood changed hands. Yesterday the Canadians, after taking Marquon, enveloped the wood land village of the same name with comparatively little opposition. I do not intend to give the impression that the fight was a complete walkover. One division was compelled to fight desperately to convince the Germans that they must give up Anne X, while another found some factory buildings three thousand yards beyond the canal the toughest kind of problem. Stern defense was met at Beauchamp.

Strongest Defenses Shattered.

The fact remains that the British, by putting sufficient power into the blow—there is no need to disguise the fact that the Brirish put tremendous power, in men, guns and tanks into this blow—were able to shatter the finest land defense the Germans have been able to conceive.

The explanation unquestionably can be found in the human equation. In the line of prisoners five blocks long physical nondescripts predominated. I saw two who looked no more than 15 years old and the whole bunch looked far from first class fighting material.

It is difficult to judge an army by a single batch of prisoners, but there may be some significance in the fact that men whom the rapidly advancing British were sending back under escort yesterday afternoon wre not of the same quality as the trench system they were chosen to defend.

The greater part of the allied line upon which counter-attacks were thrown was held by General Cameron's corps. These counter-attacks were repulsed by troops from Oregon, Washington, Ohio, New Jersey, Virginia, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Maryland.

General Pershing's troops made a great haul of German artillery in the region of Dannevoux. The Americans' capture included four big 210-millimetre guns and eight 150-millimetre pieces and 15 trench mortars, 10 field guns and 34 machine guns.