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ALLIES SMASH LINE NORTHEAST OF ST. QUENTIN

CIVILIANS GETTING OUT OF LILLE AS ALLIED ARMIES SURROUND IT IS GREAT GERMAN STRONGHOLD

ST. QUENTIN IN HANDS OF FRENCH BRITISH HAVE TAKEN DAMASCUS "HINDENBURG SYSTEM A SIEVE"

Utter Demoralization Of Germany's Fixed Defenses Is In Sight.—Open Warfare May Be Forced On Germans Unless Belgium And France Are Abandoned.—Germans Applied Torch To St. Quentin Before Leaving It.—Interesting Developments Promised.

By Lowell Mellett
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With The British Armies In France, Oct. 2.—The supporting trench system behind the Hindenburg defenses, known as the Beuvevoir line, has been broken.

The British Ninth corps, operating in connection with Australian troops, has captured the village of Beuvevoir forming the north end of the defenses, as well as Brancourt (eight miles northeast of St. Quentin and six miles east and south of LaCatelet).

The French have thus been enabled to push eastward and above St. Quentin, cutting the latter off and compelling its evacuation.

Utter demolition of Germany's fixed defenses seems to be in sight. The Hindenburg system has become a sieve, soon to be a memory. Open warfare, on a scale similar to the days when the Germans first reached France has been made possible.

Think Cambrai Taken
London, Oct. 2.—(4:10 p. m.)—Cambrai was partially occupied this morning. It was stated in battle front dispatches received this afternoon. The city is now believed to have fallen.

Took 2000 Prisoners
London, Sept. 2.—(4:35 p. m.)—Between the Vesle and the Aisne where the French are pushing forward, in the encircling movement against St. Gobain massif, 2000 additional German prisoners were taken today, battle front dispatches announced.

German Line Broken
London, Oct. 2.—(1:50 p. m.)—The German line through Beuvevoir and Fousomme, northeast of St. Quentin has been broken, according to battle front dispatches received here this afternoon. This threatens the enemy's line of retreat from the Oise valley and St. Gobain massif, if he is forced to withdraw in that region.

Damascus Surrendered
London, Oct. 2.—Damascus was occupied by British forces at six o'clock yesterday morning. It was only announced in the Palestine communique received today. There were no particulars.

With Damascus in the hands of the British and French approaching Beirut, the way is practically open to a march on Aleppo, 200 miles north of Damascus, where the railways from Damascus and Bagdad to Constantinople converge. Aleppo is about 500 miles southeast of Constantinople.

Lille Is Menaced
Paris, Oct. 2.—The city of Lille is being evacuated by its civilian population, according to advices received today.

Americans Break Records
With the American Army in France, Oct. 2.—During the month of September the first American pursuit group of airplanes won more than seventy victories, averaging two boches for every three pilots in the squadron. Only four pilots were lost. This is a world record.

Metz Bombed Again
London, Sept. 2.—Metz-Sablons has again been bombed by the British independent air force in conjunction with the American operations. It was announced today. Burbach was also attacked. One British machine failed to return.

Germans Apply Torch
Paris, Oct. 2.—German troops set fire to St. Quentin as the French entered it. Premier Clemenceau today informed.

FEDERATION OF SMALL STATES TO BE FORMED IN MIDDLE EUROPE

Would Include 60,000,000 Of People Between Baltic And Black Sea.

By Raymond Clapper.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Washington, Oct. 2.—Formation of a mid-European federation to consist of a chain of small states extending from the Baltic to the Black sea is under way here, it was learned today. The United States, semi-officially, will sponsor the movement.

Headquarters of the committee for a mid-European federation are to be opened here this week. Representatives of the peoples will confer over the innumerable problems presented by the scheme. This federation, to fight on a reconstructed eastern front, is being organized as a step in fulfillment of President Wilson's program of liberation for all oppressed peoples. It is expected to block Germany's ambitions to the east during the war and will be incorporated into the world league of nations at the peace table, according to the present program.

Of Many Races.
Jugo Slavs, Czech-Slovaks, Italian irredentists, Poles, Ukrainians and Rumanians in America are uniting in the move. They hope to induce their countrymen in Europe to join them. Later Finns, Lithuanians, Estonians, Greeks and even the Bulgarian peoples may join in the movement its leaders say.

Sixty million people in Europe are affected. Ten million of their countrymen in the United States are being urged on to start formation of the federation.

Military participation in the war against Germany is essential to the success of the scheme. Every nationality joining the federation must recruit its legion to fight the central powers, according to plans now in contemplation.

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GERMANS PREPARE TO EVACUATE BELGIUM ON SHORTEST NOTICE

Holland Strengthens Garrisons On Border To Protect Neutrality.

Amsterdam, Oct. 2.—Plans for the evacuation of Belgium, if necessary, have already been prepared, according to Baron Von Falkenhausen, military governor of Belgium, press dispatches received here today reported. In conversation with a leading Dutchman at The Hague, Von Falkenhausen was quoted as saying:

"Plans are ready for early evacuation of Belgium if necessary. The German army can return to its own frontier in order to show the world we really want to defend Germany."

The Dutch are said to be strengthening their frontier garrisons to prevent violations of their neutrality by the retreating Germans.

A correspondent on the frontier states that Falkenhausen secretly instructed the provincial government in Belgium to rush their archives to Germany. Several hundred luggage vans arrived in Brussels from Germany to send back the German officers' furniture.

German soldiers are quoted as having said "we won't be here more than six weeks longer."

Three days ago allied airmen flew over Brussels, dropping thousands of proclamations saying:

"Have patience. The hour of liberty is in sight."
The Germans did not turn anti-aircraft guns on these aviators.

U-BOAT CREWS MUTINY
FOUR BOATS ARE SUNK

Copenhagen, Oct. 2.—Four German torpedo boats whose crews mutined and attempted to take them out of the harbor during August, were pursued by cruisers and sunk according to information here today. The occurrence is said to have been confirmed by the washing ashore of 160 bodies.
Thirty six German sailors were executed at Kiel recently as the result of a mutiny against submarine duty. It is reported. Several mutinies occurred among German and Austrian soldiers in the Ukraine during September. At Khorot six thousand Austrians are reported to have refused to go to the west front.

BELGIUM-ENGLISH DRIVE ENDANGERS SUBMARINE BASES

King Albert And General Plummer Threaten Ostend And Zbrugge

LUDENDORFF ROBS LINE TO HELP STOP ADVANCE

Foch Stabbing Persistently Into German Lines At Fifteen Points.

By Webb Miller.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Paris, Oct. 2.—Using ten armies as great crowbars, Marshal Foch is relentlessly prying off the pillars on the German front.

At fifteen distinct points the crowbars have stabbed deep into the vital pieces in the enemy lines and are being shoved home.

At least four of the pillars—Boulers, Meunin, Cambrai and St. Quentin—are tottering, while menace to the others is looming larger every hour.

The points of Foch's crowbars are ten to fifteen miles in width at some points and at others they are only a few thousand yards.

Among the most important results of the advances in the north are the menace to concentration centers and disorganization of the German lateral communication lines.

Possibly the most interesting movement under way is between the North sea and Lille, where King Albert and General Plummer are pushing on with wonderful success, which is highly dangerous to the Germans because unless it is stopped it will mean the fall of Ostend and Zbrugge.

Both the gravity with which the Germans regard this contingency and the state of General Von Ludendorff's reserves are shown by the appearance of divisions on the Belgian front which have been rushed from points a hundred miles down the line.

Plummer and the Belgian monarch are accomplishing a double purpose by simultaneously edging around to the north of Lille, while General Horne, further south, is striking between Cambrai and Douai, thus drawing a big half circle around the important city of Lille and the great industrial and coal basin.

Meanwhile, General Horne, Byng, Rawlinson, and Derby are tightening their grip upon Cambrai and St. Quentin by driving crowbars in on a narrow side and between each town.

Further south, General Mangin is rolling ahead, showing the Germans off the Chemin-Des-Dames heights. General Bethelot, smashing them on Mangin's right as far east as Rheims, is hastening their withdrawal here.

On the extreme south of the great battle front, General Pershing is slowly pushing ahead against the most bitter resistance and is overcoming the difficulty of natural obstacles in the Argonne forest. General Gourard's new attacks on Pershing's left have won considerable success.

THE KAISER SCARED.

Amsterdam, Oct. 1.—The Kaiser has sent the following message to the members of the fatherland party:

"I confidently hope that the German people, in these earnest times, will resolutely gather around me and give their blood and wealth to the last breath, in defense of the fatherland."

BACKS DRIED FRUITS

Washington, Oct. 1.—Senator Owen Oklahoma, yesterday charged that the quartermaster's department of the army deserved a rebuke for its failure to utilize dried fruits and vegetables to a greater extent in preparing army rations. At a meeting of the senate commerce committee.

that the whole subject had been called to Secretary Lansing's attention and that the department would undertake a thorough investigation. In the meantime comment was withheld.

GERMANY PREPARING PEACE OFFENSIVE AS HER JOB FOR WINTER

At The Same Time It Is Believed She Is Preparing To Withdraw From Belgium

By Carl D. Groat
(United Press staff correspondent)

Washington, Oct. 2.—State department advices this afternoon indicated that Germany is preparing to evacuate the Belgian submarine bases and perhaps to make a more extensive evacuation of Belgium generally.

The messages came from a secret source.

Incidentally, the department has been indirectly approached about the matter of sending Germany an ultimatum against destruction of Belgian cities when the evacuation does come. The department's information said that rolling stock, hospitals and storerooms are being transferred from the fourth army district to a general government.

The meaning of this was not entirely clear, though the remainder of the message indicated it was part of an evacuation scheme.

Civilian authorities generally are being recalled and regulations regarding the maritime district are being made more severe, which the department said seems to indicate measures for the evacuation of the U-boat bases.

Reservists in Belgium have been sent to the front. At Antwerp, the naval base staff under Admiral Von Gohenseen is preparing to quit the city.

With Turkey reported maneuvering for an armistice on the best available terms, Germany is evidently preparing two extensive moves—one a peace offensive, the other a grand scale retirement in the west.

The peace offensive is deemed only part of a scheme, known to this government, to lay down a pacifist barrage through the fall and winter, regardless of how much refusal to accept comes from the entente and America.

Austria apparently will be used again—as a cat's paw. But it is noted that in her latest feler, as reported in cables, she admits being linked completely to Germany. There is no sign thus far that either nation is anywhere near the mood to accept the broad gauge, altruistic program President Wilson has declared a permanent peace basis. As for the west front military situation, Germany's problem grows more disastrous constantly.

A retirement is destined to come before long. It will probably be for a considerable distance.

PEACE DEMANDS MADE BY SERBIA ALSO BY GREECE

Outline Of What They Will Insist On Upon Final Settlement

MUST REPAY DAMAGES INFLICTED ON EACH

Bulgaria Disbands Armies—Allies Take Charge Of Railroads.

Washington, Oct. 2.—Serbia and Greece today announced their peace demands on Bulgaria. They are:

1. Reparation for all damages in occupied territory.

2. Abandonment of all plans for domination of the Balkans.

3. Guarantees that Greeks living on Bulgarian territory shall not be exterminated.

The terms outlined in an official statement issued at the Greek legation by Minister Roussos, apply to the conditions of the peace settlement to be insisted upon at the general peace table.

Bulgaria, Minister Roussos said, speaking for both governments, shall be prevented from designs looking to supremacy in the Balkans.

"In the opinion of the Greek and Serbian governments, the armistice upon Bulgaria does not constitute a final settlement of the differences between Greece, Serbia and Bulgaria," Minister Roussos stated.

"As Germany, the accomplice of Bulgaria must repair all ruins she has accumulated and give guarantees that in the future she will not be a danger for the peace of the world, so Bulgaria must repay all the damage caused the Serbians and to the Greeks.

"She must be prevented from forming new dreams of hegemony in the Balkans and preparing a new aggression as in 1913 and 1916. She must also give serious guarantees that the Greeks still living on her territory may not

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GRAVE CHARGES MADE AGAINST THE AMERICANS IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Consuls Accused Of Giving Germans Access To American Records.

By L. C. Martin.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Washington, Oct. 2.—Charges involving the loyalty of an American minister and several consular officers accredited to a Central American republic were referred to the state department today through the senate foreign relations committee.

The charges, if true, so connect the American diplomats with German interests as to make probable the filing of the gravest accusations in the federal courts against at least two men.

Disclosures of the ramifications of German propaganda operating chiefly through a business house of tremendous influence and power, may also cause a Central American eruption which will oust German influence for good.

Accusations against the American diplomats may, of course, be wholly unfounded. They were made to members of the foreign relations committee from four independent and wholly trustworthy sources. One was the secret service of an independent government; another a branch of the military

service and the others quite as responsible.

According to these charges, the accused officials have:

Accorded a German banking house fullest access to American records and papers in war time.

Sold confidential government information to the German banker-propagandist.

Accepted "loans" from the bankers in the form of "overdrafts" on personal accounts, in return for commercial information wanted by the Germans.

In addition, the Germans are said to have seriously compromised one of the officials in a way reflecting on his morality, so that his further usefulness in the country is ended.

Further, the charge is that one of the officials involved was responsible for suppression of a strongly pro-ally newspaper which had made vigorous attacks on the German banking house.

The German banking house mentioned is known all over Central America. Through correspondents and branches it reaches into every country there. It is under suspicion as the head and center of the German spy propaganda system on the American continent.

The charges will be discussed by the foreign relations committee at a meeting this week.

It was said at the state department

HUNS PILE RESERVES ON AMERICAN FRONT BUT DO NOT STOP THEM

Dogged Determination Overcoming All Resistance Boches Can Make

By Fred S. Ferguson.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

With The Americans West Of Verdun Oct. 2.—While activity in the remainder of the line is confined to repulsing bitter counter attacks and consolidating newly won positions, the Americans in the depth of the Argonne forest are shoving forward somewhat today.

Overcoming almost insurmountable obstacles, they are rectifying their line. The density of the forest renders liaison most difficult, but each group goes forward as rapidly as possible, maintaining communications with the aid of runners.

The Americans are continuing to beat the boche reserves. The fact that they have not made any great strides forward in the past few days does not indicate that the Americans are through. On the contrary, they have just begun and from now on the first army can be counted on to make a steady, though not spectacular advance.

Evidences are accumulating that the Germans are preparing to withdraw from their advanced positions opposite the Americans.

Coupled with the French advances on our left, this will bring the "pinching out" of the famous forest that much nearer. American patrols have already penetrated Montcheau wood.

Continuous counter attacks in the region of Apremont resulted in several territory changing hands four or five

times. At the end of the whirlwind fighting the Americans had won a slight advantage. The boche, it is established, suffered heavy losses, prisoners saying that some companies lost fully 30 per cent of the effective. Heavy counter attacks north of Nantville also were repulsed. The Germans continue to reinforce their lines with fresh troops. Troops ordinarily used exclusively for road building are among the prisoners, as well as some from the crack divisions.

Wire bridges, upon which American soldiers walked over the deepest networks of barbed wire in the Argonne forest, are among the unique features of the recent fighting.

In some places, the boche wires were interwoven in the underbrush to the depth of a hundred yards. They were practically impassible and held up our advance more than the enemy resistance.

The Americans, until Colonel Sherrill of the engineers, almost famous as the author of several army textbooks on engineering, devised a scheme to overcome them. Rolls of chicken wire were reinforced with iron bars and strips of steel. They were thrown over the entanglements.

The Americans walked across the chicken wire easily and rapidly. The colonel told me he knew the bridges were good because he had walked on them himself.

The taking of Montcheau deprived the boche of a position dominating everything from south of the old line to north of Vouziers. So long as the Americans threaten a further advance, the Germans' ultimate retirement on

(Continued on page two)

ABE MARTIN

After a wife coaxes a dollar from a average husband it's more like a souvenir, than anything else. Nothing jollier an ole scout like askin' him if th' draft got him.