

WILL PRESENT FIRMS PEACE TERMS THIS MONTH

Together With Conditions For Further Renewal of Armistice Concert Some of Elementary Terms Into Conditions to Be Submitted to Germans on February 17—Plan to Get American Troops Out of Occupied Territory.

Paris, Feb. 1.—(By The Associated Press)—Preliminary peace terms will probably be presented to Germany along with conditions for a further renewal of the armistice this month. Recognizing the need for a return of the world to a normal peace time basis, the nations associated against Germany are considering making a start toward the actual peace treaty by concerting some of the elementary terms into the conditions which will be submitted to the German armistice commission on February 17.

This decision is reflected also in the examination now under way to determine what American troops should be kept in occupied territory. The plan is to get them all out as soon as it seems advisable and it has been thought that a start might well be made in laying down the terms of peace. Some officials who have been closely studying the situation believe that the armistice itself might well be developed into a Peace treaty just as they think a society of nations might be developed out of the deliberations of the Peace Conference. President Wilson is known to have examined this view and contemplated its possibilities.

No official statement of the details of the "compromise plan" for the government of the former German colonies by mandatories has been made, but it is understood that the use of the word "colonies" in official statements does not limit the scope of the plan to former German territory. It may also apply to such territories as Mesopotamia, Armenia and Palestine.

Chinese and Japanese claims to Tsin-Tao, it is understood, will be left for adjustment to the League of Nations and it is also believed that the same order will prevail as to Dalmatia and Albania, over which Italy and Jugoslavia are at odds.

The present program contemplates the hastening of the League of Nations of plan by the committee having in charge so that a report may be made before President Wilson's departure. The secretary has changed the name of this body to "the commission on the society of nations," in deference to the wishes of a number of delegates who regarded the use of the word "league" as indicating an alliance for offensive and defensive purposes.

Bolsheviki And Poles Threaten Hun Frontier

Strong Bolshevist Armies Stand Before Boarders of East Prussia—West Posen Subject to Strong Menace—German 8th and 10th Armies Retreat Before Soviet Troops.

Berlin, Thursday, Jan. 30.—(By The Associated Press)—Germany's eastern frontiers are most gravely threatened by the Bolshevist and Poles, according to the Tagesspiegel, which gives the following report of the situation: "Strong Bolshevist armies stand before the borders of East Prussia, an irruption of Poles threatens West Prussia, and that portion of West Posen which is still in German hands is subject to a renewed Polish menace, which means that the province of Brandenburg also is in danger. Russian Soviet troops occupy a line from Liebau to Kovno. The fortress of Kovno is not yet in their hands, but the Bolshevists stand directly in front of it and have at their disposal numerous divisions which are held together and led forward by iron discipline. The Soldiers' Councils no longer play the role in the Bolshevist army that they did at the beginning of the revolution. Military authority, on the other hand, is vested with the troops and their leaders.

The German Eighth and Tenth armies are retreating before the Soviet troops. The 'Iron Division,' which now, as a result of losses, has melted into the 'Iron brigade,' numbering some hundreds of men, is also there. It would unquestionably be possible to offer resistance to the Bolshevists beyond the East Prussian border if the Germans were well led by a single determined will. Military authority, however, despite recent degrees of the war minister, is actually in the hands of the soldiers' councils, who have not been able to decide on a united and purposeful action against the Russians, but, on the contrary, still believe they can stop the enemy's advance toward our borders by negotiations.

"Speedy help from dependable volunteer corps ready to oppose the Russians with arms, if required, is absolutely necessary. The same can be said of the situation in West Prussia. The situation in West Posen is still critical. Bentschen and Meseritz, southwest and west of Posen, are threatened, and, with them, Brandenburg's frontier is menaced."

DEMobilIZATION PASSES MILLION

61,237 Officers and 952,411 Men Actually Discharged.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Demobilization of the army passed the million mark during the past week, General March announced today, with 61,237 officers and 952,411 men actually discharged. Of the officers mustered out, 2,444 were on duty in Washington.

The demobilization has proceeded to such a point that general officers are being discharged from the war organization. General March announced the honorable discharge of thirty-three generals, all except four of them being regulars, who return to their rank in the regular establishment.

The national guard officers ordered mustered out are Brigadier General Charles X. Zimmerman, who commanded the 73rd Infantry Brigade; Roy Hoffman, who was temporarily in command of the 33rd division, and Leroy H. Sweetzer, Brigadier General John A. Johnston, a former regular appointed from civil life, is the fourth other than the regulars to be discharged.

The total number of men ordered for early discharge has reached 1,189,000, including 103,000 returning from overseas.

WON'T SIGN WITH GIANTS

Richmond, Va., Feb. 1.—Dave Robertson, who was star batter in the world's series of 1917, has refused to sign a 1919 contract with Manager McGraw of the New York Giants. It was learned today that Robertson, at a meeting with Manager McGraw here last night, said he was through with the National League.

Belgium will be granted a loan of \$400,000,000 by the Allies to hasten reconstruction.

BERNSTORFF STATES VIEWPOINT

Gives Outline of 14 Points With His Country's Attitude on Each.

HIS STATEMENT IS OFFICIAL

Germany is to Abolish Compulsory Military Service At Once.

Berlin, Friday, Jan. 31.—Count Von Bernstorff has given The Associated Press a statement written by him after a consultation with Foreign Minister Brockdorff-Rantzau and other high officials of the German Foreign office. Since the Count is one of the men entrusted with the working out of the details for Germany's participation in the Peace Conference and will, with the Foreign Minister, be a German delegate, the statement may be regarded as official. It was written in English as follows:

"The question what would Germany consider a peace of right and justice, may briefly be answered in this way: 'That we would regard such a settlement as the terms of peace laid down by President Wilson's address to Congress, Jan. 8, 1918, and the principles of settlement in his subsequent addresses, are carried out in true accordance with the high minded and far-seeing spirit in which they were conceived.'"

"Among the 14 points the dominating note, in our opinion, is to be attributed to point number 14, providing for the constitution of a League of Nations, which as Mr. Wilson said on Sept. 27, 'must be a part and in a sense the most essential part, of the peace settlement itself.'"

"As the great success of the recently founded German league of nations society proves, German leading men clearly recognize that nothing but an open league of free and equal peoples can do away with imperialism and bring forth a new world of order. The German people feel that, given such a league and compulsory arbitration, peace negotiations would offer no particular difficulties, while without its constitution in the peace settlement, a peace of right and justice will be all but impossible."

"With regard to the first, second and third points in Mr. Wilson's program we are in perfect accord with him. In connection with point number 4 it may be mentioned that Germany is about to abolish obligatory military service, which thus far has been considered the cornerstone of her exposed position in Europe. As for point number 5 we welcome the open-minded and absolutely impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, proposed by Mr. Wilson and accepted by the Entente governments and we are looking forward to a discussion of those claims in the Peace Conference in the spirit outlined by the American President."

"Regarding point number 6, we are completely disinterested concerning all questions relative to Russia except insofar as they concern our own frontier. Naturally, however, we do not desire a spread of Bolshevism over Germany and other countries."

"As for point number 7, we are prepared to pay for all damage done to the Belgian civil population and their property as far as will be proven to have been perpetrated by German aggression. The same applies to point number 8, relative to damage done civilians and their property in north France. As for Alsace-Lorraine, we could not consider it 'righting a wrong' if through the peace settlement a few wrongs should be permitted. That, however, would be the case if Germans were compelled to become French against their will. Likewise it must be emphasized in connection with point number 9 that justice would forbid forcing Germans to become Italian subjects without their free consent."

"Point No. 10, treating on the question of Austria-Hungary, has been subsequently enlarged by the American government, in the sense that the Slav nationalities of the former Dual Monarchy must be granted, not only autonomy, but absolute self-determination. Justice will demand that the same privilege be accorded to Austria-Germany. In the same manner, we consider points 11 and 12 merely the demand of justice that various peoples of the Balkan peninsula and the Ottoman empire should be given their rights without distinction and the freest opportunity for self-determination."

"As regards point 13, justice compels us to consent that present German territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, should form a part of new Poland, but justice likewise compels us not to tolerate that territories be placed under foreign sovereignty which are inhabited by indisputably German population. Moreover, we would consider it a wrong of the gravest character if, to satisfy Polish ambitions, East Prussia should be cut off from the rest of the empire."

Pershing Characterizes Sensational Reports As Grossest Exaggerations

Number of Crimes Committed By American Soldiers As Almost Negligible—Recommends That a Full Refutation of Charges Be Placed Before Public—Police Organization Excellent.

Washington, Feb. 1.—General Pershing in an official telegram to Secretary Baker today characterized the sensational reports in French newspapers of assaults and burglaries having been committed in Paris by American soldiers as "grossest exaggerations."

The number of crimes committed by American soldiers, he said, was almost negligible considering the large number of men in the vicinity. He recommended that a full refutation of the charges be put before the American public.

Since the conclusion of the armistice, the report added, Paris has offered attraction to men mischievously and criminally inclined, but the American military police organization is excellent and these disorders are kept at a minimum.

"None of these are traceable in any respect to faulty pay systems. No penniless soldiers are found in Paris. There are individual cases of delayed payment due to a change in pay system which took place during hostilities. The new pay system enables a soldier to get pay from paymaster when money is due him. Generally speaking the pay has been almost always correct. The pay department has been sending officers to find casualties at our hospitals and elsewhere with directions to pay men whose records are entirely lost."

HOW BRIDGEPORT MEN TOOK THE FAMOUS HILL NO. 378

Corporal Lotker, Medal Militaire and French War Cross, Tells of Exciting Hours Under Fire—Commanding Officers Commend Men of the 316th for Their Valiant Work.

One of the hardest bits of fighting done by the Americans in the operations just before the armistice went into effect was by the 316th Infantry, consisting mostly of Bridgeport boys. The division occupied a wooded country, cut up by ravines and hills, north of Verdun, and on November 3, in connection with the general movement, was ordered to attack and take a high, bald ridge which dominated the plains to the west and north which lie immediately east of the Meuse for miles and threatened any advance along those lines.

Twice before other troops had attempted to take this hill, but failed, with heavy loss. Twice it was attacked by the 158th Brigade, and twice the attack failed to gain complete control of the hill, although a judgment was made upon its southern crest. The 316th Brigade pushed through the hills and wooded country, and succeeded in assaulting and capturing that ridge. The hour of the signing of the armistice found that place wholly in our possession.

Many of Bridgeport's boys of the 316th Infantry are decorated with military medals of valor and have several times been cited for bravery. One of the boys now visiting in this city on a furlough, Corporal Louis K. Lotker, son of Mrs. L. Lotker Remix, of Arclet street, is very enthusiastic in his praise of his brave 71st company. Corporal Lotker has been wounded twice and is decorated with the military medal of valor and the Croix de Guerre, which was awarded him after he had come through successfully from a dangerous mission in wiping out machine gun nests.

Corporal Lotker was wounded for the second time on the morning of the signing of the armistice, and he relates that the boys were so overjoyed over the news that they did not know for the time what they were doing. The glad order from the captain that came through the lines, calling, 'cease firing! cease firing!' was the first order they ever received with joy and they were so glad that the war was over at last, although there were many experiences of regret among the boys, that they had not had a chance to go into Germany.

The achievements of the glorious 316th, cited by the Commanding General of the 79th Division, are related in various official documents. One signed by the Major-General, Joseph E. Kuhn, commander of the 79th, and addressed to the Commanding Officer of the 316th says: "In the final offensive on the heights east of the Meuse and north of Verdun the task of breaking the enemy's resistance at the Borne du Cornouiller (Hill 278) devolved upon the 316th Regiment. Stubbornly defended by the enemy, this tactically strong point presented an obstacle of the most serious character. In spite of all difficulties the regiment succeeded after three days of heavy fighting, on November 4 to November 5, in capturing and finally holding the Borne du Cornouiller, in breaking the ene-

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CASUALTY LISTS ARE NOW 95 PER CENT. COMPLETE

Official Tabulation Made Public Today By War Department.

56,592 MAJOR CASUALTIES

All Divisions Included Except Two Regiments of Marines.

Washington, Feb. 1.—An official tabulation of casualties by divisions for the American Expeditionary forces, 95 per cent. complete to date, was made public today by the War Department. The totals for all divisions, exclusive of the two regiments in the Second division, are: Killed in action, 27,762. Died of wounds, 11,396. Missing in action, 14,645. Prisoners, 2,755. Grand total of major casualties, 56,592.

The figures for each of the 50 combat divisions included show the following totals of major casualties:

- First (regulars), 5,248; Second (regulars), 2,967; Third (regulars), 2,647; Fourth (regulars), 2,986; Fifth (regulars), 2,504; Sixth (regulars), 1,923; Seventh (regulars), 2,346; 26th (New England national guard), 2,841; 27th (New York national guard), 2,194; 28th (Pennsylvania national guard), 3,399; 29th New Jersey, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia national guard, 1,171; 30th (Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina national guard), 1,772; 32nd (Michigan and Wisconsin national guard), 2,213; 33rd (Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota national guard), 1,171; 35th (Missouri and Kansas national guard), 1,732; 36th (Texas and Oklahoma national guard), 869; 37th (Ohio and West Virginia national guard), 1,256; 42nd (Rainbow), 2,959; 77th (New York Metropolitan national army), 2,692; 78th (New York and Northern Pennsylvania national army), 1,827; 79th (Southern Pennsylvania national army), 2,385.

Major casualties of the 45th division, "practically complete," General March announced today, were 1,733 men, divided as follows:

- Killed, 596; died of wounds, 217; missing in action, 898; prisoners, 112.

General March said because the casualties of the 35th division had been recently a subject of speculation, he would announce them in detail. As to other reported heavy casualties, he said 15 divisions in France had sustained losses greater than those of the 25th. In that list the 92nd (National army, negroes) division, also reported to have suffered severely, stood 25th, and the 33rd division stood 24th.

While General March did not announce the order of losses for the entire list, it may be stated that the First and Second regular divisions, the first to get into action and the longest to serve at the front, and the 26th (New England National Guard), and 42nd (Rainbow) divisions, will stand close to the top of the list.

50th (New Jersey, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia National Army), 1,255. 51st (Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina National Army), 389. 52nd (Georgia, Alabama and Florida National Army), 1,592. 53th (Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota National Army), 66. 54th (Kansas, Missouri and Colorado National Army), 1,525. 56th (Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma National Army), 1,585. 57th (New York, Oregon, Utah, California, Nevada, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming), 792. 92nd (National Army, negroes), 211. 93rd (National Army, negroes), 489.

In killed in action the first regular division stands first with 2,982. Other divisions with more than 1,000 men killed in action stand in the following order: Third, 1,901; 42nd, 1,702; 32nd, 1,494; 28th, 1,514; Fourth, 1,500; 26th, 1,588; Second, 1,282; 27th, 1,502; 77th, 1,275; and 56th, 1,084.

The only division to lose more than 1,000 men died of wounds was the First, with 1,656. Only three divisions had more than 1,000 missing in action, the First, with 1,783; the 28th, with 1,174, and the 79th, with 1,142.

The heaviest losses in prisoners was in the 25th division, with 691 men taken by the enemy. The 25th was second with 354 taken prisoner, and the 77th, third, with 336.

Two tables of prisoners taken by the enemy, one prepared by the American Red Cross and the other by the adjutant general's office, were given out. Both show much larger totals than the announced list of known military prisoners, but the latter will be increased and the number of missing in action correspondingly decreased by checking. The Red Cross total is 3,348, including 4,857 military prisoners. The adjutant general reported 4,401, of which 4,316 were military prisoners.

The adjutant general's records show 4,800 prisoners have been released and 118 died in captivity. Practically all prisoners now are out of Germany because when his body was found he had a crucifix clutched in his hand and the nature of the hit shows that death was instantaneous and he could not have gotten the crucifix after being struck.

Jerry died a soldier and a Catholic and although his loss will be keenly felt by all, you will have to be contented that he soldiered as a hero should and met his end in the performance of his duty and for the honor and glory of his country and his God.

My regret is that the armistice has ended hostilities and that we cannot go into Germany and avenge the deaths of our countrymen. I'm in the best of health and going good but I don't know what is on the boards for us. Will close with a prayer for Jerry. Your son, JIM.

TRANSPORT GOES ASHORE; TROOPS GET OFF SAFELY

Runs Aground on Eastern End of Isle of Wight—Heavy Sea Running.

London, Feb. 1.—The American transport Narragansett, having 30 Southampton is ashore at Bembridge Point, on the extreme eastern end of the Isle of Wight. A train ferry is standing by to receive the troops if necessary. Tug assistance is being sent from Portsmouth and Southampton.

Radio calls brought local life-boats and tugs, which are now taking off the troops which are reported to number about two thousand.

The ship is high on the rocks, a heavy sea is running and it is snowing, but it is believed that the men on board the Narragansett are not in danger.

Reports received at American army headquarters here this morning say the Narragansett is ashore about two miles below Southampton and is in no danger. It is expected she will be floated without difficulty.

The American transport was loaned the British to bring across the channel troops who have been given leave. There were almost 2,000 on board, including sixty Americans.

Southampton, England, Feb. 1.—All the troops on board the American transport Narragansett, which ran aground last night on the ledge of Bembridge, at the eastern end of the Isle of Wight, have been removed by tugs and the local life-boats. The removal was effected while the steamer held fast on the ledge, despite the snow storm and high sea that prevailed.

BROTHER TELLS GALLANT END BROTHER MET

With Crucifix Clutched in His Right Hand Capt. Jerry Murphy Falls Before Verdun.

CAPT. J. E. MURPHY WRITES TO FATHER

Both Bridgeport Boys Won Promotion on the Field of Battle, and Gained Honor.

Leading his men in a gallant charge in the Verdun region, Captain Jeremiah Emmett Murphy, son of Colonel T. J. Murphy of this city, made his supreme sacrifice for his country's cause when he was struck by a high explosive shell and instantly killed, according to a letter received here from Captain James E. Murphy, oldest son of Col. Murphy, which was written on the battlefield of France. In the letter, the son informs the father of the manner in which he heard of the death of his soldier brother. Both of the Murphy boys won their spurs upon the field of battle and each was a devout Catholic. When the remains of Captain Murphy were removed to the burial place the chaplain discovered a crucifix clutched in the right hand.

The letter which gives additional details follows: "France, Nov. 16, 1918. My dear father—"

"This is my letter to you that I actually don't enjoy writing for the subject that it will cover is not pleasant. However, it will prove to you that the gold star which has probably by this time replaced the blue one on your service flag can be proudly pointed to as your son and my brother Jerry who was killed in action while carrying out his orders."

I will tell you the whole story right from the start. One of the other captains in the supply train is Captain Haggerty and he has a younger brother who is a lieutenant in the 69th infantry.

Yesterday his brother arrived here on leave and he is the one who told me of Jerry's end. By some coincidence Jerry and young Haggerty were appointed aides to General Booth from the 58th and 69th regiments respectively. That was after the battle of Chateau-Thierry where Jerry was reported as wounded on July 18th. That report was erroneous as Haggerty was with Jerry when they both read the casualty list as printed in the states.

At any rate, during all the intense fighting on the Argonne front Jerry and Haggerty were together and acted as liaison officers for the general. According to Haggerty they both got through some very tight fixes unharmed and considered themselves quite lucky as there were many casualties in our forces there. Jerry received his promotion to captain about the first of October when the division went into action at Verdun and it was about the twelfth that Jerry, then liaison officer for his regiment, was carrying on a very heavy artillery bombardment. He was evidently carrying out some perilous task when struck by a high explosive shell and instantly killed. That Jerry evidently undertook the danger of his mission is taken for granted.

WANT TO ARREST NAVY OFFICIALS

Basle, Friday, Jan. 31.—The arrest of Admiral Schroeder and Captains Koester and Regner of the German navy has been requested by the General Committee of Sailors at Hamburg. The officers are accused, especially Admiral Schroeder, with being responsible for the execution of two sailors, although they were conversant with the general amnesty order.

Admiral Schroeder became notorious when he ordered the execution of Captain Charles Fryatt while he was commanding the German naval forces at Bruges.