

JAWS OF FOCH'S TRAP NOW CLOSING

LONDON, August 3—(Associated Press)—The jaws of General Foch's trap are closing in on the armies of the Crown Prince in the Soissons-Rheims pocket. Fighting their way forward the French have reentered Soissons and to the southeast of that battered and ruined city the British and French have crossed the Crise River and driven the Germans from the Chaudun plateau, upon which their right wing had been resting.

The Allies are this morning pushing eastward of Soissons, with every foot of advance closing tighter the only door through which the Germans can retire, while on the south and east other Allied forces are harrying the Germans and driving them back.

Soissons and the Chaudun plateau formed the anchor point of what was left of the Soissons-Rheims salient and the success of the French and British at this point yesterday may mean that the German plan to take up a defensive line along the Vesle River has already been thwarted and that the retreat of the Crown Prince may not be able to stop south of the Aisne.

Such a retirement will expose the left flank of the Germans holding the Noyons-Montdidier salient, driven in the early June offensive down the valley of the Oise. Yesterday the Allies advanced along their entire front of thirty-six miles along the salient arc from Soissons to Thillois, which is three miles west of Rheims, smashing ceaselessly at every point where the Germans would stand to oppose them, although on some sections the Americans were able to march forward for two miles without being able to find the foe. The Germans had fled before the American advance, refusing to face the fighters from overseas.

PERSHING REPORTS HIS MEN CHASING RETREATING ENEMY

WASHINGTON, August 3—(Associated Press)—Despatches last night from General Pershing dealing with the fighting in the Rheims-Soissons salient say that when darkness fell over the battlefield yesterday it found the Americans pressing forward for a gain of five miles at some points since morning, with the progress continuing.

For the last two miles of this advance the Americans had practically no fighting, the only Germans found being dead bodies and men so severely wounded that they had to be abandoned by their retreating comrades.

CAVALRY LEADS THE WAY

This is along the new front northeast of Nesle and in the direction of Draveny, where the American infantry is following in the wake of French cavalry, which is hanging on to the rear of the Germans and harrying them constantly. The Americans are following the French closely, ready to drive forward should the enemy attempt to make a stand.

On Thursday, reports General Pershing, the Americans took Hill 230.

Early this morning American aviators took part in a great raid over the German lines, the share of the Americans being to bomb the German concentrations at Conflans.

DODGED DEATH VALLEY

Press despatches from London, describing the American progress on Thursday and yesterday morning say that the tide of battle on the American front had drifted eastward from the previous fighting near Fere-en-Tardenois. The town of Cierges, southeast of Sergy, had proved a stumbling block to the advance at that point. The town lies in a hollow and in this had collected ten feet of poison gas, into which neither side dared venture. The battle line divided when the Americans reached the place and the force split until the valley of death was passed.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

The official reports issued here yesterday said that the American forces were advancing without meeting resistance and were not even finding groups of machine gunners in the ground they passed over. The right flank, on the Rheims sector is pressing the enemy hard.

Under date of July 31 General Pershing issued a communique telling of the progress made and quoting a copy of an order, captured on a prisoner, relating to the policies to be pursued against the Americans. This communique said:

"Last night on the line of the Ourcq the enemy renewed counter attacks. In the region of Seringes and Nesles assaulting parties which temporarily penetrated our lines were cut off by machine gun fire and the members killed, wounded or captured.

"Southwest of the Meuniers wood our troops, after severe bayonet fighting, drove the enemy before them through the woods which we have taken and reached the village of Cierges.

"Following is a translation of an order taken to Great Headquarters, transmitted to the Schmettow corps on June 1, 1918:

"In order to hinder the formation of an army in France it is important that American troops engaged along the front be struck as hard as possible. It is intended to use these troops as the nucleus for new formations. (Signed) Ludendorff."

How America's Amateur Soldiers Met Kaiser's Veterans and Smashed Them

Details of some of the earlier fighting on the Marne reached Honolulu by mail yesterday, showing the staggering success with which the Americans met the German onslaught south of the river and smashed some of the finest troops of the Kaiser.

"Last night the tales of heroism of these men were being told," cabled a correspondent from American headquarters on July 18 of the Sammie who met the Hun rush, stemmed it and finally drove it back in a stern counter. "I believe," he reported, "of all of them the story of Sergt. J. F. Brown is the most notable. Brown commanded a detachment of eleven men. The German onslaught came. When the advancing Boche came along they were allowed to pass and then our boys got ready to turn the machine guns loose. But just then a hundred or so Germans came along. Brown ordered the men to scatter quick. He ducked into the woods and saw the Huns cut the beloved machine gun out of the way.

Out Off By Barrage

"They say the Boche barrage kept them from getting to their own lines and decided to kill all the Boches they could before they themselves were killed. They lay in a thicket while the Germans passed by in large numbers. According to Brown's report they heard two machine guns going back of them and decided to go and get them. The two crept close and charged the ma-

chine gun, which killed the American captain. Brown got the lone German gunner with his rifle. Then came an American corporal also left alone in the woods and Brown and the corporal started after the second machine gun behind a clump of bushes. They got close and Brown with his automatic rifle killed three of the German crew of the gun. Then, attracted by the shooting close at hand, came eleven other Americans.

"Brown resumed command and led the party where they could see the Germans in a trench taken from the Americans.

"Then these thirteen Americans performed a feat never to be forgotten. The Germans were evidently left in the trenches with machine guns to meet a counter-attack should the Americans make one. Brown sent twelve men about the Hun positions in twelve directions. He himself took a position where he could rage the trench with his automatic rifle.

Brown said he did not know how many there were but there were more than a hundred. Then with Brown and the corporal at the head and the other eleven Americans in the rear the procession started through the woods guided by the doughboy's compass towards the American lines. It was not plain sailing.

"They were behind the German advance and had to pass it and the space between fighting Germans and Americans. On the way through the woods several parties of Germans saw the advancing column with Brown and the corporal at the head and hurriedly surrendered. Beating through the thicket Brown led the party to a place where the German advance line was broken. Through Barrage

"Just as he started over to the American lines the Germans laid down a barrage. This got four of the Germans, but did not touch the Americans. Brown and his twelve comrades got back with 153 prisoners. Four killed made a total of 159. The American officers were almost dumbfounded at the strange tale Brown brought back, but doubt vanished when soon after he reached regimental headquarters a military policeman showed up with a large bundle of maps and plans Brown had taken from the dead German officer killed by his automatic rifle and handing them in said: 'Gimme my receipt.'

"Brown last year was a shipping clerk and had met this man on the way back and turning over the maps which made a heavy bundle had stopped while he scribbled out a receipt he demanded. Meanwhile the barrage of shells were falling around. This receipt is part of the records of the American army. The prisoners included a major, one captain, two lieutenants and a number of noncommissioned men.

Dumbfounded Germans

"It was this individual fighting of Americans lost in the woods that dumbfounded the Germans. Many of the prisoners actually complained of it as unfair warfare. Generally the rule for soldiers cut off from their command and isolated is to surrender. The Americans evidently knew nothing about such a rule, but kept on fighting. Some of them, of course, were killed, but holding out there in the woods played havoc with the advancing Germans.

"This story shows how the Americans fight—a certain machine gunner rigged his gun alongside a thicket through which he hoped to get the advancing Germans. Just then a stray shell blew off his right hand. The German column in his despair he saw passing out of range of the gun which he was unable to move with one hand. He drew his automatic and firing it with the left hand guided the German column to the line of fire of the machine gun which he turned loose with telling effect. Two other Americans lost in the woods came up attracted by the firing and the wounded gunner back to his own lines.

Astonished Captain

"Here is another little story that sounds like fiction, but every word is true: An American corporal was captured by a German captain at the head of a detachment. The captain sent the American in care of two German privates back across the Marne in a canvas boat used by the Boches for crossing the river. The corporal rocked the boat, upsetting it and swimming back to the south bank of the river made his way unscathed back to the American regiment headquarters. As he was reporting to the American colonel in a staid one of our men with the German captain who had captured the American corporal hours before. As they recognized each other the corporal broke into a laugh and the German captain said: 'You must be a brave man.'

"Three American doughboys captured and sent back across the Marne killed these guards with their bare hands and got back to their own lines after swimming the Marne. Seven other Americans, including a lieutenant, were taken over the Marne by the Germans. The lieutenant knocked one guard down with a stick of wood and got his gun and disarmed the other guards.

Swim the Marne

"Seven Americans started to swim the river when a Boche machine gun opened on them.

"A lieutenant and one American were killed. The others got back by swimming under the water.

"I give these instances because nothing else tells so well the spirit of the American fighters. They have not all the training of seasoned veterans, they do not know how to retreat, but they have guts. They don't know when to quit. Caught out there in the woods by Germans advancing three ways they did not try to get back, but stayed where they were because that was where the Germans were and they came to kill Germans.

"Here in the woods without food or water in most cases except for a few shells fire, often wearing gas masks for hours at a time, hundreds of Americans stuck fighting, sometimes singly, generally in bunches of three or four.

"They fought until the ammunition ran out and then they fought with their hands. The Germans made first advances through the woods at three-

German Report Gives Distorted Views of Battle

LONDON, August 3—(Associated Press)—Berlin official reports of yesterday indicate clearly that the German people are being kept in the dark and misinformed upon the results of the fighting in the Soissons-Rheims salient. This official report, dealing with the battle on Thursday said: "There was only desultory fighting on Thursday and between Soissons and Fere-en-Tardenois the Allies were everywhere completely repulsed.

A French British Tank Was Shot to Pieces on the Heights of Beaumont

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ALBANIA REPORTS ARE IN CONFLICT

BOTH ITALIANS AND AUSTRIANS ARE CLAIMING VICTORIES AND STEADY PROGRESS

NEW YORK, August 3—(Associated Press)—Conflicting reports came from the opposing fronts in Albania, the Italians claiming a halt for a few days in preparation for further advances and the Austrians claiming gains and progress.

Fighting activities in Albania have almost ceased for a few days, Rome reported last night. "Our covering troops have made progress and are nearer to the positions where enemy resistance is to be expected. Mending preparations are being made for further advances."

In the Austrian official report issued from Vienna last night it was claimed that fighting was in progress and the Austrians were moving forward on both sides of the Semui. They had reached points close to the Feibrath line and had taken several supports further up the Devoli Valley.

AMERICA SHOWS LARGE IMPORT

JAPAN AND RUSSIA SEND MORE GOODS AND EUROPEAN NATIONS GENERALLY LESS

WASHINGTON, August 2—(Official)—Increases of imports into the United States of nearly a quarter of a billion dollars in spite of the fact that imports from Great Britain, France and Italy showed a considerable decrease, are shown in the report of the department of commerce for the fiscal year ending June 30.

Imports for the year amounted to \$2,946,059,402 and showed an increase of \$287,000,000 approximately, over those of the preceding year. From Japan imports were considerably increased, especially silks, rice and cotton goods. From European Russia there was an increase of \$10,000,000, the total amounting to \$1,176,826 and the increase being largely the result of quantities of hides and larger shipments of platinum of which Russia is the chief producer.

From the United Kingdom, France, Italy and the European neutrals imports showed decreases.

TOKIO, August 2—(Special to Nippu Jiji)—The Japanese government has ordered the suspension of the Tokio rice market for a period of five days. The step taken by the government was to stop the people from further boosting prices, which has been going on lately. It is hoped that the price of rice will drop to normal after the suspension period is over.

SPIRIT OF REVOLT GROWING STRONGER

BOLSHEVISM AND GERMANISM MORE THAN PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO LONGER ENDURE

WASHINGTON, August 3—(Associated Press)—On the Murman coast, in the Aland Islands and in Turkestan the feeling of bitter resentment against Bolshevism and Germanism grows steadily and the position of the Bolshevik leaders and the Germans become steadily less tenable.

Official announcements from Moscow came to London yesterday that the Archangel frontier had been ordered closed for two weeks, for "military" purposes, indicating the probability of a movement against the Murman Coast and Kola Peninsula regions as well as a possible combined German and Finnish expedition.

In Turkestan a strong revolt against Bolshevism has burst forth, according to Swiss despatches and in the Aland Islands the inhabitants have dynamited the fortifications and other military buildings. The entire population speaks the Swedish language and the islands formerly belonged to Sweden. The inhabitants are incensed at German control of Finland which they fear will be a menace to Sweden and to themselves.

Fearing the outspoken and pointed articles of Maxim Gorky the soviet government has ordered his arrest and the permanent suppression of his paper, it is reported in despatches arriving in London via Copenhagen.

BOLSHEVIST TROOPS CROSS INTO CHINA

TOKIO, August 2—(Special to Nippu Jiji)—Troops of Bolsheviks have been operating on the boundary line of Siberia and Manchuria, advancing into Chinese territory. The band of soldiers have captured the city of Manjuria and many of the invaders are now stationed there. It is expected that the Chinese government will send troops to the scene.

DOCTOR RUMELY IS UNDER INDICTMENT

NEW YORK, August 2—(Associated Press)—Indictments have been returned by the federal grand jury against Dr. Edward A. Rumely and S. Walter Kaufmann, former counsel for the German embassy at Washington in connection with the father statements which were rendered to A. Mitchell Palmer, assistant of enemy property, in reference to the German ownership and control of the Evening Mail.

Doctor Rumely is charged with having received money from the German government to secure control of the paper while he represented to its editor that the purchase was for German-Americans who were desirous of maintaining the friendly relations that then existed between the United States and Germany. Rumely, as business manager, it is charged made affidavits as to ownership to be submitted to the custodian of enemy property in which the true facts relative to ownership were concealed.

The paper has since been taken over by the bondholders and is run by the same editor as a loyal American publication.

Three Million Cigaretts Gift of Two Chinese

SAN FRANCISCO, August 2—(Official)—Generous gifts of "smokes" for the American soldiers in France by two Chinese was announced here by Kan Sat King of Shanghai. He and his father, Kan Chiu Nam of Hong Kong, will together give three million cigarettes.

This is one of the largest single donations of cigarettes ever offered to the boys of the American expeditionary forces.

ALLIES SWEEP ON ALONG THIRTY-SIX MILES OF FRONT

German Retreat Precipitate at Many Points While Entente Armies Pursue Vigorously

PARIS, August 3—(Associated Press)—Resuming their advance at dawn yesterday, after an all night shelling of the German defense positions throughout the Soissons Rheims salient, the Allies gained important ground at every point. From Soissons clear around the blazing line to the very gates of Rheims the French, Americans, British and Italians smashed the German rear-guards, taking many prisoners and inflicting most severe losses.

The most significant progress was made on the northern end of the western line, where British and French drove the enemy along a five mile front into and from the valley of the Crise, which flows into the Aisne at Soissons from the southeast. This river has now been crossed by the Allies along their whole front and the German right flank has been turned, their hold upon the Chaudun plateau being wrested away.

MUST CONTINUE TO RETREAT

As the line of the Vesle Valley had been planned by the Germans on the basis of the security afforded by this plateau, yesterday's success appears likely to force an abandonment of the plan and may compel the Crown Prince to withdraw his entire force back once more north of the Aisne, from which he launched his drive for Paris in May.

Along the entire line the Germans have been compelled to give up important positions, their retreat in many places being precipitate. In the vicinity of Rheims, directly across the salient from Soissons, some valuable ground was gained, while the advance on the south had progressed more than three miles for the day when night fell. The British occupation of Thillois, west of Rheims, threatens the Vesle line most seriously.

ADVANCE AT ALL POINTS

Reuter's correspondent at French headquarters, summing up the situation at noon yesterday, said:

"During the last twenty-four hours General Maguin's advance has steadily continued. From Taux and Hartennes southeast towards the Ourcq he had advanced his forces along a ten-mile front, occupying Hartennes and bringing the line to Cramaille and Saponay, making an almost straight line from Hartenne to Fere-en-Tardenois. Further to the south we are now two miles past Sergy, while opposite, on the eastern line of the salient our patrols have advanced a thousand yards beyond Ville-en-Tardenois, which town is encircled.

GERMAN RESERVES DISAPPEARING

"The enemy is retreating reluctantly and the Crown Prince's reserves are being used up much more rapidly than ours."

SWEEPING OURCQ VALLEY

French Army headquarters reported that yesterday morning the Franco-American forces along both banks of the Ourcq advanced simultaneously, driving the Germans before them, occupying Cramaille and Craimoiselle and entering Saponay north of the river, while south of the stream the two armies swept into the Nesle forest, to which the Germans are clinging tenaciously, the attacking forces keeping pace in their advance.

WEDNESDAY GAINS IMPORTANT

Details of the battle of Wednesday show that it was one of most important advances on the part of all the Allies, with the most significant gains going to the credit of the British and French between St. Gemme, the southerly tip of the salient, and Fere-en-Tardenois. Here the advance was along a five-mile front to a depth of three miles, the gains giving the Allies possession of the heights between the Marne and the Ourcq.

This advance is described as probably the most important since the German evacuated their positions on the Marne as it gives the Allies the command over the only gate through which the Germans have been retreating and means that no more orderly retreat is possible now for the Crown Prince.

"The situation was described by the correspondents as 'extraordinarily good' and some of the despatches described the advance of the day before as the pivotal episode of the summer campaign and perhaps of the war.

SOUTH RESISTANCE LESSENER

On the south, in cooperation with the Americans, the French advanced along the Gommecourt-Coulonges road, clearing the Germans from the thickets which mark this section of the country. The German resistance here was found to be greatly diminished. To the east of this advance the Allies drove the Germans back to the outskirts of Villers-Agron-Aigny.

The advance near Soissons gave the Allies many villages, while the gains on the Rheims side of the salient settled still more. When the Allies moved forward along this southern section they found that the Germans were retreating at many points, leaving burning villages and ruined countryside in their wake. The destruction is general throughout the entire salient south of the Vesle, the Germans destroying everything they cannot carry away with them. Throughout the day the Allies pursued the retreating foe with the greatest zeal.

SEATTLE, August 3—(Official)—Japan is to have a modern railway system, standard gauge and with the best of equipment and rolling stock, is announced by S. Sogo, assistant controller for the imperial Japanese government railways.

He has been in the United States and Canada for the past several years studying railroading and transportation problems. Unless it can be secured from this source they do not know where to turn.

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