

ROAR OF BATTLE DEAFENS WORLD

GERMAN ADVANCE STRIKES A SNAG TODAY AND IS HELD BACK BY ALLIES

Fate of France Rested on Result of the Battle Which Has Been Waged Since Daylight.

HOLDING THE GATEWAYS INTO PARIS

French Troops Drive Germans Back From Assault on the Second Line of Defense.

[By William Phillip Simms, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

PARIS, Aug. 2.—The big battle is progressing favorably.

The war office, after a twelve hour silence following its admission that the fate of France hinged upon the result of the fighting now in progress, issued the above laconic statement. It meant that the allied lines of defense were holding. It also meant that the German offense which has surged against the secondary defense for thirty-six hours has been unable to penetrate it.

The few words of encouragement transformed Paris from a city of gloom to one of hope. And coupled with the statement, came the announcement that the British were rushing reinforcements to the front. France's desperate condition has been recognized by her ally and the assistance needed to withstand the determined invasion of German fighting men, now doubly dangerous under the incentive of early victory, is forthcoming.

The allied lines are holding, especially at the points which threaten the gateways to Paris. The British-French forces be-

tween Maubege and Givet are reported to have repulsed the German attack with enormous slaughter and to have pushed their own lines forward into Belgium. It is also reported that the battle in Lorraine is going against the Germans. The concerted assault is said to have been defeated and the French moved forward until checked by the direct order of General Joffre who insists that the entire battle shall be fought along defensive lines until the German forward movement ends all along the line.

Meanwhile the war office declares the success of the Russians in eastern Prussia and along the Austrian frontier is "unbelievable."

The official announcement says much of eastern Prussia has been evacuated by the Germans, the Russians securing many guns, supplies and rolling stock. Russians are now in force along the main line of the eastern German defenses well inside of Prussia.

HARD PRESSED TODAY.

PARIS, Aug. 26.—With the fate of the nation admittedly hanging on the result, the allied lines along the northern and eastern frontiers were being hard pressed today by the entire Ger-

man active army. All fresh troops were being brought up by the enemy while General Joffre devoted the time to strengthening the weaker points in his defensive columns. When the great battle was resumed at daybreak, today, the German assault was met with a determined defense and the war office chieftains profess confidence that the line as now established will hold. The fighting front covers the boundaries of the departments of the Nord, Ardennes, Montmedy and the Meuse. Around Maubeuge, in the Nord; Givet, in the Ardennes; Montmedy in the Meuse and west of Luneville, the heaviest fighting is believed to be taking place. South of Luneville, along the Lorraine border, another great battle is in progress and it is to reinforce this line, admittedly pressed to the limit, that General Joffre withdrew his entire Alsacian army, abandoning Mulhausen, Altkirch and the other points taken at so heavy a cost, in a series of desperate bayonet charges and sent it with its veteran commanders, General Paul Pau, to fill the gaps in the line and to prevent a break through the French lines north and south of Epinal.

In the north, the German armies are being driven hard against the entrenched position near Givet where the British expeditionary troops are massed. Several attempts to carry the entrenchments there by storm have been made and the heaviest fighting of the war is reported by the war office chieftains to continue in this neighborhood. The German army in action here is reported to be commanded by the crown prince in person.

The slaughter at the front is described by the general staff as enormous. The Germans constantly charged the allied lines in the face of a terrific shell fire from the artillery mounted behind the trenches and a withering rifle fire from the trenches themselves. While details are withheld, it is stated that at points where the French have followed up the repulse of the Germans by a forward movement they have found their way blocked by heaps of bodies piled breast high. The valor of the Germans is admitted everywhere. They have charged the entrenched positions of the allies time and time again in close formation. As fast as a gap was torn in the ranks, the survivors have closed it and pressed on toward the goal. The percentage of German losses is stated to continue large as they lead their men in the assaults.

CANADIANS SENT FOR.

LONDON, Aug. 26.—The English troops are holding the German lines between Givet and Dinant. They have been subjected to enormous pressure from the Germans, but the war office insists that not only are the lines holding, but that the British have been able to push them forward at several points.

It is certain, however, that the British and their French allies will be pressed to the utmost if the German attack at this point is to be held. The Germans apparently have singled out the English to bear the brunt of the fighting and are sending against them massed bodies of infantry while shelling the English position with guns hastily mounted in the hills and concealed behind very heavy timber.

Meanwhile the work of hastening reinforcements to the continent is in progress. Additional troops are reported to have landed in France yesterday and to have been rushed to the front on trains that had been held in waiting.

Because of the exigencies of the situation the Canadian contingent, numbering 20,000 men, will sail for the continent tomorrow. Orders have been given for them to go direct to a continental point, the identity of which is not revealed. The Canadian transports will be convoyed the entire distance by a strong fleet of warships which have been sent across to meet them.

It is certain the Canadians will be in action within a fortnight. Just how many troops make up the reinforcing contingent of the British army is naturally withheld, but it is certain that the entire active army will be in service almost immediately. The French attacking tactics have

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JAPANESE FORCES HAVE LANDED

British Cruisers Covered Approach With Shells and Lost Ten Men in Operation.

FORTS ARE RESISTING

German Garrison at Kiao Chau Is Strongly Fortified and Can Hold Out for Three Months.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

PEKIN, Aug. 26.—The Japanese forces have landed on Shantung peninsula to begin their investment of the forts of Kiao Chau and the German concession, according to information at the Chinese foreign office. The Japanese landed under a covering fire from the light draft British cruisers which were able to approach closer to the position than the heavy draught Japanese battleships and battle cruisers blockading the ports. The forts are reported to have had the range of the British and to have killed ten men and slightly damaged the British war craft. It is reported here that not only have the Germans completely mined their harbor but they have strewn a line of mines outside which endanger the blockading fleet. In addition, the Germans have removed some of their guns in the coast forts to new positions thus making valueless maps of defenses possessed by the Japanese.

Explaining that Japan desired to prevent as much as possible a needless loss of life, the Japanese minister requested the Chinese foreign office to remove the limitations of the German concession already agreed on, to prevent the extension of hostilities to any wider area. The Chinese government refused.

That the German garrison at Kiao Chau can hold out for not less than three months is the general opinion here. The forts have been materially strengthened and to take them by storm would be a herculean task. Their reduction by shell fire from the ships will be distinctly dangerous as the fort batteries have equal range with the big guns of the Japanese squadron.

The Chinese officials have again been assured that under no circumstances does Japan consider holding the German concession when captured. The Japanese officials here declare that the only object in taking it is "to remove the German menace to the trade of the orient and it will be turned back to its lawful owner China, as soon as possible."

THE DEAD PRINCE.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PARIS, Aug. 26.—The war bureau, which announced that "Prince Adalbert, uncle of the kaiser," had been killed in action and his body taken to Charleroi, later announced that the identity of the dead officer had not been fully established, but that he was a German prince. Later still it was stated he was believed to be Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glueckburg, colonel of the cuirassiers regiment of the guard, one of the crack aristocratic regiments of the German army. Prince Albert is not related to the kaiser.

CAUGHT IN RIVER.

PARIS, Aug. 26.—A strong German column of cavalry today attacked the Eighteenth Hussars of the English army while the latter were bathing in a river, the location of which is not revealed by the war office. It is admitted that the English regiment taken by surprise, lost very heavily. Many of the men were slaughtered before they could get out of the water. Members of the Hussars not bathing, rallied and stood off the charge until reinforcements reached the scene.

THE NAMUR FORTS.

LONDON, Aug. 26.—The Belgian legation this afternoon made public the following statement regarding the situation at Namur: "We have no official information whether any Namur forts have been captured. We feel certain, however, the majority are still intact and held by Belgians, although the German troops have undoubtedly traversed the town."

RUSSIANS DRIVING GERMANS AHEAD

Claim is Made That Troops of the Czar Are Meeting With Continued Success.

TAKE MANY PRISONERS

Fighting With Bayonets and Hand Grenades in the Steady Advance Through Prussia.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 26.—Russian armies having their base at Gumbinnine in the north and Biala in the south, are co-operating today in an effort to drive the Germans from the lake regions of eastern Prussia. The attacking front spreads over sixty miles of country and is passing through very difficult country, filled with forests, marshes and lakes. These are commanded by German redoubts heavily manned with light artillery, and rapid fire guns and the fighting is constant. The Germans are reported to be inflicting as much damage as possible and then retiring, blowing up their positions before abandoning them. They are falling back on their main lines of fortifications which have already been located by the Russian air scouts. Because of the difficulty of the position and strength of parallel lines of forts forming the first real line of the German, it is believed there will be no frontal attack in force but an attempt will be made to envelop the German position and overwhelm it by a flank attack.

The general staff announces that the Austrians who yesterday gathered in force along the river Sereth near Tarnopol have been attacked by Cossacks and completely routed. In this attack the Russians took five guns and much general equipment and 300 prisoners. They also shot an Austrian aeroplane to pieces, bringing it down a wrecked mass. Two officers in it were crushed to death and the aviator, a sergeant, was injured and taken prisoner. The German army of eastern Prussia is declared to be demoralized. Part of it has taken refuge in the Konigsburg fortress and many of the soldiers in their flight are reported to have abandoned their knapsacks and rifles. This force is said to be a part of the 20th Prussian army corps. Reviewing the fighting between Insterburg and Angerburg the official statement says: "On August 23 and 24 in the region north of Kadenburg we fought a successful engagement with the 20th German army corps. The latter occupied the fortified positions of Orlau and Frankenu. On Sunday and Monday our troops charged entanglements and using hand grenades and bayonets managed to penetrate the German defense line. The Germans were forced to retreat so precipitously that they abandoned on the field several cannons, nine rapid fire guns and much equipment. We took 1,100 prisoners. "The Germans are now concentrating again and another general battle is expected."

LIST OF DEAD.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] COPENHAGEN, Aug. 26.—The seventh list of German casualties published in Berlin yesterday, advised from the kaiser's capital say, contained the names of 285 soldiers. Included in the list were thirty-three general staff officers, indicating the enormous mortality among the German officers, who are declared to be brave to the point of rashness. The socialist newspapers all print highly patriotic appeals to the people from various sources, including the former ambassador to Paris.

RUMORS OF BATTLES.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Aug. 26.—News agency despatches from Stockholm say that German and Russian warships are reported to have clashed in the Baltic near the Gulf of Finland. The official bureau has no confirmation of the report. Another report received here from Vienna says that the Austrians have executed a counter attack on the Russians and have defeated them in Austrian Poland after a battle that lasted seven hours. This also has no confirmation here.

VULTURES OF THE AIR FILL PEOPLE WITH TERROR

Attack on Antwerp By Big Airship Causes Great Uneasiness Among the English.

POWERLESS AGAINST THIS NEW FOE

Belgium Aviators Prepare to Sacrifice Their Lives to Clear Sky of These Monsters.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

LONDON, Aug. 26.—Reports from Ostend today say that the German attack on that city has been renewed. Scouts report heavy bodies of German reinforcements coming up and it is believed the city will be forced to surrender.

Steamers arriving at Folkestone report the presence of English warships near the Ostend harbor. The London newspapers say the capture of Ostend by Germans will be a direct menace to England inasmuch as it is only sixty miles off the British coast. They profess to believe it is the intention of the German general staff to take the city and then mount heavy guns to protect it from raids by sea. The danger of Zeppelin raids is also discussed at length. There is no disguising the fear England has towards these "vultures" of the air as they are described in today's reports from Vienna. The narrow escape of the royal palace at Antwerp in yesterday's raid shows that Zeppelins operated by an expert—and Count Zeppelin, despite his great age, has volunteered to operate one in person—can become a real menace. The distance across the channel from Ostend would be easily negotiated. The bitterness of feeling against England and the fact that up to the present the British fleet is intact may lead the Germans to undertake an aerial raid which might have serious results. In addition the daily Mail in discussing the almost certain capture of Ostend today says: "From a naval standpoint Ostend is well equipped to serve as a refuge and harbor. If it were strongly held by land, several German warships might attempt a dash there from Wilhelmshaven or Heligoland. Once under the protection of the land guns they would have a base for raids against channel shipping."

Other experts take a contrary view however. They say the British fleet could bottle up Ostend as effectively as they have already bottled up the great German ports and they insist the only advantage Germany will get from holding Ostend will be a base for an aerial station.

ANTWERP IN PANIC.

ANTWERP, Aug. 25.—(Delayed.)—Antwerp is terror stricken. The appalling work of the German Zeppelin which passed over the city early today, leaving a trail of death and destruction in its wake, has horrified everyone. The question everyone asks is: "When will another come?" That this one was destroyed means little. It fell before the guns of the Hemixem defenses simply because the crew lost their sense of location and believed they were far enough away from Antwerp to attempt a descent. They had dropped far enough to get a good view of the land and the gunners located them and reached the mark.

In order that another visitation may be met, the government today is mounting special guns in the spires of the churches and on the roofs of the tall buildings. Great holes have been cut in the church spires and platforms erected on which the aerial guns have been mounted and manned by the most expert gunners in the Belgian army. Because of the danger of the renewal of the attack it is announced that the offices of the general staff have been removed to a locality not revealed and that the members of the royal family will leave the palace and take refuge elsewhere. It is now considered certain the pilots of the Zeppelin made their raid in accordance with a prearranged plan. It would have been impossible

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What the War Moves Mean

By J. W. T. Mason, Former European Manager of the United Press.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

NEW YORK, Aug. 26.—(11 a. m.)—The position of the German forces, after their success in stemming the French offensive, does not seem to have improved. The official reports make it seem probable that the allies are now holding the German advance in check, just as their own offensive was broken up.

The possibility that the belligerents may fight each other to a mutually exhausting standstill is evident. The narrow strip of frontier territory between the German fortresses to the east and the French fortresses to the west may comprise the essential theatre of the war.

It is certain that the give and take on both sides has not been beyond the fortress boundaries up to the present and there is a fair chance that the width of hostilities will be in inverse proportion to its length.

A new condition confronting the commanders of the forces engaged in the momentous struggle is the necessity for complete and rapid change of strategy. Never before has the ability to alter plans quickly, been so vital in warfare.

The greater success with which this can be done by one side or the other may be the deciding factor in the

battle. A fighting front of 200 miles long with probably two million men engaged, must develop constant, unexpected strength and weakness. Their quick discovery by the commander in chief in order to direct concerted movements is a matter of great difficulty, but the reward is enormous.

An important strategic change seems to have been made by the Germans. The original plan for a march through Belgium toward Lille apparently has been changed and the main assault probably now is developing along France's badly defended frontier of 100 miles between Meubeuge and Verdun. This always has been the weak spot of the French defenses. It is protected only by isolated secondary fortresses at Hirson, Givet, Mezieres, Montmedy and Longwy.

The French have been told their forces would be able to operate successfully against a German advance in this quarter, but the general staff showed its own uneasiness last year by basing an addition frontier army corps on Mezieres. Fifty miles back toward Paris is the great modern defensive line La Fere Laon Rheims Chalons, but if the French are compelled to fall back there, the backbone of the field army probably will have been broken.

The War at a Glance

Summarized by John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.

ENGLAND—Admitted reinforcements are being hurried to the continent, Canadian contingent expected to start immediately. Paris reports 18th Hussars surprised while bathing in France and many slaughtered. Reports that Germans are about to capture Ostend causes apprehension of Zeppelin raids.

FRANCE—Officially admitted that fate of France may hinge on result of today's battle extending along line from Maubeuge to Alsacian border. Fighting began at daylight with heaviest conflict in progress at Maubeuge, department of Nord; Givet, department of Ardennes; and Montmedy, department of Meuse. Alsacian army withdrawn to reinforce Lorraine battle line and Mulhausen and Altkirch surrendered to Germans.

RUSSIA—German army corps, defeated in preliminary fighting in eastern Prussia, are gathering for determined stand along first line of German fortifications and desperate battle may begin at any time. Russian war office claims further successes in east Prussia and Galicia, capturing many German and Austrian and demoralizing Austrian army aeroplanes, killing two officers and wounding aviator.

GERMANY—Only meagre advices of the German successes have been published in Berlin. Reported from French sources that among dead at Charleroi is Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glueckburg, colonel of one of the crack regiments of Austrians.

BELGIUM—Germans attacking Ostend in force are expected to capture it. Germans have named Field Marshal Von Der Goltz as the military governor of Belgium, which has now been taken over by Germany. Legation at London insist most of Namur forts still hold out, although it is admitted the Germans occupied the town.

SERVIA AND MONTENEGRO—Austrians have been driven from Shabats on the Save, forty miles west of Belgrade with heavy losses. Governor of Cattaro has asked for terms and is expected to surrender the city which will give French and British important naval base in the Adriatic. JAPAN—Japanese troops have landed on Shantung peninsula to invest Kiao Chau. British warships which covered the landing were shelled by the shore forts and slightly damaged, while ten men were killed. China has refused Japan's request to extend war limitations so Japanese could land on Chinese territory.

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