

## RUSSIA REPORTS NAVAL VICTORY

### GERMANY HAS A DENIAL FOR SINKING OF ARABIC

If Nobody Saw a Submarine Sink the Ship, How Can America Prove That it Did Not Strike Floating Mine?

### ASKED NOT TO JUMP AT CONCLUSIONS

President Wilson Expected to Either Strain a Point to Escape War, or Sever Diplomatic Relations With Germany.

[By Carl W. Ackerman, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

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BERLIN, (via The Hague), Aug. 23.—Officials here expressed doubt today that a German submarine sank the liner Arabic—especially without warning. They are reading carefully every dispatch and more telegrams are arriving, but every one in official circles with whom I talked said he doubted if the Arabic was sunk by a German torpedo.

I talked today at the admiralty with a captain who is in close touch with the American situation. He has just been promoted to be commander of a large ship.

It will be from eight to fourteen days before the submarines which are away can report," said he. "Until then we will have no official information."

From reports in the English, Dutch and Scandinavian press it is not certain that a submarine sank the Arabic. No one saw the submarine. The Arabic's captain says he saw a torpedo 300 feet away, but this does not seem probable.

The captain produced a Rotterdam telegram to a Berlin newspaper saying that the Arabic's passengers were provided with life belts when the ship reached the "danger zone."

"What 'danger zone' was reached?" asked the captain. "It is possible the Arabic struck a mine. A Copenhagen paper says that mines are floating off the east and west coasts of England. There are so many doubtful points at issue that I hope America will not jump to conclusions until an investigation determines the facts."

Count Reventlow today broke the editorial silence regarding the sinking of the Arabic. His article emphasized that it has not been proved that the Arabic was sunk by a German submarine, but commented on the report that the liner's captain furnished life belts to the passengers and crew. Possibly this was done, he suggested, because the Arabic's captain planned to ram the submarine.

"Should it be proved that a submarine destroyed the Arabic and that Americans were drowned," wrote Count Reventlow. "We see only a new proof of the righteousness of the position taken by Germany who has repeatedly warned neutrals embarking on ships passing through the war zone. It shows also the disregard of these warnings by the United States after having tried through threats to force Germany to give up her submarine war on commerce."

"This, we believe, is the undivided attitude and judgment of the German people, if it is established that a submarine sank the Arabic."

The continued German victories against the Russians absorb the attention of the German press. Dispatches regarding the Arabic sinking are printed in the inside pages although they contain speculation of English correspondents that a break between the United States and Germany is probable.

The above dispatch from the United Press bureau at Berlin is the first

indication from any source that Germany may deny that the Arabic was sunk by a German submarine. In one respect it differs from another dispatch received from the Berlin bureau of the United Press Saturday night.

The United Press Saturday night received from Carl W. Ackerman a cable stating that first reports of the sinking of the Arabic said all were saved and caused rejoicing in Berlin, but later reports that four Americans were killed "roused deep concern."

The department, this dispatch said, "received the submarine report."

Another dispatch received from Ackerman later in the evening, but bearing some evidence that it had been filed before the previous dispatch, quoted a "very high official" as advising Americans to withhold judgment until all the facts were known. This official, according to the cable dispatch, "said Germany had not yet received reports from the submarines."

Both cables were filed via The Hague and London and passed through the hands of the British censor. It is quite possible that the first dispatch should have read that the German admiralty "has not received the submarine report" and that the first two words were dropped off in cable transmission, making it appear that the submarine report had been received.

Only Two Guesses.

[By Charles P. Stewart, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Guesses on the administration's Arabic policy had simmered down to just two today:

1.—The president is prepared to "strain a point" to escape the risk of involving the United States in the world war.

2.—The president is prepared to sever diplomatic relations with Germany, call congress together and take steps looking toward possible hostilities unless the kaiser "comes to time" immediately.

There was no way of determining which of these surmises was the correct one—or the more nearly correct. The truth was known only to the president and his closest advisors—perhaps only to the president and not even to his advisor.

The theorists did not divide entire according to their personal sympathies. Many who favored a stern policy did not believe the president intended to adopt such a course. Others who did not think any such situation had arisen yet as to avoid even the risk of war and who were for avoiding such a risk at any reasonable cost, feared the administration meant to adopt an attitude which would gravely endanger the nation's peace.

This was not to say that Washington officialdom would not untiedly support the president or did not think the country would support him in whatever course he might decide to follow.

The different groups, however, had in advance, their own individual ideas of what was best and were anxious

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### The War in Mexico

Latest Developments Among Our Revolutionary Neighbors of the South.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—A terrific battle between Villistas and Carranzistas were raging Saturday at Tecmole, near Monterrey. Vice Consul Blocker, Piedras Negras, reported to the state department today. Both sides claimed victory. Blocker said the fight was of first importance.

Though Brazilian Minister Cardoso

De Olvera was not expelled from Mexico like the Guatemalan minister, he practically admitted in conference with Secretary Lansing today that General Carranza was so hostile to him as to render his continued stay there impossible.

He was strong to believe Carranza was not strong enough to retain power in Mexico long.

"Between the Somme and the Oise a fierce artillery duel proceeded Sunday," said this afternoon's communiqué. "In the Argonne region at several points and in the Bolante woods there were brief clashes with bombs and mortar."

### RUSSIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

PETROGRAD, Aug. 23.—For the first time since the Russians took Przemysl with 117 prisoners, Petrograd celebrated an important victory today with the idea of thanksgiving in the cathedrals.

Sinking of the German dreadnought Moltke and other teuton warships in the Gulf of Riga, the populace took as a divine answer to their prayers for victory, offered up in great religious demonstrations one week ago.

With this news, came word from the war office that Von Hindenburg's attempt to turn the Russian flank, has met with stubborn resistance that has brought the Germans to a halt.

The newspapers headed reports of the Russian naval victory with lines such as "a great German rout" and demanded to know if German newspapers would continue their talk of a separate peace with Russia. They printed prominently, the statements of Foreign Minister Sazanoff to Petrograd newspaper publishers yesterday with reference to peace rumors.

"These rumors of a separate peace are due to repeated enemy overtures to France and Russia," said the foreign minister. "They have been totally rejected."

"The enemy's attempts to sow discord among the allies is predestined to complete failure. The idea binding the allies are only strengthened thereby, and their confidence in the ultimate attainment of their common ends is unshaken."

Military critics here took the view that the severe defeat reported to have been administered the Germans in the Gulf of Riga engagement, will end the attempt to land troops from transports to aid in the attack on Riga.

The Germans having once penetrated the gulf with strong forces and having been driven off, it was held that the attempt would not be repeated.

The admiralty today made no further statement than the terse declaration that the German fleet had withdrawn from the gulf of Riga. Announcement of the sinking of the Moltke, three cruisers and seven torpedo boats was made by the president of the duma, who said the Russian losses were comparatively small.

2,500,000 ENEMY.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 23.—More than 2,500,000 Austro-Germans are being hurled against the Russian lines from Riga to Galicia in an attempt to crush the grand duke's armies.

A semi-official statement today estimated that 120 divisions of infantry and twenty divisions of cavalry are operating against the Russians. This includes about forty per cent of all the German forces and seventy per cent of the strength of Austria.

CONFLICTING STATEMENTS.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 23.—An official statement from the admiralty today regarding the Russian naval victory in the Gulf of Riga conflicted in some respects with the announcement made in the duma yesterday.

The admiralty statement said that

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### FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

PARIS, Aug. 23.—French torpedo boats of the second light squadron sank a German destroyer off Ostend last night, the admiralty announced today.

The enemy destroyer is believed to have emerged from Zeebrugge, a rendezvous for German submarines operating in the North sea. It is believed to have made its way southward from the base of the main German fleet. The engagement off Ostend is the first fight in this portion of the North sea in several months.

The French warships returned undamaged, it was officially stated.

A BLOODY SUNDAY.

PARIS, Aug. 23.—After wrecking long stretches of enemy trenches in the Vosges by a heavy bombardment lasting several hours, the French captured several German positions by infantry charges, the war office reported this afternoon.

At practically every sector of the battle front, intense activity was displayed throughout Sunday.

In the Artois region, grenade battles occurred around Souchez and Neuville without important results.

French long range artillery bombarded the railway and stations on the nearby between Lens and Moenin, Lietard and Loo, and Lille and Douai.

"Between the Somme and the Oise a fierce artillery duel proceeded Sunday," said this afternoon's communiqué.

"In the Argonne region at several points and in the Bolante woods there were brief clashes with bombs and mortar."

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### GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 23.—The Amsterdam Telegraaf, not considered friendly to Germany, is authority for the story that the German chancellor and other government heads despair of German victory unless peace is soon secured.

Before the opening of the reichstag sessions last Thursday, Dr. Helfferich, secretary of the imperial treasury, and Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg, according to the Telegraaf, called German political leaders into secret conference and told them of Germany's plight. The reichstag leaders were urged to "soft pedal" annexation talk in the reichstag and to support peace discussion. Dr. Helfferich was quoted as saying that the new German war loan would exhaust the nation's resources and that an early peace was needed.

Dr. Bernhard Dernburg, the Telegraaf reported, explained why he had failed to capture the sympathies of the United States and other neutral countries.

BULGARIA SATISFIED.

BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville), Aug. 23.—Official circles here today claimed receipts of positive information from both Sofia and Constantinople that Bulgaria and Turkey have signed an agreement assuring Bulgaria's neutrality.

Official statements given out in both Sofia and Constantinople, it was stated, proved the definite failure of the allies' attempt to bring Bulgaria into the war. Turkey has granted Bulgaria the direct railway connection to the sea desired by the Sofia government.

WILL MAKE NO CHANGE.

BERLIN (via wireless to Sayville), Aug. 23.—The Berlin press today took the view that Italy's declaration of war against Turkey will in no way alter the military situation at the Dardanelles or the political situation in the Balkans. The majority of the newspapers expressed the opinion that Italy declared war as the result of England's urging. They also suggested that Italy, finding it impossible to break the Austrian lines, desired to turn to new fields for conquest. The newspapers said that Italy probably will attempt to occupy some territory in Asia Minor but declared Turkey strong enough to "keep the Italian wolf" out of her territory.

TRUSTING IN GOD.

BERLIN (via wireless to Sayville), L. I., Aug. 23.—The conference of German bishops in session at Fulda, wired Kaiser Wilhelm their thanks for the protection to German homes and altars accorded by his armies and expressed hope for an early and honorable peace.

The kaiser, in wiring his thanks, declared:

"The German nation, during a war born of the envy and ill will of our enemies has demonstrated what German strength and resolution trusting in God's grace and justice, is able to achieve if the defence of honor and liberty of the fatherland is involved."

TOOK ANOTHER FORTRESS.

BERLIN (via wireless to London), Aug. 23.—The Russian fortress city of Osowetz has been captured by the Germans, it was officially announced this afternoon. The capture of Osowetz, which has been under inter-

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### TURKEY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 23.—Heavy attacks by reinforced British troops on the Turkish positions in the Subia bay region, have been repulsed with severe enemy losses, the war office announced today. The Turkish trenches were first subjected to violent artillery fire. The British then charged, but were unable to penetrate to the Turkish first lines.

TWO SHIPS SUNK.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—Two small Turkish vessels, carrying coal and munitions to the Dardanelles, have been sunk by a British submarine, according to Sofia dispatches today.

### JAPAN

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

TOKIO, Aug. 23.—Tokio newspapers today hinted that an agreement had been reached between Japan and Russia, whereby the Japanese will furnish large supplies of war munitions to Russia. Their information, they said, came from official sources.

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### ENGLAND

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

LONDON, Aug. 23.—The three masted British schooner Martha Edmonds, has been sunk by a German submarine, it was announced today. Her crew has been landed.

The Martha Edmonds was one of the oldest schooners in service, built in 1873. She has a tonnage of 185.

UNARMED PASSENGER.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—The foreign office today issued a statement declaring that the Arabic neither attempted to ram the German submarine that sank her nor attempted to escape.

"The Arabic was an unarmed passenger ship, outward bound for a neutral port," said an official statement issued in reply to inquiries. "Thus it was impossible for her to have been carrying contraband to this country."

"She was sunk by a German submarine without warning. She neither attempted to attack the submarine nor to escape it."

Though no further statements were made, it was assumed that the foreign office based its declarations on an official report from Captain Finch of the Arabic.

The foreign office was asked if the London steamer Dunaley, torpedoed just before the Arabic was attacked, could be considered a convoy. The reply was that the Dunaley was a peaceful trader, that she did not attack the submarine and that neither she nor any other vessel convoyed the Arabic.

A DOZEN CAPTURED.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Twelve German submarines were captured by Great Britain during July, according to W. D. Gregory, an attorney, of Toronto, who arrived here today on the Anchor liner Tuscania.

Gregory's story bears out a statement to the United Press Saturday night by a passenger arriving on the Cymric that England has found a deadly foe for the German undersea boats in nets which now guard the Irish sea.

There were thirty-three Americans aboard the Tuscania.

TEN WERE KILLED.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—Ten persons, including the captain, lost their lives in an attack on the Blue Funnel liner Diomed by two German submarines, according to dispatches received here this afternoon.

The two submarines shelled the liner when she sought safety in flight. The captain, quarter-master and steward were killed on the Diomed's deck. The crew then took to the boats, but one boat upset as it struck the water and two sailors and five Chinese from the engine room were drowned.

The Diomed was built in 1895 and displaced 4,672 tons. She was owned by the Ocean Steamship company of Liverpool and registered at that port.

### BALKANS

[By Ed. L. Keen, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

LONDON, Aug. 23.—The Balkan situation reached the acute stage today. Serbia was expected to make known, possibly before night, whether she will cede Macedonia to Bulgaria. M. Venizelos was to be sworn in at Athens as the new Greek premier and it was believed he would make a definite statement of the course Greece intends to pursue.

Nash has come from Nish as to the course of the Serbian government. Serbian diplomats here characterized the Bulgarian demands as exorbitant, but important influences are known to have been at work at the Serb capital during the past week. It is believed possible, however, that Italy's declaration of war against Turkey may delay Serbia's answer.

Bulgaria has made no fresh move to indicate whether she intends to join the allies. Her military preparations are almost complete and she is awaiting Serbia's answer. From various sources the news has reached London that neither Turkey nor her Austro-German allies are quite so confident of keeping Bulgaria neutral as they were a fortnight ago, though Italian reports that the Bulgars were massing troops on the Turkish frontier have received little credence here.

Until Serbia and Bulgaria make their decisions, no change is expected at Athens or Bucharest. Diplomatic circles here expect the conviction that the new Greek cabinet will favor maintenance of Greece's neutrality until new developments in the Balkan situation make it appear certain Greece will gain by entering the war.

Dispatches from sources not always reliable reported today that Roumania had been seized by the war fever. Italy's war declaration against Tur-

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### ARKANSAS NOW FLOODED WITH SIX LIVES LOST

Breaks in the Levee on White River Threaten to Inundate City of Newport Where Everybody is Fighting the Water.

### OVER 250 ARE DEAD AT GALVESTON NOW

Suburbs of St. Louis Experienced Another Drenching Sunday Which Made Thousands Flee Their Homes.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Aug. 23.—Newport, Ark., on the White river, is fighting a flood, that threatens to inundate the entire city, according to telegraphic advices to Little Rock today. All business has been suspended and the entire population and farmers for miles around are working desperately to repair six distinct breaks in the levee, according to dispatches reaching here. The reports said white citizens were standing guard with shot guns, compelling negro farm hands to keep at work, threatening them with death if they relaxed. The \$26,000 Newport lake causeway, recently finished, went out this morning and the light and power plants are out of commission.

Six lives have been claimed by floods elsewhere in Arkansas, it was reported here, five at Oil Trough bottom, and one that of C. H. Jordan, a ferryman, at Reber Springs. The situation is the most serious in many years. The white, Black, Ouachita and Buffalo rivers are out of their banks for miles, flooding thousands of farm acres. Batesville is cut off from communication and it is feared a disaster may have occurred there. The state convict farm is flooded. Train schedules have been abandoned in many sections. Damage is roughly estimated at \$1,000,000.

3,000 Homeless.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Aug. 23.—Three thousand persons were made homeless, many of them destitute by a flood of the Meramec river which inundated Valley Park, a suburb of St. Louis, and a large area on both sides of the stream for a distance of thirty-five miles. So far as has been learned no lives were lost though Coroner Bopp is still investigating reports that as many as twelve persons were drowned.

The flood was receding this morning. The damage estimated conservatively at \$1,000,000 was said to be much greater than that resulting in St. Louis last week in the flood of the river Des Peres. St. Louis county is no part of St. Louis, but forms a crescent boundary of the city proper. Coroner Bopp of St. Louis county this morning was working to ascertain the fate of persons reported to have perished. Three men were reported to have disappeared from Valley Park, a house on which they were drifting, went to pieces in the flood, three others were reported

drowned nearby when their canoe capsized. There were other reports of fatalities, some of which conflicted. Six persons were said to have drowned near Mosele, Mo., and Drake.

Canoes from pleasure clubs along the Meramec river rescued hundreds on the river Sunday and an old river tug landed hundreds taken from perilous positions on slippery rocks.

250 Dead at Galveston.

GALVESTON, Texas, Aug. 23.—The water famine here is expected to be relieved this afternoon, when it is thought that temporary repairs on the big main beneath the causeway, wrecked by last week's hurricane, will be completed. If these repairs are delayed another day, barges will ferry water across the bay.

The conscription methods employed successfully in the work of removing mud and debris from the city were continued today.

Additional bodies are being found in the outlying district and the total storm dead is now over 250.

Steamer Thought Lost.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Aug. 23.—Hope for the United Fruit Line steamer Marowine with sixty-two passengers, missing for more than a week, has been abandoned. Search of the Cuban coast and the gulf of Mexico has revealed no trace of the vessel.

Jail Breakers Foiled.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

DANVILLE, Ill., Aug. 23.—The vibrations of a saw "nipped in the bud" a well devised scheme on the part of three federal prisoners in the county jail here to make their escape last night.

Jailor Taylor heard the vibrations, and awoke Sheriff Williams who removed the prisoners to another cell. The men had been working for months sawing through an iron partition and planned to make their escape last night.

The three prisoners are held pending the action of the federal grand jury on a charge of blowing postoffice safes.

Abe Ruef Is Free.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Aug. 23.—Abe Ruef, one-time San Francisco political boss, stepped forth from San Quentin prison today and headed for Ukiah where he must stay ninety days under promise not to get into San Francisco or its politics.

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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. 23.—Italy's declaration of war against Turkey is due in principle measure to the failure of the campaign against Austro-Hungary. The Italian government, of the blood and treasure Italians are uselessly extending along the Ionian and in the Alps Turkey has been selected, therefore, to provide the sacrifice and Italy is now prepared with her allies to obtain at least partial recompense in the levant for the expenses of war.

This is doubtless the reason the Italians put off so long entering the war. The Roman government has been compelled to chance the possible loss of Tripoli. Turkey has enough spare soldiers to engage in a Tripolitan campaign against the Italians, but it is very doubtful whether sufficient ammunition can be spared from the Gallipoli and Constantinople positions for use in Africa.

If, however, Bulgaria were to enter the war on the side of the teutonic

powers, closed communications with the central empires would be opened again. Under this condition, the chances are certainly even that Tripoli would be retained by the Turks. As long as Bulgaria remains neutral and prevents the passage of supplies to Turkey, it is improbable Italy will lose Tripoli.

What help Italy will give to France and England in the Constantinople campaign cannot at present be determined. Italy may decline to participate in the Gallipoli operations or, at the most may send only a small expeditionary force to the Dardanelles. Italy's interests in Turkey center about Smyrna. The Italians may decide to concentrate most of their levantine army along the Smyrna coast and permit the Anglo-French forces to reap the honor and the losses of subduing Constantinople. A Smyrna offensive would divide the Turkish offensive and contribute indirectly to the allies' Gallipoli campaign, but it would not be so helpful as an Italian army directly participating in the drive against the Turkish capital.

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