

The Great War---1084th Day

Teutons Cut 21-Mile Gap in Russian Line

Strong Forces Sweep Forward in Turning Movement in Galicia

Korniloff Held Up South of Dniester

New Offensive on Northern Front Is Believed Imminent

DAYS DEVELOPMENTS

Austro-Germans launch heavy attacks due west of Lemberg. Berlin asserts Russian positions near Zlochoff were penetrated on wide front. Fighting extends across Galician border into Volhynia, northwest of Lutsk.

Heavy gunfire grows in Flanders. Local fighting and raiding is favorable to British. Intense air activity and strong artillery fire in Italian front.

British advance up Euphrates in Mesopotamia and push forward in East Africa. London, July 19.—Hindenburg's answer to the Russian sweep on Lemberg was delivered to-day in a heavy German blow which fell at Zlochoff, directly east of the Galician capital.

German Shock Units Are Like "Forlorn Hopes" of Ancient Wars

Men Are Almost All Unmarried and They Know When They Go Into Action That There Is Little Chance of Returning Alive

[Correspondence of The Associated Press] French Front, June 18.—Full details of the organization of the German formations known as "Stosstruppen," or "shock units," indicate that the German army at the front is now divided into superior and inferior grades of soldiers.

The "shock units," specially formed for difficult operations which the ordinary regiments evidently are regarded as unqualified to undertake, are formed from among the young, vigorous men of the regular battalions.

They are nearly all unmarried men, or, if married, are childless, and this regulation has been drafted for the reason that whenever they are sent into action they encounter overwhelming chances of losing their lives. They, in fact, resemble the "forlorn hopes" of oldtime wars, except that they are not volunteers.

Refractory in the Units German prisoners assert that soldiers who are insubordinate, or who do not take kindly to the discipline of the army, are sent into the ranks of these special units destined to sacrifice themselves in attacks on specially important positions, or in attempts, which hitherto have generally proved vain, to recapture positions such as the Chemin-des-Dames from the French.

Until now each German army has had attached to it one or two battalions of these "shock units." Henceforth, according to the newest regulations, each German army corps is to organize a "shock unit" of its own. Orders have been issued by the German high command that in certain cases each infantry brigade is to have a "shock

unit" consisting of a company, and the companies may be united should circumstances call for it into a battalion, to be at the service of the army corps commander.

Throw Liquid Fire The composition of such a battalion varies, but that of the second "shock battalion" of the Third German Army may be given as an example. It was commanded by a captain, with a lieutenant as adjutant, and it consisted of four companies, each mustering one hundred men with three officers. There was, besides, a company of machine gunners with six pieces, also a mixed company with trench mortars and grenades.

As soon as the shock unit still remaining alive withdraw to the rear and rejoin the rest of the battalion, in readiness to be huried off to any other part of the line where hot work is in progress.

northern sector of East Galicia and over the border well into Volhynia. Both Berlin and Vienna speak of intense cannonading in this region and the successful employment of German and Austria "shock" troops, or storming detachments, with the capture of numerous prisoners. The Berlin day statement declares the activity extends to the northwest of Lutsk, the great Russian fortress from which Brusiloff's damaging drive of last year debouched.

The German bulletin announcing the attack is worded with an eye to its political effect. It reads: "Challenged by the offensive which the Russians have begun on our fronts by order of their government and in spite of their peace assertions, we have launched a counter attack in Eastern Galicia. German corps have pierced Russian positions east of Zlochoff on wide front."

The use of the word "corps" indicates that large Teuton forces are being used and that the movement is an important one, begun for far-reaching strategic objectives.

There are signs that the Russians are preparing a new blow considerably to the northward on the front between Dvinsk and Smorgon, where the opposing batteries have been engaged in a violent duel for several days. A pronounced German success near the Galician border, however, would doubtless cause a redistribution of forces, upsetting any plans which Brusiloff and Krensky had previously made.

South of the Dniester River the Russian sweep westward has been stemmed and the struggle for position continues to centre about Novica, on the south bank of the Lomnica River, below Kalusz.

Germans Strike On Aisne and At St. Quentin

Take First Line French Trenches, but Lose Some of Gains to Defenders

London, July 19.—Active operations on the front in Northern France to-day were mostly confined to vigorous German efforts to recover observation positions lost to the French at several points. Fighting in the field of the Hindenburg retreat, which has been fairly quiet since the Germans reached their previously prepared lines last April, was renewed last night, when Hessian troops attempted to storm "The Hill of the Mill of All Winds," near Gauchy, southwest of St. Quentin. Berlin declares the French defenses were occupied over a front of two-thirds of a mile, but Paris insists that in spite of continued efforts to-day the Germans were able to hold but a small part of their gains.

On the Chemin des Dames the Crown Prince also launched a heavy attack over a wide front, extending from east of Craonne to Hurtebise. According to Paris, though the picked forces of the Fifth Guard Division were used and advanced in dense waves, the assault failed completely on both wings, though toward the centre the Germans overran advanced trenches and held them against immediate counter thrusts. The stubborn way in which the Crown Prince has fought to drive Pétain's forces out of their observation posts in the angle embracing Laon on the south and west promises a continuation of activity in this region.

The feature on the front occupied by the British is the continuation of the violent duel of big guns which extends from the Channel coast to the French border. Aside from a strong German attack to-day south of Lensbaertzyde, which failed at the first trenches, the only infantry operations were raids in force by the British on either side of Ypres, in Flanders, and toward Neu-Ypres, a hostile thrust over Cherley. General Haig announces that as a result of the recent fighting south of the River Scarpe the British lines east of Monchy-le-Breux have been reestablished as they were previous to July 11, when a sudden German blow drove back the defenders.

Both the British and German reports agree as to the extent of the artillery activity in Flanders, Berlin also emphasizing the violence of the British raids there. With the sound of the guns plainly audible in London the thoughts of every one are now turned to the possible developments in this region. On the remainder of the British portion of the fighting line the guns continue active, which nowadays means that the British are firing six rounds to their opponents' one. The action of "the concentrated artillery masses" of which Berlin speaks has been steadily growing for a week.

The checks which the Germans have suffered on the Aisne, Champagne and Verdun fronts evidently have not halted them. Attacks in the region northwest of Rheims were in process of development to-day when they were suppressed by the French barrage. On the city itself the hostile batteries yesterday and to-day dropped 1,100 shells. Berlin asserts that one of the German trenches lost yesterday northwest of Verdun has been recovered.

Budapest Munition Works Burned; Loss Is \$200,000

Zurich, July 19.—The munitions factory of the Hungarian iron and steel rolling mills at Engelsfeld, Budapest, was burned Sunday, according to word received here. The entire stock was ruined. The damage will exceed \$200,000.

French Official Greet Mrs. T. Roosevelt, Jr.

Paris, July 19.—Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., arrived from New York to-day and was greeted by the prefect of the department in behalf of the French government. American naval and medical missions and American ambulance workers also arrived on the same steamer.

Official Statements

West BRITISH

London, July 19 (DAY).—As a result of the recent fighting east of Monchy-le-Breux, the advanced posts from which our troops were compelled to fall back by the enemy's attack on July 11, have now been re-established. Hostile raiding parties were repulsed last night west of the Cherley before reaching our trenches. We made successful raids north and east of Ypres and secured prisoners. A few other prisoners were captured by us in an unsuccessful hostile attack upon one of our advanced posts east of Oostvorne.

There was considerable artillery activity on both sides in the night. (NIGHT).—Early this morning the enemy again attacked our positions south of Lensbaertzyde under cover of a heavy bombardment, to which our artillery replied vigorously. His troops succeeded in reaching our line only on a small portion of the front attacked, and those who entered our trenches were at once driven out by our counter attack.

Later reports show that the raids attempted by the enemy last night west of Cherley were pressed with great determination and strongly supported by artillery. His raiding parties were repulsed by our infantry with rifle and machine gun fire and failed to reach our line at any point.

FRENCH

Paris, July 19 (DAY).—Our artillery and the enemy's were active over the whole front. There was especially violent firing between the Somme and the Aisne, in the region of Vauclerc and Craonne, and on the left bank of the Meuse. South of St. Quentin the Germans, after a violent bombardment, delivered an attack at about 9 o'clock yesterday evening on a front of 800 metres east of Gauchy, against the hillock of the Mill of All Winds. The enemy succeeded in gaining a footing in our first trench line, but was driven out of the greater part of the occupied positions by a counter attack.

After a very intense bombardment last night our detachments in an operation east of Radonville succeeded in inflicting serious losses on the enemy and in taking prisoners. (NIGHT).—The artillery was particularly active to-day between the Somme and the Aisne. South of St. Quentin a fresh enemy attack, delivered about 1:30 o'clock, against the hillock of Moulin-sous-Toutvent failed completely.

After a bombardment of extreme violence, lasting the entire morning, the Germans attacked our positions from northeast of Craonne as far east as Hurtebise, sending forward the 5th Guard Division, which engaged at several points in thick waves. The attack was a complete failure on both wings; only in the centre were the Germans able to reach some elements of our first line trench, where counter attacks were made after they had suffered additional heavy losses.

There was a prolonged enemy bombardment on one side south of Corbeny, and on the other as far as the region of Cerny, where the German infantry, caught under the fire of our artillery, was not able to debouch. The enemy's artillery was active on the left bank of the Meuse.

GERMAN

Berlin, July 19 (DAY). Army Group of Crown Prince Rupprecht.—In Flanders the artillery duel continues. In spite of the rain the fighting activity of the concentrated artillery masses was very lively throughout the day and the night. Violent counter-attacking thrusts by the British in the coastal region and east of Ypres were frustrated before our lines.

On the Aisne front the artillery activity was lively at several points from La Bassée to Verdun. Fronts of the Somme and Southwest of St. Quentin Hessian troops, after strong artillery preparation, stormed French heights positions to the width of one kilometre. The enemy led a large number of prisoners and several machine guns in their hands. He also succeeded in forcing the French to evacuate parts of the ground recently captured there. At Avocourt Wood one of our own attacks led to the recapture of a trench section which we had lost the day before.

ITALIAN FRONT

Rome, July 19.—Last night storming parties, supported by a heavy artillery and machine gun fire, attacked our positions west of Versica. The attack failed completely owing to the vigilance of our infantry and the prompt action of our artillery. In the Melino region we repulsed by a counter attack enemy parties which, after artillery preparation, had attacked one of our outposts.

Julian front.—The artillery was more active. Our guns destroyed a fortified position on Monte Nev and dispersed enemy troops observed in the rear of Monte Santo yesterday. Enemy parties in motion and supply columns and communication lines on the Baniarra, Carro Platona, were dispersed. The enemy shelled our positions east of St. Catherina on the Dosso Fatti and southwest of Versica.

East RUSSIAN

Petrograd, July 19.—Western Russian Front.—As the result of to-night's attack our detachments occupied the village of Novica, to the south of Kalusz, but, suffering great losses in this operation, withdrew to the eastern end of the village. Two enemy attacks on the above mentioned detachments were repulsed by our fire. In the engagement near Novica on Tuesday we captured three machine guns, eight officers and 250 men.

British Chase Turks 12 Miles in 10 Days; Win in East Africa

London, July 19.—Official bulletins issued here to-day deal with British successes in two of the far corners of the world. British columns, advancing up the river Euphrates in Mesopotamia, have pursued the fleeing Turks twelve miles in ten days, while in East Africa the British encircling movement around the German bases at Kilwa, on the coast near the Portuguese border, is being pressed toward an almost certain victory. The report describing operations in

Mesopotamia declares the British are advancing up the Euphrates in the direction of Ramadies. If the hamlet of Kalat Ramadie is meant, it would indicate that General Maude's forces have progressed to a point nearly a hundred miles across the desert due east from Bagdad. Turkish troops were engaged in a brisk combat on July 11, and were promptly defeated, with considerable losses. The retreating enemy was followed for some time, but the pursuit had to be given up on account of the extreme heat, which is said to have reached 119 degrees in the shade when there is any. A picturesque feature of the double British advance in Mesopotamia is that the forces moving up the Tigris are nearing the ruins of ancient Nineveh, while those following the Euphrates are approaching the site of Babylon. The object of the British operations in East Africa, the last colony on that continent where the Germans are still fighting, is either to force the enemy inland into Portuguese East Africa or to surround him. The British have pushed south of Kilwa, the last of the German ports, and on July 15 were established on the line of Itshakale-Utgeri.



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