The Great War—1372d Day

solidly knitted front at the wish of the Allied high command as freely as German divisions.

Against the enemy's territorial gains must be set the fact that he had to throw 140 divisions into battle in five weeks. A considerable number of these have been twice engaged and some thrice. Adding these reappearances together, there is a total of 186 engagements of divisions, equivalent to a mass of two and one-half million men whom the enemy has already put into battle. As a German division is never withdrawn until it has sustained severe losses, on an average of 2,500, it is reasonable to reckon the enemy's loss since the beginning of the battle at not less than 350,000.

Already the German staff is most anxiously realizing that the reserves of fresh troops are not greater than those under General Foch.

Germans Forced To Admit Costly Check at Ypres

[Staff Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, May 2.—An official French dispatch relating to military operations received here to-day says:

"The importance of the check suffered by the Germans in their attack of April 29 needs no demonstration. Here, however, is further and significant proof of it: The day before the attack the enemy notified the entire world that the taking of Mount Kemmel at the beginning of the new battle assured him a rapid march to the sea, and a radiogram from Nauen cited the article of the military critic of the 'Berliner Zeitung am Mittag,' who stated that this success must have 'a decisive effect on the ulterior development of the struggle, since it was necessary to return to a more just estimate of realities,' and the same official service of radiograms at Nauen on the date of May 1 indulges in these modest explanations of the military critic of the 'Svenska Dagbladet,' pro-German paper of Stockholm:

"'The development of events southwest of Ypres shows that the taking of Kemmel was not the signal of an operation on a large scale. With that supposition, the struggle would have promptly continued and the advantage won would have been exploited in another way.' It is an admission of the costly check of April 29."

Foe in Awkward Predicament in West, Says French Expert

[By Cable to The Courrier des Etats-Unis]

PARIS, May 2.—The Germans are in an awkward predicament in the West, says Henri Bidou, the famous military critic of the "Journal des Debats." He sums up the situation as follows:

"The dominating fact is that the enemy, whose principal interest is in Picardy, finds himself, probably in spite of himself, in a situation where he is obliged to throw in forces, always more considerable, without the success he obtains bringing him nearer a decision.

"Having commenced on April 9 south of Armentieres an engagement which was no more than a simple diversion, he curved his line forward and the next day had to extend his action to the north. In this way he has dug out a vast pouch, where in a few days he spent twenty-one divisions; but this pouch being barred on both flanks, he had to disengage his right flank by an operation in the Ypres sector which led to the capture of Kemmel.

"But this capture in turn made necessary an assault on other hills and a general operation against Ypres, which up to the present has been a complete check.

"So, since April 27 the Germans have thrown into the Flanders fighting more than forty divisions. Moreover, since March 21 they have engaged more than one hundred divisions in Picardy, of which many have fought twice and some three times.

"The Germans resemble at this moment a man who has eaten too big a dinner and tries to correct it by drinking more than usual. The headache is still to come."

18,000 Prisoners Join Italians to Fight Austria

PARIS, May 2.—Eighteen thousand soldiers of Rumanian origin who were captured by the Italians while fighting under the Austrian flag have asked permission to go to the front against Austria. The request has been granted, and organization of these troops is under way.

With the entrance of this force into the field three armies composed of former subjects of the Central Empires will be fighting on the side of the Allies. Czech troops are already under arms on the Italian front, and there is a Polish army on the French front.

Revolt of Starving People Menaces Austria-Hungary

LONDON, May 2 (via Ottawa).—The best indication of the enemy defeat in Northern Flanders, in the view of London newspapers, is the evident imminence of a renewal of the peace offensive. The German papers emphasize the report that the Pope is about to issue a new peace note, while the German peace agents are busy in neutral countries. Articles in the Scandinavian press suggest that Italy may be the main objective of the enemy attempts to divide the Allies.

Meanwhile the troubles of the Austrian Empire are apparently coming to a head. The Cabinet crises in Austria and Hungary are still unsettled. The "Arbeiter Zeitung," of Vienna, denounces Hungary for starving Austria and declares that the imports from the Ukraine are still remote and empty stomachs cannot afford to await. The arrival of Czecho-Slovak troops on the Italian front, under the Italian flag, has disquieted the Austro-Hungarian leaders, who fear the effect on their Slav troops. Recently some of these men persuaded a number of Austrian Czechs to desert, which the Italian barrage between the Austrian support and front lines enabled them to do.

General Robertson Predicts Long War

Entire Empire Determined to See It Through, He Declares

LONDON, May 2.—"The war is likely to last a long time yet," said General Sir William R. Robertson, ex-Chief of General Staff, speaking here to-day. "How long it will last no sane man would dare to estimate. One of the reasons why the war was not finished long ago is that we were unprepared for it when it began, while the enemy had been preparing for years. We are now paying the penalty for that unpreparedness, which in the past has caused countries to become bankrupt or ruined, but we have no intention of becoming bankrupt or ruined."

"I know," he concluded, "that every right-minded person in the empire has made up his mind to see things through."

GERMAN AGGRESSIONS IN THE EAST

The shaded portion of the map is the "People's Republic of the Ukraine," where the Germans have suddenly thrown off their masks, jailed the "Minister of War" and proclaimed martial law in the capital, Kiev. Pushing beyond what is Ukrainian territory by any known claim, the Germans yesterday reported the capture of Sebastopol, in the Crimea, the principal Russian Black Sea naval base. To the north of the Ukraine Poland, Lithuania, Esthonia and Livonia lie under the German heel. Finnish troops, with Germans accompanying them and probably directing their movements, have moved east until at last report they were about seventy-five miles from Petrograd and still advancing.

Military Comment

By William L. McPherson

THE German Western offensive is still languishing. In the north von Arnim's armies have not yet recovered from the shock of Monday's staggering defeat. The German infantry is resting and waiting for reinforcements. Some artillery activity was reported yesterday in the neighborhood of Merris. There was similar activity Wednesday night at St. Venant.

These two points lie to the north and to the south of the Forest of Nieppe and cover the northern and southern approaches to Hazebrouck. In this region the Germans have made no progress for the last two weeks. Their efforts have been concentrated more and more on the north side of the Lys Valley salient. Ypres is still only two miles from the German lines to the south and east of it. And Ypres has a sentimental and theatrical value which strongly appeals to German psychology. Therefore, it is unlikely that von Arnim's next thrust will be directed at any other point than Ypres.

In the Somme region there were local engagements. The French again improved their positions southeast of Amiens. They retook all of Hangard Wood, which they lost about a week ago. They also retook Beaune Wood, which lies to the southeast of Mailly-Raineval. In the whole Somme district the Germans are marking time. They have found no spot in the Allied defence weak enough to encourage them to attempt a major operation.

The most interesting news yesterday came from the old Eastern front. The Germans seized Sepastopol. This amounts to a new declaration of war on Russia, for Sebastopol lies beyond the border Russian provinces affected by the treaty of Brest-Litovsk. It is in the Crimea, which was spared to Russia in the great dismemberment.

The Germans want to control the Black Sea, so as to secure their hold on the rich oil regions of Batum. They have gone to Sebastopol in order to get possession of the Russian Black Sea fleet, or, at least, to deprive it of its chief base.

With the Russian fleet in their hands they might even set up a new naval base of their own at Constantinople, using Russian and Turkish ships for raiding operations in the Eastern Mediterranean. The Allies now have trouble patrolling those waters and protecting the communications of the Salonica army.

It has been suggested that our navy could be put to a larger use by assisting to police the Eastern Mediterranean. But our anomalous state of peace with Turkey and Bulgaria blocks the way.

The seizure of Sebastopol is a warning. It is also an evidence that German designs in the East are such as to compel the retention of a considerable body of German troops on that front. General Eichorn has just deposed the government of the Ukrainian Republic. Russia is being daily affronted and humiliated. Even peace-at-any-price visionaries like Lenine and Trotzky may be eventually goaded into fighting. And the German overlords, who ply the goad, need at least German Landsturm regiments to back them in safeguarding German plunder and spreading Kultur in Slavdom.

American Airman Home With Record Of 4 Boche Victims

Sergeant William Wellman Arrives With Coveted Croix de Guerre

AN ATLANTIC PORT, May 2.—Driving a Boche airman to the ground, killing him as he ran for shelter, then bombarding his hangar was one of the amazing feats that was told of by Sergeant William Wellman, an unassuming young American flier belonging to the Lafayette Squadron, on his arrival here to-day.

Wellman, a slim youth of twenty, wore pinned to his blue tunic the coveted Croix de Guerre and the two palms which represented four Boche aviators brought down within six months of active service with the American troops on the Lorraine front.

Thomas Hitchcock, the seventeen-year-old son of the noted clubman and horseman, shared in two of these air battles before he was brought down, wounded, and taken prisoner after a furious fight alone against four enemy flyers. Wellman saw his chum downed before he could go to his rescue.

"But he made a brave fight for it, and engaged the four Boche all the way to the ground," said Wellman, with pride. "Tommy was caught on March 6. He was up alone, when a 'circus' of four Germans arose and got between him and our lines. Then they drove him behind their own lines, and that was the last seen of him. But we heard later, through Geneva, that he had been wounded severely before he was captured."

Wellman did not remember the time of the four engagements which had won the French honors for him for bravery under fire, and had to consult a silver cigarette case, on the inside of which were engraved the dates of the battles.

"The first fight took place on January 19. It was on the Lorraine sector, and Hitchcock and I were flying above the American troops stationed in the first line trenches. We took on a German battleplane, and smashed it down with machine-gun fire, making it fall in No Man's Land.

"The next day we attacked a double battleplane, and chased it as far as Mamy, where it descended behind the German lines. The pilot and gunner got out and started to run toward their trenches. We swooped down on them, to within five feet from the ground, and opened fire with our machine guns. We killed the pilot just as he reached the shelter of the trench, but the gunner escaped.

"The German machine guns were rattling all around us, and shells were falling when we started back. We thought we'd make a complete job of it, however, so we bombarded the nearby hangar, wrecking it, and emptied our guns into the fallen machine. We got back, luckily, without being touched.

"After Hitchcock's capture, I flew alone, and on March 9 brought down two machines. First I got a biplane, then twenty-five minutes later a monoplane."

Wellman, who went from the ship to his home in Cambridge, Mass., said he was wounded on March 29, when his machine was hit by anti-aircraft guns, and he was forced to land in the woods. He said he expected to fly with the American forces as soon as he was sufficiently recovered to return to France.

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British Capture City in Palestine, But Lose 9 Guns

Es Salt, Near Dead Sea, Taken With 350 Turks and Germans

LONDON, May 2.—British troops in Palestine have captured Es Salt, east of the Jordan River, taking 350 Turkish and German prisoners, but subsequently a detached brigade was attacked by superior numbers and forced to abandon nine guns, it was officially announced to-day. A Turkish communication claims the repulse of a British force in Mesopotamia.

The British statement says that while infantry units attacked the Turks in the foothills south and southeast of Es Salt on Wednesday Australian cavalry captured the city.

At the same time a mounted brigade set to watch the crossings of the Jordan, the exact places invoived not being stated, was assaulted by a body of the enemy. This force had crossed the Jordan in the night. The brigade fell back, and, owing to the "difficult and broken country," it was found necessary to leave nine guns behind, although the horses belonging to them and the gunners all got away safely.

Other Attacks Repulsed

Reinforcements were immediately dispatched from the main body of the British and the operations are still going on. The enemy attacked at several points west of the Jordan Tuesday night and was thrown back.

The town of Es Salt has 12,000 people and is twenty miles northeast of the east end of the Dead Sea, at an elevation of 2,700 feet.

The official statement follows:

"On Wednesday morning while our infantry moved to attack the enemy in the foothills south and southeast of Es-Salt, Australian mounted troops entered Es-Salt, capturing 33 Germans and 317 Turkish prisoners.

"In the course of these operations a mounted brigade debouched to watch. The Jordan crossings was attacked by a superior force of the enemy, which had crossed the river during the night, and was compelled to fall back. Horse artillery batteries supporting this brigade, in the most difficult and broken country, were obliged to abandon nine guns which could not be saved, although the detachments and horses were safely withdrawn. Necessary support for this detached brigade was immediately forthcoming and the operations are continuing.

"West of the Jordan local enemy attacks at several points were repulsed during Tuesday night."

Turks Claim a Victory

The Turkish statement on the fighting in Mesopotamia, issued in Constantinople Wednesday, said:

"Strong English infantry and cavalry detachments west of the River Scheria on Tuesday were mown down while attempting to penetrate the Turkish lines. All the positions remained in Turkish possession. North of the Scheria a cavalry patrol was repulsed."

Artillery Fighting Increases in Italy

Rome Reports Gun Duels Growing More Intense in Three Zones

ROME, May 2.—"Brisk patrol encounters took place yesterday in the village of Stoccareddo and on the slopes of Monfenera," says an official statement given out here to-day. "An enemy party was dispersed on Sassorosso.

"There was a more intense hostile artillery duel in the Tonale zone, at various points on the Asiago Plateau and on the Lower Piave River.

"Italian batteries dispersed enemy troops at Dossdeimorti, and made direct hits on trains in Primolano, Susegana and Conegliano.

"Italian aviators brought down three enemy airplanes. British airmen brought down two others."

Dutch Shipping From East Indies Resumed

Traffic With America Permitted, Is Minister's Reply to Amsterdam Merchants

AMSTERDAM, May 2.—Telegrams were dispatched by the Chamber of Commerce, of Amsterdam, to-day to the Dutch Ministers of Colonies and Foreign Affairs, urgently requesting that shipping traffic between the Dutch East Indies and the United States be resumed immediately. The Minister of Colonies replied that instructions had been cabled on Wednesday to the Governor General of the East Indies to the effect that traffic in the direction of America may now be resumed.

The request of the Chamber of Commerce was made on the ground that the accumulations of colonial productz were assuming unmanageable proportions, with consequent deterioration, especially in the supplies of tobacco, tea and rubber, while the difficulties of financing and insuring the cargoes, it was added, were becoming well nigh insuperable.

The Official Statements

LONDON, May 2.—Field Marshal Haig's reports from British headquarters to-day follow:

NIGHT.—A raid which the enemy attempted this morning in the neighborhood of Hebuterne was repulsed. Except for the usual artillery activity on both sides there is nothing to report.

DAY.—The enemy's artillery developed considerable activity early this morning in the Villers-Bretonneux sector and in the neighborhood of Merris. Some activity was shown also during the night in the Arras, Lens and St. Venant sectors. No infantry action is reported.

Captured Baune Wood, Paris Announces

PARIS, May 2.—The War Office announcements to-day said:

NIGHT.—Both artilleries were quite active north and south of the Avre. Last night our troops made an appreciable advance in Hangard Wood.

This morning we carried out local operations which enabled us to occupy Baune Wood, southwest of Mailly-Raineval. We took about thirty prisoners, including one officer, and captured five machine guns.

There was artillery action between Parroy Forest and the Vosges.

DAY.—North of the Avre a German attack on French positions in the region of Thennes was broken up by the French fire. Other German efforts north of Chavignon and northwest of Rheims gained no greater success.

The French carried out a number of raids, especially near Le Monchel, west of Coucy le Chateau and north of Pont-a-Moussons, and brought back twenty prisoners.

Berlin Tells of Artillery Actions in West

BERLIN, May 2.—German general headquarters to-day gave out the following:

DAY.—On the battlefronts the situation is unchanged. The artillery duel increased in the Mount Kemmel sector and it repeatedly revived between the Somme and the Luce Brook, near Montdidier, Lassigny and Noyon. The French artillery was lively during the afternoon hours on the Lorraine front. Minor enemy thrusts were repulsed.

Deserted Villages on American Front Tell Mute Story of War

Half Cooked Meals on Stoves, Cats Mewing on Thresholds, Ploughs and Harrows Standing in Fields Are Witnesses to Hurried Flight

By Wilbur Forrest

[Tribune Cable Service]

THE FRENCH BATTLEFRONT, Sunday, April 28.—Now that the German forces are aware that American forces are facing them in this part of France it is possible for the first time to describe the war's transformation of the peaceful French countryside and villages to a battleground which certainly will enter into American war history.

A few weeks ago the faint rumbling of the firing to the north and the letters to the home folks from the few soldiers at the front were the only indications of war. Men and women worked in the green fields with their oxen and horses. Kids played in the village squares, old men and women hobbled through the streets or sat in doorsteps and younger women hustled about the housework and gardens.

Just as the fruit trees began to bloom and the wheat began to peep through the brown fields and the garden flowers began budding the pleasant life in the dozen villages hereabouts went to pot. Domestic life went out as the war came in.

No Villager Left to Tell Story

The story of how the spring sun rose one morning a short time ago on this peaceful, domestic city and fell on a dozen deserted agricultural communities where perhaps two dozen generations of French peasant folk were born and died was told to me by a French soldier to-day. There isn't a single villager left to tell it, but the neat households, with the family photos on the walls, the fields and gardens and baby cradles and children's toys mutely tell a stronger story of war than the villagers themselves could tell.

The villagers hurriedly harnessed their oxen and horses, piled what few belongings they could on their conveyances, and fled. The French reserves who filled the village at nightfall found the fires still smouldering, potatoes peeled, half-cooked meals on the stoves, cats still mewing on the threshholds, plows and harrows left in the fields just where they were when the farmers received the alarm.

On the wall of the room in which this is being written, the benign face of an old mother looks out of a wooden frame over the fireplace. In the centre of the room on an imitation mahogany table stands a battalion adjutant making marks on a hieroglyphic military map. On the mantle is an American alarm clock. Above the mantle and over the mother's picture is Clemenceau, now the French Premier, a picture evidently clipped from some satirical political journal years ago.

Virgin Mary Looks on Scene

On another wall hangs a brilliantly colored picture of the Virgin Mary, who looks down from beside the American military telephone. On the sideboard, peeping from under a pile of gas masks and steel helmets, is a child's celluloid doll stove. Above is a large golden frame enclosing the yellow fringed epaulets of a male member of the family who fought with the French marines in the boxer rebellion in China, with a little certificate under the small photo, bearing the seal of the French Ministry of Marine, telling how the peasant boy died on the transport Colombo, en route home, wounded, from Tonkin.

In the little bedroom off the larger room sits an American machine gun major, writing a letter to his wife. Another door leads to the kitchen where, at the moment, a battalion non-com from New York's East Side is mending his trousers with his army "housewife."

Outside of the white curtained window is a garden filled with flowers, a patch of sweetpeas in buds, but more appropriately a large patch of bleeding hearts in full bloom.

Picture this little deserted home and you have in mind a picture of all the hundreds of homes in these dozen villages. Sometimes they are shunned even by the soldiers, because the enemy shells have pounded them into débris. Even the doghouse in the front yard of this particular home tells a story. Towser's hair is still entangled in the collar, because some kind-hearted friend slipped the collar over his head instead of waiting to unbuckle it, as the Germans were advancing.

Just now the American batteries are thundering, and the occasional sharp squeal and explosion of the enemy's shells in the village remind the new uniformed villagers that this is a real war. So far, one of these villages has been shelled off the map. The villagers who fled may come back some day, but they will find nothing but ruins.

These scenes which thousands of Americans are witnessing here to-day emphasize the object of this war—liberty. Such scenes might occur in America as well as in France. Relentless military hands are digging the snaky line of the trenches through the wheat fields. Wire entanglements appear to be stretching off through the horizon ready for the enemy if he continues his drive. Whether it will revert to trench warfare on this section of the front or continue in the open none but the French high command now directing the Allied forces of which the Americans are a part knows.

Fate of 4 Condemned Soldiers Up to Wilson

Irregularity in Proceedings May Prompt President to Commute Death Sentence

[Staff Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, May 2.—President Wilson will determine whether the four American soldiers court martialed in France for violation of military laws are to be executed or the sentence of the military tribunal commuted to life imprisonment.

All the records in the cases of the two soldiers found asleep on sentry duty and the two who disregarded the orders of their commander were received at the White House to-day from Secrtary of War Baker. It is understood no recommendation accompanied the papers.

"The men, whose names were withheld by the War Department, were found guilty at military trials convened by order of General Pershing early this year. Conforming with the regulation of the War Department where death penalties are involved, the records were referred to the War Department for review. The Judge Advocate General's office is said to have found a minor irregularity in the proceedings and this may prompt the President to reduce the penalties to life imprisonment.

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Peace Drive Is Foe's Plan to Weaken Allies

Another German Gamble in Hope of Throwing Opponents Off Balance

Ludendorff Head Of New Campaign

Militarists Going On With Preparations for More Powerful Blows

By Arthur S. Draper

(Tribune Cable Service)

LONDON, May 2.—Military and political developments of great importance seem imminent. The question is whether the enemy's peace drive is intended to synchronize with the next military operation or to follow it. The peace drive is being prepared with German thoroughness and it will have powerful momentum when it is launched.

There are two ways to look at this peace drive, which is certain to come very soon. The foolish optimists who consistently have underrated the enemy throughout the war and even now have learned little from the events of the past six weeks, have hypnotized themselves into believing the German army is near collapse and the military leaders are about to throw up their hands. They exaggerate the war weariness of Austria, the losses in Picardy and the signs of unrest in Germany. They see rumors of a peace drive as a confession of failure by the German militarists and a quick ending of the war.

War Weary, but Not Through

Here is the other view. Every European belligerent is decidedly war weary. France, Italy and England are tired of fighting, but so is the crew of an eight-oared shell at the end of the third mile of a race they eventually win in the fourth.

The German militarists—Ludendorff and his band of skilful assistants—are professional soldiers. They didn't plan a six weeks' campaign which would end in surrender. They have a supply of men which is not nearly exhausted. If proof of this is needed it is only necessary to refer to Haig's campaign at Ypres last year. At no time in that long battle did he have an army comparable numerically with that now under Ludendorff's command. In fact, Haig probably employed fewer divisions between July and November than Germany has used in the last four weeks.

Good judges assure me the enemy is strong enough to continue to deal heavy blows. If that is true then why the peace drive? Why the camouflage gloom that is being spread by so many German newspapers? The answer is found in the history of the events preceding the present campaign. Germany made her big peace drive in February and early March, how big it is impossible to state now. At that time Ludendorff never slackened for a moment his preparations for the military thrust.

A German Gamble.

The peace drive was a German gamble. It was hoped to throw the Allies off their balance, it was intended to distract their attention from the military front. Everyone can measure the success it attained.

That is the German policy to-day. The German militarists are playing 'possum, they are creating a peace atmosphere because it will make their task less difficult. And the task of Ludendorff & Co. is to vindicate German militarism. The Allies' greatest war aim is to discredit Ludendorff.

Those, briefly, are the two views of the situation. The coming peace manœuvre will be based on territorial exchanges, a method which is likely to satisfy many who look on the war in a narrow way. Emperor Charles will play a leading part. He is being coached now by the rulers of Germany—the militarists.

He will try to placate Italy and pose as the friend of France and the well-wisher of England and Belgium. He is undoubtedly sincerely anxious for peace, but he is powerless to act without the sanction of the German militarists. They intend to plead they have no desire for conquest, but only are desirous of peace.

An attempt is going to be made to satisfy even America. But, so long as Ludendorff directs the peace drive, America cannot attain her chief war aim. There is no compromise between right and wrong. Ludendorff is a wonderful leader; he is a powerful dictator; he represents America's greatest enemy. And he is managing the coming peace drive as one of his multitudinous duties as the military dictator of the Central Powers.

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Foe Hints U. S. Hospital Ships May Be Sunk

LONDON, May 2.—The German wireless, which a few days ago sent out a dispatch alleging that American aviators were crossing to Europe on hospital ships, reiterates these charges in a longer dispatch to-day. The reason for the emphasis placed on this false charge by the Germans, it is pointed out here, is probably that they are laying the foundation for justification at a later date of the torpedoing of the American hospital ships in case any such ships are put in the transatlantic service to carry home invalided soldiers.

It may be recalled that similar charges were spread broadcast about British hospital ships as a prelude to torpedoing them. The German wireless message to-day says:

"American aviators are crossing to Europe as members of the Red Cross on hospital ships. This misuse of the Red Cross appears from documentary evidence found on American aviators who have been shot down. An American brought down in the region of the army of General von Hutier carried a pass which referred to him as a member of the American ambulance service for France.

"Prisoners openly admit that it is the general practice for aviators to enter the American ambulance service for their passage to Europe and to cross on hospital ships. After they are landed in France they immediately transfer to the automobile corps, and thence into the air service.

"The captured aviator referred to had, however, transferred directly from the ambulance service into the air service. Another carried a certificate in which the dates of several transfers were officially indicated."

The British Admiralty has already denied the charge that American aviators were crossing on hospital ships, saying:

"No hospital ship, British or American, has ever carried anybody but invalids and the necessary medical staff. The American naval authorities state that they have some few aviators who were in the Allied ambulance service in France before the United States came into the war, but even in such cases these men crossed the Atlantic in ordinary ships, taking their full chance of being torpedoed."

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