

# GERMANS ATTACK FT. FLERON AT LIEGE; VILLAGERS FLEE



Drawn by S. Begg from a sketch made at the scene of the fighting.

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## RUSE OF BELGIANS DECEIVED GERMANS

Brussels Won Good Terms by Pretence of Being Prepared for Fight.

## TIRLEMONT NOW A RUIN

London "Times" Correspondent Says Destruction Was Wanton Savagery.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
LONDON, August 23.

The Brussels correspondent of the Times, who has just returned to London, in a long descriptive story of the invasion of Belgium, says:

"Brussels obtained very good terms from the enemy, thanks to the subterfuge of barricades and trenches which were thrown up in the outskirts of the city. These were only a ruse on the part of the Belgians intended to give the Germans the impression that they had determined to make resistance.

"The German aeroplanes were forced to fly so high that the aviators could not see that the obstacles apparently placed in the German path were of no military value."

The correspondent continues:

"Upon returning to England yesterday noon after living three weeks amid war I was struck by the contrast between the atmosphere of London and that of Brussels a week ago. The Strand had its usual Saturday afternoon crowds. Posters proclaimed that business was going on as usual. Everything was calm. Scores of young fellows were proceeding to the first of the football matches. They were not players, but simply spectators.

"Within the last few weeks young men of this same class in Brussels have been leaving their homes and kindred by hundreds and flocking to the colors.

"I wondered whether the British public already had awakened to the true significance of the inferno which at this moment Belgium is the centre.

"The so-called German culture of the past forty-four years has been suddenly swept away and the wanton, ruthless savagery of the Germanic hordes will live in the minds of future generations and embitter the relations of the peoples.

"Ten days ago Tirlemont was a pleasant Flemish town. To-day it is a heap of smoking ruins. All accounts agree that there was no necessity for the bombardment. The invaders apparently were bent upon battle practice. As the terrified populace rushed from their homes they were made game of by the German cavalry. Fathers escaping with their families and trying their best to shield them were shot down before the eyes of their beloved ones. Mothers

carrying their babies were belabored with lance and sword.

"I saw one little flaxen haired girl of 11 staggering blindly forward, her eyes and cheek laid open by a lance thrust. A peasant woman told me her husband had been killed by the German cavalry and two of her children, both under 9 years old, had been trampled to death by their horses. Her other two children had been lost."

The correspondent concludes: "Wherever the Germans suffer losses they take revenge on unarmed men and women."

## BRUSSELS IS WARNED.

German Commander Says Aggression Will Be Sternly Punished.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
LONDON, August 23.

The Times correspondent at Brussels telegraphs that Gen. Sixtus von Arnim, commander of the German troops now occupying the city, has caused the following notice to be posted throughout the city:

"German troops will pass through Brussels to-day and on following days, and are obliged by circumstances to demand from the city lodging, food and supplies. All these matters will be regularly arranged through the municipal authorities.

"I expect that the population will conform itself without resistance to these necessities of war and in particular that it will commit no act of aggression against the safety of the troops and will promptly furnish the supplies demanded. In this case I give every guarantee for the preservation of the city and the safety of its inhabitants.

"If, however, there should be, elsewhere, any act of aggression against the soldiers, burning of buildings or explosions of any kind, I shall be compelled to take the severest measures.

"SIXTUS VON ARNIM."

An interview between M. Max, the Burgomaster of Brussels, and Gen. von Arnim had the following results:

The Germans are to have free passage through Brussels, and the quartering of a garrison of 3,000 troops in the barracks of Dally and Etterbeek. Requisitions are to be paid for in cash. Respect is to be shown by the Germans for the inhabitants of the city and private property, and the management of public affairs by the municipality is to be left free from German control.

The Germans have reestablished the tramway, telephone and postal services. Trains are running toward Liege, and even the telegraph with Germany is working. It is stated that a number of journalists whose names are on the blacklist of the German General Staff have been expelled.

The population of Brussels regards the Burgomaster as the savior of the city, but is indignant against the Belgian Government and the Belgian General Staff.

The city remains quiet and dignified. The cafes are still open. Two-thirds

The most determined of the attacks made on the forts about Liege in the earlier days of the fighting there was that on Fort Fleron, to the east of the city.

This drawing was made from a sketch, which was drawn with the assistance of several eyewitnesses. On the right of the drawing the German troops are ascending the hill in their attack upon the fort, with shells bursting over it from the German artillery covering the attack.

In the foreground are a number of refugees from the shops are shut. Newspapers are not appearing. The milk supply is falling. Cafes are closed at 9 P. M. by order.

According to the officers, the objective of the German troops is Mons, but the soldiers say that certain regiments are bound for Antwerp and the northwest.

## CALLS WHITLOCK TALE ABSURD.

Washington Denies Reported Offer of Protection to Brussels.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
PARIS, Aug. 23.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Ypres, Belgium, near Bruges, repeats the statement that Brand Whitlock, the American Minister to Belgium, who accompanied the Burgomaster to meet the Germans who were entering Brussels Thursday, informed the commander of the German forces that the United States had charged him to take Brussels under his protection and insure the observance of the laws of war.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The State Department characterizes the Brand Whitlock story as absurd. He was never instructed to offer to take Brussels under the protection of the United States, it was said to-night. State Department officials do not believe he ever said what he is reported to have said in that connection.

## HAVANA SUPPLY BASE FOR GERMAN WARSHIPS?

Liner Makes Trip Out of Harbor With Coal After Wireless Calls.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
HAVANA, Aug. 23.—A mysterious warship, which was at first thought to be a British cruiser, sent out wireless calls on Saturday which were picked up at the Government wireless station and also by the Cuban cruiser Cuba. The calls were not answered, as it would be a violation of Cuban neutrality.

The Hamburg-American liner President, which has been arriving here and leaving suddenly, sailed at daylight this morning without a pilot and with all her lights out. She was loaded with coal and provisions.

It is now suspected that the wireless calls came from a German warship in need of coal and provisions and that the President answered.

## CLEMENCEAU'S SON WOUNDED.

Young Soldier Kills German Officer in Hand to Hand Struggle.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
PARIS, Aug. 23.—The Havas Agency has a despatch from its Antwerp correspondent saying that the son of ex-Premier Clemenceau, now with the French army in Belgium, has shot and killed a German soldier in a hand to hand struggle and himself was wounded in the thigh.

villages near by which have been occupied by the Germans, all seeking safety in the city. The fort and the background in the drawing are treated as though seen through powerful glasses, rather than in precise perspective.

Gen. von Stein has been quoted as denying reports that the Germans lost 20,000 men in their assaults on the forts at Liege, but he did not give the figures.

French and Belgian reports say that the forts at Liege are still holding out, while German reports say that they have been seized by assault.

## ANOTHER WARNING OF NORTH SEA MINES

Germans Continue to Scatter Explosives on Trade Routes, Says Admiralty.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
LONDON, Aug. 23.—The official British news bureau at 3 o'clock this morning issued the following statement:

"The Admiralty wishes to draw attention to the previous warnings to neutrals of the dangers of traversing the North Sea. The Germans are continuing their practice of scattering mines indiscriminately upon the ordinary trade routes. These mines do not conform to the conditions laid down by the Hague convention. They do not become harmless after a certain number of hours, and they are not laid in connection with any definite military scheme, such as the closing of a military port or as a distinct operation against an invading fleet, but appear to be scattered on the chance of touching individual British warships or merchant vessels.

"In consequence neutral ships, no matter what their destination, are exposed to the greatest danger."

The statement then gives an enumeration of the Danish vessels which have been blown up, details of which already have been published, and says it is reported that two Dutch steamships have been blown up in the Gulf of Finland. The statement continues:

"In these circles the Admiralty desires to impress, not only upon British but upon neutral shipping, the vital importance of touching at British ports prior to entering the North Sea in order to ascertain according to the latest information the routes and channels which the Admiralty is keeping swept and along which these dangers have been reduced as far as possible. The Admiralty, while reserving to themselves the utmost liberty of retaliatory action against this new form of warfare, announces that they have not so far laid any mines during the present war and that they are endeavoring to keep the sea routes open for peaceful commerce."

## GERMAN SHIPPING IDLE.

27 Per Cent. Shattered or Captured, Say French.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
PARIS, Aug. 23.—The French War Office issued the following to-day:

"The German maritime commerce is in a bad way. A London despatch informs us that German commerce has been reduced to a state of inactivity by the operations of British cruisers in different parts of the world.

"The German war fleet is incapable of intervening or protecting her commerce on account of the presence of the chief British fleet, which has its cruisers in full battle line, preventing all intervention with the English cruisers in outside waters. Already 7 per cent. of the total of German tonnage has fallen into British hands and 20 per cent. hides shattered in neutral ports. The remainder finds itself in German ports without being able to move or to seek other shelter than it has.

"English navigation, except for 1 per cent. which was in German ports at the moment of the declaration of war, follows actively its work on all great commercial sea routes."

## SUNK TO BLOCK CHANNEL.

Dutch Commander Tells of Ship's Destruction by Russians.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—The following account of the sinking of the Dutch steamship Alcor by Russians recently is given by the Daily Telegraph's Rotterdam correspondent, who talked with Capt. Ebes of the Alcor after his arrival with his crew at Rotterdam:

"We were on the way to Cronstadt when we were stopped by two Russian torpedo boats on the night of July 31, a shot being fired across the bows. We were told we could not go to Cronstadt, but must go to Hangö. I protested, but was forced to comply.

"When we arrived at Hangö a Russian officer came on board and told me I must take the ship into the middle of the harbor and anchor. I protested because the Alcor was a neutral vessel, but despite my protests the vessel was taken out and blown up to block the channel. I was told that the value of the vessel would be paid to me when the war was over.

"We were given only half an hour to leave the vessel before she was blown up. The Russians placed a large charge of dynamite in the hold and this was set off by means of an electric battery."

## GERMAN ZEPPELIN DESTROYED.

French Shells Shatter Airship Coming From Strassburg.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
PARIS, Aug. 23.—An official communique issued to-day says that the German Zeppelin No. 8 has been destroyed by French shells between Celle and Badonviller, in Meurthe-et-Moselle. The airship was coming from the direction of Strassburg.

The Zeppelin 8 was an airship of 22 tons displacement. Her engines developed 540 horse-power. She had a speed of 48 miles an hour and an endurance in the air of 20 hours running at full speed without landing. Her usual station was at Trier (Treves).

## AUSTRIAN OFFER IS REJECTED BY ITALY

Dual Monarchy Proposed to Cede Territory in Return for Neutrality.

## WAR MAY COME SOON

Rome Government Sees Enmity to National Interests in Ally's Operations.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

ROME, Aug. 23.—I have it upon the highest authority that Austria recently approached Italy with the offer of the cession of a strip of territory if Italy would at least maintain a neutral position. This offer was rejected when Austria began her operations on the Adriatic coast that were inimical to Italian interests.

It is reported that Austria is exerting all possible pressure to force Italy into the war on the side of Germany and Austria. Other reports say that France has sent Theophile Delcasse, Minister of War, and Russia has sent Count Witte, former Premier, to Rome to counteract this pressure.

PARIS, Aug. 23.—The Petit Parisien's

Rome correspondent says Austria has protested to Italy against the latter affording facilities to the fleets of Great Britain and France in the Adriatic and there are indications that the diplomatic tension between the two countries is very acute.

The correspondent says war between Italy and Austria is possible within a few days.

L'Esclair says it has reliable information that Italian mobilization will be completed on August 27.

## AUSTRIANS LOSE SHIPS.

ROME, Aug. 23.—A despatch to the Avanti to-day says that the Austrians have encountered the French fleet in the Adriatic again and, according to reports, have lost more ships. The correspondent was unable to obtain details of the engagement.

It is reported that a French fleet and Montenegrin batteries are bombarding Cattaro. The Austrians protected their unfortified coasts on the Adriatic by floating mines which the allies are removing. A decisive naval action is not to be expected until these mines have been cleared away.

## BELGIUM TO GET \$100,000,000.

England and France Will Share Equally in Great Loan.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
PARIS, Aug. 23.—France and England have decided to advance 500,000,000 francs (\$100,000,000) to Belgium, half of the amount to be furnished by each of the two countries.

Belgium has been officially informed of the decision.

## Saks & Company

Broadway at 34th Street

Announce beginning this morning a clearance sale of Silk Shirts for Men at remarkable price reductions

Embraced in this sale are 1070 shirts, made of beautiful imported and domestic silk materials, in the choicest variety of designs and colorings. Splendid merchandise, that will furnish a rare opportunity for you to stock up with fine silk shirts, at most substantial price reductions.

598 Shirts, values up to \$6. at \$3.85  
472 Shirts, values up to \$5. at \$2.85

Also special for today

A brand new shipment of the No Tear Band Wide Open End Silk Scarves at 65c Values \$1.00 & \$1.50