

MEXICANS FIGHT U. S. TROOPS; CARRANZA DEMANDS WITHDRAWAL; PARRAL IS SCENE OF CONFLICT; MANY ARE REPORTED DEAD; PERSHING'S FORCE SURROUNDED; WAR OR RECALL, ARMY VIEW

BERLIN'S GUILT SEEN IN REPLY, OFFICIALS SAY

Washington Holds "Unknown Steamer" Torpedoed Was Sussex.

WEIGHT OF EVIDENCE AGAINST A "SKETCH"

President Forced to Send a Note to Settle Question of Fact.

LOOPHOLE LIES IN PLEDGE ABOUT LINERS

Wilson Hampered by the Phrase Used in Previous Agreement.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Germany's reply to President Wilson's latest representations on the submarine issue has been received but it did not eliminate the critical international situation brought about by attacks of German submarines on ships carrying Americans.

It has had the effect of making an intermediary step necessary before the president takes final action, but this intermediary step—the sending of another note to Germany—will not affect the president's determination to force a final and definite accounting with the Berlin Government. This is the situation as it is authoritatively explained to-night.

It has been the intention of the German Government to court delay and procrastination by its reply, it has admirably succeeded, according to officials here. It is explained that the note is a case not of questions of principle but of questions of fact.

This necessarily involves diplomatic discussion. It is explained that the progress in the case until questions of fact are cleared up. The American note will, it is said, summarily dispose of the facts cited by Berlin in proof of its contention that a German submarine did not sink the Sussex.

President Wilson and Secretary Lansing are as yet virtually amounting to an admission of guilt. The American note backed by the evidence which has been obtained from England and France, will take the position that the "unknown steamer" which the German submarine destroyed as having torpedoed was the Sussex.

The overwhelming evidence supporting this theory will be contrasted with the sketch drawn by the submarine commander upon which Germany rests its disclaimer. Furthermore, evidence which German supplies concerning the "unknown steamer" which the German submarine commander torpedoed will be used to show that the vessel was in reality the Sussex.

Germany's attention will be called to the fact that the Sussex was torpedoed at almost precisely the time that the submarine commander reported firing at the "unknown steamer." According to official reports from France, the Sussex was south of the Languedoc boys and about in mid-channel when the explosion occurred.

The submarine commander says that the ship he fired on was south of the Languedoc boys and about in mid-channel. The Sussex was steaming about sixteen knots and the submarine commander says that the vessel he torpedoed was steaming about sixteen knots. Both the Sussex and the "unknown steamer" were hit near the bow and in the case of the Sussex the entire forward part was torn away by the explosion. The other steamer has been torpedoed in this unusual manner since the war began.

With the President and Secretary Lansing are convinced that Germany will not seriously contend that the submarine commander torpedoed a vessel similar to the Sussex at the exact location of the Sussex at the same time and in the same manner as the Sussex was damaged without admitting that the ship in question must have been the Sussex.

Notwithstanding the slight discrepancies in the reports made by the submarine commander and the photograph of the cross-channel packet.

One Weak Point Cleared Up. The German note, it is explained, clears up the one weakness which existed in the evidence which the United States has gathered tending to show that the ship was torpedoed. The weakness was the fact that no one could be found to swear that the ship had been seen. In a majority of cases German submarines have come to the surface before firing torpedoes at their victims, but the German note says the submarine was submerged when it fired at the steamer.

Officials here regard it as probable that Germany's next move will be to admit that the preponderance of evidence shows that the Sussex must have been the British liner, and consequently she was fired on by mistake.

But if the Berlin Foreign Office believes that this explanation will be sufficient to satisfy President Wilson, it will be continued on Fourth Page.

OBREGON PUTS ALL BLAME ON THE AMERICANS

Commander Entered Parral Without Right, He Declares.

HOUR OF PROOF HERE, SAYS GEN. GONZALES

Declares He Will Be Found at "Front of Devoted Patriots."

BORDER SEES PERIL TO AMERICAN FORCES

Not Enough Troops at Hand for New Expedition, Say Experts.

HEIRESS WHO ELOPED WED ON DEATHBED

HER FORTUNE GOES TO HUSBAND AND AUNT

Grace McLaughlin Made Mrs. Stevens by Dispensation of Havana Bishop.

HEIRESS WHO ELOPED WED ON DEATHBED

HER FORTUNE GOES TO HUSBAND AND AUNT

Word reached this city yesterday that Miss Grace McLaughlin, who died in Havana last Monday, was married on her deathbed the day before to George M. Stevens, with whom she eloped last January. In a will made on March 30 and filed with Juan Carlos Andreu, a notary public of Havana, she left her estate, valued at \$50,000, to her husband and her aunt, Mrs. Catherine Ingles, with whom she lived up to the time of her elopement.

Three weeks before her death Mrs. Stevens contracted a cold. Bronchial pneumonia developed and three physicians were called in. They informed Stevens that there was not much hope. He and two nurses were at her bedside almost constantly. One of her physicians was Dr. Torralba, a prominent specialist who represented Cuba at a recent medical conference in Washington. When the end came Stevens collapsed, almost a mental as well as physical wreck. He is now under the care of Dr. Torralba.

Miss McLaughlin was 26 years of age and had lived nine days longer. The couple would have been legally married had she not died. The wedding was performed last Sunday but it is not legal. Father Mendez, who had been in contact with Stevens since the elopement, arrived in Havana about two months ago, heard her confession and decided to grant her wish to be married, although Stevens' divorce will not be effective until April 15.

The priest had been taken into the confidence of the pair and was satisfied that when the Catholic Church prevented such a marriage without a dispensation from a Bishop, and this could be had only after the divorce had been legally granted. This news was shock to Miss McLaughlin and Stevens, who had adopted the Catholic faith as a proof of his affection for the comely heiress.

Miss McLaughlin was too much ashamed to return home after the fact got out that she had eloped, and being a devout Catholic would not listen to a marriage except in her church. After a time they came back to New York in the hope of finding some way of being married here. Failing again, they went to Key West, Fla., and then to Havana. There they found the church rules just as stringent. So they decided to wait until the divorce granted to the first Mrs. Stevens became final.

When Miss McLaughlin was 22 she was affianced to a Cuban who was expected to inherit a fortune. She was ailing and he was expected to die. She was in danger of dying, she asked that a lawyer be sent for, as she wanted to make her will. The lawyer called a time she came back to New York in the hope of finding some way of being married here. Failing again, they went to Key West, Fla., and then to Havana. There they found the church rules just as stringent. So they decided to wait until the divorce granted to the first Mrs. Stevens became final.

When word of her death reached Mrs. Ingles, her aunt, at 4 West 129th street, this city, a consultation was held, and it was decided to have Stevens' body brought here and buried in the family plot.

The excitement of the marriage over and having achieved her purpose, the now Mrs. Stevens quickly became weaker. Monday morning she lapsed into unconsciousness and died as it were at noon. On Tuesday she was buried. When word of her death reached Mrs. Ingles, her aunt, at 4 West 129th street, this city, a consultation was held, and it was decided to have Stevens' body brought here and buried in the family plot.

Continued on Fourth Page.

OBREGON PUTS ALL BLAME ON THE AMERICANS

Commander Entered Parral Without Right, He Declares.

HOUR OF PROOF HERE, SAYS GEN. GONZALES

Declares He Will Be Found at "Front of Devoted Patriots."

BORDER SEES PERIL TO AMERICAN FORCES

Not Enough Troops at Hand for New Expedition, Say Experts.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Gen. Pablo Gonzalez, commander of the Federal district, made public to-night the following telegram from Minister of War Obregon to the officers and men of the local garrison and at the same time handed a copy to the newspapers:

Queretaro, April 13. With the object of making known to you more completely the events which have happened at Parral, Chihuahua, I hereby report to you the latest news which has been received by the War Office at 10 o'clock to-night. So that you in turn may communicate the same to the subordinates of your commands and give the same all due publicity.

At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon the officers and men of the command of Municipal President Jose de la Luz Herrera and the Constitutional Generals Garcia and Fernandez, together with a number of officers, found themselves powerless to restrain the people, and as a result an inevitable conflict took place, resulting in some being dead on both sides.

All reports indicate that the people's indignation was caused by the American forces unexpectedly entering the city without having previously advised any of the authorities and camped in the Plaza of San Juan de Dios, thus violating the order which, with every opportunity and clearness, had been communicated, namely, that the said forces were not to enter any towns, and which order the American Government had officially accepted.

I expect more details which I will communicate at the earliest opportunity, having already reported this to the offices of the First Chief.

Affectionately, Gen. ALVARO OBREGON, Secretary of War and Navy.

After sending Gen. Obregon's message to the newspapers Gen. Gonzalez issued the following statement:

Be calm. Restrain your indignation. The hour of proof has come; the Mexican people may be sure that I shall be at the forefront of the most ardent, devoted patriots.

This morning a lengthy press report announced for the first time that Americans had crossed the northern frontier and that Carranza had decided that the laborers running the border should be expelled. This caused much comment, but little excitement, neither Americans nor the authorities thinking precautions were necessary. However, the public does not know yet of the Parral incident.

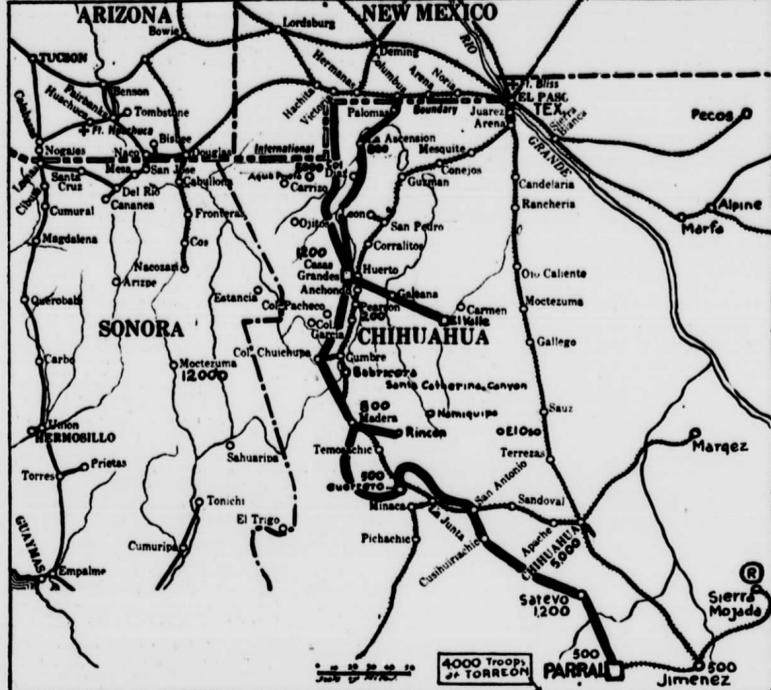
Eight troop trains with First Chief Carranza and Gen. Obregon are officially reported as approaching Three trains arrived at Tlalampantla, about twelve miles north of Mexico city on the Central Railway. The rest is expected there before morning. Carranza will remain at Tlalampantla until Sunday, when probably he will enter the capital.

The report of his approach was circulated on the streets and all day crowds of laborers rushed to complete the triumphal arches on the principal thoroughfares preparatory to the ovation.

TROOPS IN PERIL IN MEXICAN ADVANCE

El Paso Sees Danger to Americans From Carranza Forces.

El Paso, Tex., April 13.—American troops have been in Mexico two days less than a month and the Parral incident is the first of a disturbing nature between the Americans and the residents of Mexico except the bandits, with whom the Americans have had several fights. In the past the Americans have kept out of all Mexican towns and cities, but it was impossible to do this at Parral owing to the nature of the country. The Americans halted, it is supposed, to secure provisions and water, but finding their presence resented by the natives



Map showing the location of Gen. Pershing's forces in Mexico and how they are entirely surrounded by Carranza troops and outnumbered three to one. The heavy black line indicates the line of communications of the United States troops. The American forces number about 12,000 on a 375 mile line of communication. There are Carranza garrisons north, south, east and west of Pershing, the principal one being at Torreón, where Gen. Trevino has about 4,000 men. The numerals on the map indicate the number of Carranza troops in garrisons situated at various points in Chihuahua and Sonora, extending as far as the international border, as follows: Gen. Gutierrez, Chihuahua, 5,000; Gen. Calles, northern Sonora, 12,000; Gen. Herrera, Satevo, 1,200; Gen. Gavira, Juarez, 1,800; Gen. Bartani, Madero, 800; Gen. Cano, Namiquipa, 600; Gen. Cavason, Guerrero, 500; Gen. Davilla, Casas Grandes, 1,200. Besides these the Arrieta brothers are south of the American forces in the State of Durango with a following estimated at about 3,000.

CARRANZA WIRES FIGHTING AT PARRAL IS GOING ON, MEXICANS BEYOND CONTROL

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The Mexican Embassy gave out the following telegrams received to-night from the de facto Government at Queretaro:

"Queretaro, April 12, 1916. "Mr. Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican Embassy, Washington, D. C.

"Please confer with the Honorable Secretary Lansing and inform him that to-day at 1 P. M. a column of 150 American soldiers entered the city of Parral.

"The Mayor of the city, Jose de La Luz Herrera, immediately called the attention of the commander of this column to the inconvenience of his entering the city, his soldiers immediately withdrawing, but when they were leaving the people protested, and the Mayor and military commanders tried to control them with their appeals in order to prevent friction, but owing to the imprudence of a civilian who fired a shot a general disorder followed, in which one American soldier was killed and several civilians were wounded by shots from the American soldiers.

"Military commanders succeeded in checking the mob at Maturana to avoid them from following American troops, forming a cordon of Constitutional soldiers. In this connection the Mexican Government warned the Government of the United States from the beginning that it would be inadvisable for American troops to pass through cities, due to the impossibility of avoiding friction between them and the people and our forces at an unexpected moment.

"The American Government, to that effect, agreed to give the necessary instructions to its troops to have them abstain from occupying any towns. The Mexican Government deplors the occurrence, but it was beyond its efforts to prevent it, and insists with the American Government on the necessity of withdrawing its troops from our soil in order not to give room for the alteration of the good and cordial relations

which both countries are obliged to preserve. "Queretaro, April 12, 1916. "Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican Embassy, Washington, D. C.

"After message sent you by Secretary for Foreign Affairs Aguilar, the Secretary of War received a message from Gen. Gutierrez, dated at Chihuahua, informing him that it had been impossible for military commanders to check the mob against American troops who entered Parral, and that this evening the fight had continued between our people and the American forces, that many deaths had occurred on both sides.

"Gen. Obregon has already given orders to prevent the continuation of battle, but the excitement is so great among the people that I fail to know whether the struggle can be stopped. Call on the Secretary of State and advise him that the occurrence is due to the unwise action of the American commander in having entered Parral without the permission of the authorities, violating the orders of that Government, forbidding the occupation of towns by American forces.

"Please cause the Secretary of State to see that it is unwise for American troops to remain any longer on our soil, as more serious incidents than the present one, which we must avoid at all costs, may develop. Please make use of any arguments you may deem advisable to put an end to the situation created by the presence of American troops in our territory. I will keep on advising you through the Foreign Office of any further incidents.

"V. CARRANZA." "EL PASO, Tex., April 13, 1916.—Gen. Gavira informs me that last night about 140 American soldiers tried to enter Parral. The people protested, and it appears that the garrison did also. Several persons were killed on both sides. "ANDREAS G. GARCIA."

Major Tompkins Ordered to Get Out of Parral—Mob Attacks Him as He Goes, Killing Trooper—Battle Is Renewed on Outskirts.

GARRISON OF TOWN BELIEVED TO HAVE JOINED IN THE FRAY

First Chief Insists American Troops Had No Permission to Cross Border—Will Stay in for a Time, U. S. Officials Declare.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—American troops have clashed with Carranzista sympathizers in Mexico, with the result that many are reported killed on both sides and a crisis has been precipitated which brings the United States to the verge of war or immediate withdrawal of its forces south of the border.

The character of the American expeditionary force has changed from a punitive expedition in a friendly country to an unwelcome force in hostile surroundings. The de facto Government has warned the United States it cannot control the populace.

This is the news flashed here to-night. All eyes are on the President, who recognizes the extreme gravity of the situation, but is keeping his own counsel.

The only indication so far of the President's next move came in a statement made public late to-night by Secretary of War Baker, who said he had directed Gen. Funston to take all necessary steps to protect American soldiers and ally trouble.

This is taken to mean that the President's first consideration is for the lives of the American troops who are scattered along a line nearly four hundred miles long in Mexico.

The clash occurred at Parral, 375 miles south of the border. Reports received by the State Department already indicate that anti-American feeling in Mexico is rapidly spreading. The War Department has the same advices from Eliseo Arredondo, Ambassador Designate of the Mexican Government in Washington, indicating that it has already been fanned into a flame.

Fear for U. S. Troops. Army officers are deeply concerned about the safety of the small American force, a scant 10,000, far removed from support and in the heart of a country now admittedly hostile to their presence. Swift decision, one way or the other, is demanded of Washington, according to officials here and members of the Senate and House. Nothing would be more likely to prove disastrous, they say, than indecision. The outbreak has come on the heels of Carranza's demand that the American troops be withdrawn, and the President is called on either to maintain the American force in defiance of Gen. Carranza or withdraw it.

Whether the American troops will be withdrawn from Mexico probably will be decided at to-morrow's Cabinet meeting. Secretary Tumulty made the White House statement to the House to-day that the expedition will not be abandoned. It was explained later that Mr. Tumulty merely voiced his personal opinion and did not speak for the President.

Among leaders in Congress the belief seems to be quite general that the United States should adopt a more aggressive policy in dealing with Mexico and Mexican affairs. The opinion is general that unless the American troops are withdrawn from Mexico war will follow.

Congress leaders appear to be confident that the President will adhere to the purpose he proclaimed when he announced that American troops had been sent across the border to "get Villa."

Will Stay in for a While. Secretary of War Baker made a statement to-night in which he said that for the present at least Pershing would continue to operate under orders heretofore issued. In announcing to-night that he had directed Major Gen. Funston to "take whatever steps are necessary" for the protection of American forces at Parral, the Secretary of War said:

"I telegraphed to Gen. Funston the contents of the despatches handed out by Mr. Arredondo and directed him to take all necessary steps to protect our soldiers and ally further trouble, and then wire promptly all obtainable facts."

The Secretary of War would not state how far Gen. Funston might go in carrying out these orders, or whether he would be justified in seizing the Mexican railroads for the transportation of additional troops. "Necessity," said Secretary Baker, "is the only limit to his authority."

Regarding the charge made in the telegram from the Carranza Government that the American military commander had violated his instructions in entering Parral without permission of the local authorities Secretary Baker stated that at the time the troops arrived at Casas Grandes he had announced that no Mexican towns would be "occupied," but that he had permitted to enter and was permitted to replace them. Gen. Bell heard report to-day that heavy artillery had been brought into Juarez, but investigation showed this to be untrue. The largest piece of artillery in Mexico is not at Juarez.

However, it is known there are not sufficient troops on the border for such an expedition without the calling of militia to replace them. Gen. Bell heard report to-day that heavy artillery had been brought into Juarez, but investigation showed this to be untrue. The largest piece of artillery in Mexico is not at Juarez.

Continued on Second Page.