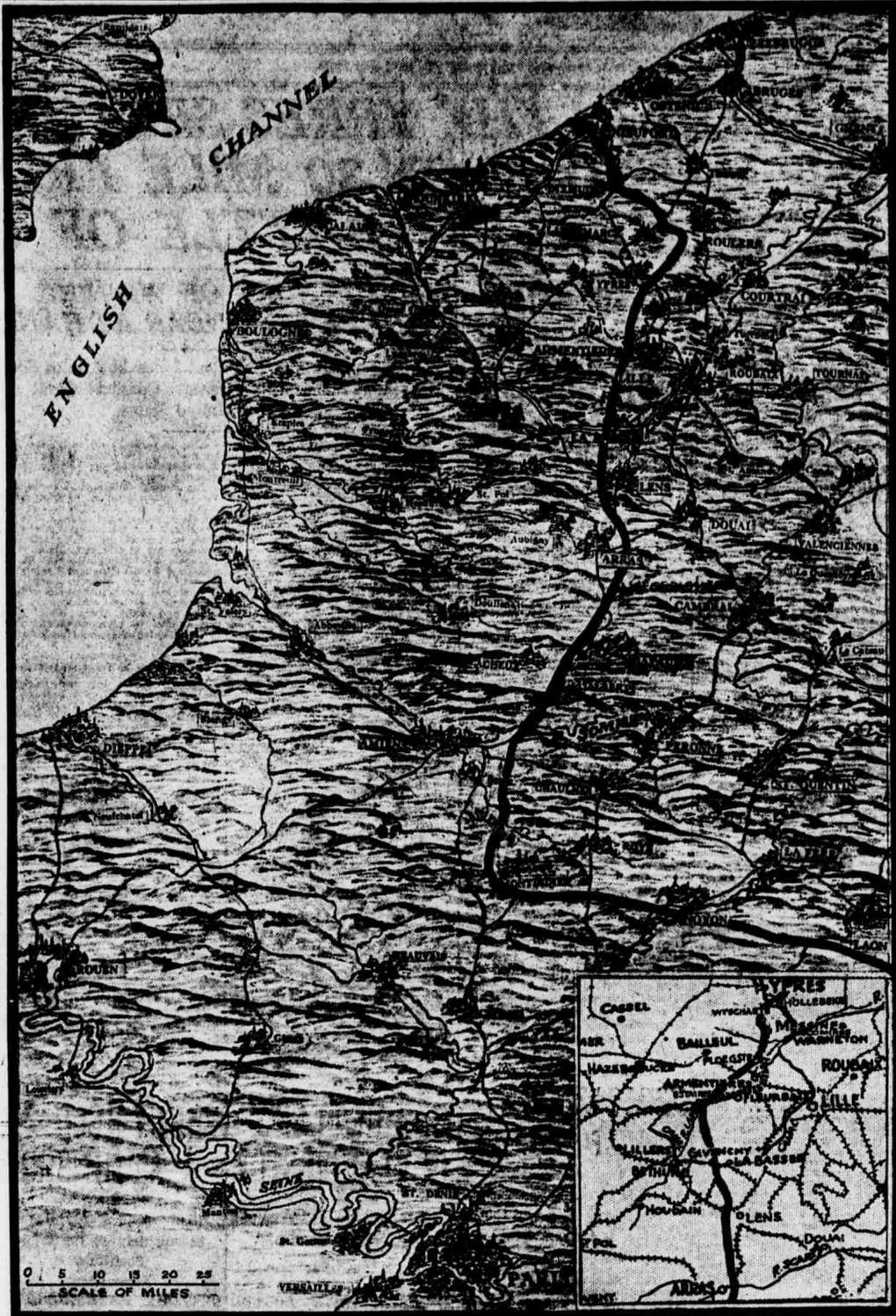


Battlefield in France in Its Relation to Paris and the English Channel



Armentieres the enemy continued to push northward from Croix du Bac, below Armentieres, in order to complete the pocketing of the latter city.

Hard fighting occurred yesterday about Estaires and at other points where the Germans had a footing in the southern edge of the city. The battle here is still continuing.

The enemy artillery was active in the Somme region this morning. Describing how the Germans succeeded in crossing the river Oise, south of La Fere, at the beginning of the offensive on the Somme front, the war correspondent of the Cologne Gazette says:

"Four hundred heavy mine throwers were brought to one spot and joined together so that they could be fired by electricity at the same time. Immediately after the mine throwers had been discharged bridges, which had been kept in readiness, were thrown across the Oise and troops stormed the southern bank, killing, or taking prisoners the enemy troops there."

OFFICIAL VERSIONS OF DAY'S FIGHTING

British Regain Some Ground by Counter Attacks.

LONDON, April 11.—Following are the official reports on the fighting in France:

BRITISH (NIGHT).—The enemy pressed his attacks strongly throughout the day on the whole northern battle front. Heavy and continued assaults have been delivered by fresh German divisions in the region of the River Lawe, between Loche and Lestrun.

In this fighting the Fifty-first Division has beaten off incessant attacks with great loss to the enemy, and by vigorous and successful counter attacks has regained positions and taken the enemy had forced his way. Heavy fighting has taken place at Estaires and between Estaires and Steenwerck. In this sector also the British attacked with strength and succeeded in pushing back our line to just north of these places.

North of Armentieres a determined attack developed this morning against our positions in the neighborhood of Ploegsteert wood and the enemy made some progress. Further north a heavy attack was launched this morning against our lines in the neighborhood of Wytschaete and Hollebeke, but was completely repulsed by the Ninth Division with great loss to the enemy.

Fighting is continuing on the whole front between La Bassée Canal and the Ypres-Comines canal. On the remainder of the British front the day again passed comparatively quietly.

BRITISH (DAY).—The battle is continuing on the whole front from La Bassée Canal to the Ypres-Comines Canal.

Severe fighting has taken place in the neighborhood of Lawe and Lys canals, from about Lestrun to Armentieres. Our troops have been withdrawn from Armentieres, which is full of gas.

North of Armentieres there is little change in the situation. Heavy fighting was continuing at a late hour last night in the neighborhood of Ploegsteert, Messines and Wytschaete.

GERMAN (NIGHT).—The battle near Armentieres is taking a further favorable course. We have penetrated into the suburbs of Armentieres.

South of Armentieres the Lawe has been crossed at some points.

GERMAN (DAY).—The battle of Armentieres has been in full swing since April 8. Between Armentieres and Festubert Gen. von Hartmann's troops have captured English and Portuguese positions on the southern bank of the Lys and on the eastern bank of the Lawe.

After storming the Gronier Wood and Neuve Chapelle in its first assault across the swampy craterfield, it overpowered the wide plain prepared for stubborn resistance, with its innumerable farms and houses and clusters of trees, which by the labor of years had been constructed into strong points of support.

The crossing of the Lys was forced by the 37th Infantry Regiment. The attack was continued yesterday on an even wider front. Sixty-four British troops captured Hollebeke and the first English line adjoining to the south. They stormed the heights of Messines and maintained it against strong enemy counter attacks.

To the south of Waasten-Warrenton they pushed forward as far as Ploegsteert Wood and reached the Ploegsteert-Armentieres road.

Gen. von Quast's army crossed the Lys at several points between Armentieres and Estaires and is engaged in battle with the British and Portuguese troops on the northern bank of the river to the south of Estaires. We fought our way to the Lawe and to the region northeast of Ypres.

The number of prisoners has increased to considerably over 10,000, including a Portuguese General.

FRENCH (NIGHT).—There was violent artillery fighting at certain points on the front north of Montdidier and in the region of Lassigny last night and this morning. We repulsed two enemy attacks, which were quite spirited, in the sector of Noyon.

There was intermittent cannonading on both banks of the river and around Le Fresnoy Wood.

In the month of March twenty-eight German airplanes were brought down.

FRENCH (DAY).—French artillery developed activity in the course of the night along the front between Montdidier and Noyon. A German detachment was caught under the French fire in the region of Orville-Sorel and was dispersed before it was able to approach the front.

Northwest and east of Rheims the French made successful raids, bringing back a dozen prisoners and one machine gun.

In the Champagne the Germans attacked advanced French posts east of Souilly. They were repulsed after a spirited engagement.

On April 10 two German airplanes were brought down by the fire of French machine guns.

GERMAN GAIN BARREN. Canadians Deal Staggering Blow to Enemy at Hollebeke.

OTTAWA, April 11.—Telegraphing from British headquarters in France this evening Reuter's correspondent says: "The situation in Flanders is regarded today as fairly well in hand, but the fighting continues on a heavy scale and is likely to continue. What success the Germans achieved developed out of an advance in the center of the original front of attack, helped by the misty weather. The situation which the enemy overran was very sparsely populated by civilians, and as regards the character of the country it is a barren plain. Moreover, the enemy communications are lengthened across long tracts of clay.

GERMANY'S greatest effort of the war is being exerted in the limited section from about Noyon and La Fere to Montdidier and then northward to the sea at Nieuport.

The purpose of the German strategists in the attempt to break the junction of the British and French armies in the region just north of Montdidier is made clear by this relief map, showing the character of the country which the great armies are struggling over.

It is obvious that a break at the junction of the armies would completely isolate the British, who then could be forced back to the coast with comparative ease, and would leave Paris at the mercy of the Kaiser, who could move forward and take the French capital at his convenience.

In the fighting yesterday, illustrated by the small inset map in the lower right hand corner, the Germans made further gains as much as six miles just below Ypres, but the ground given up by the British, who

to grips with the defenders, and eventually the attack was completely repulsed, the struggling retreat being followed by the solid guns until the enemy disappeared in the mist.

Around Ploegsteert wood and Estaires there has been continuous fighting, but the results are not yet known. The enemy has brought up more reserves and we also have thrown in reinforcements.

BRITISH GAIN IN PALESTINE. Capture Two Villages and Some Germans in 1-2 Mile Advance.

LONDON, April 11.—British troops continue to advance in Palestine, according to a statement of the War Office today as follows:

Early on the morning of April 9 our troops on the Tulkan-Ramleh Railway advanced their lines to a depth of one and a half miles on a frontage of five miles. We captured the villages of El Kefer and Hafaf, despite stubborn resistance by the enemy, whose counter attacks were broken up by our artillery and machine gun fire. Among the prisoners taken were a few Germans.

U. S. OFFICERS IN ITALY. Gen. Crozier and Col. Walsh Are Received by Cabinet Members.

ROME, April 9.—Brig-Gen. William Crozier and Col. James L. Walsh, U. S. A., were received today by Gen. Zupelli, Minister of War; Francesco Nitti, Minister of the Treasury, and Gen. Fallovo, Minister of Munitions, after which they visited several of the army factories.

The will proceed to the front tomorrow.

U. S. MARINES LAND AT VLADIVOSTOK

Continued from First Page.

Japanese. In view of anarchic conditions and to prevent other outrages a party of marines was landed from the Japanese warship Haritor to protect Japanese nationals.

U. S. Has Not Opposed Move.

LONDON, April 10.—The British Government has no reason to suppose the American Government does not approve of the landing of British and Japanese forces at Vladivostok, Lord Robert Cecil, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said in the House of Commons today in replying to a question.

German Plot Is Denied.

By the Associated Press. PEKING, April 8 (delayed).—A high telegraph official of the Government has investigated reports that Germans are enlisting Chinese, Japanese and Korean telegraphers at Harbin and Chang-Chun for service on the Chinese Eastern Railway. He declares that no telegraphers have left their posts recently in China except possibly in outer Mongolia, where the offices are not under Government control. Strict orders have been issued against the granting of permission to leave the telegraph offices without the fullest investigation.

MARINES GUARDING SUPPLIES FROM U. S.

Siberian Expedition Does Not Surprise Washington.

Special Dispatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, April 11.—Landing of a force of American Marines at Vladivostok was not unexpected here, although there is as yet no official confirmation of the news. It is presumed here that the landing was at the order of Admiral Knight, who is in command

of the Asiatic fleet. Admiral Knight with his flagship and other vessels has been at Vladivostok for several weeks watching developments.

Apparently he proceeded there under orders from the Navy Department about the time that the Japanese plans for a Siberian expedition were under consideration.

The fact that the Americans are in control of the docks indicates the marines have assumed protection of the huge amount of supplies sent from this country.

Although officials here would not comment tonight, the landing of American forces in Vladivostok is certain to excite discussion in view of the position taken by this Government in regard to Siberia. Despite reports to the contrary it has been insisted only recently that this position has in no wise changed and that the United States still withhold any approval of anything like a military occupation.

NOT TAKING SIDES. Japanese Admiral in Sympathy With Russian Revolution.

By the Associated Press. VLADIVOSTOK, April 6 (delayed).—The Japanese Admiral has issued a proclamation to the Russians here saying that he sympathized with the situation in Russia, hored for the glorious success of the revolution and had no intention to interfere or take sides in the situation. He said that unfortunately the political struggle has resulted three Japanese were killed, and he had landed marines merely to protect Japanese residents.

The Admiral said he was consulting with his home Government as to what steps shall be taken in the future, and in the meantime urged that Russians resume their occupations without uneasiness.

PARIS UNDER FIRE AGAIN. German Long Range Cannon Resumes Bombardment.

PARIS, April 11.—The bombardment of Paris by the German long range gun resumed this afternoon here, although there is as yet no official confirmation of the news. One shell struck a foundling asylum. The total victims of the bombardment were four killed and twenty-one wounded.

BRITISH HOLDING ENEMY AT MESSINES.

Continued from First Page.

fielded immediately after the Germans had passed, when they were only a few miles beyond, and little knots of two or three English were still firing. This eyewitness says:

"I never saw such appalling slaughter on any battlefield. The riflemen and machine gunners mowed them down like swaths of corn. It is literally true that the Germans only got past because their hands were numb and arms dropped, cramped from gun and rifle. The field was a shambles. I had not thought it possible that any battlefield could be so encumbered with dead."

Thence the attack spread northward, and the Germans were reported to have taken Messines by 11 o'clock and to be in Wytschaete and advancing on White Chateau and the town of Damme, just north of here soon after noon. These, however, were the furthest points reached.

Before the end of the day the Germans had been swept back from Wytschaete and off all the highest parts of the ridges at Messines as well as pushed back to the eastern portion of Ploegsteert wood.

Ridge Is Firmly Held.

This morning we held our line firmly as Wytschaete, Steenwerck and probably are still in the village of Messines, but that is not on the highest ground around there. We are right on the backbone of the ridge and the belief is that if we move from there at present it will not be backward.

In the course of the fighting we have taken a fair number of prisoners, among whom I saw some batches of Frisians of the 17th Regiment. They were average good men, neither exceptionally stout nor especially poor.

In the southern section the attack was delivered in great strength, some eleven or twelve divisions (about 250,000 men) being used on not more than 17,000 yards front, and the weight of the impact drove back the Portuguese front and center. It was the magnificent stand of the Fifty-fifth Lancashire division at Givency which prevented what might have been a rather serious disaster.

Of the behavior of our men in this fighting around Givency nothing could be said too high in praise. This morning the Germans still were attacking there in vain. Besides the 700 odd prisoners taken there yesterday, more have been taken since, and the German losses must, in proportion to the area of fighting, have been very heavy. Men of the Fifty-fifth division say the Germans kept coming in masses after mass. More than once our guns broke up the waves as they were coming to attack and our rifles and machine guns did dreadful execution.

As the Portuguese fell back a gap was made in our lines, through which the Germans, pressing on in great numbers, strove to pour. In this gap part of the cyclist battalion and other troops were thrust to hold the enemy in check while the line reestablished itself behind. With immense odds against them they held back the flood and won the time that was needed.

FOE WOULD DIVIDE NATIONAL ARMIES

Attack on Portuguese Clear in Light of Previous Events.

By PERRY ROBINSON. Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun from the London Times.

Copyright, all rights reserved. BRITISH ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, April 10 (delayed).—The brunt of yesterday's attack did not fall mostly upon the British troops but upon the Portuguese, who held the center of the front that was attacked. This was perhaps in accordance with the same policy that prompted the Germans to attack first at the point of junction between the British and French armies on March 29, with some notion that cleavage of the allied line might have been easier at a point where the structure was not homogeneous but a union of two national armies.

Anyhow, the front held by the Portuguese was the center of yesterday's attack. The preliminary artillery bombardment, while heavy along the whole front of that sector, was most severe at the points held by the Portuguese, and the infantry attack on them was made at 5 o'clock in the morning after one hour's terrific shelling instead of some three hours later, after a more prolonged bombardment, as has been usual.

It is estimated roughly that on a front of some 17,000 yards the Germans threw the weight of at least eight divisions (25,000 men), composed mostly of fresh troops, into the fight. For a time the Portuguese held their front line under the strength of massed attack, though they were quite unable to maintain their position.

First Line Breached.

Under the tremendous weight of the German impact, the first Portuguese line, soon after 6 o'clock, was forced back in several places, the first breach in the line being made near Esquelles.

Small units continued fighting desperately, though surrounded. The second and third line, on which the terrific artillery barrage was thrown in succession, similarly were rushed and overran by immensely preponderant weight of numbers.

A tale is told of extremely gallant fighting by a battalion of Portuguese troops in the neighborhood of Lacourte. This battalion fought until its men had exhausted their supply of ammunition and had to call for more. It went on stubbornly battling to maintain its position until a large proportion of its men were killed.

The Portuguese artillery also behaved extremely well. Their loss of men and guns was considerable, although most of their guns already had been smashed by the German artillery fire.

Strain Thrown on British.

These successive Portuguese positions were the last which ran by Laventi, Richebour and St. Vaast. They were all in advance of what is known as the blank battle zone, but this breach in the center threw an enormous strain upon the British divisions at the extreme right, which held positions at Givency. Lancashire men threw back their left in order to make their flank on that side and then began the defence of Givency, which will be remembered as one of the most brilliant incidents of the war.

This morning at Givency almost all of our original line remained in our hands. I believe it still remains so. Out of the prisoners taken over 200 were captured here by Lancashire men. The Germans had reached Laventi at 11 o'clock in the morning and their right advance was checked by British troops on the left also to swing around and make a front on the north. Facing thus they had an enemy attack line roughly from west of Laventi to Estaires, thence along the Lys to Selly and St. Naur. At one time yesterday the Germans were reported as having got through Estaires and into La Gorgue, but they were thrown back again.

At first, further up, they also broke across the Lys as far as Croix du Bac, but they were driven back against Pines on the east side of a little stream, by other troops thrusting southward from the direction of Steenwerck. From here back to below Armentieres the British line held intact.

The narrow salient, some four miles

Romanoffs in Want; Nobles Go to Work

By the Associated Press.

MOSCOW, April 11.—The Romanoff family, most of whom are residing in the Crimea, are suffering want, according to the Moscow papers. The Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, with Grand Duke Nicholas, the Grand Duchess Xenia and children and other members of the family, is allowed to spend only four hundred rubles (\$200 under normal exchange) a month, while the expenses of all of them cannot exceed ten thousand rubles. They have five servants, but many of the former court noblemen and noblewomen who are staying with the Romanoffs do their own washing or work in the vineyards, earning occasionally four rubles a day.

NEW AMSTERDAM SAFE.

Dutch Liner Reaches Hook of Holland with 3,000 Passengers.

ROTTERDAM, April 11.—The Holland-America Line steamship Nieuw Amsterdam, from New York, has arrived at the Hook of Holland.

The Nieuw Amsterdam sailed from New York on March 25 with more than 2,000 passengers on board, including Chevalier W. L. F. C. van Rappard, formerly Dutch Minister at Washington, and many masters and members of the crews of Dutch steamships taken over by the United States. Her clearance was the result of an agreement made with the Dutch Government. It was understood the German Admiralty had granted her a safe conduct through the submarine zone.

Paris, April 11.—A bill introduced today in the Chamber of Deputies provides that any subject of an enemy Power who has not declared his nationality to the police authorities within a week after the bill becomes a law shall be treated as a spy and shot.

Advertisement for Helmar Turkish Cigarettes. Features a woman's face and the text: 'HELMAR TURKISH CIGARETTES 13 CENTS The Joy of "Jack Tar" Quality-Superb'.