

GREAT AIR ATTACKS SET METZ ON FIRE

Twenty-seven Tons of Bombs Dropped on Railway Yards and Barracks.

RAIDERS GO TOSTUTTART Large Daimler Works There Are Hit—Saarbrücken Station Is Damaged.

LONDON, Sept. 15.—Powerful Allied air attacks are being continued around Metz, according to the statement issued tonight by the British Air Ministry.

On the battle front, in addition to the bombing reported in yesterday's communiqué, the following bombing operations were carried out:

Attacks by Day and Night. Heavy attacks were kept up throughout the night of September 14-15 on Metz-Sablons, Courcelles, Ehrange, Saarbrücken, Kaiserslautern and the airfield at Freyburg and Bousy.

Describing the aerial operations in the battle zone, an official statement to-night says:

On September 14 the enemy aircraft were more active on some parts of the British front than for several days past. In air fighting four hostile machines were destroyed.

Twenty-one Towns Bombed. Twenty-one German towns have been bombed by the British independent air force during the month of August, according to information from an authoritative source.

His Comment on American Victory Moderate. Paris, Sept. 15.—Newton D. Baker, the American Secretary of War, returned last night from the American battle front, where he remained for the last two days with the American troops, accompanying them as they marched into St. Mihiel.

At Goal in Dead of Night. Despite the bitterest opposition the Franco-Americans swept upward and onward toward the heights of the Woëvre plain, where they stormed the villages of Herbville, Hannonville, Tillot, St. Maurice, Billy and Hattonchapel, and then in the dead of night they moved on to the southern end of the line of heights.

BATTLE WITH DRAFT EVADERS. 300 Guardsmen Rush Home of Brothers—One Soldier Killed.

OWN, Wis., Sept. 15.—Possibly the first draft evader to be caught in the act, a man was killed and five others wounded.

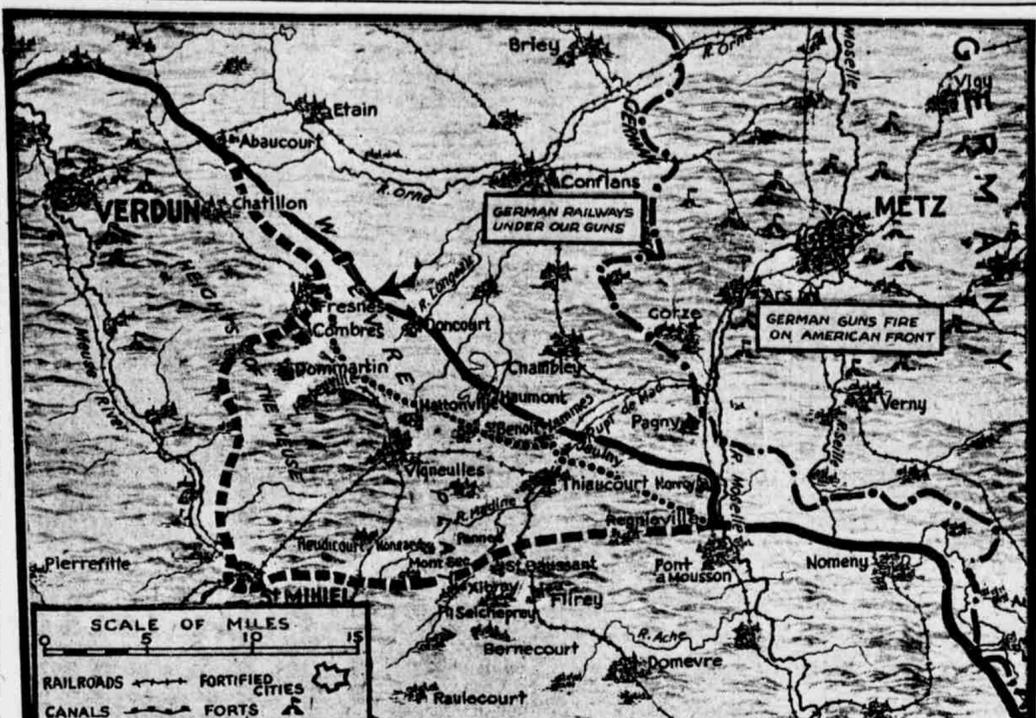
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Where American Army Is Driving Toward Great Fortress of Metz.



GAINS of considerable importance were made yesterday by the American First Army under the command of Gen. Pershing. In a general way the advance was from two to three miles along the entire front across what was formerly the St. Mihiel salient, a distance of thirty-three miles, with a maximum penetration of four miles.

Metz Opens Fire; U. S. Guns Replying. Stationed on the western side of the St. Mihiel salient, with the assistance of the French, constitutes one of the most brilliant pages of American history thus far in the great struggle.

Stiff Opposition Encountered. In carrying out these two moves the Allies encountered the stiffest opposition of the offensive. The Germans cherished the heights because they knew it was the key to the Woëvre plain. They fought desperately to hold it and counter-attacked repeatedly after they had been ejected.

No Stops Till Heights Were Won. At the conclusion of their artillery preparation the Franco-Americans swept forward in an irresistible rush which never stopped until they had reached every height in the long series which extend southward nearly to St. Mihiel. Uncounted thousands of miles of barbed wire had been stretched at intervals for miles back of the German front lines.

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those which radiate from Conflans, are under the fire of the American artillery. The Germans are reported to be retiring on the western end of the battle front, near Abaucourt, and also near the eastern end, where they are taking positions to protect the railways leading into Metz.

GLORIOUS YANKS IS VICTORY COMMENT Will Make Great History, Says a London Paper.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. Copyright, 1918; all rights reserved. LONDON, Sept. 15.—The Sunday newspaper print many appreciations and congratulations to the American First Army for its victory in the St. Mihiel salient.

ENEMY PREPARES DEFENCE OF METZ. Airmen Report Trenches Being Hastily Strengthened.

ITALIANS CAPTURE DEFENCES. Take Entire System on Grosvenor and 343 Prisoners.

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE BATTLES. LONDON, Sept. 15.—The official reports of to-day on the fighting on the western front follow:

BRITISH (NIGHT)—By a successful minor operation carried out early this morning our troops captured a number of trenches and machine-gun positions in the area of the Grosvenor and 343 prisoners.

GERMAN (DAY)—On both sides of the La Bassée Canal partial enemy attacks were repulsed. The English again attacked near Havincourt. Their first assault pressed us back from the eastern edge of Havincourt. Throughout the day the attacks were repeated many times, but collapsed.

FRENCH (NIGHT)—South of the Oise we maintained our position against violent counter-attacks. We captured the plateau east of Vauxaillon and the crest northeast of Celles-sur-Aisne. The prisoners taken by us since yesterday morning exceed 3,500.

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LLOYD GEORGE IMPROVING. Inflammation Leaves His Throat After a Good Night.

LONDON, Sept. 15.—Premier Lloyd George, who suffered an attack of influenza Thursday night, after an address at Manchester, spent a good night and his condition to-day was declared to be satisfactory.

OVER IN 27 HOURS, PERSHING REPORTS

Cables That 150 Square Miles Were Regained When His Lines Met.

BOOTY GROWS HOURLY Has Captured More Than 200 Cannon and Hundreds of Machine Guns.

Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—The decisive character and importance of the American victory is emphasized in Gen. Pershing's official report for Saturday received to-night giving further details of the St. Mihiel fighting. The report reveals that the converging attacks on both sides of the salient penetrated at such speed that junction was formed between the two attacking forces in twenty-seven hours from the time the assault began on the two sides of the salient.

Belgian Captives Freed. Among the captives to-day were several Belgians, whom the Germans had been working much the same as slaves. They had contrived to lose themselves from their guards during the retreat and were waiting for the coming of the Americans.

Junction in 27 Hours. We are now to estimate the success during the previous days. The dash and vigor of our troops and the gallant French soldiers which fought shoulder to shoulder with them is shown by the fact that the forces attacking on both faces of the salient effected a junction and secured the results desired within twenty-seven hours.

Have Captured 200 Guns. The second report reads: In the St. Mihiel sector there was increased artillery and aviation activity.

General Sends Reply to Greetings From Welfare Board. Providence, R. I., Sept. 15.—Col. Harry Cutler of Providence, chairman of the Jewish Welfare Board, received the following telegram from Gen. Pershing to-night in reply to congratulations.

THE STORY OF REVILLON FURS. A TALL flag staff flying the British and French flags; a score or more plain but substantial warehouses and dwellings, and once a year the Revillon steamer anchored in the straits—these constitute Revillon headquarters for Ungava district in the Hudson's Straits.

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photographs showing well equipped defenses. The big iron mines near Briey, an important industrial nerve center of the German military machine, are jeopardized, and even Metz, one of the most strongly fortified points behind the enemy lines, is menaced. It is not expected that any immediate struggle for its possession will take place, but the success which attended the first big American operations undoubtedly has brought the Germans face to face with more serious conditions on this part of the front than for the past four years.

Many Piles of Dead Found. The clearing up of the woods and ravines was the most important part of the work carried out by the American troops Saturday. Where the barrage had caught the enemy away from the shelter of dugouts and trenches piles of dead were discovered. In many places additional supplies of ordnance and ammunition were discovered. In at least one case a battery of German 75s was used by the Americans against the enemy, although in most cases the guns were sufficiently damaged to make them unfit for use at all.

Three counter attacks were carried out in the same neighborhood and each was smashed before any great damage was done.

It is now definitely established that the Germans did not expect the American attack before September 15. Even if it was not believed that the line was to be attacked from the west flank, except perhaps a slight one in the way of a diversion.

The prisoners in most cases appeared well content at capture, and were deeply impressed with the rationing served to them, especially the American white bread.

Among the prisoners were several hundred from two Austrian divisions, who were cut off when the Americans advanced to the attack from behind after the Germans had broken. They were bitter against the German command, who they said had given way before the Americans, allowing them to be surrounded, and they had no chance to fight.

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WILSON GIVES D. S. C. TO BRITISH OFFICER

Award Is for Extraordinary Heroism at Oureq and Veste Fighting.

HE LED MEN IN PERSON. Capt. J. M. McNamee's Deeds of Gallantry Described by Pershing.

Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—President Wilson has awarded the Distinguished Service Cross to Capt. J. M. McNamee, of the American Army, for his gallantry during the fighting northeast of Chateau Thierry early in August, when the battalion of engineers to which this British officer was attached cooperated with American attacking forces.

Gen. Pershing in his communique to-night reports having made the award, in the name of the President. The statement of Gen. Pershing says:

The Commander in Chief, in the name of the President, has awarded the Distinguished Service Cross to Capt. J. M. McNamee, M. C., R. E. A. British Army, attached to the 1st Battalion, Engineers, for extraordinary heroism throughout the advance across the rivers Oureq and Veste northeast of Chateau Thierry, France, July 30, 1918, to August 6, 1918.

Volunteering, he led a detachment of engineers up to the front lines July 30, for the purpose of assisting the advance of the infantry with thermite and smoke bombs. That night he led his men through a heavy enemy barrage, exhibiting great courage and leadership. For three days and nights he remained with his men in the extreme front line in the Bois Clef, greatly aiding in repelling enemy counter-attacks by laying barrages of thermite and phosphorus, clearing out many gun nests in the same manner and enabling our infantry to attack behind smoke screens.

August 5 he took another detachment into St. Thibaut and brought ammunition into the village before it was occupied by our infantry and while the enemy patrols were still there. The advance of the infantry across the two rivers, the Oureq and Veste, was greatly facilitated and the lives of many of them were saved by the smoke screen which Capt. McNamee successfully prepared.

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Revillon Freres Fifth Avenue at 133rd Street