

ITALIANS SEIZE FORTIFIED HILLS

Austrians, Shielded by Masonry and Steel, Driven from Trenches.

HUGE LOSSES REPORTED

Milan Reports Continued Progress in Campaign Against Gorizia.

By ANDRE BEAUMONT. Milan, July 20.—Fourteen hundred refugees arrived here today from Gorizia. They report the city as almost completely evacuated.

Continued progress is being made against Gorizia by the Italian army. Today's official bulletin announced a brilliant achievement in this zone, which is the most important military standpoint of the Carso hills.

Several days ago I had information that a severe battle was being fought with steady progress in favor of the Italian army. This battle reached its greatest intensity on July 18. The enemy was vigorously pressed, his forces badly cut up, and his entire camp captured, together with important positions and large quantities of ammunition.

At the point where the Italian and the Austrians have retired in an orderly fashion, the Austrians have retreated to the Carso hills.

"Southern theater—The enemy, who, on Saturday, was defeated in the region northeast of Senno by the army of Gen. von Woyseck, attempted to retreat to the Carso hills. Prepared positions were reached beyond Ilanka. The enemy's advanced position at Cliplice was taken by our brave Slavonian Landwehr. The same troops penetrated the main position on the night of the same day. The enemy's line near Haszanow and Barawak is beginning to be broken. A decision may soon be expected there.

"Between the Vistula and the Bug the battle continued throughout the whole of yesterday with undiminished violence, with the forces of Gen. von Mackensen participating.

"At the point where we broke through the Pilaschowitz-Burnes-Tau from the Russians made vain attempts to save themselves from defeat. A division of the guard which was sent into the fighting was defeated by our troops.

"Near Sokal and north of that place Austro-Hungarian troops advanced over the Bug River. Under the pressure of the Austrians the enemy retreated over the whole front between the Vistula and the Bug. Only at one place where we penetrated west of the front on Saturday in the Aragonne forest, but without gaining any advantage.

"Western theater of war—After a day of comparative quiet, activity was renewed in the afternoon at Souchez. A French attack near Souchez was repulsed. Efforts of the French to attack the heights of Souchez failed. Numerous artillery and mine duds occurred between the Oise River and the Aronne forest. The Austrians were repulsed in the Aragonne forest, but without gaining any advantage.

"On the heights of the Meuse, south of the heights of the Meuse, the Austrians were repulsed in the Aragonne forest, but without gaining any advantage.

"Many of these actions are extremely violent and although progress is slow the enemy is being steadily driven back and is suffering especially from the fire of the Italian heavy guns.

Austrian Note Failed, It Report. Berlin (via Amsterdam), July 20.—Cable from New York, July 20.—The Austrian note to America on the matter of munitions has been completely ineffective.

John Martin, newspaper man stationed at the District Building, is expected to return from a two weeks' vacation next Monday.

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OFFICIAL WAR STATEMENTS

Berlin, July 20.—Today's official statement.

"Eastern theater—Our troops have captured Tuckum and Uchlock. Windau has been occupied by us. During the pursuit of our troops the Austrians captured Hofstemberg. West of Mitau the enemy is maintaining prepared positions. Northeast of Poliany and Kurchany fighting is in progress.

"Between the Pissa and the Skwa rivers the Russians have evacuated positions which had been repeatedly broken through by us, and have fallen back upon the Narew River. German reserves of the Landwehr, who have been fighting in country very favorable to the enemy, behaved gallantly.

"The army of Gen. Gallwitz has advanced further to the south, and is now holding all the Narew River line.

"Between Ostroikna and Nowo Georgiewsk, where the Russians were unprotected by their positions and fortifications, they have already retired to the Narew. Our prisoners have been increased to 301 officers and 25,500 of the rank and file.

"In Poland, between the Vistula and the Pilka, the Russians have retired in an orderly fashion, and have retreated to the Carso hills.

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Russian Railway Line Which Is Main Key To Warsaw, Now the Objective of the Germans

The one great feature of the war at this moment is the Austro-German advance against the Rowno Ivangorod line of railway, writes Hilaire Belloc, military critic.

The River Vistula is much the most serious military obstacle in Europe; broad, deep, rapid, with usually a high level defensible steep bank to be held against a force attempting to cross it.

The River Vistula is crossed by railway communication on a large scale only at Warsaw.

Therefore, whoever has the railway bridges of Warsaw possesses the crossing of the Vistula, for a modern army cannot live long without railways.

So long as the railways 1, 2 and 3 are intact Warsaw holds. If the Austro-German forces reach the line Rowno Ivangorod and cut it, Warsaw can hardly be held. If Warsaw was evacuated, the Russian line straightened, the Austro-German allies have the whole Vistula obstacle for their own, and though they shall not have defeated or inflicted disaster on the Russian armies, they will be comparatively free to use considerable portions of their forces elsewhere.

It is because Warsaw means this that Russia is holding on to that big and expensive asset expressed by the dotted line in the accompanying diagram.

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Meyer-Gerhard Urges Germany To Preserve U. S. Friendship

Unfortunate Misunderstanding of National Ideals at Bottom of Controversy, Von Bernstorff's Envoy Writes.

The following is a translation by the New York Sun of the article contributed to Der Tag by Dr. Meyer-Gerhard on his return from the United States as the envoy of Count von Bernstorff, to report the sentiments of Americans on the controversy with Germany over submarine warfare.

"I am filled in the United States. However, I have the impression that in Germany one is inclined to mistake the amount of ammunition ordered for the present war, as the amount of supplies ordered have been delivered.

"Naturally, the assistance rendered our enemies in the shape of ammunition has cooled down the friendly feeling that previously existed for Americans in Germany. The extraordinary extent of the order for the reconstruction of entire factories for the purpose of making the supply of all this ammunition possible, must be deeply regretted by all those who have had the friendly relations between Germany and the United States at heart.

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FORCE GONZALES TO QUIT CAPITAL

Zapatistas Reoccupy Mexico City and Villa Masses Troops for Important Battle.

TO ELIMINATE CARRANZA

First Chief's Fate Hangs in Balance of Impending Struggle Near that City, Officials Believe.

News was received in Washington yesterday that the Zapatistas, who are supporting Gen. Villa in his fight on First Chief Carranza, have taken possession of Mexico City, which was evacuated on Monday by Gen. Gonzales, the Carranza commander, after an occupation lasting a little more than a week. It is now accepted as a certainty by administration officials that Villistas have assembled, or are about to assemble, in force in the neighborhood of Mexico City, and that a battle is imminent which will determine the fate of Carranza as a factor in the Mexican situation.

It is believed Villa will soon have a formidable army near Mexico City. There are said to be 2,000 Villista troops at Fachuca, which is forty miles from the city, and a force of 5,000 or 6,000 under the command of Gen. Urbina at Saltillo, a day's march from Mexico City. Carranza's army is believed to be mobilized near Mexico City, to meet Carranza's army if believed certain. Upon the outcome of the battle may hinge action by the Carranza army, or will be mobilized near Mexico City, to meet Carranza's army if believed certain. Upon the outcome of the battle may hinge action by the Carranza army, or will be mobilized near Mexico City, to meet Carranza's army if believed certain.

Fate May Hinge Upon Battle. If Carranza should win this engagement, it might lead to his recognition by the United States. If, on the other hand, he should lose, officials believe that it would be the beginning of the end of his position of influence in Mexico. Villista agents in this city declare that Carranza is beaten in the forthcoming engagement, and the result will be the first chief's elimination, and the organization of a coalition government that will ultimately have the support of the Washington government.

However, officials here are not drawing hasty conclusions from Gonzales' retirement from Mexico City. They believe that conditions change rapidly in Mexico with no certainty that the fact that Carranza has retired today will be followed by another twenty-four hours. Despite the uncertainties, administration officials appear to believe that the Mexican army may be brought to a head by the forthcoming battle in the environs of the capital.

Gonzales Driven Out. Information received at the State Department yesterday seems to indicate that Gen. Gonzales was driven out of Mexico City. A department official in receipt of advice, dated at about noon on the 19th, stating that the evacuation is complete. The Zapatistas occupied the city on the afternoon of the 18th, and on the 19th appointed some authorities. They are therefore again in full possession of the city, and their actions indicate a desire to maintain order. President Carranza and the conventionalist government have not yet returned.

The department also received advisory statements that as a result of military operations between the two cities, railway communication between Mexico City and Mexico City have again been suspended.

Yaqul Indians Quiet. From the west coast comes information that quiet now prevails in the Yaqul Valley. Indians who were active in the warpath for months, have been driven out of the valley. In a stubborn battle at Maco the Carranzistas, under Col. Eliseo Arredondo, the Carranza agent in this city, issued a statement in which he discounted the importance of the occupation of Mexico City by Gen. Gonzales. "Gen. Gonzales' forces have left the capital for the purpose of meeting and destroying a raiding movement to the northward of the city by a strong force of Villistas," said Mr. Arredondo. "This force had its base near Silao, adequate provision for the preservation of order in Mexico City has been made and immediately the present operation is completed, which should require only a few days, the military force will return to Mexico City, where Gen. Gonzales will re-establish headquarters."

A statement was made public last night by the Carranza agency in this city announcing that \$30,000,000 in gold and silver bullion is about to be shipped to New York from Vera Cruz, the headquarters of the Carranza forces in Mexico. The agency stated that it had just been advised that the bullion had reached Vera Cruz under a strong military guard. The treasure is represented to be the property of a number of foreign-owned mining corporations.

Warsaw Supply Lines. NEWEST DANGER POINT. Von Hindenburg Threatening Communications, Berlin Military Critic Declares.

Berlin (via Rotterdam), July 20.—Major Morath, the well-known German military critic, says in the Tagblatt: "Gen. von Hindenburg's line, 240 miles long, is now threatened by the principal Russian communication line between Warsaw and St. Petersburg. The Germans marching toward Mitau are only thirty miles from the important sea fortress of Riga. Gen. von Mackensen is only six miles from Lublin, which the Russians are deserting. The Germans are showing splendid superiority in aggressiveness, throwing the enemy out of his fortified positions, which is very costly. The number of prisoners is again increasing enormously, although only ten Russian guns have been captured. This means that the Russian artillery cannot maintain their positions long enough to cover the retreat and must leave the defense to the infantry, which is very costly.

"The fact that the Russians are leaving their positions north of the Pilica to protect Warsaw is very significant, and that the Russian retirement between Pilsa and Orzec is the scene of a demonstrative offensive.

Along the front of sixty odd miles, between Orzelow and Wroslaw, the Russians are concentrating on the Narew on naturally strong river positions. They expect to offer a serious check to the Austro-German advance.

The German offensive between Pultusk and Wroslaw followed in the wake of the Russian regrouping on the left bank of the Vistula, from Saura to the Radom region, and though the process is not yet terminated it is not expected to extend beyond the line to West Giesowick and Tarnobrzeg.

CONCENTRATE ON THE NAREW. Petrograd, July 20.—The growing importance of operations on the Narew front is gradually admitted. The center of the greatest pressure is on the great pressure is on the British ports was in London, thereby avoiding difficulties with the censorship. The attack forces will call at the department again today.

They stated yesterday that their complaint at the delay of prize court action on 31 cargoes of American means and meat products from the British ports was in London, thereby avoiding difficulties with the censorship. The attack forces will call at the department again today.

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