

U. S. TROOPS BATTLE WITH BANDITS ON MEXICAN SOIL

Anderson's Expedition Threatened With Attack by Mexicans

CONSUL GARZA CLOSES OFFICE IN BROWNSVILLE

Delivers General Ricaut's Ultimatum to General Parker and Then Closes Consulate and Moves Across to Matamoros

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BROWNSVILLE, Tex., June 17.—Carranza's consul, J. Z. Garza, stationed here, delivered early tonight General Alfredo Ricaut's ultimatum to General James Parker, Brownsville commander, that unless the Anderson punitive expedition was withdrawn an attack would be made by Carranza troops. Immediately afterwards Consul Garza closed the consulate and moved to Matamoros.

Additional United States troops including a portion of the Twenty-eighth infantry and the remainder of the Third cavalry, under command of Colonel A. P. Blockson, were en route to Naranjos tonight, the point of crossing of a squadron of the Third cavalry in to Mexico today to reinforce those already sent in.

Mexicans operating from the southern side of the river, destroyed all railroad tracks on the international bridge here late tonight, effectually blocking all traffic, except pedestrians. Fear that troops might be sent over the bridge from the United States is said to have caused this action.

Another Ranch Raided EL PASO, June 17.—A band of Mexicans raided the San Juan ranch near Fort Hancock below here, and made off with twenty-four horses and mules according to news received at El Paso tonight. No shots were fired and no one was harmed.

Rumors credited by military patrol officers tonight had Consul Andres Garcia closing the local Mexican consulate and crossing to Juarez. The consul, at his residence in El Paso tonight, declared that he had no intention of closing the consulate, where his papers and records are still in their usual places.

Calles Has No Order DOUGLAS, June 17.—"General Calles has received no orders from First Chief Carranza as to what to do in the face of an American troop movement into Sonora," said Consul Yves G. Lelequier tonight, "but the general told me on several occasions that he

School Girls Tell of Party at Marion Lambert's House

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] WAUKEGAN, Ill., June 17.—Ten school girls testified for the state today in the case of William H. Orpet, who is charged with the murder of Marion Lambert. All were at Marion's birthday party February 6th, three days before her death and all testified that she was cheerful and happy. Tears came to her eyes as they did to Anna Paulson because the latter could not spend the night with her, as had been a birthday custom with them for years.

LITTLE SLACKENING OF RUSSIAN DRIVE AGAINST AUSTRIANS

NO ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS ALLOWED EL PASO, June 17.—No anti-American demonstrations will be allowed in Juarez by General Francisco Gonzalez, acting commander of Northern Chihuahua. This statement was made by him today to a small delegation of Mexicans who called to see him in regard to holding a meeting of protest against the presence of American troops. General Gonzalez later said that Juarez would remain quiet so long as he was in control. Speech-making agitators or others actuated by aggressive purposes would be promptly arrested, he added.

PROBATE JUDGE FOUND SLAIN IN POOL OF WATER

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] HUNTSVILLE, Ala., June 17.—Two companies of the Alabama national guard were sent here tonight from neighboring towns to protect several persons arrested after the body of Judge W. T. Lawler, of the Madison county probate court, had been found today in a pool of water near here. Judge Lawler had just been re-nominated on a "dry" ticket after a bitter political fight. News of the finding of his body with two bullet holes in the heart and skull crushed, caused a crowd to gather about the courthouse square and while most of the people had gone to their homes tonight, excitement was still high. The three or four men arrested were described as men prominent in the community. Other arrests, it was said, would be made.

Judge Lawler, according to county officials, had an engagement Wednesday night to meet a political opponent at the courthouse. Search was begun today on theory that the probate judge had been kidnapped. His body was found in fifteen feet of water, weighted down with iron. It was said that an investigation would include charges of election fraud made after the recent primary in which Judge Lawler was a candidate.

Forward Progress of General Brusiloff's Armies is Apparently Much Less Rapid Than in the Early Stages of Engagement

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] The drive of the Russian offensive in the Austro-Russian line along the Styria and the Stokhol, not more than 30 miles from Kovel, the important railway junction essential to close connection between the southern Teutonic armies and those to the north.

In the latter direction they have scored new progress and are close to the Galician border, pushing down the railway from Dubno. The current Russian official statement reports the occupation of Radziwow, less than 19 miles from Brody, across the frontier line and approximately sixty miles northeast of Lemberg, the Galician capital, the Russian objective in this drive. Berlin records the participation of German troops in the fighting against the Russians reporting General von Linsingen's forces engaged in the Stokhol Styria sector and others under General Count von Bothmer taking part in the battles north of Przyslova.

On the eastern front the fighting at Verdun has again been left to the artillery for the most part. The Germans are violently shelling French positions in the Dead Man's Hill section, and incidentally have made hand grenade attacks in this vicinity which Paris declares were futile.

Rome announces an important success northeast of Asiago in the Trentino where several positions at the head of the Brenza Valley were captured. Vienna reports the failure of Italian attacks in the Dolomites and likewise of assaults upon the Austrian lines on the Doberto plateau.

Airmen have been unusually active on the various fronts. Austrian aviators raided Paldul and Italian towns nearby. German machines have dropped bombs freely on several points of military importance along the western front including Bar-le-Duc and Dunkirk and a French air squadron has bombarded various railroad stations.

So far as known the war department has taken no additional steps toward mobilizing the national guard. A peculiar situation has arisen as a result of the fact that the new army bill providing for federalization of the militia will go into effect July 1 automatically repealing the present militia law. The new act requires state troops who participate in federal appropriations to take a dual oath of allegiance. Only the Kansas guard is required now to take such an oath, and unless all the remaining units do so by the end of the month...

NO CHANGE IN POLICY OF THE ADMINISTRATION

General Trevino's Warning Does Not Cause Washington Officials to Recede from Determination to Keep Troops in Mexico

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] WASHINGTON, June 17.—Confirmation of General Trevino's warning that any movement of American troops in Mexico except toward the border would be treated by the Carranza commanders as a hostile act, reached the war department late today. Secretary Baker declined to comment on or to make public General Trevino's message or the reply of General Pershing refusing to recognize authority of the Carranza general over the American expedition.

While it was apparent that General Pershing's reply would be backed up by officials here it was not indicated what further action the Washington government might take. Secretary Baker took the text of General Trevino's ultimatum to the White House and conferred with the president tonight. It was understood that after studying the note the president would await official information regarding reported fighting today in the Brownsville district before he determined upon a course.

Tonight the war department had received no report on the development at Brownsville. Officials said that if Carranza troops had made any attack on American detachments following hot trails over the line the Americans undoubtedly would withdraw to the American side and endeavor to repel any attempt to follow them. They did not believe any counter attack would be attempted without special orders from Washington.

Neither state nor war department officials seemed greatly agitated over General Trevino's ultimatum. Secretary Lansing said the policy of the administration was unchanged. The reply to the Carranza note demanding the recall of the American forces will leave by special messenger Monday for Mexico City, unless developments upset present plans.

Whether General Trevino's ultimatum seemed greatly agitated over specific orders of Carranza, would influence President Wilson to interrupt the diplomatic exchange no official word predicted. Should the reply refusing to withdraw General Pershing's expedition go by messenger, it will not be delivered for ten days or two weeks. Its text would not be made public until it had reached its destination in any event.

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Cavalry on "Hot Trail" Dashes Across Border

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BROWNSVILLE, June 17.—Upwards of four hundred United States cavalry under command of Major Edward Anderson of the Third regiment, crossed the international border in two sections twelve miles up the Rio Grande river from here today, and engaged in combat with Mexicans of unknown affiliations or organization. The occasion of the crossing was the pursuit of a "hot trail" of Mexican bandits, who attacked United States soldiers near San Benito last night.

The first command to enter Mexico was that of Lieutenant A. D. Newman, with Troop H of the Third cavalry, crossing the river at ten o'clock. A second detachment left Fort Brown at 1:30 o'clock and joined the Newman expedition, with Major Anderson commanding, about 3 o'clock this afternoon.

According to the meagre reports here fighting began immediately, or shortly after the entrance to Mexico. Telephone reports from Villanueva, another settlement on the river bank, said that heavy firing was plainly audible. Officers at Fort Brown declined early tonight to make known the progress of the expedition. This was believed to have been done to lack of information more than a desire for secrecy.

All soldiers and officers stationed at Fort Brown were called in from outside points at noon, and held in the garrison. Activities at the post indicated that any eventuality might be expected. In the meantime officials waited for some word of Major Anderson's flying column.

General James Parker, commanding at Brownsville, sent cavalry scouting the country in the vicinity of San Benito on a "hot trail" discovered by Lieutenant Newman, commanding Troop H. The trail led across the river and Lieutenant Newman led his troops across late in the forenoon.

Major Anderson, with a squadron of the same regiment and a machine gun company, closed in on the same trail and early in the afternoon followed the lieutenant and his troops into Mexico. He was too late for the fight and bloodless skirmish that had taken place. Troop H engaged the bandits almost immediately after getting on that side but General Parker indicated none on either side was injured. The bandits fled without great resistance.

The pursuit was continued. Late today Major Anderson had moved his force up the river towards Matamoros, the Mexican town opposite Brownsville. He was still on the Mexican side tonight. General Parker reported that he had sent to Consul Garza in Brownsville a note informing him that American troops had crossed the international boundary in conformity with the spirit of the agreement between the two countries authorizing the passage of troops when on a "hot trail" in pursuit of bandits. He also called the attention of the consul to the fact that the bandits had been run back to a district which American authorities had long insisted was a rendezvous of the bandits and outlaws.

SQUADRON GOES OVER PURSUING RAIDING BAND

Are Within Ten Miles of Matamoros, Where Mexican Population, Armed With Pistols and Rifles, Awaits Developments

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BROWNSVILLE, June 17.—The second squadron of the Third United States cavalry, upwards of 400 strong, after a battle with bandits, is sleeping tonight on Mexican soil less than ten miles from Matamoros, the Mexican town opposite here, where the Mexican population, fully armed with pistols and rifles, is awaiting developments with anxiety.

The soldiers' crossing was occasioned by the pursuit of the cavalry under command of Major Edward Anderson and Lieutenant Newman on a "hot trail" of Mexican bandits who attacked detachments of the Twenty-sixth infantry near San Benito last night.

Crossing, which was started at 10 o'clock, had finished at sundown without a mishap of any kind, at a point about ten miles from here. The point of crossing is known as Naranjos, a small Mexican river settlement.

Within a half hour after the first troops had crossed, volleys of shots were heard from the brushy embankment on the Mexican side of the river, indicating that at least a part of the thirty bandits had been encountered. They were known to have been chased across the river by Lieutenant A. D. Newman and Troop H of the Third cavalry. No casualties on either side attended the crossing.

A field wireless apparatus has been established on the American side of the river tonight which will keep in close touch with the Fourth punitive expedition into Mexico. Troop H was the first body of soldiers to cross the river. Most of the day these soldiers exchanged shots with bandits after the small expedition had crossed the Rio Grande, but the sole "casualty" was one Mexican bandit's horse. It was brought to the bank of the Rio Grande as a souvenir.

After an all-night chase, Lieutenant Newman's troops ran the bandits who attacked the infantry detachment from a point east of the sleeping town of San Benito fifteen miles to the bank of the Rio Grande, near the San Pedro ranch. Here the band apparently split in two sections, one crossing the river above the ranch and the other below. The cavalry followed by the northern ford.

At 11 o'clock this morning, after spending one hour on Mexican soil, Lieutenant Newman's command came in contact with the marauders, and a lively, though bloodless, skirmish ensued, neither being able to see the other on account of the dense brush.

After crossing the river, Newman dispatched a messenger to inform headquarters at Fort Brown of his crossing. The messenger, private of Troop H, lost his horse in the middle of the Rio Grande, and swam to the other side, almost losing his own life. The trail of blood, followed last night by the cavalry, led to the body of a Mexican peon. His only possessions were two bullet holes, a rifle and some ammunition. He carried no papers which might have disclosed his name or affiliations.

SHOULD RICAUT BE AUTHORIZED TO CARRY OUT HIS THREAT SEEMS CERTAIN WAR BE UNAVOIDABLE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] SAN ANTONIO, Tex., June 17.—United States army officers at headquarters here tonight regarded the Mexican situation as most serious. Assuming that the de facto Mexican government would authorize General Alfredo Ricaut to carry out his threat to attack any American force that crossed the line into Mexico, some declared their belief that war was almost unavoidable.

The crisis was reached today when more than 300 men of the Third cavalry crossed the river below Brownsville in pursuit of the bandits that attacked a little detachment of the Twenty-sixth infantry at San Benito last night.

General James Parker, commanding at Brownsville, sent cavalry scouting the country in the vicinity of San Benito on a "hot trail" discovered by Lieutenant Newman, commanding Troop H. The trail led across the river and Lieutenant Newman led his troops across late in the forenoon.

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Consul Garza replied, acknowledging receipt of General Parker's note, adding that he knew what it meant and expressed his deep regret. Army officers here regarded Consul Garza's note as a tacit admission that he believed his government would resent the entrance of this latest punitive expedition, perhaps even to the point of attempting to force it from the country.

General Parker reported to the American troops are being repositioned in sections where surprise attacks might be possible. Outposts in every direction have been withdrawn and detailed to vantage points for protective purposes. While no immediate attack is looked for yet, General Pershing is taking every precaution to protect his command, it is said. It is understood also that General Pershing's instructions to his superiors give him perfect freedom of action in case of attack by the Mexican de facto troops. Meantime, ammunition and supplies were being rushed from Columbus to Namiquipa in huge quantities today and tonight.

DE FACTO FORCE GOES EASTWARD FROM DOUGLAS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] DOUGLAS, June 17.—Eighteen hundred de facto Mexican cavalry men who have been camped for two months at Cucuhua, 25 miles south of here on the Nacozi railroad, started eastward today toward Carrizosa pass, through which they could gain access to Chihuahua, according to Americans arriving from the south, Colonel Gabriel Jimenez is reported in command.

It is claimed officially in Agua Prieta, that these troops are going to Nacozi, but men who say they met them on the road say they were traveling away from Nacozi, riding southeast instead of south.

Excitement is at fever heat in Northern Sonora, rumors concerning the intentions of American troops to invade Mexican territory having gained credence. The civilian population is arming itself, according to official statements of Yves G. Lelequier, Mexican consul here, preparatory to repelling any attempted aggression.

Local feeling is high but well under control of the officials. Added precautions have been taken by the military authorities to prevent any outbreaks on this side of the line in the event of hostilities.

It was currently rumored today and believed by many people, including United States army officers, that General P. Elias Calles will endeavor to hold Sonora in control in the event of a break. This is doubted by well informed Americans in Sonora, who say that even though that were his intention, feeling against Americans has reached such a pitch in the state that he would find it impossible to do so. General Calles' entire force is estimated at from sixteen to twenty thousand men, mostly infantry. The larger part of the army is in central and southern Sonora engaged in the Yaqui Indian campaign.

Mexicans Killed by Yaqui Bands on Sonora River

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] DOUGLAS, June 17.—Four Mexicans were killed and three wounded when Mina Riojo, a small village near Baviacora on the Sonora river, was captured late last week by a band of Yaqui Indians under command of the Mexican renegade Huerto, according to Americans arriving here today. Four other Mexicans were killed the same day at Puerto Tixand, another nearby settlement. Baviacora, which is an important town, was attacked early Friday morning of last week, the Indians succeeding in gaining foothold in the outskirts of the town. Reports are conflicting as to casualties, one report saying that several Mexicans were killed and wounded and another Yaquis merely raided to obtain food.

Trevino's Threat is Taken Seriously by Gen. Pershing

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] COLUMBUS, June 17.—The American punitive expedition in Mexico is sleeping on its arms, prepared for any eventuality. According to reports here tonight, General Jacinto Trevino's threat is taken seriously by the army here, more especially since he occupied the better part of last week reforming his entire line south of Namiquipa.