

GERMAN MILITARY CRITICS SAY CAPTURE GIVES DECISIVE TURN TO ORIENTAL CAMPAIGN.

German military critics say the capture of Kut-el-Amara gives a decisive turn to the whole military situation in the Orient.

RELEASES OTTOMAN ARMY EVENT MARKS DECLINE OF BRITISH PRESTIGE AMONG THE ALLIES, IT IS ASSERTED.

BERLIN (via Amsterdam), April 28.—The news that the main British Mesopotamian army, bottled up by the Turks at Kut-el-Amara, had surrendered caused great rejoicing here.

German military critics had been predicting the fall of Kut-el-Amara for months, and the sudden turn of English press dispatches from high sounding optimism to deep skepticism regarding the situation in Mesopotamia confirmed the belief that the surrender of General Townshend was only a matter of time.

BLOW OF DOUBLE STRENGTH TO THE BRITISH CAMPAIGN

The capture of the British army at Kut-el-Amara is a blow of two-fold strength to the British campaign in Mesopotamia, wall-had Bagdad as its objective.

The loss of the British army, which culminated originally, according to statements made in the House of Commons, of "something more than a division."

The town may now be so fortified and strengthened by the Turks that it will become a well-nigh impassable obstacle on the Tigris to the advance of the British on Bagdad.

The capture of Bagdad, thought so important by the British, they were tempted to advance 400 miles up the swampy banks of the Tigris in one of the hottest countries on earth, would be important not only from a military but from a political standpoint.

End of Ten Months' Campaign. The surrender of General Townshend's army to the Turks is one of the few instances of the war in which an entire fighting unit of important numbers has laid down its arms.

A recent Turkish official bulletin said the position of the British at Kut-el-Amara was critical and that they were expecting to receive small supplies of food by aeroplane.

Up to a late day General Townshend had kept alive the hope that he would be relieved. King George sent a message of encouragement to him several weeks ago, and in a message sent out as late as April 7 the general said he expected to be relieved soon.

Less than a month ago, when the Tigris is a relief army which for months had been attempting to reach the beleaguered forces. A few weeks ago several successes over the Turks were announced, and hope then ran high in England that the mission would succeed.

The Kut-el-Amara disaster is an unfortunate ending to a campaign which for a short time promised to be crowned with remarkable success by the capture of Bagdad.

It was early in June, 1915, that General Townshend, moving northward on his way to Bagdad, captured Kut-el-Amara with the Turkish force of 730 men and the governor.

Led 40,000 Men Northward. Townshend had with him two divisions of Anglo-Indian troops, or a few over 40,000 men. There are no towns deserving the name between Kut-el-Amara and Bagdad, and receiving fresh supplies the following week.



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Committee in Charge of Campaign Satisfied With Results Attained Thus Far, But Is Determined Not to Allow Interest to Lag.

Satisfied with the results achieved thus far but determined that there shall be no lessening of activities, the committee in charge of the movement enters upon the third week of the "clean-up, paint-up" campaign tomorrow.

Co-operating with the committee are hundreds of householders. Washington residents have combined to improve not only their home surroundings but the general sanitary condition of the city.

Start Cleanliness at Home. To the readers of such notices Mr. McGhan offers the following advice: "Clean up your own homes, set an example to your neighbor and incite in him a desire to do likewise."

One effect of the campaign, which will be more noticeable later, is a decrease in the fly population. Particular attention is being given by the workers to the breeding places in stables and out-houses.

Following is the Health Department's indictment against the fly: "Flies are the most dangerous insect known to man. Flies carry the germs of disease and filth or the hair of their bodies and legs as well as on the fuzzy part of their feet. These disease germs and particles of filth are the dangerous

unseen messengers of illness and death that flies leave wherever they visit. Following a close study of flies it was found that the average fly carried more than 40,000 bacteria.

Householders are advised to screen their homes, all foods, especially milk, and the bed of the baby, and those who are ill.

A good fly poison may be made, one-half pint of milk, one-half pint of water, two teaspoonfuls of formaldehyde, and two teaspoonfuls of sugar.

Sticky fly paper can be used to advantage. To clear a room of flies use carbolic acid, heating a shovel and pouring on twenty drops of the poison.

Owners who are contemplating painting their houses are advised to get in their orders early. The painters are busy notwithstanding adverse weather conditions, and it is expected that with the coming of warmer weather the demand for their services will be increased.



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