

WARSHIPS BOMBARD SAMOAN VILLAGES

American and British Forces Join in an Attack Upon Mataafa's Followers

INTENSE FEELING AGAINST GERMAN ELEMENT

Joint Ultimatum of American and British Representatives Ignored by Mataafa, Who Barricades Roadways and Marches Upon the Consulates—Several Shore Villages Destroyed—Stray Shell Wrecks the German Consulate—Intense Excitement in Washington Over the War News From Apia—Feared That Serious Complications May Ensnare.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(Special.)—With a suddenness that astonished all officials, there came to Washington tonight news of a clash in the Pacific ocean that may have the most serious consequences. Warships of the United States and England, acting in concert, in Samoan waters have turned their guns upon the native party upheld by Germany. Many natives are said to have been killed by the bombardment, and casualties are reported on the American and English ships, but these losses, though to be deplored, were of small consequence in the view of officials. Possible international complications come first to mind. England, Germany and the United States are involved and each power, in a way, touching its honor. In public, officials say that the clash has been discounted; that nothing serious is to be anticipated, and that Germany will look upon the matter in the right light; in private it is admitted that the seriousness of the situation cannot be exaggerated. England and the United States, on the one side, and Germany upon the other, it is pointed out, have, in diplomatic effect, come to blows. Wars which have changed the map of Europe have sprung from less serious collisions. It is stated on authority that for the next few days the administration will watch the Samoan situation far more closely than that in the Philippines.

The outcome hinges upon the reception of the news in Berlin. That reception cannot be anticipated. Pacific impulses may, and probably will, prevail. If they do not, for years the great war, which is to be the trial of modern civilization, has been predicted, and some day it must come.

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APIA, Samoan Islands, March 23 (Via Auckland, N. Z., March 29).—The troubles growing out of the election of a king of Samoa have taken a more serious turn and resulted in the bombardment of native villages along the shore by the United States cruiser Philadelphia, Admiral Kautz commanding, and the British cruisers Porpoise and Royalist.

The bombardment has continued intermittently for eight days. Several villages have been burned, and there have been a number of casualties among the American and British sailors and marines. As yet it is impossible to estimate the number of natives killed or injured.

As Mataafa and his chiefs, constituting the provisional government, continued to defy the treaty after the arrival of the Philadelphia, Admiral Kautz summoned the various consuls and the senior naval officers to a conference on board the Philadelphia, when the whole situation was carefully canvassed. The upshot was a resolution to dismiss the provisional government, and Admiral Kautz issued a proclamation calling upon Mataafa and his chiefs to return to their homes. Mataafa evacuated Mullinu, the town he had made his headquarters, and went into the interior.

Herr Rose, the German consul at Apia, issued a proclamation supplementing the one he had issued several weeks before, upholding the provisional government. As a result of this the Matafaas assembled in large force and hemmed in the town.

TROUBLE BEGINS.

The British cruiser Royalist brought the Malletta prisoners from the islands to which they had been transferred by the provisional government. The Americans then fortified Mullinu, where 2,000 Mallettas took refuge. The rebels—the adherents of Mataafa—barricaded the roads within the municipality and seized the British houses. An ultimatum was sent to them, ordering them to evacuate and threatening them, in the event of refusal, with bombardment, to commence at 1 o'clock on the afternoon of March 18. This was ignored, and the rebels commenced an attack in the direction of the United States and British consulates about half an hour before the time fixed for the bombardment. The Philadelphia, Porpoise and Royalist opened fire upon the distant villages. There was great difficulty in locating the enemy, owing to the dense forest, but several shore villages were soon in flames.

A defective shell from the Philadelphia exploded near the American consulate, and the marines outside narrowly escaped. A fragment struck the leg of Private Rudge, shattering it so badly as to necessitate amputation. Another fragment traversed the German consulate, smashing the crockery. The Germans then went on board the German cruiser Falke.

BRITISH SAILORS KILLED.

During the night the rebels made a hot attack on the town, killing three British sailors. A British marine was shot in the leg by a sentry of his own party, another was shot in the foot, and an American sentry was killed at his post. The bombardment continuing, the inhabitants of the town took refuge on board the Royalist, greatly crowding the vessel.

Many people are leaving Samoa, the captain of the Royalist urging them to go, so as not to interfere with the military operations.

The Porpoise has shelled the villages east and west of Apia and captured many boats. The Americans and British are fighting splendidly together, but there is a bitter feeling against the Germans.

Two men, a British and a German subject, have been arrested as spies.

The bombardment of the jungle was for a time very hot.

The British cruiser Tauranga, which, it is said, was intending to annex the Loanga islands (a section of the Friendly Islands in the Pacific) was intercepted at Suva, capital of the Fiji Islands, by order of the home government.

MISSION OF THE TAURANGA.

TONGA ISLANDS, March 23 (via Auckland, N. Z., March 29).—The British cruiser Tauranga arrived here on March 7 under sealed orders on a secret mission. It is surmised that her visit was the result of rumors of an intended German annexation, the cruiser aiming to secure an agreement that if any nation is to annex the Tonga Islands it shall be England. The captain of the Tauranga,

GERMAN VIEW OF IT.

The German view, it can be stated on very eminent authority, is not likely to

which had been clearly apprehended, and had been discussed in advance between the representatives of the three governments. The real crisis, from an international standpoint, occurred. Although relations were greatly strained, it was possible to secure an understanding, which is said to make a breach now reported will not cause a rupture in the relations between the United States and Germany, or between Great Britain and Germany.

WASHINGTON INTERESTED. The details of the bombardment were read with eager interest by leading government and diplomatic officers, who have been most directly concerned in handling the Samoan question. There was nothing of an official character, however, either at the state or navy departments or at the British or German embassy to augment the very full press reports. Upon this officials based their views.

In all quarters there were expressions of concern and surprise at the seriousness and extent of the bombardment and the resulting loss of life. That some overt act would take place has been apprehended for many days, but there was little idea it would take such a broad sweep and lead to such heavy loss of life. In this aspect of the case the actual results were regarded as far more serious than those which had been expected and provided for during the recent diplomatic exchanges between the three governments. Moreover, new elements of international danger had unexpectedly arisen. These included the proclamation of German Consul Rose, which it is believed tended to incite the Mataafa party to an open revolt; also the wounding and killing of British and American sailors, the shooting of an American sentry and the attacks on the several consulates.

These all involve unknown possibilities of serious complication. While they have been guarded against as far as possible by the recent anticipatory exchanges, yet it was felt that the German press and national sentiment might be wrought to a high pitch by the event which has occurred, and that this outburst of popular feeling might overcome the strong efforts of officials to keep the subject within pacific bounds.

ANGLO-AMERICAN ATTITUDE.

In an authoritative quarter the attitude of the British and American officials was stated substantially as follows: It was actually understood between the two governments that the first essential in Samoa was to maintain peace and order. For that reason it was determined that any lawlessness on the part of Mataafa or any other Samoan element, which threatened the lives or property of residents, would be suppressed even though force was required. This was entirely without reference to the rights of the three governments—Great Britain, the United States and Germany—and was merely a rule of self-preservation and peace security. Acting on this understanding Capt. Sturdee, of the Porpoise, gave notice some time ago that he would bombard the Matafaas if there was any outbreak or disorder. This insured quiet for some time, but he has always been ready to use force if it was necessary. It was not proposed to give Samoa over to a reign of anarchy, simply because the German consul officer at Samoa differed with the British and American officers.

Outside of these differences it was proposed to protect life and property at all hazards. When Admiral Kautz visited Samoa, he also had as his first duty to protect life and property and to maintain order.

It is evident that the bloodshed has arisen out of this united effort of the American and British commanders to protect the law-abiding and peaceful elements against the disorderly and rebellious subjects of Mataafa. This is evidenced by Mataafa's action in hemming in the town where the American and British officials resided, also in the attacks on the consulates, and in the general lawlessness which has prevailed since Mataafa began his reign. In short, according to the view of those best acquainted with the subject, the British and American case will rest upon the paramount necessity of preserving peace and order.

STARTLED OFFICIALS.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The news from Samoa that the United States cruiser Philadelphia, and the British cruisers Porpoise and Royalist, had bombarded the towns held by Mataafa, who has thus far had the official support of the German government, came with startling suddenness to officials here, and displaced for the time being the attention given to the fighting around Manila.

The shelling of Mataafa's towns was viewed as of secondary importance, but the deepest interest attached to the attitude of the German government. At first apprehensions were felt that grave international complications might ensue. But those most intimately familiar with the latest official exchanges between Washington, London and Berlin did not take such a gloomy view of the outlook. While recognizing that the bloodshed at Samoa created a very serious and delicate situation, yet it was said to be a situation

raise a direct issue on the position thus laid down by the British and American officials. On the contrary, there is said to be a growing disposition on the part of Germany not to have recourse to force for the difficulties into which he has rected his government. For a time he was sustained, with the natural desire to protect him in the proper discharge of his duties, but the German authorities have not contemplated that he would carry the matter to an open rupture and result in bloodshed. On that account there is good reason to believe that the German government will not sustain Herr Rose, and official information in that direction has already been conveyed.

The diplomatic exchanges leading up to this crisis have been very sharp within the last few days. Early last week the Berlin government received direct information from Samoa. Admiral Kautz had arrived there, and had summoned a meeting of all the officials for March 11. The German authorities felt sure this meeting would result in serious trouble. The Berlin foreign office therefore instructed the German ambassador here, Dr. von Holleben, to present a note embodying Germany's views. It argued that a naval commander had no right to act

VICTORY IN SIGHT

WAR DEPARTMENT EXPERTS SUM UP THE SITUATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

AMERICANS MEET OBSTACLES

ADVANCE NECESSARILY SLOW OWING TO DESTRUCTIVE TACTICS OF ENEMY

ROAD TO MALOLOS IS ROUGH

Filipinos Under Cover Give the Attacking Army Much Annoyance, but Are Simply Delaying the Inevitable Result—Gen. Corbin Discredits Statement That Insurgents Have Abandoned Their Capital at Malolos—End Is in Sight.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The president today discussed with his advisers and called the situation in the Philippines. Assistant Secretary of War Melick and Adj. Gen. Corbin, who have kept close track of the progress of the American army and the condition of the troops, were with him for some time. With them he went over the situation, and expressed his pleasure at the good progress Gen. Otis and his generals had made, though he regretted the loss of life. The dispatch of Gen. Otis received early this morning was not supplemented by any later news. The opinion was given at the war department that Gen. Otis had ample force under his command, and that when the regulars now on their way to Manila reach their destination, there would be little need of retaining the volunteers in service there. No demand for muster out will hold good until the formal ratification of the peace treaty, of course, and when this will be done is not known. The French ambassador, who is acting for Spain, has no information on the subject, and does not know when the treaty will be signed here.

When Gen. Otis reported to the war department early today that at 10 o'clock this morning the American troops, under Gen. MacArthur, again took up their advance, there was renewed expectation of fighting and decisive developments. Gen. Otis' dispatch covered much ground, not only in showing the position of our forces, but also the extent of the advance covered yesterday. The halt and rest of yesterday, for instance, was a long advance, for instead of a long, continued fight with jaded troops and exhausted supplies, Gen. MacArthur began practically a new advance today, with his men refreshed and well supplied.

ROAD TO MALOLOS.

Maj. Simpson, who is closely following the movement of the troops by means of the military map, regarded Gen. Otis' dispatch as showing that the plan today was to reach Biga, seven miles from Malolos, and there wait until tomorrow for the final advance on Malolos. The march cut out for today covers about seven miles. The two towns mentioned, Bocave and Biga, are the only ones along the line of march, and they are small pueblos. There is, however, a constant procession of haciendas and plantations, showing that the road lies through a rather fertile country.

There are two natural obstacles lying along the route—the Marilao river and further on the Bulacan river. The bridge over the Marilao river has been burned, but all reports indicate that the engineers have succeeded in repairing it. Biga is just beyond the Bulacan river, so that Gen. Otis' report that MacArthur's advance "will continue to Biga" was construed at the war department to mean that the two rivers would be passed before today's advance closed. Being seven miles from Malolos our force can either cover that distance tomorrow or else turn southward to reduce the large city of Bulacan on the left.

The expectation here is that they will keep on to Malolos, and that tomorrow night will see them near the insurgent capital. In the meantime the indications are that the fighting will not be as severe as it was Saturday and Sunday, for Gen. Otis' dispatch of this morning says: "Enemy's resistance not so vigorous today." This is attributed to the fact that our forces are now in a more open country, where the methods of guerrilla fighting are not so readily executed.

SITUATION SUMMED UP.

The report that the enemy has destroyed the railway and telegraph lines compels our engineers practically to build a railroad and telegraph line as our troops advance.

An official of the war department summed up the military situation as follows: "The troops are in excellent spirits. Full supplies are on hand, and the supply trains are keeping abreast of the men. The enemy is losing heart, and falling back, and tonight we will be within seven miles of the enemy's capital."

Gen. Corbin does not credit the report that the insurgents have abandoned their capital and have removed back to San Fernando. He bases this conclusion on the fact that Gen. Otis has reported no such movement, and he doubts whether he is quick to report any move of such vital importance. His reports thus far are considered very comprehensive and intelligent.

IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.

Missouri Murderer Tosses Gallows That Are Far Reaching.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., March 29.—The Missouri house this afternoon passed the bill making the contract rate of interest 7 per cent, a reduction of from 8 per cent. The bill provides also that property sold under mortgage for a note satisfies the debt in full.

The house also passed a bill which practically abolishes department stores in the state. The bill applies to cities of over 10,000 inhabitants. It divides goods into seventy-three classes and places a license tax of \$50 on each class, and stores to carry all classes must pay a tax of \$25,000.

ALL ON BOARD LOST

STEAMER ROWENA LEE EXPLODES HER BOILERS AND SINKS

PASSENGERS AND CREW LOST

NEW MADRID, Mo., March 23.—The steamer Rowena Lee, with about thirty passengers aboard, beside her crew, exploded opposite Tyler about 10 o'clock this afternoon, and immediately sank, with all on board except Capt. Garvell and one of the crew. The steamer left Cairo with sixteen passengers bound for Memphis. At Caruthersville, Mo., she landed and took aboard fifteen more passengers. It is estimated that with passengers and crew she then had aboard about fifty people. She made the next landing at Tyler, Mo., and at 4 o'clock this afternoon backed into mid-stream from Tyler to proceed on her journey.

The steamer had just reached the middle of the river when she suddenly stopped and lurched as if a snag had been struck. The next moment the boat parted in the middle, a volume of steam and debris arose and the detonation of an explosion thundered over the water.

The river is running very high and the steamer immediately sank with all on board, but the captain and one of the crew. They clung to the wreckage and were saved by boats.

The Lee was manned by the following crew: Captain, George Carvell; first clerk, L. T. Booker; second clerk, Gus Mitchell; third clerk, Sam Lewis; pilots, Sid Smith and Ed Banks; mates, John Christy and Patrick Flanagan; engineers, Albert Calder and Frank Stull; steward, George W. Todd; mail clerk, M. L. Kelly; Theodore Hunn, barkeeper; Logomarsino, barkeeper; William Hight, colored, deck barkeeper.

At Ferris, of Hickman, Ky., was a passenger on the vessel.

Most of the crew live in Memphis. The number of passengers cannot be learned.

The boat was the property of the Lees, at Memphis. It is stated that she had sixty people on board, including her deck hands. Tyler is 125 miles below here.

WAS A MAGNIFICENT VESSEL.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 23.—The steamer Rowena Lee was owned by the Lee line, of Memphis, and was one of the most magnificent passenger steamers in the Mississippi river trade. She plied between Memphis and Cairo. News of the sinking of the Lee spread like wildfire in Memphis. Most of the crew lived here. As to the passenger list of the ill-fated vessel, nothing can be obtained at the Memphis office of the company tonight. An effort has been made to get the names of those passengers who embarked at Cairo, but this list had not been received at a late hour tonight.

From local river men it was ascertained that the Rowena Lee carried a cabin crew of about fifteen officers and a deck crew numbering about thirty. Taking the figures and a fair number of passengers taken on at Cairo and other points, it can easily be reasoned that at least

BULLETIN OF IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY.

Weather Forecast For St. Paul. Fair, North Winds.

1—Fierce Fighting at Manila. Samoan Towns Bombarded. Status in Philippines.

2—Bounty Law Invalid. Eagle Street Site Opposed. Teachrae is Said.

3—The Legislative Session. House in Joking Mood. State Prison Janket.

4—Editorial. Disorder at Brussels.

5—Sporting News. Army Beef Inquiry.

6—Markets of the World. Bar Silver, 89 1-2c. Stocks Weaker.

7—Minneapolis Matters. News of the Northwest.

8—In the Field of Labor. Return of the Fifteenth. News of the Railroads.

ATLANTIC LINERS.

NEW YORK—Arrived: Majestic, Liverpool. Sailed: Nordland, Antwerp; Kaiser Wilhelm II., Genoa.

SOUTHAMPTON—Arrived: St. Louis, New York. Sailed: Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, New York; Lahn, New York.

PHILADELPHIA—Sailed: Netherland, New York.

QUEENSTOWN—Arrived: Teutonic, New York.

ROTTERDAM—Arrived: Edam, New York.

LIVERPOOL—Sailed: Pennland, Philadelphia; Catalonia, Boston.

TODAY'S EVENTS.

METROPOLITAN—"A Bachelor's Honymoon," 8:15 P.M.

GRAND—"A Midnight Bell," 8:15 P.M. Palm Garden—Yaudiville, 2 and 8 P.M. Women's Civic Federation, Commercial club, 8 P.M.

Lecture, Central Park Church, 8 P.M. Noonday Talk, Commercial club, D. L. Kingsbury, 1 P.M.

MANILA, March 29.—The American army advanced at 6 o'clock this morning, sweeping onward three miles before 10 o'clock, and driving the rebels beyond Bocave to the west of Bulacan and on the railroad leading to Malolos. Our troops met with but slight resistance. The Filipinos fired volleys yesterday evening for the purpose of drawing the American fire, and disclosing the locality of our position. Two of the Pennsylvania regiment and one man belonging to the Dakota regiment were wounded. The Americans remained silent.

SCENES OF DESOLATION.

The country between Marilao and Manila presents a picture of desolation. Smoke is curling from hundreds of ash heaps, and the remains of trees and fences torn by shrapnel are to be seen everywhere. The general appearance of the country is as if it had been swept by

dead, apparently from fright and hunger. The American forces met with strong opposition in the jungle. First one Nebraska, then one Pennsylvania, and afterwards two of the Montana regiments were killed. Thirty-five were wounded, including one officer of the Kansas regiment. The rebels burned the villages as they retreated in bad order towards Malolos. The enemy also tore up sections of the railroad in many places and attempted to burn the bridge at Biga, but the fire was extinguished, owing to the timely arrival of the Americans. The rebels had not finished their trenches along the line of today's march, showing they were not prepared for our advance. It is believed, however, that there will be a hard fight before Malolos is taken.

THIRTEENTH TO THE FRONT.

The Minnesota regiment re-enforced the division today, marching from the waterworks during the night to Manila and going to the front by train.

BURNING OF BULACAN.

The insurgents have burned Bulacan and retired from that stronghold. Evidently the attack on it by the army garrisons and the approach of the American army on the land side convinced the insurgents that the city was no longer tenable. It is also apparent that Aguinaldo's army is in great fear of being surrounded and captured or exterminated in a body. Information received in Manila today indicates that the Filipino congress and all the officers of the government who are not with the retreating and discomfited army have fled from Malolos and established a new capital at San Fernando, twenty miles northwest of Malolos and forty-five miles from Manila, in the province of Pampanga. It is

a cyclone. The roads are strewn with furniture and clothing dropped in flight by the Filipinos. The only persons remaining behind are a few aged persons, too feeble to escape. They camp beside the ruins of the former homes, and beg passers-by for any kind of assistance. The majority of them are living on the generosity of our soldiers, who give them portions of their rations. The dogs of the Filipinos cover in the bushes, still terrified and barking, while hundreds of pigs feed to be seen busily searching for food. Bodies of dead Filipinos are straggling in the shallows of the river or are resting in the jungles where they crawled to die or were left in the wake of the hurriedly retreating army. These bodies give forth a horrible odor, but there is no time at present to bury them.

FLED IN A PANIC.

The inhabitants who fled from Marilao and Meycauayan left in such a panic and in such a hurry that they were unable to take their valuables, and in the rooms were trunks containing other property of value. This was the case in most of the houses deserted. They were not molested by our soldiers, but the Chinese, who slipped in after the armies, are looting when they can, and have taken possession of several houses, over which they raise the Chinese flag, some of which were torn down.

A colored woman was found hidden in a house at Meycauayan yesterday, just

now expected that Malolos will be captured by the Americans within a day or two.

ATTACKING FILIPINOS ROUTED.

The attack of a force of rebels on the Americans north of the Marilao river yesterday afternoon was remarkable in being the first engagement since the movement northward began which was brought on by the insurgents as the aggressors. It was 5:30 o'clock when the attack opened. The Third artillery occupied a position to the left of the railway, while the position of the Nebraska troops was concealed by woods on the extreme right of the American line. The insurgents came into sight two miles from the Americans, emerging from the woods and

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FIERCE FIGHTING ON WAY TO MALOLOS

American Troops Cross the Bulacan River Under a Galling Fire

CASUALTIES FOR THE DAY NUMBERED SEVENTY

Gen. McArthur's Brigade Within Three Miles of the Filipino Capital—Artillery Pushed Across a Bridge by Hand, While Mules Were Forced Through the Water Against Stubborn Resistance—Filipinos Yield Only When Superiority of American Courage Compel—Are Now in Full Retreat—Burning of Bulacan—Scenes of Desolation.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The following advices from Manila were received by the war department tonight.

Manila, March 30.—Adjutant General, Washington. Gen. MacArthur advanced at 6 yesterday (Wednesday) morning from Marilao. He passed rapidly to Bocave, and at 11:45 took up the advance for Biga, and at 3:15 in the afternoon for Guiguinto, three and one-half miles from Malolos, reaching that point at 5 o'clock. Casualties for the day seventy. There was fierce fighting in the afternoon. The troops made the crossing of the Bulacan river at Guiguinto by working artillery over the railroad bridge by hand, and swimming mules against fierce resistance. The column will pass on the railroad to the extreme front, which is nearly repaired, and will resupply troops today. —Otis.

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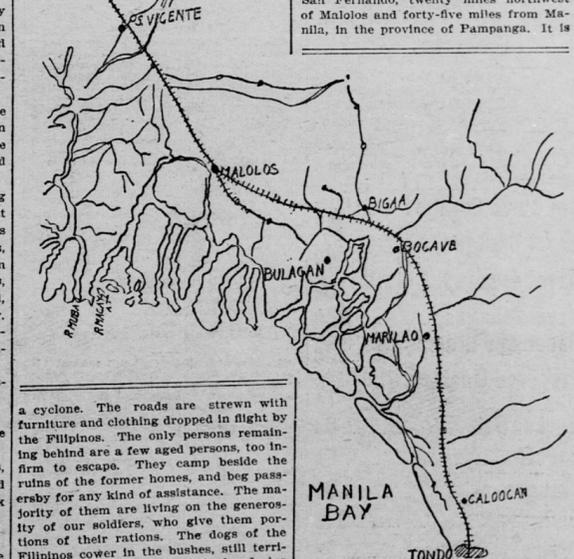
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Map showing the position of San Fernando, Malolos, Bulacan, Marilao, and Manila Bay, reported to be the new seat of the insurgent government.

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