



U. S. Steamer Sinks U-Boat; Mongolia Fires First Shot in War Against Germany

Explosion on Submarine as Shell from Navy Gun Lands

Caught Craft Rising to Surface

Had Stern Battery Trained After Attempt to Ram Submersible Failed

(By Cable to the Tribune)

London, April 25.—Six days ago, off the English coast, the liner Mongolia, east-bound, fired the first American shot in the war with Germany, and instantly sank a hostile U-boat. This happened at 5:24 a. m., April 19, on the 112d anniversary of the Battle of Lexington.

The American steamship Mongolia was approaching the southeastern coast of England. It was a heavy merchant ship. Captain Rice, who had not taken off his clothes for five days, had just stepped out of the chart-room with Naval Gunner Lieutenant Bruce Ware, U. S. N.

This is the way Captain Rice tells what followed:

"We suddenly heard an exclamation from the chief officer: 'There's a submarine off the port bow!' Immediately we rushed for the bridge, where we had spent most of the voyage, and practically simultaneously we saw a submarine periscope on the port side, about 200 yards away.

Tried to ram U-boat

"Only about three feet of the periscope showed, but I realized instantaneously she had only to fire once to blow us sky-high, with our 600 feet of target exposed. Automatically I swung the helm right around, hoping to ram her. This seemed our only chance of not being hit amidships. I thought the torpedo might pass alongside.

"She realized my intention instantly. She dived and also swung around, whether to avoid our attack or to manoeuvre into a better position for torpedoing, I can't say. At any rate we followed her around, watching the swirling water caused by her motion, as the periscope disappeared.

"Then she came up, expecting to be able to attack us on the port side. But we were going full speed ahead, and in the two minutes before she emerged we had put her a thousand yards back of us. The stern gun was trained full on her, and almost the instant she reappeared Lieutenant Bruce Ware gave the order and then—"Fire!"

"We saw the six-inch shell hit the water clean and fair on the periscope. Shell and submarine disappeared. There was an explosion, of course, and for some minutes the surrounding area was covered with smoke. We didn't fire again.

Shot Hit Hull or Periscope

"Naturally, there isn't any actual legal proof that we got the U-boat, as we didn't recover any wreckage or bodies, but there was the tell-tale oil on the water. I believe we either hit the periscope directly or struck the hull almost at the water level.

"I can't praise highly enough the cool, easy way Lieutenant Bruce handled his gun crews. It was about the best exhibition of efficiency I have ever seen. There was no guesswork about that shot—just a case of applied mathematics. Lieutenant Bruce knew before the shell struck that it would reach home, for he had computed the speed at which we were travelling and our direction with the speed and direction of the submarine. In the two minutes that elapsed from the moment we first saw the enemy the lieutenant had that gun trained to an inch.

"Our crew just howled with delight when they saw the splash, and the gun crew were proud men. We certainly had some fine guns and gunners. On the way over the crews practised daily on oil cans and barrels which they threw over the side. The second day they hit a can a mile and a half away on the second shot.

Named Gun for Roosevelt

"Our guns forward were named the George and Martha Washington and the one aft, which scored the hit, had been christened Teddy Roosevelt—so Teddy fired the first shot of the war after all.

"Just before we saw the submarine we had been taking soundings, as we were getting into shallow water. I think she was probably lying on the bottom and came up when she heard our propellers. I can assure you we didn't linger to reconnoitre the spot. We steamed away at full speed, sending a wireless message that a submarine had been seen. I imagine there might have been another of those U-boats in that neighborhood."

Captain Rice smiled reminiscently as he finished his story, adding: "And back home in Allston, Mass., where I come from, the folks were celebrating the anniversary of the Battle of Lexington."

Mongolia's Shot Makes T. R. Glad

"Thank Heaven some Americans have begun to hit back! We have been at the receiving end of the war that Germany has been waging against us for altogether too long."

Colonel Roosevelt was speaking in his home at Sagamore Hill—a flushed, happy Colonel whose voice held the ring of pride as he talked of the gun crew of the Mongolia and the work they did with the rifle they had named after him.

All the joy of a godfather in the feat of an animate godson was in the former President's face and manner as he spoke. His big hands clasped and unclasped as though he himself were grasping the trigger that proved to German U-boats that vessels flying the United States flag are not always "meek targets."

"I am greatly rejoiced," he said; "I congratulate the captain, the gunners and all the crew of the Mongolia."

There was something more than impersonal exultation in the Colonel's speech. For he knows Captain Rice, the plucky skipper of the Mongolia.

"He is a splendid type of man," he exclaimed, "he is one of the sort that may add fame to America from the bridge of our naval auxiliaries."

This is not Captain Rice's first experience in sea warfare. He was quartermaster upon the St. Louis, when she

was rechristened the Harvard, and entered the naval service during the Spanish-American war. It was he who wigwagged the signal that recalled Admiral Sampson, when Cervera's squadron broke out of Santiago Bay.

Captain Rice, the third of his name, was born in Boston in 1877. His family has fought in every war since the French and Indian days. He received his nautical training on board the Massachusetts schooner Enterprise and was graduated in 1897.

He then became quartermaster on the St. Louis, on which he served throughout the Spanish-American War, and was then transferred to the Finland as fourth officer. In 1904 he resigned and entered the Pacific service as third officer on the Minnesota. He became first officer of the Manchuria, and a few months later captain of the Mongolia, her sister ship. This was in 1912, and he was then the youngest captain in the United States merchant marine.

Captain Rice has been decorated by the Emperor of Japan for his courageous work in saving the lives of five shipwrecked Japanese sailors. He was also chosen to guide the first merchant ship through the Panama Canal, in the celebration which was postponed because of the war.

London, April 25.—Adjournment of the Reichstag until May 2 after a brief and tumultuous session yesterday is reported in a Central News dispatch from Amsterdam.

Reichstag, Amid Greater U-Boat War Is Indicated By British Losses

Philip Scheidemann, Socialist leader, expressed regret that the Reichstag should be convened and then adjourned almost immediately. Georg Ledebour, leader of the Social Democrats, said that regret was not enough. He demanded that the Reichstag should meet to-day for discussion of the food problem.

"Thousands of workmen," he said, "have been forced to abandon work owing to their distress."

Herr Ledebour's words caused an uproar. Permission to continue his speech was refused.

Only the vaguest sort of dispatches are being allowed to come out of Germany. The conservative "Deutsche Tageszeitung," according to a Copenhagen dispatch based on an item in the "National Tidende,"

Social Democrat Leader Causes Tumult by Demanding Food Discussion

London, April 25.—German U-boats apparently have started a gigantic new drive. They operated more successfully against British shipping last week than at any time since the ruthless warfare was decreed, according to the official statement made public here to-day. Forty vessels of more than 1,600 tons were sunk and fifteen of less than that tonnage were sent to the bottom. These figures are more than double those given for any previous week. During the first two weeks of the ruthless warfare the percentage of loss among ships arriving and departing was 1.04. Last week it was 1.07. It has been as low as 0.43.

The loss among the larger ships includes two destroyed during the week ending April 15, while one of the smaller craft was sunk in the week ending April 1. Nine fishing vessels were also sunk.

On the other hand, the list of vessels unsuccessfully attacked is almost doubled. Twenty-seven merchantmen beat off the U-boats. Hitherto in any given week never more than nineteen vessels have been unsuccessfully attacked.

Last week 2,586 ships came into British ports and 2,612 cleared. Previous records of ships lost by mine or submarine were as follows:

Over 1,600 tons	Under 1,600 tons
Feb. 28.....15	6
March 7.....14	9
March 14.....13	34
March 21.....16	8
March 28.....18	7
April 4.....18	14
April 11.....17	2
April 18.....19	9

Meet May 2 to Revise German Constitution

Copenhagen, April 25, 12:45 a. m.—The German Reichstag Committee for the Revision of the Constitution will meet for organization May 2.

The parties interested in the immediate commencement of the reform work had hoped that the committee would organize yesterday, but the Conservatives and other parties playing for time delayed the selection of their representatives on the committee.

German Socialists Blamed for Strikes

Amsterdam, April 25.—At a meeting of the Reichstag Auxiliary Service Committee Count Westarp, leader of the Conservatives, welcomed General Groener's declaration that further attempts to interfere with munitions would be ruthlessly suppressed.

Count Westarp intimated that money had played a part in the strike and accused the Socialist minority of playing the game of Germany's enemies. He denied that the trouble was caused by lack of food.

The Socialists indignantly denied the insinuation and placed the blame for the strike on the administration of the Spandau works, the decrease in the bread ration and the agrarian policy. One speaker declared that the agrarians, owing to the high price of cattle, fed them with bread and corn, which the munitions workers could not obtain.

Too Soon for German Revolt, Says Cambon

Paris, April 25.—Julius Cambon, General Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said to American newspaper correspondents to-day:

"I agree with James W. Gerard, the former American Ambassador to Germany, in his recent statement that the Allies should put no faith in prospects of an internal revolution in Germany."

M. Cambon said he felt that final realization of complete defeat would undoubtedly lead to a more liberal and more democratic regime.

Agitation for Overthrow of Hollweg Is Resumed

Copenhagen, April 25.—The movement to overthrow Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is again evident in Germany. The agitation is encouraged by disensions over internal reforms, possible peace terms and food troubles.

The Pan-German, Conservative and National Liberal organs are sharply campaigning against the Socialist peace programme and take the Chancellor severely to task for not dissociating himself and his administration from Scheidemann and his propaganda.

The Conservative "Deutsche Tageszeitung," says only a strong hand can save the country from the breakers to which it is heading on the dangerous Scheidemann course. The Liberal organs speak of the hopes and fears that ruthless submerging has introduced and declare that a strong and positive policy at home and abroad is much needed.

Other papers accuse the Chancellor of stalling and losing the imperial prestige on the Emperor's Easter manifesto, which failed to satisfy any party.

Von Bethmann-Hollweg's strength lies in the fact that his enemies have no points of unity in their general discontent.

Reports from the Berlin Socialist conference indicate that there is trouble, too, in the ranks of the Socialist majority and that Scheidemann is having increasing difficulty in keeping them in line in what has virtually been the principal government party.

The administration is evidently having no happy time in facing the conflicting demands of its Socialist friends and junker enemies. The evident shakiness of Austria-Hungary is another source of concern and the encouraging assurances which the Clemenceau has been accustomed to receive in times of trouble from press and Parliament are this time lacking.

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Picture of Mongolia and other details of her voyage on page 8.

France Day Celebrated Today at Cafe Lafayette and Hotel Brevoort.

EACH HOUR'S DELAY



Massed German Columns Wilt Under British Blows on Scarpe

Haig's Troops Advance Over Battlefield Strwn with Enemy Dead—Fifteen Teuton Aers Winged—Prisoners Increased to 3,000

London, April 25.—The British and German armies on the banks of the Scarpe are still locked in the deadliest combat of the war before the Hindenburg switch-line running through Queant and Droocourt—the Watan line.

Shouldering their way against savage counter attacks, General Haig's troops made a little progress during the day on the south bank of the Scarpe, and last night captured the hamlet of Billhem, east of Trecault and beyond the Havincourt Wood. Since Monday 3,029 German prisoners, including 56 officers, have been captured.

The British night communique emphasizes the violence of the fighting. "Many thousand German dead," it says, "are lying on the battlefield which we now occupy."

In the air the battle is developing a greater intensity. British fliers are cruising for back of the German lines and harassing their communications.

In one of these raids to-day a large bomb dropped on the engine of a motor train, blowing it clear off the track and wrecking the cars. Hostile columns advancing toward the front and transport detachments were attacked by airmen flying low and scattered with machine gun fire.

Wherever German machines have risen British airmen have engaged them. Fifteen German aeroplanes were sent crashing to the ground and two observation balloons destroyed. Six British machines are missing. The weather continues clear and bright.

German raiding parties southwest of Lens were sharply repulsed, as were thrusts southeast of Ypres. These divisions have not affected the main battle in the Scarpe valley. Here Hindenburg feels an immediate menace against his principal secondary defence, and is resorting once more to mass attacks to gain time for the construction of his rear defences.

Around the key positions of Monchy the fighting has been of particular ferocity. This forward salient created by the British is literally soaked with German blood.

Apparently the German effort to retake the lost positions has died out only because of sheer exhaustion. The fighting is no longer from the trenches. Aside from patches of wood, the only

China Governors Vote to Declare War on Germany

Peking, April 25.—At a conference of provincial and military governors, at which the Premier presided, it was voted unanimously that China should enter the war against Germany.

A canvass shows that parliament is overwhelmingly in favor of China declaring war, but President Li Yuan Hung is still undecided on the question.

German Flotilla Sinks French Boat

Paris, April 25.—A German destroyer flotilla bombarded Dunkirk between 2:15 and 2:25 this morning," says an official statement. "The coast batteries replied, and British and French patrol ships engaged the enemy, who retreated in the direction of Ostend at great speed.

"One of our torpedo boats was sunk in the brief action. The enemy's losses are not known."

Earl of Suffolk Killed; Married Daisy Leiter

London, April 25.—Henry Molyneux Paget Howard, nineteenth Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, has been killed in action.

The Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire was born in 1877 and succeeded his father to the title in 1898. In 1904 he married Margaret Hyde ("Daisy") Leiter, youngest daughter of the late Levy Z. Leiter, of Chicago and Washington, and sister of the late Lady Curzon, wife of Earl Curzon of Kedleston.

Nineteenth Nobleman of Line Meets Death in Action

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Food Troubles in Sweden

Copenhagen, April 25.—New food demonstrations at Stockholm are reported by the "Dagens Nyheter." The military commander issued an order forbidding the soldiers to attend a Socialist meeting. Despite this order, however, several hundred soldiers participated in a great meeting.

Food demonstrations have also occurred at Upsala, forty-five miles from Stockholm.

Tanlac—and the Twin McDuffies

P. C. McDuffie, president of the Atlanta Ad Men's Club, is an impartial individual who would of course never allow either his name or that of the club to be used in connection with misleading advertising.

P. C. McDuffie, as attorney for and staunch defender of that up-and-doing quack cure-all Tanlac, is quite the opposite to his austere other self, says

Samuel Hopkins Adams in next Sunday's Tribune.

Mr. Adams's startling article will interest every Tribune reader and every man who seeks to uphold the standard of truthful publicity. Don't miss it. It's a wise forethought to tell your dealer to-day to save your Sunday Tribune.

Balfour Seeks No War Treaty; Asks Only Co-operation

Marshal Joffre, Idol of France, Gets Ovation at Capital

Washington Grooms War Mission with Cheers—To Meet the President To-day

Trust U. S. to See It Through

Thanks Americans, Praises Joffre and Revels in Lighted Streets

Washington, April 25.—The French war mission to the United States, headed by Rene Viviani, Minister of Justice and Vice-Premier, and Marshal Joseph Joffre, hero of the Marne and popular idol of the people of France, was welcomed to Washington to-day with heartfelt enthusiasm.

To-night, after being greeted by American officials and hailed as illustrious friends by thousands of people who lined the streets while they crossed the city, the commissioners are at the home of Henry White, former Ambassador to France, as the guests of the United States Government.

To-morrow the leading members, M. Viviani, Marshal Joffre and Admiral Chocheprat, will be received by President Wilson, and later there will be preliminary conferences between the representatives of the French and American military and naval chiefs. Before night the Administration will have in its possession at least a broad outline of France's view of American participation in the war.

In appreciation of the French government's action in sending to the United States as members of its mission such distinguished citizens, Secretary Lansing issued this statement:

"It is very gratifying to this government and to the people that we should have as our guests such distinguished representatives of the French Republic as arrived this noon. In sending men who so fully represent the French government and people, we have the very best evidence of the spirit and feeling of France toward the United States. We can assure the French people that we reciprocate this spirit which induced them to send these commissioners and rejoice that the two great nations are battling side by side for the liberty of mankind."

Heads Bared at Mount Vernon

The leading members of the mission, coming up from Hampton Roads aboard the Presidential yacht Mayflower, had their first view of the national capital from a point on the Potomac River below Alexandria, soon after Mount Vernon had been passed. As the Mayflower came abreast at the home of the first President the Marine Band played "The Star-Spangled Banner," and the Frenchmen lined the rail with heads bared and stood at attention.

Soon afterward the navy yard was reached, and there the party was received by a group of American officials, headed by Secretary Lansing. The Secretary led the ceremony by shaking hands first with M. Viviani and Marshal Joffre and then with the other officials. Once ashore the party quickly entered motor cars and drove across the city to the residence where its members are to be entertained during their stay here.

Two troops of United States Cavalry acted as escort for the mission through the streets and other regulars were stationed about the White house. Secret Service men are quartered near by, and a searchlight has been erected so that its ray can be directed upon the entrance to the house. Every precaution to insure the safety of the party has been taken.

Mr. Viviani took a long walk through the residential section of the city during the afternoon, quietly enjoying Washington in its springtime garb.

Marshal Joffre spent the afternoon motoring through Rock Creek Park, at the edge of the city. The Marquis de Chambren, grandson of General Lafayette, called upon several old friends. Meanwhile the five staff officers and technical experts, who left Fortress Monroe by train this morning, had arrived and taken up quarters at a hotel. The entire party dined later at the White House.

Call on President To-day

To-morrow morning Mr. Viviani, Marshal Joffre, Admiral Chocheprat and the Marquis de Chambren, accompanied by the staff officers, will call upon Secretary Lansing. Later Mr. Viviani, Marshal Joffre and Admiral Chocheprat will cross with the Secretary from the State Department to the Capitol to call upon Vice-President Marshall.

The entire party will be guests of honor at a dinner at the White House in the evening.

The military, naval and financial experts expect to hold several preliminary conferences with American officials during the day. They hope to get down to the serious business of their mission by Friday.

No plans for the members of the commission to visit other cities of the United States have yet been made.

No Public or Secret Entanglement Planned, British Chief Says

Washington, April 25.—Complete understanding of America's attitude in the war—unreserved cooperation in the fight of democracy against the German military menace without entangling political alliances—was expressed by Foreign Minister Balfour, head of the British War Commission, in a statement to-day to newspaper correspondents.

"I am told," said Mr. Balfour, "that there are some doubting critics who seem to think that the object of the missions of Great Britain and France is to inveigle the United States out of its traditional policy and to entangle it in a formal alliance, secret or public, with European powers. I cannot imagine any rumor with less foundation, nor can I imagine any policy so utterly unnecessary. Our confidence in the assistance which we are going to get from this community is not based upon such considerations as those which arise out of formal treaties."

The Foreign Minister's statement was officially stated to have been made as a result of his conferences during the last few days with President Wilson and Secretary Lansing. It was generally regarded as disposing finally of suggestions in some quarters that the United States might be asked to sign a treaty not to make a separate peace.

Thanks People of U. S. For Warm Reception

"Gentlemen: I am very much obliged to you for coming here to-day and giving me the opportunity of expressing to you personally, and through you to the great American people, how very deeply we who belong to this mission sent from Britain value the kindness, the enthusiasm, the warmth of welcome which we have received in this capital city of the United States. All our hearts are gratified and touched personally. We are even more deeply touched by it as being the outward and visible manifestation of sympathetic emotion in carrying out and responding to a great call, which is the real security for our success.

"No man who has had the opportunity which I have enjoyed in the last few days of seeing, hearing and talking to leading members of your state can for one moment doubt the full determination of the American people to throw themselves into the greatest conflict which has ever been waged in this world.

Americans Not Aware Of What War Really Is

"I do not suppose that it is possible for you—I am sure it would not be possible for me were I in your place—to realize in detail, in concrete detail, all that this war means to those who have been engaged in it for now two years and a half. That is a feeling which comes and can only come by actual experience. We on the other side of the Atlantic have been living in an atmosphere of war since August, 1914, and you cannot move about the streets—you cannot go about your daily business, even if your affairs be dissociated from the war itself, without having evidences of the war brought to your notice every moment.

"I arrived here on Sunday afternoon and went out in the evening after dark, and I was struck by a somewhat unusual feeling which at the first moment I did not analyze; and suddenly it came upon me that this was the first time for two years and a half or more in which I had seen a properly lighted street. There is not a street in London, there is not a street in any city of the United Kingdom, in which, after dark, the community is not wrapped in a gloom exceeding that which must have existed before the institution of gas or electric lighting.

"But that is a small matter, and I only mention it because it happened to strike me as one of my earliest experiences in this city.

Melancholy List of War; Law's Son an Example

"Of course, the more tragic side of war is never and cannot ever be absent from our minds. I saw with great regret this morning in the newspaper that the son of Mr. Bonar Law, our Chancellor of the Exchequer, was wounded and missing in some of the operations now going on in Palestine, and I instinctively cast my mind back to the losses of this war in all circles. But as an illustration it seems to me impressive.

"I went over the melancholy list, and

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