third bureau. No. 12815, general headquarters, September 21.

"Secret order for northern and middle army groups.

"To all sentinels must be imparted, possibly in the interim, with the enormous force of the blow which will be executed by the French and British armies.

"In the operations will be included part thirty-five divisions under General Castelnau, eight divisions under General Foch, thirteen English divisions and fifteen cavalry divisions among which are five English. Further prepared to enter the battle are thirteen infantry divisions and the Belgian army.

"Three-quarters of the French forces will participate in the central battle, helped by 2000 heavy and 300,000 field guns. The effectives, munitions are now larger than at the beginning of the war.

"All the preliminary conditions for certain success have now been made. It will be remembered that only fifteen divisions and 350 heavy guns entered into the last offensive near Arras.

(Signed) JOFFRE."

ITALIANS STORM STRONG POSITION ON RIVA FRONT

Pregasina, in Trentino, Is Captured From Austrians After Bitter Fighting Under Murderous Artillery Fire.

BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.

Rome, Oct. 17 (via Paris, 11:36 a. m.)—The Italians have stormed Pregasina, an important advanced position of the Riva defenses in Trentino, according to an official communication issued today.

The communication is from the general headquarters of the Italian army and is dated October 17. It says:

"By a bold and well conducted operation our troops took by storm the strong position of Pregasina, an important advanced point of the Riva group of fortifications in the rugged mountainous zone to the west of Lake Garda.

"The action began on the night of the 13th. While on the eastern side of the lake our detachments advanced from the rocks of Monte Altissimo for the purpose of making a demonstration on the western side, the troops destined for the attack made for Pregasina, and notwithstanding the difficult ground, the unfavorable atmospheric conditions and the violent fire of the strong batteries of the Riva works, succeeded in advancing close to the enemy's trenches.

"During the night our detachments, under cover of a thick fog, boldly approached the barbed wire entanglements and made several large breaches in them. On the morning of the 14th, the attack was resumed under a murderous fire from rifles and artillery and bombs.

"Our troops captured Pregasina and advanced victoriously on the heights which dominate to the north of the country the valley of Ledro and established themselves firmly thereon.

"On the remainder of the front there has been no important occurrence."

VIENNA CONTRADICTS REPORTS FROM ROME

Vienna, Oct. 17 (via London, Oct. 18, 1:28 a. m.)—The official communication issued by the war office today says:

"Russian theater: On the brink of Kormin strong Russian attacks were repulsed. Otherwise in the northeast there is nothing of importance to report.

"Italian theater: After strong artillery attacks by the Italians commenced yesterday morning several attacks on the northwestern sector of the plateau of Doberdo. All of them failed before our entanglements. The enemy suffered great losses and retired to his former positions.

"A new attack in the afternoon was stopped by our artillery fire. During the evening and night enemy infantry attempted further attacks which failed. The attacking troops included three or four regiments of infantry.

"Further north our positions on the bridgehead of Gorizia and Tolmino stood the whole day against terrific artillery firing. The enemy threw aerial bombs on a part of the bridgehead of Tolmino.

"In Carinthia and Tyrol there were local heavy artillery combats.

"Southeastern theater: Austro-Hungarian and German battalions stormed yesterday in an encircling attack from the north and west of the Serbian positions on the Avala mountains. Austrian troops advanced on both sides of the road from Belgrade to Gorska and captured the heights of Veliko, Malinovo and Pasalitsa.

"The Bulgarians crossed the Timok below Zajecar and stormed the heights of Dragoslovo, east of Knjazevac, capturing the armament and eight guns. Their army is in close pursuit."

JOFFRE NEITHER EATS NOR SLEEPS FOR 22 HOURS

BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.

Paris, Oct. 17.—A Paris paper today gives an account of how General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French forces, directed the operations during the battle in the Champagne region. Taking a seat on the firing front in one of the eastern sectors where a telephone has been installed, General Joffre, seeing that a large scale map, fastened to a tree, and the telephone at intervals, gave forth orders to an adjoining command.

In this position, the newspaper account says, General Joffre remained more than twenty-two hours—from 9 o'clock in the morning until half-past seven the next morning—neither eating nor drinking during the whole time. At the end of that period, after marking certain places on the map, he put down his pencil and said:

"I've given. Let us go take a bite."

OFFICIAL REPORT OF RECENT AIR RAID ON LONDON

Of 127 Persons Killed or Injured Only Two Are British Soldiers—Little Damage Done to Public Property.

BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.

London, Oct. 17.—The [illegible] on the night of the 13th-14th [illegible] reported as a great success by the home office.

"On the evening of October 13 aeroplanes [illegible] were directed against London, but in different to previous raids, [illegible] from three lines of attack. The leading machines [illegible] at 9:30 o'clock. [illegible] the high explosive bombs [illegible] and incendiary [illegible] fell in the suburbs, and several fires [illegible] broke out.

"The damage done by the [illegible] has been small. [illegible] reported that [illegible] the attack [illegible] the enemy's machines [illegible] several [illegible] positions of places of importance.

"As on the last occasion, the official report issued in Berlin proves the raiders to have been grossly in error in most cases as to where they were dropping their bombs and if we may suppose that they had really been definite objects other than [illegible] indiscriminate destruction of the lives and property of non-combatants, they owing to the height at which they flew very rarely found in which to [illegible] objective.

Two Soldiers Injured.

"Except for one civilian shot [illegible] by [illegible] accidentally by [illegible] the capital of the war. Of the 127 persons killed or injured, [illegible] are two soldiers who were in the street at the time [illegible] a [illegible].

"As for the moral effect on which presumably the enemy was reckoning, that was all to the contrary. The raid aroused at an hour when practically no one except children was in bed, and though the shops in the principal shopping districts were closed places of entertainment were full and the masses of the population were about their ordinary evening's pleasure or at business.

No Panic Occurred.

"A very much larger number of people, therefore, were aware of the enemy's presence than on previous occasions, but the population of London, though hundreds of thousands heard the sound of bursting bombs and the guns, remained free from panic. There were, if possible, even less signs of excitement than on the previous occasions. The official statement goes on to say that [illegible] shelter were [illegible], and when the aircraft passed and the guns ceased firing, most of the people who had been watching the [illegible] went quietly to bed and were undisturbed by the second raid which took place about midnight in another part of the London area. In the districts from which the sounds of the firing and explosions could plainly be heard there was commendable absence of panic.

The Five Distinct Areas.

"When the results of the raid were examined next morning five distinct areas could be distinguished in which damage was done. The area of these areas is only a very small proportion of the whole area in which there is no residential property save [illegible] houses devoted to various kinds of business and consequently [illegible] streets. In the five areas bombs were dropped consisting high explosives which in four cases fell upon the streets and in the fifth upon the back premises of one large building [illegible] with people.

"One of the bombs which [illegible] was of large size penetrated three floors into the subways containing [illegible] and exploded, [illegible] the gas pipes, setting alight to the whole [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] of this room [illegible] the [illegible] and destroyed nearly all the [illegible] in the [illegible] room. The [illegible] of this bomb [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible]