

CERVERA'S DESTROYED SHIPS.

Playa del Este, July 3.—All the Spanish fleet destroyed but one, and they are close after her. Spanish ran their ships close to shore, set them on fire, and then they exploded.

The following is in response to a telegram sent by the Secretary of War asking Gen. Shafter why he did not communicate with the Department more frequently:

"PLAYA DEL ESTE, HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, CUBA, July 3.—Did not telegraph as I was too busy looking after things that had to be attended to at once, and did not wish to send any news that was not fully confirmed. The Spanish fleet left the harbor this morning and is reported practically destroyed. I demanded surrender of the city at 10 o'clock to-day, but at this hour, 4:30 P. M., no reply had been received. Perfect quiet along the line. Situation has been precarious on account of difficulties of supplying the command with food and the tremendous fighting qualities shown by the enemy from his almost impregnable position."

"SHAFTER, Major-General."

Just before midnight a despatch was received by Gen. Miles from Lieut.-Col. Arthur Wagner of the Military Information Bureau, who is now with Shafter's army. The despatch stated that Gen. Pando, who was believed to have reached Santiago with reinforcements for the Spanish, had not yet formed a junction with Linares's forces. The message also gave the gratifying information that Pando's force consists of only 5,000 men, instead of 8,000 to 10,000 as heretofore believed.

Lieut.-Col. Wagner says that Gen. Garcia was between Pando and the city and that he was successfully preventing the further approach of the Spanish reinforcements.

CERVERA'S FLEET THAT IS NO MORE.

The Fine War Vessels Admiral Sampson Destroyed at Santiago.

Admiral Cervera's squadron of armored cruisers, the most formidable squadron Spain could assemble before the outbreak of war, comprising the finest ships of the Spanish navy—sailed from the mother country a few days before President McKinley cabled to Minister Woodford at Madrid his Cuban ultimatum. Cervera's fleet consisted of a powerful mission, but there was no doubt that the intention of the Spanish Government was to make a naval demonstration to impress upon the American Government Spain's preparedness for war, and, at the same time, to have all the available naval fighting force of the monarchy as near as possible to the coast of Cuba.

Cervera's squadron was made up of four armored cruisers, three torpedo boat destroyers, and several other vessels when he left Spain. The most formidable vessels were the four armored cruisers, fine examples of the armored cruiser type. They were the Almirante Oquendo, the Cristobal Colon, the Quintero, and the Cristobal Colon. The first three were sister ships, built at Bilbao, Spain, and launched in 1890 and 1891. Their cost was given as \$3,000,000 each.

These cruisers were 7,000 ton ships, somewhat larger than the battleship Maine. Their water-line length was 320 feet, their maximum draught 21 feet 6 inches, indicated horse power 13,000, and speed 20 knots. This speed they attained in their trial speeds, but when inefficient Spanish engineers took hold of them they could not develop any such speed as this. Their normal coal supply was 12,000 tons and their consumption was 20 tons an hour. Their armor was 12 inches thick on the sides and 8 inches on the deck. The guns were 5.9-inch diameter, built at Bilbao, Spain, and were far superior to our armored cruisers New York and Brooklyn. The Brooklyn's thickest belt armor is seven inches thick, and on the gun positions the thickest is eight inches.

This trio of cruisers carried heavy armaments. In turrets, forward and aft, each ship mounted 12-inch breech-loading rifles. In addition, each mounted ten 6.5-inch guns. The Oquendo and Maria Teresa 6.5-inch guns were Hontoria guns, but the Vizcaya had rapid-fire guns. Each ship carried a number of small guns, and was equipped with six torpedo tubes. Spain had similar but more modern guns. The country has no facilities for making torpedoes—and it is doubtful if the ships in Santiago de Cuba harbor were adequately equipped with torpedoes.

The Cristobal Colon was one of the newest ships in the Spanish Navy. She was built at the Puerto Real, Spain, and was launched in 1896. Her name was then the Giuseppe Garibaldi II, replacing a previous ship by that name. Spain paid several million dollars for her and named her the Cristobal Colon, in memory of the cruiser by that name, lost near Cape San Antonio, in the winter of 1895. She was 320 feet long, 388 feet on the water line, 50 feet 8 inches beam, and 24 feet draught. Her indicated horse-power was 14,000, her trial speed 20 knots, maximum coal supply 1,000 tons, and complement 450 men.

The Cristobal Colon's armament consisted of 10 10-inch turreted guns, ten 6-inch rapid-fire guns, and six 4.7-inch, ten 2.9-inch, ten 1.4-inch and two machine guns. She also carried four torpedo tubes. Her armor consisted of a six-inch water-line belt, six inches on the gun positions and a 1.5-inch deck. The heavy armor was of Harveyized steel.

The torpedo boat destroyers were fine Clyde-built boats—the Furor and Terror, launched in 1896, and the Guano, launched last year. The first two were capable of developing the remarkable speed of 28 knots an hour, and the Pluton was credited with 30 knots. No boats in the American Navy now in commission approached them in speed. The Furor's and Terror's principal dimensions were 100 feet, 29 feet beam, 22 feet draught, 5.5 feet displacement, 300 tons; coal capacity, 100 tons; complement, 67 men; armament, two 12-pounders, two six-pounders, and two 1-pounders. The Pluton was a larger boat, registering 400 tons and having an indicated horse-power of 7,500, 1,500 greater than the others.

Cervera sailed straight for the Cape Verde Islands, putting in at St. Vincent. On the way the little destroyers had a rough time of it. They had to be coaled at sea from the cruisers. When they reached the Cape Verde Islands repairs had to be made. While Cervera was there he was in cable communication with Madrid, and the intention of the declaration of war. On April 21 he sailed from St. Vincent. What his purpose was no one in this country knew, and opinion was divided as to whether he had gone home or had started for America.

SHAFTER ASKS AID.

His Force Too Small to Complete the Capture of Santiago.

SEVERAL GENERALS ARE ILL. Shafter Is One of Them, and Gen. Miles Will Go to Take Command.

Our Forces Hold Their Own and Have Met No Reverses Thus Far—Some of the Troops May Be Obligated to Fall Back to Better Positions to Await Reinforcements, and There Will Be No Further Advance Until Fresh Troops Arrive—Reinforcements to Be Hurried to the Front Until the Invading Army Numbers 60,000 Men—Gen. Miles to Sail on Thursday.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The following cable message from Gen. Shafter was given to the press this afternoon:

"CAMP NEAR SANTIAGO, CUBA, July 3. 'Secretary of War, Washington. 'We have the town well invested on the north and east, but with a very thin line. Upon approaching it we find it of such a character and the defence is so strong it will be impossible to carry it by storm with my present force. Our losses up to date will aggregate a thousand, but list has not yet been made. But little sickness outside of exhaustion from the intense heat and exertion of the battle of the day before yesterday and the almost constant fire which is kept up on the trenches. Wagon road to the rear is kept up with some difficulty on account of rain, but I will be able to use it for the present. 'Gen. Wheeler is seriously ill and will probably have to go to the rear to-day. Gen. Young is also very ill and confined to his bed. Gen. Hawkins was slightly wounded in the foot during the sortie of the enemy made last night, which was handsomely repulsed. The behavior of the troops was magnificent. 'Gen. Garcia reports that he holds the railroad from Santiago to San Luis [twenty miles directly north of Santiago] and has burned a bridge and removed some rails; also that Gen. Pando has arrived at Palma [twenty miles northwest of Santiago], and that the French Consul, with about 400 French citizens, came into his line yesterday from Santiago. Have directed him to treat them with every courtesy possible. 'SHAFTER, Major-General."

The following reply was sent by Secretary of War:

"The President directs me to say that you have the gratitude and thanks of the nation for the brilliant and effective work of your noble army on Friday, July 1. The steady valor and heroism of officers and men thrill the American people with pride. The country mourns the brave men who fell in battle. They have added new names to our roll of heroes. 'R. A. ALLEN, Secretary of War."

The despatches received here to-day from Major-General Shafter show that he is holding his own at Santiago. That is all that can be said for the American Army at this time, and the conditions are not likely to change until the army has been reinforced. There has been no reverse to the American arms; in fact, Gen. Shafter has had a series of successes, and while it is true that some of his troops may be obliged to fall back to better positions, the wait will not be long, and Santiago will be in possession of the United States forces within a very short time. In the expressive words of Major-General Miles to THE SUN reporter: "Gen. Shafter has done well, but the situation has developed conditions which prevent us from taking the city."

The failure to make public the full text of Gen. Shafter's telegram of this morning has caused some thoughtless criticism. Secretary Allen frankly said, in explanation of giving out an expurgated copy of the message, that it would not be policy to make public all it contained, as Gen. Shafter included mention of his plans. It is known that Gen. Shafter said in the despatch that he might find it necessary to fall back to a stronger position while awaiting the arrival of reinforcements, and that he also reported his illness. Officials admit that they are worried over the delay that must ensue, but are apparently honest in the statement that they see no cause for alarm. Gen. Shafter is holding his own after driving back the enemy into the inner lines of intrenchments, and it is not likely that he will be attacked. He will throw up earthworks that the Spaniards, after their experience with the American troops under reversed conditions, will hardly dare assault, even with a force much superior to Shafter's.

Gen. Miles's advice indicates that 14,000 Spanish troops were in Santiago before the United States forces landed, and that 18,000 additional troops of the enemy were available for rendering assistance through their proximity to the town. The Government learned to-day, to its regret, that Pando with his 8,000 regulars had entered Santiago, thus insuring Gen. Linares, the commanding officer there, a force of at least 22,000 men. It is believed here, however, that all or nearly all of the 18,000 men mentioned have managed to join Linares in Santiago, making his army 32,000 strong, or nearly 50,000 more than Gen. Shafter's corps. But even with this superior force to contend with, Gen. Shafter appears to have confidence in his ability to cope with the Spaniards, and the military authorities are confident that he will hold his present position or one of greater strategic advantage not far in his rear.

Through nearly the whole of the long, hot, anxious night the President and the Secretary of War waited for advice from Gen. Shafter. When the President retired, shortly after 4 o'clock this morning, and Secretary Allen left the White House for his residence, nothing had come to throw any light on the situation. It was not until some time this forenoon that the long-expected report from Gen. Shafter was received at the War Department. Secretary Allen was notified immediately, and when he had read the message he went to the White House to lay it before the President. Several hours later an expurgated copy of Gen. Shafter's message, printed above, was given to the press.

It is supposed, however, that Shafter will not see as many men as the War Department intended to send him, and advice to that effect are expected. The news from Lieut.-Col. Wagner that Pando had not reached Santiago surprised the administration officials exceedingly, and in view of Wagner's statement the opinion was expressed by officials that Gen. Shafter would see word that he had a large enough force to cope with the situation.

No change in the plans of the Administration for reinforcing Shafter will be made as a result of the news from Santiago. It was learned late to-night that the situation had been discussed fully at the White House during the evening. It was decided to reinforce Shafter by sending for augmenting the force now under Shafter's command should go on.

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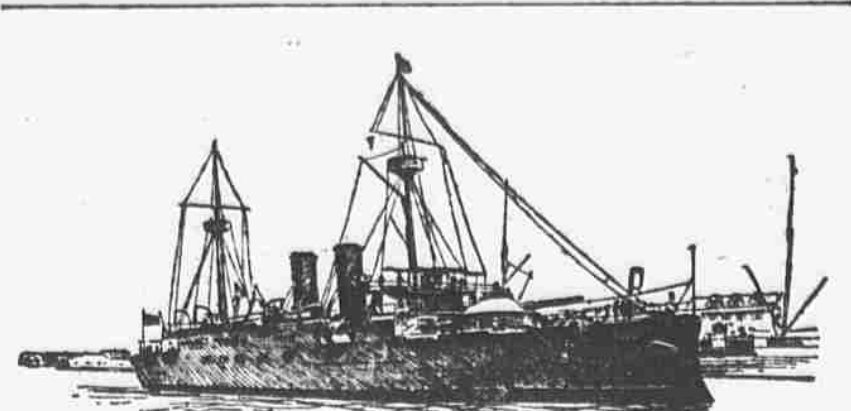
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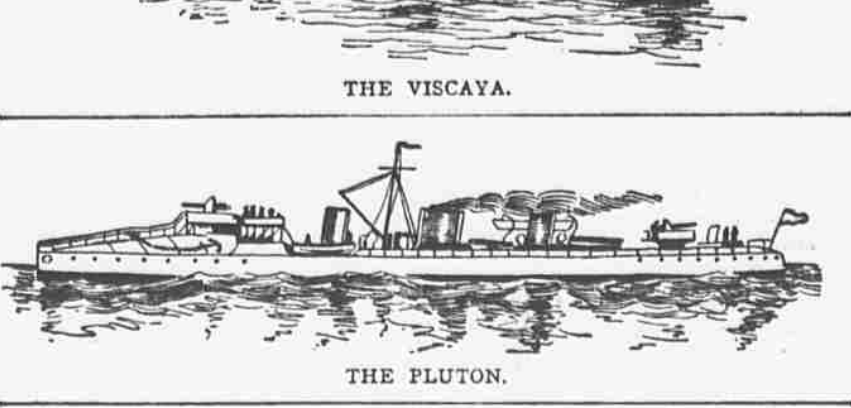
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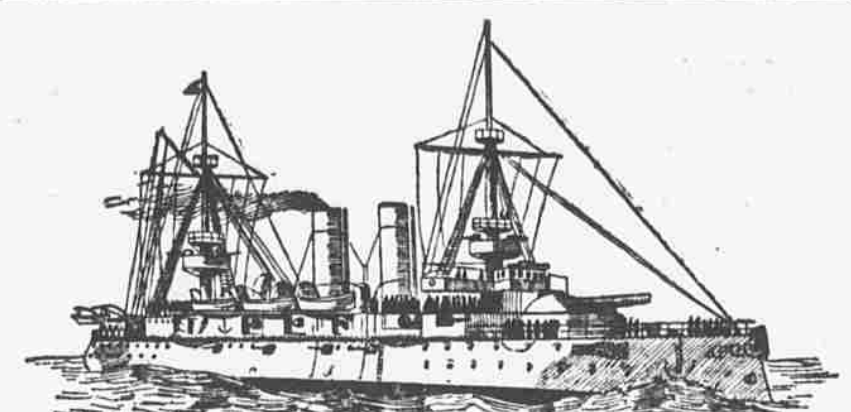
INFANTA MARIA TERESA.



THE VISCAVA.



THE PLUTON.



ALMIRANTE OQUENDO.

A few days after his sailing from St. Vincent a despatch came from the American Embassy in London that Cervera had returned to Cadiz; two days later came word from the French coast of Martinique, in the West Indies, of the arrival there of Cervera. United States Consul Darte at St. Pierre notified the State Department of Cervera's arrival there, and made a protest against allowing the enemy's ships to coal there. The French Government assured the United States that neutrality would be observed.

The Harvard and St. Louis had been scouting about the Leeward and Windward Islands for days, on the lookout for Cervera. It was thought for awhile that Cervera had gone in search of the battleship Oregon, which was making a record-breaking trip from San Francisco to Key West. The Harvard dropped in at St. Pierre, just in time to hear that Cervera had sailed to the westward, leaving the Terror behind for repairs. The destroyers' English engineers had deserted her, leaving her delicate machinery to be looked after by inefficient Spanish mechanics. Cervera was badly in need of coal; his machinery needed repairs. He ran across the Caribbean Sea and put in at the Dutch port of Willemstad, in the island of Curaçoa. Our Consul kept the fleet from entering the harbor, and all the coal Cervera could get there was 300 tons of slack coal, condemned by the Dutch Government, and so poor that it would not burn. He ran across the Caribbean Sea and put in at the Dutch port of Willemstad, in the island of Curaçoa. Our Consul kept the fleet from entering the harbor, and all the coal Cervera could get there was 300 tons of slack coal, condemned by the Dutch Government, and so poor that it would not burn. He ran across the Caribbean Sea and put in at the Dutch port of Willemstad, in the island of Curaçoa. Our Consul kept the fleet from entering the harbor, and all the coal Cervera could get there was 300 tons of slack coal, condemned by the Dutch Government, and so poor that it would not burn.

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The despatches received here to-day from Major-General Shafter show that he is holding his own at Santiago. That is all that can be said for the American Army at this time, and the conditions are not likely to change until the army has been reinforced. There has been no reverse to the American arms; in fact, Gen. Shafter has had a series of successes, and while it is true that some of his troops may be obliged to fall back to better positions, the wait will not be long, and Santiago will be in possession of the United States forces within a very short time. In the expressive words of Major-General Miles to THE SUN reporter: "Gen. Shafter has done well, but the situation has developed conditions which prevent us from taking the city."

The failure to make public the full text of Gen. Shafter's telegram of this morning has caused some thoughtless criticism. Secretary Allen frankly said, in explanation of giving out an expurgated copy of the message, that it would not be policy to make public all it contained, as Gen. Shafter included mention of his plans. It is known that Gen. Shafter said in the despatch that he might find it necessary to fall back to a stronger position while awaiting the arrival of reinforcements, and that he also reported his illness. Officials admit that they are worried over the delay that must ensue, but are apparently honest in the statement that they see no cause for alarm. Gen. Shafter is holding his own after driving back the enemy into the inner lines of intrenchments, and it is not likely that he will be attacked. He will throw up earthworks that the Spaniards, after their experience with the American troops under reversed conditions, will hardly dare assault, even with a force much superior to Shafter's.

Gen. Miles's advice indicates that 14,000 Spanish troops were in Santiago before the United States forces landed, and that 18,000 additional troops of the enemy were available for rendering assistance through their proximity to the town. The Government learned to-day, to its regret, that Pando with his 8,000 regulars had entered Santiago, thus insuring Gen. Linares, the commanding officer there, a force of at least 22,000 men. It is believed here, however, that all or nearly all of the 18,000 men mentioned have managed to join Linares in Santiago, making his army 32,000 strong, or nearly 50,000 more than Gen. Shafter's corps. But even with this superior force to contend with, Gen. Shafter appears to have confidence in his ability to cope with the Spaniards, and the military authorities are confident that he will hold his present position or one of greater strategic advantage not far in his rear.

Through nearly the whole of the long, hot, anxious night the President and the Secretary of War waited for advice from Gen. Shafter. When the President retired, shortly after 4 o'clock this morning, and Secretary Allen left the White House for his residence, nothing had come to throw any light on the situation. It was not until some time this forenoon that the long-expected report from Gen. Shafter was received at the War Department. Secretary Allen was notified immediately, and when he had read the message he went to the White House to lay it before the President. Several hours later an expurgated copy of Gen. Shafter's message, printed above, was given to the press.

It is supposed, however, that Shafter will not see as many men as the War Department intended to send him, and advice to that effect are expected. The news from Lieut.-Col. Wagner that Pando had not reached Santiago surprised the administration officials exceedingly, and in view of Wagner's statement the opinion was expressed by officials that Gen. Shafter would see word that he had a large enough force to cope with the situation.

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