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EIGHT PAGES

GERMANS ORDERED TO HOLD TO THE DEATH

HUN ARMY IS BEING WIPED OUT IN DESPERATE LAST STAND BATTLE

German Crown Prince Orders Retreat Stopped and Brings up Reinforcements, But is Losing Ground.

LOSSES ESTIMATED AT OVER 125,000

Before Violence of American Assault, Boche Army is Being Annihilated or Taken Prisoner.

By Fred S. Ferguson, United Press Staff Correspondent.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, July 24.—(8:50 a. m.)—Despite orders to hold to the death, the crown prince's rear guard is being forced to give way before the allied attack along practically the whole battle front. Prisoners declare the units of the rear guard were ordered to remain at their posts and hold off the Americans to the last. Before the violence of the American assault, they are being wiped out or taken prisoner.

The advance is proceeding cautiously at all points, however, owing to the great mass of German reinforcements and their increasing resistance. On many sectors the battle occasionally loses all resemblance to rear guard action and appears as though the Germans intended to make a permanent stand. New German reserve divisions are being constantly identified.

The bitterest fighting is proceeding north of Jaulgonne, where the Americans are enlarging their bridgehead. The Americans are pressing northward along the main road from Chateau-Thierry to Fere-en-Tardenois, in the region of Epiedes (four miles north of Chateau-Thierry) hurrying in the enemy retreat toward Fere-en-Tardenois, one of their principal communication centers. In this region troops captured Marie farm, an important strategic point.

According to reports, the Kaiser planned to see son Fritz well off on his trip to Paris. What he did see was the crown prince getting the worst licking he has received since Verdun—and more Americans than he ever wanted to believe were in France.

All's Well With the Allies. [By Lowell Mellett, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN THE FIELD, July 23 (night).—Another day of hard fighting has gone well with the allies. Although at one point they threw back the advancing Americans temporarily, the Germans were compelled to give ground in many places, the most important of which were in the regions of Soissons and Rheims—the two points where they are making their most frantic resistance.

Near Soissons, the enemy felt the pinch of the Franco-American shears. Near Rheims, the Franco-British shears jabbed its point in a little farther, adding to the danger of the German army in the pocket below.

The Germans' slight success resulted from a heavy counter attack, which ousted the Americans from Epiedes. But the Americans later regained the town and advanced a bit farther.

The object of the Germans in throwing in strong forces here is not certain, but it is believed to be necessary to protect the slow process of withdrawal of supplies and troops from the pocket.

Incidentally today's reports showed that all munition depots here are the result of their destruction by the Germans but all allied aviators and long range artillery have been practically successful in hitting these dumps.

The French today attacked astride the Ourcq, crossing the Parcq-et-Tigny road, toward Villermontoire (south of Soissons).

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United Press War Summary

1,452d day of the war; seventh day of the counter offensive.

Soisson-Rheims Front: The crown prince, according to German prisoners, has countermanded his order for retirement and has decided to fight it out on the present lines.

This report is borne out by the fact that movements within the German salient are now southward, instead of northward and that great numbers of reinforcements are constantly being thrown in to stem the allied advance.

Despite the increasing enemy resistance, the allies continue to advance at some points.

The French war office reported great artillery duels all along the battle front.

Picardy Front: British troops made successful raids in the Albert sector.

Flanders Front: German artillery was active, particular near Loos.

Germany: The Berlin Vorwaerts announces that Germany has made new peace offers through Spain. The list of proposals contains nothing additional in the way of concessions.

Dr. Karl Helfferich, former vice chancellor, has been appointed German ambassador to Russia, to succeed the late Count von Mirbach.

He will take two battalions of German troops to guard the embassy.

Russia: A general mobilization of Russian forces under Bolsheviki control, began June 17, according to a Moscow dispatch received in Amsterdam.

Sweden: Count Luxburg, former German minister to Argentina, has arrived in Gothenburg, after traveling all the way from Buenos Aires in a Swedish motorboat.

Caution vs. Slaughter. [By J. W. T. Mason, United Press War Expert.]

NEW YORK, July 24.—General Foch still continues his strategy of caution instead of adopting von Hindenburg's strategy of slaughter. The war will not be won in the Aisne-Marne salient. Therefore General Foch is determined not to be lured into major operations to gratify the eager expectations of spectators at home.

The dominant factor in the present situation between the Aisne and the Marne is that the Germans are eager to invade the allies into engaging in a great major offensive before America's strength is fully ready, while General Foch is resolved not to make this mistake. It is therefore well within the limits of von Hindenburg's strategy for great numbers of German reserves to be assembled south of the Aisne. These reserves are capable of forcing General Foch to a large death toll to pay for moderate gains.

Instead of accepting so crude a challenge, General Foch is holding back, patiently waiting for America's next million to arrive before striking with his matured power.

The present operations have immensely improved the Franco-American lines defending the roadways to Paris. To persuade the Germans of the spectacular advantages would of a spectacular, but would not be sound strategy. If the losses are to come it is far better that they should occur next autumn or next spring, pushing the battle front over the Lorraine border far into Germany. The Rhine, not the Aisne, is the place to end the war.

Furthermore, an American advance to the Rhine would compel von Hindenburg to withdraw from the Aisne-Marne salient or elsewhere along the west front so that by shortening his lines he might find troops to defend territory. General Foch is losing no tricks between the Aisne and the Marne. War can't be played as fast as baseball.

Mail Carriers on Strike. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

OTTAWA, Ont., July 24.—Mail carriers today were on strike in many towns and cities of Canada, including Toronto, Peterboro, Winnipeg, Brandon, Calgary and New Westminster. Trouble in Montreal has been avoided through promises of bonuses to married men.

Turks Prepare to Strike. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

MILAN, July 24.—Prince Osman Fud has been given command of Turkish troops operating in Tripoli, dispatches reaching here today from Zurich report. This is believed to indicate a resumption of hostilities against Italy in this district.

Executed More Than 200. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

MOSCOW, July 22.—(Delayed)—Foreign Minister Tschitcherin announced today that more than 200 social-revolutionaries, implicated in the assassination of German Ambassador von Mirbach had been executed.

STEADY ADVANCE BY ALLIES

During Past Ten Days, Germany Has Retreated up Fifteen Divisions of Reinforcements.

'ME AND GOTT' QUIT

Enemy Pushed Back on Ten Mile Front to Depth of from One and a Half to Two Miles.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

WASHINGTON, July 24.—In the face of at least fifteen divisions of German reinforcements, the allied armies fighting in the Soissons-Rheims salient have steadily advanced during the last three days. Chief of Staff March told correspondents today.

Between the Marne and Rheims the enemy has been pushed back on a ten-mile front to a depth of from one and a half to two miles.

The Germans have only one rail line over which to carry out their retreat, unless they have constructed some minor field tracks, he said. It seems that the Lord has become tired of his partnership of "Me and Gott," March declared during his description of the great Franco-American offensive of the past week.

The German retreat, he said, was in some respects similar to the Austrian dash back across the Piave. A storm had concealed the allied movements that made possible the pushing back of the enemy. That was what March referred to when he declared that the self-made partnership of the kaiser and his "Gott" had gone awry.

March pointed out that the Germans had made a bold decision for retirement, relying on the cover of night and the seclusion of smoke clouds to hide their withdrawal.

This decision had been taken when the important communication line from Soissons to Chateau-Thierry was apparently destined to fall into allied hands.

Between the Marne and Rheims, on the east flank, the enemy has been pushed back from one and one half to two miles along a ten-mile front, he said. Along the Marne itself, the Americans and French have crossed the river at a number of points and now hold possession there.

The response of the Germans to Foch's counter offensive was to throw in a large number of reserve divisions, which had not been used when the German drive for Rheims started.

It is the belief of General March that fifteen reserve divisions were thus used.

The advance of the allies for the last few days has been practically steady, March pointed out there is only one rail line over which the Germans can retreat, though they may have constructed in addition some small temporary field railroads.

The enemy's retreat was necessary if he did not wish to be caught in a pocket at the mercy of the allies, March declared.

The ground gained in the Franco-American counter drive is about equal to the territory the allies lost in Flanders last April, March revealed.

BIG LINER SUNK BY HUNS; TEN TORPEDOES FIRED

Newest Ship of White Star Line Goes to Bottom Off Irish Coast, While Steaming West.

BIGGEST SHIP YET SUNK BY GERMANS

All Day Fight in Which Eleven of Crew Were Killed, But all Passengers Saved.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

NEW YORK, July 24.—The White Star line received word today that the 32,100-ton liner Justicia has been torpedoed and sunk while on its way to the United States.

The Justicia was the newest of the crack White Star ships. She was completed only a year ago and had been in service as a freight ship. She also had done transport duty for the United States and Canada. She made her first trip to this country loaded with invalid Canadian soldiers who were sent to New York and taken overland to Canada when the port of Halifax was closed by the explosion there.

The Justicia was equipped with triple screws and was registered at Liverpool.

All of Crew Landed. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

PORTLAND, ME, July 24.—All members of the crew of the schooner Richard and Robert, sunk by a German submarine off the Maine coast, were accounted for today.

A dory containing eight men was landed here, while another with four men was taken into Boston. Captain Robert Wharton and eighteen of the crew have arrived at the naval coast patrol headquarters at this port.

The Robert and Richard was sunk Monday by a bomb placed on her by the crew of the submarine, after a shell had halted the little vessel. An officer of the submarine took an American flag from Captain Wharton of the schooner and as he did so declared he had another in his "summer home in Maine."

When last seen the U-boat, which was said to be about 250 feet long, was traveling southward, on the surface.

Equipped with Nets. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

BERLIN, (via Copenhagen) July 24.—The British steamer Justicia has been torpedoed and sunk, the German admiralty officially announced today. German newspapers express great satisfaction that the steamer was sunk while under American control.

Submarine commanders, in their official reports, stated the Justicia was equipped with large, steel anti-torpedo nets, "rendering her destruction difficult."

[The mention of submarine "commanders" indicates that several U-boats probably attacked the big steamer.]

Died of Exposure. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

LONDON, July 24.—The Berlin Lokal Anzeiger publishes a Moscow dispatch declaring Grand Duke Alexis the former czar's eldest son, "exposed" few days after his father's execution.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

than the Lusitania by nearly 200 tons displacement, but was neither so long nor so broad.

There are still larger ships in the transport and freight service, notable among these being the Olympic, of more than 46,000 tons and the Aquitania, of more than 45,000 tons. The Justicia also was exceeded in size by the Lovlatian, formerly the Hamburg-American liner Vaterland, which displaced more than 64,000 tons. She was larger than the Mauretania, which is a sister to the Lusitania. The Paris, huge liner of the French line, displaces an even 30,000 tons. The Justicia was a trimly built craft, of lines resembling those of the Vaterland. She had a high superstructure, which made her extremely roomy above decks. She was fitted with luxurious staterooms which were ripped out and costs added when she went into service as a transport.

She had three funnels. She was 74 feet long, 86 feet in width and was 43 feet deep.

Fired Ten Torpedoes. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

LONDON, July 24.—Four hundred survivors of the torpedoed liner Justicia have been landed at an Irish port, it was announced here.

Survivors reported that only one of ten torpedoes fired at the vessel was effective and that wrecked the engine room, stopping the ship.

The Justicia was sunk off the north Irish coast Saturday morning. Eleven of her crew were killed, but no passengers were lost.

The steamer fought the submarine twenty-four hours. A member of the crew stated that ten torpedoes were fired, four of which were exploded by the ship's guns.

Ruler of All Siberia. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

TOKYO, July 24.—General Horvath, leader of anti-Bolsheviks in Siberia, has proclaimed himself provisional ruler of all Siberia.

Horvath plans to convolve a constituent assembly as soon as order can be restored.

TODAY'S CASUALTY LIST OF OVER HUNDRED NAMES

Twenty Killed in Action, Fourteen Died of Wounds and One Prisoner

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

WASHINGTON, July 24.—General Pershing's casualty list today totaled 145, as follows: Killed in action, twenty. Died of wounds, fourteen. Died of disease, seventeen. Died of aeroplane accident, two.

Died of accident and other causes, five. Wounded severely, forty-eight. Missing, one. Prisoner, one. The list follows: Killed in action: Lieutenants W. P. Fitzgerald, Worcester, Mass.; W. C. Orr, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.; F. K. Hirth, Toledo, O.; Sergeant G. E. Hunsacker, Dawson Springs, Ky.; Privates L. Bell, Chicago; R. Blackwell, Bluefield, W. Va.; C. Cranes, New York City; C. Glenzer, Chicago; H. R. Heap.

180,000 Casualties. [United Press Leased Wire Service.]

PARIS, July 24.—Unofficial estimates today placed the total German casualties in the recent Champagne fighting at 180,000.

This figure is discounted in military circles.

German Program Gunned Up. [By Frank J. Taylor, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, July 24 (8:45 a. m.).—

(Continued on page 2.)

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(Continued on page 2.)

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