

U. S. PRESIDENT'S NOTE OF WARNING TO HUNS

Ultimatum to Germany Says Neutral Rights Must Be Secure

Or Warfare on Passenger Ships Must Be Abandoned.

Washington Report.—This is the demand sent to Germany by President Wilson in his final communication on the submarine issue.

The State Department believes the note reached Berlin at 1 o'clock this afternoon. It follows:

Secretary Lansing to Ambassador Gerard:

"You are instructed to deliver to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs a communication, reading as follows: 'I did not fail to transmit immediately, by telegraph to my Government, your Excellency's note of the 10th inst. in regard to certain attacks by German submarines, and particularly in regard to the disastrous explosion which on March 24 wrecked the French steamship Sussex in the English Channel. I have now the honor to deliver, under instructions from my Government, the following reply to your Excellency:

"Information now in the possession of the Government of the United States fully establishes the facts in the case of the Sussex and the inferences which my Government has drawn from that information it regards as confirmed by the circumstances set forth in your Excellency's note of the 10th inst.

"On the 24th of March 1916, at about 2.50 o'clock in the afternoon, the unarmed steamer Sussex, with 325 or more passengers on board, among whom were a number of American citizens, was torpedoed while crossing from Folkestone to Dieppe. The Sussex has never been armed, was a vessel known to be habitually only for the conveyance of passengers across the English Channel, and was not following the route taken by the troops or supply ships. About 80 of her passengers, non-combatants of all ages and sexes, including citizens of the United States, were killed or injured.

"A careful, detailed and scrupulously impartial investigation by naval and military officers of the United States has conclusively established the fact that the Sussex was torpedoed without warning or summons to surrender, and that the torpedo by which she was struck was of German manufacture. In the view of the Government of the United States these facts from the first made the conclusion that the torpedo was fired by a German submarine unavoidable. It now considers that conclusion substantiated by the statements of your Excellency's note. A full statement of the facts upon which the Government of the United States has based its conclusions is enclosed.

"The Government of the United States, after having given consideration to the note of the Imperial Government on the tenth of April, regrets to have to express its dissent, and its conclusion from the statements and the proposals contained in that note is that the Imperial Government has failed to appreciate the gravity of the situation which has resulted, not alone from the attack on the Sussex, but from the whole method and character of submarine warfare as disclosed by the unrestrained practice of the commanders of German undersea craft during the past twelve months, and more in indiscriminate destruction of merchant vessels of all sorts, nationalities and destinations.

NOT AN ISOLATED CASE.

"If the sinking of the Sussex had been an isolated case the Government of the United States might find it possible to hope that the officer who was responsible for that act had willfully violated his orders, or had been criminally negligent in taking none of the precautions they prescribed, and that the ends of justice might be satisfied by imposing upon him an adequate punishment, coupled with a formal disavowal of the act and payment of a suitable indemnity by the Imperial Government. But, though the attack upon the Sussex was manifestly indefensible and caused a loss of life so tragic as to make it stand forth as one of the most terrible examples of the inhumanity of submarine warfare as the commanders of German vessels are conducting it, it unhappily does not stand alone.

"On the contrary, the Government of the United States is forced by recent events to conclude that it is only one instance, even though one of the most extreme and most distressing instances, of the deliberate method and spirit of indiscriminate destruction of merchant vessels of all sorts, nationalities and destinations, which have become more and more unmistakable as the activity of German undersea vessels of war has in recent months been quickened and extended.

VIOLATIONS UNAVOIDABLE.

"The Imperial Government will recall that when, in February, 1915, it announced its intention of treating the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland as embraced within the seat of war, and of destroying all merchant ships owned by its enemies that might be found within that zone of danger, and warned all vessels, neutral as well as belligerents, to keep out of the waters thus prescribed, or to enter them at their peril, the Government of the United States earnestly protested. It took the position that such a policy could not be pursued

without constant gross and palpable violations of the accepted law of nations, particularly if submarine craft were to be employed as its instruments, inasmuch as the rules prescribed by that law, rules founded on the principles of humanity and established for the protection of the lives of non-combatants at sea, could not in the nature of the case be observed by such vessels.

"It based its protest on the ground that persons of neutral nationality and vessels of neutral ownership would be exposed to extreme and intolerable risks; and that no right to close any part of the high seas lawfully be asserted by the Imperial Government, in the circumstances then existing. The law of nations in these matters upon which the Government of the United States based that protest is not of recent origin or founded upon merely arbitrary principles set up by convention. It is based, on the contrary, upon manifest principles of humanity and has long been established with the approval and by the express consent of all civilized nations.

ALL ASSURANCES DISREGARDED.

"The Imperial Government, notwithstanding, persisted in carrying out the policy announced, expressing the hope that the dangers involved, at any rate to neutral vessels, would be reduced to a minimum by the instructions which it had issued to the commanders of its submarines, and assuring the Government of the United States that it would take every precaution both to respect the rights of neutrals and to safeguard the lives of non-combatants.

"In pursuance of this policy of submarine warfare against the commerce of its adversaries, thus announced and thus entered upon, despite the solemn protest of the Government of the United States, the commanders of the Imperial Government's undersea vessels have carried on practices of such ruthless destruction which have made it more and more evident as the months have gone by that the Imperial Government has found it impracticable to put any such restraints upon them as it had hoped and promised to do. Again and again the Imperial Government has given its solemn assurances to the Government of the United States that at least passenger ships would not be thus dealt with, and yet it has repeatedly permitted its undersea commanders to disregard these assurances with entire impunity.

NO LIMITATION OBSERVED.

"As recently as February last it gave notice that it would regard all armed merchantmen owned by its enemies as part of the armed naval forces of its adversaries, and deal with them as with men-of-war, thus, at least by implication, pledging itself to give warning to vessels which were not armed, and to accord security of life to their passengers and crew; but even this limitation their submarine commanders have recklessly ignored.

"Vessels of neutral ownership, even vessels of neutral ownership bound from neutral ports to neutral ports, have been destroyed along with vessels of belligerent ownership in constantly increasing numbers. Sometimes the merchantmen attacked have been warned and summoned to surrender before being fired on or torpedoed; sometimes their passengers and crews have been vouchsafed the poor security of being allowed to take to the ship's boats before the ship was sent to the bottom. But again and again no warning has been given, no escape even to the ship's boat allowed to those on board.

WANTON DESTRUCTION OF LIFE.

"Great liners like the Lusitania and Arabic and mere passenger boats like the Sussex have been attacked without a moment's warning, often before they have even become aware that they were in the presence of an armed ship of the enemy, and the lives of non-combatants, passengers and crew, have been destroyed wholesale and in a manner which the Government of the United States cannot but regard as wanton and without the slightest color of justification. No limit of any kind has in fact been set to the indiscriminate pursuit and destruction of merchantmen of all kinds and nationalities within the waters which the Imperial Government has chosen to designate as lying within the seat of war. The roll of Americans who have lost their lives upon ships thus attacked and destroyed has grown month by month until the ominous toll has mounted into the hundreds.

"The Government of the United States has been very patient. At every stage of this distressing experience of tragedy after tragedy it has sought to be governed by the most thoughtful consideration of the extraordinary circumstances of an unprecedented war, and to be guided by sentiments of very genuine friendship for the people and Government of Germany. It has accepted the successive explanations and assurances of the Imperial Government as, of course, given in entire sincerity and good faith, and has hoped, even against hope, that it would prove to be possible for the Imperial Government so to order and control the acts of its naval commanders as to square its policy with the recognized principles of humanity as embodied in the law of nations. It has made every allowance for unprecedented conditions and has been un-

ing to wait until the facts became unmistakable and were susceptible of only one interpretation.

ONLY ONE COURSE POSSIBLE.

"It now owes it to a just regard for its own rights to say to the Imperial Government that that time has come. It has become painfully evident to it that the position which it took at the very outset is inevitable, namely, the use of submarines for destruction of an enemy's commerce, is, of necessity, because of the very character of the vessels employed and the very methods of attack which their employment of course, involves, utterly incompatible with the principles of humanity, the long established and incontrovertible rights of neutrals and the sacred immunity of non-combatants.

"If it is still the purpose of the Imperial Government to prosecute relentless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by the use of submarine without regard to what the Government of the United States must consider the sacred and indisputable rules of international law, and the universally recognized dictates of humanity, the Government of the United States is at last forced to the conclusion that there is but one course it can pursue.

"Unless the Imperial German Government should now immediately declare an abandonment of its present methods of submarine warfare against passenger and freight-carrying vessels the Government of the United States can have no choice, but to sever diplomatic relations with the German Empire altogether. This action the Government of the United States contemplates with the greatest reluctance, but feels constrained to take in behalf of humanity and the rights of neutral nations.

"LANSING."

An appendix to the note, under the caption, "Statement of facts in Sussex case, accompanying note to German Government of April 18, 1916," followed.

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Ontario School Children Present Motor Ambulance to Canadian Red Cross.

GIRL RECRUITERS

Germans Must Present Bread Cards to Get Their Soap Supply.

SEA INSURANCE BOOSTED.

HONOR FOR THE SUSSEX BRUTE

Germany Decorates Man Who Did the Deed.

Another Submarine, Not His, Was Sunk.

WAR ORDERS.

\$80,000,000 Placed in Canada Recently.

ITALIAN GAINS.

Monte Fiume Pass and Ancona Peak Captured.

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FATAL STORMS.

Tornadoes Kill Eleven in Kansas and Missouri.

Kansas City, Mo., Cable.—Eleven persons were reported dead to-day, and scores injured, several seriously, in a succession of tornadoes, which swept through the central portions of eastern Kansas and Western Missouri last night. Property damage is believed to be heavy, although accurate information was unavailable early to-day, because of disabled telegraph and telephone service. The storm area centered north of Topeka, and in a line running from the southwestern corner of Wilson County, in Kansas, across the Missouri line in the border counties.

The reported dead are: Fort Scott, Kansas—Mrs. Miller, baby Hixon. Rich Hill, Mo.—Ruth Fairbanks, 7 years old.

Rockville, Mo.—Dr. C. P. Bowden, of Appleton City, Mo.

Ablene, Kas.—Elmer Packard, of Enterprise, Kas., killed while trying to outrun the storm, by automobile overturning.

Six persons are reported dead and about fifty injured in Stover, Morgan County, Missouri, with the town laid in ruins as the result of a tornado last night. A special train was sent from Eldon, Mo., to the relief of the stricken populace of Stover.

BAD FOR WAITE.

Typhus Germs Found in N. Y. Suspect's Wife's Blood.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Report.—According to announcement made here last night, typhus germs have been found in the blood of Mrs. Arthur Warren Waite, wife of the dentist awaiting trial in New York for the murder of his father-in-law, John E. Peck, of Grand Rapids.

During the illness of Mrs. Waite's parents in New York, according to a story credited to Mrs. Waite, she nursed not only for her, but also for her parents, an atomizer containing a solution with which she sprayed her throat. This treatment, Dr. Waite said, was to render her immune from colds. Mr. and Mrs. Peck also used the same solution. It was said. It is believed this solution was the vehicle for the administration of the deadly germs.

ITALIAN GAINS.

Monte Fiume Pass and Ancona Peak Captured.

London, Cable.—The Italians have captured Monte Fiume pass, 11,000 feet above sea level, from the Austrians, and taken the extreme western peak of Monte Ancona, where the Austrians trenches were shattered, with heavy casualties to their occupants. Alpine troops drove out the last remaining enemy detachments along the summit of the Adamele ranges and occupied Monte Fiume pass. On Col di Lana, in the upper part of the Cordedule valley, after wrecking the enemy's lines with mines, the Italians assaulted and captured the extreme western peak of Monte Ancona. Most of the Austrians in the trenches were killed, the survivors, numbering 161, being taken prisoner.

SEA INSURANCE BOOSTED.

New York, Cable.—Insurance underwriters here have advanced from one per cent. to two per cent the war risk rates on shipments from New York to Bordeaux and other ports on the Bay of Biscay.

The rate to London has now reached three per cent. The rate on shipments to other ports on the east coast of the United Kingdom and to Havre is about three per cent. The rates to the west coast of England have reached two per cent.

HONOR FOR THE SUSSEX BRUTE

Germany Decorates Man Who Did the Deed.

Another Submarine, Not His, Was Sunk.

Paris Cable.—Information was received from reliable sources to-day that Emperor William has decorated the commander of the submarine which torpedoed the Sussex. It is understood Washington has been informed of this development. The award of a decoration would make it, perhaps, impossible for Germany to punish him, in case such a demand were made by the United States Government.

The name of the commander and the number of the submarine which, according to the recent semi-official statement, are in possession of the French Government, have not been made public. It is now learned, however, that it was the German submarine U-28 which was sunk subsequently by French and British warships at a point near the scene of the Sussex explosion, and whose crew, according to the semi-official statement, gave information concerning the name of the commander and the number of the submarine reported to have torpedoed the channel steamer.

The only previous information concerning the decoration of the submarine commander was in the form of advice received by way of Switzerland, which was to the effect that two officers had received the Order of Crossed Swords. Their names were not given, nor were they identified as having been connected with the Sussex affair. The information now received specifically identifies the commander mentioned as responsible for the torpedoing of the Sussex as one of those decorated with the Order of Crossed Swords.

FALL OF TREBIZOND ENDS CAMPAIGN IN MESOPOTAMIA

London Thinks Russ Will Soon Cut Turk Communications and Settle Fate of Nation.

London Cable.—(New York World cable)—"The fall of Trebizond has come at last, like a thunderclap," the Daily News says to-day, "yet the campaign which led up to it has been of extreme interest, and nothing less than Verdun could have obscured it so completely from western eyes."

"General Indevitch and his gallant troops have sealed their incredible la-

hors with a triumph which probably settles the fate of Turkey. Even if the broken remnants of the Turkish army have escaped (the garrison of Trebizond has been estimated at three divisions, perhaps 54,000 men), the task of reorganizing it, in the desperate straits to which Turkey must now be reduced, is nearly an impossible one.

"And it is not only this northern army whose fate is settled with the fall of Trebizond, for it means also that the last hope of holding the vital communication with Mesopotamia is lost for Turkey.

"The Russians will now be across these almost immediately. There is no longer any force available to stop them, and when that happens, the end of the Mesopotamia campaign is a foregone conclusion."

TURKS FLED TREBIZOND IN A PANIC

Russ Outmanoeuvred Them, and They Abandoned New Heavy Guns, Etc.

MANY CAPTURED

Great Shore Batteries Were Destroyed by the Russ Warships.

Petrograd Cable.—Full details are still lacking of the surprisingly swift Russian descent upon Trebizond and of the strategy that forced the Turkish defenders precipitately to abandon the city, which, with German assistance, they had made every effort to convert into a stronghold impregnable against Russian attack from the sea or land. But, according to the latest despatches, a decisive part in the Russian operations was played by the Black Sea fleet, which, after a severe bombardment of the city and the destruction of the great Turkish shore batteries, landed a considerable number of troops and further threatened the surrounded city.

Employing the same tactics as they had repeatedly used with success in their progress along the littoral, the Russian warships moved forward for some distance beyond their objective and sent troops ashore considerably to the westward of Trebizond, threatening to entrap the Turkish garrison. This move was carried out in concert with the advance of the Russian land forces, which, since the capture of the Turkish positions at Kara Dere, had penetrated to within striking distance of Trebizond without meeting serious resistance, and was accompanied by a steady bombardment from the sea.

GARRISON FLED.

As soon as the Turks witnessed the Russian preparations to land beyond Trebizond they gave up all resistance and scattered pell mell in the two directions open to them—one, the route along the coast, and the other, the road southwest toward Erzingan.

Trebizond contained a garrison of between 50,000 and 60,000. What part it is not possible to say, but it is believed here that large numbers were cut off and made prisoner by the forces landed from the Russian transports. A considerable amount of war booty, including a large number of the latest type German heavy guns, was left behind, for since the fall of Erzerum, Trebizond has been the chief base and provisioning centre for the Turks operating in this theatre.

With the fall of Trebizond the Turks lost the second of their two principal fortified points in Asia Minor, and will in the future have to depend solely upon improvised defences and the natural difficulties of the country to prevent the westward sweep of the Russian Caucasian army.

Trebizond never before surrendered to Russian arms, although it was threatened from Baiburt in 1829, and the mortal effect of the victory, it is considered here, will be enormous. For centuries Trebizond has been the chief trading centre for Asia Minor with the important caravan routes into the interior of Turkey and Persia.

RIGHT FLANK NOW SECURED.

Russia's firm foothold on the Armenian plateau, it is contended by officials in Petrograd, will open up a brilliant prospect for the future operations of the Caucasian armies, whose right flank is now secured, permitting the advance of the central armies west of Erzerum without danger of a Turkish turning movement from the coast.

Russian observers are speculating on the possibility of a successful campaign against Constantinople from the west, and express the opinion that the defeat of the Ottoman Empire has been brought decidedly nearer, which would mean that Russia and Great Britain could then release forces now occupied against Turkey and turn to Germany and Austria.

SHOCK TO GERMANY.

Amsterdam Cable.—Immediately upon learning of the capture of Trebizond by the Russians the German Chancellor summoned the Turkish Ambassador to Germany for a conference, says a despatch from Berlin. It is probable that the Turkish Ambas-

sador will be summoned to German great headquarters for a conference with the Kaiser.

German correspondents on the frontier express the fear that the fall of Trebizond will demoralize the Turks and force them to ask for a separate peace.

GERMAN PLAN FOR VERDUN IS REVEALED

Crown Prince is Making Ready for General Storm From the North.

PETAINE IS READY

And Seems Preparing for a Great Drive Upon the Woivre Plain.

London Cable.—The German infantry attack east of the Meuse launched yesterday afternoon by over 60,000 picked infantry troops netted the Crown Prince part of a salient east of the Chaffour wood, west of Douaumont village, and 1,738 prisoners, including 42 officers, the German War Office reported this afternoon.

It is frankly admitted here that yesterday's powerful onrush of the Crown Prince's infantry on the front between the Meuse and Douaumont has shattered all theories of German "exhaustion." The French official afternoon report emphasizes that the attack was of extreme violence. As for its result in territory gained, Berlin says that French positions on a stone quarry, 700 yards south of the Haudremont farm, and on a ridge of hill north-west of the Thiaumont farm, were wrested from the defenders.

The French War Office, on the other hand, claims that the enemy only penetrated a first-line trench in the east salient of the Chaffour wood, and that they were partly driven out of this position by a counter-attack.

Bad weather impeded the operations during the course of the day. There was an intermittent bombardment west of the Meuse in the sector of Hill 304, and the positions between Douaumont and Vaux. No infantry action took place.

IMPORTANCE OF ATTACK.

The importance of the huge attack which ushered in the ninth week of the Verdun battle rests, however, not so much upon the ground gained as upon the fact that it disclosed for the first time the specific direction in which the Crown Prince proposes to pave the way for the final frontal attack against the great French stronghold. For that the fate of Verdun will be decided in a frontal attack is now amply demonstrated.

Meanwhile, however, the Crown Prince will have to extend the arms of his giant "nut-cracker" considerably before he can venture upon a general storm from the north. For this reason the next blow is expected to be struck on the west bank of the Meuse, against Mort Homme and Hill 304. The French communique emphasizes that this front has been under a violent battering by the German heavy guns all day yesterday. The immediate aim of the Crown Prince is, according to the indications of the most recent developments, to establish a straight line from the Bois de Bouruis, west of the river, via the fort of the same name and Fort Marre to Fort Charny, in the bend of the Meuse. This line he evidently hopes to continue across the river due east to the Vaux fort.

The stone quarry positions gained yesterday lies in front of Hill 345, which will play a similar role on the east bank of the Meuse as does Hill 304 on the west bank. Behind this hill lies the Cote de Froide Terre (Hill of Cold Earth), due north-east of Verdun proper. All these positions are between Fort Marre, west of the Meuse, and the eastern Fort Vaux. It is on this line, military critics believe, that the ultimate fate of Verdun hinges.

The French artillery has developed sudden violent activity against the Teuton positions in the Woivre plain, and even as far south as St. Mihiel. Some observers here hint at a sortie en masse of the French Verdun army against this southern end of the German lines.

ENGLISH WAR ON SPARROWS.

London, Cable.—A war on sparrows is suggested as one way to reduce the high cost of living caused by the war. Sparrows usually take a serious toll of corn crops and in order to prevent such wastage at the coming harvest, farmers are being urged to let the schoolboys and boys scouts make raids on sparrows' nests throughout the district.