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## FURTHER DETAILS OF AISNE BATTLE GIVEN OUT BATTLE MAY GO ON FOR SOME DAYS YET

Report From Field Marshal French's Headquarters Gives Further Details of Fighting Along the Aisne River --- Battle Has All Characteristics of Siege Warfare --- Germans Believed to be Using Materials Intended for His Siege of Paris --- Progress of the Allies Slow, but Continuous, and Feeling that They Have Been Victorious Prevails Among Leaders --- Enemy Hoped High Explosives Would Affect Morale of British and French.

London, Sept. 24.—The official press bureau tonight issued a report from Field Marshal Sir John French's headquarters, supplementing the despatch of September 22 on the British operations in France. The text follows:

"The enemy is still maintaining himself along the whole front and in order to do so is throwing into the fight, detachments composed of units from very different formations, the active army, reserve and landwehr, as is shown by the uniforms of the prisoners recently captured.

"Our progress, although slow on account of the strength of the defensive positions, against which we are pressing, has in certain directions been continuous, but the present battle may well last for some days before a decision is reached, since it now approximates somewhat to siege warfare.

"The Germans are making use of searchlights. This fact coupled with their great strength in heavy artillery, leads to the supposition that they are employing material which they may have collected for the siege of Paris.

"The nature of the general situation after the operations of the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth, cannot better be summarized than as expressed recently by a neighboring French commander to his corps: 'Having repulsed repeated and violent counter attacks made by the enemy, we have a feeling that we have been victorious.'

### ARTILLERY FIRE KEPT UP ALL DAY.

"So far as the British are concerned the course of events during these three days can be described in a few words: During Friday, 18th, artillery fire was kept up intermittently by both sides during daylight. At night the Germans counter attacked certain portions of our line, supporting the advance of their infantry, as always, by a heavy bombardment. But the strokes were delivered with great vigor and ceased about two a. m. During the day's fighting an air craft gun of the third army corps succeeded in bringing down a German aeroplane.

"News was received also that a body of French cavalry had demolished part of the railway to the north, so, cutting, at least temporarily, one line of communication which is of particular importance to the enemy.

"On Saturday, the 19th, the bombardment was resumed by the Germans at an early hour and continued intermittently in reply from our guns. Some of their infantry advanced from cover, apparently with the intention of attacking, but on coming under fire they retired. Otherwise, the day was uneventful, except for activity of the artillery, which is a matter of normal routine, rather than event.

"Another hostile aeroplane was brought down by us, and one of our aviators succeeded in dropping several bombs over the German line, one incendiary bomb falling with considerable effect on a transport park near La Fere. A buried store of the enemy's munitions of war was also found not far from the Aisne, ten wagon loads of live shells and two wagon loads of cable being dug up. Traces were discovered of large quantities of stores having been burned, all tending to show that as far back as the Aisne the German retirement was hurried.

"There was a strong wind during the day accompanied by a driving rain. This militated against the aerial reconnaissance.

### FEELING OF DEFEAT PREVAILS IN ENEMY'S RANKS

"The officers are also endeavoring to encourage the troops by telling them that they will be at home by Christmas. A large number of the men believe that they are beaten. The following is an extract from one document:

"With the English troops we have great difficulties. They have a queer way of causing losses to the enemy. They make good trenches, in which they wait patiently; they carefully measure the ranges for their rifle fire and they open a truly hellish fire on the unsuspecting cavalry. This was the reason that we had such heavy losses. According to our officers, the English striking forces are exhausted, the English people really never wanted war."

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## MAJOR PART OF CANADA'S CONTINGENT IS ALREADY ON THE WAY TO EUROPE

On Ocean in Transports Heavily Armed and Convoys by Fleet of British Battleships, Cruisers and Destroyers — A Large Proportion of Infantry, and all Artillery with Equipment Have Departed — Remainder to Follow Soon.

Valcartier Camp, Sept. 24.—The major part of Canada's contingent for service in Europe is already on its way to the front, in transports heavily armed and guarded by British men of war, in sufficient force to prevent any attack by German cruisers. A fleet of war vessels, consisting of battleships, cruisers and destroyers, had been gathered at Quebec by Admiral Weymss and other war ships collected at convenient points. More than a week ago the transports at Quebec commenced taking on war stores, and since then there has been a steady flow in the direction of Quebec from the camp.

As the transports were loaded they steamed seawards and the conveying war vessels picked them up, forming a sufficiently strong protective force for the various groups. All the transports carry heavy guns. A large proportion of the infantry and all the artillery, with much of the equipment, have already departed. The departure of the remainder will quickly follow.

### ITALIAN TORPEDO BOATS REPORTED SUNK BY MINES?

New York, Sept. 24.—Dow, Jones & Company, a Wall Street news agency, published the following today on its news ticker: "Milan, Italy.—The Trieste correspondent of the Corriere della Sera reports that three Italian torpedo boats and one torpedo boat destroyer struck mines off the Dalmatian coast and sank."

### ENGLISH WELL TRAINED IN GAINING GROUND

London, Sept. 24.—The report sent out from Field Marshal French's headquarters office contains the following letter found on a German officer of the Seventh Reserve corps.

Corn, South of Leen, Sept. 17, 1914. "My Dear Parents: Our corps has the task of holding the heights south of Cerny in all circumstances, till the Fourteenth corps on our left flank can grip the enemy's flank. On our right are other corps. We are fighting with the English guards, Highlanders and Zouaves. The losses on both sides have been enormous. For the most part this is due to the brilliant French artillery.

"The English are marvellously trained in making use of ground. One never sees them and one is constantly under fire. The French almost perform wonderful feats. We cannot get rid of them. As soon as an Airman has flown over us, ten minutes later we get their sharpshooters in our positions. We have little artillery in our corps; without it we cannot get forward.

"Three days ago our division took possession of these heights and dug itself in. Two days ago, early in the morning, we were attacked by an immensely superior English force—one brigade and two battalions—and were turned out of our positions. The fellows took five guns from us. It was a tremendous hand-to-hand fight.

"How I escaped myself I am not clear. I then had to bring up support on foot. My horse was wounded and the others were too far in the rear. Then came up the guard Jager battalion, fourth Wager, sixth regiment, reserve regiment, thirteen and Landwehr regiments thirteen and sixteen and with the help of the artillery, we drove the fellows out of the position again. Our machine guns did excellent work; the English fell in heaps.

"In our battalion three Iron Crosses have been given, one to C—, O—, one to Captain —, and one to Surgeon —, (names probably deleted.) Let us hope that we shall be the lucky ones the next time.

"During the first two days of the battle I had only one piece of bread and no water. I spent the night in the rain without my great coat. The rest of my kit was on the horses which have been left miles behind with the baggage, and which cannot come up into the battle because, as soon as you put your nose up from behind cover, the bullets whistle.

"War is terrible. We are all hoping that a decisive battle will end the war, as our troops already have got round Paris. If we beat the English, the French soon will soon be broken. Russia will be very quickly dealt with; of this there is no doubt.

"We received splendid help from the Austrian heavy artillery at Maubeuge. They bombarded Fort Cerfontaine in such a way that there was not ten metres of parapet which did not show enormous craters made by the shells.

"Yesterday evening about six in the valley in which our reserves stood there was such a terrible cannonade that we saw nothing of the sky but a cloud of smoke."

Allies and Germans Continue Cannonading, and Battle Goes on Without Any Important Change — Gaps in Allies' Lines Filled by Reinforcements and Enemy Forced Back — More Ground Gained and Prisoners Captured — Russians Cut Off Communication Between Cracow and Przemsyl — Next Big Battle in Eastern Section Not Probable For Some Days Yet.

At the Battlefront, Sept. 24, via Paris, 5.16 p. m.—The German offensive was extremely vigorous today at the western end of the long line stretching along the Rivers Oise, Aisne and Woivre.

The allied troops, whose gaps had been filled with freshly arrived reinforcements, not only repeatedly pushed back the masses of Germans thrown against them, but eventually carried out a successful counter attack, which resulted in the gaining of considerable ground and the definite capture of Peronne, about which town the fiercest engagements occurred.

London, Sept. 24.—The heavy artillery continues to play a leading part in the battle of the Aisne, which has now been in progress close on to a fortnight, but, up to the present, without reaching any decision.

Almost without a lull great shells are being hurled across the rivers, valleys and plain, stretching from the River Oise in the west to the Meuse in the east, and thence southward along the whole Franco-German border, while the lighter guns play on the infantry lying in the trenches, awaiting an opportunity to deliver attacks and counter-attacks, with, as the French official communication says, "alternate retirement on certain points, and advance on others."

The battle line has stretched out further to the westward, the French left wing having made some progress in the direction of Noyon, which lies to the northwest of Noyon. A detachment has occupied Peronne, which is still further north.

The French also claim to have made an advance to the northwest of Berry-Au-Bac, which is about the point where the German line crosses the Aisne, continuing southeast to Brimont, which has been made the centre of many vigorous attacks.

Along the rest of the line, although there have been fierce engagements in which both sides claim victory, the situation is unchanged except that, according to German reports, the German troops have re-captured Varennes, which the French took a few days ago.

The Austrian general of staff issues

the southern Slavs.

It is considered probable that the fall of Jaroslau and the isolation of Przemysl has compelled the German army to look more closely to the protection of their line drawn from Thorn to Kalisz, which guards Posen, as the Russians are now able to release a large number of men for the invasion of that part of Germany.

The Serbian and Montenegrin armies composed largely of veterans of the Balkan battlefields, are before Sarajevo, capital of Bosnia, flushed with victory, and preparing to take this latest acquisition of the dual monarchy, the possession of which by Austria has been such a thorn in the side of the southern Slavs.

By J. L. Garvin, Editor Pall Mall Gazette.

(Special to The Standard Through International News Agency.)

London, Sept. 24.—Those who best know General Joffre believe he will take slow and sure for his motto and not risk undue weakening his lines anywhere through what is called brilliant combinations. The Generalissimo reports his forces still encroaching upon the enemy's right along the Oise and have at last held ground elsewhere.

This is enough, General Joffre is in no hurry; if the Germans choose to abandon their original plan by forcing the pace, that is their own affair and it is not for the allies to complain. Few of us realize how complete a debacle of the German calculations this situation signifies. Marshal Von Der Goltz has done as much as any man living to form German military thought of today; he has preached as a condition for success an offensive movement carried through with the utmost possible speed. To be avoided above all things, according to this veteran philosopher guide of the German army, was a prolonged struggle between the opposing lines on the Manchurian model of the parallel battlefield. This could only mean, he says, that the rival forces ranged along vastly extended fronts would contain each other indefinitely without decisive effect. This situation would be especially pernicious for Germany. But this is a situation which the invaders, after all, have not been able to prevent. It is a predicament thrust upon them by the strategy and tactics of the allies. This issue is fundamental. There are, of course, ways and means of turning a parallel battle gradually into something else. Even the changed tone of Berlin bulletins suggests that the allies inch by inch are gaining vantage in such a manner that whether within week or a fortnight, it must be fatal to the German position.

Everything now indicates that we can well afford to wait for the sequel. Information from Bordeaux is full of quiet confidence that the Germans will be beaten. Against that contingency the invaders themselves are making every possible preparation. They are entrenching along the Sambre and preparing positions between Antwerp and Namur. We may expect further and very formidable struggles before the enemy is driven out of Belgium, and his own provinces west of the Rhine.

Amsterdam, via London, Sept. 24, 9.35 p. m.—A copy of the Frankfurter Zeitung, published at Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany, which has been received here contains the following:

War which destroys also opens a way to new creators.

At all times mankind has regained courage to create new work, stronger and more beautiful than those which were destroyed.

"If the German armies, in their victorious advance, have had to hunt the enemy not only from the fortresses but also from the ancient and sacred seats of civilization, we have at least one consolation, that a victory bought so dearly will eventually produce greater and more beautiful works than medieval churches towering to the sky."

Carmania to take possession of the German vessel.

The Cap Trafalgar, however, suddenly opened fire upon the yawl, which sank, the sailors in the boat perishing.

The Carmania, whose officers were angered by the act of the Cap Trafalgar, opened fire and sank the German vessel. The British boat then continued on her voyage.

In announcing the sinking of the Cap Trafalgar, the British official bureau on Sept. 20 added that the Carmania lost nine men killed, and that twenty-six others were wounded. The survivors of the German ship, it said, were rescued by a collier.

### BATTLE STILL RAGING ON LEFT WING

Paris, Sept. 24.—The brief official communication issued tonight announces that on the left wing the battle continues to develop; that a lull has occurred in the fighting in the centre and that on the right wing the German attacks apparently have been checked.

Bari, Italy (via Paris) Sept. 24.—Vessels which have arrived from the Dalmatian coast report that the bombardment of Cattaro by the French ships and by the guns on Mount Lovchen has begun.

London, Sept. 24 (5.50 p. m.)—Heavy fighting is proceeding at different points to the south of Antwerp, says a despatch from Amsterdam to the Reuter Telegram Company. At one place, the name of which was deleted by the Belgian censor, a German force of 2,000 men was routed, many being killed, wounded or taken prisoners. Never before have the Belgians, the despatch adds, taken so many prisoners in a single battle.

### AUXILIARY CRUISER CARMANIA SINKS A GERMAN STEAMER

Montevideo, Uruguay, Sept. 24.—Details of the sinking of the German steamer Cap Trafalgar by the British auxiliary cruiser Carmania several days ago were related by the sailors of the British vessel which arrived here today.

The battle took place at a point three hundred miles off Rio Janeiro, Brazil, and lasted two hours.

The Cap Trafalgar lowered her flag as if to surrender, whereupon a yawl filled with sailors put out from the

### BRITISH SHIP CHASED BY ENEMY CRUISER

Buenos Aires, Sept. 24.—News reached here today from Punta Arenas, on the Strait of Magellan, says that the British steamer Ortega was pursued for three hours and fired upon by a German cruiser, believed to be the Dresden. The Ortega, however, escaped and arrived undamaged at Cape George, in the Falkland Islands.

The Ortega sailed from Liverpool July 9 for Callao, Peru, by way of Valparaiso, which port she left August 19.

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