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Both British and German Reports Differ On Result of Battle

German Claim They Engaged the Entire British Fleet—British Contend German Fleet Retired When British Battleships Appeared—Zeppelins Act as Scouts for German Fleet and Keep Them Posted on British Movements

GERMAN LOSSES ARE HEAVIER THAN BRITISH

German Losses in Ships Include Two Dreadnought Battle Cruisers, Two Battleships, Two Late Type Light Cruisers, Many Destroyers and Submarines—The British Lose Three Battle Cruisers, Three Armoured Cruisers and Several Destroyers

LONDON, June 5.—The statement issued to-night by the British Admiralty confirming previous accounts of the battle between the British and German fleets reiterates that German accounts and German losses are false, and that although evidence is still incomplete, enough is known to justify the statement that German losses are heavier than British, not merely relatively in the strength of the two fleets, but absolutely. There is the strongest ground for believing, the statement says, that German losses include two battleships, two dreadnought battle cruisers of the most powerful type and two of the latest light cruisers, and additional smaller craft, including a submarine. The text of the statement follows:

"Until the Commander-in-Chief has had time to consult with the officers engaged and write a full despatch, any attempt to give a detailed history of the naval engagement which began on the afternoon of May 31 and ended in the morning hours of the first of June would undoubtedly be premature, but the results are quite plain. The Grand Fleet came on touch with the German High Seas Fleet at 8.30 on the afternoon of May 31, and the leading ships of the two fleets carried on a vigorous fight in which the battle cruisers, fast battleships and subsidiary craft of all kinds took an active part. The losses were severe on both sides, but when the main body of the British fleet came into contact with the German High Seas Fleet, a very brief period sufficed to compel the latter, who had been severely punished, to seek refuge in their protected waters. This manoeuvre was rendered possible by a low visibility mist. Although the Grand Fleet were now and then able to get in momentary contact with their opponents, no continuous action was possible. They continued the pursuit until the light had wholly faded, while British destroyers were able to make a successful attack upon the enemy during the night. Meas-

ure, Admiral Jellicoe having driven the enemy into port returned to the main scene of action and scoured the sea in search of disabled vessels. When by noon next day (June 1) it became evident there was nothing more to be done, he returned to his base four hundred miles away, refueled his fleet, and in the evening of June 2 was again ready to put to sea. The British losses already have been fully stated. There is nothing to add or subtract from the latest account published by the Admiralty. Enemy losses are less easy to determine. The account they have given the world is false. Of that we are certain, but we cannot yet be sure of the exact truth, but from such evidence as has come to our knowledge, the Admiralty are entertaining no doubt that the German losses are heavier than the British (not merely relatively in the strength of the two fleets, but absolutely). There seems to be the strongest ground for supposing that included in the German losses are two battleships, two dreadnought battle cruisers of the most powerful type, two of the latest light cruisers, the Wiesbaden and Elbing, a light cruiser of the Rostock type, the light cruiser Frauenlob, nine destroyers and a submarine."

LONDON, June 5.—It is impossible to give a coherent story of the great battle which lasted many hours with different units at different times fighting scattered engagements. The British and German reports contradict each other flatly on the main facts. The British assert the German fleet retired when British battleships appeared, which the German official statement maintains the German forces were in battle with the entire British fleet. The British assert they had only two divisions engaged, and that all the units of these were not able to participate in the fighting.

Admiral Jellicoe, Commander of the Grand Fleet, remained in the area of the battle after the Germans had retreated and swept it thoroughly in search of enemy ships and survivors. The King's message to Jellicoe states: "The Germans rebuffed the British of the opportunity of gaining a decisive victory by retiring immediately after opening a general engagement. Vice-Admiral Beatty, commanding the battle cruiser squadron presumably on the old flagship Lion was again in the thick of the action. Every arm of most modern naval warfare was employed, but ships, cruisers, torpedo-boat destroyers, submarines and even Zeppelins. Whether the most destruction was accomplished by gun, fire or torpedoes is not known. The British officials say the battle was fought by methods known and practised by all navies; there were no surprises, no new devices, weapons or

Churchill Says Britain Still Holds Undisputed Supremacy of the Seas

OFFICIAL BRITISH
The Governor, St. John's:
LONDON, June 2.—On the 31st May a Naval engagement took place off Jutland. The brunt of the fighting fell on the battle cruiser fleet, with some cruisers and light cruisers, supported by four battleships. The losses were heavy.

The enemy, aided by low visibility, avoided action and returned to port after the main fleet had reached the scene. The battle cruisers Queen Mary, Indefatigable, Invincible, and Cruisers Defence and Black Prince were sunk. The Warrior was disabled and abandoned. Destroyers Tipperary, Turbulent, Fortune, Sparrowhawk, and Ardent are lost. Six others are not accounted for.

No British battleships or light cruisers were sunk. The enemy's losses are serious. At least one battle cruiser is destroyed, and one severely damaged. One battleship is reported sunk by our destroyers. During a night attack two light cruisers were disabled and probably sunk.

The number of enemy destroyers disposed of cannot be ascertained, but it must be large.

LONDON, June 2.—Further report of Naval Battle follows:—

British total losses in destroyers number 8.

One of the enemy's Dreadnoughts was blown up by British destroyers; another is believed to have been sunk by gunfire; one German battle cruiser was blown up; another was heavily engaged and seen disabled and stopping; a third is seriously damaged. One German light cruiser and six destroyers were sunk. At least two light cruisers were seen disabled. Repeated hits were observed on three others, which were German battleships. A German submarine was sunk.

LONDON, June 4.—The following communique is issued by the Admiralty:—

The Grand Fleet came in touch with the German High Seas Fleet at 8.30 on May 31st. The leading ships carried on a vigorous fight. Losses were severe on both sides.

When the main British Fleet came in contact with the Germans, a brief period sufficed to make the latter, severely punished, seek refuge in protected waters. This was possible on account of the low visibility and mist. No continuous action was possible. Pursuit continued till the light failed. British destroyers were able to make a successful night attack. At noon on June 1st, as there was nothing more to be done, Admiral Jellicoe's ships returned to their bases, re-fueled and were ready for sea on June 2nd.

The British losses have been fully stated. There is nothing to add or subtract from the latest accounts.

Enemy losses are less easy to estimate, as their accounts are false, and the exact truth is uncertain. From evidence that has come to the knowledge of the Admiralty there is no doubt that the German losses were heavier, not only relatively, but absolutely. There is the strongest ground for supposing that included in the German losses are two battleships, two dreadnought battle cruisers of the most powerful type, two of the latest light cruisers, a light cruiser of the Rostock type, the cruiser Frauenlob, at least nine destroyers and one submarine.

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strategy. How far Zeppelins contributed to German successes is a matter of dispute, only one airship came within sight, according to British accounts, and she soon was badly damaged and withdrew, but the Germans lay stress on the assistance rendered by their air service, and neutrals report the presence of six Zeppelins in the North Sea, and it is the belief of the British public that scouting Zeppelins kept the German fleet informed by wireless of the approach of the enemy, his numbers and formation. The Admiralty has no information concerning the report that the German dreadnought Hindenburg was sunk.

LONDON, June 5.—Britain still holds undisputed supremacy of the seas in the judgment of Winston Spencer Churchill, recently First Lord of the Admiralty, who has now resumed Parliamentary duties after service with his regiment at the front. His opinions on naval matters are still eagerly sought in Britain. Churchill gave the Associated Press the following statement: "I have had an opportunity of examining reports of admirals and considering information in possession of the Admiralty. The following facts seem to me to be established. The naval supremacy of the British feet in capital ships depends upon super-dreadnoughts armed with 13.5 inch and 15 inch guns. These are sufficient by themselves to maintain control of the seas. These vital units rank first. We have only lost one, the Queen Mary. There appears to be no doubt the Germans have lost at least one comparable ship. If this should be the Lutzow or the Derfflinger, that vessel is a heavier loss to them, actually and relatively, than the Queen Mary is to us. Counting vessels of the second order we have lost the Indefatigable and the Invincible. These are in an entirely different class from the super-dreadnoughts, and valuable vessels as they are, do not rank as primary units at the present time. Dreadnought battleships of the Westphalia type would be a loss comparable to either. The armoured cruisers Black Prince, Defence, and Warrior belonged to a third order of ships of which we possess a very large superiority.

Contend "Hindenburg," Pride of German Navy, Was Sent to the Bottom

EDINBURG, June 5.—Survivors arriving here from a British destroyer are convinced that they sent to bottom the dreadnought Hindenburg, the pride of the German navy. These sailors say that the Hindenburg was struck successfully by four torpedoes, while destroyers rushed in alongside of her hull tearing her to pieces until the mighty ship reeled and sank.

An officer from one of the destroyers gave the following graphic account of the battle: "The ships of the Grand Fleet went into action as if they were going into manoeuvres, from every yard arm the white ensign flew. That it went hard with the battle cruisers is apparent, but one ship cannot fight a dozen. They had fought a great fight, a fight to be proud of, a fight which will live longer than many a victory. We fought close into the foe, and if anything is certain in the uncertainties of a naval battle, it is that we gave at least as good as we got; we passed along the line of German ships some miles away and let off broadside after broadside. The

air was heavy with masses of smoke, which drifted slowly between the opposing lines hiding sometimes friend and sometimes foe. The enemy ships were firing very fast, but watching the ships in front one came to the conclusion that the shooting was decidedly erratic. A number of the crew of the cruiser Wiesbaden and men from several German torpedo boats have been rescued and brought to Copenhagen. They report that many of their companions after floating for 36 hours on rafts without food or water drank the sea water, became insane and jumped into the ocean. The German survivors say that several of their torpedo boats and submarines were capsized by the British shells and sank instantly. Bodies of both British and German sailors are beginning to be washed ashore on the coast of Jutland. Captains arriving at Scandinavian harbors report that the big German cruisers which were operating and a large squadron of destroyers which had been patrolling the southern Baltic have not been sighted since last week.

Queen Mary Sank In Two Minutes

LONDON, June 5.—The manner in which the big British battleship cruiser Queen Mary came to her end is described by an East Coast town correspondent of The Weekly Despatch. The ship, according to this correspondent, was sunk by the concentrated gun fire of the German capital ships causing her magazine to explode with terrific force, the forward part of the ship was blown away almost bodily and the Queen Mary went down in less than two minutes.

COPENHAGEN, June 5.—A despatch from Ribe, Jutland, says that the German battle cruiser Sydlitz was sighted on Thursday morning 68 miles west of the Fann Islands, going south, pursued by British warships. She was badly damaged and had two large holes aft.

British Fight Doggedly Despite Disadvantages. Odds Favor Germans.

British Ships Were Clearly Distinguishable Against Light While the German Fleet Sheltered Behind a Mine Field Lay Well Into Shadow of Shore Where Mist Made Them Difficult Targets—Invincible Sank Quickly

BEATTY'S MANOEUVRE WAS DARING ONE

Big German Cruiser Received a Hit Shortly After Battle Commenced and Sank Immediately—When Story of Battle is Told it Will Show British Worst Enemy Was German Minefield, Zeppelins and Submarines

EDINBURG, June 5.—According to the story of the battle received here Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, who commanded the British cruiser squadron, had cruised many times in the vicinity of the recent battle-field without succeeding in luring the Germans from their mined waters. About 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon when the squadron was about one hundred miles west of the Danish coast the British advance guards sighted the enemy and soon it was apparent that the Germans were coming out in great force, there being in all about one hundred ships. The German squadron included at least 20 battleships and battle cruisers with numerous lighter craft in front, the whole armada steaming rapidly in a northerly direction. The conditions were entirely in favor of the Germans, who doubtless soon became aware that only a fraction of the British fleet opposed them. Apart from the fact that the Germans were three times as strong as Vice-Admiral Beatty's squadron. They also had the advantage of the light and adopted their favorite tactics of hugging the coast, at the same time assuming a safe retreat. Atmospheric conditions then took a change which further helped the Germans. A thin drizzle reduced the visibility and the British gunners thus were greatly handicapped, while with the western sun behind them the British ships easily were picked out on the horizon, whereas the Germans were able to conceal their strength, covered as they were by the coast of Jutland.

Having succeeded at length in drawing the whole German fleet out of its safe quarters, Vice-Admiral Beatty, although greatly outnumbered and running heavy risks, determined to hang on grimly in order to detain the enemy in full strength. It was a daring manoeuvre, but the British fought doggedly with great pertinacity, despite all disadvantages. The fight lasted about a couple of hours, when the British battle cruisers Invincible, Indomitable, Indefatigable, and Hood were in sight. Vice-Admiral Beatty, in pursuance of this object, tackled a vastly superior force, hoping to delay it until Admiral Jellicoe's battle fleet arrived to destroy the Germans. Vice-Admiral Beatty achieved a brilliant success, because on the arrival of Admiral Jellicoe the Germans fled. We attained our object, the Germans failed to attain theirs. We lost cruisers which we can afford to lose, Germany lost battleships which it cannot afford to lose."

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greatest gallantry and considerably damaging the enemy, she met her doom, and sank quickly. But much more formidable aid was now at hand, and it was soon manifest that the Germans meant business. Small craft were soon "brained" with big ships. They were about 15 miles apart when the first shots were exchanged, and judging by the column of water rising on all sides there could be no doubt but that the pick of the German battleships were hurling broadsides, while the famous new Hindenburg, which has not been officially mentioned was there, and there is reason to believe she was heavily engaged. Admiral Beatty's ship, the Lion, gave a magnificent account of herself. Then came the Queen Mary, the battle-scarred Tiger, Princess Royal, Indefatigable, the last-named famous for her feats in the battle on Falklands. From 15 miles, the range was rapidly reduced to ten, and then to five miles. By this time a perfect inferno was raging. The opposing squadrons rained broadsides upon one another. Soon after the battle began in earnest one of the big German cruisers received a direct hit and a moment later she was enveloped in flames, sinking almost immediately. Up to this time most of the fighting had been done by the German battle cruisers, but vessels of the Kaiser class now joined in the fray, giving the Germans an enormous advantage in both ship and gun power.

When the story of the battle is fully known it probably will be shown that one of the deadliest enemies of the British was the German mine-field. The attackers also had to contend with the danger from submarines, Zeppelins. The mine-field prevented full freedom of action on the part of the British squadron, which was compelled to narrow area, while Zeppelins and submarines, which were near their base were able to operate in such a manner as to be a most important factor in the battle.

HIGH PRAISE FOR BEATTY

LONDON, June 5.—Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, speaking to-day of the fight off Jutland between the British and German fleets said, "Though hard earned, the sea fight was a British victory. There was no mistake in the strategy made. The British objective was to sink the German fleet or compel it to return to its base. In the absence of Zeppelins for scouting purposes, the British navy was obliged to send out heavy cruisers as outside scouts, because light cruisers would have been driven in without securing the needed information. Rear Admiral Hood flying his flag on this object, tackled a vastly superior force, hoping to delay it until Admiral Jellicoe's battle fleet arrived to destroy the Germans. Vice-Admiral Beatty achieved a brilliant success, because on the arrival of Admiral Jellicoe the Germans fled. We attained our object, the Germans failed to attain theirs. We lost cruisers which we can afford to lose, Germany lost battleships which it cannot afford to lose."

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