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PROBS—Fair at first, followed by increasing easterly winds, with sleet or snow at night.

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BRITISH TROOPS AGAIN BEAT TURKS

Strongly Fortified Position Captured Together With More Than 1100 Prisoners and Great Amount of War Material THREE GERMAN AIRPLANES BROUGHT DOWN—SUCCESSFUL RAID BY CANADIANS—BRITISH SUCCESS NORTH OF ARRAS

BRITISH TAKE STRONG TURK POST NEAR ARISH

More Than 1100 Prisoners Captured in Continued Success in Egypt, When Maghdabah Falls Into British Hands.

London, Dec. 25.—Following up their victory against the Turks in the capture of El Arish, 90 miles east of the Suez canal, the British forces in Egypt have captured a strong Turkish position at Maghdabah, 20 miles to the southeast of El Arish, taking some 1,100 prisoners, two guns and quantities of war material, the war office announced today. The official statement reads:
"On Friday afternoon British mounted troops carried a strong enemy position at Maghdabah, 20 miles south, southeast of El Arish, after an engagement beginning at 9 o'clock in the morning. Five hundred prisoners were taken. Aircraft co-operated, attacking with bombs and machine gunfire from a low altitude."
A later official statement says:
"A full report from Maghdabah is not yet at hand. The total captures are now 1,130 prisoners, at least two guns and a large quantity of arms and war material. The enemy's casualties were considerable. Our airplanes continue to harass the enemy."

HOLLAND WILL ISSUE A NOTE FAVORING PEACE DISCUSSION

Scandinavian Governments Will Hold Conference To Foster Peace in Immediate Future.

Berlin, Dec. 25, via Sayville.—The Overseas News Agency gives out the following regarding the peace reports:
"The Berne (Switzerland) Tageblatt reports that the Scandinavian governments, according to rumor, will in the immediate future hold a conference in order to foster peace negotiations by common propositions. Likewise, The Neue Zürcher Zeitung reports from The Hague that Holland will probably issue a note similar to that of Switzerland."

Attempted Surprise Attack Repulsed by Hand Grenades

French Also Succeed in Entering German Trenches and Causing Enemy to Flee.

Paris, Dec. 25.—The war office today issued the following statement regarding military operations on the French front:
"On the Aisne, a surprise attack on one of our small posts northeast of Canny was repulsed by hand grenades. In the region of Roye, one of our detachments penetrated, near the Amiens road, a trench of the enemy the occupants of which fled after suffering some losses. On the right bank of the Meuse (Vordun front), the activity of the artillery was maintained at a rather lively rate in the region of Louvain and Les Chambrettes. The night was calm on the remainder of the front."

RUMANIA LOOKS WITH CONFIDENCE TO FUTURE

King Ferdinand Says War Has Shown That Austria Cannot Exist.

London, Dec. 25.—A Reuter's despatch from Jassy, dated Dec. 22, says that the Rumanian Parliament was opened there on that day by King Ferdinand. The despatch says that the king, in a speech from the throne, said that the war had shown that Austria-Hungary in her present condition could no longer exist as a factor in the equilibrium of Europe. The king said that the Rumanian army had struggled against the forces of four combined enemies in a manner justifying Rumania looking to the future with absolute confidence. According to the despatch, the king was given an enthusiastic reception by the senators and deputies.

VALOR OF SOLDIERS PRAISED BY BORDEN

Premier Sends Greetings to Soldiers at Front and in Training.

GENERAL BYNG REPLIES

Canadian Army in Field Full of Hope and Confidence, He Cables.

Ottawa, Dec. 25.—Christmas greetings to Canadian soldiers at the front and training in England or at convalescent homes or hospitals there were conveyed by Sir Robert Borden in cables to General Turner, General Byng and Sir George Perley.
The prime minister cabled General Turner, commanding the Canadian forces in England:
"On behalf of the Canadian people I send Christmas greetings to the Canadian expeditionary force in England and earnestly wish that their efforts during the coming year may be crowned with the highest success. Those who are now completing their training in England may soon be called to the front, where their record will be as splendid and inspiring as that of the Canadians now in the battle line. The Canadian people are resolved to spare no effort and shrink from no sacrifice to support the cause for which you have taken up arms on behalf of your country."
Canada's Firm Resolve.
To General Byng, head of the Canadians in France, the premier sent this message:
"On behalf of the Canadian people I send to you and to all the Canadian expeditionary force in France Christmas greetings and earnest wishes that in the coming year the highest success be yours."
(Concluded on Page 4, Column 1).

CANADIANS IN TRENCH RAID DESTROY 20 ENEMY DUGOUTS KILL 150, TAKE PRISONERS

THREE GERMAN AEROPLANES BROUGHT DOWN IN ONE DAY

Enemy Aviation Grounds at Vraignes and Several Ammunition Depots Also Bombed by French Airmen.

Paris, Dec. 25.—The bulletin issued by the war office tonight reads: "The day was relatively calm along the whole front. On the Somme front three German aeroplanes were brought down by our pilots on Dec. 24. The first machine fell in flames south of Epinaucourt, the second crashed to earth near Omiécourt, the third fell in the direction of Liencourt."
"On the night of December 24-25 one of our air squadrons bombarded the enemy aviation grounds at Vraignes, as well as ammunition depots at Athies, Ennemain and Mons-en-Chaussée."
"Eastern theatre: A violent artillery struggle took place in the region north of Monastir."
"Belgian: There is nothing to report."

"They're Off! They're In!" Message German Officer Sent Over Phone Before Dugouts Were Blown to Atoms and Whole Battalion Put Out of Action.

With the British Armies in France, Dec. 24, via London, Dec. 25, from staff correspondent of the Associated Press.—North of Arras certain Canadian troops have just accomplished what the British officers declare marks a new phase in modern trench warfare. In a raid, which, however, was much more than a raid, they succeeded in putting out of action, temporarily at least, an entire battalion of German infantry. They took 59 prisoners, including one commissioned officer, and estimated that they killed 150 Germans in dugouts, which were blown to atoms after their occupants refused to surrender. The Canadian losses were extremely light.
The "raid" took place at three o'clock in the afternoon on a front of 400 yards. The German prisoners admit that they were taken completely by surprise. The officer captured said he was convinced that something was about to happen, but believed that the attack was coming on Christmas Eve. He reported to the higher command, but received no support. The Canadians, mostly stalwart men from the plains of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, had skillfully established themselves well forward, so that when the artillery had ceased the preparatory fire they were in the German front line trenches in less than two minutes. The officer in command, who was reporting the raid to brigade headquarters by telephone, said that he had hardly uttered the words "They're off!" before he had to say "They're in."
Consternation reigned among the Germans, who scrambled for the saps and dugouts leading to the rear trenches, while the Canadians pelted them with hand grenades. Caught absolutely unprepared, many Germans in the front line offered no resistance, but threw up their hands with cries of "kamarad." Others were taken as they fled for the second and third lines for the Canadians pushed on quickly to the second trenches.
Twenty Dugouts Destroyed.
About twenty dugouts were destroyed by the Canadians, several with bombs captured from the Germans. One of the officers engaged said: "As we entered the trenches many Germans broke for the dugouts. All who did were subsequently well cared for. Each of our men was given definite instructions for his precise task, and a map of the enemy trenches which proved absolutely correct. Each man knew every detail of the proposed operation. They were delighted at this and entered the fight with great cheerfulness. When they came out two hours later they were singing and as happy as schoolboys on a holiday. The raid was carried out with which the raid was carried out were unique. The artillery co-operation of the British guns was perfect. Beautifully placed curtains of fire prepared our advance, and creeping forward, protected us as they proceeded to absolutely demolish the enemy trenches and dugouts. The program had given the men an hour and a half for their work, but the clean-up was accomplished in an hour and ten minutes, and the raiders signaled they were ready to return to their own trenches."
Counter-Attack Failed.
No attempt was made at counter-attack until the following night, when the Germans bombarded and raided their own front line, or what was left of it, thinking that the raiders were still there. As a matter of fact the Canadians who carried out the operation were miles away. They were not part of the fighting line, but on rest, and had gone forward for this particular piece of work which was planned weeks ago.

DAYLIGHT RAID FOLLOWED UP BY MORE SUCCESSFUL ATTACKS

Enemy Trenches Raided and Bombed—Gas Used—Results of Earlier Raids Better Than First Reported.

London, Dec. 25.—Further official details are given in the war office statement issued under Sunday's date of the daylight raid recently conducted by British troops on the Franco-Belgian front north of Arras. A successful raid carried out on Saturday night in the vicinity of Hebuterne is also reported. The statement reads:
"We entered enemy trenches last night in the neighborhood of Hebuterne. Dugouts occupied by the enemy were bombed and prisoners were taken."
"Gas was successfully discharged by us yesterday evening against the enemy's trenches west of Messines."
"Last night the enemy fired a cannon shot at Mount Sorrell. No damage was reported."
"Intermittent artillery activity continued particularly on the right of our line between the Somme and Hebuterne. Northeast of Morval an enemy working party was caught by our fire. Our heavy artillery shelled enemy battery positions opposite Neuve-Chapelle and Festubert."
"Further particulars regarding the raid by us north of Arras, and reported in the communications of the 20th and 21st show the operation was more successful than at first reported. The raid took place in the afternoon, in broad daylight, after careful preparation. Two lines of enemy trenches were penetrated on a 400 yard front, and all the objectives aimed at were reached. Our troops remained in the enemy's trenches which were badly damaged, for a period of 2 1/2 hours. All this was done methodically, searched and blown in before returning. One German officer and 57 men of other ranks were made prisoners."

TWO TOWNS ARE EVACUATED BY RUMANIANS IN DOBRUDJA

Ground Yielded Also by Russians—Main Attacks by Enemy Are Repulsed.

Petrograd, Dec. 25.—(British Admiralty, per wireless via London).—Renewed heavy fighting is in progress in eastern Wallachia. The Rumanians were forced to yield ground at some points, and the Russians lost a height north of the Buzeu-Rimnik road, but repulsed all other attacks.
The evacuation of Tulcea and Isakcha, in Dobrudja, is announced. Attempts by Austro-German troops to recapture heights occupied by the Russians north of the Uzul Valley were repulsed sanguinarily, the Russians capturing two guns and more than 200 prisoners.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

CONTINUING their success east of the Suez Canal, and following fast on the heels of their victory against the Turks at El Arish, British forces have captured a strong Turkish position at Maghdabah, 20 miles southeast of El Arish. The engagement in which this position was taken started at nine o'clock on the morning of Friday, and when it ended at the close of the day the British forces, in addition to holding the position, have 1,130 prisoners, two guns and a large quantity of war material. The enemy's losses were very heavy, and when complete reports of the victory come to hand it is probable that many more prisoners and booty will be included in the official list.

From the British front comes an official report of a raid planned and carried out by the Canadians with such great success that the Germans who were on the field telephone systems had time only to notify their headquarters that the attack had commenced before the Canadian troops were upon them and digging them out of their dugouts. The Canadians took many prisoners, killed scores of Germans, blew up every dugout they could find, and for a time put a whole battalion of German infantry out of action. For their success the Canadians were praised by headquarters. The entire action took only ten minutes. A German counter-attack was attempted the following night, but failed.

Christmas presents to the troops on the Somme were handed out in the shape of three German aeroplanes, which were brought down by French airmen at three different points on the front. On
(Concluded on Page 2, Col. 1 and 2).

NO HOLIDAY TRUCE ON WESTERN FRONT

Enemy Working Parties Dispersed by Italian Gunners, Says Official Report.

ARTILLERY IN ACTION

Much Damage Done to German Defences by British Guns.

London, Tuesday, Dec. 26.—The official statement from British headquarters last night reads: "In successful raids during the night (Sunday) against the enemy's trenches, we took a number of prisoners. The enemy this morning (Monday), exploded a camouflaged mine at St. Etol. The damage was slight."
"There has been considerable artillery activity at intervals during the day along our front north of the Somme, where the enemy defences and headquarters were systematically shelled by us. Much damage was done to the enemy defences. Elsewhere the usual artillery activity continued, being most marked in the neighborhood of Ypres and also south of Arras, where we bombarded the buildings occupied by the enemy in the rear of his line."

ARTILLERY ACTIONS ON TRENTO FRONT

Enemy Working Parties Dispersed by Italian Gunners, Says Official Report.

Rome, via London, Dec. 25.—The official statement from Italian headquarters issued today reads:
"On the Trentino front there were only artillery actions. Our batteries dispersed working parties in the Pustulo area and the upper Astico."
"On the Julian front a thick mist prevented artillery action and limited the activity to reconnaissances."

Pope Makes Plea for Peace in Address to Sacred College

Rome, Dec. 24.—Pope Benedict made a plea for peace in his address at the Christmas reception to the sacred college. Referring to the message of Bethlehem, the Pope said that good will among men was the essential condition toward obtaining "that just and durable peace which must put an end to the horrors of the present war."

Swedish Government About to Broach Subject of Peace

Paris, Dec. 24.—A Havas Agency despatch from Berne says that it is believed in certain circles there that the Swedish Government is about to approach the belligerents on the subject of peace in the same way as the Swiss president.

XANTHI STATION RAIDED FROM AIR

One Enemy Machine Destroyed and Second Brought Down.

MAIN TRENCH ENTERED

Serious Losses Inflicted and Gun Emplacements Demolished.

London, Dec. 25.—The official British statement on operations on the Macedonian front issued under Sunday's date is as follows:
"On Saturday we raided an enemy position northwest of Zerov on the Struma front. Our aircraft successfully bombed Xanthi station and an enemy transport column there. One enemy aeroplane was destroyed and a second brought down by our airplanes."
"Today's official statement on the Macedonian operations reads:
"On the Doiran front we successfully raided the enemy's main line trenches between Lake Doiran and Doldzell, inflicting serious losses and destroying several gun emplacements."

Two Destroyers Were Sunk in Collision in North Sea

London, Dec. 25.—The admiralty announces that two destroyers were sunk in a collision in the North Sea on Dec. 21, during very bad weather. Six officers and 49 men were lost.