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NAMUR FALLS

FALL OF NAMUR IS REGARDED WITH REGRET IN BRITISH CIRCLES

London Times Expert Says it Requires Explanation--Russia and Britain Can Never Sue for Peace With Germany Even if France Falls.

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Aug. 25--5.15 a.m. Commenting on the fall of Namur before the Germans, The Times says it is one of those inexplicable events which make war the gamble that it is. That Namur should have fallen in two days will require a deal of explanation. The Times military expert says that it is too early to say that the line of the Meuse south of Metziers must be abandoned, but the outlook is not favorable and the development of the situation in the next few days will be watched with legitimate anxiety. He continues: "There are reports that the townspeople and even the garrison of Namur were less well disposed than the men of Liege to offer a strenuous resistance and so bring upon their town the punishment meted out by Germans to Liege. There is undoubtedly some slight feeling among Belgians that they have not been adequately supported by the allies and that they have borne the whole brunt of the war in the north, but we cannot believe that the Belgians did less than their duty and we expect to hear that they were attacked by overpowering numbers. "The possession of Namur was vital for Germany, and it was a fine stroke for the Germans to have rushed the place under the eyes of the allied armies. We still hope and believe that our counter offensive in the north is only postponed and not abandoned." Reviewing the general situation The Times military expert points out that the allies in Belgium are taking the full shock of the German army. He says that it is essential for Germany that she should deal a paralyzing blow in this quarter in order to gain time to detach troops to resist the Russian advance on the Prussian frontier. Commenting on the loss of the Belgian stronghold, The Chronicle says: "The news to-day is decidedly

bad," adding that if the allies losses have been heavy, "we may yet see before long the Germans march in earnest upon Paris." Namur is a fortress of great strength which its defenders could possibly hold several months. We do not imagine that it was taken by a rush. More probably a breach made elsewhere in the line of the allies imposed on them the alternative of leaving a large force to be invested in Namur or withdrawing from it altogether. "The blunt fact remains that in a really first class battle the French troops occupying a secluded position of great strength were driven out by the Germans after not more than two days' fighting. This speaks volumes for the power of the German attack. "England and Russia must stubbornly resolve that come what may to France, they will never surrender to Germany, but will stick to her as they stuck to Napoleon until they pull her down. As long as we hold the sea we cannot ourselves be vitally struck."

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GERMAN ARTILLERY DRAWN OVER HUMAN BRIDGE OF BODIES

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Aug. 25--4.10 a.m. The correspondent of the Daily Mail describes a visit among the French who were wounded in the battles of Vosges and have been brought to Vichy, whose palatial hotels have been transformed into hospitals. "I talked with many of these wounded, he said. "Three men who fought side by side, said: 'It is probably our own fault that we are here. Our major fell at the first volley, and then all the other officers at succeeding volleys. When we found ourselves without officers we, not bothering about what was going on in the front, rear or flank, fixed bayonets at 1-200 yards and went at them singing all the way. We were just 50 yards from the enemy when we were downed.' "In an adjoining cot was a sturdy peasant who told me this story: 'At Cirey a shell fell full

on my knapsack sending me sprawling face downwards. I did not stir, expecting every moment to be blown to atoms. After what seemed half an hour, seeing that the shell hadn't exploded I hunched up my shoulder and the shell gently rolled off. It is a pity it was so big, as otherwise I should have brought it back as a trinket for my sweetheart.' "A wounded artilleryman contributed the following experience: 'I witnessed one horrible scene. The Germans were shooting from the deep trenches among which our artillery was doing terrible work. But as fast as a German dropped a fresh man took his place until bodies of the Germans were on a level with the surface of the earthworks. At this moment a German battery was ordered to advance. The heavy wheels sank in the trenches, but the drivers furiously lashed their horses and finally dragged the guns across the human bridge.'"

STRATEGIC BELGIAN POINT BOMBARDED BY GERMAN ARTILLERY



THE CITADEL, NAMUR

BRITAIN WILL NEVER SHEATH SWORD TILL GERMANY IS BEATEN

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Aug. 25, 12.35 p.m. "Yesterday was a day of bad news, and we fear more must follow," the London Times says to-day in an editorial article on the fall of Namur. "In the first phase of the great battle," the paper continues, "the Germans appear to have won ground all along the line save in the area held by the British. We were prepared for the ebb and flow of conflict, but not for the fall of Namur. . . . We have to face this situation with unshaken confidence. We have to remember that the battle is not yet over. "The Germans have not yet burst their way through to France. We have to remember that this is only the first great encounter of a war which plainly is destined to be a long one. For the allies it is a phase; for the Germans it is vital. They are dealing their blows with tremendous vigor, but the issue in Belgium still hangs in the balance, in spite of the unfortunate events at Namur. . . . Whatever be the upshot, Great Britain and her allies will face the outlook with dogged determination and continue the war until the spirit of Prussian militarism is routed out of Europe. "Time fights on the side of the allies. With the Germans it is neck or nothing, but the French and English have everything to gain by waging a delaying war. . . . While the issue remains uncertain we may still maintain the stoutest hope. Should it go against us we may remember that the allies have not, like Germany, staked all upon their first venture. Our ultimate success is certain, and we will never sheath our sword until Germany has been finally beaten to her knees."

JAP CRUISER TAKES STEAMER OUT OF PORT

British Trade on the Pacific Will be Resumed at Once.

[By Special Wire to the Courier] SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 25--Convoys by the Japanese Cruiser Idzumo the Japanese steamer Shinyo Maru of the Tokio-Kisen-Kaisha line is to-day steaming for Honolulu off the regular line. The liner laden with a \$2,000,000 cargo and carrying a large passenger list left here yesterday and several hours later was joined by the Idzumo. Just how far the cruiser will convoy the liner is problematical but it is believed her intention was at least to get the Shinyo safely started on her voyage to Nagasaki and way ports. Then it is understood unless the Idzumo encounters the German cruiser Leipzig or Nürnberg she will act as escort to the Chiyu Maru, sister ship of the Shinyo, which was scheduled to leave Honolulu last night for San Francisco. In connection with the departure of the Shinyo Maru it was said here last night, the cargo carriers of England France and other allied powers now idle in Pacific coast ports will soon be released to trans-Pacific service. Arrangements are now being made to bound foreign bottoms and it is said California's barley crop will soon begin to move.

A ZEPPELIN BROUGHT DOWN NEAR ANTWERP

Panic Reigned in the City and Seven People Were Killed.

LONDON, Aug. 25.--The correspondent at Antwerp of the Evening News telegraphs that a Zeppelin airship which flew over Antwerp last night was brought down by Belgian artillery fire at Hemiksem, six miles outside of Antwerp. The crew of 15 men were taken prisoners. The despatch evidently refers to the same airship reported earlier in the day from Antwerp as having flown over the city last night. Another despatch from Antwerp says this Zeppelin, before it was brought to earth, succeeded in dropping seven or eight bombs into Antwerp. One of the houses wrecked by these missiles was situated only 300 yards from the palace of King Albert. Seven persons were killed and six seriously injured by this explosion. Some other houses were half demolished by the falling bombs. One bomb partly wrecked the hospital of Saint Elizabeth, but fortunately there were no patients in the building. The bombs exploded with terrific force, and threw the inhabitants of Antwerp into a condition of semi-panic. There is intense indignation in Antwerp at the attack upon the hospital, which was flying the Red Cross flag.

500 BELGIANS MADE ESCAPE FROM GERMANS

Caught in Trap Because They Did Not Receive Order to Retire.

[By Special Wire to the Courier] LONDON, Aug. 25.--The Antwerp correspondent of The Morning Post tells a vivid story of the adventures of 500 men of the Belgian army at Liege who arrived at Namur Saturday afternoon after twenty days of fighting and marching. At the opening of the war their post was between the Liege forts Chaudfontaine and Embourg. On Wednesday night of the first week of the war orders were given to them to evacuate their position but the orders never reached this battalion which became isolated by the Germans, but with a strong fort on each flank. The Germans were aware of their presence, but did not know their strength, and the Belgians, entrenched, were able to hold out eight days after the retreatment of the main Belgian field force, and repulsed constant German attacks. Finally, when their rations ran short, they succeeded in breaking through the German lines, and after many hair-breadth escapes reached Seraing. This was not accomplished without several brushes with the enemy, during which many of their number were wounded. They reached Huy on Saturday, where the railway authorities made up a train and took them to Namur.

WAR SUMMARY

Namur, the Belgian fortress has fallen into German hands according to an announcement made by the official press bureau, London. Details of the fighting around the fortress were not given but the English newspapers regard the fall as inexplicable.

Berlin despatches say five of the forts of Namur and the city itself have fallen and the capture of the remaining four forts is imminent.

A reverse to the forces of the allies is generally admitted by the English and French newspapers which say today's news is decidedly bad. While plainly expressing disappointment at the defeat of their forces they declare the retrograde movement toward the line of strong defensive works near the frontier to have been carried out in good order.

It is assumed that the allies are falling back on their first line of defensive works running from Maubeuge in a southeasterly direction by way of Hirson, Metziers, Montmedy, Verdun, St. Mihiel, Toul and Epinoy, all of which are strong fortresses and are interspersed with smaller works such as Avelles, Genicourt, Troyon, Les Paroches, Lianville, Cironville and Jony-sous-les-Cotes. Behind these lies another strong line of fortifications from St. Quentin in the north through Laon and Rheims to the great entrenched camp at Chalons.

The English newspapers declare that both the British and Russians are determined to fight to a finish.

whatever the outlook may be at present. They say the possession of Namur was vital for Germany and that it "was a fine stroke for the Germans to have rushed the place under the eyes of the allied armies."

In other parts of Belgium fighting is still in progress and a report from Ostend says 30,000 Germans have attacked Malines, 13 miles from Antwerp.

Charleroi has also been the scene of hot fighting this time between the French and German troops and a fresh encounter is believed to have begun there to-day.

Twenty-five thousand Germans have been surrounded between Courtrai and Anserghem according to an Ostend despatch to the London Daily Express.

Brussels has been left by the main body of German troops, who have proceeded on their way to the front.

Russian reports relate the advance of the Russian armies in Eastern Prussia, and the surprisingly rapid movement of the troops. Russian officials, however, caution against feeling too great elation over the preliminary successes, pointing out that the German territory about the Vistula is strongly fortified along the line of the Russian forward march.

Newspapers despatches assert that the Austrian fortified port (Continued on Page Four.)

ITALY MAY LAUNCH AT ONCE INTO WAR JOINING WITH BRITAIN

Tremendous Pressure is Being Brought to Bear--Would Mean End of War in Short Time--Her Army is Entirely Mobilized.

[By Special Wire to the Courier] NEW YORK, Aug. 25--A cable from London to The Tribune says: While it is impossible to obtain definite information, it is generally believed that Italy soon will announce her participation in the war on the side of the allies. The allies are now bringing tremendous pressure to bear on Italy to take an active part, and rumors in diplomatic circles are that Italy has decided to take the fateful step. Americans and others returning from Italy tell stories of a complete Italian mobilization and demands made by the army to get into the fray. At one embassy it was said to-day that it appeared that Italy was biding her time, waiting to see the result of the present fighting. Advices from Italy indicate that the feeling exists there that if the Germans should completely triumph, they would take a harsh revenge for Italy leaving the Triple Alliance and adopting an attitude of neutrality. British newspapers team with editorials pointing out the advantage accruing to Italy if she joins the allies, even to the extent of discussing what spoils of war in the shape of additional territory

or restoring provinces Italy might expect. While there is not the slightest belief here at present that the allies will be unable to handle Germany and Austria it is well recognized that Italy's assistance would make success more sure and certainly much quicker. The precise steps being taken to induce Italy to reach a decision are unknown but there is no doubt England France and Russia are all using every conceivable argument and in an authoritative quarters hope is expressed. It is also believed that Germany and Austria are doing likewise but no one among the allies believes these representations will be effective. To sum up there is good reason to believe that Italy will be the next nation to be involved in this great conflagration. A Rome despatch says the German ambassador here has been trying to persuade the Italian press to advocate Italy's active intervention in behalf of Germany against Great Britain and France, holding out the bait of Tunisia and Algeria. So far he has completely failed. Not a single newspaper, even those which were Austrophile before the war, has published a single article in favor of his views.

KAISER'S NEPHEW IS A PRISONER OF WAR

[By Special Wire to the Courier] PARIS, Aug. 25--A despatch to the Excelsior from Courtrai says that the Emperor's nephew, Count Von Schwerin, has been taken prisoner. He was in command of a detachment of Uhlans who reached Harlebeke. French chasseurs being informed of the presence of Germans arrived on the scene and killed one wounded five and made prisoners of the others. According to The Matin the ministry of commerce is consider-

ing the best means of annulling German patents and trade marks in France following the similar practice adopted in England. A despatch from Geneva says that a business man who has just returned from Strassburg gives his impressions which are printed in The Tribune. He says that the garrison of Strassburg were practically annihilated in the battle of Scherneck. Of 5500 men who went into the fight only 1800 returned. Four German batteries were put out of action before they were able to fire a shot.