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BIG BATTLE COMMENCED IN BELGIUM SUNDAY

Japan Has Declared War On Germany || Italy Promises To Help England; || Russian And Servian Forces Victorious
Is Now Bombarding Base At Kiao Chau || Will Declare War On Austrians || Over The German And Austrian Armies

REPORT SAYS AGED EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA IS DYING

GERMANS ACT LIKE BRIGANDS OF OLDEN TIME

Raid Private Banks and Loot Whatever Cash They Find There

UNSCRUPULOUS BREACH OF WAR LAW

And British Newspapers Call Upon Neutral States To Intervene

London, Aug. 24.—The German conquerors have inflicted a war tax of ten million dollars on the city of Liege and forty millions on the city of Brussels. The latter is \$55 per capita, or \$250 per family. The Germans have also seized two and a half millions cash from private banks.

Denounce It.

Newspapers denounce this action as a serious violation of the international law. Evidently Germany intends waging war according to its own set of rules. The Kaiser's command of the troops to gain a reputation like the Huns under Attila seems to be bearing fruit now. The Times declares that in demanding this payment from the citizens of Brussels, the Germans are creating a precedent they may have cause to regret before many weeks are over. The Telegraph denounced it as ruthless blackmail.

Not a Ransom.

The Chronicle points out that it is not one for ransom. It is a sum demanded by invaders for sparing a place not yet occupied from the mischief which would result from lawful operation of war.

It is not a fine, but is a collective money penalty inflicted on the populace on account of acts for which it may be collectively responsible. It is an odious return to the practice of nations in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Chronicle calls on the neutral powers to take common action to uphold the observations of the Hague and Geneva Conventions.

AUSTRIANS LOST 20,000 SOLDIERS

London, Aug. 22.—Official sources confirm the reports that the Austrians lost twenty thousand men in three days fighting on the river Drina.

ALBANIA NOW WITHOUT A KING

London, Aug. 24.—The Venice correspondent of The Daily Mail sends a report that Prince William of Albania, accompanied by his family, has reached Brindisi en route for Germany, and that Albania is in a state of complete anarchy.

MANY GERMANS NATURALISED

London, Aug. 24.—According to a correspondent of Reuter's Agency at Melbourne a prize court has been established in all the States of the Australian Commonwealth. The correspondent adds that nearly 800 Germans have been naturalized in Australia since August 1st. The average monthly total of naturalization he says is no fewer than 70.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Servians Victorious In Seven Day's Battle With Austrian Troops

The Austrians Were Decisively Defeated and Sought to Retire Across the Drina River—Were Mowed Down By French Artillery and Lost Thousands of Men, as Well as a Vast Quantity of Supplies.

Paris, Aug. 24.—The first detailed account of a great battle between the Servians and Austrians which lasted seven days in the territory between Babak and Leahnizax has arrived by telegraph from Kranjujevitz, sent by Henry Barky, war correspondent of The Paris Journal.

The battle ended in a great victory for the Servians. The Austrians decisively defeated, precipitately retired, seeking to recross the River Drina.

The Servian army pursued them with drawn swords, inflicting great slaughter.

When the fugitives reached the bridges the French artillery which was all ready opened fire.

The spoil was enormous, fifty guns; a complete ambulance equipment, a train of ammunition and several thousand prisoners falling into the hands of the Serbs.

RETIRED IN COMPLETE DISORDER

Nish, Aug. 24.—The following official communication was made public after the great Servian victory: "The Austrians fled in complete disorder before the Servian pursuit."

Russians Gain Victory From Army of Germans Including 120,000 Men

Conflict Was a Terrific One, Lasting Two Days, But the Germans Were Badly Beaten and Were Forced to Retreat—Russians Captured Many Guns and Are Actively Pursuing the Enemy.

London, Aug. 23.—The Russian Embassy here to-day made public the following report sent by Grand Duke Nicholas to St. Petersburg:

After a two days' battle the Russian forces are victorious. Were opposed by three German army corps (120,000 men); we have captured many guns; the Germans lost heavily and have been compelled to retreat.

Our troops are in pursuit of the enemy. The victory is of great strategic value.

NOT A DEFEAT BUT A ROUT

London, Aug. 24.—A despatch to The Times from St. Petersburg reports the Russian success in East Prussia and says it is not a defeat but a rout.

German Army Forced to Fight On The Allies Battle-ground

Good Strategy of the Allied Armies Decided the Scene of the Great Battle, Which is Reported to be at an Angle of Sambre and Meuse Rivers.

London, Aug. 23.—Refugees arriving from Ostend report two thousand German prisoners were held there. The great battle of the Belgium invasion is being fought at the angle of the Sambre and Meuse Rivers. The battleground is of the allies' choosing into which the Germans were forced by strategy.

Despatch From Rome States Austrian Emperor Is Dying

Paris, Aug. 24.—A despatch received here from Rome is to the effect that the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria is dying and that Prince William of Weid has fled from Albania.

Paris, Aug. 23.—Forty thousand here under their various flags. The foreign volunteers are assembled American group is small.

120,000 BRITISH SOLDIERS CO-OPERATE WITH ALLIED TROOPS

Details of Force and Location Kept Absolutely Secret

A QUICK TRANSPORT

Whole Force Crossed Channel in Less Than a Week

New York, Aug. 18.—Details of the assembling, embarkation and size of the British military forces at Plymouth for the scene of hostilities in Belgium and France, facts which the English censorships have jealously guarded from cable messages to this country, were related today by passengers who arrived on the liner New Amsterdam yesterday. The New Amsterdam took on about 100 passengers at Plymouth.

While in Plymouth the passengers noted the activity of the British army authorities, and estimated that from August 5, when the concentration of the forces began, until August 9, when the New Amsterdam sailed from the port, that fully 120,000 men had been assembled. It was supposed that the greater part of this force was taken across the English Channel to France aboard ten coastwise vessels and army transports, then lying in the harbor.

The troops, according to these passengers, began going aboard the transports on August 8, and on the following day the advance guard of the cavalry began to arrive in the city together with many trainloads of supplies and hospital equipment including 700 large motor busses.

March On France Through Oudenarde

London, Aug. 23.—A despatch from Ghent says it is reported the Germans are marching towards France by way of Oudenarde, a town made famous by the Marlborough wars of 1708 and lying about fourteen miles southwest of Ghent, and about an equal distance West North West of Brussels.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE GERMAN ARTILLERY

Took Away Cannon and Machine Guns and Numerous Prisoners

London, Aug. 22.—A despatch from St. Petersburg correspondent of Reuter's agency says the Russian advance both on Austria and Germany, is progressing without interruption. The cavalry engagement of the Northern army on Friday was a severe blow to the Germans.

In East Prussia an entire German battery was captured. Aviators are throwing bombs on the German encampments.

In a battle of four days' duration the Servians captured sixty Austrian guns.

WHAT GERMANS MUST SURMOUNT

Paris, Aug. 23.—Germany will have the first, second and third lines of French defence to pierce before reaching Paris. Everything is ready all along the line. A big army is assembled at Lille, and the British troops are supposed to be there.

AUSTRIAN SHIPS REPORTED SUNK

Nish, Aug. 23.—The Servians have taken more guns and have destroyed an Austrian Naval Station and five ships by artillery fire.

Allies and the Germans Now Bitterly Engaged In Tremendous Struggle

Official Announcement Says That the Great Battle Began On Sunday Morning Along a Line Twenty Miles in Extent—Expected to Last Two or Three Days—Whole of the German Army is Engaged.

Paris, Aug. 24.—The following official announcement was issued to-night: "Great battle is now in progress along the vast line extending from Mons to the frontier of Luxemburg.

"Our troops, in conjunction with the British, everywhere assumed the offensive.

"We are faced with the whole Germany army, both active and reserve.

"The ground, especially on our right is thickly wooded and the difficult battle will last several days.

"The enormous extent of this front and the great number of the forces involved, make it impossible to follow, step by step, the movement each hour of the armies. We must wait the result of the first phase of the combat before we can form any conclusion as to the situation; otherwise we should be giving the press divergent and contradictory news since such a battle naturally is made up of actions and reactions which follow and connect in a continuous manner."

London, Aug. 24.—An official despatch to The Reuters Telegram Company from Antwerp and timed 10.50 o'clock Saturday night, tends to confirm the report that a great battle began yesterday morning between the French and Germans.

The despatch says: "It is believed that a great battle commenced between the French and German armies between Namur and Charleroi.

It is thought it will last two or three days. Details are lacking."

CONFIRMS REPORT OF GREAT BATTLE

Antwerp, Aug. 23.—The great battle between the allied forces and the Germans began on Sunday morning, according to an official announcement. The battle line extended from Namur to Charleroi, which lies about twenty miles to the West.

Germany Turned Down Japanese Ultimatum, And Japs Declare War

Japanese Government on Sunday Ordered its Fleet and Army to Begin Operations Against the Germans—German Ambassador Has Been Handed His Passports and Was Given Official Notification of War.

Tokio, Aug. 23.—Germany having failed to reply within the time limit to the Japanese ultimatum that she surrender Kiao Chau, the Japanese Government this afternoon ordered the beginning of operations on land and sea. The time limit of the ultimatum expired at noon to-day.

RECEIVED HIS PASSPORTS

Tokio, Aug. 23.—The Government this afternoon handed the German Ambassador his passports and notified him that a state of war existed between Germany and Japan.

WAR DECLARED ON GERMANY

Washington, Aug. 23.—The Japanese Embassy here announced that a state of war existed between Japan and Germany since noon to-day, Japan time, and that a declaration of war was issued at 6 o'clock, p.m.

BOMBARDMENT COMMENCES

Tokio, Aug. 24.—The Yamato in an extra edition to-day says the bombardment of Tsing Tau by the Japanese fleet has commenced.

This message was passed by the censor of the Navy Department.

JAPAN CALM, BUT DETERMINED

Tokio, Aug. 24.—Unanimous approval of the war which is calmly and dispassionately discussed summarizes public opinion.

The newspapers express regret over the necessity of hostilities with Germany and urge the public to refrain from exhibiting resentment toward the Germans in Japan.

GERMANS STILL SOW MANY MINES IN THE NORTH SEA

Scatter These Dangers Indiscriminately in the Various Trade Routes

NEUTRAL SHIPS HAVE SUFFERED

By This Action Which is Contrary to All International Regulations

London, Aug. 23.—The British Official News Bureau makes the following announcement: "The Admiralty draws attention to its previous warning to neutrals of the danger of traversing the North Sea. The Germans are continuing their practice of scattering mines indiscriminately upon the ordinary trade routes.

These mines do not conform to the conditions of the Hague convention, as they don't become harmless after a certain number of hours.

Scattered Indiscriminately

"They are not laid in connection with any definite military scheme such as the closing of a military sea-port or as a distinct operation against a fighting fleet, but appear to be scattered on the chance of catching individual British war or merchant vessels. In consequence of this policy, neutral ships, whatever their destination, are exposed to the gravest danger."

(Continued on page 6.)

GERMANY REJECTS JAP ULTIMATUM

London, Aug. 23.—Germany has rejected the Japanese ultimatum demanding the withdrawal of German ships from the Far East and the evacuation of Kiao-Chau. According to despatches from Kiao-Chau the Japanese fleet will bombard Kiao-Chau to-morrow.

Japan's Ultimatum.

The following is the text of the ultimatum sent by Japan to Germany:

"We consider it highly important and necessary in the present situation to take measures to remove the cause of any disturbance of the peace in the Far East and to safeguard the general interests as contemplated by the agreement of alliance between Japan and Great Britain.

"In order to secure a firm and enduring peace in Eastern Asia, the establishment of which is the aim of the said agreement, the Imperial Japanese Government sincerely believe it to be its duty to give the advice to the Imperial German Government to carry out the following two propositions.

"First—To withdraw immediately from Japanese and Chinese waters German men-of-war and armed vessels of all kinds and to disarm at once those which cannot be so withdrawn.

"Second—To deliver on a date not later than September 15 to the Imperial Japanese authorities without condition or compensation, the entire leased territory of Kiao Chau, with a view to the eventual restoration of the same to China.

"The Imperial Japanese Government announces at the same time that in the event of it not receiving by noon on August 23, 1914, an answer from the Imperial German Government signifying its unconditional acceptance of the above advice, offered by the Imperial Japanese Government, Japan will be compelled to take such action as she may deem necessary to meet the situation."