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## ROUMANIA IS DECIDED.

No Further Doubt Remains Regarding Her Intentions.  
LONDON, March 20.—All doubt as to Roumania's course seems at an end. On the authority of persons high in allied councils, whose names for obvious reasons cannot be divulged, I am able to predict—so far as it is possible to anticipate events—that Roumania will join the Allies, probably in May.

Additional assurance to this effect were given me Saturday by a French official who has just returned from a mission in the Balkans. He was as confident that Roumania would cast her lot with the Allies as that the Germans would be defeated at Verdun.

Roumania is astir with preparations for war. Her factories and arsenals are running night and day to create the implements and supplies formerly furnished by the Krupps and the Skodas.

Railroads from Bucharest to Prolad, on the Hungarian border, have suspended all passenger traffic. For ten days, say the Havas correspondent at Bucharest, nothing but military trains have been allowed to move toward the frontier. Trenches have been prepared and everything made ready for defence.

Machinery for shellmaking and war supplies of all kinds is being rushed from England through Russia unimpeded by the countless checks at frontiers.

Verdun has been a boomerang for the Germans in the Balkans. The rash undertaking was launched principally for its effect on Roumania and to hearten the failing Turks. It has had the opposite result. It has shown Roumania that the Teuton tide has reached its crest and split on the rock of French resistance.

Roumania's entry, it is believed, has been timed with the grand allied offensive on all fronts. On the east fresh Russian armies, re-equipped and re-munitioned, are awaiting the coming of spring. In the Balkans the Allies have gathered through the winter 300,000 troops at Salonica for the reconquest of Serbia and the invasion of Bulgaria and Thrace. They are under the command of General Sarrail, the former French commander of Verdun, one of the few commanders who have gone through the war with the reputation of never having experienced defeat.

## ROUTED THE SENUSSI.

British Auto Squadron Performed Remarkable Exploit in Egypt.

LONDON, March 20.—An official statement issued by the War Office Saturday tells of the exploit of an armored automobile squadron under the Duke of Westminster on the western frontier of Egypt. It appears from the wording of the statement that the Duke is present in person on the Egyptian front. The armored car squadron bearing his name was presented by him to the Government early in the war, and distinguished itself at Neuve Chapelle.

According to Saturday's statement the squadron was used to dispose of the Senussi gun defences in the pursuit of the tribesmen near Sollum, on the Egyptian-Tripolitan frontier. The gunners in the machines shot down the gun crews of a gun and two machine guns which sought to stop the pursuit, and the action finally resulted in the capture of all the tribesmen's artillery. The British advance totalled 150 miles.

The War Office issued the following statement Saturday night: "Egypt: Reports have been received from officers returned from Sollum regarding the action of armored cars on Tuesday under the Duke of Westminster. An aeroplane reconnaissance discovered that the Birwar camp was empty, and orders were given to pursue. The main camp was seen 25 miles west of Sollum."

"As the cars approached one gun and two machine guns came into action. These were smartly handled by the enemy, but the gun teams were shot down. The cars dashed at the camp, the enemy scattered, and the pursuit proceeded."

"Our casualties were one officer wounded. During the operation we advanced 150 miles. The report of Nuri's death is untrue."

Ninety shipwrecked sailors who had landed on the Cyrenaica coast and had been seized by the Senussi were rescued. "In three weeks the force under Major-General Peyton has captured the hostile commander, killed or captured about 50 per cent. of the Turkish subordinate commanders, has driven and scattered the remnants of his force far beyond the Egyptian border, and has taken all his artillery and machine guns."

## Sir Sam in England.

LONDON, March 20.—Sir Sam Hughes, Canadian Minister of Militia, arrived at Falmouth yesterday, where he received the freedom of the city.

It was recently stated in Ottawa that Sir Sam had gone south for a rest. It is understood that after a visit to the Canadian units training in England Sir Sam will go to Flanders and spend some time with the expeditionary force there.

## War Policy Approved.

ROME, March 20.—The Chamber of Deputies, at the conclusion of a stormy session Saturday night, voted to support the Government. A resolution in which approval of the Government's policy in the war was unreservedly expressed was adopted by a vote of 394 to 61.

## Disensions Depress Soldiers.

LONDON, March 20.—Canadians largely attended St. Margaret's yesterday when Chaplain Shatford was the special preacher. Speaking from his experience at the front he said nothing more depressed the men than hearing of quarrels and disensions at home.

## BATTLE FOUGHT IN AIR

Greatest Conflict Since War Began Occurs in Alsace.

With a Score of Combatants on Each Side French and German Aviators Engage in Struggle in Which Seven Machines Are Driven to Earth—Frenchmen Had Raided Muelhausen and Dropped Shells on Railway.

LONDON, March 20.—A raid by a French aeroplane squadron comprising 23 machines on upper Alsace Saturday night resulted in one of the greatest aerial battles fought in the war. The number of German machines taking part in the engagement is not announced, but the two squadrons appear to have been fairly evenly matched. Four French aeroplanes were driven to earth, and three German machines fell in flames. The raid which precipitated the battle was directed against Muelhausen and Habsheim, on the edge of the Hartweld, just to the east of Muelhausen. Altogether 72 shells were dropped on the Muelhausen freight station and the aviation camp at Habsheim.

The German squadron, which rose to drive off the invading French, gave battle at once. One of the most dramatic incidents of the engagement was a duel between a French and a German machine, which resulted in each of the two machines being so riddled by the bullets of the other's machine gun that both were compelled to descend. Three other French aeroplanes were so seriously damaged that they were forced to land in enemy territory.

The official announcement of the aerial battle given out yesterday in Berlin says that the occupants of all four of the French machines which descended are dead. The German statement says that seven inhabitants were killed and thirteen injured at Muelhausen by bombs dropped by the French machines, and that one soldier was killed at Habsheim.

Another raid of small proportions was made by the French about the same time on Metz, Chateau-Salins, to the south-east of Metz, and Dieuze, just east of Chateau-Salins. The targets in this raid, in which five double-motored aeroplanes took part, were the balloon station at Metz, the ammunition depots near Chateau-Salins and the aerodrome at Dieuze. Twenty large shells were dropped on the station at Metz, and ten more were divided between the other two objectives.

German aviators also executed two raids Saturday on French railway works, the first on the Clermont-Verdun line and the second on the line from Epinal to Vesoul, and also bombed the region to the south of Dijon.

A German aeroplane, reconnoitring in the Verdun region, was brought down by a French machine near Montseville, the German machine landing within the French lines. This was announced in the afternoon communique.

Last night's official communique tells of the bringing down of another German machine by Adjutant Navarre, making the seventh machine brought down by that aviator.

The British headquarters in France sends the following report on aerial activity on the British front: Hostile aeroplanes were active, and there were many combats. A hostile machine was brought down in the vicinity of Radinghem. One of our reconnaissances was heavily engaged but drove off all attacks and brought down one hostile machine in a damaged condition. All our machines returned safely, having completed their missions.

A German aeroplane from Coblenz landed at Herpt, Holland, according to the Amsterdam Telegraaf. The machine and its occupants were interned.

## FRENCH DESTROYER LOST.

The Renaudin is Sunk in Adriatic by a Submarine.

PARIS, March 20.—The French torpedo boat destroyer Renaudin has been sunk in the Adriatic by a submarine. Three officers and 44 of the crew were lost. Two officers and 34 of the crew were saved.

The Ministry of Marine made the following official announcement last night regarding the loss of the destroyer: "The squadron torpedo boat Renaudin was sunk in the Adriatic by an enemy submarine on the morning of March 18. Three officers, among whom were the commandant and second officer, and 44 seamen were lost. Two officers and 34 seamen were rescued by a French torpedo boat which accompanied the Renaudin."

## Brazil Has Not Seized German Ships.

RIO JANEIRO, March 20.—From a reliable source it was declared that the Brazilian Government, despite reports to the contrary in circulation in the United States, has taken no action towards requisitioning merchant vessels of German ownership interned in Brazilian ports. According to information published in the newspapers, the Brazilian Government would not consider taking such action without an amicable agreement with all interests concerned. The neutrality of Brazil in the war between Germany and Portugal has been decreed.

## Canadian Girl Decorated.

LONDON, March 20.—At an investiture Saturday the King decorated with the Royal Red Cross Miss Vivien Tremaine of Montreal, acting matron of the Daughters of the Empire Canadian Hospital for officers. She is the nurse who was obtained quite fortuitously to attend upon the King when his Majesty met with his recent accident in France. She traveled to England in charge of the Royal patient.

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Jules Falk—A1110—85c.  
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Charles D'Almaine—A1712—85c.  
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Eugene Ysaye—36525—\$1.50  
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Eugene Ysaye—36524—\$1.50  
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