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GERMAN GENERAL CALLS THE BRITISH SOLDIERS "TOUGHEST OPPONENTS"

Says the French Are Stiff, for both British and French. The Hard Fighters, But Our he seemed, like most officers at the Tommies' Are Unexcelled front, to think that the British sol-For Bravery

GERMAN REGARD FOR BRITISH HIGH and material.

Appreciate the Way Our They Show

Field Headquarters of a German Army in France (Correspondence)-This important section of the long western battle line is guarded at this writing by the army of Gen. von Heerthe first heavy fighting and the first considerable victory of the war-the

Each day brings its artillery duel. sometimes ferocious, sometimes almost perfunctory. The infantry in the advance trenches carry on a constant operation of tunneling and trenching, too common, the standard of courage punctuated with minor, but frequently among the supposed overcivilized sharp contacts.

This week, however, has seen no heavy fighting, and the lull in operations of a serious character has enabled the correspondent of the Asautomobile, the aeroplane, the tele- ans. phone and wireless telegraphy in

Admits His Views Changed. Physically Gen. von Heeringen is far from the generally conceived idea of a German commanding officer. Sixtyfive years of age, with silk white beard, mild eyes, a pleasant voice and a courteous consideration for visitors. and all with whom he comes in contact, it takes the gray field unform with the black and white ribbon and the Iron Cross upon his breast to reveal the man who, as Prussian Wan Minister, drafted and put through the Reichstag the 1,000,000,000 mark levy for the increase in the Army last year. and who as commander of that Army hastily concentrated in the first 10 days of mobilization, broke up the French invasion of Southern Alsace and drove the invaders back upon

Gen. von Heeringen admits that all did not come out as the experts had

the field of fire does not extend more than 50 yards before the trenches. That is enough, with modern weapons,

Hand Grenades Like Baseballs.

"Hand grenades, we find, are the best weapons for street and house-to house fighting. A couple of hand grenades thrown into a house occupied by the enemy will clear it more quickly than anything else and with far less loss of life than use of the

These hand grenades are about the

size of a baseball and are bound to short wooden paddles, making them very handy to throw. Usually they are provided with fuses which the users light from a match or a cigar. Gen. von Heeringen was asked whether the first months' fighting had settled in any way the question of the superiority of dense or extended lines for attack, English and French reports in the early days of the war having described the German soldiers as charging in almost solid formation and incurring heavy losses. The General intimated that there was a great deal of legend in the story and that in

modern infantry weapons. British Stiffest Fighters. "Which of the Allies have the best troops?" asked one of his hearers. Gen. von Heeringen had only praise oct19,12w,d w

order to get the men forward under

dense lines, owing to the effect of the

diers were the toughest opponents. The correspondent has found German officers of all arms united in this opinion of the British personnel

The German infantryman has wholesome appreciation of the way in which the "Tommies" stick to their Men Hold on to Their trenches to the last. The German art-Trenches and Respect illeryman praises the work of the British guns. The aviators who have had General High Efficiency to do with both French and British flyers say that the Britons are more enterprising than their French colleagues and that the British biplane s superior in many points to all other

The clothing and equipment of the British officers and soldiers is considered almost ideal. Evidence of this cers encountered wearing British defeat of the French at Muelhausen, greatcoats, even staff officers of higher grades considering themselves lucky when they can put their shoulder straps and buttons on the brown

Deeds of bravery in this war were races of Europe too high, the General believed, to draw any comparisons or to select any special exploit as the

sociated Press, who has been a guest What has caught his fancy, howof the headquarters mess for the ever, was the action of untried regigreater part of the week to have many ments of young troops thrown into conversations with Gen. von Heering- the fighting in Flanders and getting en and almost every evening hear his their baptism of fire in what is conafter-dinner talks on the new lessons ceded to be the most vicious fighting and methods of this war, the initial of the war, who went in singing campaign in Alsace, the comparative "Deutschland Ueber Alles," and bore bravery of the various armies, the their part with the enthusiasm of noteworthy achievements and incid- youngsters and the steadiness, unents of the war and on the use of the der heavy losses, of seasoned veter-

> Life at headquarters is one of steady work, notwithstanding the comparative inaction of the Army for several weeks. The officers of the staff-and Gen. von Heeringen has a large official family, of perhaps 50 officers-mess together in two large connecting rooms of the interesting old French building used as head-

> The telephone central connecting the general with various field headquarters, with Berlin, with the headquarters of the other armies and with his own subordinate down simplest non-commissioned officer commanding a squad in the foremost trench, in an adjoining room, but durquarters the commanding general was reports or communication.

The food is plain and simple, soldierly to almost the same degree as

"Have you seen everything you wished to?" asked Gen. von Heeringen in a farewell conversation. "We have you should be given every facility for your work. In return please do one thing. Let the people of America know that we are not Huns and bar-

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