

## FIRED ON MEN IN THE WATER

British Official Statement  
Proves That the Germans  
Acted Inhumanly After  
Naval Fight

London, Sept. 27.—The Admiralty office has issued a reply to the statement of the German minister at Copenhagen alleging that the English fired on German swimmers following the naval battle near Heligoland.

The Admiralty states that when the German torpedo boat destroyer V 187 was sinking, the Goshawk ordered the British destroyer to cease their fire and lower their boats to save the survivors.

While this was being done an officer on the after part of the Y 187 trained its after gun on the Goshawk and fired at 200 yards range, hitting the wardroom. It is thought that he believed the boat's crew intended to board and capture his vessel, which was still flying her colors.

**Destroyed After Gun.**  
It thereupon became necessary to destroy his after gun, which was done with a few well placed shots, after which every effort was made to save his life until the German cruiser Stettin appeared through the mist and opened a heavy fire on the British boats. The destroyers were forced to retire to avoid destruction. The Goshawk removed her men from the boat, leaving it to the German prisoners, nearly all of whom were wounded.

"It is to be regretted," says the note, "that a bluejacket in the castle in the Goshawk, exasperated at the inhuman conduct of the German cruiser, threw a projectile which could not possibly have exploded under the circumstances, into the boat as it drifted past the ship."

**Not Surprising.**  
"This is doubtless the incident referred to by the German minister at Copenhagen, and it cannot be denied,



although it was done under considerable provocation. It was surely a venial offence compared with that of the German cruiser, which fired many shells at the boats of the British destroyers which were engaged in a humane and chivalrous action.

The Defender, which had drifted some distance from her boats, came up under heavy fire, and her commanding officer, to save his ship, abandoned two boats containing an officer, nine men and many prisoners.

**Watched by Submarine.**  
"This scene was witnessed through the periscope by the commanding officer of submarine E-4, who proceeded to attack the cruiser Stettin, but later altered his course to the north-west before the submarine was brought within range of the Stettin's guns."

"After covering the retreat of the destroyers, E-4 returned to the small boats which the Goshawk had been forced to abandon and removed the British officers and men and one German officer, a chief petty officer, and one man. The E-4 might as well have taken the other German officer, and six unrounded men as prisoners, but as the boats contained eighteen very badly wounded Germans he humbly left the officer and men to care for them and navigate the boats."

"Before leaving he provided them with water, biscuits and a compass and gave the officer his position and the course to Heligoland."

"The officer and men of the Defender stripped themselves of all but their trousers, tearing up their clothes to provide bandages for the wounded Germans."

"It might well be said that in carrying out this chivalrous action, the British destroyer ran an unjustifiable risk. The survivors of the V-187 must indeed be ungrateful if they did not fully appreciate the treatment received from our officers and men."

**Fired at Own Men.**

"There is no evidence that the officers of the V-187 fired on their men but many British officers and men actually saw officers of the cruiser Mainz and the Koenig Louise fire revolvers at their men in the water, presumably considering that they had prematurely deserted their posts."

"About 350 officers and men were saved from the Mainz of whom 150 were swimming in the water, some at least half a mile from the ship. The remaining 200 of the crew of the Mainz could not be induced to jump overboard and were taken off by the destroyer."

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Sep30,1w



### NEW FRENCH GUN FIRES TURPINITE

A Deadly Explosive That  
Kills Instantaneously—  
Grim Evidence of its Work

London, Sept. 27.—Remarkable tales of novel engines of war are appearing in all parts of Europe, but nothing has yet equalled the reports circulated concerning the new guns used by the French, in firing turpinite, a substance said to produce instantaneous and painless death for every living thing within its reach.

Although it is so deadly in its work turpinite cannot be objected to on the ground that it violates humane principles. In fact it is so humane that it must not be confused with lyddite and other explosives which have deadened fumes.

**Entire Lines Dead**  
English correspondents have reported that entire lines of German soldiers stood dead in their trenches as a result of the fumes from the mysterious turpinite discharged by the French in engagements along the Marne. The dead Germans are re-

ported to have maintained a standing posture and retained their rifles in their hands, so sudden and unusual was the effect of the new weapon. Instantaneous paralysis is said to have been caused by the turpinite.

The French gun for the use of turpinite is shrouded in as great mystery as turpinite itself. Experts are required, it is said, for the use of the new ammunition, and the manipulation of the strange gun so recently brought into use in battle.

Military experts are now speculating whether turpinite will lend itself to use in aeroplanes. Lyddite is said to be available for the use of military aeroplanes and Zeppelins. As Zeppelins are capable of carrying guns of considerable size it is conceivable they might utilize turpinite. However, in the present war military experts do not expect to see any of France's enemies discover enough about turpinite to imitate its gas, and the guns necessary for its use.

**London Not Worrying**

London is constantly hearing stories of the terrible engines of war Germany will send over the British capital, and bombs containing horrible gases are among the weapons it is predicted the Germans may drop upon darkened London streets. But such stories cause little uneasiness, because of the experience of Paris with German bombs.

A few persons were killed there, but the Parisian in a way enjoyed the visits of the German airships, which ordinarily sailed over the French capital about five o'clock in the afternoon. Great crowds thronged into the streets to see the aerial visitors, and showed little fear of the bombs dropped from the sky.

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