

UNCLE SAM MAKES VAS PREPARATION FOR WAR; FRENCH AND GERMANS IN CLOSE GRIPS AT RHEIMS Mexican Troops Move Toward United States Border; Is It Part of a Hun Plot?

HUN PLOT WORKS OUT IN MEXICO?

Reported Mexican Troops are Moving Toward the Texan Border.

STRANGE TALE TOLD BY U.S. CONGRESSMAN

"Zimmerman" Note Contained Unpublished German Plan for Mexican Attack.

El Paso, Texas, April 5.—De facto troops in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Chihuahua have begun a general movement toward the American border, according to highly reliable information received here tonight. The movement in these three border states has been officially reported to Washington and is being watched closely. In Chihuahua a movement is being made in a northeasterly direction by Gen. Murguia's troops, the reason given by Carranza officials being that it is an offensive campaign against Villa.

The Zimmerman Offer. Washington, April 5.—Representative Miller, of Minnesota, Republican member of the foreign affairs committee, sprang a sensation during the discussion in the house today by declaring that an unpublished paragraph of the "Zimmerman note" offered to establish a submarine in a Mexican port, supply Mexico with unlimited quantities of arms and ammunition, and send German reservists in the United States to Mexico.

The unpublished portion of the Zimmerman speech, Mr. Miller quotes as follows: "Agreeably to the Mexican government, submarine bases will be established at Mexican ports, from which will be supplied arms, ammunition and supplies. All reservists are ordered into Mexico. Arrange to attack all along the border."

Representative Miller further said he understood three German schooners had landed on the western coast of Mexico, and that Villa was surrounded by German officers, who had taken charge of the drilling of his men. Reliable information, he said, also was that the Carranza army was "not much better."

When Representative Miller's quotation was submitted to Secretary Lansing, however, the secretary replied, "nothing of the sort."

To Protect the Canal. Colon, April 5.—The Panama Canal terminal ports of Cristobal and Balboa will be closed to navigation between sunset and sunrise, and lights will be extinguished, beginning tomorrow. Shipping is warned that it is unsafe to approach nearer than two miles from the ports by day or night.

WILL RELEASE ALL AMERICAN OFFICERS WITH ALLIED FORCES

To Assist in Training the Army of Uncle Sam for Overseas Service.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, April 5.—It is currently reported here that the American soldiers in the Canadian army are to be transferred, if they so desire, to the overseas American forces. There are about five thousand Americans with Canadian troops, in any case, it is stated, that American officers who are at the front are to be released in order to assist in the training of the American army. The number of Americans with the British and French forces is believed to be about ten thousand.

GERMANS STRIKE BACK HARD AT FRENCH TROOPS ON RHEIMS LINE, SCORING BUT MINOR SUCCESSSES

Object was to Clear Left Bank of Aisne Canal but in Most Place it Failed to be Effective.

French Guns in Vigorous Action Silence Hun Batteries Between Somme and Oise North of Urville — Heavy Fighting Still Proceeding.

London, April 5.—The German official communication of today, as received here, claims that the Germans have inflicted a sanguinary reverse on the French in an elaborately prepared and vigorously executed undertaking north of Rheims. Eight hundred men were made prisoner during the operation, the communication says.

Paris, April 5.—Picked German troops made a powerful attack against the French today to the northwest of Rheims, along a mile and a half front. Their object was to clear the left bank of the canal of the Aisne, and they succeeded in their enterprise in some points. Over the greater part of this front, however, according to the official statement of the war office, the attack failed, the French re-occupying all of their first line trenches. The battle is still in progress. The text of the statement reads:

"Between the Somme and the Oise the German artillery violently bombarded our positions north of Urville. The vigorous reply of our batteries silenced the enemy's guns. "There was an intermittent artillery action on the west bank of the Oise and south of the Ailette river, but no infantry action. On the western border of the Aisne, after a fierce bombardment, the Germans carried out a surprise attack on one of our trenches north of Vieme-Le-Chateau. The enemy, who made use of flaming liquids, was repulsed by our barrage fire and left dead and prisoner in our hands. "Northwest of Rheims a German attack, announced in the preceding communication, against our positions between Sapignol and the Godat Farm developed on a front of 2,500 metres. The enemy had assembled numerous special troops for the assault with the object of driving us from the left bank of the canal of the Aisne, as proved by orders found on dead officers or prisoners. The attack

completely failed over the greater part of the front, where we reoccupied almost immediately our first line trenches. "Counter-attacks are under way for the recapture of some elements which the enemy still holds. "German Troop Wiped Out. "This afternoon on the left bank of the Mosne our guns caught under their fire south of Hill 204 a German troop, which suffered heavy losses, in Lorraine, in the region of Greunay, we shelled a train of which several wagons were burned. "Eastern communication: Throughout the night there was sustained artillery activity, today the Belgian batteries shelled German works northeast of Dixmude. Sprayed bomb and grenade fighting took place at Steenstraete and in the direction of Dixmude. "Eastern theatre: On April 4th announcing occurred along the whole front between the Vardar and the Lakes, especially in the region of Taryana. British victory bombardment, an enemy aviation park at Hudovo."

PETROGRAD MOURNS FOR VICTIMS OF REVOLUTION; FOLLOWS BODIES TO TOMB

Buried with Full Military Honors While City is Draped in Mourning—180 Bodies Buried in Large Grave in Field of Mars.

Petrograd, via London, April 5.—The victims of the revolution were solemnly buried today in the historic field of Mars. As the coffins, draped in scarlet bunting, were lowered, one by one, into the tremendous grave which had been dug in a corner of the field, a series of salutes—one for each victim—boomed across the icebound Neva from the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul, where the last ministers of the fallen empire are confined, regimental bands flanked the square field, and thousands of persons, with bared heads, joined in a mass for the revolutionary dead.

The sombre aspect of the city, with its gloomy buildings looming under a dull gray sky, was relieved by innumerable flags and streamers of flaming red, some few of which were edged with black bands of mourning. Banners of every description bearing the familiar devices of the new republic were carried by each unit in the procession, which gathered from every quarter of the city to march to the burial ground. Each column bore the bodies of victims who had lived in their district of the city.

All in Funeral Procession. The tremendous funeral cortege wound its way through a city almost empty of spectators. Virtually every woman and every child who was able to walk marched in the procession. Perfect order prevailed. Except for the muffled tolling of the church bells, the dirges played by the military bands and the slow, melancholy chants, the procession proceeded in complete silence. Stores were closed, all traffic ceased, and the entire city appeared to be holding its breath until the last relics of the struggle of three weeks ago had been buried.

Army Represented. One hundred soldiers from each regiment engaged in the revolution took part in the procession. The famous Volynsky Guards, Pavlovsk and Grenadier regiments, machine gun regiments, pontoon battalions and Marines were also represented. But the major part of the parade was made up of civilians, who had carefully drilled themselves into marching units for the occasion. The girl students from the universities formed an enormous brigade, which marched down the Nevsky Prospect at the side of a company of workmen and was followed by long columns of peasants and servants, with detachments of officers and soldiers bringing up the rear.

The same spirit of quiet reverence dominated all as they united in the same mournful songs and strode side by side to the burial field. Grim with the memory of the recent struggle, but inspired with new hopes, it was a strange army of pale-faced black-garbed people which took its solemn course through the city. One after another the columns bearing scarlet coffins reached the burial ground. Each stopped a moment while the burial ceremony was taking place, and then passed on in silence over the Troiky bridge.

Early in the afternoon the last group reached the field, and 180 bodies had been interred.

DECISION AGAINST GERMANS.

Berna, via Paris, April 5.—The German Swiss court of arbitration has handed down a ruling under which two Swiss citizens who lost their lives as a result of the torpedoing of the cross-channel steamer Sussex, by a German submarine in March, 1916, are awarded respectively 100,000 francs and 40,000 francs. In addition, the sum of 8,000 francs was awarded to Swiss passengers who were injured in the disaster.

ROOSEVELT DETERMINED FOR FIGHT

Ex-president Says States Should Send Army Corps to France.

AND HE WILL HEAD A DIVISION IN IT.

Such Action Would Create No "Unwise Precedent," He Says, and Should Not be Prevented.

New York, April 5.—Colonel Roosevelt issued a statement here tonight in which he declared that no "unwise precedent" would be created, as has been suggested, in permitting him to raise a division for active service on the French front. "The American people," asserted Col. Roosevelt, "are united behind the president in the determination to wage offensive, aggressive war for our rights and for the rights of humanity and civilization. I believe that our people now realize that the system of universal military service is the only effective and the only absolutely democratic system. I, of course, most earnestly hope for the passage of legislation establishing universal, obligatory military service and training."

In addition, I believe that the American people desire that in the immediate future we send abroad an expeditionary force. It is an excellent and indispensable thing to raise money for and furnish supplies to our allies. This, of course, must be done. The American people wish to do their own fighting. They do not want merely to pay others to fight for them. They believe that we owe it to ourselves and to the national honor to send a fighting force of at least an army corps under the American flag to the front at the earliest moment. This army corps should be commanded by one of our first class regular officers—generals. It might consist of three, or perhaps only two divisions. "I have asked permission to raise a division which would be in this army corps and under its command. No wise precedent can possibly be created by permitting an ex-president of the United States of previous military experience to raise such a division and to serve with it at the front, under the command of the general who heads the army corps."

HOW GERMANS PAID A NORWEGIAN CAPTAIN FOR ACT OF KINDNESS

Copenhagen, via London, April 5.—The Tidens Tegns Tidning, Norway, correspondent sends a story of the capture by the Norwegians and taking into port of the Norwegian steamer Nanna, after the Nanna had endeavored to tow a helpless German submarine in the North Sea, to a German port. The steamer was taken to Hamburg by German torpedo boats and is being held there.

According to the story the Nanna agreed to tow the helpless submarine, but the tow line broke when the boats were off the west coast of Jutland. The submarine thereupon signaled for assistance, and eight German torpedo boats appeared. The crew of the Nanna was ordered to land and the torpedo boats took the steamer, together with the submarine, to Orkney.

The Germans, so the story goes, refused the request of the Norwegians to be piloted back through the mine field. Instead, the Nanna was taken to Hamburg, where she is still detained, despite persistent efforts by the Norwegian authorities to secure her release.

AMERICAN VOTE FOR WAR IS NOW BUT QUESTION OF FEW HOURS AS CONGRESS IS FULLY IN FAVOR

Washington Hurriedly Plans for Largest Possible Contribution of Men and Money to Cause of the Entente.

Will Quadruple Navy at Once and Place Army of Million Men in Field in Year—All Day Debate in Lower House and No Vote at 1 a. m.

Bulletin—Washington, April 5.—By two o'clock this morning more than eighty representatives had made speeches on the war resolution, and many others are waiting for an opportunity to speak.

Washington, April 5.—The house debated the war resolution all of today and into the night, and although passage was assured before adjournment the leaders predicted that a vote could not be reached until early morning.

For the most part the discussion proceeded with an air of unemotional acquiescence, scores of members making brief speeches to put themselves on record as reluctantly accepting war as the only course of honor. During the day the debate revealed an unexpected strength in the minority opposing the resolution. Confident predictions of not more than a dozen votes against it gave place tonight to reports that the opposition might muster upwards of a hundred on the final roll call, and supporters of the resolution conceded that the number to vote in the negative probably would be more than fifty.

This surprising accession to the minority ranks was attributed to the efforts of Democratic Leader Kitchin, who took the floor and in a dramatic speech announced that he could not, with a clear conscience, vote for war.

SURE OF MAJORITY FOR WAR.

Supporters of the president's course were not concerned over the defection, however. Sure of a great majority, they permitted the roll call to be delayed only so that everyone might be prepared. Shortly before midnight, after the debate had continued for more than thirteen hours, those in charge of the resolution predicted that a vote would be taken soon after one o'clock.

There was no certainty that it might not be hours later, however. Late tonight a suggestion by Chairman Flood, of the foreign affairs committee, that the debate be closed before midnight met with loud shouts of disapproval and even the opposition of a considerable number of members opposed to voting on Good Friday was insufficient to get an agreement to vote by twelve o'clock. Mr. Kitchin's opposition drew an immediate following from among the group who have opposed preparedness and armed neutrality, and tonight many of them who had sat silent and glum in the rear of the chamber throughout the day moved down in front and spoke against the resolution.

One of the most earnest speeches in behalf of the president's course came from Republican Leader Mann, who declared Germany had deliberately affronted this country, and that only war could save the national honor.

WILL NOT SEVER RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA, BULGARIA OR TURKEY.

Washington, April 5.—The United States will not sever relations or declare war with Austria, Bulgaria or Turkey so long as those countries do not force such a step. It was learned authoritatively today that any change that may come in the relations of this country with members of the Central Alliance, other than Germany, must be precipitated by them. Nevertheless it is expected here that Germany will force her allies to share her relationship to the United States.

Ambassador Penfield's summoning to Washington by the state department, admitted officially today for the first time, is declared not to forecast aggressive action towards Austria by this country, but to be for entirely different reasons. The one most often suggested is that as President Wilson has announced, it is impossible under the present circumstances to receive Count Tarnowski, now Austrian ambassador, as it is desired not to have an American ambassador in Austria, Joseph C. Grew, formerly charge in Berlin, will act as charge in Vienna after Mr. Penfield's departure tomorrow.

BITTER COMMENT OF GERMAN PRESS ON PROPOSAL OF PRESIDENT WILSON.

Amsterdam, April 5, via London.—The Cologne Volks Zeitung, under the caption "Moral phrases again," says that President Wilson's proposal to congress was a masterpiece of what, according to Talleyrand, is the most important part of diplomacy, namely, to conceal one's real thoughts, and continues: "Wilson declares war only for the sake of the rights of humanity and non-combatants, but not for the rights of munition makers and Morgan, who sees the thousands of millions lent to England endangered."

The Volks Zeitung goes on sardonically, agreeing with President Wilson that the war was prepared by a small group of ambitious men, and blames Edward VII, and the premiers of all the Entente Powers as those whose aim it was to destroy and enslave Germany, adding: "To them now are added Wilson and Lansing, driven by Morgan and other capitalists."

The Volks Zeitung does not discuss the fact that the hardest weeks and months are now coming, but says: "We will set our teeth until the victory of freedom and right is achieved."

The paper ridicules President Wilson's hope that events in Russia are reproducing themselves in Germany, and says: "It would be peace indeed, but the peace of the grave. And thus Mr. Wilson would coax an intelligent nation like the Germans? We would declare Mr. Wilson's speech the gravest insult ever offered to Germany if we did not believe it unnecessary to work up anger against him and his friends. It will have no other effect on us than to steel all our many German Christian virtues, and let Almighty God take care of the rest."

The Volks Zeitung concludes by reaffirming that Germany is fighting for the freedom of the whole world, which it declares would be in better custody in German hands than in American.

WHAT U.S. WILL MEAN TO ALLIES

Premier of Newfoundland Expresses Some Interesting Opinions in London.

GERMAN PRESS CROWS TO KEEP COURAGE UP

Uncle Sam's Aid Will be of Material Value in Keeping Open the Ocean Routes.

London, April 5. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency).—A representative of Reuter's has had an interview with Sir Edward Morris on the effect of the entry of the United States into the war. Of all the dominion statesmen in England none has had a better opportunity in recent years of knowing American sentiment than the premier of Newfoundland, who as a result of his repeated negotiations with the United States is well known both in Washington and New York by the leading men of the country. Speaking with a Reuter representative Sir Edward said: "The most momentous act that has occurred since Germany proclaimed war is the coming in of the United States. Not only is it important as regards the war, but in its future effect, in the participation of the United States in the permanent peace of the world. The German press seem to make light of the coming influence of the United States, but that is merely part of their well known policy."

"They are crowing to keep up their courage. But one thing is certain: Those in Germany today who form public opinion, the press writers, clergy and leaders in public life of the country, those upon whom the responsibility rests of defending the country, are doing a lot of thinking."

"The declaration of war by the United States cannot but have a paralyzing effect on Germany and her allies. They see in it not alone its moral force but the endorsement of England in her war of civilization, but what is more important, in the early winning of the war—fresh supplies of money, men and munitions."

"There is only one aspect of the war today that can give rise to any serious thought for England and her allies, and that is the shipping situation arising out of the submarine menace. But even here, if the Germans could double their effectiveness in the coming season, at the most it would be an inconvenience."

"Now that the United States has come in, the navy of that country, if desired, is quite capable of safely conveying the whole of the American-British trade across the Atlantic, as well as from the Mediterranean. The British navy has the German fleet as safely locked up as if they were at the bottom of the sea, and we need not call upon the abundant resources of our new ally in this respect, but can safely rely on them to grapple with the difficulties now besetting trade routes."

MME. VIRUBOVA SENT TO ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

Lady-in-Waiting to Former Empress of Russia Goes to Prison.

London, April 5.—Mme. Virubova, the lady-in-waiting to the former Empress, who introduced Gregory Rasputin, the mystic monk, to the Russian court, has been brought from Tarskoe-Selo to the Taurida Palace and thence taken to the prison of St. Peter and St. Paul, says a Reuter despatch from Petrograd today. Mme. Virubova is a fellow prisoner of Mme. Southammond, wife of the former minister of war.

Czar and Czarina to Prison. New York, April 5.—According to a news agency despatch from Copenhagen the Russian newspaper Denkt asserted today it learned from the Czar and Czarina that they would shortly be imprisoned in the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul.