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GERMANS ARE FIGHTING WITH ENERGY OF DESPAIR; GIANT EFFORTS TO STEM THE TIDE OF BATTLE

BREACH IN HINDENBURG SYSTEM EXTENDED TODAY

Important Enemy Retreat Is Expected Before Long

Germans Putting In Their General Reserves, Including Best Troops, In Desperate Attempt To Hold Allies—Frankfurt Gazette Admits "Great Danger Along Whole Western Front"—Allied Forces Make Local Gains of Great Importance

London, Oct. 4.—News from all sectors of the western front tells of giant efforts by the enemy to stem the daily advancing tide of battle. The Germans are putting in their best troops, and, according to all correspondents, are fighting with the energy of despair.

Still there is no sign of any great retreat, except the withdrawal in the Flanders sector, where the British have occupied Armentieres and Lens and are closely pressing the retreating enemy. The recapture of the great French coal region affords great satisfaction here.

In the Sequehart-Bony sector, the Allied breach in the Hindenburg system was extended today and the fighting reached the outskirts of Mont Brehain, where Australian units, with tanks, are operating.

The importance Germans attach to the retention of this portion of the line is indicated by the Frankfurt Gazette, which states that, in order to prevent a frontal break through between Cambrai and St. Quentin, General Von Boehn's army has been made so strong that it is equivalent to a complete army group. The Gazette declares "there is great danger along the whole western front."

It cannot be long before an important enemy retreat from the Hindenburg line is bound to happen, according to the universal military opinion here.

Interesting news come from Eastern Europe. Austria has withdrawn her troops in Albania, and the Italians have recaptured Berat. It is learned in official quarters that German residents of Sofia and Constantinople, including officers and their families, are leaving hastily and going through Roumania to Germany.

ALLIES CONTINUE TO GAIN

Paris, Oct. 4.—Germany is now throwing in general reserves into the battle on the St. Quentin front. This accounts for the stiffening resistance there and also the German left bank and marks the beginning of the last phase of the great battle.

Notwithstanding violent counter-attacks by the enemy, the Allies continue to make gains, which, although local, are, nevertheless, important, as they have a cumulative effect on the centre of the line.

As a further result of the German retreat in the north, the enemy now is in peril of losing the Belgian coast. Should the Allies succeed in forcing their way through the gap between Oisid and Lille, it would mean disaster for the Germans. Even if the drive should be stopped on the escarpment, General Ludendorff no doubt realizes it will be difficult to resist indefinitely the growing strength of the Allies in Flanders.

Second Line Breached

French Quarters in France, Oct. 3.—(Reuters)—The capture of Challerange, northwest of the Argonne Forest, means that the enemy's second line of resistance which he was wise enough to prepare, has been breached.

The line lacks the fantastic strength of the first line—seven miles back, but it rushed the enemy to hold on tenaciously during the last few days of fighting. It was organized in great depth, like the old line, but it has the continuous lines of trenches like the old front. It consists of many links of concrete machine gun shelters, protected by an abundance of extraordinarily deep entanglements.

The fighting, especially on the left, has been of a furious character, the Germans clinging to their positions with the greatest obstinacy.

They began with thirteen divisions in the line and then flung in twelve new divisions, all having been solemnly enjoined by their commanders that they must hold the ground at all cost, that when the main line of resistance was at stake there was no such thing as mobile defence.

French Statement

Paris, Oct. 4.—French troops in the St. Quentin region have advanced east of Leuling, says the war office statement today.

French and American troops in Champagne have made further advances northwest of Mont Blanc and Meudal Farm.

North and northwest of Rheims the French have increased their gains somewhat and improved their positions in the region of Betheny.

HALIFAX LIEUTENANT POSTED AS KILLED

London, Oct. 4.—Lieut. J. W. Ings, Royal Engineers, belonging to Halifax, is posted as killed.

GREATEST FEAT EVER PERFORMED BY DIVISION IN BRITISH ARMY

Stirring Story of War Comes From S. Quentin Sector

WONDERFUL DAY'S WORK

Men Swam Across to German Positions Through Hail of Bullets, Then Rush at the Front—Huns Apply Torch as They Retreat

With the British Army on the St. Quentin front, Oct. 3.—(By the Associated Press)—Among the British divisions which have made deep gains in this sector in the recent fighting is the forty-sixth, commanded by a major-general, who was a private in the South African war. It was this division which first crossed the Hindenburg line at St. Quentin Canal, north of Belleplais, last Sunday. The division advanced from a point 2,000 yards west of the canal, and virtually annihilated all the Germans holding the first Hindenburg line there. Then, being unable to see twenty feet because of the dense fog, these soldiers followed the explosion of their barrage to the canal banks, where under the leadership of a brigadier-general already the winner of the Victoria Cross, they plunged into the water.

The opposite bank was lined with German machine guns. Some of the British were hit by the fire, but they swam across through a perfect hail of bullets. Some went hand over hand across life lines. Only one man was drowned in the whole operation.

Once on the other bank the men of this North Midland division immediately plunged into the fight, fought their way up the slippery canal banks, went over the enemy parapets and finished off hundreds in every section with bayonets and rifles and pistols fired at point blank. The terrified Germans just a little bit farther back saw the performance and ran for their lives.

During the operations of a single day this division by its dash and quick fighting took 4,200 prisoners, seventy cannon, more than 1,000 machine guns and great quantities of war material.

The total casualty list of the division was only 800. This is regarded by the British army as the greatest feat ever performed by a British division.

As the Germans retreat in the Armentieres sector they are applying the torch whenever they have the time, and their retreat is marked by great explosions as ammunition stores are destroyed. It is known that the Germans are becoming so short of ammunition that many of the higher officers are alarmed, but in the retreat the destruction of dumps has been absolutely necessitated.

WOMEN'S AID DEPARTMENT IN HOSPITALS IN CANADA

Ottawa, Oct. 3.—The department of militia and defence in co-operation with the St. John Ambulance Brigade overseas has authorized the establishment of a women's aid department for service in the military hospitals throughout Canada. This action is based, according to a statement issued by the department, "realizing the necessity for man-power in the war period and knowing the readiness of Canadian women to give their services in any emergency."

MARKET IRREGULAR

New York, Oct. 4.—(Wall Street)—Further moderate selling of our shares, including equipments, contributed to the irregular trend in the first half hour of today's stock market. U. S. Steel and Crucible Steel reacted a point each with specialties, such as Sumatra Tobacco and Texas Company, and St. Paul also yielded to the same extent. These reactions were balanced by renewed strength in shipping, Mexican Petroleum and Utilities, the latter being represented by Brooklyn Transit, Philadelphia Company, Peoples Gas and Ohio Gas.

ENEMY NAVAL BASE AT DURAZZO AND SHIPS DESTROYED

British, American and Italian Vessels Hit The Austrians a Smashing Blow—Our Losses Nothing

Rome, Oct. 4.—British, American and Italian warships have destroyed the Austrian naval base at Durazzo and the warships anchored there, according to an announcement made by Premier Orlando.

The attack commenced at noon on Wednesday, when Italian and British cruisers, protected by Italian and Allied torpedo boats and American destroyers, succeeded in making their way through mine fields and avoiding attacks by submarines, got into Durazzo harbor.

An intense bombardment followed until the base and the Austrian ships anchored there were completely destroyed.

Italian sailors, in the teeth of a hot enemy fire, torpedoes an Austrian destroyer and a steamer. Another vessel, which was recognized as a hospital ship, was allowed to withdraw.

British and Italian airplanes co-operated in the work. Other Italian and Allied warships were drawn up in order of battle outside the harbor to deal with any enemy warships coming up to the assistance of the port.

No losses or damage were suffered by the Allied squadron, except a slight injury to a British cruiser by a torpedo from an enemy submarine.

MUCH MATERIAL DESTROYED

London, Oct. 4.—In the leveling of the fortifications and depots at Durazzo, Wednesday, the British command, according to a Central News despatch from Rome, destroyed much material for the Austrian army in Albania.

Turkish Minister Of Interior Has Resigned

Kaiser Sends Mission to Sofia—Burning Villages Mark Retreat of Bulgarians—Socialists Serve Notice on Government

Amsterdam, Oct. 4.—The Turkish minister of the interior has resigned, according to a Constantinople message today, Kaiser Is Busy.

Paris, Oct. 4.—Emperor William sent a military mission to Sofia as soon as the situation there was reported to him, according to a Munich newspaper. This mission, it is said, has placed German and Austrian troops at strategic points along the principal Bulgarian railways.

Bulgarian deserters reached a point within six miles of Sofia, according to a Zurich despatch, but were driven back by Bulgarian contingents.

Sofia, Oct. 4.—Burning villages marked the trail of the retreating Bulgarian army in Macedonia, according to telegrams received here from the front. Bodies of slain civilians were found in the smoking ruins at many places by the advancing Allies. Reports state that this work of destruction surpassed even that which has been reported from districts in France and Belgium from which the Germans have been driven.

As a further condition the Socialists demand that the government shall make such negotiations as are necessary to ensure good relations between the Balkan peoples and which will tend toward the establishment of a Balkan league.

HIGHER FREIGHT RATES ARE AUTHORIZED FOR PENNSYLVANIA COAL

Washington, Oct. 4.—Railroads not under federal control are authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission today to increase their rates on coal from the Pennsylvania fields to points in Pennsylvania, New York and Canada to a level with those lines under federal control.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND PARTY AT QUEBEC

Quebec, Oct. 4.—His Excellency the Governor-General entertained a number of ladies and gentlemen at luncheon at his quarters at the Citadel yesterday.

In the afternoon the governor-general, accompanied by Lady Dorothy Cavendish and members of his staff, visited the Quebec Golf Club at Montmorency Falls, where they had an excellent round of golf.

CAVALRY, 'WHIPPETS' AND MOTOR BUSES POUR THROUGH BREACH

Capture of Fresnoy Gives Allies Access To Open Country

Entire German Positions North and South of St. Quentin are Gravely Menaced—Enemy Appears to be in Full Flight North of Break in Line—Allies Farther in Cambrai as Enemy Withdraws—Six Thousand Yards Beyond the Beaurevoir Line—British, French and American Troops all Advance

With the American Army in the St. Quentin Sector, Oct. 3.—(By the Associated Press)—British forces broke through the entire Hindenburg defence system in the neighborhood of Fresnoy today. As soon as the break had been made cavalry forces swept through, being followed closely by "whippet" tanks and armored cars. According to the reports which are considered reliable the village of Fresnoy itself was taken soon after ward.

Allied airplanes which have been flying low over the rear of the Hindenburg line, report that there are only one or two thinly held hasty trench lines in front of the advancing British.

This is a perfect cavalry country and with this force free behind the enemy's lines, the entire German position north and south of St. Quentin are gravely menaced.

The enemy appears to be in full flight to the north of the break in the line. Allied parties have penetrated further into Cambrai, from which the Germans seem to be withdrawing.

There was fighting of the most desperate character before the last line of the system was smashed. Fresh troops which had not been in the earlier fighting here were poured into the battle. P. respect Hill, a strong enemy position, was taken by storm. An immense number of Germans were killed during the fight.

During the afternoon the Germans delivered a terrific counter-attack against Gouy and Lecatet. Unconfirmed reports say that they gained slightly here, but their advantage was short-lived. New British attacks were launched and desperate fighting is still in progress.

Last available air reports are to the effect that the advancing British troops are 6,000 yards beyond the Beaurevoir line. Machine gunners in large numbers are said to have poured through the breach in the Hindenburg system aboard motor buses.

BRITISH PURSUE RETREATING HUNS IN LENS REGION

Have Reached Railway East of Lens, Field Marshal Haig Announced Progress Made North of the Scarpe River

London, Oct. 4.—British forces pursuing the retreating Germans in the Lens region have reached the railway east of Lens, Field Marshal Haig announced in his official statement today. To the south-east the British have made progress between Oppy and Merscourt.

More than 4,000 prisoners were taken yesterday by the British in their operations north of St. Quentin.

The point of the British wedge in the region north of St. Quentin had been pushed at the end of yesterday's fighting. The British are holding this ground, having repulsed a counter-attack.

German forces last night delivered counter-attacks on Gouy and Lecatet, midway between Cambrai and St. Quentin. Field Marshal Haig announced today that the enemy assaults had been beaten off.

The text of the statement follows: "At the end of the fighting yesterday we held the high ground one mile north-east of Sequehart and had successfully beaten off the enemy's counter-attacks at Gouy and Lecatet. A second hostile counter-attack at Sequehart also was repulsed.

"The number of prisoners captured by us in yesterday's operations north of St. Quentin exceeds 4,000.

"During the night local fighting took place to our advantage southwest of Beaurevoir and in the southern outskirts of Cambrai.

"We advanced our posts slightly northeast of Eplony and repulsed a hostile attack on one of our posts south of Baches-St. Vaast (between Lens and Arleux).

"North of the Scarpe we progressed between Oppy and Merscourt. Further north our advanced troops reached the railway east of Lens and the general line of Vendin-Le-Vieil, Wingles, Bechain, Fourmes and Houplines."

Amsterdam, Oct. 4.—Prince Maximilian of Baden has been appointed German chancellor, says an official announcement received from Berlin.

London, Oct. 4.—There is little room for doubt that the solution of the German governmental crisis will be found in the shape of a coalition government under the chancellorship of Prince Maximilian of Baden. No official news on the situation has as yet reached London, but, according to German newspapers, there is a possibility that among the ministers there will be some Socialists.

It is understood that the new government will be considered a collective body. All the secretaries will participate in its decisions, but the chancellor, vice-chancellor and the secretaries without portfolio. Philipp Scheidemann and a Centrist deputy will form an inner committee.

It is stated that Prince Maximilian will outline his programme before the Reichstag on Saturday.

Amsterdam, Oct. 3.—Responding to a demand for the establishment of a dictatorship in Germany, Herr Von Borch, chief of Emperor William's civilian cabinet, has sent the following reply to the citizens of Hanover:

"His majesty confidently expects in the present times that the entire German people will unanimously and trustfully support the Kaiser and the empire, and with its competent leaders pursue only one aim, staking its blood and treasure to free the Fatherland from threatening dangers."

Deputies Greber (Centrist), and Schickelmann, majority Social Democrat, have been appointed secretaries of state without portfolio.

The official statement adds that Prince Maximilian also has been named Prussian foreign secretary. He will announce his programme at a full meeting of the Reichstag on Oct. 5.

FEW RESERVES OPPOSITE THE CANADIANS

Enemy Counter-Attack Easily Put Down—Germans Severely Punished in Spite of Use of 33 Reserve Battalions

With the Canadian Forces, Oct. 2.—(Delayed)—(By J. F. B. Livesey, Canadian Press Correspondent)—Our line was abnormally quiet today until three o'clock this afternoon when the enemy artillery started to strafe Stolle, but nothing further came of it. Early this evening a counter-attack, local in character, developed against our Tilly positions, but was easily put down by our artillery and infantry. We took some prisoners.

It becomes increasingly doubtful whether the enemy is in any shape to launch a powerful thrust against our positions, so severe was the punishment he received yesterday, when he threw in no fewer than thirty-three battalions. He cannot have more than nine in reserve, unless he can draw from new elements.

Five possible reserve divisions he had for this battlefield have been moved since Sept. 27 to the Flanders battlefield and the only other he has immediately available is the fifteenth reserve division south of Lens. If, however, a general retreat in that sector is under way it is certain he cannot afford to weaken himself during such difficult operations.

To sum up, whatever counter-attacks he may have in store for this front must be carried out almost entirely by existing elements which are tired and greatly weakened by heavy losses inflicted by the Canadian corps. Since the Canal Du Nord was passed he is more likely to be content with the zone of manoeuvre he still retains west of the Canal Desaut.

BRITISH AVIATORS DESTROYED FOUR ENEMY MACHINES

Have, Oct. 5.—In aerial fighting on the Flanders front today British aviators destroyed four German machines, the Belgian war office announced tonight.