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## FIGHT GOES AGAINST THE GERMAN U-BOATS

### CONVOYS TO MERCHANT-MEN BEAT OFF ATTACK

#### Six Under-Sea Craft Attack Fleet of Vessels Off Coast of France.

Washington, Sept. 11.—A typographical error in transcribing a statement of the press today from an official report to the navy department made it appear that six German submarine craft probably had been sunk off the French coast when they attacked a fleet of merchantmen, including at least two American vessels. The facts are, so far as known tonight, that one submarine probably was destroyed, and two of the steamers went down. A corrected statement was issued by Secretary Daniels as soon as the error was discovered.

The department has only a meagre account of the fight and additional details have been asked for by cable. The report came from the American tanker Westwego, through Paris. The names and nationality of the two ships lost were not given.

#### Under Naval Convoy.

The Westwego was en route to Europe, and from the fact that she was cruising in company with other merchant crafts, navy officers assumed that the fleet was under convoy of naval vessels, probably of American destroyers.

The tanker's report is dated September 8, the fight having occurred September 5.

The Westwego is an armed vessel.

In preparing for the press in the bureau of operations of the navy department a statement of the contents of the dispatch it was written that all of the six submarines probably had been lost. Later, on checking over the message and the statement issued to the press, it was found that the word was "one" in the dispatch.

#### Of Special Interest.

Officials were interested in particulars of the fight, since the vessel were under convoy, and if either of the two steamers lost were American, the first convoyed American merchant craft has fallen victim to the submarines.

The fact that the submarines attacked the merchant fleet in such force led to the conclusion that the German commander erroneously thought he had to deal with troops, transports or with army supply ships.

#### Daniels' Statement.

Secretary Daniels issued the following statement:

"My attention has just been called to a serious error made in transcribing the report of the attack made on the Westwego and other vessels. I gave the report to the press this morning exactly as it was presented to me, stating that 'two of the steamers attacked were sunk and probably all of the submarines were lost.' The cablegram, I now find, stated that 'one' of the submarines was probably lost."

#### Earlier Statement.

The earlier statement by the navy department read as follows:

"The navy department has received a report from Paris which states that the steamer Westwego reports on September 8 that while cruising with several other ships they were attacked by a massed force of six submarines off the coast of France on September 5, the result of this attack being that two of the steamers attacked were sunk and probably all of the submarines were lost."

It was announced recently that a policy of conveying fleets of merchant ships across the Atlantic had been adopted and since the Westwego and the other merchant craft which were the objects of the submarines' attack were bound for Europe, it is regarded more than probable that American warships guarded the merchant ships on the way across.

American warships have all been equipped with depth bombs for fighting submarines. This weapon has been highly perfected by Amer-

## REPORT DENOUNCES HARDWICK'S BILL

### COMMITTEE SAYS DRAFT LAW CONSTITUTIONAL.

#### Report Says Such Opposition Impairs Military Efficiency of Men in Service.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Denouncing the introduction of such a proposition the senate military committee today reported adversely Senator Hardwick's resolution which would provide that the consent of every drafted man must be obtained before he is required to perform foreign service. The committee, the report says, believes the draft law is constitutional and that every man drafted into the national army can be used abroad.

#### Serious Situation.

"The situation arising out of this spirit of opposition to the selective draft act is serious," says the report, "and taken in connection with the unrest amongst the civilian population growing out of commercial and industrial conditions, stimulated in some cases doubtless by pro-German sympathizers and propagandists, places our country in a situation of extreme peril at a time when all should be united in a common cause."

#### Law Constitutional.

"It is the view of the committee that the selective draft act is neither violative of American tradition nor of the constitution, and entertaining this view the committee feels justified in saying that there is no necessity for such legislation as that proposed, either on the ground of expediency or necessity."

"The psychological effect of calling in question an act, the principles of which, it seems to the committee, have been sustained by the courts of the country, is bad, and the tendency of it all is to impair the military efficiency of the men who are already in the service and of those who may be called to serve in this time of need."

#### TO MAKE AIRPLANE ROUTE

##### Between Points in Sweden and Germany.

London, Sept. 9.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen says that reports from Stockholm state that a committee has been formed to arrange for an airplane route from Trelleborg, Southern Sweden, to Sassnitz, Germany. It is added that a Stockholm banker has ordered four million kroner toward the carrying out of the project.

#### COUNTER-ATTACKS FAIL

##### Germans Unable to Retake Positions Lost Saturday.

Paris, Sept. 9.—Violent counter attacks were made last night by the Germans on the positions taken yesterday by French troops in the Verdun region. After a hard struggle in which the infantry surged forward again wherever temporarily driven back, the French positions were left intact.

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very readily.

#### Not the First Time.

The Westwego had an experience with a German submarine before the United States entered the war, having been attacked by one January 31 last while off the coast of England. She was proceeding from an American port with a cargo of oil for Europe when a submarine fired five shots at her from astern. The Westwego's captain, J. S. Mulcoy, brought his vessel to a stop and sent a boat with his papers, whereupon the German submarine commander demanded a supply of oil, threatening to sink the ship if his demands were not complied with. The submarine commander also demanded that the vessel's \$1,000,000 cargo of gasoline be thrown overboard, saying he would give Capt. Mulcoy until the next morning to comply. Four barrels of cylinder oil were sent to the submarine and the Westwego proceeded. She saw no more of the submarine.

## ALLEGES LOOTING OF THE KING ESTATE

### SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO WARRANT INDICTMENTS

#### Alleged Evidence Found Among Papers of Gaston Means, Mrs. King's Manager.

New York, Sept. 12.—Assistant District Attorney Dooling, who is in charge of the investigation here into the death of Mrs. Maude A. King, at Concord, N. C., announced today that after an all-night examination of papers and correspondence belonging to Gaston B. Means, he had found sufficient evidence to warrant indictments for grand larceny against one or more persons for alleged looting of the King estate.

The assistant prosecutor said he had found in Means effects a paper upon which was an agreement whereby Means was to receive \$950,000 in cash if the new will of Mrs. King's husband, which is now up for probate, got through successfully.

#### Her Business Manager.

Means was business manager for Mrs. King and was witness of her death on August 29 by a pistol shot. Mr. Dooling was accompanied to the criminal court building from Means' apartment here by Afton Means, brother of Gaston, and by Henry Deitsch, Afton's father-in-law, under subpoena, and expected to go before the grand jury today.

Mr. Dooling further said that Afton Means had told him he had come to New York for the trunk filled with correspondence and papers which was in Gaston Means' apartment.

The trunk contains among other documents, he said, papers which showed a great amount of work had been done by experienced hands in preparing for possible contest of the new will, being correspondence between lawyers, handwriting experts and typewriting experts, whom Mr. Dooling said had been engaged to assist in carrying through the probate of the will.

#### Million Dollars Spent.

The assistant district attorney further stated that there was also considerable evidence showing how \$1,000,000 of the King estate had been spent. There were packages of checks drawn to a person whose name he withheld and a number of letters from brokers asking additional margin.

There was a bank book of a certain national bank in this city, he said, which showed deposits in one year of \$190,000, all of which had been checked out.

One of the first things that the assistant district attorney did after bringing he papers to his office was to telephone to a typewriter company to have one of its experts ready to examine a photographic copy of the new will, which Mr. Dooling has asked the Chicago authorities to forward to him. He said that there was a typewriter in the Means' apartment.

#### Sent Telegram.

Afton Means, on arrival at the criminal court building was permitted to send a telegram to his brother at Concord telling him of the seizure of the papers.

Documents were also found in Means' trunk, Assistant Attorney Dooling announced, which showed that Mrs. Joseph B. Foraker, Jr., widow of the son of the late former Senator Foraker, of Ohio, had borrowed large sums of money from Gaston Means and from Mrs. King. "We found in the trunk" said Mr. Dooling, "documents showing that Mrs. Foraker had borrowed large sums of money—away up in the thousands—from Means and also from Mrs. King."

#### ANOTHER TROPICAL STORM

Washington, Sept. 9.—Another tropical disturbance has made its appearance over the East Caribbean sea in the vicinity of latitude 15 degrees north, the Weather Bureau announced tonight. Shipping in those waters advised to exercise caution. The bureau added that further advices regarding the disturbance would be issued tomorrow.

## NEGROES PLANNED RIOT OF BLOODSHED

### THE TROOPS PLOTTED OUT-BREAK FOR DAYS.

#### Board Says Soldiers Went Forth to Slay White People After Warning Other Blacks.

Houston, Tex., Sept. 11.—Soldiers of the Twenty-fourth United States Infantry had planned a riot of bloodshed among the citizens of Houston two days before the riot broke out which cost the lives of 17 people, according to the report of the board of inquiry which reported to the Houston city council tonight. The report also criticized Superintendent of Police Brock for his inability to force discipline among the police and declares "he is not qualified for the position he holds."

The committee is of the opinion the riot was precipitated by the arrest of two negro soldiers by the police "although sufficient evidence was presented at the hearing to reveal the fact that a serious disturbance was intended by some of the negroes before leaving Houston and the arrest referred to simply brought it to a head sooner and perhaps intensified the crimes which followed."

#### No Negroes Molested.

Continuing the committee says: "The undisputed testimony of witnesses proves that the negroes went forth to slay the white population indiscriminately, that no negro was hurt or molested by them, that no negro home was fired into and that the negroes were warned before and during the riot to stay off the streets."

"The testimony of the captain in charge of the fire station at Camp Logan and one of his assistants is that when the shooting began in the negro camp one of the negro guards stationed at the fire station remarked that the troops were going to shoot up Houston, that they had planned to do so on the preceding Tuesday night but could not get quite ready."

"This testimony and the testimony of numerous other witnesses convince us (and our opinion is shared by Capt. John L. Chamberlain of the United States army who so expressed himself to us) that the prior conflict with the police were mere incidents of the riot."

#### Defied State Law.

The report declares that shortly after the arrival of the negro troops in Houston there was manifested by at least some of them a feeling of hostility the separation of whites and negroes in the street cars; that the negroes while on guard duty at Camp Logan were arrogant and insulting towards white laborers, seizing the most trivial circumstances as an excuse to curse and abuse them; that the discipline existing at the camp was grossly lax in moral conditions; lewd negro women, some of them mere children of 12 years of age, being permitted to freely visit the camp and remain there overnight and that such women were permitted to bring parcels into camp without inspection by sentries, keeping the soldiers liberally supplied with liquor and other intoxicants.

Concerning the chief of police the report said: "For Mr. Brock personally we have the highest regard and it is no reflection on his personal character to say that in our opinion he is not qualified for the position he holds."

#### VON HINDENBURG'S REPLY

Amsterdam, Sept. 11.—The Wurttemberg Chamber of Commerce, having recorded their rejections of "President Wilson's presumptuous words to interfere with Germany's domestic affairs," according to the German newspapers, replied: "As an answer to the presumptuous words of President Wilson the German nation has placed itself unitedly and firmly behind its emperor and his words and has rejected all foreign interference in German affairs."

"We must now remain united, steel-hard and determined to achieve victory. Thereby we shall shorten the war. Let this be the feeling of every German."

## TO CONTROL MEAT PACKING INDUSTRY

### HOOVER ACCEPTS OFFER OF PACKERS.

#### Production to More Live Stock Absolutely Necessary to Remedy the Situation.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Government regulation of the meat packing industry will be the next move of the food administration. A voluntary offer of representatives of the packers to put their plants under a licensing system made to Herbert Hoover, the food administrator, at a conference here today was accepted and a plan of control will be drawn up shortly.

The packers numbering about a score, came to Washington to take up with Mr. Hoover the threatened meat shortage and the subject of rising prices. They are of one opinion that prices can be brought down little unless a determined effort is made to increase the production of live stock.

#### Licensing System.

A licensing system for packing houses was provided in the food control bill. Putting it into operation, food administration officials believe, will go far towards elimination of hoarding and speculation and will aid in stabilizing prices. The packers will confer soon with cattle growers to discuss the food administration's plan for removing herds from the West to better districts in the East and South.

Increased production of live stock is a military necessity. Carl Vrooman, assistant Secretary of Agriculture declared in a statement tonight, after the packing meeting ended.

#### More Live Stock.

The production of more live stock was highly desirable before the war, said Mr. Vrooman, "now it is a national necessity, first because of the terrible dearth of meat animals not only in this country, but throughout the world; second, because no further waste of feeds must be permitted, and the only thing that can prevent waste on the farm is the production of more live stock."

"The fact that keeping of more live stock is a military necessity does not mean that it is any the less a good business. The farmer should not lose this golden opportunity to cash in his waste forage at war prices."

#### CONGRESS LOOKS TO ADJOURNMENT

Washington, Sept. 9.—Passage of the \$2,500,000,000 war tax bill late tomorrow by the Senate, after a month's contention, is the first major item of an adjournment program being framed by congressional leaders.

The adjournment fever is in the air, with general acquiescence in a speeding up process. Leaders are endeavoring to reconcile the widespread desire at the Capitol and the White House to close the session next Monday with the President's legislative program, with the soldiers and sailors insurance bill as the principal stumbling block.

Chief features of the program before congress are:

The war bill tax, which will go to conference this week and probably to the President within a fortnight.

The \$11,500,000,000 war credits bill, which will be taken up Tuesday by the senate finance committee.

The \$4,800,000,000 deficiency appropriation bill before the house.

The insurance measure, due to pass the house this week.

The administration's trading with the enemy bill, which has passed the house and is awaiting senate debate Tuesday.

As usual, the pre-adjournment congestion is on the senate side. The war tax bill is definitely set for passage there tomorrow. While it is in conference, the senate hopes to pass the trading with the enemy and \$11,000,000,000 war credits bills, leaving the insurance measure and the mammoth appropriation bill as the final features.

## HOOF SHAVINGS A PART OF HIS DIET

### DR. BRISTOL LECTURES IN CHERAW.

#### Veterinary Surgeon Tells of His Experience in German Prison Camp.

Cheraw, Sept. 12.—Dr. Bristol, formerly from Missouri, but now from Society Hill this State, and following the profession of veterinary surgeon, spoke last night in the town hall here, giving his experience as a prisoner in a German prison camp on one of the South Sea Islands. He had been in the employ of a British firm as buyer of horses and mules out West for use on the front, and had made fourteen successful trips with ship loads of animals, but on his fifteenth trip his vessel was submarined by the Germans, and he with 130 others, subsisted partly on hoof shavings from a blacksmith shop, which tasted better than the black broth that was given him.

Every complaint or request was met with punishment of some kind. In chapel he was told to say "God bless the Kaiser," but not endorsing the sentiment, he varied it by saying, "To hell with the Kaiser." For this he was hung up by his thumbs several days. After suffering tortures and experiencing the horrors of German frightfulness seven months, he was exchanged and returned to this country, well-nigh a physical wreck.

An admission was charged, the proceeds going to the Red Cross for their war work.

#### MANY OFFICERS ARE ON ANXIOUS BENCH

Numerous Shifts Expected in Reorganization of the Twenty-seventh Division.

Spartanburg, Sept. 11.—All the officers at Camp Wadsworth are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the details of the reorganization of the Twenty-seventh division. It is understood that the details have been worked out by the war department and may be made public at any time. It is feared that many changes and shifts in assignments will follow and that some officers who have been with the New York National Guard for years will be sent to other divisions.

The Twenty-seventh division now has nine regiments of Infantry, but can have only four under the reorganization. This will leave a surplus of regimental officers which must be taken care of somehow, and the details of the reorganization are being awaited with a great deal of anxiety.

It is understood that the Seventh regiment started from New York for Spartanburg this afternoon and will probably reach here Thursday. The other infantry regiments will follow closely behind and the main strength of the division will be in camp within a week. It has been the experience heretofore that it takes about forty-eight hours for a troop train to come from New York to Spartanburg.

Coming with the first contingent will be the signal battalion, consisting of a wire company, which will handle telegraph and telephones; a wireless company, which handles the work that its name implies, and an outpost company, which works with heliographs and night signals. The field bakery, which arrived several days ago, is being set up and will be ready to turn out bread for the entire division by the end of the week.

#### AMERICAN COLORS

##### FLYING OVER VERDUN

Paris, Sept. 11.—The American colors now fly over Verdun. The flag, which was the gift of a prominent American Red Cross worker to the city, was hoisted over the ruin of the city hall after a ceremony attended by the sub-perfect, Jean Grillon.