

GERMAN SUBMARINE

MUSTARD GAS ATTACK

Six Overcome at North Carolina Station

FIRST MOVE OF KIND

Destroyer Attacks Sub Off Virginia Coast, and After Dropping 17 Depth Charges, Appears on Surface

TWO STEAMSHIPS SUNK

British and Swedish Vessel Sent to Bottom in New England Waters—Sub Commander Talks Boastfully

Washington, Aug. 12.—Gas from oil discharged on the water by the German submarine operating off the Middle Atlantic coast overcame six men in the coast guard station and lighthouse on Smith's Island, N. C., Saturday evening, the Navy Department was advised today by the commandant of the Sixth naval district.

If the gas attack was deliberate, as most officials believe, it constituted a new and ingenious form of "frightfulness" and, so far as has been reported, was the first direct effort of the German raiders to harm persons or property on the American coast.

The gas was said by the commandant of the coast guard station to be much the same effect as the mustard gas used by the Germans on the western front. The men were laid out for more than half an hour, but apparently suffered no serious effects.

Destroyer Attacks U-Boat

The dispatch relating to the gas attack was one of a series concerning German submarine warfare off the Atlantic coast received during the day by the Navy Department. One told of an attack on a submarine 100 miles east of the Virginia coast by an American destroyer, which discharged seventeen depth charges where the raider was seen to submerge. The result of the attack was not determined, but after oil had appeared on the surface two bombs were dropped on the spot, and the submarine was not seen again.

British Steamer Sunk

Sinking of the British steamer Penstone, of 4,139 gross tons, and the Swedish steamer Sydland, of 3,031 gross tons, in New England waters, near where ten fishing smacks were destroyed Sunday, was also reported to the Navy Department during the day. The former was torpedoed Sunday, with the fate of her crew still undetermined, while the latter was destroyed by bombs August 8 and her survivors of the fishing schooner Katie Palmer landed at New Bedford, Mass., reported they had been taken aboard the submarine, the commander of which boasted that he was equipped to remain in American waters for six months, if he desired.

Big Type Sub

The submarine was described by the men as being about 360 feet long, with a conning tower 15 feet high, and mounting one gun. The raider carried a crew of sixty men, according to the survivors, who were held aboard the submersible for a time and later set adrift in a dory.

While the reports from the commandants of the Smith's Island coast guard station and Sixth naval district clearly indicated their firm belief the gas attack on the island was deliberate, some officers today thought there was a possibility that the submarine had discharged the oil and gas after being wrecked on a reef.

Attention was called to the fact that the action of salt water on electric batteries used by submarines generates chlorine gas, which is similar to mustard gas in its effects and is deadly if encountered in a closed space. If the submarine were wrecked, it was said, this gas would be generated and would come to the surface with the oil which would be freed.

Official Statement

No such possibility, however, was mentioned in the Navy Department's announcement, which said:

"The Navy Department has received a dispatch from the commandant of the Sixth naval district, Charleston, S. C., stating that an attack with gas was attempted on the North Carolina coast about 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon, with the result of temporarily 'putting out of business' the coast guard station and light house personnel." The report goes on to say:

"About forty minutes after the attack three large oil spots, each over one acre in extent, were observed passing by Smith Island to the north. This oil from which the gas was no doubt generated must have been released from a submarine in the vicinity of the entrance to the channel with the hope that it would come in with the tide, but fortunately set along the island.

Probably Mustard Gas

"Report was made to Col. Chase, coast artillery corps, Fort Caswell, N. C., by Capt. Willard, of the Smith Island coast guard, after the effects of the gas were noted. Six men were gassed. No deaths. The gas had the effect of mustard gas and was effective about thirty-six or forty minutes. Color of the gas has not yet been ascertained and its effect on trees and shrubbery not yet determined. The entire matter will be investigated and report made."

The incident was reported by Col.

Chase to the naval district commandant. Smith Island is off the mouth of the Cape Fear River, near the entrance of the channel to Wilmington, N. C."

Officials Puzzled

Assuming that the attack on the island was deliberate, officials plainly were puzzled as to its purpose. The only explanation was that the submarine commander sought to put the lighthouse out of commission with the attendant danger to passing ships. If that were the purpose, however, officials could not understand why the commander did not destroy the lighthouse with his guns.

On the basis of reports received concerning the attack on the submarine off the Virginia coast, officials would not venture an opinion as to the possibility that the U-boat was destroyed. The time of the attack was not given in the dispatch and consequently, it was not known whether it was before or after the gassing of the men on Smith's Island.

The attack may have occurred Saturday and been reported by radio, but the more generally accepted belief was that it took place several days ago, and since there was no conclusive proof of destruction of the enemy, the destroyer waited until returning to its base before reporting to the district naval commander.

U-Boat Submerges

When the destroyer sighted the raider at some distance, it dashed forward at full speed. The German evidently was maintaining a sharp lookout, for the U-boat soon submerged. The destroyer circled the spot and dropped fifteen depth charges.

When the upheaval of the water caused by the terrific explosion had subsided, an oil seam was seen. As this is a rare long employed by the Germans when attacked, the destroyer dashed in and discharged two more bombs. The warship then cruised in the vicinity some time, but no further trace of the raider was seen.

In discussing the submarine raid with newspaper correspondents, Secretary Daniels said he believed that there are two U-boats operating on this side of the Atlantic. He said he did not believe that they have a base on American shores and explained that they frequently replenish their stores and supplies from vessels they destroy.

Effective Patrols

Naval patrols on the coast are as effective as can be, Mr. Daniels declared, adding that it is impossible for them to be everywhere. So far the raiders have done no military damage, the Secretary said, and the navy is carrying out successfully its paramount duty of safely evacuating American troops overseas.

Since they began operations July 18 in the second raid in American waters, the submarines have accounted for thirty-one vessels, of which an except three have been destroyed in New England and Canadian waters. The three exceptions were the American steamers, O. B. Jennings and Merak and Diamond Shoal lightship No. 71, sent down off the middle Atlantic coast.

Presence of the raiders was first made known by the sinking of the American armored cruiser, San Diego, off Fire Island, New York, by a mine laid by a submarine. Since then fifteen fishing smacks, three coal barges, a tug, a lightship, four schooners and six steamers have been destroyed. Most of the vessels were of American registry.

Not Seriously Injured

Wilmington, N. C., Aug. 12.—Information from the coast guard station on Smith's Island, at the mouth of the Cape Fear river, tonight is that none of the victims of the German gas attack there Saturday suffered serious injury. Those who suffered at the lighthouse are understood to have been the keeper, his wife and one other, composing the crew of the lighthouse, while three of the coast guards at the life saving station also suffered. A brood of chickens on the reservation was killed and other animals on the place showed signs of the gas. Capt. Willis of the coast guard station would make no statement.

Two Submarines

Boston, Aug. 12.—Two submarines raided the fishing fleet on George's Banks Saturday and the crews of the fishing schooners Old Time and Cruiser probably were lost when their boats were sunk by gunfire without warning, according to the crew of the fishing schooner Mary Bennett, who were landed here tonight. The Bennett was also sunk by gunfire and shells were fired at the boats when they were pulling away, the fishermen said.

JAPS AND CZECHS IN TOUCH

Nippon's Soldiers Already on Job in Siberia

The Hague, Aug. 12.—Japanese advance troops are in touch with the Czecho-Slovaks, says a Moscow dispatch to the Weser Zeitung, of Bremen.

The Czech troops at Vladivostok who have been in touch with the Japanese for some time are separated from their comrades in Western Siberia, who hold the trans-Siberian railroad west of Irkutsk. The Moscow dispatch probably refers to a junction between the Czechs in Western Siberia and the Japanese.

ERVIN SHAW'S DEATH SHOCK TO FRIENDS

The disappearance of Lieut. Ervin Shaw on July 9th on airplane duty on the French front, was a great shock to his many war friends in Clarendon and Sumter counties. Ervin, who is a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Alderman, was born in Alcolu, and this fact alone endears him more than ever to the people of Clarendon county. The following eulogies on his life were published in the Sumter Item:

Lieut. Shaw—missing since July 9th. It was this report that added to grief the dread of an awful suspense. Below are given two letters that will give to the public the details of the information that have been sought in vain since the first brief tidings came. Like Lieut. Purdy's death Sumter shares the grief of Lieut. Shaw's fall and it is no idle curiosity that makes Sumter seek definite information; but it is because Sumter claims these two sons as her own and participates in the sorrow and in the glory of their fall.

As Superintendent of schools for so many years I have come very close to the lives of these boys. I have shared their joys and entered into their sorrows. I feel that I know all of them as no one else has had an opportunity of knowing all of them. When they left for the training camps it was my privilege and pleasure to bear testimony to their efficiency and fidelity. As the news of their supreme sacrifice comes to us, it is my sad



LIEUT. ERVIN SHAW Sumter, S. C. Courtesy News & Courier.

privilege to speak more intimately of these splendid young men as I knew them. The real inspiration of a teacher's life is to see the full fruition of the promises of early youth.

Ervin Shaw was a young man of very fine qualities. He had to a high degree, the qualities of loyalty, gentleness and honor. Few young men in Sumter were ever more deservedly popular. It is true that familiarity breeds indifference and his knowledge of machinery made him so indifferent to its mysteries that it gave him the reputation of recklessness. A perusal of the letters from the front will show that what appeared to be recklessness was a familiarity with machinery that gave him a mastery that marked him immediately as "the most daring and most skillful pilot among us." His skill kept his daring from being recklessness.

His letters to his home and his conduct in camp all bear testimony to the fact that real religion is getting a hold upon young men that it never had before. They are brought face to face every day with the eternal verities and this makes them realize as never before their dependence upon an omnipotent God. It was true in Purdy's case; it was true in Shaw's case, and it is true in the lives of countless thousands of the young men "over there" and its benign influence is being felt here more and more every day. Men are beginning to regard the claims of real religion as the essential feature of their daily lives.

The letters relative to Lieut. Shaw are given below.

Respectfully and cordially,
S. H. EDMUNDS,
Superintendent of City Schools.

48 Squadron, R. A. F.,
B. E. F., France, July 10, 1918.

Dear Mrs. Shaw:
"Tsi with deep regret that I write, telling you of your brave son's misfortune. I would like to hold out some even small hopes but fear that would be unfair. On the evening of 9th July in Bristol No. B. 1113, Lt. Shaw with Sgt. Smith as observer went out on a single machine reconnaissance (that means alone). When he failed to return we made all inquiry and were told by observers on the ground near our front line that they had seen one Bristol fighting its way back against three enemy scouts. After a long struggle the Bristol was seen to fall in pieces in the air. We

all feel Shaw's loss badly as he was one of our very bravest and coolest lads, always cheery and stout-hearted no matter what work was wanted.

He shot down two enemy scouts during hard fighting and would have won honors had he been allowed to continue his good work aloft.

Please accept ALL 48 Squadron's deep felt sympathy.
Yours sincerely,
K. R. PARK, Major,
48 Squadron R. A. F., B. E. F.,

France, July 13, 1918.

My Dear Mrs. Shaw:
Perhaps a message from one who has been a close companion to your son during his life in France may in some measure make less heavy the burden of your sorrow. In this hope I take the liberty of writing to you, I, a stranger.

To us he was "Molly," a name he brought with him, though how he came by it no one can guess. We were the first "Yanks" in the squadron (all Americans being "Yanks" to the English). "Molly," arriving just a few days later than I. Within a week we were joined by John Good, another of our countrymen. We three naturally became hut mates, for fellow Americans in this far off country seem to bring one many miles nearer home.

Not long ago Good, who was flying right beside me in our "formation," was shot down by one of the enemy machines attacking. It was his first "show" over the line—poor chap. We missed him, Molly and I, and we two alone became great chums. Now, there is but one American and he is finding France an empty place without his pilot mate.

The story of "Molly's" success here I could tell you at length, but no doubt you have had from his own pen the account of his actual work as a fighting pilot. He did not tell you though how highly his work was regarded by his fellow pilots. This he could not know and it is this that I purpose to tell you. In this life of ours out here there is little thought of compliments. If one does well it is but his duty done. But let a man not do his best, he hears of it shortly, no one hesitates a minute to inform him of it. Among ourselves sharing each day the same dangers we are not apt to think one another brave. One is abnormal only if he is not brave. With "Molly," it was a bit different. He not only always did his best but from the day he arrived his best was the equal of the squadron's best. I know that we all regarded "Molly" as the most daring and skillful pilot among us. A "stout" chap we say out here, this among flying men being the greatest tribute we can pay to our heroes. When "Molly" was ordered to go back of the line fifteen miles on a dangerous reconnaissance he went back eighteen or twenty to bring in a better and more accurate report. When he met Huns though the odds were greatly against him he fought them "Molly" Shaw has served his country well.

The circumstances of his passing are not known to us here in any detail. It is known that as he was coming back to the lines after a long reconnaissance he was attacked by three Hun machines. Their fire must have cut some vital member of the machine's framing for it broke up in the air according to a report from one of our advanced battery positions. I at the time must have been quite close. I was flying below a great white cloud. Just a bit of a plane dropped through it and fluttered idly down. I did not know then, did not even guess that one of our men was fighting alone above the cloud.

"Molly" was my best friend out here and though I had known him but a little while I was proud of the knowing. Always at night before he went to bed he knelt down by his cot and prayed. I loved him for that.

In this time of sorrow know that you have given to the great cause for which our country is fighting, A TRUE MAN.

Sincerely yours,
LT. BRYAN M. BATTEY.

HEALTH PROGRAM

At the County summer school for colored teachers in session here a special health day program will be held Monday, August 19th, at 11 o'clock. The program of speakers is announced below:

Invocation—Rev. E. R. Anderson, D. D.

Welcome Address on behalf of summer school—Prof. G. W. Howard.

Introduction—Rev. McPhail.

Mosquito-borne Diseases—Dr. A. W. Brown.

Music.

Fly-borne Diseases—Dr. R. T. Broyard.

Address—Farm Demonstrator, Community Singing.

Special Address—Dr. Thos. E. Miller, Charleston, S. C.

Music.

War Activities—Professor J. K. Breedin.

Special Address—Supt. E. J. Browne.

Music.

Exhibition—Girls Canning Club, Miss G. E. Harvin.

Representatives from each school district in the County expect to attend. Every colored minister in the county is most cordially invited to be present. The date is Monday, August 19th. The place is auditorium colored school. Will you bring a friend and be present at eleven o'clock?

I. M. A. MYERS,
Director Summer School.

MRS. R. D. COTHRAN PASSES AWAY

As a result of a serious operation Mrs. R. D. Cothran died at a hospital in Charleston Monday afternoon. This news came as a shock to everyone, for while it was known that Mrs. Cothran was very ill, it was thought that she was recovering until Monday morning, when her heart gave way. The body was brought here last night for burial, and funeral services will be held this afternoon.

Surviving Mrs. Cothran are her husband, R. D. Cothran and little Ruth Cothran, an only child. A lady of quiet, gentle manner, Mrs. Cothran endeared herself to all who came in contact with her. All who knew her will mourn her.

—W-S-S—

STATE OFFICERS SPEAK AT MANNING

The meeting was quiet and uninteresting, the candidates handing out their daily grind. The following is taken from the Charleston American: Manning, Aug. 13.—The last lap of the state campaign opened at Manning today with the candidates addressing an audience of 300 voters at the beginning of the meeting. This number swelled until the governor, the last speaker, addressed between 600 and 700 persons.

The audience was not inclined to be demonstrative, but heard all the speakers with attention, and played no favorites.

Interest centered as usual in the candidates for the governorship, though the candidates for the minor offices had the attention of the audience and were liberally applauded at the close of their respective efforts.

Mr. Deschamps

J. M. Deschamps was the first speaker up for the governor and did not depart from his usual lines. He put the voters on notice that he was an advocate of high taxes and that if elected the voters of the state and taxpayers could expect an increase in taxes sufficient to meet existing conditions.

John T. Duncan, who followed Mr. Deschamps, paid his respects to his opponents, analyzing their position on what they termed the issues and attacked the system, which he termed the real issue, and which he accused his competitors of doing. He discussed the reclamation of the Columbia canal, which he stated had been stolen from the state.

Major Richards

John G. Richards again reiterated the necessity of a reduction of the tax burden and pledged himself when elected to use all of the power of the governor's office to bring about a substantial reduction by the abolition of useless offices, which he stated had been created of late years, and by the curtailment of useless and extravagant appropriations which he said had been piled up on the taxpayers of the state and for which there is no need.

Major Richards stated that he had been before the people of the state before and that he was known either favorably or unfavorably. The speaker stated that he had been a Reformer since 1890 and that he still was a Reformer and fighting for the interests of the people, and expected to so continue as long as he had the power.

Lieutenant Governor Bethea spoke

next. He again asserted that the war was the issue before the people today and while he favored a more extensive and extended system of education, good roads and other improvements, yet the paramount issue is the winning of the war, and the making of the world safe for democracy. Mr. Bethea told of his experience as a public official and agreed that his experience as lieutenant governor and as private secretary for Governor Anderson were of material benefit to him in fitting him for the governor's office.

Talks Heavier Expenses

Mr. Cooper was the last speaker of the day. Mr. Cooper explained his views on the tax question, stating that while he advocated economy in state government, yet he did not see how there could be any material reduction of taxes under present conditions, as it was up to the state to do her part in providing for the comfort and training of the soldiers returning from the fields of France, and in order to do that additional expenses would have to be incurred as the state did not want to place the burden of caring for her sons on the national government. Mr. Cooper discussed the scholarship loan fund, and said that the real solution of the problem of educating the boys and girls of the state who did not possess sufficient funds to pay for their own education. He agreed with Mr. Bethea that the war was the real issue and that the bringing of the war to a successful conclusion was the aim to which we must not devote all of our energies.

IMPORTANT

To the Ladies of Manning and Clarendon County:

There are still about 150 under suits in the Red Cross room unmade. We are expecting at any time an allotment to our chapter from Headquarters. Can't we clear the room before the next allotment comes? All who are willing to take out garments to make at home may do so by phoning Miss Jessie McLean, at Mr. DuRant's office over the Home Bank and Trust Company.

MRS. JOHN S. WILSON,
Director Woman's Work.

LENINE AND TROTZKY FLEE TO KRONSTADT

Berlin Papers Says Government Will Leave Moscow

GERMAN EMBASSY TO MOVE

Dr. Helfferich and Staff, Fearing Trouble in Moscow, Move to Pskov

Washington, Aug. 12.—Premier Lenine and his chief assistant, Leon Trozky, have fled to Kronstadt, according to a dispatch sent out by the semi-official Wolff Bureau, of Berlin, and printed in Zurich newspapers, says a Havas report from Paris.

Amsterdam, Aug. 12.—The Bolshevik government will shortly leave Moscow for Kronstadt, the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger states today. Premier Lenine and War Minister Trozky have already reached here, the newspaper adds.

Reports received in London Sunday that the Bolshevik leaders intended to flee to Germany lend color to the German report that they already have gone to Kronstadt. Copenhagen dispatches Sunday said that the anti-Bolshevik movement in Russia was growing rapidly, and that the Bolshevik government virtually had gone to pieces. These reports were taken from Russian newspapers.

Lenine and Trozky have been in power since the overthrow of the Kerensky cabinet last November. They negotiated the Brest-Litovsk peace.

Huns Fear Trouble

Amsterdam, Aug. 12.—Dr. Helfferich, the German ambassador to Russia, has informed the Soviet Government that he will move the embassy from Moscow to Pskov, because he fears for the personal safety of his staff, says an official telegram from Berlin. This action, it is added, was decided upon because of a proclamation of the social revolutionists that they were about to begin a reign of terror at Moscow. Pskov was selected because conditions at Petrograd are almost as bad as at Moscow.

Referring to the shifting of the German diplomatic base at Russia, the Vossische Zeitung, of Berlin, says:

"The removal of the German embassy from Moscow to Pskov sheds a lurid light on the seriousness of the would show that the Bolshevik rule, Ambassador Helfferich left before the embassy staff because he feared for his life.

"The state of things he found in Moscow may best be judged from the fact that the Soviet government of its own accord relieved him of the duty of paying the customary official visit on his arrival to deliver his credentials."

The newspaper plaintively adds: "Moscow is in the hands of anti-German elements and the followers of the social revolutionists of the Left."

This would show that the Bolshevik rule at Moscow is at an end and this is the case not only at Moscow but in the greater part of Russia, if not in the whole Russian Empire. This throws a vivid light on the failure of the German policy in the east."

FRITZ MAKING POINTED INQUIRIES

The Hague, Aug. 12.—German newspapers are asking pointed questions concerning reserves in the west and are caustic in their comment. A Berlin dispatch to the Post of Munich complains of the attempts of certain German official circles to conceal the truth from the people. It says this has done incalculable harm and is largely responsible for the public bitterness. The dispatch adds:

"The same day that Gen. Ludendorff confessed our strategic plans had failed, Prince Henry of Prussia, in a speech at Hamburg, said the Turkish attache had just told him he considered the battle on the Marne a German victory. So the German may choose between Ludendorff and the Turkish attache. It is painful to see private persons in prominent positions like Prince Henry, trying to represent facts in a manner at variance with the truth—it is ridiculous to suppose that the importance of events can be concealed ultimately from the people."

The Deutsches Zeitung of Berlin declares:

"The events between the Somme and the Aisne constitute the first serious defeat of the war."

The newspaper attributes the defeat to the weak morale of the troops of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, due to the fact Reichstag speech of former Foreign Secretary von Kuhlmann.

The Socialist Vorwarts, of Berlin, calls on the government to tell the people the truth about the war, saying the expectation of those who wish to lead the nation through the war like an ignorant child with the stereotyped assurance that everything was going splendidly, are unfulfilled.

PERSHING SENDS WORD TO PRESIDENT WILSON

Washington, Aug. 13.—A special personal message from Gen. Pershing was delivered to President Wilson today by Col. John F. T. Finney, of the army medical corps, recently returned from France, after a year's service. The contents of the message were not disclosed.