

# GERMANY SENDS ANSWER TO AMERICAN ULTIMATUM REGARDING U-BOAT WARFARE; EYES ON WASHINGTON

## BERLIN REFUSES TO ABANDON THE U-BOAT WARFARE

Says England and Her Allies Have Made No Restraints in Consideration of Neutrals, Criticises United States For Not Trying to Prevent "Accidents" American Citizens Have Met With.

## GERMANY STILL HOPES FOR AN AGREEMENT

Begs to Reserve Further Communication on the Matter Until Certain Points Are Ascertained.—Claims to Have Made Several Concessions to United States Which Would Have Saved American Lives Had They Been Accepted.

Germany's answer to the American ultimatum has been received at Washington breaking the tension of the long wait since the United States note was delivered to the Imperial Government on April 20th. It is very likely that upon the Teutonic reply hangs the future happiness and friendliness of the two nations.

Berlin, May 6.—Via wireless to Sayville.—Following is the text of the note of the German Government in reply to the American note respecting submarine warfare, delivered on Thursday by Gottlieb von Jagow, the foreign secretary to Ambassador Gerard.

"The undersigned on behalf of the Imperial German Government has the honor to present to His Excellency,



JAMES W. GERARD  
United States Ambassador to Germany

the Ambassador of the United States, Mr. James W. Gerard, the following reply to the note of April 20, regarding the conduct of German submarine warfare.

"The German Government handed over to the proper naval authorities for early investigation the evidence concerning the Sussex as communicated by the Government of the United States. Judging by the results that the investigation has hitherto yielded the German Government is alive to the possibility that the ship mentioned in the note of April 10 as having been torpedoed by a German submarine is actually identical with the Sussex.

"The German Government begs to reserve further communication on the matter until certain points are ascertained, which are of decisive importance for establishing the facts of the case. Should it turn out that the commander was wrong in assuming the vessel to be a man-of-war the German Government will not fail to draw the consequences resulting therefrom.

"In connection with the case of the Sussex the Government of the United States made a series of statements the gist of which is the assertion that the incident is to be considered but one instance of a deliberate method of indiscriminate destruction of vessels of all sorts, nationalities and destinations by German submarine commanders.

"The German government must emphatically repudiate the assertion, the German Government, however, thinks it of little avail to enter into details in



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the present stage of affairs, more particularly as the Government of the United States omitted to substantiate the assertion by reference to concrete facts.

"The German Government will only state it has imposed far-reaching restraints upon the use of the submarine weapon, solely in consideration of neutrals' interests, in spite of the fact that these restrictions are necessarily of advantage to Germany's enemies. No such consideration has ever been shown neutrals by Great Britain and her Allies."

**Submarine Orders.**  
"The German submarine forces have had, in fact, orders to conduct the submarine warfare in accordance with the general principles of visit and search and the destruction of merchant vessels, recognized by international law, the sole exception being the conduct of warfare against enemy trade carried on enemy freight ships encountered in the war zone surrounding Great Britain. With regard to these no assurance has ever been given to the Government of the United States. No such assurances are contained in the declaration of February 8, 1916."

**Claim Errors Occurred.**  
"The German Government cannot admit any doubt that these orders were given or are executed in good faith. Errors actually occurred. They can in no kind of warfare be avoided altogether. Allowances must be made in the conduct of naval warfare against an enemy resorting to all kinds of ruses, whether permissible or illicit."

**"Unavoidable" Dangers to Neutrals.**  
"But apart from the possibility of errors, naval warfare just like warfare on land, implies unavoidable dangers for neutral persons and goods entering the fighting zone. Even in cases where the naval action is confined to ordinary forms of cruiser warfare neutral persons and goods repeatedly come to grief.

"The German Government has repeatedly pointed out the dangers from mines that have led to the loss of numerous ships."

**Some German Pepper in This.**  
"The German Government has made several proposals to the Government of the United States in order to reduce to a minimum for American travelers and goods the inherent dangers of naval warfare. Unfortunately the Government of the United States decided not to accept the proposals. Had it accepted the Government of the United States would have been instrumental in preventing the greater part of the accidents that American citizens have met with in the meantime."

"The German Government still stands by its offer to come to an agreement along these lines."

**Makes Further Concession.**  
"As the German Government repeatedly declared, it cannot dispense with the use of the submarine weapon in the conduct of warfare against enemy trade. The German Government, however, has now decided to make a further concession, adapting methods of submarine war to the interests of neutrals.

"In reaching this decision the German Government is actuated by considerations which are above the level of disputed questions."

**Sacred Principles of Humanity.**  
"The German Government attaches no less importance to the sacred principles of humanity than the Government of the United States. It again fully takes into account that both governments for many years co-operated in developing international law in conformity with these principles, the ultimate object of which has always been to confine warfare on sea and land to armed forces of belligerents and safeguard as far as possible non-combatants against the horrors of war. But, although these considerations are of great weight, they alone would not under present circumstances have determined the attitude of the German Government."

**Puts Blame on England.**  
"For in answer to the appeal by the Government of the United States on behalf of the sacred principles of humanity and international law the German Government must repeat once more with all emphasis, that it was not the German, but the British Government which ignored all accepted rules of international law and extended this terrible war to the lives and property of non-combatants, having no regard whatever for the interests and rights of neutrals and non-combatants that through this method of warfare have been severely injured."

**Had to Resort to Submarines.**  
"In self-defense against the illegal conduct of British warfare, while fighting a bitter struggle for National existence, Germany had to resort to the hard but effective weapon of submarine warfare.

**Touches Upon England's Attempt to Starve Germany.**  
"As matters stand the German Government cannot but reiterate regret that the sentiment of humanity which the Government of the United States extends with such fervor to the unhappy victims of submarine warfare are not extended with the same warmth of feeling to many millions of women and children who, according to the avowed intention of the British Government, shall be starved and who, by sufferings, shall force the victorious armies of the Central Powers into ignominious capitulation."

**Refers Often to Great Britain.**  
"The German Government, in agreement with the German people, fails to understand this discrimination, all the more as it has repeatedly and explicitly declared itself ready to use the submarine weapon in strict conformity with the rules of international law as recognized before the outbreak of the war, if Great Britain likewise were ready to adapt the conduct of warfare to these rules."

**Several Attempts Made by the Government of the United States to prevail upon the British Government to act accordingly failed because of flat refusal on the part of the British Government. Moreover Great Britain again and again has violated international law, surpassing all bounds in outraging neutral rights. The latest measure, adopted by Great Britain declaring German bunker coal contraband and establishing conditions under which English bunker coal alone is supplied to neutrals is nothing but an unheard-of attempt by way of exaction to force neutral tonnage into the service of British trade war."**

**Again Criticises United States.**  
"The German people know that the Government of the United States has the power to confine the war to armed forces of the belligerent countries, in the interest of humanity and maintenance of international law. The Government of the United States would have been certain of attaining this end had it been determined to insist against Great Britain on the incontrovertible rights to freedom of the seas. But as matters stand the German people are under the impression that the Government of the United States, while demanding that Germany, struggling for existence, shall restrain the use of an effective weapon and while making compliance with these demands a condition for maintenance of relations with Germany confines itself to protests against illegal methods adopted by Germany's enemies. Moreover, the German people know to what considerable extent its enemies are supplied with all kinds of war material from the United States."

**Will Not Attack Neutral Ships.**  
"As far as lies with the German Government, it wishes to prevent things from taking such a course. The German Government, moreover, is prepared to do its utmost to confine operations of the war for the rest of its duration to the fighting forces of the belligerents, thereby also insuring freedom of the seas, a principle upon which the German Government believes, now as before, that it is in agreement with the Government of the United States."

**Should Not Be Sunk Without Warning.**  
"The German Government, guided by this idea, notifies the Government of the United States that German naval forces have received the following order: 'In accordance with the general principles of visit and search and the destruction of the merchant vessels recognized by international law such vessels, both within and without the area declared a naval war zone, shall not be sunk without warning and without saving human lives unless the ship attempt to escape or offer resistance.'

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concessions, it has been guided not alone by the friendship connecting the two great nations for over one hundred years but also by the thought of the great doom which threatens the entire civilized world should this cruel and sanguinary war be extended and prolonged."

**Introduces Restrictions.**  
"But for neutrals, cannot expect that Germany, forced to fight for existence, shall, for the sake of neutral interests, restrict the use of an effective weapon if the enemy is permitted to continue to apply to will methods of warfare violating rules of international law. Such a demand would be incompatible with the character of neutrality and the German Government is convinced that the Government of the United States does not think of making such a demand, knowing that the Government of the United States repeatedly declares that it is determined to restore the principle of freedom of the seas, from whatever quarter it has been violated."

"Accordingly the German Government is confident that in consequence of the new orders issued to the naval forces the Government of the United States will also now consider all impediments removed which may have been in the way of mutual co-operation toward restoration of the freedom of the seas during the war, as suggested in the note of July 23, 1915, and it does not doubt that the Government of the United States will now demand and insist that the British government shall forthwith observe the rules of international law universally recognized before the war as are laid down in the notes presented by the Government of the United States to the British Government December 28, 1914, and November 5, 1915."

"Should steps taken by the Government of the United States not attain the object it desires to have the laws of humanity followed by all belligerent nations, the German Government would then be facing a new situation in which it must resort to itself complete liberty of decision."

"The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the American ambassador assurance of the highest consideration."



COUNT VON BERNSTORFF  
German Ambassador to United States

Doom to Civilized World Should War Be Prolonged.

"It will, therefore, be understood that the appeal made by the Government of the United States to sentiments of humanity and principles of international law cannot under the circumstances meet the same hearty response from the German people which such an appeal otherwise always is certain to find here. If the German Government, nevertheless, is resolved to go to the utmost limit of

## IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

happenings of This and Other Nations For Seven Days Are Given.

## THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in the Southland Will Be Found in Brief Paragraphs.

### Mexican News

Mexican military men believe that the withdrawal of the American troops from Mexico will take place in about two months.

The Mexicans say that in view of the dispositions to be made by General Obregon in co-operation with the American forces, the hunting down of the bandit groups in Chihuahua and Durango can scarcely take more than two months.

On assurances from General Carranza that the bandits are dispersed the northward movement of United States troops will attain full speed.

It is probable that no American troop movements will be begun until the formal signing of an agreement by the two governments.

Brigadier General Pershing, commanding the expeditionary troops, is planning for every possible future development. Every report of the advanced cavalry columns and those reaching Chihuahua from the border are studied thoroughly in an attempt to obtain a proper perspective.

The scattered bands of Villa followers are being given no rest.

Columns of American cavalry are riding mercilessly on the trails of the scattered bands of two or three or singly, who are making their way far into the mountains to escape the Americans.

President Wilson has received an appeal to intervene in the cases of the Mexicans recently convicted in the federal court of murder in connection with the Villa raid on Columbus, N. M. The president telegraphed the governor of New Mexico requesting information about the cases.

### European War

The British government has decided to release the thirty-eight Germans and Austrians taken from the American steamship China. The release of these men will be ordered immediately.

A mob swept through the streets of Charlottenburg, a suburb of Berlin, Germany, plundering butter shops and smashing signs and windows of other butter shops and meat shops, including the municipal meat shop.

The riot in the suburbs of Berlin was due to indignation aroused over the insolence of clerks towards purchasers of meats and butter.

A Rome, Italy, dispatch, announces that the submarine Bernouille sank an enemy torpedo boat in the lower Adriatic sea.

Five enemy aeroplanes made a raid on Brindisi, Italy.

The French flagship Patrie brought down a Zeppelin at two o'clock in the morning at Saloniki.

Four Irish rebel leaders have been executed. John Redmond asked leniency for the great mass of those involved.

The Zeppelin L-20 has been driven ashore and completely destroyed on the western side of Halso, Norway. Some of the crew were rescued.

On the sector of Le Mort Homme, northeast of Verdun, the French have taken additional German positions in an attack and captured in the operation about a hundred prisoners and four machine guns.

Except around Verdun, the entire French and Belgian front is quiet except for artillery duels.

A German aeroplane dropped bombs on Deal, England, but only one person was injured, and but slight damage done to property.

A German attack against the Belgians to the north of Dixmude was reported along the western front.

In the other sectors artillery bombardments only are reported.

A German attempt to assume the offensive against the Russians at Riga, near Riga, was put down.

German aircraft have bombed several Russian positions in the Gulf of Riga.

A Russian air squadron delivered an attack against the German naval base at Windau, Vourland.

The Turks are still fleeing from the Russians in the Diarbekr region of Asia Minor.

Constantinople reports the driving aground in the Black sea by a Turkish submarine of three Russian steamers.

The British government has at last decided on conscription, and Premier Asquith announces that a bill to that end will soon be introduced in the house of commons.

Two steamers under charter by the American commission for relief in Belgium have met with mishaps at sea. The British steamer Hendonhall has been sunk and the Swedish steamer Fridland has been damaged and is being towed into Blackdeep.

Athens dispatches state that northern Epirus has been placed under Greek civil administration.

For weeks a relieving British force has been trying to reach Kut-el-Amar, but it was held up by floods in the Tigris and by the Turks.

The situation about Verdun has not undergone any change of note.

Europe's purchases of war materials in the United States totaled three hundred and forty million dollars at the end of the first twenty months of the war.

Shipments of high explosive shells and shrapnel are crossing the Atlantic from the United States now at the rate of a million dollars' worth daily.

A half million dollars' worth of powder is going from the United States to the entente allies daily.

Firearms and cartridges valued at more than five million dollars went to Europe from the United States during the month of March.

The French took a portion of a crater in sapping operations around the Argonne forest.

Berlin reports that strong French attacks from LeMort Homme to the north of Verdun were repulsed.

It has been officially announced in Ottawa, Canada, that two troop ships carrying 3,000 officers and men, have arrived safely in England.

It is claimed in London that the Irish rebellion was planned in Germany.

On the Russian front the Germans have captured Russian positions to the south of Narocz Lake and taken 5,600 prisoners, including four staff officers, together with one cannon, 24 machine guns and 10 mine throwers. Russian efforts to reclaim the lost ground were futile.

### Washington

The consensus of opinion of the press of the United States, in the opinion of statesmen in Washington, is that the German note was "imperial." However, it is further stated here that diplomatic relations with Germany depends entirely on how Germany keeps the promises made in the note.

All world's exports records were broken by the United States during the month of March this year, being, in fact, double the March average for five years.

For the last nine months exports from the United States amounted to nearly three billion dollars.

Rear Admiral Caperton has gone to Santo Domingo to put a stop to the activities of factional leaders seeking to overthrow the Jimenez government.

It is believed in Washington that the impeachment proceedings against Santo Domingo against President Jimenez is simply a political transparent device to overthrow Jimenez, and has no merit in fact.

The president, speaking at the opening of the national service school military encampment for young women, the ladies were very military in character, wearing khaki, and being drawn up in military order. They raised the American flag over the encampment, during the raising of which the president delivered his address.

Philippine independence is a dead issue, so far as this session of congress is concerned. The bill granting Philippine independence in four years was decisively defeated in the house, despite the effort of administration's efforts to procure a favorable vote.

Thirty-one Democrats joined the solid Republican minority in laying the Philippines independence bill on the shelf.

Prosperity is growing in the United States. Federal agents report on April business, and predict that the future outlook is good in virtually every section of the country.

### Domestic

The women of the Methodist Episcopal church have raised during the last fiscal year \$3,432,506 for home missionary purposes, it is reported at the general conference in Saratoga, N. Y., of that church.

All doubt that existed in Savannah, Ga., that the police are serious about enforcing the law has been dispelled. More than a hundred places have already been raided and wagonloads of booze confiscated. It is stated that action against lawbreakers will be continued.

A Chicago dispatch announces that former Senator William Lorimer was found not guilty of conspiracy in connection with the failure of the LaSalle Street Trust and Savings bank, of which he was president, by a jury in the federal court there.

In a running fight in the hills near Gore, Okla., a posse headed by Sheriff Barger of Muskogee county, shot and killed Joe and Dave Smith, outlaws, said to be sons of "Famous" Smith, a notorious bandit of territorial days. The fugitives used riot guns stolen from county officials a year ago when Dave Smith escaped from jail. The two carried safe-blowing apparatus. None of the posse was injured.

Two men are known to have been killed and four probably fatally wounded and a score seriously hurt when a Pittsburg, Pa., mob attacked the Edgar Thompson works where a strike was in progress. Two thousand citizen deputies have been sworn in to preserve order in Pittsburg.

The problem in reconstructing the dyestuffs industry in this country to insure a regular supply for the textile trade is near solution, according to speakers at the opening sessions of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers at Boston.