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## RUSSIANS ROUTING THE TURKS ALONG THE CAUCASIAN FRONT

### German Piratical Campaign Not Crowned With Success

#### British Board of Trade Experts Carefully Review the Situation---Losses During the First Six Weeks of the Campaign Confined Chiefly to Tramp Steamers.

LONDON, March 15.—The Associated Press has been placed in possession of a review of the first six weeks of the German unrestricted submarine campaign. The figures given are from the board of trade reports, and the conclusions are those of a highly competent authority. "The German campaign, reported to have assumed enhanced vigor on February 1, must be singularly disappointing to the Germans," says the review.

"At the beginning of January, 1917, Great Britain possessed approximately 3,731 vessels, of 1,600 tons and over. Many others of lesser tonnage are not taken into consideration, owing to the importance of restricting the question to overseas traffic and cargo, judging the results carefully and looking to possible future developments.

"From February 1 until March 14, the losses of British ships of over 1,600 tons were approximately 78, which number deducted from the total leaves the British mercantile marine with 3,653 ships of over 1,600 tons, after six weeks of Germany's submarine warfare.

"It should be remembered that a very large proportion of tonnage is on the stocks building for the British mercantile marine, and a fair percentage of the total is being turned out monthly. In the total above mentioned no account is taken of ships secured in neutral countries.

"During the period from February 1 to March 10, no British ships have been in any way blockaded in harbor. Every opportunity of carrying out their plans has been at the disposition of the Germans after their declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare. It is extremely improbable that the German authorities will ever have the opportunity again, and for the following sufficient and obvious reasons:

#### Anti-Submarine Methods Adopted by the British Navy Have Been Very Successful

"First, a large number of old tramp steamers, slow of speed, have been sunk, as they afforded easy prey.

Second, their efforts would be directed for the first six weeks or two months towards producing the most considerable results by careful organization and administration, with a view to affecting the morale of neutral nations. A careful study of the German methods has been made by the British naval authorities, and anti-submarine measures have been adopted which, as the outcome of experience, have attained a large measure of success.

Third, the arming of merchant vessels is rapidly taking place, and it is capable of proof that a submarine takes particular care in attacking armed vessels, a large percentage of which succeed in making an escape.

Fourth, anti-submarine devices are being daily perfected, but a little time must necessarily elapse in order that they should receive a proper trial.

#### 29 British Steamers Sunk During the Last Two Weeks Against 49 the First Fortnight

Fifth, the German naval authorities are bound to find some difficulty in replacing the trained personnel, of which they have lost a considerable portion. It should be remembered that there is considerable difference between the efficiency of individual commanders, and the greatest losses have been incurred through the action of a few submarine commanders, who by their skill and training stand far above the average U-boat officers who leave Germany on missions of destruction.

"The losses of the British mercantile marine are being steadily reduced. During the past two weeks only 29 have been sunk as opposed to 48 steamers sunk in the first two weeks of Germany's renewed submarine activity.

#### Having More Serious Effect on Neutrals.

"The general situation of the submarine warfare may be thus summed up: It is having a more serious effect upon European neutrals than upon belligerent mercantile marine. The continued losses of ships will seriously affect post bellum trade. The losses of British merchant vessels in the six weeks represent a percentage of 2.3, while the average daily movement of vessels in United Kingdom ports is 740. This figure accepts fishing and local sailing craft."

### HUNS TOOK PHOTOS OF THE ALGONQUIN

Penzance, March 15.—The submarine which sank the American steamer Algonquin was the U-38. One of the members of the crew of the Algonquin says he counted 22 men on the deck of the submarine, and also that the submerible mounted two guns.

Hauled Down Stars and Stripes.  
Plymouth, March 15.—Pictures of the Algonquin, showing the American flag flying at her stern and painted on either side, were taken by the German submarine commander before a member of the bombing party from the submerible hauled down the Stars and Stripes, according to an account given to the Associated Press by the Algonquin's first officer, Frank J. Yerney, of Seattle, a naturalized American who was born in Belgium.

Referring to the hauling down of the flag, Yerney said he did not see what the Germans did with it.

### Serious Disorders In Constantinople

New York, March 15.—A wireless press message from Paris says:

Serious disorders broke out in Constantinople on receipt of the news of the entry of the British into Bagdad. Poverty and the high price of provisions were the pretext."

#### Lieut. Veniot Resigns.

Lieut. P. J. Veniot, son of Mr. P. J. Veniot, M.P., of Bathurst, has resigned his commission in the 165th Acadian Battalion. Lieut. Veniot served at the front with the 26th Battalion and made a splendid record.

#### Postponed Until Monday.

A Scott Act case in which a large number of witnesses were summoned was before the police court this morning, and was adjourned until Monday afternoon at 2.30.

### TURKS ARE RETREATING BEFORE THE RUSSIANS

#### Petrograd Resumes Communication With the Outside World After a Lapse of Several Days---Kermanshah Has Been Captured From the Turks.

PETROGRAD, via London, March 15.—The Turks are in retreat on the Caucasian front, pursued by the Russians, the War Office announces. Kermanshah has been captured.

The announcement is as follows: "In the direction of Sakkiz our troops, pressing the retreating Turks, are now approaching toward Banu. In the direction of Hamadan, after an obstinate battle lasting two days, our troops took possession of the town of Kermanshah. Pursuit of Turks continued."

Petrograd has been shut off from the outside world for several days and the foregoing despatch is the first word received from that source since the official statement of Monday. The absence of the War Office report for the first time in the war and even of press despatches, for such a period of time, gave rise to considerable speculation as to the situation in Russia, particularly in view of the disturbances in regard to the food shortage which were in progress in Petrograd at last accounts.

#### A Vigorous Russian Offensive.

The official statement indicates a vigorous Russian offensive on a wider front in Persia than had been previously reported. The capture of Kermanshah, which is about 80 miles southwest of Hamadan, was reported unofficially from London yesterday. The town referred to as Banu probably is Baneh, 130 miles northwest of Kermanshah, and only about ten miles from the Turkish border. It is well to the north of the Turkish army defeated by the British in Mesopotamia, which may be cut off if the Russian advance continues.

### GERMANS POUNDED OUT OF STRONG POSITIONS BY BRITISH GUNNERS

#### Were Not Given Time to Blow up Dugouts Before Retreating---Many Houses in the Captured Villages Were Found Undamaged.

LONDON, March 15.—Newspaper correspondents at British headquarters in France describe the operations of Wednesday as having been carried out with a heavy rain beating in the faces of the British troops who sometimes were unable to see more than a few yards, though during occasional brief lulls in the storm the men ploughed doggedly forward through the clinging mud and their advance was hardly affected.

The Germans are now holding a line of about the same strength as they just deserted, and are, according to the correspondents, taking breath while the British push up and register their guns on the new targets. The British outposts are new before the immediate defences of Bapaume and at some points are only a few hundred yards from them.

#### Evacuation of German Positions to British Troops Was Not a Voluntary Movement

The correspondents describe at length the positions abandoned by the Germans and state enthusiastically that the evacuation was not voluntary, but that the Germans were pounded out by the British guns.

From Loupart Ridge, which was held by Prussian foot-guards, it is said that the defenders ran away, leaving intact the dugouts which the British artillery had spared. Explosive charges and detonators, which had been prepared for wrecking the positions, were found by the British.

The British found the villages much less damaged than they had expected. Grevillers especially was little damaged, and many houses in Miramont were only slightly injured.

The Germans sacrificed considerable ammunition and supplies in their retreat. Some of the dugouts contained a quantity of champagne and other wines, and cigars.

#### Von Hindenburg's Great Strategic Reserve Is Still Delayed in the Interior of Germany

The Times military correspondent, commenting on the German retreat, says: "The enemy evidently wishes to fight on clean ground, where we shall have the worst of the deal, and seems to have prepared such a position on what is known as the Hindenburg line, which appears to run on our front from near Lens through St. Quentin and toward Lan. Naturally it takes us some time to make fresh dispositions after a German retreat, but far from incommoding us, this retreat is precisely what we desire."

Assuming that the present German movement is not a main operation, the writer discusses other possible intentions. He believes that Von Hindenburg's great strategic reserve is still delayed in the interior of Germany, owing to the severe winter having impeded transportation. Therefore, he says, the Germans may have been compelled to postpone plans.

#### The Western Front the Probable Theatre For the Next Great Effort of the Germans

"With at least 700,000 more men in the field than he had a year ago, the enemy is capable of hitting hard, provided he retains the necessary physical and moral momentum, and provided the Allies have not placed in the field equivalent reinforcements. If the German leaders really believe their submarine warfare will have the effect they promise, their people, when the strategic reserve may be retained in the interior for a counter-offensive when the Allies attack; but if the hope placed in the submarine war proves extravagant, then an offensive alone can give the Germans a decision.

"Evidence continues to point to the western front as the most probable theatre for the next great German effort. We must also regard Italy as an extension of the French front, and remain alive to the chances of changes in the Italian theatre. All hypothesis concerning the enemy's action, however, is subordinate to the initiative we may assume.

"On this matter nothing can be said."