AUSTRO-ITALIAN FRONT FLAMES INTO VIOLENT ACTION BUT WITH ITALIANS ON THE OFFENSIVE

Hold Cround Among Peaks of Asiago Plateau

STRUGGLE A BITTER ONE

Italians Probably Seek to Upset the Long Expected Austro-German Drive

AUSTRIAN WARSHIP IS SUNK

Naval Base at Pola Attacked by Italian Units

the rugged peaks of the Asiago plateau, east of the Brenta river, the Italian front has again flamed into violent action. The aggresive has been taken by the Italians, nowever, and the Austro-German forces instead of launching their longexpected assault on the tIalian lines have been compelled to fight hard to maintain the positions where they have stood since last November.

nting

Fighting at Dizzy Heights. The fighting seems to have centerin the comparatively short section the battle line between Mount Asoone and Monte Pertica. Those two an attitude of about 5,000 feet while between them there is a sort of "sadile" on which the Teutonic forces have aken up strong positions. Both the enna and Rome official statements tell of bitter fighting on this particuar front, the latter stating that the halian soldiers have entered Austrian trenches on Monte Asalone in two

Break Up Teutonic Brive. The fact that the Italian armies have taken the initiative in the fighting would seem to indicate that they have sought to carry the fight to the enemy such a way as to break up any arrangements for the launching of a strong Teutonic assault. This has many precedents in the present war, a strong offensive at a threatened point being considered the best detense under certain circumstances.

Entire Line Active. While the fighting has been very firce east o fthe Brenta the whole Italian line from Lake Garda to the Plave and thence to the sea has been marked by patrol engagements which appear to be isolated actions, but which may be components parts of a a plan of campaign in that theatre of lines been reached by attacking par-

ties of Austrians. Americans Set Buildings Afire. In Flanders and Picardy only heavy artillery fire has marked the fighting during the last day. American gunners have been at work in the general bombardment that has been going on and have augin set buildings in Montdidier flames. Here and there have been patrol engagements but these have not approached the magnitude of battles

Austrian Battleship Destroyed. A raid on the Austrian naval base at Pola has been made by Italian units and an Austrian battleship of the 20,- 1 ton type has been destroyed. The Italan naval forces were aided in their perations by the co-operation of an aerial squadron.

It has been announced from Washington that in official order has been ssued t he soviet government of ling for the formation of an t will fight for the security of ssian republic which has been d by the aggression of the

HOOVER TELLS PRESIDENT BELGIUM IS NOW STARVING.

Washington, May 16 .- Belgium is now starving and some o fthe ships supplying the allies must be diverted carry relief. President Wilson was old today by Food Administrator pooling the ships an dthe food sup- fire at him point blank range. plies Mr. Hoover, said other countries are getting the food and Belgium is being neglected.

Ever since the United States began ending large number of troops to rance the question of tonnage for Belgian relief has presented a serious problem and has caused much uneasiness among those interested in it.

HUN AIRMEN TWICE FAIL TO REACH CITY OF PARIS

ho distinct groups of German airlanes last night. The first group after hes last night. The first group after opping bombs 18 miles south of the where they had crossed the line legained their base shortly before 11

A few minutes later a group of four Mrplanes crossed at about the same pot and headed southeastward. This group was headed off after it had covered a distance of 30 mRes. The mabombs which fell in fields.

Pace Jury Unable to Agree. Norfolk, Va., May 16.—Unable to agree on a verdict the jury in the case Stephen C. Pace, on trial in the

Enemy Forced to Fight Hard to First Official Communique Is Issued By Gen. Pershing

Daily Report on Activities of the

American Soldiers Abroad

is Now Expected

BRAVE EXPLOITS ARE NOTED

Account is Given of the Daring

and Enterprise of Both Of-

ficers and Men

ARTILLERY MORE INTENSE

Complete American Air Squadron

Now in Operation

Washington, May 16 .- Publication

today of the first American "official

their soldiers abroad are doing.

follow that course.

are involved.

French squadrons.

second section said:

troops to show in action. They are

AMERICANS IN TRNECHES AND

out. They shot four, of whom one

appeared to be an officer, secured val-

nable papers and retired under heavy

three officers and four men to find

line and reached the strong point at-

tacked by first patrol. Here the ene-

my was now enforced and our patrol

was driven back by hot rifle and gre-

nade fire. On reaching our lines one

man of this patrol also was found

missing. Two officers who went out to

find him killed an enemy scout and

brought back his body for identifica-

tion purposes. The man missing from

lines and for always setting fine ex-

ample to his squadron. First Lleut.

ers, of Milwaukee, observer for an in-

fantry liason mission on April 12. Fly-

enemy machine and anti-aircraft

guns.

Russian Naval Officials Destroyed Submarines to Keep Them From Germans

London, May 16 .- Russian naval officials blew up their four American submarines before retreating from Hango, in southwestern Finland, last April, the British admiralty announced tonight.

Seven British submarines also were destroyed when the German navel forces and transports approached Hango. None of the British vessels fell into the hands of the enemy, the admiralty announc-

TELL OF BATTLE

Capt. Peterson Accounted for Two Hun Monoplanes and Capt.

neights, about three males apart, rise SLIPPED UP ON THE BOCHES

Capt. Peterson Said "It Was a Cinch" While Capt. Marr "Felt Sorry For the Helpless Beggars" He Brought Down.

With the American Army in France. May 16.—(By the Associated Press.)— Captain David Peterson, of Honesdale, fornia, the heroes in the aerial battle counts of the daring and enterprise of army as it is found possible to train, terson broght down two German monoplanes and Captain Marr destroyed an enemy biplane in the Toul sector, relater their stories of the battle

"I was flying near Thiacourt at an in French corps, or army fronts, he altitude of 5,000 metres," said Captain | will be able to follow up today's prac-Peterson, "wnen I saw two German Vice and give detailed accounts of Albatross scouts going away at right angles in the distance. On was ahead of the other. I ascended 200 metres the war. Nowhere have the Italian higher, circled and stopped my engine and darted after them.

> "I finally got close to the last plane. German machine almost immediately burst into flames and fell.

"I continued straight on my course," he continued, "and within two minutes had the other machine before me. He started a quick dive but I am certain that some of the bullets went home. One of the wings of his ma- signs of the dash and initiative which chine crumpled up at the same mo- they have expected the American MEN ENROLLED FOR ment. As I circled about I saw one machine burning on the ground and supremely confident that the average the other, smoking in its downward American will play the game at the plunge, crash to the earth. That is all there is to it. It was a cinch."

Captain Marr was flying at an altrtude of 2,000 metres when he saw an enemy machine over the American

"As I sailed out I saw him far away, circling out from our line amid a cloud o fpuffballs from our 'Archies,'" he said. "I circled out wider and finally passed the German and turned again down our line, between the enemy ing additional information of the acand the sun. Both of us had the sun

"As I opened up my motor and approached nearer," he said, "I saw that had a two-seater to deal with. I hought the German might see or hear by motor, so I went a hundred meters lower until right under the tail of his machine. Then I pointed the nose of my airplane upward and went on Hoover. Under the present plan of a level with the enemy and opened

> "The German never knew I was there until incendiary bullets, alternating with ordinary missible, began pattering through his machine. After 20 shots his machine toppled. I must have got a lucky shot home on the pilot for the machine went down, wavering through the air like a leaf falling from a tree. I saw the observer standing up in th emachine trying to get his machine gun to bear on me, first from one side and then from the

other. "I certainly felt sorry for the help-Paris, May 16.—Two successive at-less beggar. There he was dashing to but the second patrol has not been found, tempts to reach Paris were made by

Captain Peterson and Captain Marr were standing o ntheir flying field at ation forces were cited in orders by they were about to leave for a patrol croix de guerre: Major Ralph Royce, over the enemy's lines. As they step- of Hancock, Mich., for making first ped into their machines, Captain Marr American reconnaissance over enemy's

"Well we're off again. Maybe we ample to his squadron. First Lieut. will get some more. Maybe they will Herbert R. Garside, of New York City, chines belonging to it dropped a few get us. Anyway, it's a fine day for pilot, and Second Lieut. Paul D. Mey-

it. So long." The motors started an dthe two airplanes, together with several other ing at 300 metres they finished their machines, took the air and disappeared mission in spite of intense fire from toward the front.

FIND A POWERFUL FORCE IN FRANCE

American Army Officials More Than Ever Hopeful That This Will be Accomplished

MAY TOTAL 1,500,000 MEN

It is Expected That Within Next 12 Months Three Million Will be Under Arms

Washington, May 16 .- With more than half a million men now in France, army officials now are more than ever hopeful that a powerful allies there by the end of the year. Unhappy experience with guine estimates of what can be accomplished make them slow to put their hopes into definite predictions, however, and it was not possible tonight to obtain specific confirmation of the report from Paris that 1,500,000 fighting troops before January 1 had been promised.

The statement of Premier Clemencommunique" prepared at expeditionary headquarters in France, inaugurated what is expected to be a daily rearmy officers generally to mean that the foreign office at the fime of the port to the American people on what the American government had definite ly pledged itself to deliver a specific ment on the statement. Many weeks General Pershing, but Mr. Baker inago he told the senate military comdicated his hope that the expeditionary mittee, however, that the government commander would find it possible to then had hopes of getting 1,500,000 to the front during the year. Since then As to the military situation in the France early in the year has been fulhis estimate that 500,000 would reach

sides, both north of Toul and in Lor- up of American participation which has raine, were noted with the comment, already shown results. "nothing else to report." Most of the Under the authority sought by Presistatement was devoted to official ac- dent Wilson to organize as large an American officers and men in scout- equip and transport it is known offiing and raiding operations and in the clais expect at least three million men to be under arms during the next 12 Army officers here hope that while months. Many believe that even a would be improper for him to issue appears quite probable that a total of formal statements as to operations four million during the year will be

the communique was exceedingly brief. drive has changed the whole course of

Increased artillery activity on both events and brought about a speeding

where his forces are holding sectors nearer the mark. Secretary Baker explained today his view as to what the new practice of and British divisions and the appointevents in which only American troops ment of General Foch as supreme com-Designation in the communique of mander might bring about in the way. the flight for which Major Ralph Royce of producing mixed army corps or diwas decorated by the French army visions. It is entirely possible, he said, corps commander as the "first Ameri- that American division or higher com-At a distance of 100 yards I opened can flight over the enemy's lines" was manders will have command of French

> a complete American air squadron is movements ordered by General Foch. Where a mixed division or corps are now in operation at the front. Hereconstituted and American troops pre- fiscal year. tofore, American flyers mentioned for dominate Mr. Baker regarded it as gallantry have been attached to probable that an American will com-Officers saw in the official reports of mand if one of adequate rank and exthe raiding and scouting operations perience is available.

SEVIER TRAINING CAMP

Schoo for Commissions for Infantry front just as well as Americans have Will be Conducted-Artillery at Camp Jackson ,Columbia.

IN AIR ARE VERY ACTIVE (Special Star Telegram. Washington, May 16 .- The war de-Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., May partment today made public an official communique from Gen. Pershing in two sections, the first repeating a commissions had reported at the close communique that came in press cables this morning and the second givgreater part of the number were civitivities of the American troops. The lians from accredited schools and col-"In Lorraine, May 12, three snipers, leges. More than a hundred of the scouts of the intelligence service, went remainder were sent from Camp Wadsout in camouflage sniping suits to find German snipers and encountered 18 worth at Spartanburg, where no camp of the enemy at strong point near dug-

will be held this time. The candidates from the 81st division are expected tomorrow. Only infantry candidates will be trained here, fire. One failed to reach our lines and the school for commissions in the arthe major commanding the sector sent tillery branch being conducted at Camp Jackson, Columbia. Tennessee. the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida and Virginia are represented by the students, while the party from Wadsworth was composed of New Yorkers. Butting up their tents was the first work performed by the porspective officers. Major C. H. Dickinson, who

> Columbia, is commandant. Two hundred and sixty-three selotmen from Camp Jackson are expected tomorrow to fill the engineer 30th division to war strength.

Movement of the 324th infantry pare the camp came several days ago. much more drastic their control must This is the first unit of the 81st division to arrive here in full force.

ENGINEERS TO AFFILIATE

pers, president of the American Federa- country had been called in.

ENGLAND WOULD CONSIDER PEACE OFFER IF MADE BY SOME ACCREDITED PERSON

Foreign Secretary Balfour Explains Before House of Commons the Letter From Emperor Charles to Prince Sixtus-Declares That the Central Powers Have Ma de No Effort Toward a Fair and Honorable Peace.

London, May 16 .- The British secre- | fact that the communication had been tary for foreign affairs, Arthur J. Balfour, in giving explanations in the house of commons today in connection with Emperor Charles' letter to Prince Sixtus of Bourbon, recently made public by the president of the French republic, declared that no effort at conversations has ever been made by the central powers in the interest of a fair

and honorable peace and he added: "If any representative of any belligerent country desires seriously to lay before us any proposals we are ready

to listen to them." The letter in question had been exmined by a committee of the French chamber, said Mr. Balfour, and the conclusion reached was that it did not provide an adequate or satisfactory basis for an honorable peace.

Mr. Balfour in his explanations was replying to questions submitted by the Right Hon. Walter Runciman, former president of the board of trade, who asked whether, when Emperor Charles' letter was communicated to the French ment to the British prime minister, it was communicated to any other of the ceau's newspaper that such a promise allies; had the American government had been made was not believed by any information as to what was passing? Did the prime minister inform

secrets from President Wilson, He was in America at the time and had not gone very thoroughly into the mat-The letter, however, had been conveyed by Prince Sixtus to President Poincare and the French premier under seal of the strictest secrecy. Only the British sovereign and premier were to see it. Therefore it was not communi cated to the president of the United States and the American government was at the time no better informed of the facts regarding the letter than he was himself

PRESIDENT MAY SUPPLEMENT

MR. BALFOUR'S STATEMENT public address or a diplomatic note President Wilson in the near future may take occasion to comment upor today by Foreign Minister Balfour in the British house of commons in con nection with the Austrian peace feelers through Prince Sixtus of Bourbon. It was authoritatively stated today that the American government fully

In giving out the text of the statement, Secretary Baker could not say definitely that one would be forthcomsuch a calculation months in advance, Secretary Baker would make no com-SHIPS OF CONCRETE PEACE CONDITIONS

two sectors held by American troops filled and since then, also, the German Shipping Board Decides to Proceed Sets Forth What Germany Propos-Immediately With the En-

larged Program

TO HAVE FOUR NEW YARDS BELGIUM

Gen. Pershing may as yet feel that it larger force can be handled as it now In Addition to Eighteen Ships Already Central Powers to be Allowed Com-Contracted For Fifty-Eight Others Will be Ordered When Sites Are Selected.

> Washington, May 16 .- The shipping board has decided to proceed imme-

Eighteen concrete ships aggregating tion reads: 117,500 tons have been contracted for. sites for the four new government Germany, the following: yards are chosen. -

south looking over available ground. | der German military, economic and Their recommendation is expected political dependence,

CONCRETE SHIP FAITH THE EQUAL OF ANY OTHER VESSEL San Francisco, May 15 .- The 7,500ton concrete steamer Faith, the first of its kind and tonnage constructed in of the first day of the 83rd division's this country, underwent a successful training camp for officers here. The trial trip today at sea off San Francisco. A wireless message from the

steamer said: "The Faith is proving herself the equal, if not the superior of any steel for attacks, shall become German. ship of similar size.

WAR INDUSTRIES BOARD AND STEEL MEN TO MEET

Secret and Important Meeting Called to Take Place in Washington Today.

Washington, May 16 .- A secret and mportant meeting of the steel committee of the American iron and steel institution, headed by Elbert H. Gary, with the war industries board has was in charge of the last camp at been called here for tomorrow.

The whole question of curtailment of industries as well as that of steel will be thrasned out at the meeting. A leaving Germany with only five bilregiment and artillery brigade of the "show down" will be demanded by the lions national debt." steel men. The government will be asked to determine definitely and give "On May 12 three officers of our avi- Camp Sevier has been completed, Col. figures how the steel companies shall George Moses and Lieutenant Collittee be operated and how far the govern- Sentenced to Quarter Century in Prisday break this morning as they spoke. the commanding general of a French having arrived with the remainder of ment must go in controlling either It was a perfect day for flying and army corps and decorated with the their command. A detachment to pre- their output as they do now, or how

> board's purpose in calling the meeting | convicted by a court martial of having | by him from Gutzon Borglum. was refused today by Bernard M. broken restriction to his company WITH LABOR FEDERATION. Baruch and other officials and every street and of having been absent witheffort was made to guard carefully the out leave twice, and having twice de-Washington, May 16 .- Samuel Gom- fact that leading steel men of the serted and twice escaped from confine-

tion of Labor, in a telegram to W. S. Officials familiar with the steel sit- dishonorable discharge from the ser-Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood uation said today that a shortage in vice, forfeiture of all pay and allowof Locomotive Engineers, congratulated steel and pig iron which has shown ances, and 25 years imprisonment in the brotherhood on its decision at little if any improvement since the federal penitentiary in Atlanta.

The text of the first section follows: Cleveland yesterday to affiliate with steel men pledged themselves to devote This is the longest sentence yet im-House Passes Pension Bill.

House Passes Pension Bill.

The text of the longest sentence yet imposed the hope that the action would make for the court until 10 o'clock tomorrow the total for the curtical pension follows:

Cleveland yesterday to affiliate with the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or "North of Toul in Lorraine there the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or "North of Toul in Lorraine there the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or "North of Toul in Lorraine there is the federation and expressed the hope their entire capacity to government or "North of Toul in Lorraine there is the federation and e

shown to him? Why were the negotia tions dropped-was it purely on territorial grounds? Was it because a de mand was made by France not only for Alsace-Lorraine; but for the 1814 line Mr. Balfour explained that he had no

Washington, May 16 .- Either through supplement the statement made (Continued on Page Two.)

es to Exact From Allies as War Indemnities

ONE CONDITION

mercial Fleet of 17,800,000 Tons and the Allies Only About 10,-909,000 Tons.

With the American Army in France, Wednesday night, May 15 .- (By the diately on a large scale with the build- Associated Pre-) .- Germany's condiing of concrete ships and will increase tions of peace are clearly stated in e the program out of the appropriation document found in a German trench fire with incendiary bullets and the taken here as an announcement that or British troops or both under the of two and one quarter billion dol- recently re-captured by entente allied lars which has been asked for the next troops. A resume of the principal conditions as given in an official transla-

"After the enormous sacrifices we It was announced today that 58 other have made of our blood and property, concrete vessels at a cost of about we exact as a necessary minimum to \$42,250,000 will be ordered as soon as the preservation and development of

"Belgium, especially the Flanders A committee of experts will visit the coast, with Antwerp, is to remain un-"Liberty of the seas shall be prop-

erly established for all nations, the central powers being allowed a commercial fleet totaling 17,800,000 tons while that of the allies should amount to 10,900,000 tons.

"Our colonies shall be returned with augmentation. "We are to have more numerous and stronger naval stations. "The Longwy and Briey mine fields

which furnished France its weapons "Readjustments of the frontiers, particularly in the Vosges, are to be fixed according to the military situation and the appreciation of the commandant. Our frontiers must be such that their defense is made easier. "The former German Baltic prov-

inces shall be incorporated, their rich soil furnishing new cereal fields for German peasant emigrants, thus protecting the empire against the dangers of famine. "Courland, Lithuania, Livonia and

Isthania are to be colonized. "One million eight hundred thousand tons of Rumanian petrol will be at the disposal of Germany. "Those nations which peaceful Germany must pay all war charges in raw materials, ships, ready

money and territorial concessions,

DESERTER GETS HOT ONE.

on for Delinquencies.

(Special Star Telegram.) Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., May 16.-Private Jacob MacLawhorn of Information as to the war industries | Company F, 120th infantry, has been ate the letter and affidavits received ment ,and he has been sentenced to

TERROR IS WAGED AGAINST CIVILIANS

Henry P. Davison Describes Methods Germans Are Using in France and Italy

TOWNS BOMBED AT NIGHT

Declares That German Propaganda Cannot Exist Where Red Cross is Working

New York, May 16 .- A German ofensive of terror against the civilian population of France and Italy was described today by Henry P. Davison on his return from a 12,000-mile tour of inspection of Red Cross work abroad. He is chairman of the Red Cross war council and comes back to inaugurate the drive for \$100,000,000.

"The outstanding feature of German nethods at the present time," he said. is the effort to terrorize women. children and old men at home. While the Germans troops are making their drive on the front airplanes are bombing nearly every night towns behind the lines with the deliberate and declared purpose of terrorizing civil-

Mr .Davison described the attempt to uphold civilian morale as "one of the great missions of the Red Cross.'

"You need have no concern for German propaganda where the Red Cross is working. We have workers all over Italy and France carrying a message of comfort and cheer, helping especially to care for the children and to provide for the sick and the needy, particularly among soldiers' families."

Mr. Davison had personal experience with German terrorizing of civilians from the air at night. He was in a town in France when 37 people were killed and houses demolished by a German airplane which had stolen through a barrage and flew as low as 300 feet. American ambulance men busied themselves at rescue work and the airplane returned and bombed them. He regards the bombing of Paris by big guns as part of the offensive of terror and says that the damage to buildings is so slight that one might drive about the city a week without noticing it unless it should

be pointed out. "The military situation in general." he said, "is very serious, but I think I reflect the attitude of Gen. Pershing in saying that the allies will win. Of that there is not a doubt." A summary of some of the Red Cross

relief, described by Mr. Davison, fol-"In France relief is being extended in 121 cities and towns; in Italy in 45 cities andtowns wth branches in 218 other places.

"In France the Red Cross operates 15 hospitals, in England 5; in Italy 2. In addition supplies are furnished to 361 hospitals in 1,509 cities and towns in France and to 645 hospitals in Italy. Ninety-nine Red Cross ambulances in the Italian front are operated by 129 America boys. "Fourteen rolling canteens at the

French front have supplied 3,240,000 hot drinks to French soldiers. Canteens in Paris district have supplied millions of meals and drinks to sol-"A factory has been established for the manufacture of artificial limbs and

five splint factories are operating under Red Cross supervision." Speaking of the Red Cross drive next week he said.

"We need to let it be known to our own soldiers and the soldiers of our alies and the peoples behind their lines School for Commissions for Infantry them heart and soul."

PRESIDENT OPPOSED TO SENATE WAR INQUIRIES

Another Test of Strength Between Administration Leaders and Critics Is Impending.

Washington, May 16 .- Another test of strength is impending in the senand critics of the government's war preparations. Upon receiving word today that the president still strongly disapproved the resolution for further war inquiries by the senate military committee, even in modified form, both sides laid plans for the fight which probably will begin tomorrow.

Democratic Leader Martin and Senator McKeller both stated that the senate would be given plenty of opportunity for consideration and debate. A meeting of the military committee tomorrow was called by Senator Chamberlain for discussion of the situation. During the day Senator Brandegee

of Connecticut presented to the Sen-Senator Brandegee said he had no intention of suppressing the papers but believed they should be referred to the military committee.

Miss Perry Won Her Case. Greenville, S. C., May 16.—The first legal case ever plead by a woman lawyer in South Carolina was tried here today, Miss James Perry, who was recently admitted to practice law in this state, representing the defense. She won the case. Miss Perry also has the distinction of being the first woman . admitted to practice law in South Carolina.

and

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