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# Mighty Array Of Battleships To Back Up Uncle Sam

The Warship Rampant in Nation's Capital—Fighting Men Expect Hostilities Unless Huerta Backs Down Completely—Must Act By This Evening—List of Battleships Sent to Mexican Waters—Time Has Passed to Tolerate Huerta's Quibbling—The President's Statement May Go Before Congress.

## NAVAL FORCES CONCENTRATING ON MEXICO.

AT VERA CRUZ:	Tonnage	Armament	Men
Battleship Florida	21,825	44	948
Transport Prairie	6,620	10	286
<b>AT TAMPIO:</b>			
Battleship Connecticut	16,000	44	1,099
Battleship Utah	21,825	44	1,048
Battleship Minnesota	16,000	44	988
Cruiser Des Moines	3,200	10	200
Dispatch Boat Dolphin	1,400	2	160
Scout Cruiser Chester	3,750	8	373
Cruiser San Francisco	4,000	8	300

## EN ROUTE ON ATLANTIC SIDE:

Battleship Arkansas	26,000	37	1,030
Battleship Vermont	16,000	46	1,053
Battleship New Jersey	14,948	49	906
Battleship New Hampshire	16,000	36	1,053
Gunboat Yankton	2,300	—	300
Fuel Ship Orion	1,120	—	40
Tug Ontario	19,322	—	240
Battleship Michigan	16,000	34	895
Protected Cruiser Tacoma	3,200	18	309
Tug Patuxent	755	—	40
Tug Lebanon	755	—	40
Battleship Louisiana	16,000	46	1,053
Battleship South Carolina	16,000	32	805
Gunboat Nashville	1,371	—	182

Entire flotilla of torpedo boats, torpedo boat destroyers and submarines at Pensacola and Guantanamo ("waiting orders.")

AT MAZATLAN Mexico: Tonnage	Armament	Men
Cruiser Raleigh	3,183	303
Gunboat Annapolis	1,010	17
Gunboat Yorktown	1,710	14
Cruiser New Orleans	3,340	345

## AT CORINTO AND ACAPULCO, Mexico:

Cruiser Denver	1,568	18	309
Cruiser California	4,050	40	900
Supply Ship Glacier	—	—	100
<b>EN ROUTE ON PACIFIC SIDE:</b>			
Cruiser Cleveland	1,560	18	309
Cruiser Maryland	4,050	40	900
Cruiser Marblehead	1,475	16	252
Cruiser Pittsburg	4,050	40	900
Gunboat Vicksburg	1,125	12	160
Cruiser West Virginia	4,050	40	900
Cruiser South Dakota	4,050	40	900
Cruiser Albany	1,121	18	346
Transport Colorado	4,000	40	900
Transport Buffalo	—	—	—
Tender Jupiter	19,360	—	—
Tender Alert	—	—	20

(Pacific Torpedo boat flotilla, Torpedo boat destroyers and submarines at San Diego to await orders.)

BY JOHN E. NEVIN,

Staff Correspondent of the United Press.

Washington, April 18.—The warship was rampant in the nation's capital tonight.

All classes, soldiers and civilians, expect hostilities with Mexico. It is conceded one thing alone can prevent a complete breakdown by General Victoriano Huerta, provisional president of Mexico.

Nelson O'Shaughnessy, American charge at Mexico City, tonight placed in Huerta's hands the last word of the United States. It is an ultimatum couched in positive terms. Mexico must agree not later than six o'clock tomorrow (Sunday) night to salute the American flag. This salute must be the formal function demanded by international procedure. It must take place at Tampico, where United States bluejackets headed by a commissioned officer in the full uniform of his rank were ignominiously dragged through the streets, common prisoners.

The letter of Rear Admiral Mayo's original demand must be fulfilled on Huerta and his people must bear the consequences.

There can be no strings on Huerta's acceptance. He cannot quibble over a simultaneous salute, something unheard of in naval procedure. Nor can he quibble regarding circumstances to surround an enforced apology. Temporalizing is at an end. President Wilson himself says so.

The president dictated the nation's position shortly after noon today in the following language:

"General Huerta is still insisting upon doing something less than has been demanded and something less than would constitute an acknowledgment that his representatives were entirely in the wrong in the incidents they have put upon the government of the United States. The president has determined that if General Huerta does not yield by six o'clock Sunday afternoon he will take the matter to congress Monday."

This statement followed the receipt of a message when he deciphered O'Shaughnessy's report which he notified that Huerta contemptuously insisted that he would not salute the American flag unless a simultaneous salute was accorded the Mexican flag and the dictator's own representative.

The secretary of State was dumbfounded when he ciphered O'Shaughnessy's report. At that time the president was playing golf on the links of a country club in Virginia, almost in the shadow of Arlington cemetery, without a moment's delay, Bryan, accompanied by Secretary Tumulty, rushed in a high powered automobile to the White House.

Tumulty afterward admitted that the speedometer was kept at the 70 miles an hour mark in the dash across the long ride and the military road that skirts the Potomac. The president was met on the edge of the links. The car mere-

ly hesitated. Bryan and Tumulty tumbled into the big car of the president. Chauffeur Robinson received no orders and needed none. He admitted afterward that the trip back to the White House was the fastest he had ever piloted with the president as a passenger. Streaked with dust and perspiration, the president rushed into the White House while Secretary Bryan made for the state department. Within eleven minutes the nation's ultimatum to Huerta was on its way to O'Shaughnessy. The president left for Hot Springs tonight, leaving Secretary Bryan "sitting on the lid." The trip to Virginia was necessary and anxiety for Mrs. Wilson was the motive that prompted it. The president's wife is there, slowly recovering from a severe shock to her nervous system, caused by a fall in the White House. She has been expecting her husband for three days. He was to bring her home. He decided that he would not subject her to nerve-racking apprehension, but would hurry there as fast as steam can carry him and return immediately so he could be back in the White House on Monday morning ready for the stern task that may add another bloody page to our national history.

Huerta may back down. There is no way of gauging the old Indian fighter's plans. But the president has faint hopes that the demanded reparation will be made. He is now well convinced that the dictator hopes to save his own face by plunging Mexico into war with a foreign nation, a program that in the past has solidified the warring elements of that republic.

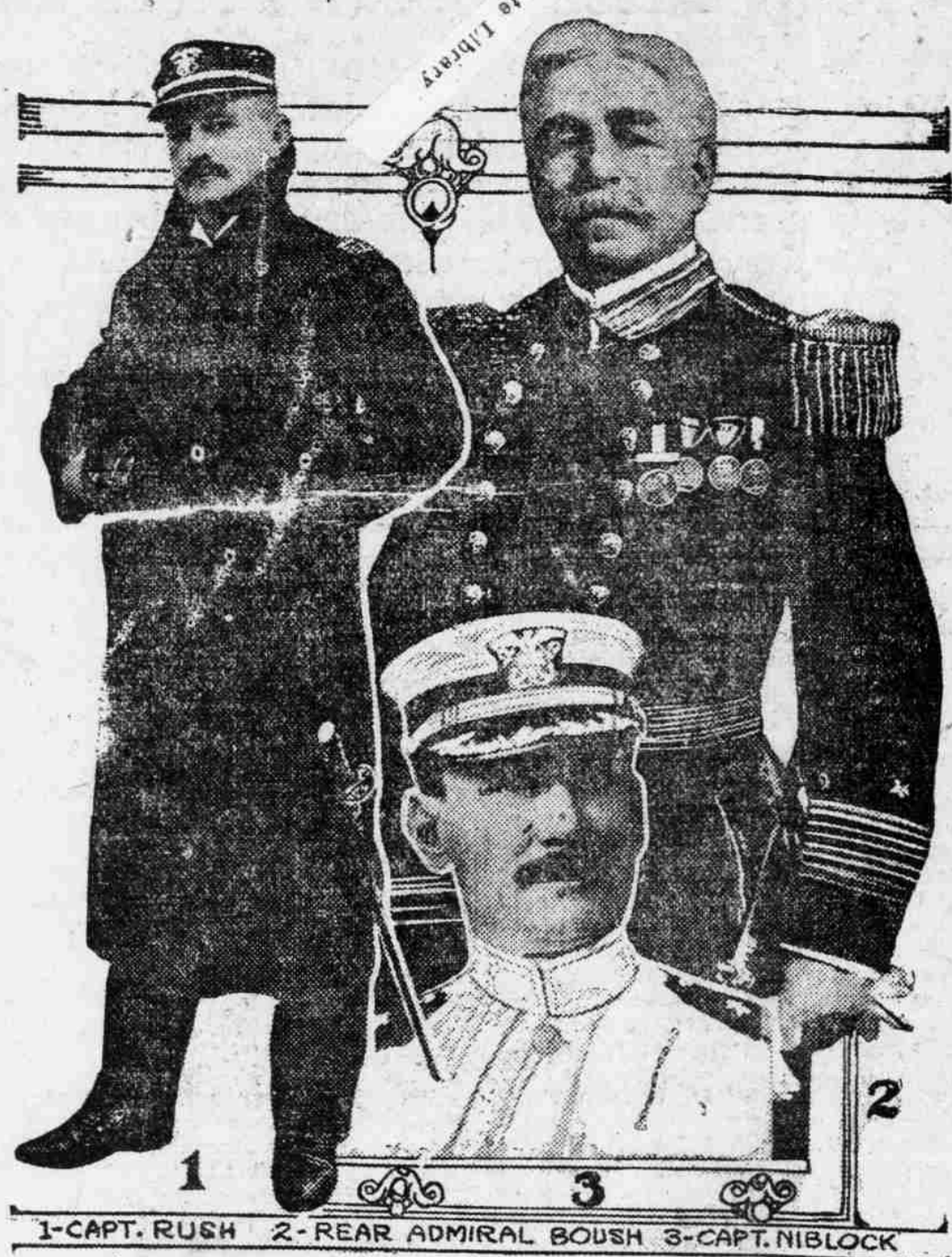
The plans for the future action of the United States are only tentative. The flower of the navy comprising the Atlantic and Pacific fleets will be assembled in Mexican waters almost immediately after the president addresses congress if it develops that he will have to do so. It is ready for "fight or frolic." For that matter, so is the army. And both branches of the united services are hoping that the former will prevail.

The leaders of congress have their arrangements made for the joint session if it is needed. There can be no hitch here and the president will find a united legislative body lined up for any program he may suggest.

The big apprehension tonight was for the fate of the Americans now in Mexico if hostilities come. No one can say what the constitutionalists will do but if past history is to be depended upon they will unite with the federalists against the United States.

Ordinarily the subjects of a belligerent country are accorded time to get to safety. But this might not be the case if Huerta decides to defy the United States. The charge is expected to get out of Mexico City as soon as possible and to take with him the American colony there. It is known that a train has been held subject to

## TRIO OF PROMINENT OFFICERS WITH BADGER'S FLEET, NOW ON WAY TO MEXICAN WATERS



1-CAPT. RUSH 2-REAR ADMIRAL BOUSH 3-CAPT. NIBLOCK

Washington, April 18.—When Admiral Badger arrives at Tampico he will have the following fighting ships under his command: Battleships—Arkansas, Captain Roy Smith commanding, 33 guns; Louisiana, Captain John John H. Gibbons, 24 guns; New Hampshire, Captain Edwin A. Anderson, 24 guns; Michigan, Captain Albert P. Niblock, 8 12-inch guns; Vermont, Captain Geo. W. Kline, 24 guns; New Jersey, Captain Joseph L. Jayne, 24 guns; South Carolina, Captain Robert L. Russell, 8 12-inch guns; Connecticut, Captain John J. Knapp, 24 guns; Kansas, Captain William B. Fletcher, 24 guns; Minnesota, Captain Edward Simpson, 20 guns; Ohio, Captain Josiah S. MeKeon, 20 guns; Dolphin, gunboat, Lieutenant Commander Ralph Earle, 2 guns; Nashville, gunboat, Commander L. A. Bostwick, 2 guns; Tacoma, cruiser, Commander Nathan C. Twining, 10 guns; Chester, cruiser, Commander W. A. Moffat, 2 guns; Solace, hospital ship; Hancock, transport. Under Rear Admiral Fletcher at Vera Cruz there will be: Battleships—Florida, Captain William R. Rush, 26 guns; Utah, Captain Louis S. Vanduser, 26 guns; San Francisco, mine depot ship, Commander William K. Harrison; Prairie, transport. On these vessels are 6,000 bluejackets and 3,000 marines available for landing duty.

his orders on a siding for many days. The Americans can reach safety if they can make Vera Cruz as Rear Admiral Fletcher with his warships is in a position to take and hold that town on an instant's notice.

But the Americans may not make the seaport, and if they have to stay in the capital they may be subjects of attack. Fortunately they are well armed. More than 1,000 stanch Krags Jorgensen repeating rifles, with 25,000 rounds of ammunition are stacked in the American embassy. And nearly every American in the capital knows how to use a weapon.

But there are many Americans in the interior of Mexico who will not be so well off. They will not have the protection of a duly accredited official. They will not have modern arms. And they will be subject to the whim of a savage people who can be depended upon to wax exceedingly wroth when they learn that America is last a hostile nation.

## Villa Consulted?

Torreon, Mexico, April 18.—A conference that is believed to have a bearing on the Tampico incident and the difficulties between the United States and Gen. Huerta was held here late today between Gen. Francisco Villa and C. H. Hamm, United States consul at Durango. Hamm arrived under instructions from the state department, but he refused to discuss his mission.

The five Americans who were captured by General Ortega when the constitutional troops captured San Pedron last Monday night were brought to Torreon today. It developed that, instead of being American newspaper and magazine men as they were reported, the men are filibusterers who had been traveling with Gen. Velasco's army operating machine guns. They admitted they had said they were newspaper men to save themselves from execution. They have offered to join Villa's army.

## Vera Cruz Quiet.

Vera Cruz, April 18.—Vera Cruz was quiet tonight, but the electrical undercurrent of tension was evidenced when a fake report was circulated that the Arkansas and other ships of the Atlantic fleet had arrived at Tampico this afternoon.

Reports received today stated 700 refugees had left Tampico on a Norwegian steamer and would arrive here tomorrow.

## South Dakota Sails.

Puget Sound, Navy Yard, Seattle, Wash., April 18.—The armored cruiser South Dakota under command of Captain W. W. Gilmore sailed at 10 o'clock this afternoon with Colonel Joseph W. Pendleton, U. S. M. C. and his force of 350 marines. The warship has been ordered to San Francisco to await further orders.

The arrival of the marines from Bremerton leaves but one force of fifty men to do all guard duty and man the post.

Orders were also received to work three full shifts on the cruiser Albany so that she may be put in readiness for action as soon as possible.

## EAGERNESS SHOWN ON BATTLESHIPS

By BERNARD RUCKER,

Staff Correspondent of the United Press.

Aboard U. S. S. Arkansas, via Wireless, April 18.—Gay crowds waved a farewell to the ships of the Atlantic fleet today as they passed Palm Beach today toward Tampico. The beach of the famous winter resort was thronged as the vessels swung by, but the ships were too far out for the crew to hear the cheers which undoubtedly greeted the fleet on its way to force an apology from Mexico.

The dreadnought South Carolina will join the fleet off Key West early tomorrow. Rear Admiral Badger has been advised that Rear Admiral Fletcher is proceeding from Vera Cruz to Tampico and will arrive there Wednesday. The two will then hold a conference and probably determine the future disposition of the warships under their command.

Official orders remain unchanged. The four battleships are proceeding to Tampico with every man and officer keenly anxious for action. The crews are bubbling over with enthusiasm. Drills are held constantly and the men enter into them with the greatest zest. Rear Admiral Badger will not discuss his plans further than that he is headed straight for Tampico. What will come after the arrival there, no one on board knows.

## DANIELS REVIEWS WORK OF ADMINISTRATION.

Cleveland, O., April 18.—Reviewing the Wilson administration in an address at the Jefferson dinner here tonight, Secretary of the Navy Joseph Daniels declared that the Underwood-Simmons tariff was "not dictated by textile magnates," and that under the new currency law "it is inconceivable how any artificial panics such as that of 1907 can occur."

"The democratic program for the present session of congress," continued Secretary Daniels, "will add to these constructive acts as rural credit banking system and anti-trust measures for the throttling of monopoly and the opening of the free avenues of trade."

He boasted that the democratic party enacted more constructive legislation in the last year than the republican party in the past two decades, referring also to the income tax law.

"Special privilege was contrary to Jefferson's teaching," Daniels stated. "Our call is to enlist against privilege," he continued. Dividing praise from Jefferson with praise of President Wilson, Daniels said: "Jefferson was the first forward looking democrat and Wilson is the last."

## CONGRESS STANDS READY TO BACK PRESIDENT WILSON

Wheels Are Greased For Swift Action Monday Should Developments Call For Warlike Measures—Joint Session Will Be Held For Message.

Sentiment in Both Houses Practically Unanimous—Legislative Branch Will Heartily Support Executive in Any Course of Action He May Select.

Washington, April 16.—Congress late today made plans to back up President Wilson in Mexico—whether for war or peace. Machinery of both houses was set in motion for a joint session Monday if President Wilson should deem a war message necessary.

Resolutions were drafted and preparations made to unroll red tap at top speed Monday.

The leaders of both bodies conferred late today.

If the president decides to present his message—and it will be a personal message if at all—the following program has been agreed upon.

Promptly at noon Monday, Democratic Leader Underwood will offer a resolution in the house calling a joint session, probably from one or two o'clock on at some time to be named by the president. The resolution will be perfunctorily adopted and sent to the senate to be offered there by Senator Kern, democratic leader, and as speedily passed.

Whatever requests the president makes upon congress will be embodied in resolutions already tentatively prepared today and offered simultaneously in both houses after the joint session is dissolved—probably before the president reaches the White House on his return from the Capitol.

These resolutions as tentatively prepared provide for three requests from the president—a tight blockade on Mexico, landing of marines and intervention with all forces of the army and navy, and an emergency appropriation of money.

The resolutions to be introduced by committee chairmen will be referred to the appropriations committee. Immediate report would be made from the committees. Sentiment is practically unanimous in both branches to sustain the president in any course he elects. By Monday evening he would be clothed with every authority necessary.

Members of both foreign affairs committees of congress held themselves in readiness today and will tomorrow, for summons to meetings, which may be hurriedly called. Chairman Flood of the house committee, married this afternoon, left tonight on his honeymoon, but arranged to keep in touch with all developments and will return Monday if needed.

How promptly congress can act in any emergency was pointed out by members today as evidenced in the congressional support of President McKinley, in the Spanish war. Within a few moments after war was declared against Spain, congress voted \$50,000,000 to be used by McKinley as he saw fit.

## HOUSE TO CHIP IN FOR WEDDING PRESENT.

Washington, April 18.—Following their precedent established when Miss Jessie Wilson married Francis B. Sayre, house members today agreed to "chip in" toward a wedding present for Miss Eleanor Wilson. Republican Leader Mann started the movement for funds. A conference was held on the house floor and leaders of all parties decided to band together for a joint present from the house. It is expected to raise nearly \$2,000.

Silver service was the form of the present suggested by Mann. A diamond lavalier, selected by Representative Mann, was presented by the house to Mrs. Sayre. At the conference today Mann was named chairman, and Representatives Page of North Carolina, Lloyd of Missouri, Doremus of Michigan, Burke of South Dakota and Chandler of New York, members of a committee to receive contributions and select the present. Mann suggested that each member give \$2, but it was decided to "take off the limit."

## ENCOURAGING BUT NOT FINAL

Washington, April 19.—(Sunday)—Secretary Bryan announced at 1:20 a. m. that the message received from Charge O'Shaughnessy at Mexico was "encouraging but not final." It was assumed that it merely referred to Huerta's consideration of the ultimatum.

Secretary Bryan refused to make any further comment regarding the message. It was a short note and was received at the state department, translated from code and sent to the secretary at his home.

## The Army And The Navy Are Well Prepared For War

TEN DAYS' EVENTS.

April 9—Paymaster Kopp and bluejackets are arrested in Tampico harbor by Mexican federal while loading gasoline into Dolphin's whaleboat, flying American flag.

April 9—(afternoon)—Rear Admiral Mayo demands that Mexican general disavow arrests, send suitable apology, raise American flag to a prominent position ashore, and salute with 21 guns.

April 11 and 12—United States negotiates with Huerta through O'Shaughnessy; Huerta vacillatingly evades responsibility but disavows action.

April 13—No salute fired. President starts Atlantic and Pacific fleets steaming southward; admits that salute demand will be enforced.

April 14—More negotiations through O'Shaughnessy, Huerta insisting that he had already apologized, and that this should close the incident.

April 15—Huerta asks O'Shaughnessy whether salute would be returned; is told "that this is the routine procedure."

April 16—Huerta asks whether the United States will fire a simultaneous salute to that sound by Tampico fortifications; reply is, "It will not."

April 16—(afternoon)—Bryan and President Wilson characterize situation as "hopeful but still unsettled."

April 17—Huerta insists salute must be simultaneous, reply is, "We stand on Mayo's original demand." Bryan still optimistic; other cabinet officials pessimistic.

April 18—Huerta contemptuously reiterates simultaneous salute or none. President Wilson sends ultimatum: "Agree to Mayo's original demand by 6 o'clock Sunday, or I appeal to congress on Monday."

## OPPOSED TO TWO BATTLESHIPS PLAN.

Washington, April 18.—Representative Witherspoon, of Mississippi, this afternoon in the house bitterly opposed the two battleship program in the naval appropriation bill as a "useless waste of public funds." He said former President Taft and Secretary of the Navy Daniels had pronounced the navy magnificent and insisted that there was no use adding to it.

## BLAZE DESTROYS TWENTY SUMMER RESORT COTTAGES.

Warsaw, Ind., April 18.—Fire completely destroyed twenty cottages at Lake Winona, a summer resort. Dynamite was ineffectually used in an attempt to check the flames.

## CHINESE LOTTERY IN CANAL IS SUPPRESSED.

Colon, April 18.—The authorities last night suppressed the Chinese lottery which is alleged to have caused ruinous losses to canal workmen as well as to other classes.

## HUERTA SAID TO BE EAGER FOR TROUBLE

By United Press Staff Correspondent. Mexico City, April 18.—President Huerta welcomes war. The news of the approaching American fleet has caused no excitement in the capital. The government tonight takes the attitude that it is highly pleased to know that it will have an opportunity to greet the armed forces of the United States.

The above message sent in code to evade the censor was received at the New York office of the United Press at 12:30 Sunday morning. It was the second code message received from the United Press staff correspondent in Mexico City. The first, received Friday, when translated said that Huerta desired war and was seeking to bring it about. The message received this morning, although in code, evidently had been abbreviated, by the censor.

## WEATHER FORECAST:

Washington, April 18.—North Carolina, increasing cloudiness; Sunday, showers and cooler in afternoon or night in interior; Monday probably fair in west portion with showers in east portion.

Slowly But Carefully the Fighting Forces of Uncle Sam Have Been Whipped Into Shape—An Estimate of the Size of the Force Which Could be Mobilized.

Should Hostilities Result Army Could be Swelled to 80,000 Men Without Any Impairment of Service—What Will Happen if Worst Comes to Worst in Mexico.

Washington, April 18.—The army and the navy are ready for war.

Not in the least concerned with the fact that the diplomatic agencies of the administration have been working for twelve months to prevent hostilities with Mexico, the experts of the war and navy departments have gone ahead steadily preparing their plans for a Mexican campaign. Few officers in either branch of the service have doubted for a moment that sooner or later force would have to be used. The result of their planning and careful preparations is found in the fact revealed tonight that within a few hours after the word is given in Washington, the army of the United States could begin operations.

While it is, of course, impossible for any one in private life to speak "by the book" of the exact plan of campaign—the secrets of which are guarded carefully by the staff of the general staff of the army, and the heads of the navy are understood to believe there will be no repetition of the methods used in the Cuban war. The United States will place an embargo on Mexico.

The first move would be to throw a cordon of battleships around every port of the southern republic as a blockade. Other ships will patrol both coasts until not a steamship or boat of any kind can land a cartridge or rifle. In this the United States will look to the world powers for assistance. All the powers it is expected would tacitly, at least agree to the blockade.

Unless attempts are made by any third power to break the blockade there would be no naval engagements. One battleship of Uncle Sam's could take care of the entire Mexican navy, consisting of a handful of converted yachts and tugboats. The activities of the navy will be confined to blockading operations and the landing of marines at Vera Cruz and any other place which the army might eventually need as a base.

The boundary line between the United States and Mexico extends for a distance of about 2,200 miles from Matamoros to Yuma. Along this border and along the gulf south of San Diego, will be thrown a line of 150,000 or more militiamen, or border guards, whose only duty will be to defend the American border towns, prevent raids and smuggling, and to protect the various bases of supplies.

The first heavy work will be done by the regular army, forces, aided by such irregulars as may have special training in the kind of fighting there will be—such for example as the First Cavalry Volunteers, familiar as the Rough Riders. This organization which has kept itself intact since 1898 believes that it will be the nucleus of an army division which will be led in action by Theodore Roosevelt, their first lieutenant-colonel, commissioned by Woodrow Wilson, democrat, as a major-general.

The regular army has available for service as a mobile force in Mexico about 65,000 men of all arms. This does not include the 20,000 coast artillery nor the soldiers now in the Philippines, Hawaii and the Canal Zone. Within a month after hostilities are declared this force would probably be increased by recruits and drafts upon conscripts to 80,000, without any impairment of efficiency.

There are 10,000 infantrymen at Texas City and Galveston. They will provide the first army of invasion, if one is used. One day's notice would see them on the transports bound for Vera Cruz. The same notice would see every regular soldier on this continent en route to the border. These plans are made. They have been tested. It only required six hours to start for Cuba in the last intervention and it will not take so long to start for Mexico.

There are upwards of 5,000 men on the border from Brownsville Texas to San Diego, California. They are ready for invasion from the north if that is finally determined upon.

The navy will proceed to occupy Campeche, Vera Cruz and Tampico on the east and Guaymas, Mazatlan, Culiacan and other important west coast ports.

Transports with regulars will be rushed to these towns and garrisons established without, it is believed, any real fighting. If the constitutionalists support Huerta, they are expected so to do, land invasion will be made through the five northernmost states, Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua, and Sonora. Regulars will advance to the capitals of those states, take them and the principal cities and hold them until the militia organizations can be whipped into effective shape for field work.

The principal movement will be that through Vera Cruz and on to Mexico City. For this an army of from 50,000

(Continued on Page Two.)