

AMERICAN TROOPS CROSS THE BORDER AFTER VILLA

GENERAL PERSHING BEGINS PURSUIT OF VILLA ON MEXICAN SOIL.

CARRANZA FORCES JOIN AMERICANS IN CHASE

General Bertaini's Men Eager to Engage With U. S. Troops—Exact Whereabouts of Villa Unknown. Many Watch Soldiers Cross Border Line to Begin Hunt.

San Antonio, Texas.—Brigadier General Pershing with more than 4,000 troops began the pursuit in Mexico of Francisco Villa, whose raid across the border last week caused President Wilson and his cabinet to decide to use the United States army to run him down.

General Pershing's report that he and his command had crossed the international boundary line just south of Columbus, N. M., have reached Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston, in charge here of general operations. Reports of the progress in the country where search has been begun will be made by Gen. Pershing to Gen. Funston, but it is not anticipated that these will be frequent or deal with any but the more important developments.

How far into Mexico the column had reached was not known here, nor did General Funston appear greatly concerned. General Pershing's course for the next two days is known at headquarters and not until after several days are sharp developments expected. Col. George J. Dodd, heading a smaller column that entered Mexico some distance west of Columbus, also is moving in a southerly direction and these two forces should be within touch of each other soon. By that time it is expected an infantry support will hold the lines of communication along which motortrucks for the transportation of ammunition and supplies will be operated.

The censorship imposed by General Funston was relaxed but efforts still were made to keep secret the details of the plan of campaign, the exact number of men engaged and their actual locations.

General Pershing's report of his entrance into Mexico served to dispel to a great extent fears in some quarters that resistance would be offered by troops of the de facto government. Colonel Bertaini, the commander of the Carranza garrison at Palomas, on the south side of the dividing line, promptly joined General Pershing. His force was only some 400 men, but they were reported to have displayed willingness and even eagerness to join in the chase. As a body the Mexican troops will remain under their own commander, but a number of them are being employed as scouts by General Pershing.

General Pershing has gone into Mexico with orders to overtake and wipe out Villa and his organization. Unless orders to the contrary are received from those higher in authority than General Funston, the campaign that was begun will continue until Villa is captured or killed. No limits have been placed on the field of operations. After the campaign is well under way, it was pointed out, circumstances may cause restrictions, but just now the troops are prepared to go anywhere to carry out the president's orders.

It was expected the troops would cross earlier in the day, but minor troop movements and other details of organization delayed the start.

There are now available in this department for operations in Mexico more than 20,000 troops and plans for recruiting the companies to full strength are expected to increase the number quickly. Cavalry posts have been relieved by infantry in most cases in order to furnish a more mobile force for the pursuit of Villa, although in the expedition that went in today there is a considerable force of artillery which can be reinforced at any time by several more batteries now held on the American side within easy distance of the border.

If the exact whereabouts of Villa is known at army headquarters the fact has not been disclosed. Generally it is believed he has moved southward toward the Guerrero district in the foothills of the Sierra Madre, but reports from Mexican sources indicate that the de facto government troops will do their best to turn him northward towards the advancing American columns.

Bands affiliated with Villa in the north have not indicated their intentions, but brisk activity on their part will not surprise American army officers. It is anticipated that in chasing Villa these bands will have to be met from time to time and engaged.

Nothing in the day's reports indicated that the defection of the small Carranza garrison at Ojinaga had been followed by other Mexican government troops and action of Col. Bertaini's troops in joining the American expedition supported belief that most of Carranza's forces would support him in his promise of co-operation.

BRIG. GEN. JOHN J. PERSHING



Brigadier General Pershing who is now in Mexico leading in the hunt for Villa and Bandits.

NEWS FROM BORDER PLEASES WASHINGTON.

Washington.—With American troops across the Mexican border seeking Villa and his bandits President Wilson and officials of the War Department resigned themselves to wait possibly many days for news of developments in the chase. Information that forces of the de facto Mexican Government were co-operating with the expedition from the United States served to relieve tense anxiety that had been apparent on all sides over the possibility of Carranza troops revolting against their commanders and attempting to oppose the entry of the Americans.

Although Brigadier General Pershing and Colonel Dodd marched into Mexico with some 5,000 men, it was not until more than six hours afterwards that the official announcement came to Washington. It was received in the evening, and Secretary Baker at once hurried to the White House for a conference with the President.

The Secretary made this announcement: "The Department received in code, a message from General Funston which announces that American troops crossed the border into Mexico but does not give the hour of the crossing. I am very happy to say that the dispatch shows that the military representative of the de facto Government of Mexico not only interposed no obstacle, but appears to be co-operating."

General Pershing's Staff.
San Antonio, Texas.—The signal corps detachment which accompanied the expedition is provided with wireless equipment by means of which field radiograms will be sent to El Paso and relayed from that point to General Funston's at Fort Sam Houston.

For military reasons the personnel of General Pershing's organization was withheld but the formation of his staff was announced as follows:

Chief of Staff, Lieut. Col. Derosey Cabell, Tenth Cavalry.
Adjutant, Maj. John L. Hines, adjutant general of Eighth Brigade.
Assistant chief of staff, Capt. Wilson B. Burt, Twentieth Infantry; intelligence officer, Col. Lucien G. Berry, Fourth Field Artillery; quartermaster, Maj. John F. Madden, quartermaster's corps; surgeon-at-base, Lieut. Col. Euclid F. Frick, medical corps; commander-at-base, Maj. William R. Sample, Twentieth Infantry; aides, Lieut. James L. Collins, Eleventh Cavalry and Lieut. Martin C. Shallenberger, Sixteenth Infantry; surgeon, Maj. Jere B. Clayton; engineer, Maj. Lytle Brown; signal officer, Capt. Hanson B. Black.

Crossing Witnessed by Hundreds.
El Paso, Texas.—American troops were on Mexican soil 50 miles west of here, the vanguard of an expedition gathered in less than a week, but one of the most powerful forces assembled by this country since the Spanish-American War. They were out on the identical hills where one week ago Pancho Villa led 1,200 of his bandits stealthily up to the American border, to make an early morning rush upon the sleeping American city of Columbus, N. M., and murdered 17 Americans, eight of them soldiers, and one woman.

The elements of the armament of this force, its numbers and the direction or directions in which its various columns headed after they passed the international line was a secret held by the military censorship.

The more important fact that the Americans had gone into Mexico again, was an event witnessed by hundreds of spectators who crowded into Columbus. They saw the troops move off toward the boundary line, until when the men crossed they were tiny, but distinct brown lines in the distance in the clear western air. As the troops passed farther into the low gravel hills, clouds of white dust hid the men and their further movements as effectually as the censorship. Behind the troops who moved forward, new regiments rapidly filled the vacated camps in Columbus.

ADDS 20,000 MEN TO REGULAR ARMY

CONGRESS AUTHORIZES RECRUITING MOBILE ARMY TO ITS FULL STRENGTH.

MAKING SUPREME EFFORT

Official Dispatches Indicate That Carranza is Determined to Capture Villa and Bandits.

Washington.—While there were indications in official dispatches from Mexico that the de facto government was making a supreme effort to capture Villa and his bandits with its own forces, there was no sign that General Funston's orders to proceed on the same errand had been modified in any way.

Word that American troops had crossed the border was still lacking the war department itself not having been advised as to when the movement would begin.

Congress took active notice of the border situation for the first time. The house passed a joint resolution authorizing the recruiting of the mobile regular army to full strength. This means the addition of approximately 20,000 fighting men to the infantry, cavalry and field artillery.

The step was suggested by the army general staff. Ever since the patrol of the border began the army has been greatly handicapped by the skeleton organization of regiments, companies, troops and batteries. The force that occupied Vera Cruz had similar difficulties, some of the companies there being less than 40 men strong.

Secretary Baker conferred with Senator Chamberlain and Representative Hay, chairman of the congressional military committees. The resolutions was introduced by Representative Hay immediately upon his return to the capitol. Its consideration was expedited by unanimous consent and its passage followed with only Representative London, Socialist, voting against it.

The state department has forwarded by cable, telegraph, radio and mail full statements of all that has transpired since the raid upon Columbus and of the attitude of the United States government and its reciprocal agreement with the Carranza government to consult and state department agents throughout the Southern Republic. It is expected these officials will correct immediately and authoritatively any misstatements or misapprehensions in their districts.

SENATOR SHIVELY DEAD.

Hoosier Senator Was For Many Years Prominent Figure in Congress.
Washington.—Benjamin F. Shively, senator from Indiana and for years a prominent figure in congress, died at a hospital here. He had been ill many months from a complication of diseases and for more than a year had been unable to perform actively his official duties. He was 54 years old.

During three terms in the house and the seven years he had been in the senate, Senator Shively had devoted his activities particularly to foreign affairs and tariff legislation. At the time of his death he was ranking Democratic member of the foreign relations committee, of which he had been acting chairman during the critical period preceding and following the American occupation of Vera Cruz.

In the house he had been regarded as a tariff expert, serving conspicuously on the ways and means committee and later as a member of an important sub-committee of the senate finance committee, exerted a powerful influence in the framing of the Underwood-Simmons tariff law.

Ready to Cross Border.

El Paso, Texas.—Points near Columbus, N. M., where the American expeditionary force is gathering reported that preparations were under way indicating that part of the American troops were in readiness to cross the border.

Lansing Taking a Rest.

Washington.—Secretary Lansing left for Pinehurst, N. C., for a week's vacation. For many weeks he has been working under a heavy pressure of diplomatic affairs and feels the need of a rest.

Taking a vacation at this time was regarded here as indicative of how completely the State Department regards the Mexican situation in the hands of the army and that the understanding with General Carranza is complete.

Strict Embargo on News.

San Antonio, Texas.—Placing of a strict embargo on news out of Columbus, N. M., where the main body of the United States expeditionary force awaits word to cross into Mexico in search of Francisco Villa, was the important development at Fort Sam Houston, where Major General Frederick Funston was arranging the final details of the expedition. In military circles an attitude of expectancy succeeded the tightening of the censorship. News will also be watched at El Paso.



GENERAL CARRANZA Head of the De Facto Government

AGREE WITH CARRANZA

MEXICAN TROOPS WILL BE ALLOWED TO CROSS BORDER LINE.

American Government Expects Hearty Co-operation of Carranza Forces in Hunt For Villa.

Washington.—The United States Government entered into a formal agreement with the de facto government of Mexico under which the American troops will cross the border to hunt down Villa and his bandits with the expectation of hearty co-operation from the Carranza forces.

Secretary Lansing made public the text of a note, accepting General Carranza's proposal for a reciprocal arrangement between the two Governments and announcing that the United States held this arrangement to be now in force and binding upon both parties. General Funston will carry out his task under agreement.

Official announcement was awaited that the American forces had crossed the border. Plans for the troop movements have gone ahead without regard to the diplomatic exchanges. Mr. Lansing also made public a statement issued in the name of President Wilson, reiterating that every step being taken by the administration was based on the deliberate intention to preclude the possibility of armed intervention in Mexico. It follows:

"In order to remove any apprehension that may exist either in the United States or in Mexico, the President has authorized me to give in his name the public assurance that the military operations now in contemplation by this government will be scrupulously confined to the object already announced and that in no circumstances will they be suffered to infringe in any degree upon the sovereignty of Mexico or develop into intervention of any kind in the internal affairs of our sister republic.

"On the contrary, what is now being done, is deliberately intended to preclude the possibility of intervention."

The note to Carranza defines the terms of the agreement beyond the possibility of misconception. In brief it provides that where conditions arise on the Mexican side of the border similar to those at Columbus which led to the orders to General Funston, to enter Mexico, the same privilege will be accorded to the Mexican de facto Government without the necessity of a further exchange of views. It is clearly stated, however, that the bandits to be pursued on American soil by Mexican troops must have come from the American side, committed depredations on the Mexican side and fled back again to United States territory. There is no such instance on record in recent years.

Excitement at Torreon Subsides.

Torreon, Mexico.—Excitement of Mexicans over entry of American troops into Mexico had subsided considerably. Forty Americans left here for the United States and their train was reported safely past Hipolito, which put it beyond the district where bandit attacks had been feared.

U. S. Soldiers Eize Cartridges.

Douglas, Ariz.—Half a million cartridges consigned to Gen. P. Elias Calles, military governor of Sonora, were seized here by United States soldiers. Two hundred thousand arrived by freight 300.00, by express.

Plenty of Troops on Border.

San Antonio, Texas.—A sufficient force is now gathered at the Mexican border under the command of Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing, to begin pursuit of Francisco Villa, it was announced by Major General Frederick Funston.

The general said that only the completion of plans for backing up the expeditionary forces now was needed. He was non-committal, however, as to the time needed to accomplish this.

A WALL OF SECRECY SURROUNDS TROOPS

EVEN WASHINGTON DOES NOT KNOW WHEREABOUTS OF PERSHING'S MEN.

TROOPS MOVE SOUTHWARD

Villa is Far in South and it Will Require Several Days For U. S. Soldiers to Reach Territory.

Washington.—An impenetrable wall of secrecy surrounded the movements of American troops beyond the Mexican border. So far as official Washington was advised the columns virtually might have vanished into thin air when they crossed the international boundary in pursuit of Villa. Even the commander-in-chief, President Wilson, did not know where General Pershing's men were.

Secretary Baker received virtually no reports from General Funston dealing with events beyond the border. He said he did not know whether the troops had proceeded southward from their first bivouac on Mexican soil. Not a single dispatch from the border was made public during the day except one reporting the death of Lieutenant Zell, Eleventh Cavalry, at the Columbus hospital where he took his own life in a fit of despondency.

Army officials were convinced that no important developments were to be expected for several days yet. It seemed plain from the day's accumulation of rumors that Villa was far to the south of his American pursuers. The War Department would not divulge any details of the number of troops across the border or of the regiments sent. Press advices, however, showed that infantry accompanied the cavalry and artillery out of Columbus in the main column. That means slow progress across the desert. It will take days, it is said, to cover the distance to Galena, the last town where Villa was reported unofficially to have been seen.

American consuls in Mexico so far have been able to give little aid to the troops, although all are on the watch for information that might indicate the bandit's movements. Consular advices continued to report generally quiet conditions. Officials displayed some concern over the situation in the Tampico district, however, where there are signs of unrest. The battleship Kentucky was ordered back to Vera Cruz from New Orleans. Secretary Daniels explaining that navy vessels now on the Mexican coast did not have radio equipment powerful enough to insure uninterrupted communication with Washington.

GERMANS BEATEN BACK.

French Repulse Infantry Attack at Le Mort Homme.

London.—Repulse at the hands of the French again has been the net result of a German infantry attack launched by a German infantry attack launched with huge effectiveness after a heavy bombardment against French position at Le Mort Homme, northwest of Verdun. The Germans, who attacked in serried masses, were driven eastward toward the Bois des Corbeaux, where the French guns inflicted heavy casualties on them.

The attack at Le Mort Homme constituted the only infantry maneuver along the entire French front, but from Belgium to the Vosges, the artillery on both sides has been active at numerous points.

Around Douaumont and the village of Vaux the big guns are operating with redoubled violence, while southward in the Woivre, the artillery duels in the Meuse hills continue.

Left Mexico in Box Cars.

Laredo, Tex.—Traveling the entire distance in box cars, C. A. Williams, United States consul, and 45 other Americans arrived here from Torreon, Mexico. Their departure, they said, was not caused by any overt acts on the part of Mexicans or failures on the part of de facto government officials to offer protection.

Vote to Retain Sugar Tariff.

Washington.—With 13 Democrats and the one Socialist member opposing, the house by a vote of 346 to 14 passed the administration bill to retain the present tariff of one cent a pound on sugar instead of permitting the free clause of the Underwood-Simmons tariff act to go into effect May 1. The measure now goes to the senate. Debate on the measure aroused little enthusiasm until late in the day when Majority Leader Kitchin took the floor to close the argument.

Dutch Steamer Lost in North Sea.

London.—The Holland Lloyd passenger steamer Tubantia sank off the Noordhinder Lightship as the result of striking a mine or an attack by a submarine. All the passengers, among whom are said to have been several Americans, and the members of the crew, are believed to have been rescued. The steamer carried between 80 and 90 passengers and a crew of 300. She was a vessel of 15,000 tons. The first flashes from the liner said she had been torpedoed and was sinking.

THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

March 20, 1915.

Sortie by Przemysl garrison repulsed.
Holland protested against trade embargo.
Persian government called on Russia to evacuate province of Azerbaijan.

March 21, 1915.

Germans captured a hill in the Vosges.
Austrians renewed operations against Serbia but were defeated in artillery duel near Belgrade.
Russians advanced on Tilit.
Botha announced capture of Germans at Swakopmund, German Southwest Africa.
German submarine sank British collier Cairntorr.
Zeppelins dropped bombs on Paris and Calais.
Italy national defense law promulgated.

March 22, 1915.

Russians captured Przemysl with 125,000 men.
Austrians shelled Montenegrin positions.
British steamer Concord torpedoed.
Allied airmen dropped bombs on Mulheim.

March 23, 1915.

Turkish force operating against Suez routed.
Dutch steamer attacked by German trawler.
Turks re-enforced Dardanelles forts.
American Red Cross sent twenty-seven tons of supplies to Belgium.

March 24, 1915.

New battle began along the Yser.
Fierce fighting in the Carpathians.
Russians marched on Hungary.
German vessels shelled Russian positions near Memel.
Allies resumed bombardment of Dardanelles forts and landed forces on Gallipoli.
British airmen raided German submarine shipyard at Antwerp.

March 25, 1915.

Russians carried Austrian position on Beskid mountains crest and won victory in Bukovina.
Fighting in Southern Poland resumed.
German submarine sank Dutch steamer Medea.
Turks and Kurds massacred Christians in Peria, those at Geogtopa being saved by Dr. H. P. Packard, American.

March 26, 1915.

Belgians advanced on road from Dixmude to Ypres.
Austro-German armies in Carpathians withdrew into Hungary.
Germans retired before Russians in north.
French airmen dropped bombs on Metz.
Army contract frauds uncovered in Hungary.
Turks killed refugees in American mission at Urumiah, Persia.

POSTSCRIPTS.

American canned salmon is favorably known throughout the entire world. The exports of it amounted to \$7,000,000 a year.

Forty-four families who perform no useful service in this country have a yearly income equal to 100,000 wage earners at an average of \$500.

German army surgeons have to have gold for many jobs of jaw patching. Among the articles being melted down for the material are old wedding rings, English coins and even fillings from the teeth.

By reason of the lack of fast colors, gray has become very fashionable in England, and the large quantities of dark brown colors on hand before the war are responsible for the present vogue of browns there. Scarlets, pinks and blues are very scarce. "The Island of Black Cats" is a name applied to Chatham Island in the Pacific ocean, about 730 miles west of the coast of Ecuador. It is overrun with black cats; indeed, cats of no other color are seen there. These animals live in the crevices of the lava foundation near the coast, and subsist by catching fish and crabs.

The annual cheese production of Canada amounts to 130,000,000 pounds, of which about one-half is made in Ontario.

The Japanese are now manufacturing yearly about \$5,000,000 worth of toys, of which 40 per cent are for exportation.

The state of Ohio is to establish a postal system for the service of the various state departments entirely separate from that of the national government. In the statehouse will be placed a central post office, which will handle all the mail sent from one department to another.