

THE GERMAN VIEWPOINT

The following is the full reply of the German government to the demand of the United States for the assurance that the lives of American travelers on the high seas on unarmed ships of any nationality be not endangered:

The text of the note follows: "The undersigned has the honor to make the following reply to His Excellency, Ambassador Gerard, to the note of the tenth ultimo reference the impairment of American interests by the German submarine war.

"The imperial government learned with satisfaction from the note how earnestly the government of the United States is concerned in seeing the principles of humanity realized in the present war. Also the appeal finds ready echo in Germany and the Imperial government is quite willing to permit its statements and decisions in the present case to be governed by the principles of humanity just as it has always done.

"The Imperial Government welcomed with gratitude when the American government in the note of May 15 itself recalled that Germany always had permitted itself to be governed by the principles of progress and humanity in dealing with the law of maritime war. Since the time when Frederick the great negotiated with John Adams, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson the treaty of friendship and commerce of September 9, 1785, between Prussia and the Republic of the West, German and American statesmen, have in fact, always stood together in the struggle for the freedom of the seas and for the protection of peaceable trade. In the international proceedings which since have been conducted by the regulation of the laws of maritime war, Germany and America have jointly advocated progressive principles, especially the abolishment of the right of capture at sea and the protection of the interests of neutrals.

"Even at the beginning of the present war the German government immediately declared its willingness, in response to proposals of the American government, to ratify the Declaration of London and thereby subject itself in the use of its naval forces to all the restrictions provided therein in favor of neutrals. Germany likewise has always been tenacious of the principle that war should be conducted against the armed and organized force of an enemy country but that the enemy civilian population must be spared as far as possible from the measures of war. The Imperial government cherishes the definite hope that some way will be found when peace is concerned, or perhaps earlier, to regulate the law of maritime war in a manner guaranteeing the freedom of the seas and will welcome it with gratitude and satisfaction if it can work hand in hand with the American government on that occasion.

"If in the present war the principles which should be the ideal of the future have been traversed more and more the longer its duration, the German government has no guilt therein. It is known to the American government how Germany's adversaries, by completely paralyzing peaceable traffic between Germany and neutral countries have aimed from the very beginning and with increasing lack of consideration at the destruction not so much of the armed forces as the life of the German nation, regarding in doing so all the rules

of international law and disregarding all rights of neutrals. "On November 3rd 1914, England declared the North Sea a war area and by planting poorly anchored mines and by the stoppage and capture of vessels made passage extremely dangerous and difficult for neutral shipping, thereby actually blockading neutral coasts and ports contrary to all international law. Long before the beginning of submarine war, England practically completely intercepted legitimate neutral navigation to Germany also. Thus Germany was driven to a submarine war on trade. On November 14, 1914, the English premier declared in the House of Commons that it was one of England's principle tasks to prevent food for the German population from reaching Germany via neutral ports. Since March 1 England has been taking from neutral ships without further formality all merchandise proceeding to Germany as merchandise coming from Germany, even with neutral property. Just as it was also with the Boers, the German people is now to be given the choice of perishing from starvation with its women and children or of relinquishing its independence.

"While our enemies thus loudly and proclaimed without mercy until our utter destruction, we were conducting a war in self defense for our national existence and for the sake of peace of an assured permanency. We have been obliged to adopt a submarine warfare to meet the declared intentions of our enemies and the methods of warfare adopted by them in contravention of international law.

"With all its efforts in principle to protect neutral life and property from damage as much as possible, the German government recognized unreservedly in memorandum of Feb. 4 that the interests of neutrals might suffer from the submarine warfare. However, the American government will also understand and appreciate that in the fight for existence which has been forced upon Germany by its adversaries and announced by them it is the sacred duty of the imperial government to do all within its power to protect and save the lives of German subjects. If the imperial government were derelict in these its duties, it would be guilty before God and history of the violation of those principles of highest humanity which are the foundation of every national existence.

"The case of the Lusitania shows with horrible clearness to what jeopardizing of human lives the manner of conducting war employed by our adversaries leads. In the most direct contradiction of international law, all distinctions between merchantmen and war vessels have been obliterated by the order to British merchantmen to arm themselves and to ram submarines, and the promise of rewards therefor, and neutrals who use merchantmen as travelers thereby have been exposed to an increasing degree to all the dangers of war.

"If the commander of the German submarine which destroyed the Lusitania, had caused the crew and passengers to take to the boats before firing a torpedo this would have meant the sure destruction of his own vessel. After the experiences in sinking much smaller and less seaworthy vessels, it was to be expected that a mighty ship like the Lusitania would remain above the water long enough after the torpedoing to permit passengers to enter the ship's boats. Circumstances of a very peculiar

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The toppy red bag, 5c

And that line of conversation is 24 kt., whether you play P. A. in your old jimmy pipe or roll it into a makin's cigarette. For you can put your little old blue-pencil O. K. right here that Prince Albert is a regular double-header for a single admission—as joy'us to your tongue and taste one way as the other!

Will the "rollers" kindly step forward for a spell and get some of this listen into their systems? Because Prince Albert certain and sure jams more joy into a makin's paper than ever before was figured up on two hands!

In the plain language of the hills, you can't any more resist such makin's tobacco than a bullfrog can pass up a piece of red flannel! Because P. A. hands to you everything any cigarette roller ever dreamed-out—rare flavor, and aroma, and mildness, and body; absolutely the best bet—the best smoke

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you or any other man ever did roll and put the fire to! Men, we tell you to wise up.

P. A. is crimp cut and stays put—which means rolling P. A. is as easy as falling off a log. And it's good to remember P. A. is put up in the toppy red bag especially for you "rollers." Sells for the price of a jitney ride, 5c.

Now, will the "pipers" kindly open both ears? Here's tobacco that has made it possible for three men to smoke pipes where one smoked before!

Any way you hook it up, Prince Albert is tobacco insurance! Yes, sir, it guarantees your future as well as your present smokings! And just makes your tongue so jimmy pipe joy'us that your smoke appetite grows whopping big. You men who "dassn't," we say you go to P. A., natural-like! Because there isn't a bite in a barrel of this national joy smoke.

Unlimber your old jimmy pipe! Dig it out of the dark corner, jam it brimful of P. A. And make fire with a match! Me-o-my!

You get acquainted with Prince Albert in the toppy red bag, 5c; or tidy red tin, 10c, but for the double-back-action-joy, you buy a crystal-glass pound humidor. And then you're set! You see, it has the sponge-moistener top and keeps P. A. at the highest top-notch point of perfection. Prince Albert is also sold in pound and half-pound tin humidors.



The tidy red tin, 10c

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