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## THRILLING STORIES OF **AERIAL WAR**

Boyish British Fliers Dare Much to Blind German Gunners.

## TAKE BIG ODDS

And Usually Come Out Best in Vivid Combats.

(By Philip Gibbs.) War Correspondents' Headquarters In France, Cable. -- In the daily official reports a brief picture has been given of the battle which has raged in the skies while the earthmen have been struggling below.

Truly, during these last few days our air service has fought very wonderfully, and some day one of these young men who go flying out to engage the enemy in the clouds or to search out and signal the position of hostile batteries, or to stoop low and scatter infantry and machine-gunners | chine was hit while chasing the enemy with a shower of bullets, must write the tale of it all. There have been hours when I have heard overhead the continual tattoo of Lewis guns, and when a great sweep of sky has been tracked out with white shrapped clouds, following our flying squadrons, engaged hotly with hostile machinec. One cannot follow the progress of these aerial battles. It is only rarely that on can distinguish the enemy machine from ours except by the cloudlets of our anti-aircraft barrage, but far and high one sees daring specks chasing through the blue of the sky, touched sometimes by sunlight, so that for a moment they are all golden or glistening or white as snowmakes, and down to one comes the loud drone of the engines and the little hammerlocks of the Lewis machine guns Our soldiers on march stare up at the war above their heads so aloof from them, so dream-like, and the men on the supply columns get their glasses out and laugh when one of our kite balloons is hauled down

It is no joke when a German airman descends out of a cloud and hovers over a battery signalling back to his guns. I was in such a situation the other day and had to crouch with the gunners below a bank while shrapnel Says Director of British ALL OVER IN TEN MINUTES. bullets from our own "Archies" whip. ed the air about the red wings that have come into the sky, for the new German Aghting machines have crimson planes so that they look like butterflies when the sun is on them.

Enemy airmen have been trying to compete with our own by swooping low above marching troops and gun teams, and using their machine guns in a way which adds new perils to the war, but though they fight, behind their own lines with great skill and courage they do not come over our country in any such numbers as our men invade theirs. This is not a prejudiced statement, but the strict truth and our airmen go daily far back across the German lines, taking thousands of photographs, engaging enemy squadrons so that they are held back from the line of battle, and dropping tons of explosives upon ammunition dumps, railheads and transport.

The boys, for they are absurdly young in average age, take all these deadly risks and do all this work of terror with the same spirit as the young genelemen of England who rode out with Sir John Chandos and Sir Walter Manny to seek combat with French Knights many hundred years ago along the roads where our modern men at arms go marching to-

During this recent fighting one of them challenged a German Albatross, who accepted fight, and for an hour they did every trick known to flyingstalling, banking, side slipping and looping-in order to get in the first shot. It was the German who tired first, though he showed himself the master of his machine. There are boys in our air service who have killed eix or seven Germans in a single combat, a few who have accounted for many more and go off again though on a good adventure. Yet they know the risks and the fortune of war. They cannot have all the luck all the time. When the turn comes it is quick to the end, or if hit and left alive they do amazing things final crash.

A few evenings ago two of our young officers were attacked by five hostile aircraft and both were wounded, one in seven places, but they destroyed one of the German aeroplanes and landed safely, though their own any imminent probability of a German machine was pierced by many buliets. attack on Italy and Russia. On another evening of the battle of Arras two hostile aircraft were engaged by one of ours and forced to as to whether such an attack will be land, though one of our officers had made will be settled on the Arras bis collarbone broken by a machine battlefield. If we win, as we are sure his collarbone broken by a machine-

gun bullet. Day after day these episodes are re ported and the machines of the officers do not come home, but when another dawn comes our air squadrons rise again and fly over the storm of the battlefield. As I see them in the wing over Arras and away there is no romance except when a tale is told in the night of bombing raids. There through a snowstorm to drop high explosives on a distant town. During this battle of Arras our airmen have made thousands of flights over the many lines, have engaged in hundred forons, and at the cost of their own, and at the cost of their own lines, and at the cost of their own lines, and at the cost of their own lives in many cases have saved our linearty great losses by keeping down thantry great losses by keeping down the fire of the German batteries, de
"Will your men remember all that?"

"Will your men remember all that?"

"No sir, they won't remember it the on official naval business for the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they on one carry of Justing Shickengtows they work all their on official naval business for the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they on ordered blockade runner that many causes aroused.

"I'asked a certain Admiralty officer to the British have no with the desert into Palestine or participation in a flower to the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they won't remember it the end official naval business for the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they won't remember it the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they won't remember it the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they won't remember it the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they won't remember it the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they won't remember it the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great they wante the gluster works bullt there on official naval business for ment of gustant they won't remember it the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great for the remember it the British Government and heard so many sensational stories about Great for the remember it the British Government and heard so ma is no exultant joy in struggling

enemy's trenches and positons, and blinding his own power of observation to some extent at least by chasing his aeroplanes away from the lines on a day when the British infantry is not hard pressed.

It is good to pay this tribute to the flying men, whose exploits are not ing song of their engines is always the accompaniment of battle down be-

### IN BULGAR HANDS.

Canadian Airman a Prisoner -Burned His Machine.

London Cable.—News has been received from Lieut. J. C. Farish Owen, son of Mr. S. M. Owen, K. C., of Annapolis, N.S., to the effect that he is a prisoner in the hands of the Bulgarians. In a letter to his brother, who is also a lieutenant in the Royal Flying Corps in England, Lieut. Owen states that he and the commander of his airship made a flight across the enemy lines and that a hot battle ensued, in which Lieut. Owen's machine was hit, obliging him to descend to the enemy tines. Lieut, Owen managed to set the machine afire on reaching the ground. Lieut. R. W. Cross, of Winnipeg, another flying corps officer, reported missing recently, is now reported by the German Red Cross to be their prisoner. His mato their side of the line.

### DOWN ON THE HUN.

Danes Resent Their Course Beyond Britain's.

Copenhagen, via London, Cable,-The ancuncement in the Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung that the German Government is willing to negotiate with Spain over certain concessions in connection with the submarine war has aroused deep interest in Denmark. The increasing toll taken of Danish ships, particularly among those sailing from America to Denmark with urgently needed foodstuffs, is steadily augmenting the feeling against Germany. The anti-German sentiment now outbalances the resentment caused by the British

## suddenly with great haste. "Old Rupert has got the wind up." they say. A Boche plane must be sneaking ARRAS BATTLE"

Military Operations.

Waiting for Guns, but Working Like Machine.

London Cable. -- "The German official statement a couple of days ago," said General Maurice, "announced that a great defeat had been administered to the British. It further claimed that we had attacked on a 15-mile front and failed completely. If the Germans defeated us we naturally shall not be able to maintain our position in that section, but I ask you to wait a little and see whether the British refute this claim by their action.

"As to the 15-mile front, we made an attack on just half that distance, and we have been successful. The fact that we appear to remain stationary from time to time should not worry anyone. Depending as much as we are on the use of artillery, it is necessary for us to consolidate our positions and bring along our guns training in England has been suppleas we progress. We are continually facing heavy German counter attacks. and it would be a useless loss of British life to push on without artil-

lery protection. When the second phase of the battle began we forced the Germans back on both our wings, while in the centre they succeeded in pushing us back a little. However, we counterattacked and drive the Cermans out of all the positions they had gained in the centre, and inflicted great losses on them.

"It is worthy of note that recently there has been much open fighting, for a morning's hunting of men as and in this the British have shown themselves superior to the Germans, who were supposed to excel in this department.

"Our superiority in artillery is due not so much to an excess in the number of guns as to superior gunnery efforts of the munition workers at | their wondering subordinates. home, for great quantities of guns and munitions are being poured into facing each other for thrust and par-

Gen. Maurice was asked if there was

"That is always a possibility," he replied, "and I presume the question we will, then they will not be able to carry out a big assault on other

fronts." The German newspapers are claiming victory in the Battle of Arras, telegraphs the correspondent at The Hague of the Evening News.

The Frankfurter Zeitung says: "The second Battle of Arras can never be made good by the British, who lost it at an enormous cost in men and ma-

# stroying their hite belicome, signal-ling preparations for the German counter-attacks, photographing the DESPITE MODERN ART OF WAR

much recorded, though they are all ways overhead, and though the dron-Position That Held Out.

> Four Desperate Assaults Resisted, but Cold Steel Won the Day.

(By R. T. Small, Staff Correspondent + of the sociated Press.)

with the British Armies in France, Cable.—Despite all the wondrous VIMY TROPHIES war weapons modern science has created, the cold steel of the bayonet has asserted itself anew in much of the recent bitter fighting as the arm of last appeal. As already related, the struggles about Moncay-le-Preux To Be Exhibited at Various U-BOAT TOLL of last appeal. As already related, the since Monday have attained an intensity unequalled by any of the fighting in the Somme campaign last year.

There was one German position Scarpe River, which resisted four desperate attacks. It was finally decided to take this position at the point of the bayonet, without a shot of any kind being fired to rob the attack of its surprise nature. The attack was made along a three-quarters of a mile from under cover of darkness. A COMPLETE SURPRISE.

The British battalions were formed. in comparatively close order, and at the whispered word of command, repeated along the line, trudged forward into the night. Grim and silent figures they were, some in kilts, some in plain khaki, each man wearing a steel helmet, each having a firm grip of his rifle with fixed bayonet, the polished surface of which, however, caught no reflecting glint in the enveloping dark-

Overhead, shells were droning, and back of the lines guns could be heard. But it was only a desultory bombardment going on, and there were fleeting intervals of strange quiet just where the determined line of British troops were approaching their unsuspecting gray-clad toes. Four unsuccessful daylight assaults

had left a touch of chagrin which was to be wiped out in this "getting." | Bist the opening of our artillery at-There is little more to tell. The sound tack. of the fighting in the trenches was The record of a trench mortar bat has issued its weekly statement of lost in the British barrage which tery shows that day after day the shipping losses. The previous reports closed down some distance behind mortars were buried. Day after day the German position immediately the the patient gunners dug out their British signalled they had entered the weapons, only to have them buried position. The barrage cut off any Ger- again deeper than before. In despair, man who attempted to flee from the the day before the assault, a gunner baoynet charge.

Thus in ten minutes with the silent to our shelter, the gan emplacements. bayonet was secured a position which the whole trench ammunition supply had held out for two days. The bayonet also has come in ef-

fectively in dealing with the ever man made this record: troublesome machine guns and gunners. A few brave men, stealing out in the night, have been able to accomplish much. Several British battalions have re-

ported in the past few days that the Germans are again employing the old 'kamerad" ruse, suddenly standing up in the shallow trenches and holding ing will remain of the division, and up their hands and shouting across to one is up to the middle in mud and their opponents that they would sur-render. Two battalions, believing the sincerity of this proposal, started across to bring in the prisoners, but wishes to \_\_\_\_\_ Here the diary were immediately attacked.

Incidents like this have helped materfally to give the element of bitterness to the lighting to a degree which has startled even those men who have been in the battles since the first German rush through Belgium.

BAYONET TRAINING. The British have given unceasing attention to the bayonet fighting drill in the past two years. The month of mented by post-graduate courses in the great training camps in France. and continued as the units passed down through the corps into divisions. geants could be heard giving their

brigades and battalions. The night N. Y. Sun Correspondent before the Arras attack some serplatoons last instructions. One of these groups formed a curious picture in the moonlight, where all the air was electric with preparations for the coming clash at dawn. Traffic along the choked road lead-

ing toward the point of contact with motor engines were throttled down to an almost inaudible purr; the tired of near-exhaustion. Their drivers' sort of silence which settled down We are getting the results of the with which sergeants always impress

This particular sergeant's men were ry exercise. They were not to take part in the first rushes of the morning, but going in later in the day, to and fourth lines. And there was yet time to give them final advice.

RANG LIKE STEEL. The sergeant's commands seemed to have a ring in them like the clashes of the steel they directed. "Come along, come along," he said. "let me see a little more murder in them eyes. Get some more viciousness behind you. Your bloomin' rifle ain't no

baby. The sergeant gave much more tell ring advice than this. and the drill ceased amid great chaffing. The correspondent stopped the sergeant as he came along the road, and asked:

# FOR DOMINION

Fall Fairs.

north of the town and paralleling the Huns Testify to Canadian Gunnery.

> (By Stewart Lvon. Canadian Press Correspondent with the Canadian Forces.)

> Canadian Headquarters in France. Cable says-A varied assortment of Vima trophies, machine guns, motars and field guns, are being prepared to be shipped out to Canada. These

will be a feature of the Fall fairs. From the dugouts of Vimy ridge and from prisoners taken there were obtained many letters, diaries and other documents, indicating the effieincy of our preparatory artillery in the week ending April 15; under fire, as well as the accuracy of our in- 1.600 tons, 15, including one sunk in formation on which it was based, the week ending April 15. Some of these have been translated. They prove that the enemy had heavy losses in men and material before the infantry were loosed upon him, and that even more serious was his loss of one suak the week ending April 15." confidence as he saw his trenches blown away and his guns buried.

The above report shows the greatest number of merchant vessels reblown away and his guns buried.

writes: "Everything is buried, the entrance and fuses-all buried." Just before the assault an infantry-

here. It is almost worse than the the previous high figure during any by his desperate efforts to recover Somme. There is no longer a trench; week. The arrivals and departures only shellholes and mine craters, of steamers from British ports aver-Losses on losses. We are now only a age fairly well with those of the prethird, and two-thirds are missing ceding weeks. Here one can only give up hope, as if this lasts a fortnight longer nothis nothing one can do, unless one

German Merchant Sub. a Prize of the Nets.

Saw Her in Dock.

The German merchant submarine Bremen, sister vessel of the Deutschland, which twice visited this country, is in the hands of the British, the enemy suddenly stopped because according to a special correspondent of a temporary block. The throbbing of the Evening Sun, who returned aboard the St. Louis. Proof that came horses dragging army wagons or ar- to him through three sources estabtillery limbers stood with the stillness lished to his satisfaction that the undersea craft was captured on her maiheads dropped limp as they snatched | den trip. He heard during his stay in a few moments of sleep. The mystic England that the Deutschland also had been seized and that Capt. Paul up there in the high skies to save a and a plentiful supply of munitions. was broken by the raucous voice Koenig and his crew are prisoners in a camp in the north of England. However, he could gather no specific facts about this vessel. He was told about the Bremen by a

British naval officer of high rank. The details of her capture were related by this officer, who showed a press the attack on the third photograph of the submarine. The picture showed the same contour of body and the same type of conning tower and general superstructure of the Deutschland. Corroboation came from another naval officer and also from an American manufacturer who has a factory in Scotland. The latter said he saw the Bremen laid up in one of England's yards. In all three stories the circumstances of the capture are identical.

"I confess I was sceptical about the stories of the Bremen's capture," narrated the manufacturer. "I didn't begin to believe that they might be true until I went to the port when the vessel was said to be tied up. I went

would be only too giad of an opportunity to see the ship herself. We got into a taxi and it wasn't long before I was looking at the good ship Bremen. There are a number of interesting details about her capture that I am not at liberty to divulge, but I can tell you that the submarine I saw was the Bremen and that she was contured through becoming entangled in a heavy cable net. She was running submerged at the time and her diving

mesh of the net. "The submersible probably made frantic efforts to free herself, because when found her stern was far out of the water, both her screws being in the air. I understand that one of the German officers said they pumped their ballast tanks dry with a view of raising a part of the vessel to the surface so that the men could be sent on deck to clear the planes of the net. That was impossible, as the net was too heavy and too firmly anchored. An accident to the machinery caused gas fumes to fill the engine room and it was necessary to close the water tight doors, seven men losing their

Another story had it that Capt. Schwartzkopf was among the survivors.—New York Sun.

# **WAS HEAVIER**

Sunk in Last Week.

More Vessels Successful in Escaping.

London Cable says.—The weekly statement of vessels sunk as made public this evening shows that 40 vessels of over 1,600 tons each were sent to the bottom by mines or submarines. "Weekly shipping returns: Arrivals, 2,586; sailings, 2,621.

"Sinkings, by mine or submarine, over 1,600 tons, 40, including two sunk

"Vessels unsuccessfully attacked, 27; including one attacked the week ending April 8.

"Fishing vessels sunk, 9, including "Hell is let loose." In this phrase a ported such by submarinee or mines German gunner chronicle on March in both categories-1.600 tons and over, and under 1,600 tons -- made pub. lie by the British Government since it has issued its weekly statement of were as follows:

		OV	er 1.600	Und	ler 1.6
			tons.		tons.
February	28		15		6
March 7			14		9
March 1	4		13		4
March 2	1		16		S
March 2	8	. , .	18		7
April 4			18		13
April 11			17		2
April 18			19		9

The report also shows that more "Nobody imagines how frantic it is tack, the figures being 27 against 19, vessels were successful in evading at- the enemy attached supreme import-

## TURKS ROUTED IN MESOPOTAMIA

Gen. Maude Strikes Again, and Wins Victory.

THE BREMEN Enemy Driven Back Another Ten Miles.

> London Cable. -An official state- brought down, one of them falling ment received to-day from General in our lines. I third was driven down Maude, commanding the British forces out of control. Three of our machines in Mesopotamia, says that the British | aer missing." have driven the Turks from the west bank of the Shatt-el-Adhem to about 17 miles north of its junction with the Tigris. General Maude's total captures on Saturday and Sunday in the vicinity of Iztabilat were) 687 prisoners and 15 guns. Concerning the actions in the vicinity of Iztabilat and on the right bank of the Tigris the statement says:

"The full list of our captures for the two days, including those already reported, is 20 officers, 667 men, 1 gun of 5.9 calibre, 14 Krupp guns, 2 machine guns. 1,240 rifles." General Maude reports: "After a night one division of the Thirteenth Turkish army corps on the west bank of the Shatt-el-Adhem, about seven miles north of its junction with the Tigris. The enemy was driven from his position and fell back on the Second Turk ish division of the Thirteenth corps some ten miles further north. In this

mules, ponies and camels." TO BUILD WOODEN SHIPS. Ottawa, Report.—The Imperial Munistions Board and the United States Shipping Board have been in consultation caring the past fortnight with regard to co-operation in the production of wooden ships in Canada and the United States Standardized types of vessels have been agreed upon, and there will be a common schedule of prices and contracts. Arrangements are now being made to have a considerable number of wooden ships for ocean transportation built on the Pacific coast. In Canada R. P. Butchart of Victoria, will take charge of the business organization of the industry for the Imperial Munitions Board.

action 131 prisoners were taken, in-

-cluding four officers, many transport

MURDER CASE REOPENED.

# THE ENEMY NOW QUIET

All His Furious Counters Failed to Gain Against British.

## A FOOLISH CLAIM

Was That of Berlin, That Haig Was Trying to Break Through.

Paris Cable.—Vei hints as to a possible reinforcement of the armies here by additional veteran forces are being made.

(By Perry Robinson.)

British Headquarters in France. Cable.—The last 24 hours have been comparatively quiet, except for 40 Ships Over 1,600 Tons artillery and aerial activity. There was no infantry operations of importance. Renewed army counter-attacks on Gravelle attempted to develope op, but were broken up by our guns. Elsewhere, except for heavy shelling by long-range artillery, the enemy seems to have exhausted himself. We

are busy consolidating the ground. The comparatively narrow depth of our advance gives a misleading impression on the importance of the success on the 23rd and 24th. It is more valuable to put out of action 50.000 Germans and gain half a mile than to gain five miles and only inflict a loss of 10,000 on the Germans. They can better afford to give ground than men. What our army wants is fighting. The last few days the Germans undoubtedly fought in some cases with great determination. It is necessary to delay us, and they are willing to pay an enormous price in order to

move back their guns. AN ABSURD CLAIM.

The absurdity of the German wireless claims that the last operation was an attempt to break through is shown by the fact that the nearest points on the west are still 6,000 yards from the Queant line. How any commander could be expected to attempt to launch an attack on such line when his men had 6,000 yards to go before reaching it is not easy to understand. The recent operation was purely for the local purpose of gaining the objeccives necessary for a methodical progress towards the Queant line. The thief of those objectives were the vilages of Guemappe and Cravelle. which we hold. North of the Scarpe we would gladly have gone further through the village of Roeux but the defences here are so prickly it would be too costly to rush them. There are less expensive ways of getting such positions by a little delay. That ance to the places captured is shown them, by which he suffered infinitely greater loss than we declined to face in order to capture Roeux. Geographically the operation was small, but, interpreted in terms of the damage done to German power, its importance was

THE OFFICIAL RTPORTS.

The official communication issued this evening says: "A party of the enemy which attempted to raid one of our crater posts southeast of Ypres early this morning was driven off with losses. "There was considerable activity during the day by both sides at a number of points between St. Quentin and foras, and also in the neighbor-

hood of Ypres. "Successful work was carried out by our aeroplanes yesterday, in spite of the less favorable weather. In air fighting two German machines were

### THE GERMAN VANDAL

Again Busy Destroying Rheims Cathedral.

Paris Cable .-- Stung by the steady advance on the French front the Germans to-day threw fifteen large calibre shells at the Rheims Cathedral, damaging several important parts of the famous monument. Encouraged by their first success, sixteen more In a message on Tuesday evening heavy shells were thrown upon the vaults and towers. The northern march we made a surprise attack on lower suffered most from the shelling. and is rean'ry so that its stability may give way at any time. S. A. P. G. Sainsaulan, the predict of the cathedral, is seriously concerned as to the further resistance of the edifice to heavy projectiles. The vaults and The projectiles being used are of the 380-millimetr. size. Some of these huge missiles crashed into the building during Sunday.

## TURK WAS LATE

In Destroying British Water Base in Sinai.

Constantinople Cable The War effice made the following announcement to-day: "On the Sinai front our airmen landed behind the enemy lines in the midst

of the desert and totally destroyed the water supply system which the British