Remarkable Narrative Fact Story Based on Inexorable Mathematics of War, Written for "The Sun" by an Army Officer

## FOREWORD BY THE AUTHOR.

The only theoretical assumption in this series of articles is that the United States is attacked. Every other incident is a straight statement of what absolutely must happen in such a case, with our military establishment remaining what it is to-day. In the words of certain foremost military executives of the United States army, who have cognizance of these articles, it is the "cold truth."

Nothing is overstated or understated. Every reference to military efficiency, supplies of cannon, ammunition and other implements, numbers of men in the various military units, and so forth, is based on the actual resources shown to-day in the official records of the military establishments of the United States.

The description of the preparatory mobilization, assemblage and management of our regular army and militia has been approved as

The description of the procedure of our small army in the presence of a large enemy army that has successfully landed is not a piece of armchair strategy. It is what a numerically weaker force must inevitably do in modern war conditions.

This story, which will appear in weekly instalments, is not a plea for militarism. It is not a plea for anything. It is intended simply to tell in logical sequence facts that do exist. It is the answer of military experts, who long have faced these facts apprehensively, to the question: "Can we defend ourselves?"

army and navy, has or- hand-"as this." and foint manœuvre of the regular army and the ornia and West Virginia."

'em is on the way East.' 'I take no credit

nanœuvres' that will give the public fighting.

"Now cut out another 21,000 men. the cold truth."

The flect," said the Admirat to the newspaper correspondents an hour lare, "Is assumed to be an enemy flect to powerful for opposition. It will atempt to land at least 100,000 flattines as many there, especially in men. How much does that leave? In gorces somewhere on the Atlantic cast. It is conceded that an actual empty planning invasion would not east. It is conceded that an actual empty planning invasion would not east. It is conceded that an actual empty planning invasion would not east. It is conceded that an actual empty planning invasion would not empty er, and more, safely across the ocean. he navy, further, concedes the land-

spoke the correspondant of a Bos- thousand men." are as powerful as any in the world and can stand off any fleet."

They are not coast defences, sir." rships from entering our great nemy from landing on the coast out their range.

ited States there are hundreds of es of utterly undefended beach

ASHINGTON, D. C., March for a picnic. All those miles of shore 20.—The President, as and all the country behind them lie commander in chief of the

"They furnish a protected harbor (National Guard) of within which our own navy could take and 8, comprising refuge if defeated or scattered," said New York, Pennsyl- the Admiral. "They make our pro-Delaware, Marywest Virginia." a purely naval attack. No navy could ment from official circles readily pass the defences, and probd this despatch when it was the newspapers. None was even to bombard them seriously. Cerr since the Great Coalition tainly no fleet could bombard the America had faced cities behind them.

White House there was a enemy wishes to bring war to us he Cabinet, attended must land an army of invasion. Our of Staff of the United harbor defences force him to do that; and the Admiral who was but having forced him to bring the f the General Board of the army their function ceases. They cannot prevent him from landing it. pops are moving." have to do that with our army."

"And could you stop him, or is that a military secret?" asked one of the He did it tentatively. He of the country can had been a war correspondent with changing a schedule. Do foreign armies and he did not ex-

"My dear boy," answered the Chief his whole army of Staff promptly, "there probably n't a General Staff in the world that his doesn't know all about us, to the last got 88,000 men in the regular army, officers and privates.3 Of these you said the President. may count out 19,000. They are non me to them, before war is combatants, cooks, hospital staffs to our coasts." He turned to teamsters, armorers, blacks mths and chiefs of staff. "Give the all the other odds and ends that ar statement about the army must have, but can't use for

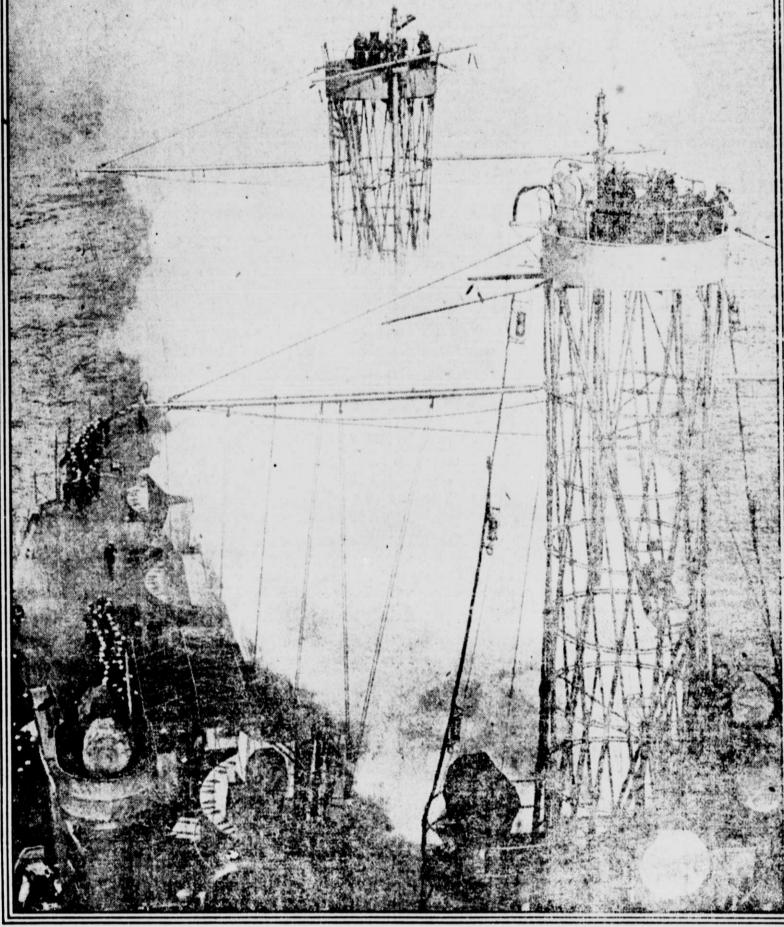
"Now cut out another 21,000 men

tual force that we can put into the field and move around. Thirty-one Philippines and Panama.

swered the Chief of Staff. "They one infantry regiment were gathered moved at all. harbor defences. They can stop from Fort Lawton in Washington and More than one unmilitary citizen, They cannot prevent an Missoula in Montana. They read how ing, cursed the politics that had mainstill four other companies of the same tained the absurd, worthless, wasteful regiment were at Madison Barracks in army posts, and cursed himself for New York State.4

3. See War Department Reports, 1915.
4. Taken from actual stations of various troops at various times. The army

More than one citizen when among military men.



Fire control station on top of mast on United States battleship.

ewerful fleet can transport that num- and have to man the harbor defences ponent units were scattered, guns, of which we've been talking. Now horses and men, from the Vermont you've got our mobile army—the ac-

This was no such mobilization as "A pretty straight tip," agreed the that giant mobilization in Europe Washington correspondents when they when a continent had stood still for left the War Department. And as a days and nights while the soldlers straight tip they passed it on to their moved to their appointed places. So readers. So the nation read the next far scattered was the American army, morning how their army was being so small were its units, that only a bined battle fleet of the four nations made ready. They read how four companies of have noticed that troops were being

having paid no heed in the years when

More than one citizen when he considered indefensible left his house to go to his accustomed work looked up at the sky and won-

Their Fifth Cavalry Regiment, they | dered, with a sinking heart, how soon Georgia. Into the White House | "You'd better not," said the General

Philippines, ran the silent alarm of once from there." the telegraph that the Great Coalition

bound for the American coast.

The United States learned of its another four companies from Fort lawton in Washington and More than one unmintery classes.

another four companies from Fort looking over his newspaper that morn- well cleared the land. The news did of organized militia? Their enrolled are 1.184 guns and mortars to handle. "Dreadnought—" started the wire- forth extra editions east, west, north should be under the works. It is a started the wire- forth extra editions east, west, north and south, told the United States of and south the United States of and south the United States of and south the United States of an and south the United States of a came from the coalition itself.

> called it, was presenting a new aspect of war, and now the submarine there are less than 30,000 men; and full."

It was news that told of an involnerable fleet carrying more than a Congressman was aghast. thousand rifle cannon of the largest "I meen to say," answered the Chief tened for sounds from the sea. That balanced even if, besides the ships calibre ever borne by ships in all the of Staff with a set face, "that the serving ocean that had made them she sunk she had sunk both the dread-

Then the seacoast cities began to

telephone they demanded protection. It was a chorus from Maine to pare." 5. Speed of embarkation of a mobil-

be left wide open?"

departure before its rear guard had by calling out those Eastern divisions swered the army, implacably. "There was done. War, the Chameleon, as Clausewitz ance figures has been only about 30 of it into the defences for mere protection entruck forward gun lower turnet can coast."

Government, but to the American putting them all in the first line. But There was no reply. Somewhere begind that the Kenrsarge did it. A people. "Then you mean to say---- !" The army, silent.

call to Washington. By telegraph and ago—when the country refused to pre-

darting through the encrusted cables may strike at Boston. He may land that swept away all peace.

Before noon, from sea to sea and from Lakes to Gulf, from the valley

Before through the encrusted cables may strike at Boston. He may land the great coast with its piled gold cruiser," spoke the wireless again in the coast, guzing across the empty, between Boston and New York on the Boston and New York on the Boston and New York on the Shook their fists and cursed the may abled withdrawing predreadnought circle of the horizon, saw innumerable and keep us guessing whether hell chinery of politics that had worked withdrawing predreadnought to the horizon, saw innumerable that strike at Boston. He may land to march at New York on the great coast with its piled gold cruiser," spoke the wireless again in the coast, guzing across the empty. He strike at Boston and New York on the between Boston and New York on the shook their fists and cursed the may all peace.

Before noon, from sea to sea and from the valley and keep us guessing whether hell chinery of politics that had worked with its piled gold cruiser," spoke the wireless again in the coast, guzing across the empty. He strike at Boston and New York on the may land to march at New York on the may strike at Boston. He may land to march at New York on the may strike at Boston. He may land to march at New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may strike at Boston and New York on the may str from Lakes to Gulf, from the valley and keep us guessing whether hell chinery of politics that had worked —abaft—starboard—beam—firing—tiny objects just sticking up above the of the Hudson to the sierras of the turn west to New York or east to Bost through the blind years to hinder, to 14,000—yards—dreadnought—port tiny objects just sticking up above the through the blind years to hinder, to 14,000—yards—dreadnought—port ton. He may even strike for both at deceive and to waste. The pork bar-beam—"Again there came an they seemed to the deceive and to waste. "Then why not put men into each place to protect it?" demanded a Congressman. "Are these great all at once to be the great abrupt check to the wireless.

To the men on the floor was a congressman. "Are these great all at once to be the great abrupt check to the wireless."

To the men on the floor was a congressman. "Are these great all at once to be the great abrupt check to the wireless."

we've got. Do you know how many 5,000 militia more or less experienced had some of it printed and on the as they stood there, growing slowly, effective men we've pulled together to handle these complex giants," an- streets before the battleship's story very slowly up out of the far sea active strength as shown by attend- To throw the mobile army or any part - after - gun - upper - turret - am America: "Invaders appear off America per cent. of that; but we were lucky tion is only to lock them up. The mo- dismounted am struck after gun (Copyright, 1915, by J. W. Muller of its unexpected phases. Not a cable | This danger has brought out all bile army must defend the defences | lower-turnet | lower-turnet | The air fell stient. It was the last

cables and the wireless began to not quite half of those have had "Where is the mobile army?" oried bring official news from the enemy— good field training. We need them, the cities. "Send it here!" clamored night to the correspondents who sunday, news addressed not to the American We need them so badly that we're each city.

The cities stared to sea. They Ms- heavy loss to us that would not be

world. It told of enough battleships army is going to take what it has alone (and named them) to match the republic's fleet with a dreadnought to the control of the contro alone (and named them) to match the republic's fleet with a dreadnought for every effective American ship of any kind.\*

"Clever!" said the Secretary of State to the President. "It is terrorism."

"Don't you think that you'd better reconsider your idea of letting this go through?" asked the Secretary of War. "It's pretty dangerous stuff."

"Where is the fleet?" The question of great noise, startled the machines at can only go down sinsingly The enemy transports are within an immost line of great ships. At the margin of their years of dreadnoughts and the outer corporation is at the margin of that z ne of people to know the truth, even under the republic's fleet with a dreadnought in its own way. No enemy will to obsole which a dreadnought in its own way. No enemy will titudes, stirred by helpless, vague impulse, moved toward the water fronts and gazed down the harbors. Every to the old sleighing sone save they pulse, moved toward the water fronts and gazed down the harbors. Every to tumble of blasts or heavy vehicle, every wilden great noise, startled the old sleighing sone saves they pulse, moved toward the water fronts and gazed down the harbors. Every tumble of blasts or heavy vehicle, every without the machiners at can only go down sinsingly. The enemy transports are within an immost line of great ships. At the margin of their zone of free and the invader to follow till be is weakened to be anything area to be come of start and gazed down the harbors. Every tumble of blasts or heavy vehicle, the old sleighing sone saves they down in the old sleighing sone saves they will be no raids?"

"It cannot be done." Answered the ships and gazed down the harbors. Every withing a great noise, startled the object. But it is decisively, overpoweringly to the old sleighing sone saves they down in the old sleighing sone saves they down in the old sleighing. The enemy that the old sleighing sone are startled to the old sleighing. The enemy that the old sleighing sone and saved down the harbors. Every withing the old sleighi

What Can Be Done to Oppose an Invading Army With Our Actual Present Resources---An Answer to Military Experts

More than a hundred miles of sea. There was no night. All the sea, said the news, were covered by the advancing fleet. It was a hundred a flaming city. The outer corden More than a hundred miles of sea. miles of steel forts, and outside of played its searchlights far toward them, dashing back and forth in each horizon. It played other lights ceaseless patrol, were the lighter and inward, toward its own battleships, faster craft, consisting of destroyers. And the line of battleships in turn and small swift cruisers.

The scout cruiser Birmingham had stern, steadily on their transports.

spied ships inside even the inner line. Each transport had its guard, whose But they were not transports. They bright surveillance never shifted, were still warships. The troop trans-ports were so far within all the pro- These sentinel dreadnoughts never tective cordons that the American turned a searchlight to sweep the

power to trouble about the scouts.

So with watching cruisers and destroyers hanging to its sides day and night the invaders' armada moved westward as steady as a lifeless. wicked machine. Never varying their distances or relative positions, never falling out of line, never altering their speed of fourteen knots, the dreadnoughts and battle cruisers guarded their precious transports, trusting to

patrolling the sea to a distance so far vast munitions of war, perhaps more from the battleships that the Ameri- than we've estimated." can scouts rarely could approach tops the tops of the dreadnoughts. | came nearer.

long, floating and drifting with the between two enemy scouts and the soft white clouds far beyond the fur- main fleet, and accomplished by sudthest extent of the cordon, his aero- den attack what she never could have planes surveyed the water world. And all day long and all night long within twenty minutes, and returned

forth its electric waves of air night it always is. The inferior enemy ships

pect thrilling deeds of dash and en-

To the men on the fleet "somewhere" Set at beautifully precise distances "Throw men into our harbor de- off the Virginia Capes" and to the anart, they dotted the sharply outlined Forty-eight hours later the com- gressman. "Are these great cities to fences!" cried the cities of the coast, men in newspaper offices from ocean edge of water and sky, north and e left wide open?"

"Hold them! Hold them!"

to ocean it was as if they were witsouth, far beyond vision.

"You know how many regulars "We have 17,000 trained regulars and nessing the fight. Indeed the presses Innecent and quiet they appeared

word from the Kearsange. "As a man," said the Admiral that

"You mean—""
"I mean that such a battle is decided already. It was decided years ago—when the country refused to prepare."
"Good God, man!" The Congressman wiped his forehead with a trembling, fat hand, "I can't go back and tell my people that."

"Adished.

Ent though no man knew where it was, from its unknown place it spoke by wireless to Washington and through Washington and through Washington to the nation.

From "somewhere between the Virginia Capes and the northern end of the Eahama Islands," where it lay, it had sent out its feelers across the sea toward the oncoming foe—swift tell my people that."

Ourselves against him as unity monthly as if we smashed ourselves full speed and against a rock coast."

"But surely at night our ships can dash in!" insisted the public tellicant to give up romantle hopes "Walt—and some night you will see!"

Then there came a wireless result is had sent out its feelers across the sea toward the oncoming foe—swift tell my people that."

control tops were white with watching stroyer divisions. She had circled the sallors. And so presently between the whole enemy fleet, flying around it enemy and the American coast there through day and night at the full lay a line of relays to catch the news speed of her thirty knots. Her mesand pass it on to the nation and its sage told why there could be no raids at night.

kept mighty searchlights, boy and

scouts, lying far along the horizon, surrounding sea. They held their could not even sight their masts.

The enemy fleet scarcely made an There was not an inch of ocean

attempt to attack the spying vessels.

It seemed almost that the enormous A fragment of driftwood could not mass was too insolently sure of its have floated into that vivid sea withof the hidden transports. Though the count the fixed light beams, distant as

formation assured us that the

nearer than to sight from their own as the fleet and its hovering spice

the ships' wireless tore the air. without injury. It was 13 inch guns The American wireless too played against 8 inch, and the story was as

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The second instalment of "The in-

STRANGE BELLS IN CITY.

storm Walter Quirk of The Bronx drove down through

people to know the truth, even under the guise of terrorism? Do you know in whose hands I'm going to leave that question?"

"I can't guess," said the Secretary, "In the hands of the newspapers," "In the hands of the newspapers," replied the President.

The newspapers did not require to be told that the purpose of this novel news service from the enemy was terrorism.

But if we must defend a specific place at all hazards then newspapers we must stand and give battle—well, trorism.

5. Speed of embarkation of a mobilteed and prepared army as calculated by
European military staff officers.
6. One thousand rifled cannon could
be enumerated from the naval lists of
less than four Powers. Less than four
Powers could match our navy with battleships.

man wiped his forehead with a trembiling, fix hand. "I can't go back and
be sea toward the oneoming foe—swift
tell my people that."

7. This is exactly what happened during the Spanish-American war.

8. From U. S. War Department reports for 1915 on militia organization.

11. And sent out its feelers across the
bling, fix hand. "I can't go back and
tell my people that."

9. This statement does not betray a
military secret. It is well known to all
title as 10 per cent. In efficiency beforeign Governments that we cannot
defend our coast defences against land
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Loading 14 inch shells on the dreadnought New York.