

CONDUCT OF THE WAR CAMPAIGN.

No Change in the Plans Laid Out.

So Decided at a Council Called by the President.

Watson's Fleet to at Once Proceed to the Spanish Coast.

General Miles and Staff Leave Washington for Charleston, Where the Party Will Embark for the Scene of Action at Santiago.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The President called a council of war to-day to meet at the White House, the purpose being to review the situation and learn exactly what the present conditions are, and what changes, if any, should be made in the plans for the future conduct of the war.

ing Minister Sewell to take formal possession in the name of the United States. The Hawaiian Legation here has taken steps meanwhile to get the earliest news to Honolulu, through telegrams to their Consul at San Francisco, who will dispatch them to the Pacific to-day.

Major General Miles, accompanied by the entire staff of army headquarters, left to-night for Charleston, S. C., where the party will embark for Santiago. The party consists of General Miles, General J. C. Gilmore, Adjutant General of Staff, General Roy Stone, Colonel C. R. Greenleaf, Surgeon; Lieutenant Colonel I. W. Clous, M. C. Maus and A. S. Rowan; Major John D. Black and Captain H. H. Whitney. At the same time Lieutenant Colonel Michler and a large staff of headquarters clerks who have been in Tampa, will come north to Charleston and join the party. The start will be made from Charleston on either the Yale or Columbia, which are taking on troops there. It is expected that the party will be at Santiago the early part of next week.

COUNCIL OF WAR.

The President and His Advisers Consult Over the Situation.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—It is learned from a high source that the war conference to-day was held for the purpose of going over the situation at Santiago, and that no determination to rush an attack on Santiago was reached. It is stated that the Administration is reasonably well satisfied with the situation, and has no desire to precipitate matters there at a costly sacrifice of lives or ships.

CERVERA'S DEFEAT.

The Spanish Admiral's Report to Captain General Blanco. WASHINGTON, July 7.—The War Department has received the report of Admiral Cervera to General Blanco on the disastrous naval fight to the Spanish cause of Santiago. It is as follows: "To the General-in-Chief, Havana: In compliance with your orders, I went out yesterday from Santiago de Cuba with all the squadron, and after an unequal combat against forces more than triple mine had all my squadron destroyed by fire—Teresa, Oquendo and Vizcaya beached and Colon fleeing. I accordingly informed the Americans and went ashore and gave myself up. The torpedo chasers foundered. I do not know how many people were lost, but it will surely reach 600 dead and many wounded. Although not in such great numbers, the living are prisoners to the Americans.

TALK OF PEACE.

Expected That Spain Will Soon Make Overtures.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—All views on the Spanish-American war were strongly optimistic here to-day. Possibly the President's expressed hope for peace in his proclamation issued last night may have been the first basis for these rosy views, but there were confirmatory evidences, coming from sources that have so far proved to be of unflinching accuracy, that seem to afford foundation for the expectation that some overtures in the direction of peace may be expected shortly, though of course peace itself cannot be consummated immediately.

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for peace. It was declared that Martinez de Campos, General Weyler's predecessor as Captain General of Cuba, and one of the best and most reasonable minds of Spain, is to be Prime Minister of the new Spanish Cabinet, which is sure to be erected within a few days, on the wreck of the Sagasta Cabinet. This information accords well with advices that have been coming in for the past week to show that some of the European Powers at least have bestirred themselves to bring pressure upon Spain to yield to the inevitable and ask for peace. It can be stated authoritatively, however, that up to this time no overtures have been made to our Government looking to peace.

This fact, however, does not in any sense offset or disqualify the first statement, namely, that movements in that direction are afoot in Europe. It could not be expected that the United States Government would receive kindly a suggestion that it should make the initial movement toward peace, and, therefore, no overtures from the European Powers nor from Spain directly could be expected until the Spanish Government had either directly or through some friendly Power made an advance in that direction. When that is done, and some such move is expected shortly, our Government will be perfectly free to respond, if approached in the proper spirit. Meanwhile the war goes on satisfactorily at every point.

ABSOLUTELY FALSE.

The Reported Killing of Spanish Prisoners by Cubans.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The War Department to-day posted the following dispatch from General Shafter, received in response to an inquiry as to the reported killing of Spanish prisoners by Cubans: "Playa del Este, July 7th. 'Hon. Secretary of War, Washington: Dispatch as to killing prisoners by Cubans absolutely false. No prisoners have been turned over to them, and they have shown no disposition to treat badly any Spaniards who have fallen in their hands.' SHAFTER, 'Major General Commanding.'

THE REINA MERCEDES.

The Spanish Warship Sunk by the Massachusetts and Texas.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Admiral Sampson has telegraphed the Navy Department as follows from his flagship New York off Santiago de Cuba, dated yesterday: "About midnight last night the Reina Mercedes was seen by the Massachusetts and Texas opened fire, and the Spanish vessel was sunk opposite Estrella cove. I am inclined to think it was the intention to sink her in the channel, and thus block the harbor entrance. If so, this plan was defeated by the fire of the ships, as she lies on the edge of the shore."

TWO MORE PRIZES.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The War Department has received a telegram from General Shafter's headquarters stating that the auxiliary cruiser Osceola has captured a Spanish lighter laden with provisions and valued at \$50,000.

KEY WEST, July 7.—The small Spanish schooner Galito, loaded with lumber, chickens, pigs and provisions of various kinds, has been captured by the auxiliary gunboat Eagle, and was brought in here to-day. The capture was effected on Tuesday last, east of Cape Pogo, Isle of Pines.

MERRIMAC PRISONERS LIBERATED.

Hobson and His Companions Out of Prison.

Exchanged for Spanish Captured by the Americans.

The Returning Heroes Greeted With an Ovation.

Scenes of the Wildest Enthusiasm When the Lieutenant Stepped on Board the New York, the Harbor Ringing With Cheers.

OFF JURAGUA, July 6, evening, by the Associated Press dispatch-boat Wanda to Port Antonio, Jamaica, July 7, via Kingston, Jamaica, July 7, 7:30 a. m.—Assistant Naval Constructor Richmond P. Hobson of the flagship New York and the seven seamen who with him sailed the collier Merrimac into the channel of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba on June 31 last and sunk her there, were surrendered to the Spanish military authorities in exchange for prisoners captured by the American forces.

Hobson and his men were escorted through the American lines by Captain Chadwick of the New York, who was awaiting them. Every step of their journey was marked by the wildest demonstrations on the part of the American soldiers, who threw aside all semblance of order, scrambled out of the trenches, knocked over tent guys and other camp paraphernalia in their eagerness to see the returning heroes, and sent up cheer after cheer for the men who had passed safely through the jaws of death to serve their country.

The same scenes of enthusiasm were repeated upon the arrival of the men at the hospital station and our base at Juragua. Hobson, who reached there in advance of his companions, was taken on board the New York immediately. The flagship's deck was lined with officers and men, and as Hobson clambered up her side and stepped on board his vessel the harbor rang with the shouts and cheers of his comrades, which were re-echoed by the crews of a dozen transports lying near by.

STARVING REFUGEES.

Thousands of Innocent Victims of the War Flee From Santiago.

EL CANEY, near Santiago de Cuba, July 6, 4 p. m. by the Associated Press dispatch boat Wanda, via Port Antonio and Kingston (Jamaica), July 7, 10:45 a. m.—Over 15,000 innocent victims of the war have fled here in wild panic to escape the terrors of the threatened bombardment of Santiago, and they are now confronted by the horrors of starvation. In their hapless confusion they are appealing to General Shafter for succor. Most of them are foreigners, principally French or with a mixture of foreign blood, and their interests are being looked after by their Consuls.

When informed yesterday that General Loral refused to consider the question of surrendering, they swarmed out of the north gate of the blazing sun over the road which in places was ankle deep in mud. Tottering old men and women, supported by children and mothers with babes at their breasts, struggled toward El Caney, San Luis and other towns. Most of them came here last night, and over 5,000 slept in the village, which under ordinary circumstances hardly accommodates 300 persons. They were crisscrossed together in the houses, upon the verandas and in the streets.

At daylight those who had been overtaken by darkness on the wayside, began to pour in and at this hour they are still coming. They were not allowed to bring food with them, and those who have money are unable to procure any of the necessities of life. Rich and poor, cultured and ignorant, white and black, are huddled together, choking the passageways between the houses, all with gaunt despair written on their countenances.

The ignorant desire only to be fed, and the cultured want to get away, anywhere, anyhow, away from the war. Pathetic scenes are witnessed on all sides. There are women of good birth and education, supported by frail girls who hide their faces from the vulgar gaze of others who surge about them. In the eyes of both mothers and daughters is the haunted look, which wild animals have when driven to bay.

REFUGEES TO BE ASSISTED.

GENERAL SHAFTER'S HEADQUARTERS, July 6, via Port Antonio and Kingston (Jamaica), July 7, 9 a. m.—The French and Portuguese Consuls have continued their conference looking to the relief of the refugees from Santiago. They called on General Shafter this morning and reported that the refugees were wholly destitute and in need of immediate succor. The general promised to afford a limited supply of food at El Caney and other towns in Spanish territory where they get nothing from Spain.

The Consuls were very guarded in their references to the situation in Santiago, but they pointed out surveys that reported by the refugees. They claimed that the garrison numbers only 5,000 men. The accuracy of this is doubtful. The hospital conditions of our army are improving. Forty ambulances are now in service and the wards are nearly empty tents. The wounded are nearly all at Juragua. The headquarters hospital has been cleared in expectation of the next assault. The number of sick is increasing rapidly. There are 100 cases in the invalid hospital, principally suffering of diarrhoea and low fever.

TROUBLE WITH CUBANS.

Refuse to Assist in Hospital and Commissary Departments.

CAMP SIBONEY, JURAGUA, Province of Santiago de Cuba, July 5, by the Associated Press dispatch boat Dauntless, via Port Antonio, Jamaica, July 5, by way of Kingston, Jamaica.—General Young commanding the First Brigade Cavalry Division, left here at noon to-day for Key West in bad health on board the Cherokee. The General has been suffering from fever, and the doctors advised his leaving, saying he could not recover here. Brigadier General Dufiled succeeds to his command.

PRISONERS OF THE COLON.

Give Out Some Facts Relating to Situation About Santiago.

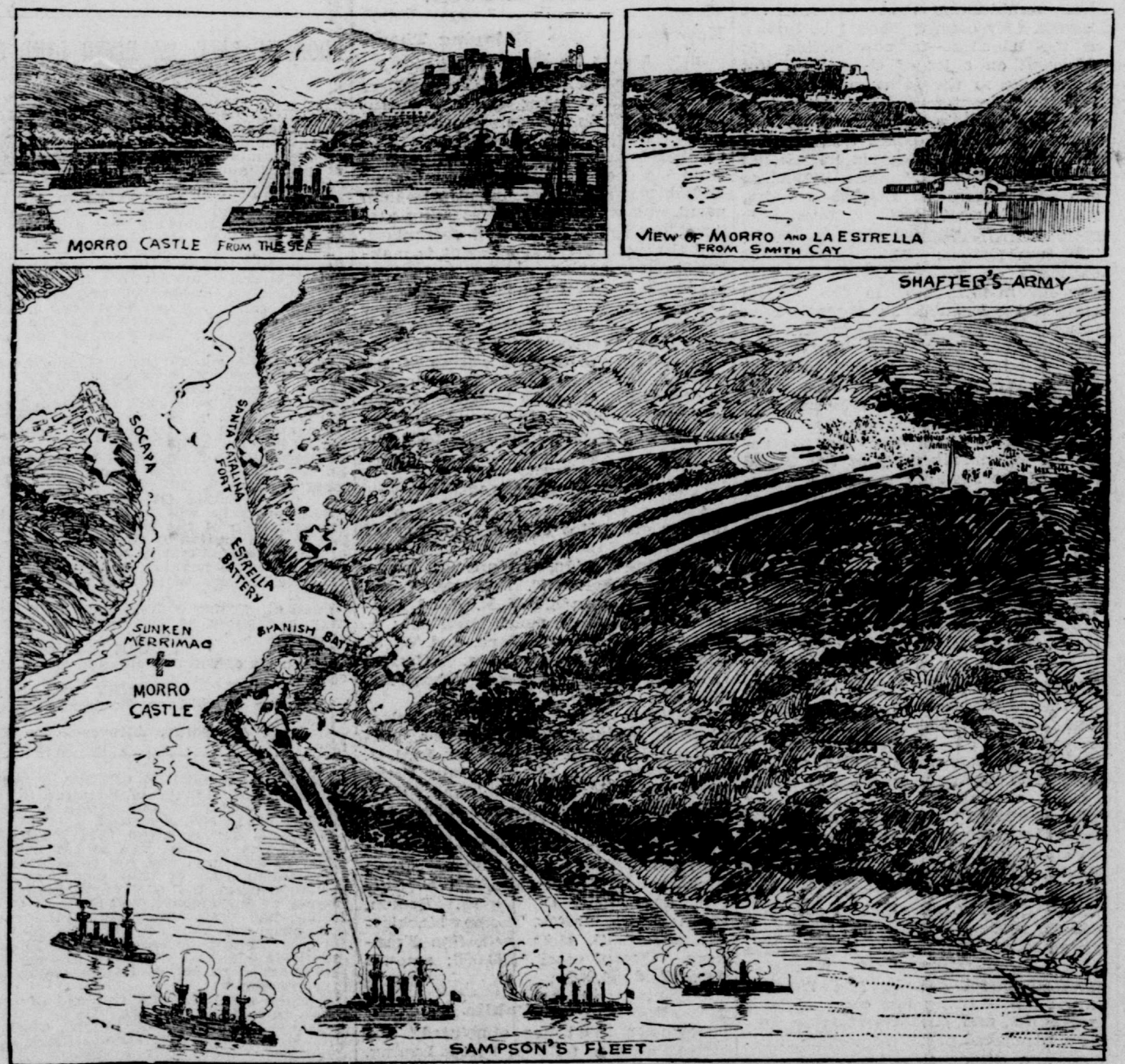
GUANTANAMO, Monday, July 4, by the Associated Press dispatch boat Dandy, via Kingston, Jamaica, July 6, 6 p. m. (Delayed in transmission.)—The steamer Resolute arrived to-day with 508 prisoners, including eighteen officers and crew of the Spanish cruiser Cristobal Colon. The disposition of the prisoners has not yet been decided on. The number of killed and wounded on the Cristobal Colon was very small. Officers of the American vessels which were in pursuit of her say that as it was a question of only a short time when the Cristobal Colon would be compelled to surrender or run ashore, they ceased firing on her, and only three of her crew were killed (all sailors) and thirteen were wounded. Before running their ship ashore and hoisting the white flag, the Spaniards opened the Kingston valves on board the Colon and threw overboard the breech blocks of every gun, including those of the Mauser rifles.

THREE LABORERS INJURED.

LOS ANGELES, July 7.—Three laborers at a quarry near Hollywood were seriously injured by the premature explosion of a blast this morning. One will die and another will lose his eyesight. Their names have not been learned. They are being brought to the hospital here.

Santa Fe at Bakersfield.

LOS ANGELES, July 7.—A former attorney of the Santa Fe Railway Company, who has just returned from the East, states that a contract has been let by the company to build a line connecting the Santa Fe here with Bakersfield. The route selected is not known.



Military men declare that it is extremely improbable that Santiago will fall under land attack until all the land defenses and the high ground enviroing the city and harbor are reduced and held by United States troops. The keys to a position situated as is Santiago are the elevations crowned by heavy, long range guns. The number and locations of these commanding batteries could not be known in advance of attack sufficient to draw their fire. Morro Castle is an old landmark, and its strength had been tested by the navy. Together with the land batteries lying north of it, it must be reckoned with by a fleet forcing entrance to the inner harbor. On a range of hills east of Morro from the land side in co-operation with Sampson's warships, battering the lofty citadel on the west face. Between the hills and the fortress the land is swampy, and that fact, together with the precipitous sides of the rock elevation upon which it is located, renders assault by stormers extremely difficult.

SITUATION IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Dewey Tells of Aguinaldo's Doings.

Proclaims Himself President of Revolutionary Republic.

No Attack Made on Manila Up to the Third Instant.

The Rumor That Admiral Dewey Fired Upon a German Warship in Manila Bay Pro-nounced Baseless at the Navy Department.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The Navy Department has received this dispatch from Admiral Dewey: "CAVITE, July 4 (via Hongkong, July 7).—United States troops have landed, and have been comfortably housed at Cavite. The insurgents are active. Aguinaldo proclaimed himself President of the revolutionary republic on July 1st. DEWEY."

As the latest advices from Admiral Dewey make no mention of trouble with Germany, the rumor that he had fired on a German vessel is pronounced baseless.

ATTACK ON MANILA NOT YET BEGUN.

HONGKONG, July 7.—The British collier Eddie, which left Manila July 3d, arrived here to-day. She reports that no attack had been made upon the town up to the time of her leaving there. Four German, three British, two French and one Japanese warships were then at Manila.

General Monet says the escape of Captain Augustus's family from the hands of the insurgents was due to the loyalty of a Philippine Colonel named Blanco.

The General adds that his native troops are loyal, and that there are 5,000 mixed troops at Macabebe, with plenty of ammunition and provisions, where he intends to wait for the insurgents to come out into the open and then surprise them from the rear.

INSURGENTS GAINING.

MANILA, June 30 (via Hongkong, July 7).—There is no material change in the aspect of affairs here. The Spaniards are strongly posted about the outskirts of the town, and also along the whole length of the coast of the harbor works, eight miles inland. It is believed the Spaniards only hold the water works on sufferance, because the insurgents' pickets hold sway everywhere and could easily raid and wreck the conduit. But the insurgents are extremely cautious in their operations, and, therefore, refrain from causing horrible privation.

The insurgents have never employed cannon before Manila, but they are now bringing up sixty guns, with the intention of making a simultaneous rush upon the Spanish intrenchments at Santa Mesa, Santa Ana and Maleta, thus rendering the other positions of the Spaniards untenable, and by a single coup drive the Spaniards inside the citadel, with a minimum of destruction to non-combatants and property. It is expected that it will take a week to bring the guns along, as they have to make a detour through a difficult part of the country, and it is not desirable to hurry.

The American troops are expected here momentarily, and then, probably, there will be a quiet finish of the war. The insurgents in the large camps at Malabon, Calocan, Francisco, Marquina, San Pedro and Parangue are in excellent spirits and perfectly orderly.

General Monet, the Spanish commander at Macabobo, has escaped from there in a canoe, bringing with him the family of Captain General Augustus from Macabobo, where the Captain General sent them when the American fleet arrived, believing the natives of that part of the country were loyal.

General Monet had a terrible voyage. He ran the gauntlet of the insurgent troops along the river banks, and his party were starving when they arrived in Manila. The Spanish General alleges that he left his troops in a strong position, but that he wants reinforcements.

A river steamer from Bulacatan to-day ran the blockade, bringing 200 refugees, women and children.

The Spaniards are employing gangs of natives armed with axes and machetes to destroy the woods in the outskirts of Manila, under Spanish over-seers with horsewhips.

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