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INVADING ARMY ON LONG ISLAND
The American Navy's Mighty Mimic War Brought To a Close
ENEMY PAYS DEARLY FOR VICTORY

The American Navy has been engaged in a mighty mimic war on the Atlantic Coast, the most elaborate war game ever undertaken by our Navy. It commenced on Tuesday morning, August 22nd, at 6 a. m., when Rear Admiral Helm on his flagship, the Rhode Island, received word that an agent of a State Department aboard a ship bound from New York to Gibraltar had reported fifteen battleships of the "red" fleet 600 miles east of Cape Hatteras, with thirty transports bringing an army of invasion to be landed somewhere between Cape Hatteras and Eastport, Maine. At the time the report was received the Navy Department, on a war footing, was involving every agency to aid Rear Admiral Helm, commanding the "blue" defending fleet, which was sweeping seaward behind a line of scouts nearly 600 miles long to repulse Admiral Mayo's "red" battle fleet.

The wires have been down so that our telegraph expert could not keep in touch with all the moves of the big sea fight, but upon getting a wire Sunday we learned that on Saturday the defending squadrons under Rear Admiral Helm had been destroyed by the hostile fleet under Admiral Mayo and that Saturday afternoon an invading army was being landed in theory on the shores of Long Island.

Later dispatches to the navy announced that the defending submarines had failed to stop the transports; that the theoretical invasion of New York by a foreign foe was accomplished, and that the war game was over.

Admiral Helm's submarine flotilla, which has already sustained severe losses, was the only portion of the defending fleet remaining to contest the landing. The submarines were concentrated at Fire Island, 25 miles from the scene of the theoretical landing operations, at 9 o'clock this morning. Four of the 17 underwater craft in the defending squadron are known to have been destroyed previously. The remaining 13 are thought to have set out shortly after 11 o'clock to attack the enemy transports and no word of that action reached the department during the afternoon.

The annihilation of the defending fleet was reported to the navy department in the following wireless message from the chief umpire: "Discontinued battleship engagement at 11:10 a. m. Red forces gain control of the sea. Can not call problem yet."

Other messages showed that Rear Admiral Helm's battle squadron steaming in column formation, struck the hostile column at right angles and at approximately the center of the Red line. Admiral Mayo, the Red commander, stood his ground, concentrating the fire of his ships on the leading defending battleships, which were forced to bear off paralleling the Red column to avoid collision.

As each defending ship rounded the turn the fire of half of Admiral Mayo's ships was concentrated upon it, duplicating the incident in the recent North Sea battle, in which several British battle cruisers were sunk. The umpires ruled that the Blue battleships had met the same fate and ordered the action discontinued.

The Red transports then moved in toward the southern end of Long Island to effect a landing with the majority of the Red battle fleet still intact to meet the submarine attack.

RIFLE, PISTOL AND REVOLVER PRACTICE
New York Division Builds Rifle Ranges at Sharyland and Pharr
FIFTEEN THOUSAND HAVE SHOT

Since the latter part of July the New York Division, including the troops at McAllen, Pharr and Mission have been participating in rifle, pistol and revolver practice. The Division Ordnance Officer built two ranges at Sharyland of 50 rifle targets each for the troops at McAllen and Mission. These ranges are separated by fourteen "L" targets used for pistol and revolver practice. Captain Charles E. Fiske, 1st Cavalry has been serving as range officer at Sharyland assisted by Lieut. Kunst, 7th Infantry, Lieut. Molyneux, 1st Cavalry, Lieut. Dreher, 71st Infantry, Lieut. Kreisman, 2nd Infantry, Capt. Robinson, Corps of Engineers has been the range instructor on the rifle for the McAllen troops and Corporal Pollock, 2nd Infantry for the Mission troops. The schools held on the range for pistol instruction were conducted by Lieut. Wooster, Squadron A. for the McAllen troops and Lieut. Carroll, 69th Infantry for the Mission troops.

The men leave camp about 7 a. m. and march to range, a distance of about four and one half miles. One third of a ration is taken and the men spend the entire day on the range, marching back about 4 p. m. The rifle practice is on an "X" target one and one quarter inch bullseye at 50 yards, prone. There is a coach for every target and both slow and timed fire is participated in. Men making fifty per cent of the "possible" are credited as "good," thirty-three per cent, "fair," the balance "poor." It has proved very instructive work and given the range officers and instructors a general idea of a "follow up" system that will improve the poorer shots of the Division and lead to greater fire discipline and control.

All officers and enlisted men armed with the pistol have had an opportunity to study their pistol, learning how to take it apart and re-assemble, the essentials in keeping it in serviceable condition and how to become proficient marksmen. Fourteen "L" pistol targets, the regulation 6x4 with 5 inch bullseye have been used at 25 yards, with the same per centage and classifications as those armed with the rifle. The officers have been very enthusiastic over this instruction and the results obtained, many of the men never having had an opportunity to learn how to effectively use the new 45 calibre Colt's Automatic pistol.

All the troops at McAllen would have finished practice August 20th, if it had not been for the heavy rain and rain storms, flooding the firing points and wrecking the target construction, which has been rebuilt twice at Sharyland. The past week has been devoted to the 1st Cavalry, two troops going each day and practicing both with their rifles and their pistols.

The Ordnance Officer also built a similar range at Pharr, one and a half miles from camp. It was constructed on the site of a small government range, the width of the strip of land available being so small that but twenty-five of the rifle targets could be furnished, this made it possible for only two companies to practice each day. The entire Brigade consisting of the 3rd, 23rd and 74th regiments of infantry have finished with the exception of a small portion of the last two companies of the 74th Infantry, held up by Saturday's hurricane. The same system was employed on the Pharr range, Lieut. D. J. Cadotte, 74th Infantry acting as range officer, assisted by Lieut. Pierce, 23rd Infantry, Lieut. Kneubel, 74th Infantry acted as instructors for the rifle and Captain Mohler, as instructor on the pistol. The practice was greatly enjoyed and proved most profitable.

A further course in rifle practice for all units of the Division is being arranged to follow up the present work.

PITY THE STORE-KEEPERS
Sad is the lot of a merchant in a border town. Why, they can't keep the goods on their shelves. Every day a new raid from the thousands of men stationed here cleans out hardware and grocery stores and fountains. So far the incoming supplies have failed to meet the growing demand.

E. O. Scott, who with his partner, M. F. Armstrong has taken over C. P. Wright's clothing store in Mission, had his troubles locating a few chevrons and hat-bands, which he thought might "go well" among his soldier trade. Having finally raked the country and located a dozen pairs of each—all there were—he had the pleasure of seeing them disappear like Coney Island hot cakes on a summer's night. Who will sell Mr. Scott some more chevrons?

Pity the poor ice cream makers. The Humason Ice Cream Co., which opened its doors last week, as announced exclusively in the columns of The Rattler, sells out its 250 gallons daily. The Palace of Sweets, also in Mission, doesn't dare advertise its ice cream for sale. The influx of troops toward Sterling Ranch brings them daily orders that they cannot fill.

Saddest of all is the case of the McAllen Hardware Co., of which the general Mr. E. D. Cable is the manager. Mr. Cable was literally forced to open his doors a week before the store was ready for business. For two weeks he has been selling dishes, carpenter's tools, rope, wire screening and most of all, guns until his shelves are practically stripped. "It's no use for me to advertise in your paper," he told our advertising manager, "I can't get enough goods together to even dress the windows." We sincerely hope that those goods Mr. Cable has ordered come through next week. And then he has promised us at least an eighth page ad. Look out for the engine!

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Amusem Theatre--McAllen T. R. Logan & Co. Managers
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Program for week beginning Wednesday, August 30th.
Wed. Aug. 30th: Triangle-Kay-Bee; Orrin Johnson in "D'Artagnan" 5 Reels Adapted from the "Three Musketeers" by Alexandre Dumas
Thur. ,, 31st: Triangle-Keystone; "Fido's Fate" 2 Reels. Laemmle; "No. 16 Martin Street." 2 Reels. Powers; "Sports of the Rajah in Mysterious India." 1 Reel.
Fri., Sept. 1st: Bluebird; J. Warren Kerrigan in "A Son of the Immortals" 5 Reels. PATHE WEEKLY.
Sat., ,, 2nd: Red Feather: "The Way of the World" 5 Reels.
Sun., ,, 3rd: Triangle-Fine Arts; Douglas Fairbanks in "His Picture in the Papers."
Mon., ,, 4th: Triangle-Keystone; "Better Late Than Never" with 3 reels of Universal pictures.
Tue., ,, 5th: Five Reels of Universal pictures and the Biggest Laugh of them All--CHARLIE CHAPLIN in "The Fireman." A Mutual Side Splitter.

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