

ITALY ASKS ALLIES TO WREST FIUME FROM D'ANNUNZIO

Pleads Difficulty of Herself Taking Violent Measures Against the National Hero.

POET TO APPEAL TO WILSON

Confident That Allies Won't Attack — Vows to Stay in Fiume Alive or Dead.

POLK CONTRADICTS TITTONI

Denies Italian Minister's Statement That He Favors New Fiume Compromise Plan.

LONDON, Sept. 22, (Associated Press.)

—The Italian Government has appealed to the Allied powers to send an Allied force, exclusive of Italians, to drive d'Annunzio out of Fiume, according to a report current here tonight which is considered reliable.

It is understood that the American naval authorities here, who control the operations in the Adriatic, have declined any assistance whatsoever, pending the final decision from Washington or by the peace delegates in Paris.

The Italian Government, it is reported, has pointed out in its appeal that it would be difficult for Italy to handle the situation in view of d'Annunzio's popularity with the Italian people, and also because of the fact that the Fiume decision has been a thorn in the side of the Italians.

It is understood that the Italian Government declared that it deplored the situation and did not wish to take the slightest action against the decision of the Peace Conference, but pointedly inferred that if d'Annunzio's hold on Fiume was to be weakened it must be done by other than Italian troops.

The Associated Press learns that, even should the appeal be favorably received, no American troops are available to respond to it, and, pending instructions from high authority, American naval vessels would stay outside the three-mile limit.

American navy headquarters here, which is in direct communication with Adriatic ports, has no confirmation of the report from Rome last night that American marines have been landed at Buccari, near Fiume. Naval authorities here are not inclined to credit the report, there being no reason that they know of for the United States to interfere.

The fact that an American ship is in the harbor of Fiume is of no significance, in the opinion of naval officers.

An attempt by Yugoslav forces to land on the Dalmatian coast is reported in official dispatches reaching here. The landing was frustrated by the Italian naval and military authorities.

At Fiume itself the situation is reported still quiet.

Gives d'Annunzio More Time.

ROME, Sept. 22.—American marines have been landed at Buccari, a small town on an arm of the Gulf of Quarnero, about ten miles southeast of Fiume, says a dispatch to the *Messaggero*. One American ship is in Fiume harbor, according to advices, but the anchorage is a considerable distance from the city.

General Robilant, chief of the Italian forces maintaining order along the line of demarkation fixed by the armistice, has been replaced by General Badoglio, Chief of Staff to General Diaz, and second in command of the Italian armies.

General Robilant was unpopular, having been a member of the Inter-allied

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troops were touched he would fire on the city.
Thus far there has been virtually no disorder in Fiume.

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Military Commission which asked the withdrawal of Italian troops from Fiume, the replacing of the civil guard of Fiume by Maltose policemen and the dissolution of the National Council at Fiume.

It was these proposals, it is said, which caused d'Annunzio to seize Fiume, thus preventing the program from being carried out.

General Badoglio's ultimatum to d'Annunzio's soldiers, giving them until Friday night to leave Fiume, is said to have been modified so as to make the time limit expire last night, an additional forty-eight hours having been granted.

Fiume is closely invested, but in spite of this fact numbers of volunteers have managed to elude the vigilance of the guards and have joined d'Annunzio's forces, according to reports received here. Friends of d'Annunzio have sent word to him that they have sent supplies to the city and express the hope that ships bearing the stores may run the blockade.

Reports reaching this city from Fiume say that food for 46,000 persons must be distributed there daily.

The cost of the necessaries of life in Fiume gives some idea of the food situation in the blockaded city. Flour is bringing eight cents a pound and sugar \$2. Oil is \$6 a pint and lard fat \$9 a pound.

The Giornale d'Italia says it learns that a detachment of heavy artillery has placed itself at the disposal of d'Annunzio.

According to the Tempo, a group of Yugoslav youths threw a bomb in the main street of Fiume, and one person was killed and several persons were badly wounded. This newspaper asserts that it is reported that the Fiume army has occupied the Yugoslav suburbs of Susak and all the heights in that vicinity.

The Tribuna describes an interview between a Croatian delegation from Sussak and a member of the provisional Government at Fiume. The Croats asked for guarantees for the life and property of Croatian subjects in Fiume. The representative of the provisional Government replied that all guarantees would be given. He asked that the Croats who had left the city return.

The Tribuna has received dispatches from Fiume reporting that on Sept. 17 delegates from the Regina Brigade, which had been considered loyal to the Government, informed d'Annunzio that the brigade would return to Fiume. General Castelli, in command, asked that his subordinates give him time to apply to the supreme command for another brigade to occupy the line fixed by the armistice, and on that condition he consented to the return of the brigade.

The President of the National Council of Fiume, Signor Grossich, has declared to General Badoglio that Fiume will not be satisfied unless united with Italy, including its port and Hinterland, and without interruption of territory between Fiume and Italy. Unless this were agreed to, he said, d'Annunzio and his troops would remain indefinitely.

Daniels Knows of No Landing.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—No report of the landing of American marines near Fiume has been received at the Navy Department. Secretary Daniels said today, however, that Rear Admiral Andrews, commanding the American squadron in the Mediterranean, had full power to use American naval forces as allied officers in those waters thought advisable.

The United States has several cruisers and smaller vessels near Fiume, but the total force they could put ashore would be small, naval officials here said.

D'Annunzio to Appeal to Wilson.

FIUME, Sept. 20. (Associated Press.)—Gabriele d'Annunzio said in an interview here today that he was making ready an appeal to the President of the United States, the King of England, and the French people to support him in his occupation of Fiume for Italy, which he intended to maintain to his dying day, having determined never to leave the city. He was confident, he said, that his appeal would bear fruit.

"I cannot believe there will be any complication with France or England," said the poet-commander, "as in the past I have done something in the interest of both countries. Therefore, it is impossible that they should repay me with ingratitude. In fact, I am preparing an appeal to President Wilson, King George, and the people of France.

"My men here are ready to die for our cause, while I will not leave Fiume either alive or dead. I have already chosen in a fine cemetery, dark with cypresses, a small hill looking toward the sea, covered with laurel, where I wish to be buried."

"I do not believe the Allies will do anything against me, as I will do nothing against them. I consider the blockade, however, contrary to the rights of man, no one having the right to attempt to starve the 30,000 inhabitants of Fiume simply because they wish to remain Italians forever.

"No conflict is possible with the Italian troops, as I do not believe there is a single soldier who would fire against my men."

Insurgents Disarming Citizens.

The occupying forces have ordered the citizens of Fiume to give up all arms in their possession. Many revolvers and rifles and great quantities of ammunition were found in the homes of Croats, Serbians, Hungarians, and Germans. Supplies of munitions also were found in coal merchants' stores. Among the weapons discovered were two machine guns.

That the blockade of the city instituted by the Italian Government is not as effective as expected is evidenced by the arrival of an entire train bearing thirty trucks loaded with supplies. Reinforcements have also arrived, three companies of an infantry brigade from Lombardy, sent to the line defined in the armistice, having passed into Fiume with their arms and baggage.

Lieutenant Rizzo has sent an appeal to all former soldiers urging them to join the forces who fight to prevent "diplomatic intrigues and the machinations of speculators from defrauding us of the fruit of our victory."

Twelve thousand Serbian soldiers have been concentrated at Buccari, five miles southeast of Fiume.

PARIS, Sept. 22.—Troops under Gabriele d'Annunzio, the insurgent Italian commander at Fiume, have begun extending their zone of occupation into Yugoslav territory, according to the Yugoslav delegation in Paris. They are said to have penetrated seven miles into Yugoslavia on Saturday, occupying the heights at Risniak, dominating the surrounding country.

The Yugoslavs did not engage the forces executing this movement, the delegates said.

Badoglio's Trenches Encircle City.

GENEVA, Sept. 22. (Associated Press.)—Dispatches from Austrian and Serbian sources say that Italian regulars, under General Badoglio, have constructed a line, while d'Annunzio's forces have built a continuous line of trenches around Fiume, while d'Annunzio's forces have built defenses a few hundred yards inside the circle.

The soldiers of the two sides are fraternizing, exchanging tobacco and refreshments, and officers from the two camps dine together.

It is averred that trainloads of food have been allowed to pass the blockade line into the city by sympathetic officers, in the absence of authoritative control.

French Threat of Bombardment.

TRIESTE, Sept. 18.—Colonel Sicillani, who was sent into Fiume by General Badoglio to confer with Gabriele d'Annunzio, tried to induce the latter to keep only volunteers and allow soldiers of the regular army to return to Italy, in order to prevent their rendering themselves liable to severe punishment.

D'Annunzio refused, saying that only the presence of the Italian Army would prevent the Allies from considering Fiume a rebel city and bombarding it. In fact, he added, the ships of the Allies, although they had left the harbor, were not far away, and were ready to return.

The French commander, according to Colonel Sicillani, has notified d'Annunzio that if the well-supplied stores forming the base of the Franco-Serbian