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## VERA CRUZ TAKEN 4 MARINES KILLED

Washington, April 22.—The American forces are in complete control of Vera Cruz. No non-combatants were injured in the fighting here. This word was received in a dispatch from Consul Canada this afternoon. Four American marines were killed and 21 wounded in the fighting last night. The Mexican losses were over 150.

The White House gave out the following statement:

"Dispatches received from Consul Canada at Vera Cruz at 1:10 p. m. announced that the American forces are now in complete possession of the city; that apparently no fatalities among American and foreign non-combatants, and that firing has ceased, except for occasional picket shots."

The American forces commenced an advance to take the entire city of

Vera Cruz at 8 o'clock under guns of the war vessels, according to a report from Consul Canada, received at the state department at 10 o'clock this morning.

Reinforcements composing 2,700 men from Rear Admiral Badger's fleet were landed today at Vera Cruz under the guns of the American warships to aid in taking the entire city of Vera Cruz, according to official advices to the navy department.

Landing parties from the American fleet under Rear Admiral Badger were greeted with quite a general firing from snipers, when the boats approached the shore at 4:30 o'clock this morning.

The Mexican sharpshooters occupied roofs of houses in the central part of the city and were able to fire down on the American marines and blue-

jackets as they neared the land from the vessels lying off shore.

**Warships Shell City.**  
A dispatch from Consul Canada, which was filed at Vera Cruz early today and was given out at 11 a. m., says:

"Firing commenced at daybreak. Ships now shelling southern part of city. Large force landed from Admiral Badger's fleet before daylight. Copies of proclamation issued by Rear Admiral Fletcher requesting at once the co-operation of the mayor and municipal authorities in restoring order have been distributed, but have been unable as yet to get in communication with these officials. Major Butler's force of marines from Tampico are now ashore. Expect the city will be quiet later in the morning. Estimates of Mexicans killed and wounded up to late last night approximately 150. Battleships here are Florida, Utah, Arkansas, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey South Carolina, transport Prairie and collier Orion. Transport Hancock with marines reported due. American forces advanced at 8 a. m., under guns of war vessels, to take city."

A later message was received at 11:45. It said:

Have sent messengers to all hotel keepers to reopen their establishments, which will be given full protection. Customs house and warehouse on fire, but now extinguished. Now informed that American troops have been ordered to advance to take possession of the city. Informed also that first two sections of the train carrying American refugees from Mexico City arrived before the fighting commenced yesterday. Third section on its way, but not heard from. Major Cattlin, with a force of 300 marines, just landed to assist Captain Neville, says total number of forces landed 3,000. Our forces now well in center of the city. I now believe fighting will be stopped within less than an hour."

**Demanded Surrender.**  
Rear Admiral Fletcher, in command of the United States warships, pre-ferred his occupation of the port by a demand, through the American consul, W. W. Canada, for its surrender. Gen. Maas promptly declined to accede to this demand, and shortly afterwards 10 whaleboats were sent off from the side of the transport Prairie loaded with marines. These boats effected a landing in the neighborhood of the custom house before noon, and a few minutes later Capt. William R. Rush, of the battleship Florida, who was in command of the operations ashore, brought his flag in.

In Rear Admiral Fletcher's proclamation to the people of Vera Cruz, he called on them in the interests of humanity, to co-operate with him in restoring order. He said they could carry on their municipal government, as before, and that the United States merely would head the customs house and patrol the city.

### Wilson Still Hopeful.

Despite the most recent developments it was stated at the White house Wednesday that while the situation is very grave the president still hopes that a general war can be prevented.

He is almost alone in this view. Officials who are fully cognizant with the situation insist that all Mexico must be conquered. They expect that Huerta himself will declare war within a few hours. If he does, it is expected that he will also personally appeal to the powers for help against the United States, thereby paralleling the action of Spain in 1898.

In fact reports are already in possession of the state department which indicate that Huerta has already appealed to Japan and Germany.

While it is not believed that there will be any foreign interference (in fact it is stated by no less authority than the president and Secretary Bryan themselves that there will be none) no chances are being taken. Bryan has personally kept the representatives of every government here informed of what is going on. In addition, our ambassadors abroad have been directed to explain to each government that there is no plan of territorial aggrandizement contemplated.

Officially the capital is still without any of the details of the stirring events at Vera Cruz other than the meager reports of Fletcher and Badger. Every one is singing Fletcher's praise. He has met emergency after emergency with credit to himself and the flag. Thrown on his own initiative yesterday when congress failed to give the president the general authority needed and realizing that the arms and ammunition from the German steamer Ypiranga must never reach Huerta, Fletcher never hesitated.

The consulate in Vera Cruz had

signalled him that two switch engines with steam up were waiting on the siding with orders to load this ammunition and rush it to the capital the moment the Ypiranga docked.

With the liner in sight Fletcher was forced to act. He could not detain a merchantman of a friendly power. So the landing was ordered and today the Ypiranga is lying anchored near the flagship Florida with the arms and ammunition still in its hold.

Extraordinary precautions have been taken by the United States for the protection of Mexicans here. Instructions have been sent to officials wherever there are Mexican colonies, especially in the west, that the utmost care must be taken to prevent assaults. Here in Washington the Mexican embassy is guarded by police although no fears are felt that there will be any assault on Charge Algora or his subordinates, as they are all very popular in the city.

### Details Of Assault First Made On City.

Four Americans were killed and twenty wounded in the fighting Tuesday, but the Mexican casualties are still uncertain. More than a score of persons were found dead in the streets but as much of the fighting by the Mexicans was done from house tops and from windows, and the marines picked off many of these sharpshooters, it is impossible to make a definite estimate of the number killed.

Much of the firing on the American forces came from civilians as well as the regular troops. The resident section of Vera Cruz was quiet last night, however. Lights were out and doors barred and few ventured upon the streets.

The heaviest firing upon the marines and blue jackets, who were commanded by Captain Rush, from the battleship Florida and Lieutenant Colonel Neville of the American marines, came from the naval cadets in their school building near the water front. When the cadets opened fire the Prairie shelled their position. The old fort and building occupied by the cadets was badly damaged, but it is not known whether there were any casualties at that point.

Desultory firing was kept up until 6 last night. The marines and blue-jackets swept the streets and the roofs of buildings with rifle fire and drove back the Mexicans who replied intermittently. Admiral Fletcher transmitted through Consul Canada his warning that the town would be bombarded today if further resistance was shown.

Fletcher gave just two hours' notice of his intention of landing forces yesterday. In fact only the consuls and the city officials knew of the impending attack. The inhabitants were ignorant of the meaning of the activity of American ships observed in the harbor and flocked toward the water front.

### Demanded Surrender.

When Canada received word from the fleet commander that a landing was contemplated he called General Maas on the telephone and in the name of the naval commander demanded the surrender of the city.

Maas replied that this was impossible. He asked time for a parley. Canada said he had no authority to grant this, and the first detachment of marines then landed at the Porfirio Diaz pier, now known as "Terminal company pier No. 5." They took possession of a switch engine there.

A squad then took possession of the power house. The cable office was next seized. The government censor was made a temporary prisoner along with the operators. The telegraph office, postoffice and custom houses were next occupied.

While the Americans were taking possession of the city, the German ship Ypiranga was outside the harbor with the great consignment of guns and ammunition for General Huerta. The captain refused to surrender his cargo to Rear Admiral Fletcher, but the latter did not press the seizure.

The seizure of the various offices near the water front was completed between 11:30 and 12. Upwards of 1,000 marines and bluejackets had been landed by that time from the Prairie, Florida and Utah and no effort had been made by the Mexicans to resist.

It was 12:25 when the federal garrison, numbering about 800 men, came sauntering down the principal streets from the barracks to the main plaza. There they divided up into groups, making for the street corners and private residences. They took possession of windows in the residences, clambering up on the roofs and placed themselves at various points of vantage.

Precisely at 12:45 the first shots were exchanged. Rifles and machine guns were brought into play. A con-

## There Are

*two sides to almost every story. The right and the wrong. But here is one with the right side only.*



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stant fire was kept up until 4:15.

The Americans swept the streets with their machine guns and began picking off the Mexicans from the roofs.

By 4:30 no Mexican soldier was in sight, but as many civilians were still popping away from house tops and street corners, the marines and blue-jackets returned the fire.

Lieutenant Murray and Captain Harle, from the Florida, had command of the marines about the consulate. Captain Fryer, of the Prairie, directed the men stationed three or four blocks away.

It was not believed that the federals would have made any resistance after the first fighting had the Americans advanced straight to the center of the city, but Captain Russ said he did not want to run the risk of exposing his men to pot shots of houses and shooting from windows.

One detachment of federals hid themselves in the tower of an old light house building two blocks from the consulate. When Ensign Cresep,

commanding a detachment of marines with a three-inch field piece, noticed the shots from this direction, he immediately ordered the field gun into position. This gun was stationed directly in front of the consulate which had been struck by several shots. The men of the Florida jumped to their task of driving out the sharpshooters in the tower. Just five shots were fired at it, and down came the tower. Every shot was a hit.

It was 5 o'clock when the blue jackets entered the federal barracks and found them deserted. By his time wounded men were being carried back to the consulate.

**Skimming Loses Tenth of Cream.**  
From 10 to 25 per cent of the cream is left in the milk after skimming, says the dairy department of the Nebraska College of Agriculture. At the prevailing price of cream, butter fat makes pretty expensive hog feed. A separator removes practically all the cream from the milk.

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