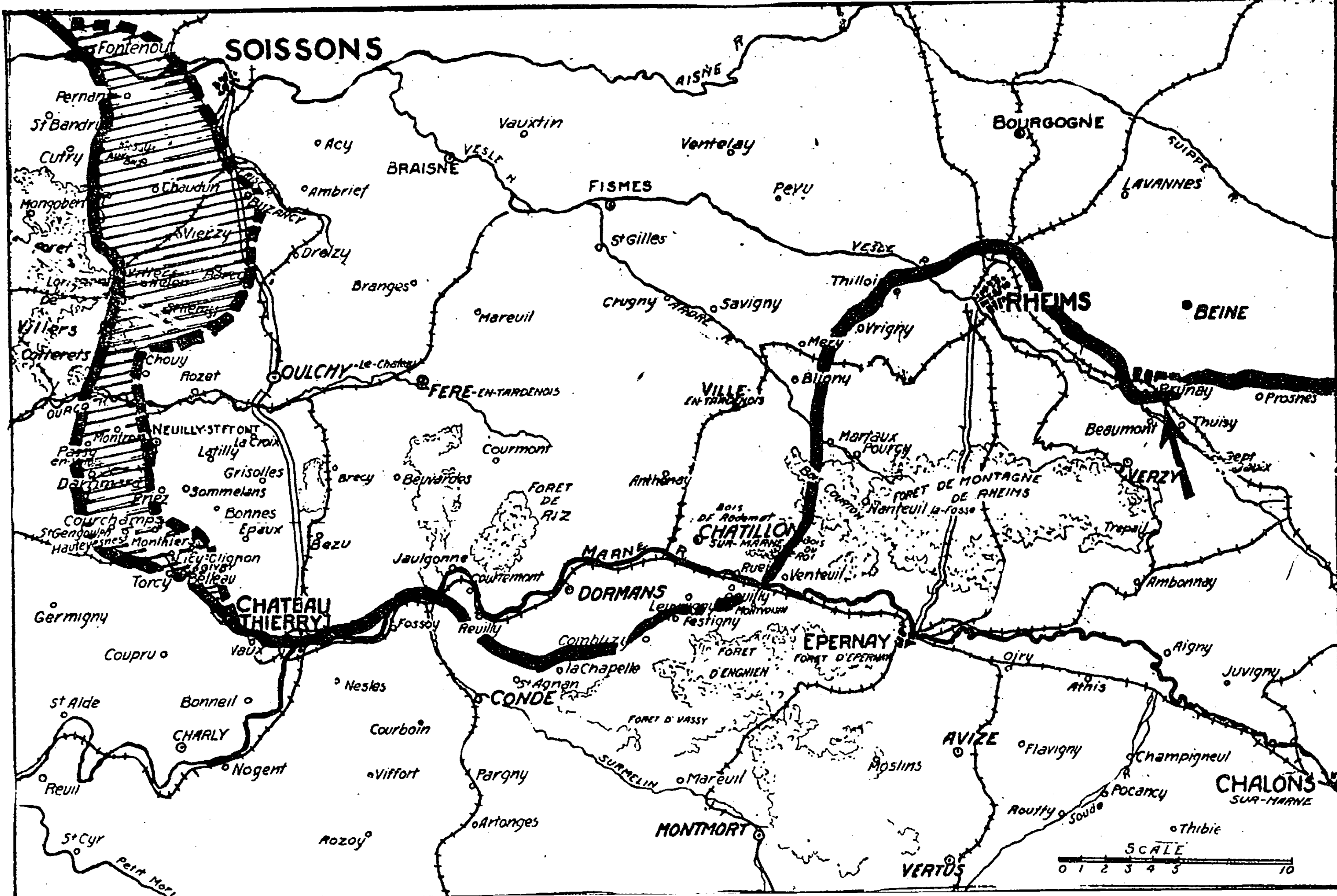


Scene of Victorious Allied Counterblow Between Aisne and Marne.



Striking yesterday on a 23-mile front, comprising the greater part of the western side of the German salient created by the late offensives on the Marne front, French and American troops threw the enemy back all along the line for losses ranging from three to six miles. The Allied gain was most marked west and south of Soissons, which is now only a mile from the nearest French outpost, and on the line of the little River Crise, to the south of the city, where it reached a depth of about six miles, but from Chouy and Neuilly-St. Front (both of which are now partly in Allied hands) southward to Belleau Wood, the southern limit of the offensive, the average gain was not less than three miles.

The allied situation to the east of Rheims was also relieved by a thrust which won back the village of Prunay, (indicated by an arrow,) thus lessening at one point at least the German pressure on the Rheims salient.

The solid black line shows the battlefield as it was at the close of Wednesday, the third day of the German offensive, and the broken line the new front established by the allied success of yesterday.

hands of the allied troops. Besides gaining possession of the heights dominating Soissons from the south a couple of dozen villages were reconquered by the Allies, who tonight were engaged in severe fighting which disconcerted the enemy along the whole line from Château-Thierry to Soissons.

GERMANS BACK OVER MARNE.

Pershing Tells of Our Regaining Possession of Southern Bank.

WASHINGTON, July 18. — General Pershing's communiqué for yesterday reports that in the American sector on the Marne the enemy has been entirely driven from the south bank. The dispatch follows:

HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, July 17.

Section A—In the Marne sector our troops have entirely regained possession of the south bank of the river. Northwest of Château-Thierry the enemy yesterday repeated his attempts of the preceding day to penetrate our lines near Vaux. His attack was completely broken up by our infantry and artillery fire before reaching our lines. Yesterday, in the region of Thiaucourt, a hostile airplane was shot down by one of our aviators.

Section B—Northwest of Château-Thierry between the evening of July 14 and the evening of July 16, the enemy made determined but entirely unsuccessful attacks on our positions near Vaux. During the night, July 14 and 15, he delivered a heavy bombardment which included the use of much gas and which, in the early morning, developed into a barrage on the Vaux area. Under cover of this a storming party attacked the village. The system of infiltration by groups was used and some of these groups passed one of our advanced outposts northeast of Vaux.

Our troops delivered withering machine gun fire on the assailants and counterattacked on the right of the assaulting party, where the penetration had taken place. At the same time our artillery dropped a barrage in this section to cut off the enemy's retreat. The enemy fled, but many were caught by our barrage and eighteen taken prisoners. The attack was a complete failure, the enemy at no time penetrating our lines.

On the evening of July 15 the attacks in this region were renewed. A box barrage, which included many gas shells, was placed by the enemy on the Vaux region at 9:30 o'clock in the evening and several large hostile groups attempted to advance, firing heavily on our positions. This attempt also collapsed. Our infantry fire and a creeping barrage from our own batteries again broke up the assault.

KAISER AND ROSNER THERE.

German Boswell and His Master Attended the Opening of the Drive.

AMSTERDAM, July 18. — Emperor William watched the opening of the latest German offensive from an advanced observation post northwest of Rheims, his favorite correspondent, Karl Rosner, reports in a dispatch to the Berliner Lokal-Anzeiger.

"The Emperor," says the correspondent in his customary florid style, "listened to the terrible orchestra of our surprise fire attack and looked upon the unparalleled picture of the projectiles raging toward the enemy positions."

"The Emperor, who desired to participate in the battle from its very beginning amid his fighting troops, went during the night of July 14 to the region of the impending battle and spent the night in an advanced observation post."

"A few minutes after our attack, which burst forth at 4:50 o'clock, he had in his hands the first reports of good progress. Until nightfall, denying himself a minute's rest, he stayed with the troops and remained on the battlefield, facing the contested ground, all day—a day which brought new and fine successes on the Marne and southwest of Rheims."

TERRIFIC STORM AIDED ALLIES IN THE SURPRISE

Tanks Took Up Their Positions Unobserved While the Thunder Rolled.

ON THE FRENCH FRONT, July 18. (Associated Press.) — The French-American attack along the broad front north of the Marne was an absolute surprise. Many German officers were captured while asleep, and numbers of the men were taken while harvesting rye. The greatest stupefaction was created among all the enemy troops holding the lines at the suddenness of the attack. Some of the prisoners declare they had been told that it was impossible for the Allies to carry out any operation in the way of an offensive for some time.

Many tanks participated in the attack, having been able to take up their positions during the terrific storm which prevailed. The American troops, co-operating with their French comrades in the assault, did brilliant work.

Around Courchamp, northwest of Château-Thierry, the German resistance was more obstinate than on any other part of the line. In this region the Allies captured eighteen cannon, numerous machine guns, and large numbers of prisoners, who have not yet been counted.

The allied troops showed wonderful spirit, and advanced singing. A battalion of infantry crossed the River Savieres breast high in water.

A barrage fire preceded the waves of infantry, but one of the heaviest storms of this year drowned the noise of the shells.

Most of the Germans had taken shelter in their dugouts from the deluge, and the allied troops were among them with grenades and bayonets before they had time to turn around.

Thousands of prisoners, scores of cannon, hundreds of machine guns, and much other material fell into the