

The New York Times
December 15, 1915

Allies' Casualties in Retreat Given as 1,700; Bulgars Hold American Woman at Monastir

SALONIKI, Dec. 13.—This morning's local papers are of the opinion that, while the Bulgars will not cross the border, the Germans and Austrians will make a direct drive toward Saloniki. Many inhabitants of the richer class have applied for passports. Some, more timid, have already packed their bags.

Yesterday British transports disembarked reinforcements of artillery and infantry. Owing to this port being neutral, a peculiar condition exists which makes it possible for Turkish and German spies freely to watch these landings. Every horse, man, and box of ammunition is counted, and the information forwarded to the enemy, now not more than forty miles distant.

This morning the train to Doiran was denied to civilians, but passenger traffic probably will be resumed as soon as the reinforcements have been sent to the front.

At Military Headquarters it is stated that the losses during the retreat from Krivolak were, for the French 700 and for the British, who were in the direct line of attack, 1,000. The military situation is regarded with confidence and equanimity. Evidence of this is that General Sarrall has invited the correspondents to visit the front, which does not look as though an immediate withdrawal was considered probable.

Walter Farwell of Chicago and Texas, brother of Mrs Chatfield Taylor and Mrs. Reginald de Koven, left here three days ago to bring his wife out of Monastir, where she went as correspondent of a Chicago paper. Since the city has been occupied no word has been received from her.

Tonight Mr. Farwell arrived here, turned back by the Bulgars, ten miles from Monastir, in spite of the fact that he was accompanied by Mr. Loughlin, agent of the American Red Cross Sanitary Corps, and was bearing credentials from our consul. Mr. Farwell was held one day while his request was telegraphed to Sofia, during which period he assisted in burying Serbian dead. His request that he be permitted to send a note to his wife was refused.

He will not attempt to get her out of Sofia.