

*New York Tribune*  
*August 20, 1914*

***Davis Sure Germans Were Withdrawing***

***New York Tribune's Special Correspondent, at the Front in Belgium,  
Watched Operations of Large Body of French Troops Near Tirlemont***

Brussels, Aug. 18, noon (Delayed).—The censor allows the newspaper “Le Derniere Heure” this morning to state that shells are falling in Tirlemont and that a dozen houses are on fire.

Last night refugees from Tirlemont arrived here on the last train from that city. This morning they are coming in by motor cars. They left so suddenly that they have not even hand baggage. Their cars are repeatedly stopped and news of attack near Tirlemont is demanded, but their news is as scanty as their luggage and, like the stories of all who run away, exaggerated.

Yesterday I was close to Tirlemont with a column of French dragoons and artillery that was the rear guard of a large body of French forces. While not permitted to state what I saw, it was of a nature to thoroughly convince one that the Germans are withdrawing.