

# ALL ALIENS UNDER CLOSE SURVEILLANCE

## General Lessard Does Not Believe That German Submarines Are Getting Any Information From Points in the Maritime Provinces.

ST. JOHN, August 22—"I do not believe that the German undersea boats operating along the Atlantic coast are securing any appreciable amount of information as to conditions in the Maritime Provinces," said Major General Lessard, Acting O. C. of M. D., No. 6, and Inspector General for Eastern Canada, who arrived in the city and was interviewed tonight.

"The majority of the U-boat commanders are men who were formerly employed in shipping activities on this coast prior to the war," he continued, "and this is one of the reasons why they impress our seamen with the idea that they are well informed of activities, military and naval, in Canada."

Major General Lessard, who came to St. John in order to meet Prince Arthur of Connaught, due to arrive here Friday, and escort him to Halifax, said that the British and United States Navies combined now had a most effective flotilla of submarine chasers at Halifax, and that they were doing all in their power to reduce the submarine menace to the minimum. He expressed the opinion that the German submarines in these waters had little stomach to

attack our transports, and it was only the peaceful and unprotected merchantmen and fishing vessels they challenged to the unequal battle.

"I will never believe that the Germans knew the number of officers on the Liandoverly Castle," he continued. "They made a fairly good guess at it; that was all. We would be happy to intern all the aliens in these Provinces if we were given the authority, but let us suppose an alien is working on the waterfront. He has small chance in the first place of securing vital information. In the second place after securing it, how is he to transmit it? We have charge of all the telegraph, cables and wireless stations and nothing goes through without being censored. Information is going out it is from men 'higher up,' men with whom we rub shoulders every day of our lives, and who are above suspicion."

"The British are securing all the information they desire from Germany. We know the type of submarines they are turning out there and many of their military secrets, but are we getting the information from Britishers living in Germany? Not a bit of it. We are getting it from the traitors to the German cause, from the men higher up, and they are being paid well for the information they give us."

Major-General Lessard said that suspicious characters in Nova Scotia had been kept under close surveillance but that no evidence of any kind had been secured thus far to

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had been circulated to the effect that they were transmitting military information to the enemy.