

German Plot to Blow Up Canal and Tunnel

Military Guard and Dominion Police Force Augmented on Canal and C.P.R. Hamilton Tunnel---Said German Plot Discovered by U.S. Secret Service

STATEMENT TO EVENING REVIEW FROM OUR LOCAL AUTHORITIES

(By Special Telegraph Service to Evening Review this Afternoon.)

TORONTO, November 2.—The Dominion police and the local authorities admit that there is more than mere rumor in the story that German sympathizers have plotted to blow up the Welland canal and destroy the Hamilton tunnel on the Canadian Pacific railway. The Welland Canal, of course, is a great grain route, which must be kept open. The C.P.R. Hamilton tunnel is on the direct line of communication between Toronto, where troops are mobilizing, and the Niagara frontier, which would likely be the scene of raids of mere sympathizers from the United States.

Chiefs of the C.P.R. detective service marshalled three men here today and proceeded to Hamilton and on to Welland, with Dominion police.

The military guards on all vulnerable points in this district have been doubled, several hundred more men being called out for the purpose.

Incidentally there is a story in Toronto today that there is an organized plan for three hundred thousand armed Germans in the United States to invade Canada at various points before Christmas.

The Evening Review has made careful inquiries as to what is known of the German plot to blow up the Welland canal and destroy the Hamilton tunnel on the C.P.R., alleged to have been divulged by U.S. Secret Service, and reported in the Toronto World this morning as follows:—

"Secret service men employed by the United States government have discovered a German plot to blow up the Welland canal and the T. H. & B. railway tunnel at Hamilton. The information was given to the Dominion government on Saturday. Last night every secret service man in the employ of the Dominion government and all detectives and secret service men of the C.P.R. were summoned to Toronto. Many of them reached the city last night, and more arrived this morning. They left today for Hamilton and Welland, to patrol the Hamilton tunnel and the canal from St. Catharines to Lake Erie. The Welland canal already is guarded by Dominion troops. These will be doubled today and a guard will be put on the tunnel at Hamilton."

Colonel Ptolemy, in charge of the military forces guarding the canal, says:—"I have had instructions twice within the last week to increase the strength of the guard at all points on my territory, and can only conclude, as a matter of course, that the Government have good reason for handing out these instructions; but whether these are just ordinary precautions or based on any special information in the hands of the authorities, I am not officially informed and cannot offer any opinion, other than that such orders would not surprise me, quite apart from the rumors that are afloat."

Chief of City Police Kimmins says:—"We have heard of the rumors, and we are aware of the fact of both military and Dominion police being particularly active at all points, but we have had no information whatever officially communicated. We are simply here in our capacity engaged on our usual duties, as we have been for years, and have had no communications from either Dominion or Provincial headquarters intimating that we need disturb our serenity."

Provincial Police Inspector Mains said:—"We have not officially heard a word about the matter, and as it hardly seems feasible that there should be reason for serious alarm without some intimation or hint of special precautions on our ground being desirable as a help to the Dominion police. Up to the present I doubt if there is anything so serious underlying the rumor as is stated."