

LIVELY GERMAN RAID

FLED WHEN THE GUARD GAVE THE ALARM

The Foreigners Were Evidently From Washington State — They Intended To Cut the Pacific Cable.

Vancouver, B.C., May 17.—The first deliberate attempt at extensive damage in British Columbia originating apparently from Washington State and evidently attempted by Germans or Austrians came quite close to succeeding at midnight Friday in an attack on the cable station at Bamfield Creek, on the west coast of Vancouver Island. A large launch loaded with raiders swooped down on the cable station from the sea.

The watchfulness of the sentry caused an alarm to be sounded and the military guard being roused the visitors beat their retreat. They got away in their launch, but which direction they took and where they now are is a mystery.

The intention of the raiders was evidently to put out of business the Pacific cable connecting England and Canada with Australia. Cable officials were awakened by a rifle shot fired by the sentry, who immediately afterwards fired at the fleeting forms of two men who got away to the beach and boarded a big launch. An armed guard of soldiers was out within a few minutes and in small boats searched nearby waters, but nothing more was found. Later information was obtained that a launch had been in the vicinity for several days and was seen signalling to persons on shore. Officials of the cable station are sending a request to the Admiralty authorities at Esquimalt for a patrol boat to guard their station from the sea.