

FIRST PRESIDENT TO VISIT EUROPE; GREETING MARTIAL

**Artillery Booms Welcome Amid
Naval Spectacle of Im-
posing Grandeur.**

**GREAT CHEER BY CROWD
AS FLEET APPROACHES**

**Executive's Acknowledgment Is
Waved From Deck as His
Liner Nears the Shore.**

(By the Associated Press.)

Brest, Dec. 13.—President Wilson reached the harbor of Brest on board the steamer George Washington at 1 o'clock this afternoon and at precisely 3:24 o'clock stepped on shore, the first time an American president had trod European soil. He came on shore with Mrs. Wilson, who carried an American flag and a bouquet.

There was a thundering cannonade as the president's launch left the George Washington and landed at pier No. 3. It was escorted to the tribune amid cheers and salvos and the notes of the "Star Spangled Banner."

Brest, Dec. 13.—The steamer George Washington, with President Wilson on board, entered the harbor of Brest shortly after noon today after having been sighted at 11:30 a. m. while passing Point St. Mathieu, 15 miles outside the harbor.

The battleship squadron escort entered the harbor at noon with the president's ship far back in the haze.

The president's ship moved into the harbor thru lines formed by the battleships. She dropped anchor about a mile off shore amid a tumultuous demonstration. Salvos of artillery were fired as the presidential fleet passed the entrance of the harbor.

The French ministers and American officials boarded the George Washington at 1:30. They were accompanied by Miss Margaret Wilson. As soon as they had gone aboard the George Washington preparations began for the president's landing. About 50 American and French warships were in the roadstead.

GLOOMY, BUT MISTS GONE

Brest, Dec. 13.—The dawn broke dark and gloomy over Brest today. Heavy clouds shut out sunshine and sky, but the downpour of rain which prevailed yesterday abated during the night and the wind subsided to a gentle breeze blowing in from the sea. The mists which have veiled the harbor for several days have blown away and the splendid panorama of the harbor stands out clearly.

The outer strait leading from the harbor to the sea is clearly marked, with its towering black rocks on the south, where submarines used to lurk, and land batteries, with the lighthouse to the north. The avenues and terraces leading from the harbor are still drenched, but an army of laborers has been clearing the mud from the route which President Wilson will cover and wind-torn decorations have been replaced with new ones. Reports this morning stated that the presidential fleet is approaching a short distance off shore and an auspicious day is promised to mark the first time an American president steps on European soil.

ANIMATION IN HARBOR

Within the harbor there was a scene of animation. With the first break of day fleets of warships and merchant craft broke out their colors and dressed ship with long lines of streamers. A group of French cruisers, in their war paint, swung at anchorage, with a score of French destroyers about them. Near at hand loomed the big liner La France, used as a hospital ship, but about to resume her trans-Atlantic service. American destroyers and small craft glided about the harbor and further off lay great flotillas of merchant ships, transports, freighters, and quaint Breton fishing craft. Two American freighters were still unloading army supplies here and an American transport was preparing to take more American troops homeward. It was a scene stirring with activity and one which glowed with color as by a touch of sunlight.

FLEET KEEPS LOOKOUT

A fleet of airplanes hovered over the entrance to the harbor keeping an outlook for the approaching fleet. On shore there was equal animation as vast throngs of Bretons, in their picturesque headgear packed the streets and massed along the quays and terraces overlooking the harbor. Early in the day French and

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