

TURKEY.

Americans in Near East. American soldiers are gradually being brought back to the good old U. S. A. from the four quarters of the globe where the war heads found it necessary to send them during the recent world-wide upheaval. A few are still left in out-of-the-way places, however, and the illustration shows one of our doughboys in Constantinople occupied in the peaceful business of getting his shoes shined. In the background of the picture is the mosque of Sultan Ahmed.

There aren't many Yanks in Turkey but an American naval force of eight destroyers is being kept in Turkish waters to protect American interests and to assist if necessary—in a moral way at least—the British, French and Italian navies before Constantinople to induce compliance by Turkey with the terms of the peace treaty and to serve as a warning to her to cease her practices against the Armenians in Asia Minor.

Thousands of Armenians at Marash were massacred recently but the Constantinople government under the sultan, which at present is resting on very shaky legs, was powerless to do anything to save them. The sultan and his supporters would doubtless be glad to accept the peace treaty under most any conditions and consider themselves lucky in getting out of the predicament so easily but the nationalists, comprising a faction in violent opposition to foreign aggression, have control of the Turkish chamber of deputies and they declare that they will resist to the last man the partitioning of Asia Minor which the supreme council at Paris is said to be contemplating.

They boast that the real Turkish government is not at Constantinople but at Angora, which is in Asia Minor beyond the reach of the allied naval guns and far enough in the interior to render a feeling of security to the insurgents. It is estimated that they number from 500,000 to 1,000,000 organized troops and they are under the leadership of a man—Mustapha Kemal—who is said to be the real power in Turkey.

Turkey has been stripped of virtually all of her holdings in Europe. She retains nominal possession of Constantinople but she is deprived of the control of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus and she has lost territory containing approximately three-fourths of the nation's population. The allies are threatening more drastic terms against her if the massacres of the Armenians are continued.