

Uganda railway, since the tribesmen have been in the habit of descending upon defenceless labourers upon the railway and murdering them, seriously interfering with the maintenance of these gangs of labourers and consequently with the efficiency of the railway administration.

The tribesmen for some years past have also systematically robbed the neighbouring European settlers of their cattle, and had established almost a reign of terror in their neighbourhood.

The Nandi had established for themselves a considerable prestige amongst the neighbouring tribes, partly due to the abortive results of former expeditions, and their defiant attitude was beginning to have a serious effect among the Masai and Lumbwa tribes, who doubted the power of the Administration to deal with the Nandi effectively.

The successful results of the late operations will have an excellent effect upon the Masai and Lumbwa, and will, at any rate, for some time to come, act as a deterrent to these two powerful tribes.

The Lumbwa, who are closely related to the Nandi, have throughout maintained an excellent attitude, and when the tribe perceived that the Administration had effectively dealt with the Nandi, gave, or at any rate professed to give, every assistance in their power towards furthering the objects of the Administration.

The Masai likewise furnished contingents and rendered excellent service.

The sections of the Nandi who have been removed from proximity to the railway have now been located in a reserve, the nature of which is similar to the country from which they have been expelled, but which is more under control and further from European settlers and from the railway.

I have visited every post of the Nandi country during the progress of the late operations, and I endorse the remarks of Lieutenant-Colonel Harrison who commanded the expedition as to the nature of the operations and to the manner in which they have been carried out.

A temporary garrison of 500 rifles has been retained in Nandi to prevent the return of the Nandi to the territory they have been driven out of and to complete the pacification of the country.

I trust that you will bring favourably to the notice of His Majesty's Secretary of State the request for the grant of the African General Service Medal to the troops employed on the Nandi operations.

In a second despatch dated 28th February, 1906, Lieutenant-Colonel Harrison has brought forward the names of those Officers he considers as worthy of recommendation for good work during the expedition, I concur with the recommendations made by Lieutenant-Colonel Harrison and I trust that you will be able to bring the names of these Officers to the notice of His Majesty's Secretary of State for his consideration.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Harrison, D.S.O., who has commanded the operations in the Nandi country, is deserving of special mention for the skilful manner in which he has planned and carried the operations to a successful conclusion. His knowledge of natives and of native methods of warfare has contributed greatly to the success achieved.

I have, &c.

W. H. MANNING, Brigadier-General.

Inspector-General, King's African Rifles.

From the Officer Commanding, Nandi Field Force, to His Majesty's Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief, East Africa Protectorate, Lumbwa Station, 1st January, 1906.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report upon the operations against the Nandi tribe up to date:—

In consequence of the refusal of the tribe to pay fines imposed upon them for outrages committed on the Uganda Railway and on settlers, or to surrender certain murderers, His Majesty's late Commissioner, on the 26th September, 1905, ordered the force marginally noted to be assembled and employed as a Field Force* for the punishment of the Nandi, placing it under my command.

I decided to confine the first phase of our operations to clearing Nandi proper by the left wheel of a line of 3 Columns (Nos. I, II, and III, strength as per margin†) starting from the railway while another Column (No. IV)‡ moving N. from Nandi Fort operated in the Sungalo district and acted as a stop to prevent the Nandi escaping towards Mount Elgon. The right hand column of the wheeling line (No. I) would thus interpose between Nandi and Elgeyo, a difficult country into which the enemy might escape.

The Kapwaren district was left open in the hope that any Nandi who escaped the drive would retire into it where we could deal with them during the second phase by a subsequent concentration of columns.

To add the element of surprise to the force of the blow, arrangements were made to detain during the night the porters and levies required to complete Nos. II, III and IV Columns, for the Nandi have become so used to the presence of immobile troops on the line that, until they saw levies and transport collecting, they would not anticipate attack from Lumbwa Station, Muhoroni or Nandi Fort, while the early move of No. I Column from Londiani would attract their attention towards it and away from the other columns, whose advance would surprise them.

Operation orders for the advance of No. I Column on the 18th, and the remainder on the 21st, were issued on the 15th October.

The first phase of operations took the following course:—

No. I Column, under Lieutenant Colonel Gorges, D.S.O., 1st K.A.R., having assembled near Londiani on the 18th October moved to Sirikin on Sclater's-road, reaching that point on the 20th.

At dawn on the 21st Colonel Gorges, sending his baggage under convoy to Kongoni camp, entered Northern Kapchepkendi with two flying columns, each composed of 100 rifles and 200 levies, which met with few of the enemy, but captured some of his stock.

As information received pointed to the enemy having retired with their herds towards Surungai, Colonel Gorges decided to divide his force into two columns, one to remain at Kongoni, deal

FIELD FORCE.

* 1st K.A.R., 6 companies; 3rd K.A.R., 6 companies; police, 200 rifles; levies, 1,000.

† No. I Column.—Three companies 1st K.A.R. (300 rifles), 1 M.G., 450 levies (spearmen). No. II Column.—Three companies 1st K.A.R. (200 rifles), 2 M.Gs., 200 levies (spearmen). No. III Column.—Two companies 3rd K.A.R. (206 rifles), 2 M.Gs., 200 levies (spearmen, 48 armed with rifles).

‡ No. IV Column.—Two companies 3rd K.A.R. (234 rifles), 2 M.Gs., 200 levies (spearmen).