

land, abandoning their field guns. On November 11th Turbah Fort and other Turkish works in the vicinity were destroyed by the troops and a naval demolition party, and the force, having effected its object, re-embarked.

In forwarding his report on these operations, General Cox brings to notice the valuable assistance received by him in the disembarkation and re-embarkation of his force from Captain H. Blackett, R.N., H.M.S. "Duke of Edinburgh," and all under his command.

For some time after the operations described above the Turks did not show signs of advancing with a view to attacking Aden; but their presence on the northern boundary of the Protectorate rendered it desirable to strengthen somewhat the garrison of Aden.

Shaikh Sa'id was again occupied by the enemy, and on the night of June 14th-15th, 1915, he endeavoured to effect a landing on the north coast of the Island of Perim. This attack was successfully driven off by the detachment, 23rd Sikh Pioneers, which formed the garrison of the island, under the command of Captain A. G. C. Hutchinson.

3. During May 1915 the enemy was reported to be becoming more active, and during the latter half of June reports indicated a possible Turkish advance on Lahaj from Mawiyah. On definite information being received that such an advance was about to be made, Major-General D. G. L. Shaw, commanding Aden Brigade, ordered the Aden Moveable Column, under Lieutenant-Colonel H. F. A. Pearson, 23rd Sikh Pioneers, to move out to Shaikh 'Othman on the evening of the 3rd July.

Early the following morning the advance was continued to Lahaj, to which place the Aden Troop had previously been despatched. The intense heat, sand and shortage of water rendered the march and the subsequent operations most trying, but nevertheless the advanced guard reached their objective, and engaged the Turks just beyond Lahaj on the evening of the 4th July.

But the desertion of the hired camels and the severe climatic conditions so delayed and distressed the main body as to necessitate a withdrawal from Lahaj to Khor 'Maksar on July 5th.

In recording this, Major-General Shaw pays a tribute to the devotion to duty of the men of the Royal Artillery, who effected the withdrawal of their guns under the most trying conditions.

4. On the withdrawal of the Aden Moveable Column to the Khor Maksar line the Turks occupied Shaikh 'Othman, and it was decided to increase temporarily the Aden garrison.

On July 20th, the 28th (Frontier Force) Brigade, with a battery Royal Horse Artillery and a detachment of Sappers and Miners, afterwards reinforced by another battery and the Aden Troop, the whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel A. M. S. Elsmie, 56th Punjabi Rifles (Frontier Force), moved out of Aden to attack the enemy next morning. The Turks, completely surprised, were expelled from Shaikh 'Othman. Their casualties were some 50-60, in addition to several hundred prisoners, mostly Arabs.

On August 24th a small column under the command of Major W. J. Ottley, 23rd Sikh Pioneers, engaged the garrison of the Turkish post of Fiyush and forced the enemy to retire on Lahaj.

Again on August 28th a similar successful reconnaissance was made towards Waht.

In September reports indicated that the Turks were preparing to retire from Lahaj; a column under Lieutenant-Colonel A. M. S. Elsmie, 56th Punjabi Rifles (Frontier Force), was therefore directed to ascertain the situation at Waht. On September 25th this column surprised the enemy, estimated at 700 Turks with 8 guns and 1,000 Arabs, and seized and occupied Waht.

Major-General Sir G. J. Younghusband, K.C.I.E., C.B., who was commanding the Aden Brigade during a portion of the period when these operations took place, brings to notice the great assistance he received on all occasions both by sea and land from Captain Hall Thompson, R.N., H.M.S. "Philomel."

5. In October, and again in December, our cavalry have had small affairs with hostile reconnoitring parties, in which the latter were driven off with loss, and in December friendly Arabs, supported by a small infantry detachment, drove off a hostile Turkish and Arab force which was advancing on 'Imad.

Owing to the Turks despatching troops to coerce the tribes in the East of the Aden Protectorate, a demonstration in support of these tribes was made by the Aden Moveable Column on January 12th, 1916, in the direction of Subar. The column located a Turkish force near Subar and engaged it, inflicting considerable losses on it. As a result of this action the Turkish pressure on the Arab tribes is reported to have been relieved.

OPERATIONS IN THE GULF OF 'OMAN.

6. Arab unrest, which had been growing in 'Oman for some time past, culminated on the night of 10th-11th January, 1915, in an attack by some 3,000 Arab rebels against our outpost line covering Masqat and Matrah. In the early morning of the 11th January the whole available British force, under the command of Colonel S. M. Edwardes, D.S.O., 102nd King Edward's Own Grenadiers, took the offensive and defeated and drove back the rebels, who fled into the interior, having suffered losses estimated at over 300 killed and wounded.

Colonel Edwardes brings to notice the very valuable assistance rendered by Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. E. Benn, Political Agent, Masqat.

7. On the night of 16th-17th April, 1915, a raid against the British post at Jask by disaffected tribesmen was successfully repulsed by the garrison under the command of Major W. H. Lane, 95th Russell's Infantry.

8. On the night of 2nd-3rd May, 1915, a body of tribesmen made a determined attack on the British post at Chahbar, commanded by Lieutenant C. M. Maltby, 95th Russell's Infantry. The attack was driven off with loss.

SISTAN.

9. Owing to the activities of certain Germans and other enemy subjects in Persia during the latter half of 1915, it was found necessary to strengthen our outposts on the borders of Sistan.

The troops under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Wikely, 28th Light Cavalry, have successfully carried out their orders and co-operated effectively with the Russian forces.

OPERATIONS IN BALUCHISTAN.

10. On May 28th, 1915, reports were received that the Khan of Kalat's treasury at