



**SECOND SUPPLEMENT**

TO

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**FRIDAY, 15 JUNE, 1917.**

*Admiralty,*  
15th June, 1917.

The following despatch has been received from the Commander-in-Chief, Cape of Good Hope Station, describing the later coastal operations by H.M. ships against German East Africa:—

*H.M.S. "Hyacinth,"*  
28th January, 1917.

SIR,—Be pleased to lay before their Lordships the following report of the later coastal operations against German East Africa by H.M. ships under my orders.

These operations may be said to have commenced with the occupation, on the 1st August, 1916, of the town of Saadani by naval forces, assisted by a detachment of the Zanzibar African Rifles. The capture of this coast town was undertaken at the request of General Smuts, and was well and effectively carried out under the immediate supervision of Captain A. H. Williamson, M.V.O., of "Vengeance" (flying my flag) for the outer squadron, and of Captain E. J. A. Fullerton, D.S.O., of "Severn" for the inshore squadron; Commander R. J. N. Watson of "Vengeance" being in command of the landing party.

The force was landed in boats from "Vengeance," "Talbot" (Captain R. C. Kemble Lambert, D.S.O.), "Severn," and "Mersey" (Commander R. A. Wilson, D.S.O.) about one mile to the north of the town at 6 a.m., "Severn" and "Mersey" covering the landing with their guns. But slight opposition was experienced, only three casualties being sustained. The fort was enclosed in a "boma," which had been constructed originally to keep out leopards and savages, and was surrounded by the native village and dense bush, which had to be cleared.

During the period of naval occupation a few encounters took place between our advanced patrols and those of the enemy, but no attack in force was made and our energies were confined to consolidating the position.

On the 5th August the whole of the naval forces, except the Marines and a few special details, re-embarked on military forces being landed to relieve them.

On the 13th August I received a wireless message from the military officer in command at Saadani, giving the enemy force at Bagamoyo at about ten whites and forty Askaris,