

officer and 29 men of the 3rd Gwalior Lancers (Imperial Service Troops), and one section Field Ambulance, concentrated at Mastung Road on June 5th and marched via Kalat into Jhalawan.

In a series of well designed and executed operations during June, July and August in conjunction with the tribal forces, the rebel bands were rounded up, some 45 men being killed and a number captured. Order was completely restored by 11th August and the Kalat Column returned to Mastung Road, reaching that place on 22nd August.

In reporting on the operations, Lieutenant-General Sir M. H. S. Grover, K.C.B., K.C.I.E., Commanding 4th (Quetta) Division, stated that the operations under trying conditions of heat and bad water, etc., were skilfully carried out by Lt.-Col. Carter and reflected great credit on him and all ranks concerned.

7.—OPERATIONS ON THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER.

Except on the Mohmand border, where the attitude of the tribes necessitated the mobilisation of the Peshawar and a portion of the 2nd Division, and an attack on Sarwekai by the Mahsuds in March, 1917, the activity of troops on the frontier has been confined to dealing with trans-border raids. These, however, especially on the Derajat border, have been almost incessant, and have entailed considerable activity on the troops guarding the frontier.

During the last half of 1916 the attitude of some of the Mohmand tribes became distinctly hostile, and a number of raids were made across the border into the Peshawar area.

To prevent these raids, and as a punishment, a blockade was instituted along the Mohmand border, and a chain of block-houses, connected by a wire fence, was constructed and manned.

On 14th November a Mohmand lashkar estimated at 6,000 concentrated near Hafiz Kor, threatening Shabkadar.

The 1st and 2nd Infantry Brigades of the 1st (Peshawar) Division, under the command of Maj.-Gen. Sir F. Campbell, K.C.B., D.S.O., with a proportion of divisional troops and detachments of Frontier Militia and Constabulary, had meanwhile been concentrated on the blockade line.

Owing to the difficulty of supplies it seemed unlikely that the lashkar could remain long in its present position, and it appeared probable that a night attack would be made on some part of the blockade line, after which the lashkar would disperse without punishment.

Maj.-Gen. Campbell accordingly issued orders for an attack on the morning of the 15th November.

The attack was carried forward into the foothills occupied by the enemy in the vicinity of Hafiz Kor, and casualties estimated at 100 killed and severely wounded were inflicted. At 4 p.m. our force withdrew unopposed. The lashkar had been completely broken up, and on 16th November reconnaissances showed that it had completely disappeared, the tribesmen having dispersed to their homes.

In his report on the action, Maj.-Gen. Campbell drew attention to the effectiveness and efficiency of the armoured car unit, and

planes of the Squadron R.F.C. in co-operation with artillery.

Throughout these operations, the Hon. Lt.-Col. Sir George Roos Keppel, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., rendered most valuable advice and assistance.

On 2nd March, 1917, a Mahsud gathering of some 2,000 men advanced on the post of Sarwekai in South Waziristan. A part of the garrison of the post, composed of Militia, under the command of Maj. F. L. Hughes, moved out and engaged the enemy. A skirmish ensued in which several casualties were inflicted on both sides, our losses including Maj. Hughes, killed, while gallantly leading his men, and the Militia withdrew to the post which the enemy surrounded.

The Derajat Movable Column, under the command of Brig.-Gen. G. M. Baldwin, D.S.O., moved forward by the Gomal route and Khajuri Kach and relieved Sarwekai on 9th March, the enemy withdrawing to the vicinity of Barwand. The enemy encampments at Barwand were burnt and the tribesmen dispersed.

The movable column was then withdrawn to Khajuri Kach and later to Tank.

The 44th Brigade of 16th Division under the command of Brig.-Gen. G. D. Crocker was concentrated at Jatta in support of the Derajat Movable Column on 12th March, and withdrew, prior to dispersal to its summer stations, on 4th April.

8.—PROTECTION OF INDIAN COASTS.

Measures have been taken for the due protection of Indian coasts and defended ports. This has involved constant labour and vigilance on the part of defended port commanders, their staffs and troops.

I am much indebted in this connection to the valuable advice and assistance which have always been readily afforded to me by the Naval Commanders-in-Chief, East Indies and China stations.

9. Throughout the period dealt with in this despatch I have always received the fullest help from all Departments of the Government of India.

Their assistance since the commencement of the war forms the subject of a separate despatch, in which I shall also deal with the work of the Army in India and of civilian officials and others in connection with the war.

10. In conclusion, I attach a list of officers and men whose names I desire to bring to notice for gallantry or good service in connection with operations dealt with above.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. C. MONRO, General,

Commander-in-Chief in India.

Names of officers and men brought to notice for gallantry or good service in the operations dealt with in this despatch:—

ADEN.

Commanding.

Stewart, Maj.-Gen. J. M., C.B.

Royal Navy.

Boyle, Capt. W. H. D.

Palmer, Comdr. E. M.

Gilbey, Paymr. I. W. F.