



SECOND SUPPLEMENT

TO

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SATURDAY, 26 APRIL, 1919.

War Office,
26th April, 1919.

The Secretary of State for War has received the following despatch from Lieutenant-General Sir J. L. Van Deventer, K.C.B., C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief, East African Force:—

Pretoria,
20th January, 1919.

My Lord,

I have the honour to submit the following brief report on the operations in East Africa from September 1st to the conclusion of hostilities.

On August 30th the enemy had been repulsed with considerable loss at Lioma, and on the 31st had barely escaped from the converging attacks of the 2nd King's African Rifles Column east of that place.

On September 1st my troops in the immediate vicinity of the enemy were disposed as follows:—

In touch with enemy, 2nd K.A.R. Column (1st/2nd, 2nd/2nd, 3rd/2nd K.A.R. under Col. Giffard). At or about Lioma, five bat-

talions (three temporarily immobile owing to desertion of porters).

Malokotera, one battalion.

Near Malema, one battalion.

1. The enemy was about six miles north of Muanhupa. I calculated his strength at 170 Europeans and 900 askari, with 40 machine guns and one field gun. These figures were subsequently shown to be approximately correct, with the exception of the askari, who probably numbered 1,200. That they were troops of first-class calibre was shown by the quickness with which the German force recovered its morale after the severe handling it had received on August 30th and 31st.

The enemy continued his move northward, and plunged into the difficult and broken country between Muanhupa and Mahua, for which place he was reported to be heading.

The 2nd K.A.R. Column followed hard on his tracks, and two battalions were sent from Lioma to try and forestall him near Anguros.

2. On the 6th September a very curious encounter took place, which exemplifies the extreme difficulty of bush warfare. On the 5th