

war, was the replacement of wastage rather than the provision of complete units; in certain cases demands were received for draft reinforcements amounting to over fifty per cent. of establishment before the unit had been three months in the country. The Government of India will appreciate the difficulty with which such demands were met at a time when the recruiting organisation was still undeveloped, and when France, Gallipoli and Mesopotamia were making constant and heavy calls on the trained manhood of the country.

16. No additional troops, other than draft reinforcements, were sent to Egypt during the year. The force was, in fact, reduced by the transfer of six battalions to Gallipoli, and two brigades to Mesopotamia, one of which was also employed for a few months to reinforce the garrison at Aden. Three battalions were also sent independently from Egypt to France.

17. In minor theatres, the year brought several lesser commitments. In theatres outside the Indian sphere small contingents were employed in the Cameroons and Somaliland; within the Indian sphere, the incursion of a Turkish force into the Aden Protectorate involved the organization of a small force for the protection of the fortress; and in the Gulf of Oman, minor operations were rendered necessary at Musqat, Jask, and Chahbar. Early in the year German agents began to show great activity in Persia, and missions under the leadership of Neidermeyer and Seiler were despatched from Berlin via Baghdad. To counteract the activities of these missions, which reached Persia in May, a cordon of troops was established, in conjunction with the Russians, in East Persia.

18. Throughout the year the situation on the North-West Frontier of India was somewhat unsettled as the result of hostile activities among the tribesmen, the Haji of Turangzai and the Hindustani fanatics being particularly troublesome centres of intrigue. Operations became necessary in Baluchistan, the Tochi Valley, the Mohmand Border, Swat, Buner, and the Black Mountain, on a scale which involved the employment of the whole of the 1st and part of the 2nd Divisions. Throughout the year, also, a coterie of disaffected Indians, acting as hostile agents and directing their operations from overseas, endeavoured with small success to sow disaffection among the troops and to create internal disorder. A disquieting feature was a wave of unrest in the Punjab; this, however, was firmly suppressed, and has in no way tarnished the record of the Province as the most productive recruiting area in the country. Repeated efforts were made under German guidance to ship arms to India via Batavia and Siam, but were frustrated by the vigilance of the police, not only in India itself, but at Shanghai, Singapore, and Bangkok. In this and many other connections relating to India's military activities, I have always been able to rely on the civil, naval, and military authorities at Singapore, and particularly on Major-General D. H. Ridout, C.B., C.M.G., Commanding the Troops, for the most cordial co-operation and unceasing vigilance on our behalf. The mutiny at Singapore was an ugly incident which, though occurring outside India, had an unsettling effect. The year was thus one of anxiety both within and on the borders of India, more especially as the constant demand for reinforcements overseas reduced the proportion of internal security

troops to what, according to pre-war standards, was dangerously below the safety level.

19. By the spring of 1915, the whole of the Territorial contingent from home had reached India; but the intervention of the hot weather makes training a slower process in India than elsewhere, and it was not till towards the close of the year that they could be regarded as in any sense a substitute for the troops they had replaced. Their steady improvement was, however, a reassuring element in the situation. The Army also received a valuable acquisition of strength in the shape of six Nepalese battalions—increased nine months later to ten—which the Nepal Durbar generously placed at the disposal of the Government of India for the period of the war. But the backbone of the Army in India at this period was the small contingent of British and Indian Regular troops, who, though precluded from sharing in the honours won by their comrades overseas, played a no less efficient and important part in the attainment of the common end by guarding the frontiers of India with a vigilance and devotion to duty which enabled the training of the Territorial units to proceed without interruption and the Indian Army to expand in a measure never before contemplated. It is due to these units that I should mention them by name, and I therefore append a list of those which were retained in India throughout the whole period of the war:—

British—

- 21st (Empress of India's) Lancers.
- M. Battery, R.H.A.
- 4th, 38th, 74th, 77th, 79th, 89th, 90th, 101st and 102nd Batteries, R.F.A.
- Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 British Mountain Batteries, R.G.A.
- Nos. 51, 52, 60, 62, 64, 68, 73, 74, 75, 82, 94 and 101 Companies R.G.A.
- 2nd Battalion, the King's (Liverpool Regiment).
- 2nd Battalion, Prince Albert's Somerset Light Infantry.
- 1st Battalion, Alexandra Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment).
- 1st Battalion, the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).
- 1st Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.
- 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Volunteers (South Lancashire Regiment).
- 2nd Battalion, The Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regiment).
- 1st Battalion, Durham Light Infantry.

Indian—

- 1st Duke of York's Own Lancers (Skinner's Horse).
- 8th Cavalry.
- 17th Cavalry.
- 31st Duke of Connaught's Own Lancers.
- 35th Scinde Horse.
- 37th Lancers (Baluch Horse).
- 39th King George's Own Central India Horse.
- 1st Battalion, 12th Pioneers (the Kelat-i-Ghilzie Regiment).
- 1st Battalion, 35th Sikhs.
- 1st Battalion, 86th Carnatic Infantry.
- 2nd Battalion, 1st King George's Own Gurkha Rifles.
- No. 11 Company, 2nd Queen Victoria's Own Sappers and Miners.

20. Meanwhile, it was fully appreciated that the war would be a long and tedious one. It