

during the operations, and also to discuss with them on the spot matters of administrative and political importance. This exhibition of the potentialities of aircraft created the most profound impression on all the Akils and tribal leaders assembled there.

19. I wish to acknowledge the help and sympathetic support which I always received from His Excellency the Governor of Somaliland, who invariably showed the utmost resource and energy in assisting me with the solution of the many and varied problems with which I was confronted. My relations with the Somaliland Field Force were of the most cordial nature throughout, and I am deeply indebted to Colonel G. H. Summers for the assistance which, through his long experience of Somaliland and its peculiar conditions, he accorded me at all times. The constant understanding which prevailed between us was a most important factor in the attainment of smooth working throughout, and particularly

in the combined operations which followed in the air attack.

The success achieved by the Air Force engaged in these operations I owe to the zeal and efficiency of my staff, and to the unfailing loyalty and support of all officers and men under my command. The conditions under which the Air Force were operating were unique, and that the many difficulties were successfully overcome is a tribute to all concerned. I have already submitted under a separate cover the names of the officers and other ranks of the Royal Air Force whose services I would specially bring to your notice.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. GORDON,

Group Captain,

Commanding "Z" Unit, Royal Air Force.

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