

were spent in establishing permanent piquets, reconnoitring towards Makin, and building up a reserve of supplies. The distribution of the Razmak Force at this time was as follows:—

Saidgi	1	battalion (less 2 platoons)
Shinki	1	platoon.
Khajuri	1	platoon.
Idak	1	battalion. (less 1 company).
Isha	1	platoon.
Tal	2	companies.
Damdil	1	battalion (less 1 company).
Asad Khel	5th	Brigade Headquarters. 1 pack battery. 2 battalions (less 2 companies).
Tamre Oba	1	battalion (less 1 company).
Razani to Kupiri Algad	}	3 companies.
Kupiri Algad (exclusive) to Razmak camp		

25. On the 4th February, as already recorded, the 7th Brigade advanced to Tauda China and came under the command of the General Officer Commanding the Waziristan Force. As it was still supplied by the Razmak Force, it became necessary to bring up an additional battalion from Kohat, and to employ two Pioneer battalions temporarily as Infantry to secure the lengthened line of communications.

26. It may appear from the above narrative that there was very little opposition to the advance of the Razmak Force and that the operations presented little tactical difficulty. This, however, was not the case. Several large raiding gangs of Mahsuds and Wazirs were in the neighbourhood, and the fact that so little fighting occurred was due to the admirable protective dispositions and to the vigilance of the troops.

Operations against Makin.

27. The advance of the two columns to Tauda China on the 4th February came as a surprise to the Mahsuds, but they energetically opposed the establishment of piquets during the afternoon, and, while apparently suffering heavily themselves, inflicted some 30 casualties on our troops.

28. The next day was spent in consolidating defences and establishing two forward piquets required for supporting subsequent operations from the south. During the day the Royal Welch Fusiliers became heavily engaged and lost 14 killed and wounded.

29. The destruction of Makin commenced on the 6th. Both Brigades took part in the operation and three villages were successfully destroyed, but the enemy vigorously pressed the retirement to camp, and our casualties amounted to 28, of which the majority were in the 1-9th Gurkha Rifles.

30. On the 7th and 8th heavy snow confined the troops to camp, but operations were resumed on the 9th, several more villages being burnt and a large quantity of grain and fodder removed. The retirement was again followed up and some Tochi Scouts, becoming engaged, counterattacked with success, killing several of the enemy. During the afternoon a section of 6-inch howitzers, which had been brought up to Tauda China with great difficulty, came into action.

31. The work of destruction was continued on the 10th. The village of Tora Tiza was demolished, but, taking advantage of the broken and scrub-covered hills surrounding it, several parties of the enemy were able to approach unseen, and delivered determined assaults on the 2-39th Royal Garhwal Rifles; they were, however, beaten off with considerable loss. During the day the 6-inch howitzers, with aeroplane observation, shelled the almost inaccessible Abdullai refuge at Mandesh.

32. The next day the troops were given a rest, while the artillery bombarded hostile villages within range. The only portion of Makin now remaining to be destroyed lay within the difficult defile of the Darra Toi, an advance into which would probably have entailed severe casualties. It was therefore decided to deal with it by means of artillery fire and aerial bombing. This was successfully accomplished on the 12th, three pack batteries, the 6-inch howitzers, and the squadron of Heavy Bombers all operating in conjunction.

This completed the devastation of the Makin area, and, in addition to the material damage inflicted, the enemy are known to have suffered over 60 casualties in the course of the operations.

The Abdullai expressed their desire to make peace, and on the 22nd February met the General Officer Commanding the Waziristan Force in jirga and accepted the terms offered. These terms are given in full in Appendix 3.

33. The Government of India had meanwhile been reconsidering the question of the construction of the Sorarogha—Razmak and Jandola—Sarwakai roads. On the 23rd February it was decided that the work was to be continued and that regular troops were to be left on the former road, to protect the work, for a period of nine months. Orders were consequently issued regarding the dispositions and allotment of command to cover the construction of the roads, and, as a result, the 7th Brigade on the 12th March returned to Razmak and reverted to the command of the General Officer Commanding the Razmak Force.

34. The Makin Column then ceased to exist as such. It had carried out its difficult task under the most trying climatic conditions with conspicuous success, and had suffered 137 casualties of whom 42 were killed. The good effect of the operations was soon brought out by the attendance of about 1,500 representatives of practically all sections of the Mahsuds at a jirga which was ordered to assemble at Tauda China on the 12th March. During the next ten days various details of Government policy were explained to the Mahsuds, and on the 23rd the General Officer Commanding, Waziristan Force, read out the Government terms to the whole jirga who accepted them in full. The complete terms are given in Appendix 4.