

9. Two companies of the 2nd Punjab Infantry moved along the heights on the right of the valley. The hills on the left were inaccessible to our troops.

10. Two companies Royal Scots Fusiliers followed in support of the 2nd Punjab Infantry.

11. The advance was comparatively unopposed from the front, as the Artillery had cleared the Kotal, and from the right, as the flanking party drove the enemy off the hill. From the left flank, however, there was a certain amount of fire from sharpshooters, well posted among inaccessible crags.

12. Volleys were fired at them, and occasional shrapnel, without much effect. The fire of these sharpshooters was exceedingly accurate, and to it may be attributed nearly the whole of the casualties. The enemy retreated north across the Bara River. I did not think it wise to follow them further, as the men were very much exhausted by the very severe climb and the heat of the sun.

13. I gave the order to retire at 10.30 A.M. This was well and carefully carried out, the Royal Scots Fusiliers covering the first portion of the retirement.

14. The advanced companies of the 2nd Punjab Infantry in the main attack were led by Captain L. E. Cooper and Lieutenant Elsmie, the flanking companies being commanded by Captain Eales and the regiment itself by Colonel Sturt, who brings to my special notice the gallant and efficient leading of Captain Cooper and Lieutenant Elsmie. Colonel Sturt led his regiment to the attack in a very effective manner.

15. The fire of the battery under Major Wedderburn was kept up on the crest line of the Kotal, and on the Sangar over the heads of the advancing Infantry as long as possible without danger to them. The fire was very accurate, and the result good.

16. I attach Army Form B 103, and regret that amongst the small list of casualties so large a proportion of officers should have been included. I especially wish to bring to notice the admirable manner in which Surgeon-Captains W. G. Beyts, Army Medical Service, and H. Bamfield, Indian Medical Service, attended to the wounded under fire during both the advance and retirement.

17. The path down being too precipitous for any dhoolie, Surgeon-Captain Beyts carried Lieutenant North of the Scots Fusiliers for a considerable distance down the hill on his back. Subadar Akbar Khan of the 2nd Punjab Infantry was severely wounded in the arm on the way up, yet notwithstanding this, he continued to lead his company to the crest of the Kotal, and remained with them until the end of the retirement. Such fine soldier-like conduct is, in my opinion, deserving of some special recognition.

1st Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Return of Casualties in Action at Ublan Pass (Kohat) on 27th August, 1897.

Summary.

Officers—killed, nil; wounded, 2; missing, nil.  
Non-Commissioned Officers and Men—killed, nil; wounded, nil; missing, 1.

Nominal Return of Officers Killed.

Nil.

Nominal Return of Officers Wounded.

Captain Arthur George Baird Smith, severe, gunshot wound of right leg (penetrating).  
Lieutenant Louis Aylmer North, severe, gunshot wound of thorax (non-penetrating).

Nominal Return of Officers and Men Missing.

4196 Private Philip Crain. Several men of his Company saw Private Crain after the bottom of the hill had been reached in the retirement from the Ublan Pass, and one man states he saw four sepoy putting him into a dhoolie about 300 yards north of the pond, where all the sick were collected. Private Crain's rifle was brought into camp by one of his comrades. His belt, bayonet, pouches, and ammunition are missing.

J. H. SPURGIN, Lieutenant-Colonel,  
Commanding 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers,  
Kohat, August 28, 1897.

2nd Regiment of Punjab Infantry.

Return of Casualties in action at Ublan Pass on 27th August, 1897.

Summary.

Native Officers—killed, nil; wounded, 2; missing, nil.

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men—killed, 1; wounded, 7; missing, nil.

Nominal Return of Officers Killed.

Nil.

Nominal Return of Officers Wounded.

Subadar Akbar Khan, severe, gunshot wound in arm.

Jemadar Attru, slight, abrasion from gunshot.

Nominal Return of Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Killed.

142 Sepoy Karm Singh, gunshot wound in centre of forehead.

Nominal Return of Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Wounded.

386 Lance Naick Nyaz Ali, dangerous (died same day), gunshot wound through base of skull.

4327 Naick Saif Ali, severe, gunshot wound in hand.

4049 Naick Mewa Singh, slight, contusion from gunshot.

330 Sepoy Achchar Singh, dangerous, gunshot wound in abdomen.

49 Sepoy Partab Singh, severe, gunshot wound in buttock.

4839 Sepoy Shakir Khan, severe, gunshot wound in arm.

115 Sepoy Farman Ali, slight, gunshot graze on neck.

Nominal Return of Officers and Men Missing.

Nil.

R. R. N. STURT, Lieutenant-Colonel,  
Commanding 2nd Punjab Infantry,  
Kohat, August 28, 1897.

Expenditure of Ammunition in Action near Ublan Pass on 27th August, 1897.

9th Field Battery, Royal Artillery, shrapnel shell, 66 rounds.

1st Royal Scots Fusiliers, 180 rifles, 959 rounds.

2nd Punjab Infantry, 487 rifles, 4,272 rounds.

A. G. YEATMAN-BIGGS, Major-General,  
Commanding Kohat and Kurram Valley.

Kohat, August 28, 1897.

War Office, December 18, 1897.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Most Honourable Order of the Bath: