

sanctioned by the Secretary of State as has usually been the case in previous years. Any operations that have been necessary have been caused either by direct revolt of the natives against the Government as at Agbor, Ishinkwa, and Uruala, where punitive action was necessary, or where the natives without being actively hostile, refused to obey the orders of the Government or carry out the instructions of the District Commissioner. In these cases, as in the Aka Ogoni, Kwa and Ikotekpene districts, a strong patrol had the desired effect, and there was little or no fighting.

**Owa Column.**—The most important of these operations was the one necessitated by the murder of Mr. O. S. Crewe Read, D.C., Agbor, by the people of Owa. News of the murder reached Asaba on the morning of June 9th, and Captain Rudkin, R.F.A., left the same afternoon with 3 Officers, 1 Medical Officer, and 1 Political Officer, and 194 rank and file, and a Maxim, and reached Umonede (40 miles) at 1 p.m. the following day, where he received information that the enemy were in great force about 5 miles off, on the Agbor road. He started before daylight on the morning of June 11th, and met with most determined resistance during the whole day. The enemy made stand after stand at close quarters, and had to be dislodged with the bayonet. He eventually reached the river 3 miles from Agbor, at 6.30 p.m., having had Mr. Chichester, Political Officer, and Lieutenant Walmsley Dresser, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, dangerously wounded, 2 rank and file killed, and 25 wounded.

3. Reinforcements of 3 Officers, one 2.95 gun and 110 rank and file, reached Captain Rudkin by June 19th, and he continued to have severe fighting south and south-east of Agbor until July 2nd, when further reinforcements of 3 Officers and 130 rank and file arrived. With this force he attacked and captured Owa, the scene of Mr. Crewe Read's murder.

This broke the back of the rising, and though some outlying towns did not submit without further fighting, they had all come in by August 3rd, when the column broke up.

The body of Mr. Crewe Read was recovered unutilated.

All persons directly concerned in the murder, and various chiefs who had joined in the rising, either surrendered or were captured and handed over to the civil authorities for trial. Fines were inflicted on the various towns concerned in the rising.

Captain Rudkin had under his command 12 Officers and 434 rank and file, and his casualties amounted to 16 killed and 92 wounded (exclusive of carriers), but taking into consideration the extremely thick bush in which the operations were conducted, and the unusually stubborn opposition offered by the enemy, I do not consider them at all excessive.

These operations were carried out in the middle of the rains, which greatly increased the hardship and discomfort of the column.

I wish to bring to the notice of your Excellency the good services rendered by the following Officers, non-commissioned officers, and men:—

Captain W. E. Rudkin, Royal Field Artillery, acted with great promptitude on the receipt of the news of Mr. Crewe Read's murder, and subsequently commanded the expedition until its successful close with determination, zeal, and military skill in spite of great difficulties of country and climate.

Captain C. E. Heathcote, K.O.Y.L.I., in addition to the skill and courage with which he handled his small force at Uruala, was for nine months in charge of the new district of Omoduru, where he discharged his duties with great energy and tact.

Lieutenant H. C. Fox, Royal Scots Fusiliers, displayed conspicuous bravery and powers of leadership on June 11th, when in command of the advance guard for twelve hours.

No. 2813 Company Sergeant-Major Alien Tarfah, "H" Company, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 144 Sergeant Awudu Birini Kanu, "B" Company, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 1569 Corporal Fajenyo, "H" Company, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

The following Officers and non-commissioned officers and men are also deserving of mention:—

Captain E. de H. Smith, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Lieutenant C. R. Hopkinson, Laucashire Fusiliers.

No. 580 Company Sergeant-Major Alowe Giwa, 1st Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 1926 Sergeant Ilariogun Ilorin, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 2091 Lance-Corporal Amadu Guaya, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 936 Lance-Corporal Oyerinde, 1st Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 1491 Lance-Corporal Alayo Ibadan, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 344 Lance-Corporal Abubakare Bouchi, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 368 Private Abudu Kano, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 570 Private Adeoye, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 2332 Private Suberu Oyo, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

No. 2036 Private Momadu Illorin, 2nd Battalion, Southern Nigeria Regiment.

H. C. MOORHOUSE, Lieutenant-Colonel,  
Officer Commanding Southern Nigeria  
Regiment.

Government House, Northern Nigeria,  
Lokoja, 27th March, 1907.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information copy of a report on the military operations which were carried out in the Chibuk country, Bornu Province, in November last.

I have, &c.,

WM. WALLACE, Acting High Commissioner.  
The Right Honourable The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,  
Secretary of State for the Colonies,  
&c., &c., &c.

Brigade Office, Northern Nigeria Regiment,  
West African Frontier Force.  
11th March, 1907.

Sir,

I forward herewith the report of the operations in the Chibuk country.

The Chibuk Hill appears to have been a