

left Mohmand country and the demobilisation of the Force was commenced.

27. At Ghalanai, on 30th May, the various Jirgaahs assembled, and such as had not already paid their fines, &c., did so then. Those of the subsidised sections who live closest to the British border, as well as the Khwaizais who hitherto have received no subsidy, voluntarily subscribed to an agreement to keep the Baezais out of their limits in future, as far as raiding parties were concerned; and in case of their inability to do this, to give warning to our Government officials. In my opinion this action on their part is not the least important of the results attained by the despatch of a Force into their country.

28. The Commander-in-Chief has already in a telegram, received the day we crossed the border, congratulated all ranks on their discipline and good conduct in the field. I would beg to add that the hardships and privations were borne with a cheerfulness which could not be exceeded. The incessant marching under a fiery sun, with only a very limited amount of indifferent water, the choking dust and plagues of flies were all a severe test of endurance by day, whilst at night the men were generally kept awake and at their posts for hours together, owing to the constant fire kept up by the enemy; and which would have proved even more costly than it did but for the labour expended on the entrenchments and which added considerably to the daily work they were called on to perform. I can unhesitatingly say that no troops could have rendered better service in the field.

29. The elasticity of the Divisional and Brigade systems, each with its own permanent peace staffs, proved well adapted to all requirements. For when the temporary dislocation of Brigades (to meet the sudden call from the Khyber) was followed by the outbreak of cholera on the Mohmand border, necessitating further readjustments, no difficulty was found in immediately meeting the demands owing to the fact that the troops removed from Peshawar and Nowshera had not only been replaced under orders from Army Head-quarters, but the Khyber and Malakand movable columns stood ready equipped with field service transport; thereby placing practically two extra Brigades on a war footing. The consequence was that every deficiency caused by cholera was immediately replaced, enabling the Force to advance on the very date fixed.

Moreover, once my plan of operations had been approved, I was given a free hand, which enabled me to complete the work before the hottest season of the year had set in on the Frontier.

30. The reconnaissance and general work done by the 21st Cavalry was of a high order, and proved of the greatest value to the Force. The various squadrons were always well handled.

The two companies of Sappers and Miners were well commanded and did much useful work.

The Supply, Transport, Ordnance, and Medical arrangements were all satisfactory, and the good work done by the Army Bearer Corps was most praiseworthy.

The North-Western Railway staff performed their duties without any hitch during both mobilisation and when the Force was demobilised.

The Telegraph and Postal Services were satisfactory; the former had a great deal of hard work to do, both before and during the operations.

31. The total casualties in action, &c., sustained by the Force amounted to 52 killed (or

died of wounds) and 205 wounded of all ranks; whilst the enemy lost about 450 killed. Notwithstanding the fact that a very large percentage of our casualties, as must always be the case in frontier warfare, were caused during retirements from advanced positions, or after carrying out the necessary punitive measures, the troops captured and brought in 20 prisoners, nearly all of whom were released after enquiry. As is well known to anyone with any knowledge of the tribesmen, they never leave behind a wounded man, risking anything rather than that he should be made a prisoner.

In no instance was any man missing from our Force.

The amount of firing done by the enemy may be gauged from the fact that 185 horses and mules were killed and wounded, a large proportion of which were hit in our camps at night.

32. I beg to bring to the favourable notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the names of the following two officers and man for conspicuous gallantry in the field:—

Second-Lieutenant William Platt, 1st Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers.

Lieutenant Gerald Francis Waterworth, 1st Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

8221 Private Harry Lloyd, 1st Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

I recommend the following officers for a reward for their distinguished service in the field:—

Staff.—Colonel W. R. Birdwood, C.I.E., A.D.C., Chief Staff Officer. An able and resourceful officer who never acknowledges difficulties, and by his influence and tact secured the smooth working of the entire Staffs of the Force. He was always in the right place during a fight, and rendered most valuable service throughout the operations.

Colonel A. W. Money, R.A., Assistant-Adjutant and Quartermaster-General. As in Zakka Khel, this officer did excellent work. He possesses great powers of organisation, and thoroughly understands all the multifarious duties of a senior Staff Officer.

Lieutenant A. P. Y. Langhorne, R.A., Aide-de-Camp. I particularly bring this officer to notice for his coolness in action combined with his zeal and energy. He moreover possesses decided ability, and rendered me valuable aid in the field.

STAFFS.

First Brigade.

(i) Brigadier-General C. A. Anderson, C.B. An excellent soldier. Commanded the Column at Mutta on 24th April and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. In every action in which his Brigade was engaged he did uniformly well and richly deserves a reward.

(ii) Captain A. L. Tarver, 124th Baluchistan Infantry, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

(iii) Captain E. E. Barwell, 57th Rifles, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Second Brigade.

(i) Major-General A. A. Barrett, C.B. Commanded his Brigade, and on several occasions mixed Forces, with unqualified success. At Sardag on 18th May he drove the enemy from their positions without a check, and his retirement from Khuda Khel was a fine sample of Frontier warfare. I specially commend him to His Excellency's notice.

(ii) Major H. M. Allen, 25th Cavalry, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.