



SECOND SUPPLEMENT

TO

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MONDAY, 20 MARCH, 1916.

War Office,  
20th March, 1916.

The following summarised accounts of operations in the Tochi Valley on 7th January and 26th March, 1915, have been forwarded by the Government of India for publication:—

EXTRACT FROM THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA."

ARMY DEPARTMENT.

Simla, 1st October, 1915.

No. 951.—The Governor-General in Council has much pleasure in directing the publication of the following letter from the Chief of the General Staff, dated the 18th September, 1915, submitting short accounts of the action at Spina Khaisora in the Tochi Valley, 7th January, 1915, and of the action at Miramshah in the Tochi Valley on the 26th March, 1915. The Governor-General in Council concurs in the opinion expressed by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief regarding the manner in which the operations referred to were carried out by Major-General H. O'Donnell, C.B., D.S.O., and Brigadier-General V. B. Fane, C.B., respectively.

No. 12563-1, dated Simla,  
the 18th September, 1915.

From—The Chief of the General Staff,  
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Army Department.

I am directed to forward for the information of the Government of India short accounts of the action at Spina Khaisora in the Tochi Valley, 7th January, 1915, and of the action at Miramshah in the Tochi Valley on the 26th March, 1915.

In the action at Spina Khaisora, Major-General H. O'Donnell, C.B., D.S.O., was in command of the troops, and in the action at Miramshah, Brigadier-General V. B. Fane, C.B., was in command.

2. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief considers that Major-General O'Donnell and Brigadier-General Fane carried out the respective operations in an able manner.

3. His Excellency recommends that these accounts be published in the Gazette of India.

ACTION AT SPINA KHAISORA IN THE TOCHI VALLEY ON 7TH JANUARY, 1915.

On the 7th January, 1915, operations were carried out by the Bannu Movable Column

and a portion of the North Waziristan Militia with a view to defeating a large Khostwal Lashkar that had crossed into British territory and attacked Spina Khaisora post.

Of the British troops only the North Waziristan Militia were actually engaged with the enemy, but the operations were very successful, the enemy losing some 50 or 60 men killed and being driven in confusion over the frontier.

In his report on the above action Major-General O'Donnell states that great credit is due to the North Waziristan Militia for the dash and spirit they displayed in the action against great odds and after a long march. He brings to notice the undermentioned officers and men in the following terms:—

Names of British Officers and Indian Ranks of the North Waziristan Militia recommended for recognition for conspicuous bravery and good work performed on the 7th January last:—

**Captain E. Jotham (killed).** For conspicuous bravery when, in a desperate situation and practically surrounded at close range and under orders to run for it with his party, he bravely stopped to help a dismounted sowar who had lost his horse and tried to carry him into safety. Both were killed.

Though this gallant officer has been killed I recommend him for the Victoria Cross.

**Major G. B. Scott, Commandant, North Waziristan Militia,** for his sound and bold leading at a critical time against extremely heavy odds. This officer's clear military instinct and perception of the situation saved the day.

**Lieutenant N. H. Prendergast,** after escaping in most marvellous manner from a hopeless situation was given command of the flank attack and carried out his independent command with conspicuous coolness and energy. A fine young officer.

**Jemadar Zalim.**

**No. 262, 1st Grade Dafadar Darim.** After escaping from a practically hopeless situation, he stopped and took up a position by himself halfway to safety to cover the flight of his comrades, his brave act being of great assistance to his comrades.

**No. 268, 1st Grade Dafadar Makhmad Jam (killed),** for conspicuous bravery.

**Jemadar Zarif Khan.**

**No. 5042 Sepoy Tor Khan.**

**No. 5058 Sepoy Amir Khan.**

**No. 4509 Sepoy Zamir Ullah.**

Finally **Subadar Major Tor Khan, Sardar Bahadur, I.O.M.**

This officer has very powerful influence with his corps, and his bravery and energy are a byword with all.

#### ACTION AT MIRAMSHAH IN THE TOCHI VALLEY ON 26TH MARCH, 1915.

On the 26th March, 1915, the Bannu Movable Column, together with a portion of the North Waziristan Militia, the whole under the command of Brigadier-General V. B. Fane,

C.B., moved out from Miramshah and attacked a large Khostwal Lashkar, estimated at 7,000 to 8,000 men, which was threatening that place.

The attack was entirely successful. The enemy's losses were estimated at 200 killed and 300 wounded, and they retreated rapidly across the frontier. Our success was largely due to the skilful manner in which a Column under Major G. B. Scott, Commandant, North Waziristan Militia, by means of a night march gained a position in rear of the enemy by the time the British frontal attack commenced.

In his report on the above action Brigadier-General Fane brings to notice the good work done by Major Scott's column, and especially commends Major G. B. Scott, North Waziristan Militia, and Major J. B. Macfarlan, Royal Artillery, for their services.

He also brings to notice:—

**Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. Baldwin, D.S.O.,** Commanding 25th Cavalry (Frontier Force), thanks to whose good leading and dispositions the right flank was securely protected;

**Major F. R. Patch, Royal Artillery,** Commanding 29th Mountain Battery, the fire of which battery was very effective;

**Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Lewis, 10th Jats,** who commanded the frontal attack with great skill;

**Captain D. C. Crombie, General Staff Officer.**

**Captain A. J. M. Binny, Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General.**

**Major C. Wynter, 52nd Sikhs (Frontier Force).**

**Lieutenant R. C. Eberhardie, 116th Mahrattas; Brigade Signalling Officer.**

**Mr. J. A. O. Fitzpatrick, I.C.S., Political Agent, Tochi,** who assisted with sound advice and good information.

#### 25th Cavalry (Frontier Force).

**Jemadar Sher Ali.**

**No. 3843 Sowar Sunder Singh.**

#### 10th Jats.

**Subadar-Major Nand Ram.**

**No. 2299 Sepoy Pirdhan.**

#### 29th Mountain Battery.

**Subadar Sunder Singh.**

#### 52nd Sikhs (Frontier Force).

**Subadar Karm Khan.**

**Subadar Permodh Singh.**

Brigadier-General Fane also endorses the recommendations of the Officer Commanding North Waziristan Militia, who brings to notice—

#### North Waziristan Militia.

**Captain E. Clementi Smith.**

**Captain N. H. Prendergast.**

**Lieutenant A. E. B. Parsons.**

**Jemadar Pat Khan.**

**Jemadar Mian Din.**

**No. 2203 Drill Naik Sayad Akhmad.**

**No. 4223 Drill Naik Khan Dais.**

**No. 2284 Kot-Lance-Naik Zar Khan.**

**No. 5609 Sepoy Gulbat.**