



SIXTH SUPPLEMENT

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THURSDAY, 27 JULY, 1916.

War Office,
27th July, 1916.

The following despatch from General Sir John Nixon, K.C.B., relative to the operations at Bushire and its vicinity between July and September, 1915, has been forwarded by the Government of India for publication:—

15th January, 1916.

From General Sir John Nixon, K.C.B., A. D. C. General, Commanding Indian Expeditionary Force "D."

To the Chief of the General Staff, Army Headquarters, India.

Sir,

I have the honour to furnish a report on operations conducted at Bushire and in its vicinity between July and September, 1915.

2. On July 12th, 1915, a force of Tangistani tribesmen, at the instigation of enemy agents in Persia, made an unprovoked attack on the British detachment at Bushire.

3. The attack was repulsed, but two British officers (Major E. H. Oliphant, 96th Berar Infantry, and Captain J. G. L. Ranking,

Assistant Political Officer) and one sepoy were killed, and two sepoy wounded.

4. As the Persian Government failed to make reparation for the hostile action of the Tangistanis, His Majesty's Government ordered forcible measures to be taken.

5. It was decided that the port and town of Bushire should be seized and occupied by a naval and military force until the Persian Government complied with our demands.

6. Further, as a punishment to the tribesmen implicated in the incident of July 12th, orders were issued for a naval and military force to attack Dilwar, a fortified village which was the headquarters of the hostile Tangistanis.

7. On August 8th, Bushire was occupied by a British force without opposition.

8. A naval squadron under the command of Captain D. St. A. Wake, R.N., arrived off Dilwar on August 10th, but weather conditions were unfavourable for landing operations until August 13th. On that day a mixed force, composed of troops and a naval landing party, under the command of Major C. E. H. Wintle, successfully disembarked on the beach in the face of opposition by the Tangistanis.

The operation was assisted by the naval guns,