



THIRD SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 5th of DECEMBER, 1916.

Published by Authority.

The Gazette is registered at the General Post Office for transmission by Inland Post as a newspaper. The postage rate to places within the United Kingdom, for each copy, is one halfpenny for the first 6 ozs., and an additional halfpenny for each subsequent 6 ozs. or part thereof. For places abroad the rate is a halfpenny for every 2 ounces, except in the case of Canada, to which the Canadian Magazine Postage rate applies.

WEDNESDAY, 6 DECEMBER, 1916.

War Office,
6th December, 1916.

The Secretary of State for War has received the following despatch from Lieutenant-General G. F. Milne, C.B., D.S.O., Commanding British Salonika Army:—

Headquarters,
British Salonika Army,
8th October, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the operations carried out by the British Salonika Army since I assumed command on 9th May, in accordance with instructions received from the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

2. On that date the greater part of the army was concentrated within the fortified lines of Salonika, extending from Stavros on the east to near the Galiko River on the west; a mixed force, consisting of a mounted brigade and a division, had been pushed forward to the north of Kukus in order to support the French Army which had advanced and was watching the right bank of the Struma River and the northern frontier of Greece. Further moves in this direction were contemplated, but, in order to

keep the army concentrated, I entered into an agreement with General Sarrail by which the British forces should become responsible for that portion of the allied front which covered Salonika from the east and north-east. By this arrangement a definite and independent area was allotted to the army under my command. On the 8th June the troops commenced to occupy advanced positions along the right bank of the River Struma and its tributary the River Butkova from Lake Tahinos to Lozista village. By the end of July, on the demobilisation of the Greek Army, this occupation had extended to the sea at Cajagzi. Along the whole front the construction of a line of resistance was begun; work on trenches, entanglements, bridgeheads and supporting points was commenced; for administrative purposes the reconstruction of the Salonika-Seres road was undertaken, and the cutting of wagon tracks through the mountainous country was pushed forward.

3. On the 20th July, in accordance with the policy laid down in my instructions, and in order to release French troops for employment elsewhere, I began to take over the line south and west of Lake Doiran, and commenced preparations for a joint offensive on this front. This move was completed by 2nd August, and