

cases very long hours on the road, with considerable risks in the matter of interruption from enemy action. While several convoys were ambushed and casualties inflicted on convoy personnel, in no case was a convoy unable to beat off the attack.

During August and September the operations against Naumann placed a very severe strain on the Mechanical Transport based on the central railway, but its use, in many cases over tracks never previously pioneered or used by mechanical transport, was largely instrumental in bringing these operations to a successful conclusion.

Sickness has been rife, and the supply and transport personnel has frequently been at breaking point; but with the exception of one or two short periods the troops have always been in receipt of full rations, while the number on a reduced scale at any one time has been very small in proportion to those engaged. That this result has been attained is due almost entirely to the exertions of the Supply and Transport personnel, whose casualties reflect the strain to which they have been subjected, and whose devotion to duty and cheerful acceptance of the hardships of the campaign merit the highest praise. In this connection I would especially bring to notice the name of Brigadier-General P. Hazelton, C.B., C.M.G., Director of Supplies and Transport.

The Medical Services have had many, and at times almost insuperable, difficulties to contend with. Probably in no previous campaign in the tropics have such numbers been employed, and the peculiar conditions, as explained above, have rendered the evacuation of the large number of sick and wounded which had to be dealt with a most difficult problem. Transport of sick has been carried out by porters, motor ambulances, and mechanical transport, plying on the roughest roads, which necessarily at times involved much discomfort to the sick and wounded. Although the internal lines of communication have been long and difficult, the evacuation of sick has been well and expeditiously carried out from the front to the rail and sea bases, and every effort made to minimise the discomfort that might ensue. The mobility of the force has never been impaired by retention of sick at the front. Apart from the large number of wounded dealt with, the sick rate from disease—namely, malaria and dysentery, has been excessive, and entailed large hospital provision to cope with it.

The Sanitary Services have had a most difficult task to keep in check the spread of severe infectious diseases—*e.g.*, cerebrospinal meningitis and small-pox. These diseases are prevalent in many parts of the country, and liable to be introduced by carriers. Although always present in the force, they have been successfully controlled. The great number of carriers employed necessitated the formation of an elaborate medical organisation to deal with them, involving large hospital establishments. The medical arrangements for carriers has been most carefully considered and well carried out; extensive arrangements for their eventual repatriation have also been made.

An African Native Medical Corps, mainly recruited from Uganda of natives of superior intelligence has been formed, and done excellent work in carrier hospitals and with East African troops.

The climate has been most trying to Europeans and Indian troops, and even the African troops have suffered severely.

The personnel of the Medical Services have suffered equally from climatic effects.

I cannot speak too highly of the enthusiasm and good work done by officers and men of the various Medical Services under the command of Surgeon-General G. D. Hunter, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who have made every effort for the treatment, care and comfort of the sick and wounded, at times under most exceptional and trying conditions.

The ladies of the various Nursing Services have shown the greatest devotion to duty, working at high pressure, regardless of climate and unusual surroundings; they one and all deserve the highest praise.

The Ordnance Services maintained the very high standard of efficiency which has been conspicuous throughout the campaign. The length of time required before orders could be executed from England and elsewhere made the provision of the enormous varieties of stores, equipment and clothing, &c., required by a force comprising so many different types of troops and followers, peculiarly complicated, and it is greatly to the credit of Brigadier-General R. K. Scott, C.M.G., D.S.O., and those serving under him, that every need has been foreseen, and the local resources of the country so fully exploited.

I desire specially to acknowledge the valuable services rendered by Colonel Sir William Johns, Kt., C.B., C.I.E., and all ranks of the railway units and administration. It became evident at an early stage of the operations under review that the only means of maintaining our forces in the field, at a considerable distance from the bases at Kilwa and Lindi, was to establish tramway systems; and the successful manner in which some 115 miles of track was collected and laid, and the requirements of the Army carried forward, without interruption, by petrol-driven tractors and trailers, is worthy of high commendation.

The exceptional conditions prevailing in East Africa have necessitated the employment of carriers to an extent hitherto unprecedented in any military operations. The men have been recruited from British East Africa, German East Africa, N. Rhodesia, and Nyasaland and the West Coast; and a very extensive organisation has had to be evolved to deal with their registration, pay, housing, feeding, medical treatment, and eventual repatriation. The difficulties were accentuated by the different habits of the various tribes, and their great susceptibility to disease, if serving in climates to which they were not accustomed. The conditions under which the men have been employed were necessarily very arduous, and they formed the subject of most careful attention and examination from both within and without the force. The work performed by the carriers has been of the greatest value, and the high state of efficiency attained testifies to the excellent powers of organisation of the Director, Lieutenant-Colonel O. Watkins, D.S.O., and his Staff.

The enormous mortality, due to the many diseases prevalent in Africa, has thrown a very heavy strain on the Remount Department, and the duty of arranging for receiving and forwarding a large number of animals which