



SIXTH SUPPLEMENT  
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TUESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER, 1918.

*India Office,  
Whitehall, S.W. 1.  
26th November, 1918.*

The following despatch from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India on the work of the Army in India and of the Civil Departments of the Government of India and of Civilians in connection with the War has been received from the Government of India:—

No. 17445-1.

ARMY HEADQUARTERS, INDIA.

*Simla, the 20th August, 1918.*

From  
His Excellency General Sir Charles  
Carmichael Monro, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,  
Commander-in-Chief in India.

To  
The Secretary to the Government of India,  
Army Department.

SIR,—

Although the time has not yet arrived for publishing full details regarding the assistance rendered by India towards the prosecution of the war, and though this despatch does not purport to be a complete narrative of India's effort in this respect, I have the honour to sub-

mit, in continuation of my despatches of the 9th March, 1916, and 23rd July, 1917, which dealt with minor operations, a brief account of the work done in India, including the Native States, during the first three years of the war.

2. The declaration of war, on the 4th August, 1914, found the Army in India distributed to meet normal hot weather conditions. The bulk of the British troops were temporarily located in the hills, a large percentage of the Indian troops were on furlough and the usual proportion of civil and military officers were on leave out of India. Immediate steps were taken for the despatch of expeditionary forces overseas. The first convoy sailed for France on the 25th August, 1914, and it was followed at a few days interval by others, conveying troops not only to Europe, but also to East Africa, Egypt and Mesopotamia.

3. In order to meet the urgent demand for trained soldiers which arose during the winter of 1914-15, the British forces in India were further depleted by the despatch to England of a number of Regular units, so that, by the beginning of 1915, the British garrison was largely composed of Territorial troops sent to replace the Regulars withdrawn. Besides providing guns and rifles for the equipping of the New