

of Lieut.-Colonel d'Agostino and his successor Lieut.-Colonel Pesenti.

27. My Chief of the General Staff, Major-General Sir L. J. Bols, is an officer of the highest ability. I owe him a deep debt of gratitude for the consummate skill with which he has handled every problem.

He has been assisted by two general staff officers of great ability, Brigadier-General G. P. Dawnay, and, after General Dawnay's transfer to France, Brigadier-General W. H. Bartholomew. Since the departure of Brigadier-General Bartholomew, Brigadier-General J. A. W. Spencer, and then Brigadier-General A. P. Wavell, as Brigadier-General, General Staff have rendered service of the utmost value.

The intelligence branch has been ably conducted by Lieut.-Colonel W. V. Nugent and Lieut.-Colonel W. H. Deedes; and, subsequently, on reorganisation, by Brigadier-General B. T. Buckley.

The work of the Quartermaster-General's branch has been particularly onerous. Major-General Sir W. Campbell who has been Deputy-Quartermaster-General of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force since its formation, has shown unflinching resource in dealing with all the varying problems which have arisen. My sincere thanks are due to him; also to Brigadier-General E. F. O. Gascoigne and Brigadier-General E. Evans, who have understudied him and at various times have acted for him.

The work of the Adjutant-General's branch has been efficiently conducted by Major-General Sir J. Adye, and by Major-General Sir W. Western, who became my Deputy-Adjutant-General when the breakdown of Sir J. Adye's health necessitated his return to England. I wish also to refer to the good work performed in the Record Office at the Base by Brigadier-General C. P. Scudamore.

My Chief Political Officer, Brigadier-General Sir G. F. Clayton, by his sound judgment, tact and energy, has carried out his difficult task with great success. His French colleague, Monsieur G. Picot, has placed at my disposal his wide experience and local knowledge which have been of much value. Lieut.-Colonel De Méru has also done good work as liaison officer with the French authorities.

The organisation and direction of the artillery of the force has been ably carried out by Major-General Sir S. Smith.

The Engineer Services have had much hard and varied work to perform. This branch has been ably and successfully directed by Major-General H. B. H. Wright.

For the efficiency with which the Signal Service has been developed and maintained. I have to thank my Signal Officer-in-Chief, Brigadier-General Sir M. G. E. Bowman-Manifold.

The construction and organisation of the military railways has been a task of great importance. The knowledge and experience of Brigadier-General Sir G. Macauley, of the Egyptian State Railways, as my Director of Railway Transport, have been invaluable.

The Medical Services have dealt successfully with the difficulties of evacuation over long distances in a country of undeveloped com-

munications; and have combated with excellent results the chief scourge of Syria and Palestine, malaria. I desire to mention the good work of Major-General A. E. C. Keble and Major-General Sir R. H. Luce as Directors of Medical Services at various periods.

The work of the Military Secretary's branch has been ably performed by Lieut.-Colonel Lord Dalmeny; and, since his departure, by Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Andrew.

Of the other directors and heads of departments at General Headquarters, I wish to place on record the services of Brigadier-General G. F. Davies, my Director of Supplies and Transport; Brigadier-General P. A. Bainbridge, my Director of Ordnance Services; Brigadier-General Sir R. W. M. Jackson, my Director of Ordnance Services at the base; Brigadier-General E. M. Paul, my Director of Works; Brigadier-General Sir C. L. Bates, my Director of Remounts; Brigadier-General E. R. C. Butler, my Director of Veterinary Services; Brigadier-General R. C. Jellicoe, my Director of Labour; Colonel Warren, my Director of Army Postal Services; and Colonel Huggett, my Financial Adviser.

The Royal Army Chaplain's Department under the direction of Principal Chaplain, the Reverend A. V. C. Hordern, C.M.G., and after his departure in the spring of 1918, was succeeded by the Reverend E. R. Day, C.M.G., C.B.E., assisted by the chaplains of the different denominations administered to the spiritual necessities of the troops to my entire satisfaction.

Good work on the lines of communication and at the bases has been performed by Brigadier-General E. N. Broadbent, Commander of the Palestine Lines of Communication; Brigadier-General A. H. O. Lloyd, Commander of the Canal Zone; Major-General Sir H. D. Watson, Commanding Force in Egypt; and Brigadier-General R. Boyle, Commanding Alexandria District.

Lieut.-Colonel A. W. W. Simpson, as Inspector of Prisoners of War Camps, has dealt successfully with a difficult task.

28. I have in my previous despatches referred to the fine record of the Royal Air Force in Palestine and Syria. Amongst the many able officers who were responsible for its organization and command, I desire to mention Major-General Sir W. G. H. Salmond, Commanding Royal Air Force Middle East; and Brigadier-General A. E. Borton, who commanded the Palestine Brigade.

29. The difficult task of restoring administration in occupied enemy territory has been facilitated by the energy and ability of the Chief Administrators: Major-General Sir A. Money, Colonel de Piépape and his successor Colonel Copin, Colonel Brémond, and Ali Riza Pasha El Rikabi.

The gratitude of the inhabitants of the liberated territories is due to the various organizations, which undertook the relief of distress amongst that part of the population which the war had left homeless or destitute. I desire to mention particularly the work done by Colonel Finley of the American Red Cross, Doctor Weizmann of the Zionist Commission, and the Bishop of Jerusalem at the head of the Palestine and Syria Relief Fund; and to thank them and all those who worked under them. °