



THIRD SUPPLEMENT

TO

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TUESDAY, 5 JULY, 1921.

War Office,  
5th July, 1921.

The following Despatches on operations and military affairs in Mesopotamia have been received by the Secretary of State for War:—

DESPATCH No. 1 (WITH APPENDIX).

From Major-General Sir George F. MacMunn, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., D.S.O., Commanding in Chief, Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force, covering the period from Nov. 1919 to 17th January 1920, when he vacated the command.

General Headquarters,  
Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force,  
Baghdad,

17th January, 1920.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 12th November, 1919,\* which brought up to date an account of the operations of the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force against the Arabs, Kurds and Persians during 1919, I have now the honour to forward a further report on the operations which have taken place between that date and to-day, before vacating my command in this country, and which operations, I trust, concluded for good yesterday.

\* See London Gazette, No. 31813, 8th March, 1920.

2. The operations which have unexpectedly occurred consisted of:—

(a) Operations in a new direction against the Zibari Kurds resulting from the murder of Mr. J. H. H. Bill, Indian Civil Service, the Political Officer at Mosul, and his Assistant, Captain K. R. Scott, M.C.

(b) Operations against Ramadhan Shalashi on the Upper Euphrates, owing to his forcible seizure of Deir-uz-Zor and his imprisonment of the Civil Officials and the British Detachment there, and his subsequent advance against the British down the Euphrates.

3. The operations referred to in (a) concluded with the restoration of the Civil Power, a vindication of prestige and such punishment against the murderers as was possible.

The operations (b) resulted in the release of our prisoners and the defeat of the force of Arabs who first seized Albu Kemal, whence they were driven out and several days later returned to the attack of the town.

At the time of writing it would appear that this incident is closed, though on the Kurdish border there are still indications that Turkish intrigue is urging the Kurdish tribes east of Mosul to give trouble.

4. After the conclusion of the operations under Major-General R. A. Cassels, C.B., D.S.O., in October, against the tribes north