

since 1902, when full submission was exacted. The situation had remained normal until the outbreak of the 3rd Afghan War in 1919, when our retirements from the TOCHI and WANA produced serious consequences, over 100 raids and offences being registered against the MAHSUDS during this period. In consequence it was necessary to undertake Military operations against all the MAHSUD tribes. These operations with varying intensity lasted throughout 1919, 1922 and the beginning of 1923 and resulted in a settlement with the majority of the tribes. No complete settlement, however, was effected with the ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL.

2. The ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL, therefore, was the chief section against whom the Royal Air Force operations were directed. They are a section of the NANA KHEL BAHLOLZAI and contain many hostile elements who are naturally not included in the list of recipients of allowances and Khassadars. Many of these hostiles, together with a number of "hamsayas," or dependents, of the ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL, own lands in AFGHANISTAN, to which they migrate in the summer. On December 27th a full BAHLOLZAI jirga was held at TANK for obtaining reparation for offences committed and for the exaction of promises to prevent further offences. Following this jirga, a deputation of hostile ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL was interviewed on January 16th. The deputation demanded an amnesty for past offences, an increase of allowances to the tribe from Rs. 3,000-6,000 and their own admission to their tribal share. These demands were both dismissed. From now onwards the ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL hostiles abetted by the GURI KHEL, MARESAI and FARIDAI sections of the MANZAI MAHSUDS committed further offences:—

(a) On the night January 24th-25th four Hindus were kidnapped from MANZAI, followed on the night of February 1st-2nd by two more from the coolie camp at SPLI TOI.

(b) On the night February 20th-21st, GOMAL POST was raided by a gang containing members of the hostile sections already mentioned. 27 S. M. L. E. rifles belonging to the police were stolen and taken to the SPLI TOI.

3. On December 16th, 1924, the Resident, WAZIRISTAN, asked the Government of India to sanction the employment of air action against the recalcitrant sections. By the end of this month it appeared probable that operations would be necessary; a plan was therefore drawn up by No. 1 Wing, and the force to be employed was decided on. Jirgas from the friendly sections of the tribes concerned were seen, but despite demonstrations carried out by Royal Air Force units on November 30th, 1924, February 7th and 24th, 1925, outrages continued, and the hostile factions still tried to obtain impossible demands.

4. *Terms to Tribes.*—On February 1st the Resident applied for permission to warn the GURI KHELs that, unless terms to be stated were complied with, air action would be taken to enforce them. This request was granted, and following two further outrages, the Government sanctioned, on February 25th, the issue of a final warning to all the sections

implicated. The terms given below were issued on March 5th: a warning was also issued that long delay action bombs would be used, and the tribes were advised to remove the women and children from the danger zone should operations be begun.

5. *Terms for ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL.*—The complete jirga of ABDUR RAHMAN KHELs, friendlies and hostiles, including the JALAL KHELs and others who live with the ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL was to come in at JANDOLA by 12 noon on Saturday, March 7th, bringing the two Hindus who had been captured. In case of non-compliance, punitive measures would be adopted after sun-rise on Monday, March 9th.

6. *Terms for GURI KHEL.*—GURI KHELs were required to comply with the terms already announced to them, *vis.*:—

*FOR KARIM KHEL.*

1,600 rupees.

2 Government rifles.

Return of three bullocks and seven camels.

Deposit of 8 country rifles as security.

*FOR BILAND KHEL.*

3 Government rifles.

Deposit of 4 country rifles as security.

Compliance was demanded by 12 noon on Saturday, March 7th. In case of non-compliance, punitive measures would be adopted after sunrise on Monday, March 9th.

7. *Terms for FARIDAI.*—The complete jirga of FARIDAI'S was ordered to come in by 12 noon on Saturday, March 7th, at JANDOLA. In case of non-compliance, punitive measures would be adopted after sun-rise on Monday, March 9th.

8. *Terms for MARESAI.*—The complete jirga of MARESAI'S was ordered to come in by 12 noon on Saturday, March 7th, at JANDOLA. In case of non-compliance, punitive measures would be adopted after sun-rise on Monday, March 9th.

9. *Decision to begin operations.*—As no reply was received from the ABDUR RAHMAN KHEL, and the FARIDAI, MARESAI and GURI KHEL merely attempted to bargain, it was decided on Sunday, March 8th, to begin air action against all the sections concerned at dawn on Monday, March 9th.

10. *Preparations.*—On February 12th, judging that hostilities were now inevitable, Headquarters, Royal Air Force, approved a plan of operations, allotted the force to be employed, appointed Wing Commander R. C. M. Pink, C.B.E., to command, and authorised certain preparations to be made, such as the forwarding of supplies and bombs to the operating stations at MIRAMSHAH and TANK. These arrangements were made by Headquarters, Waziristan District, in consultation with the Royal Air Force, and a method of supply settled.

11. Explosives were forwarded from the Ordnance Depot, RAWALPINDI; petrol, oil and other supplies came from the Depots at PESHAWAR, KOHAT, RAWALPINDI and LAHORE. All supplies for both MIRAMSHAH and TANK were delivered at MARI.