



SECOND SUPPLEMENT

TO

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REPORT ON OPERATIONS IN WAZIRISTAN, 16TH JANUARY, 1937 TO 15TH SEPTEMBER, 1937.

(SECOND PHASE.)

I. THE SITUATION AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST PHASE.

1. During the latter half of January, after a settlement had been concluded with the Tori Khel Wazirs, conditions in Waziristan were gradually returning to normal. On the 1st of February, political control in the North and South Waziristan Agencies and in tribal areas of the Bannu District which, since December 1936 had been vested in the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, reverted to His Excellency the Governor, North-West Frontier Province. Reinforcements which had been sent to Waziristan from other districts were withdrawn, and by the 5th of February apart from the normal garrisons the Bannu Brigade only remained in the theatre of operations.

II. PERIOD OF INCREASING UNREST—1ST OF FEBRUARY TO THE 22ND OF APRIL.

2. Encouraged by the withdrawal of troops, the Faqir of Ipi renewed his hostile propaganda, receiving active assistance from recalcitrant and irresponsible elements throughout Waziristan. The Tori Khel section of the

Wazir tribe failed to carry out the terms of their settlement and expel the Faqir of Ipi from Arsal Kot in the Shaktu valley where he had made his headquarters. Hostile lashkars and gangs began to collect in the area south of the Tochi valley. On the 6th of February an officer of the South Waziristan Scouts was murdered in Mahsud country, and the next day the Assistant Political Agent, North Waziristan, was murdered by Madda Khel tribesmen in the Tochi valley. These events caused an increase in tribal unrest, and a series of further outrages took place. There were numerous raids into administered and protected areas, British subjects being kidnapped and life and property destroyed, and tribesmen in increasing numbers arrived from all quarters to join the Faqir. In these circumstances it was decided to reinforce Waziristan District, and the 1st (Abbottabad) Infantry Brigade (Brigadier R. D. Inskip, D.S.O., M.C.) was concentrated at Mir Ali on the 1st of March. On the same day the Bannu Brigade (Brigadier F. H. Maynard, C.B., M.C.) moved to Miranshah.

3. Meanwhile political pressure was brought to bear on the various tribes to induce them to carry out their responsibilities, and these efforts were reinforced by air action on a limited scale.

Tribal jirgas (representative assemblies) of the Mahsuds and Madda Khel were interviewed and orders of Government announced in connection with the murders of the two officers.