

EAST AFR. PROT

C O
29545Rec.
Recd 26 JUN 15

29545

Rev.
Belgian

Vol

1915

25 June

Last previous Page

See
20015

Belgian operations

" as to unstarved mules
from India are not required "

... On 24th

Large supply discussed the proposal
to set mules for India in the
letter of May 19th (23400) - Supply
from India is to be deferred to
until the end of the year
arrangements have been made.

Message in reply June 23/15

" June 26 you reply that 25 June
mules for India will not be
required. The arrangements
during the week. Brown has

Last subsequent Page

20
29545

20015

6/26/15

26/6/15 done

be alright
large supply from India

7.

the experiment is being tried of moving some of the
mules to a place 10 miles out.

18th June. Nothing to report, all quiet.



6.

Some German pamphlets inciting our Mohammedans to disloyalty were found inside the defences at Maktau Post.

In the Magadi district an abortive attack was made on the bridge guard at mile 35. Our casualty was 1 Sepoy hit on the left hand.

In the Eastern Lake Area hostile patrols have been murdering natives at Utendi and Mwachhi.

The enemy are reported to have expected an attack on Bukoba on June 5th, this may account for the general movement Eastward reported about that time. There is a persistent rumour among our own people that Bukoba is to be the objective of our projected Lake Expedition, this is entirely due to leakage of information from a general want of appreciation of the necessity for secrecy.

10th June

A telegram was received from the G.O.C. Mombasa area to the effect that there were indications of hostilities on a large scale being directed against Msimba. Arrangements were at once made to send reinforcements to that area.

The Isavo valley and the Ziwani swamps are regularly patrolled by the Germans from Rumbe.

There are indications that the supply of rifles in U.E.A. is becoming exhausted, and there is also a certain shortage of ammunition.

All is reported quiet from Uganda to the sea.

11th June

Maktau front has been reported clear of the enemy as far as Mwachhi Ridge.

There is much news in Nairobi, and

the

enemy West of Mbuguni ridge early on the 6th. The enemy retired with a known loss of 5 wounded. Our losses were 1 white and 1 native killed, and 2 whites and 5 natives wounded.

In a patrol encounter in the Eastern Lake Area we lost 1 British and 1 Nepoy killed, 2 British wounded.

The enemy continues active patrolling in Uganda and Kagera, and a general movement towards our frontier is noticeable in these areas.

A skirmish is reported from Nyasaland in which the Belgians lost 1 Sub-Officer and 2 askaris killed and 10 wounded.

The enemy retired, with a reported loss of 2 Europeans killed.

There are indications of a Mohammedan political movement engineered from Europe being in existence in the vicinity of Springbaven.

21st June. A Political Officer, to accompany the Lake Expedition, has been asked for from Uganda.

A raid on the railway working parties at Maktau is reported from that place. The raiders were easily beaten off, one being captured and 4 wounded.

21st June. It is rumored from the Wet area that the enemy have strong forces at Mbuguni and at a place some 15 to 20 miles West of Maima.

There is a very considerable amount of sickness among the Loyal North Indians; it almost amounts to 50 per cent.

Big game is reported to be at low-water-mark.

4.

opportunity rifle among the Europeans

No railway had been commenced between Hoshi and Taveta as of the 15th May

The Belgians are reported to have retired from Kibengele to Kambili

It is reported from Brassland that the German steamer "Wissman" has been destroyed

11th June

A patrol encounter is reported from the Eastern Lake area. We lost 1 white and 1 native killed 3 natives wounded

The T. - Eastern Railway has not passed Taveta. All earthwork has been completed to 2 miles beyond Kambili

The force for operations on the Lake would consist of

1 section Mountain Artillery
12 Machine Guns
2000 White Troops
400 Native Troops

with the necessary details

12th June

The possibility of having to send reinforcements to the Mombasa area from the Nairobi area have been fully discussed and arrangements made to act if required.

The Naval Commander-in-Chief has asked for an interview with the G.O.C. of his representative at an early date. The subject of the conference is to be possible co-operation against the "Kunigberg".

Ichil was found to be intercepted when visited by the Mobile Column from Malindi, Trowood and Karahi similarly as. Part of the Mobile Column engaged the enemy

3.

4th June

A telegram from Lord Kitchener gives sanction to the proposed operations on the Lake.

Orders were sent to move the bulk of the troops under Lieut.-Col. Hickson back to Luneta, and the K.A.R., except three companies left to garrison Kapungo, back to Na. Irabi.

15th June

A suggestion was made by the War Office that the Belgian guns now at Kampala should go to the Congo via Kharara. This is however impossible owing to a severe outbreak of smallpox in Uganda.

The Mahlon Movable Column had a successful encounter with the enemy to-day near Kharara. Our casualties were 8, full details are not yet to hand.

The Germans claim to have annexed all territory South of the Equatorial River.

According to native reports, the forces on the Ugandan Railway are 120 whites and 1,000 natives.

The enemy are now supposed to be basing their raiding parties on Idialal, but their operations have not lately been very successful. The latest reports regarding the strength of the enemy in the Kiltanjar district is given as:-

	Whites	Natives	Arms
Kapungo	100	200	2

In the neighbourhood of Taraka	100	500	8
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Langide is occupied by the Germans but patrolled.

There are altogether in K.A.R. 24 white companies, in each of which there are 10-12 whites.

Food is reported to be poor and scarce, and

depository

caused in Russia owing to the Germans forcing local levies to enlist.

The local crops on the Coast have reduced the price of foodstuffs in U.S.A.

3rd Point

An unsuccessful attempt was made to blow up an engine at 2 a.m. this morning. The engine and permanent way were slightly damaged. Normal traffic was resumed at 4 p.m.

There was an interruption on the main civil and railway telegraph wires from 7 a.m. this morning. Normally this would be the prelude to a raid on the line, but so far this has not occurred.

There is a report to the effect that Idrial has been occupied by the enemy in force.

At Usteta there are known to be 600 rifles and 4 machine guns.

No talks have as yet been laid on the Kestil-Usteta line.

Information points to the strengthening of the Elan line.

Our mounted troops failed to come up with the hostile party reported to be near Kestil yesterday. The local Mount have been turned out to follow up.

The hostile forces North of the Kara are estimated at 150 rifles, 500 sabres, 3 machine guns, and some guns. There is no indication of an immediate hostile advance.

An unconfirmed report states that the Belgians have engaged the enemy near some ice Lake Elval and have destroyed Kivovogla.

No. 215-0/125.

Command Headquarters, F.R.A. & U.,
Sairiki, 18th June 1915.

41

From
The General Officer Commanding Troops,
British East Africa and Uganda.

To
The Private Secretary to E.R. the Governor
and Commander-in-Chief,
British East Africa.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a Resume
of my War Diary, from the 1st to the 18th June 1915
inclusive, for the information of His Excellency and
the Colonial Office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) E. DE C. O'BRIEN, Major,
for Major General.

Commanding Troops, F.R.A. & U.

Copy Forwarded for information to:-

- The Chief Secretary to Government, Uganda.
- E.R. the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Cape of Good Hope.
- The Senior Special Officer, Victoria Cross.

such training in field exercises and marches before they can be considered fit for active service.

Reports from the frontier on all sides show 'all quiet.'

Increased precautions have been taken to prevent natives living in proximity to the railway line from assisting the enemy.

In the Eastern Lake Area the enemy's main force has withdrawn to Ruwaa. One hostile company is established between Sherati and Dukoto.

Many levies are believed to have recently been enlisted by the enemy, both on the Nile and on the Southern border of Uganda. This is probably being done to give an exaggerated idea of the strength of the military forces available in these parts.

The hostile concentration at Kanjama, in Uganda, is reported to have broken up.

Reliable information has been received that all Italian subjects in German East Africa have been interned.

The latest estimate of the enemy's strength is as under:-

- 2,111 Whites
- 4,500 Native regulars
- 4,100 Native levies
- 25 guns (of various calibres)
- 22 machine guns

Of these the following are at or within relieving distance of Ruwaa:-

- 1,000 Whites
- 2,000 Native regulars
- 2,000 Levies
- 15 guns
- 20 machine guns

2.

going from it at Saranga and Shirahi Ali.

A report has been received from the lake to the effect that the 'Sphal' will require about 25,000 to get her into a state of repair.

The local Wafatis in the neighbourhood of the Ogula Hills have been interviewed with a view to their giving greater assistance in the matter of giving information of hostile raids on the railway line. They have promised compliance.

The Wafatis have been again mentioned on the same subject.

The German raiding party in the vicinity of Nagadi Lake are reported to have retired.

In the Mastari Lake area the enemy has concentrated all items with 1 gun and 3 machine guns, but there is no material change in the situation.

Yuzakand reports that the enemy made an attack on a British patrol, inflicting 4 European casualties, but he was driven off.

Clips have now been taken in German Post Office to intercept all suspected persons.

30th Mar.

A telegram No. 200-2 sent to War Office giving a précis of present distribution of troops and a nominal roll of officers Headquarters Staffs, Services, and Departments.

31st Mar.

Detailed statements, of which yesterday's telegram was a précis, sent by Major Macmillan, 29th Punjab, who left for England to-day.

The S.O.C. inspected the detachment of the 25th Royal Fusiliers now at Suddhi; they will require

much

2.

been landed at Nombasa.

A quantity of seditious literature has been seized at Nombasa and arrests made.

The bulk of the enemy's troops in the Wilimajara district are now at Taveta.

Trains are still running on the Usumbara Railway and it is confirmed that a railway embankment has been made from Woghi to Taveta.

The Germans are expected to make their main stand as far forward as the Inani River.

Rice is reported to be plentiful at Taveta.

In the Magadi district a small mounted hostile patrol of white men has raided the Maasi. In the Eastern Lake Area the enemy are reported to have advanced towards the Nyasaka line but suddenly retired. It is practically certain that the 'Womana' is now in Womana Bay.

28th Nov.

The S.O.C. inspected Val. There is much sickness amongst the Rhodesians, a certain amount of which is due to their own carelessness in neglecting to take ordinary precautions.

The War Office have approved of the appointment of Colonel Kitchener as Inspector of Railway Defences. He is graded as an A.C.B.C.

1000 lbs. was supplied with all details for water piping.

3 complete Vind's African Rifles have arrived at Kilifi on a temporary measure.

29th Nov.

More sickness has appeared at Suburu (which was supposed to be immune from it). Males are

23rd May 1918. The Germans are displaying considerable activity on the Karungu border.

Machine Gun detachments are now all fit for service.

24th May. S.O.C. and G.S.C. (1) left for Bushasa

During the recent fighting at Kalam on the 18th the body of one of our white men was mutilated.

At Kibuyuni on the 22nd one of our patrols surprised a hostile patrol, which fled.

Continued and somewhat contradictory reports of hostile movements in the region of the Mark River continue to be received.

The strength of the enemy in the area does not exceed 150 Europeans, 1,100 natives (of whom the majority are recruits and levies), 1 small gun, and 5 machine guns.

He is probably based on Ikoma.

Small movable columns have been organized in Uganda at Ngaraba, Chitanda Hill, and Karuma.

The East African Expedition is expected to return to Nairobi about the end of June.

25th May. Nothing to report.

26th May. R.N.S. Outram is now back on the coast; also the 'Inessa,' a 'parrot' ship for sea- and air-pieces. There are also R.N.S. Hymatith, Vapuroth, Fyama, and 4 whalers.

27th May. The Voi-Bushaka railroad is now under way, at 20 miles. Nearly 1,000 tons of railway material has been

Command Headquarters, F. M. A. S. V.,

Nairobi, 4th June 1916.

From
The General Officer Commanding Troops,
British East Africa and Uganda.

To
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
British East Africa.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a Record
of my War Diary, from the 23rd to the 21st May 1916
inclusive, for the information of His Excellency and
the Colonial Office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. DE C. O'NEILL, Major,

for Major General,

Commanding Troops, F. M. A. S. V.

Copy forwarded for information to :-

- The Chief Secretary to Government, Uganda.
- F. M. the Special Commissioner-in-Chief, O.S.O. of East Africa.
- The Senior Postal Officer, Victoria Nyaga.

21st Mar.

The 20th Royal Fusiliers appear to be a useful body of men drawn from all sorts and conditions of life.

Further details have been received of the fighting near Malim on 18th instant; enemy numbered 500-600, our Column 250. We lost 5 Europeans killed, 1 wounded, and 2 Indian rank and file wounded. Enemy lost 15 killed, and retired. One of our whites was mutilated after death.

Railhead Vel-Sabton was at mile 149 on 18th instant.

The Kampur Infantry from Gual arrived at Kajlado yesterday, being replaced on the Coast by the Bharatpore.

22nd Mar.

War Office disapproves of supply of rifles and ammunition to the Belgian Congo.

Colonel Smallwood, Director of Ordnance Services, is seriously ill with dysentery.

The 'Hybil' has been safely landed to Nigama.

The strength of the enemy north of the Mura River is now estimated at - 150 whites, 500 natives, 1 gun, 3 machine guns.

Our forces are concentrated on the Synoche line.

Nothing of importance to report from any portion of the frontier of Newland.

4.

In consultation with His Excellency the Governor, the following matters were settled:-

- (a) Close of drinking bars in Nairobi at 10 p.m.
- (b) Arrangements for more complete assistance to be given by the Wa-hamba in the matter of co-operation in preventing German raids on the railway line
- (c) British East Africa intend taking over whole Turkhana country, and in consequence it was decided that 150 men of the Police battalion should be left at Marich permanently

20th May.

G.O.C. and Staff left for Kajado to inspect the 25th Royal Fusiliers

Telegram No. 297-5 sent to War Office suggesting postponement of Bukuru Expedition but emphasizing importance of its ultimately taking place

In the Eastern Lake area the enemy is reported to be apprehensive of an attack on Wanda Ifuu Karungu.

In Uganda a small post at Elakilo was burnt by the enemy after having been besieged by us. Hostile movements in the area appear to indicate an attack on Ruahenyi.

Arrangements have been made by which Somalis in future not be allowed to leave Jubaland except under supervision of the authorities; regulations regarding their immigration from Aden, Djibouti, and Berbera will be more strictly enforced. As few Somalis as possible will be allowed into the Naivasha area.

1.

Hordenfalte, and 21 machine guns.

On Tanganyika, along its Western shores, 2,000 rifles, 16 field guns, and 12 machine guns.

In Katanga area, 2,000 rifles, 10 guns, and 12 machine guns.

On the Lake Tanganyika the Germans have one steamer believed damaged, 2 tugs, and many shore. The Belgian steamer 'Alexandre des Communes' is repaired and armed, and there are also available 2 small tugs and 2 launches all armed with machine guns.

Wireless stations are now working at Mafurugo and Ushulu.

Wireless between Uganda and Windhoek ceased on 14th inst.

18th May

The Germans are reported to have lost 2 Europeans and 4 askaris killed in the fighting near Uasin on the 7th.

In the Eastern Lake area the enemy is steadily pushing patrols North of the Mara River; a conflict may be expected here in the near future.

The 'Nybil' has been raised and taken to Iringa Island.

The enemy continue to be active in Uganda but a large proportion of their available forces are reported to be dispersed.

19th May

500 of the Royal Fusiliers have arrived in Nairobi to be instructed in bushetry.

Another unsuccessful attempt on the fallow at mile 218 is reported.

2.

rifles and 400,000 rounds of ammunition. The matter will be referred to the War Office.

A report has been received that the 'Cybil' (one of the Lake steamers) has been raised and is being taken to Kigumi for dry-docking and repairs.

The Simba Column breaks up to-day, only the King's African Rifles Mounted Infantry remaining with Captain Cole's Scouts at Katetema.

It has been decided to trust the Dutch more fully, and a small party of Mounted Infantry are being sent for use at Naktau.

The Uganda Railway was once more unsuccessfully threatened at mile 218. Steps are being taken for a yet closer watch on the Chyulu Range in co-operation with the Wa-kamba.

In the Magadi district there is a small hostile force at the South end of Lake Natron.

In the Eastern Lake area natives report Hart-hausen's force to consist of 1,500 rifles, 1 gun, and 5 machine guns. Of these the greatest estimate gives 500 as white, but it is considered that 100 whites may be taken as a maximum. The object of the force is probably to regain possession of the area up to the border, and not invasion.

All is quiet in Uganda.

The following reliable information regarding the Belgian forces has been received :-

State Inspector Yembur at Elizabethville has been appointed to the command of the Kivu and Katanga districts.

In the Kivu district, 6,000 rifles, 8 guns, 2

Nordenfelta.

15th May 1915.

Colonel Kitchener has been appointed Inspector of Railway Defences.

Further additional measures have been taken for the defence of the railway, more particularly in regard to the close defence of the more important bridges.

In the fighting of the Maima Column referred to on May 15th the casualties were not so slight as were at first supposed; we lost 6 whites.

India having no objection to transfer of rifles from one unit to another, the short rifles of the 51st Pioneers and Gwalior Imperial Service Troops are to be exchanged for long rifles. The former will go to re-arm the 25th Royal Fusiliers.

The training of the Royal Fusiliers leaves much to be desired; half of them have never fired a rifle. Their training in field duties is receiving attention.

Telegram No. 4662 from War Office declines to supply howitzers asked for in view of the fact that offensive in the near future against Taveta is not contemplated.

War Office No. 4663 emphasizes the necessity for confining action to the offensive defensive and defence of our own border.

17th May

Telegram No. 415-W. sent to War Office representing possible military danger of opening wireless installation at Mombasa to the public, and deprecating the action. Reference to War Office was made at the suggestion of His Excellency the Governor.

The Belgian Congo authorities appeal for 300 rifles

(COPY).
SECRET.
No. 215-0/110

Command Headquarters, E. E. A. and U.,
Nairobi, 20th May 1915.

From
The General Officer Commanding Troops,
British East Africa and Uganda.

To
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
British East Africa.

Sir,

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Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. DE C. O'BRIEN, Major,
for Major General,
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