

“IT’S WAR, DON’T COMPLAIN!” ENQUIRIES INTO AFRICAN MEDICAL SERVICES DURING WORLD WAR I

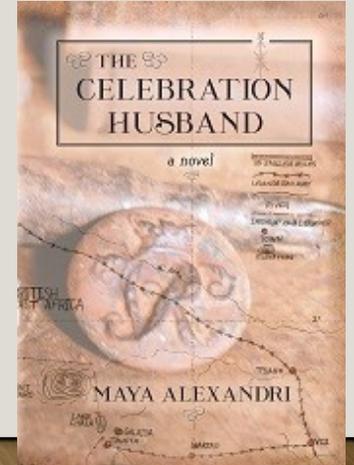
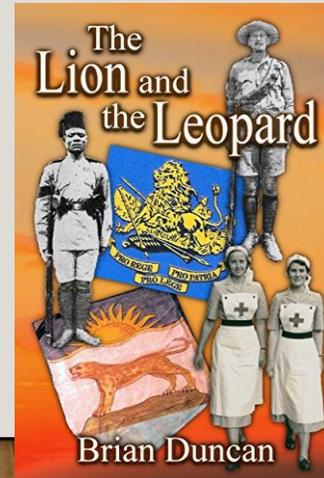
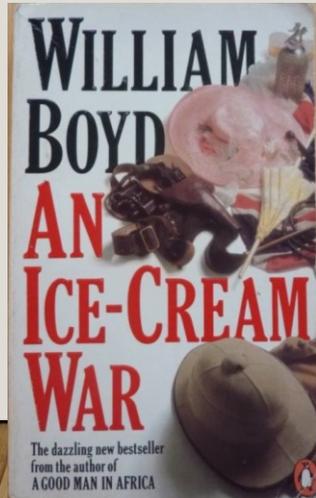
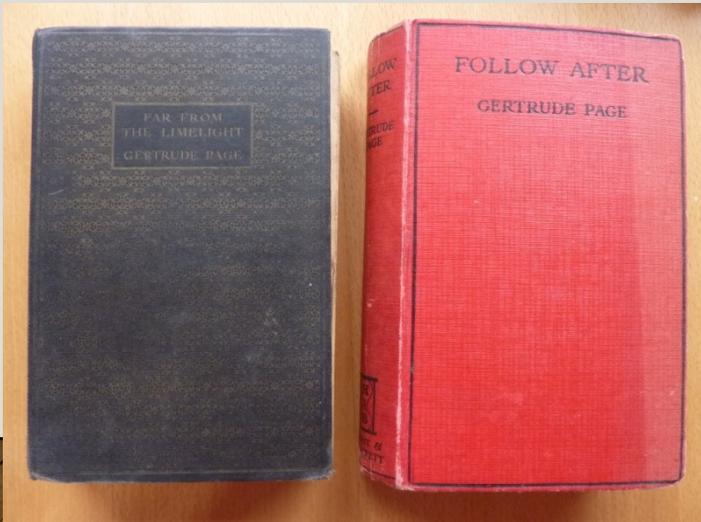
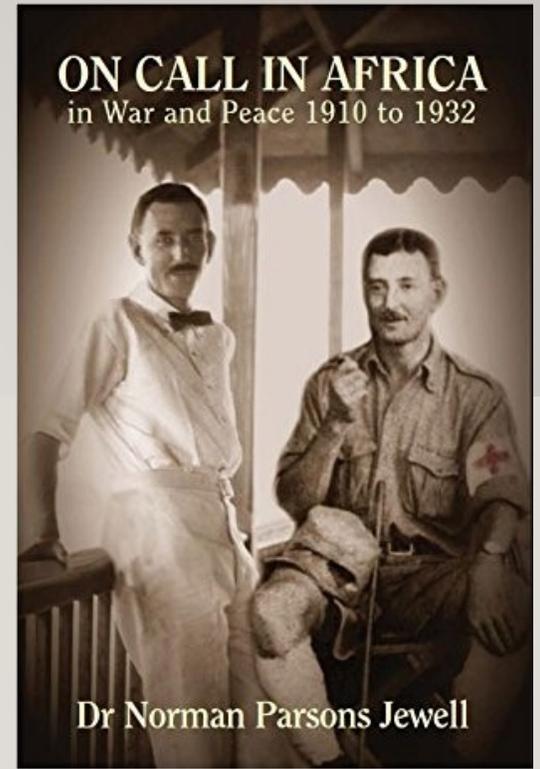
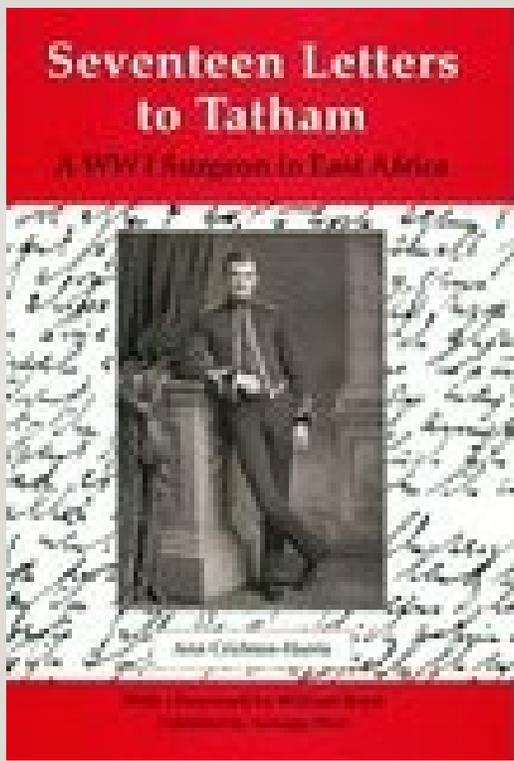
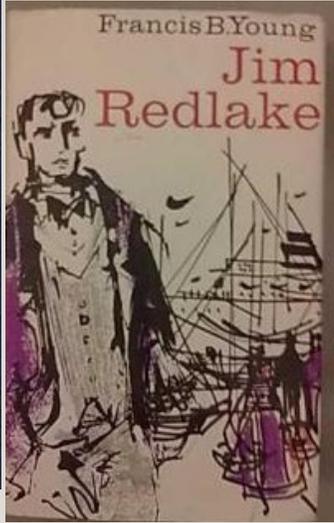
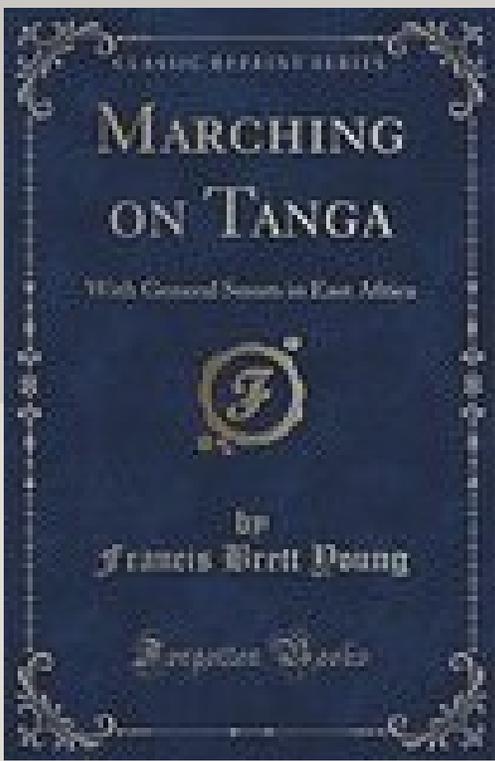
DR ANNE SAMSON, 24 MARCH 2018

Feeding Carriers



The Great War in Africa Association





Background

Kirkpatrick Complaint

Conditions German East Africa Feb-Oct 1916

Enquiry Jan-March 1917

Pike Report: 2 parts

(avail: <http://gweaa.com/home/medical-project/medical-archive/>)

German East Africa (Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi)

Report dated 18 January 1918 covering 6 December 1917

War zone

British East Africa (Kenya and Uganda)

Report dated 18 January 1918 covering 6 December 1917

Not a war zone; comments on health of Nairobi and Mombasa towns

Duke Court of Enquiry

General Officer Commanding, EAF

Bombo, 1918

Berkeley-Hill Enquiry

Invalided to UK, March 1917

Dar es Salaam, August-September 1918

Colonel Hedley John Kirkpatrick, Commander of 9SAI in 2nd Division (Gen van Deventer)
Enquiry Jan-March 1917 (General Reginald Hoskins, CiC)

Surgeon General William Pike, Army Medical Services, and Lt Col Andrew Balfour, Royal Army Medical Corps

- 11 July 1917 receive order to investigate medical conditions in East Africa
- 21 July 1917 sailed from England
- 24 August 1917 arrived at Dar-es-Salaam, German East Africa for tour of war zone
- 6 December 1917 arrived Mombasa, British East Africa for tour of non-war zone
- 20 January 1918 complete report into British East Africa

Captain HL Duke, Uganda Medical Service (bacteriologist)

- 10 December 1917, assumes command of Bombo Hospital and outlying areas
- 17 December 1917 Pike hospital inspection, immediate arrest and release
- 21 March 1918, Court of Enquiry, Brig-Gen HL Llewellyn, Commandant KAR
- 31 October 1918, CO/WO 'close' file
- April 1919, OBE award

Captain OAR Berkeley-Hill, Indian Medical Service (psychoanalyst)

- 7 January 1918, letter to WO
- 3 July 1918, Hill fit enough to travel to EA for Court of Enquiry
- 11 October 1919 WO enquiry verdict sent to IO

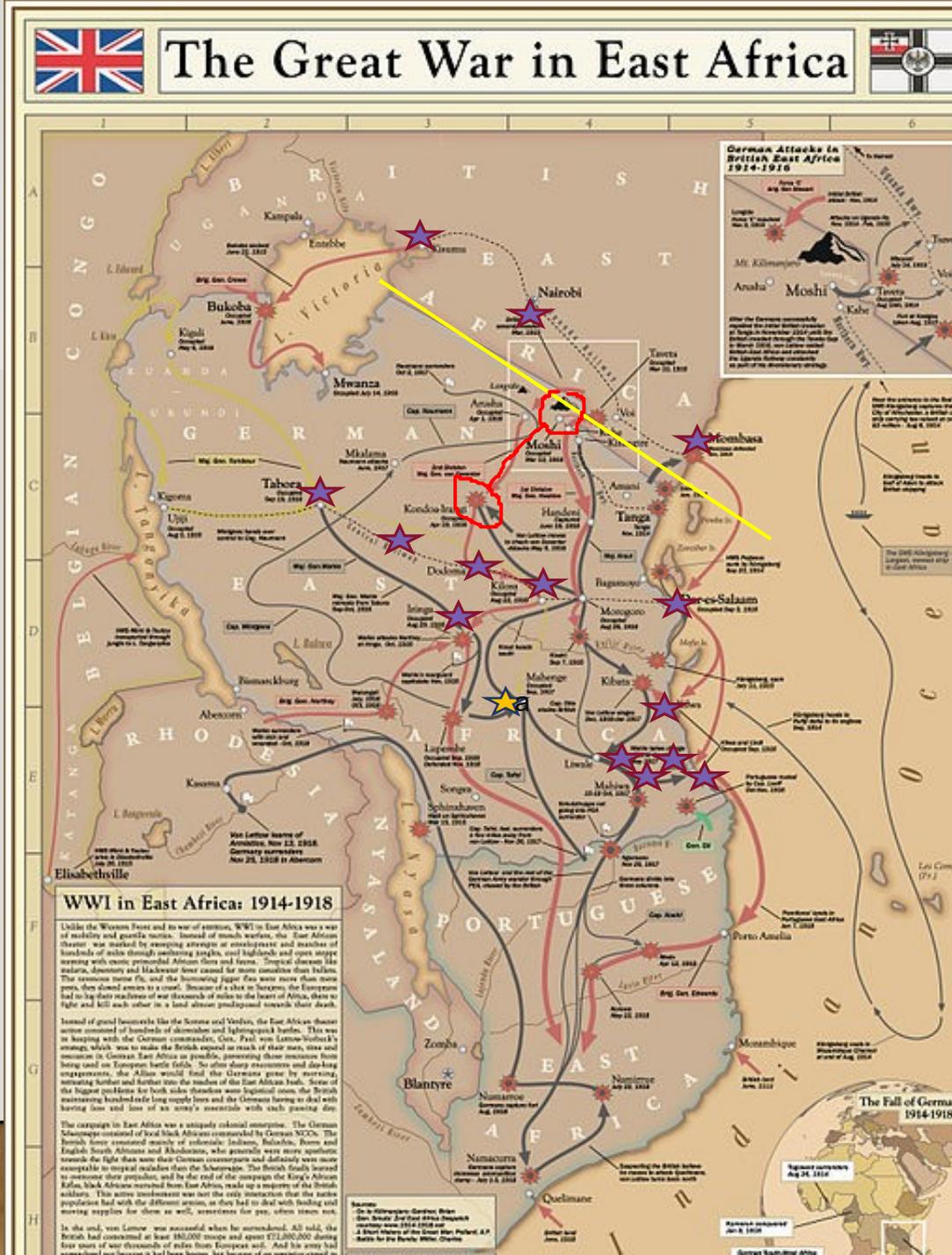
Where Pike visited 
Border 

German East Africa (24 August – 5 December 1917)

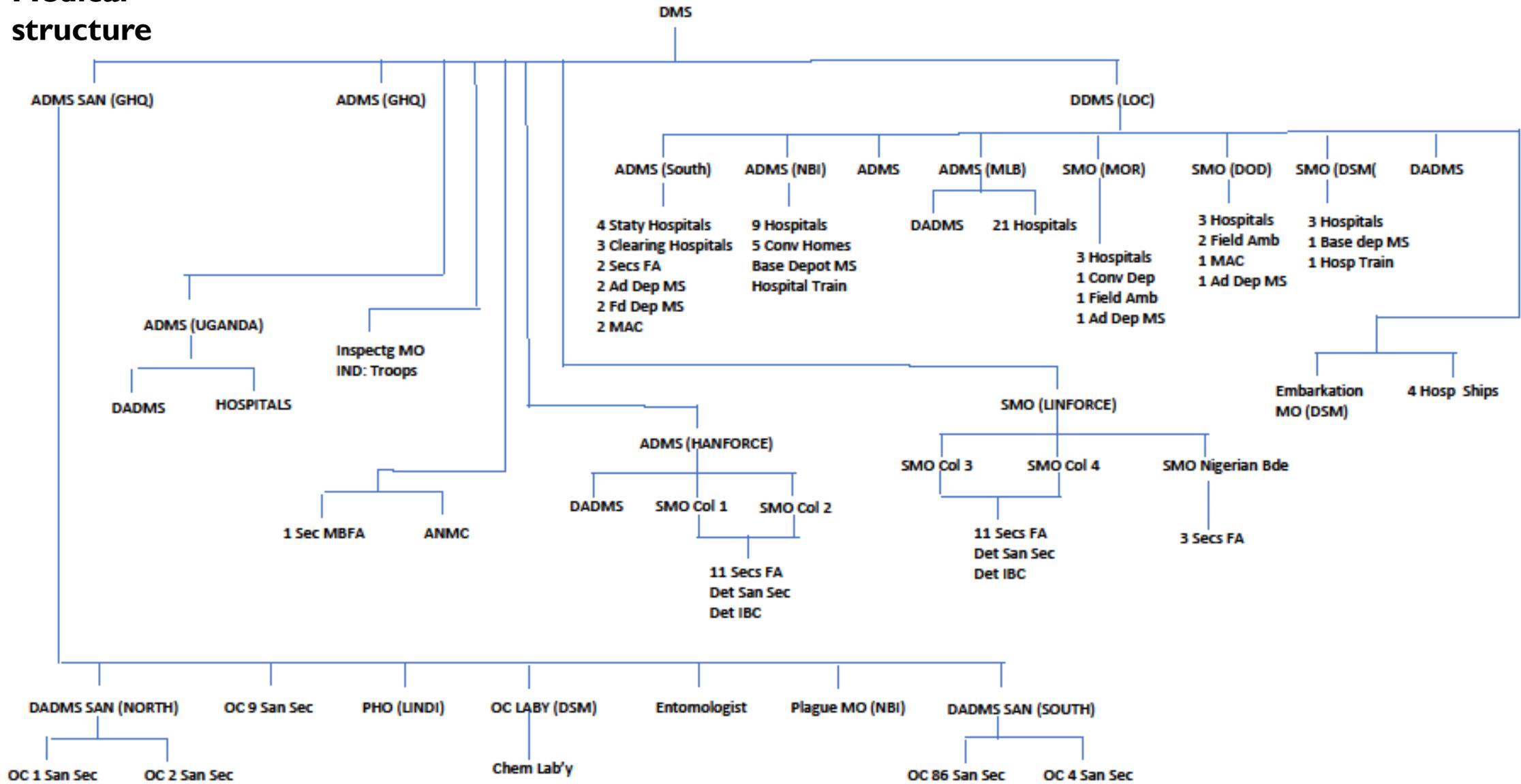
Tanga, Dar-es-Salaam, Kilwa Kisiwani, Kilwa Kivinji, Lindi, Quarantine Island, Kurasini, Tabora, Itigi, Dodoma, Iringa, Termagwe, Kilossa, Ruaha, Mfrisi, Morogoro, Rufiji, Mikesse, Mpangas, Summit, Zanzibar, Mpara, Mingoyo, Chirimake, N'jangao, Mtama, Mahiwa, Mtandawala, Mnero, Nanganachi, Simbasi,

British East Africa (6 December 1917 – 18 Jan 1918)

Mombasa, Nairobi, Kisumu, Lake Victoria, Entebbe, Bombo, Kampala, Jinja, Kericho, Nakuru, Naivasha, Tanga, Voi



Medical structure



Two mobile laboratories and an Entomologist are on route

NBI = Nairobi

MLB = Military Labour Bureau

MOR = Morogoro

DOD = Dodoma DSM = Dar-es-Salaam

PHO = Port Health Officer

IBC = Indian Bearer Company

Sanitation

Markets

The MacKinnon Market – meat, European
The Piggott Market - fruit and vegetables, Locals
Fish Market is situated on the cliff
Fish-drying shed

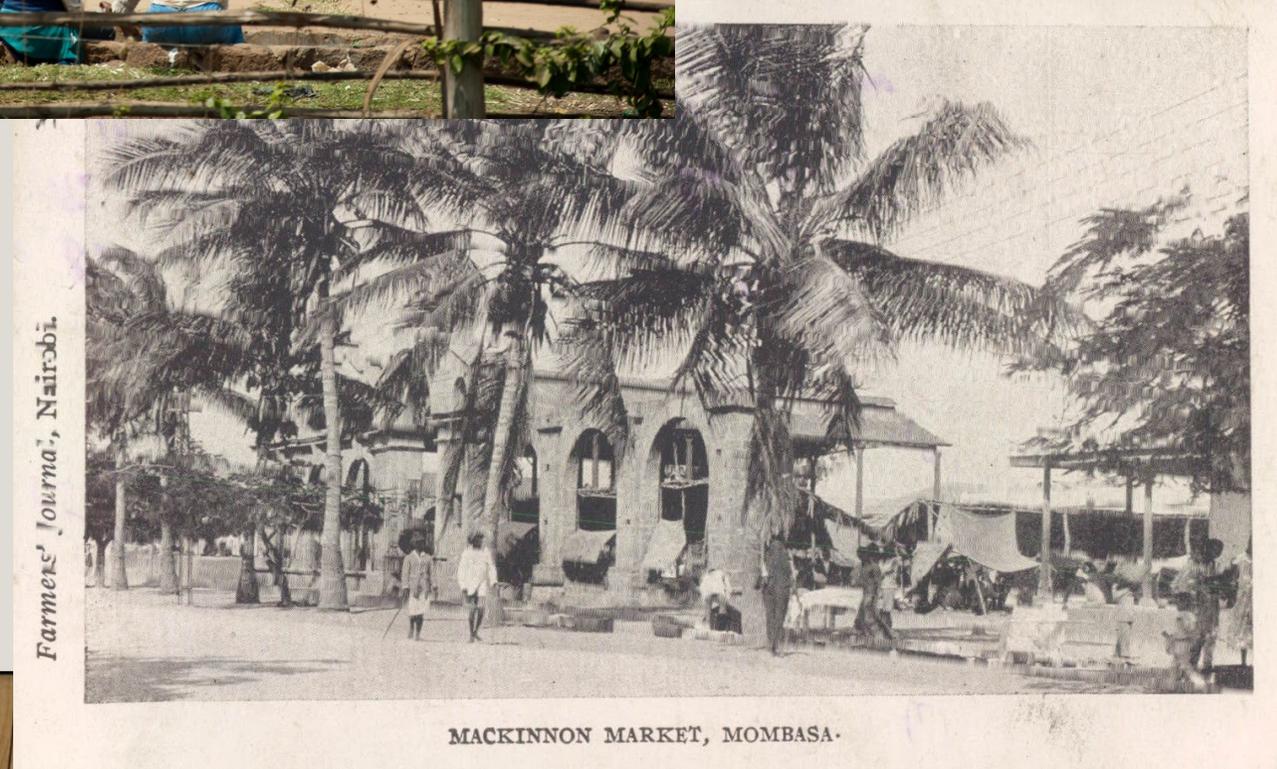
Roof cover
Flooring

Slaughter House

Latrines



<https://kaylabrisbin.wordpress.com/2013/12/02/thankful/>



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/a3/e6/5b/a3e65bd398acc86db92591383a00a181.jpg>

Medical Treatment

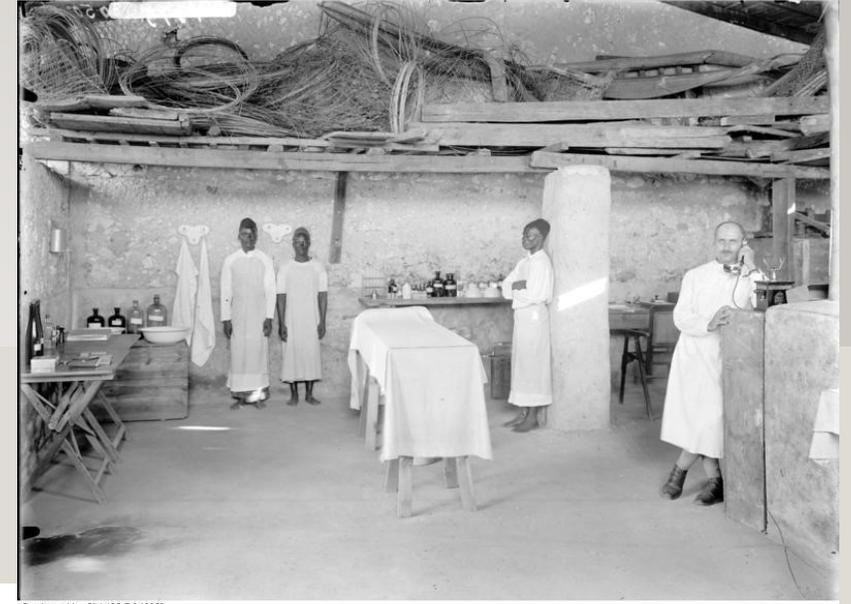
Stretcher Bearers, 3 KAR



<http://www.forumeerstewereldoorlog.nl/viewtopic.php?t=332>



German field ambulance



Bundesarchiv, Bild 105-004050
Foto: Dobbertin, Walther 1 1914/1918

Summary of Statistics

Native Base Hospital, Mombasa, for WAR PERIOD ... 6.8.1914 – 5.8.1917

| | PATIENTS TREATED IN HOSPITAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|----------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| | Malaria | | Dysentery | | Pneumonia | | Blackwater | | CSM | | GS Wounds | | Other diseases | | Total | |
| | Adm | Deaths | Adm | Deaths | Adm | Deaths | Adm | Deaths | Adm | Deaths | Adm | Deaths | Adm | Deaths | Adm | Deaths |
| Indian Troops | 2982 | 12 | 539 | 6 | 33 | 6 | 68 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 92 | 3 | 1186 | 8 | 4903 | 47 |
| Indian Followers | 993 | 5 | 124 | 3 | 32 | 9 | 17 | 3 | 7 | 4 | - | - | 671 | 5 | 1844 | 30 |
| African Troops | 327 | 2 | 210 | 7 | 49 | 14 | - | - | 8 | 4 | 122 | 3 | 361 | 1 | 1077 | 31 |
| African Followers | 378 | 4 | 181 | 17 | 64 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 8 | 34 | 2 | 773 | 26 | 1445 | 74 |
| Cape Boys | 552 | 5 | 56 | 6 | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 169 | 1 | 780 | 13 |
| East Africans | 39 | 1 | 70 | 3 | 7 | - | - | - | - | - | 102 | 2 | 123 | - | 341 | 6 |
| West Indians | 78 | 2 | 11 | - | 15 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 65 | - | 171 | 2 |
| Carrier Corps | 53 | 1 | 152 | 74 | 55 | 20 | - | - | 25 | 19 | 9 | - | 124 | 15 | 418 | 129 |
| Civil Patients | 358 | 15 | 238 | 67 | 93 | 38 | 4 | 2 | 43 | 30 | 4 | - | 1042 | 101 | 1782 | 255 |
| TOTAL | 5760 | 47 | 1581 | 183 | 351 | 104 | 92 | 17 | 100 | 66 | 363 | 10 | 4515 | 158 | 12761 | 585 |

OUT PATIENTS

Military ... 1675
Civil ... 27013
288688

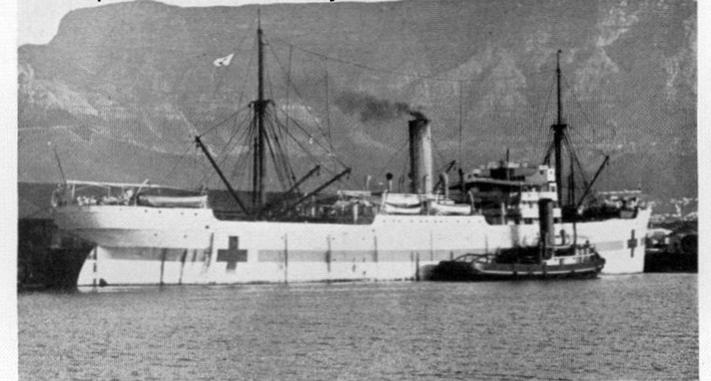
IN PATIENTS

Military ... 10979
Civil ... 1782
12761

TOTAL

Military IN and OUT Patients ... 12654
Civil IN and OUT Patients ... 28795
41449

<http://www.histarmar.com.ar/ArchivoFotosGral-2/VaporesSACarrioin/101.JPG>



M. Leenderts

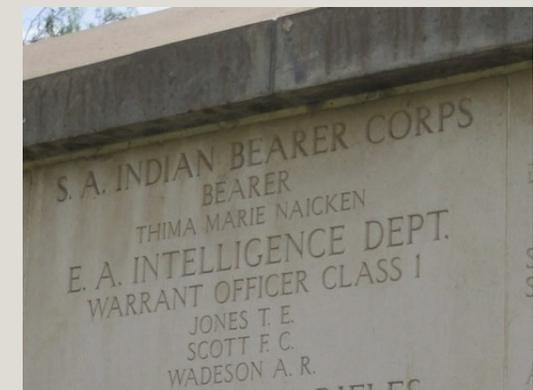
THE SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITAL SHIP EBANI
Employed during the campaign against German South-West Africa, 1914-15

Rations

PREPARATION AND COOKING OF FOOD – these are only secondary in importance to the provision of a good dietary. Bad cooking and monotony in the preparation of food account for much sickness and lessen the resisting power of the body. In the list of measures taken to combat disease good feeding undoubtedly holds a very high place and a man is not well fed unless his food is properly cooked. If this is true of the European it is still more true of the Indian and the African. Although the dietary of the last named is simple it requires most careful preparation, otherwise it is apt to disorder his digestion, irritate his bowel and pave the way for diarrhoea and dysentery.

Those who have suffered chiefly from defective cooking are the men who have to be constantly on the move, namely Motor Transport drivers and the Carriers, and every effort should be made to improve their lot in this particular. A great deal still requires to be done in the case of the Motor Transport but **the Military Labour Bureau has taken up the question of cooking for the carriers and the conditions have been revolutionised. We were much struck by the admirable arrangements made in most of the Carrier Camps and Depots and it was evident that the porters appreciated what had been done for them in this respect.**

Schutztruppe in German East Africa –
German Federal Archive Bild 134-C0265

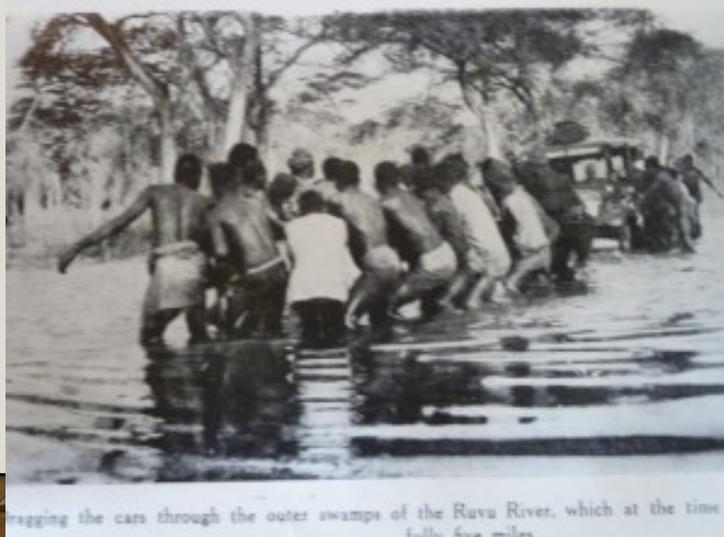


Harry Fecitt



General Hannington in East Africa interrogating a German native porter guarded by Indian sepoy's

<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/9a/db/f2/9adb200abf89deef79c661cdadeadea.jpg>



Dragging the cars through the outer swamps of the Ruvu River, which at the time fully five miles.

EUROPEAN AND CAPE COLOURED CORPS

1 lb fresh or frozen meat, or 1 lb preserved meat or 1 lb salt meat.
1 ¼ lb bread or 1 lb Biscuits, or 1 lb flour (atta) with 1/3 oz baking powder.
5/8 oz tea.
¼ lb Jam.
3 oz Sugar (4 oz for all Europeans beyond rail-head, GRO 665D/28/7/16).
½ oz Salt
1/36 oz Pepper
1/50 oz Mustard
½ lb Fresh vegetables or 2 oz dried vegetables.
1/320 galls Lime juice } At the discretion of GOC areas on
1/64 galls Rum } medical recommendation
2 oz Tobacco weekly (Lady nurses get 100 cigarettes per month in lieu).
2 boxes matches weekly } Vide GRO 89, dated 7/3/16
1 piece soap per 7 days }
8 oz Condensed milk per day to Lady Nurses (GRO 433D/29/5/16).

SCALE OF RATIONS FOR AFRICAN TROOPS, ARAB COMPANY AND GUN PORTERS AND STRETCHER BEARERS

1 lb Rice ½ lb Meat or ½ lb dates
½ oz Salt 2 oz Ghee
½ lb Mahindi Flour 8 oz potatoes or onions per man daily
1 piece soap per man per week
1 lb Dates and ½ lb beans will be issued in lieu of 1 lb rice twice a week when available.
Atta will be issued in lieu of Mahindi flour to the Arab Company.
An issue of 1 ½ lbs firewood per man, to all Africans at Nairobi is sanctioned (L of C order No 177 dated 8/4/16).
Arab rifles 1/3 oz Tea and 1 oz Sugar (vide GRO 203 dated 26/2/17).

INDIAN TROOPS AND FOLLOWERS AND LOCAL INDIANS

Atta 1 ½ lb Ginger 1/3 oz Chillies 1/6 oz
* Fresh meat 4 oz Dhall 4 oz Tumeric 1/6 oz
Ghee 2 oz Garlic 1/6 oz Gur 1 oz
Salt ½ oz Potatoes 2 oz Fuel 1 ½ lbs
Tea 1/3 oz
* or 2 oz Milk in lieu to all non-beef eaters when proper meat is not available.
1 piece of soap per man per 7 days (GRO D/25/5/16).
2 oz Tobacco or 40 cigarettes and 2 boxes matches per man per week (GRO 931 and 936 dated 11 and 23/10/16).
4 oz Fresh vegetables to Indian Troops at Morogoro is sanctioned (GRO 388 dated 13/4/17). Bread in lieu of atta or rice and flour has been sanctioned to Indians of Indian Stretcher Bearer Corps (GRO 275 dated 19/4/16).

SCALE OF RATIONS FOR CARRIERS

British Ranks and Goanese As for British Troops
Indians As for British Troops
Arabs, Swahilis and Somali clerks, headmen and Interpreters As for African Troops
Africans
1 ¼ Flour to flour eaters, or 1 ¼ lb rice to rice eaters ¼ lb Beans
½ lb Meat ½ oz Salt
For Carriers per man per day:
4 oz Potatoes or Bananas 2 oz Jaggery
2 oz Sim Sim oil or Ghee per man per day or 2 green cocoanuts per man per week
(GRO 1087D/22/11/16)

When meat not available then ½ lb dates in lieu meat, or ¼ lb biltong in lieu ½ lb meat or ½ lb beans in lieu ½ lb meat (GRO 852 dated 15/9/16). ¼ lb Flour may be issued in lieu of ¼ lb beans to African Carriers who are not bean eaters (GRO 142 dated 17/3/16).

A weekly issue of 100 lbs. Soap is authorised for each Carrier Depot (GRO 997 dated 25/10/16).

Note: Flour to be banana mealie, wimbe, or matama, according to the class of porters.

In exceptional cases money may be issued in lieu of rations, on a certificate from the Supply Transport Officer that rations in kind have not been issued, the scale being 15-cents (p59) per man for a complete ration, or 6 cents in lieu of meat only.

Animals

3 major diseases: trypanosomiasis, horse sickness and East Coast fever of cattle.

Rations

Horses – 12 lb grain, ½ oz Salt, 12 lb fodder Ponies – 10 lb grain, ½ oz Salt, 12 lb fodder
Battery Mules, 1st Class – 9 lb, ½ oz Salt, 10 lb fodder Mules 2nd class – 7 lb grain, 1 oz Salt, 8 lb fodder
Local Mules – 6 lb grain, ½ oz Salt, 8 lb fodder Donkeys – 4 lb grain, ½ oz Salt
Trek Oxen – 2 oz Salt Riding Camels – 10 lb grain, 2 oz Salt, 12 lb fodder
Baggage Camels – 2 oz Salt

Gun and ammunition column oxen will receive 1 oz Salt and in addition, when marching, 4 lb grain.

Note: Fodder will be issued only when available; all animals will have to be grazed. Gun and ammunition column oxen will receive 1 oz Salt and in addition, when marching, 4 lb grain.



Nairobi Station, Uganda Railway

D. V. Figuera, Mombasa, B. E. A.

Further reading

Doctor memoirs

17 Letters to Tatham – Ann Crichton-Harris

On call in Africa – Norman Parsons Jewell

Marching on Tanga – Francis Brett Young

Campaign history

Tip and Run – Edward Paice

Forgotten Front – Ross Anderson

Enquiries

Kirkpatrick – CO 551101

Pike Report – WO 141/31 - <http://gweaa.com/home/medical-project/medical-archive/>

Hill Enquiry – WO 141/30

Duke Enquiry – WO 141/35