



MEDICAL TENTACLES: MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES IN AFRICA, 1914-1918 AND BEYOND

DR ANNE SAMSON, 30 OCTOBER 2018

Feeding Carriers



<http://samilitaryhistory.org/vol042jm.html>

Kirkpatrick Complaint

Where Pike visited
Border



Conditions German East Africa Feb-Oct 1916

Enquiry Jan-March 1917

Colonel Hedley John Kirkpatrick, Commander of 9SAI in 2nd Division (Gen van Deventer)

Enquiry Jan-March 1917 (General Reginald Hoskins, CiC)

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 15 August 1917 to 6 December 1917

War zone

British East Africa (Kenya and Uganda)

Report dated 18 January 1918 covering 6 December 1917 to 18 January 1918

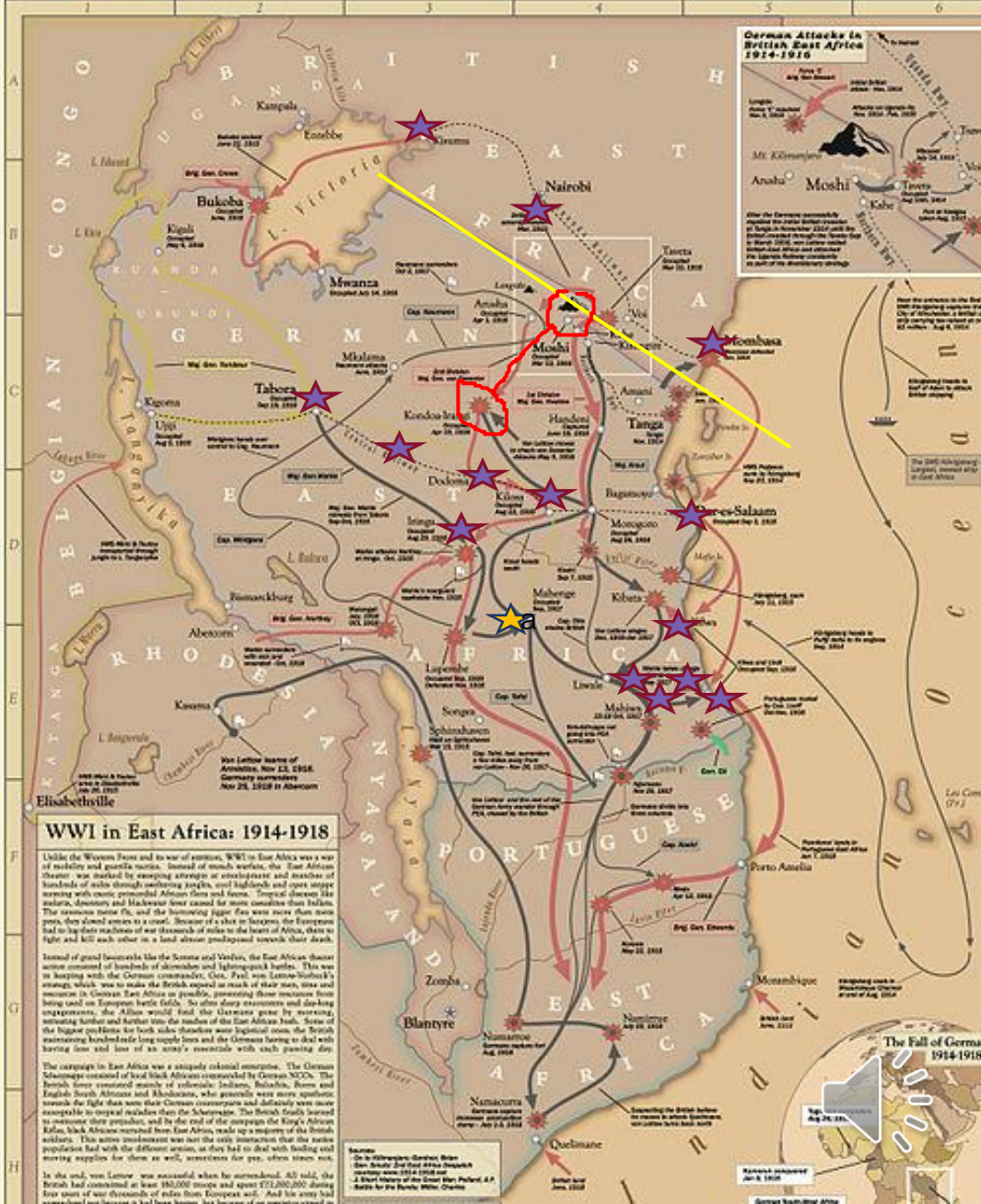
Not a war zone; comments on health of Nairobi and Mombasa towns

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



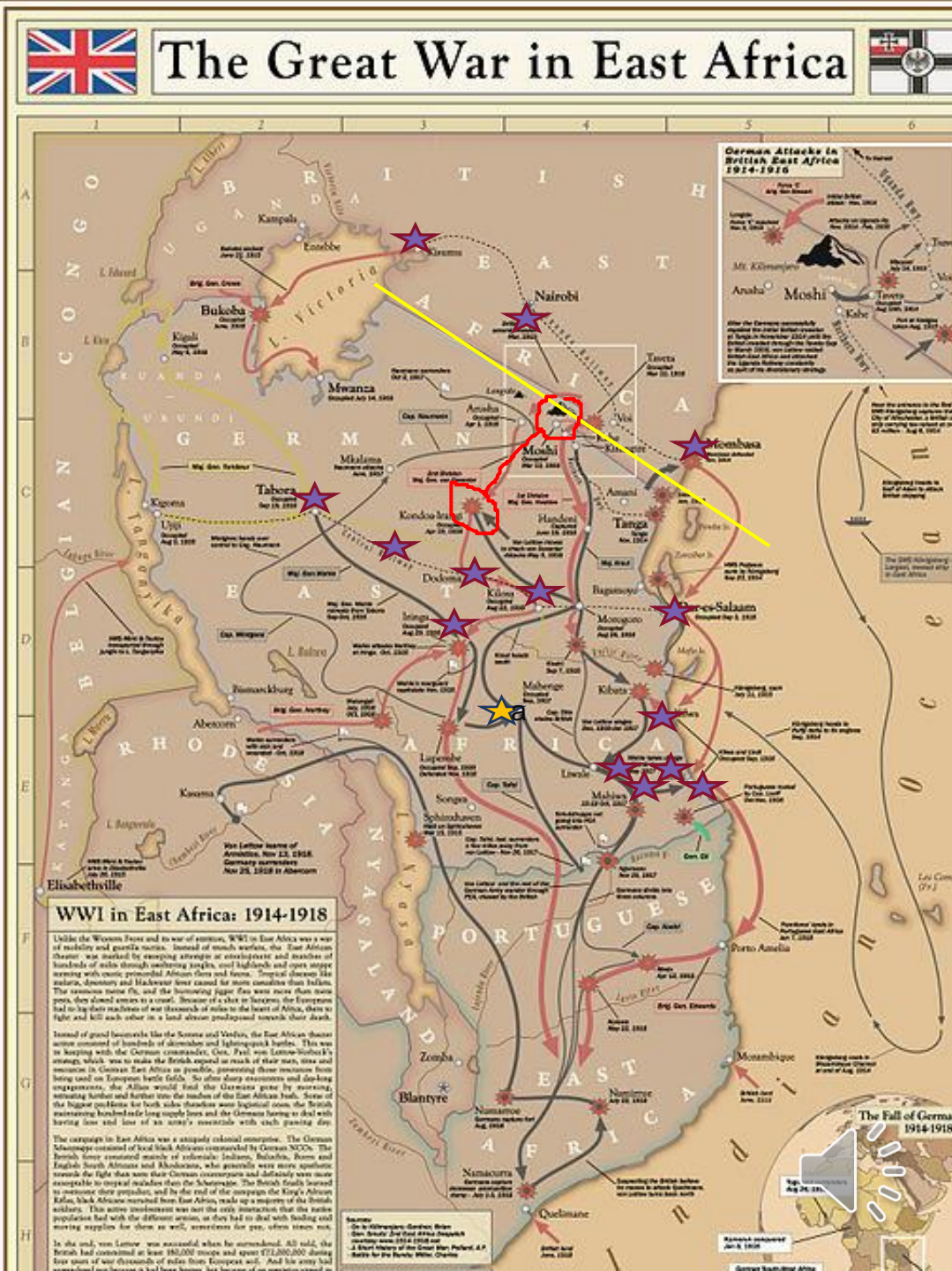
The Great War in East Africa



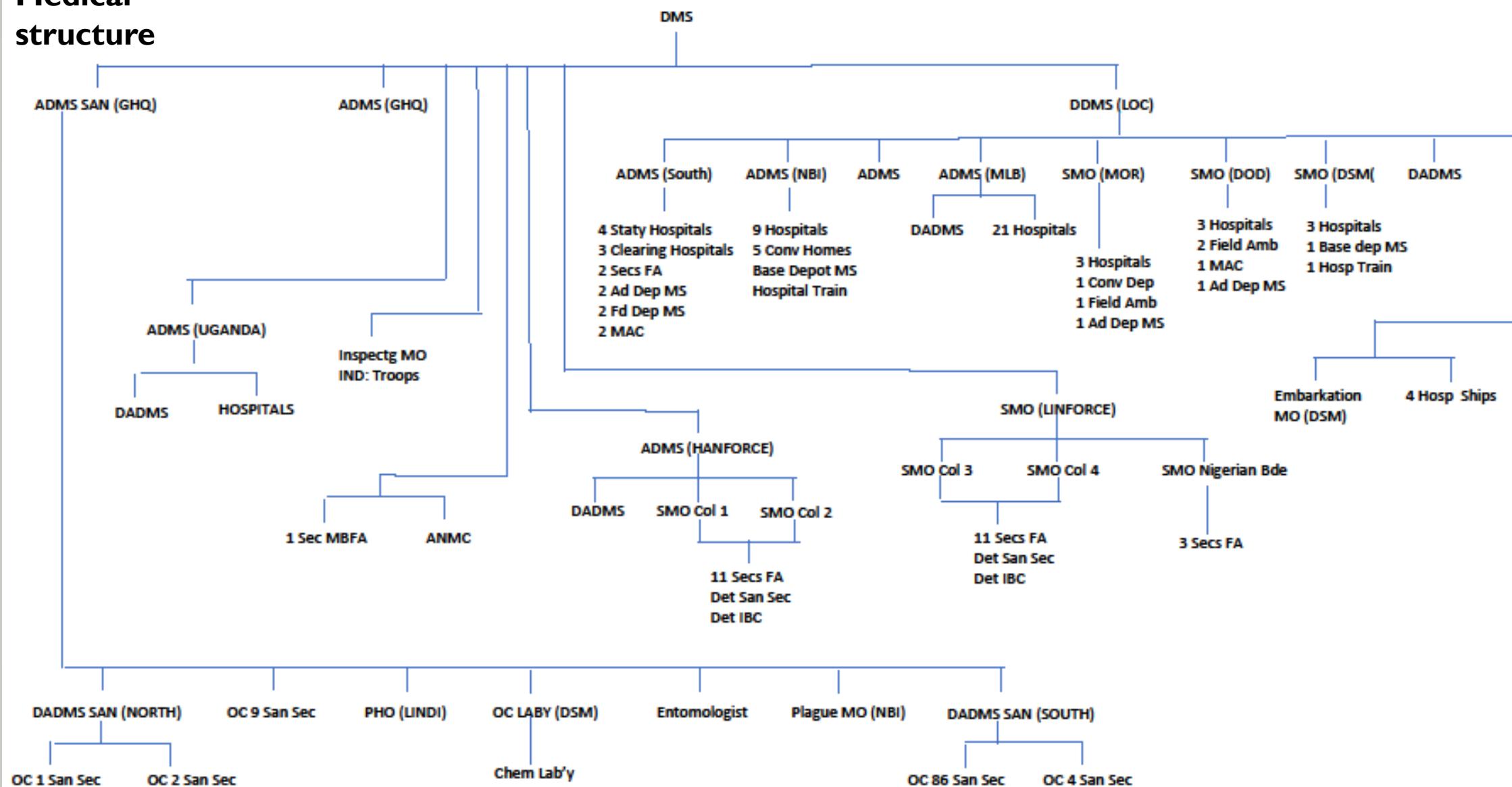


Tanga, Dar-es-Salaam, Kilwa Kisiwani, Kilwa Kivinji, Lindi, Quarantine Island, Kurasini, Tabora, Itigi, Dodoma, Iringa, Termagwe, Kilossa, Ruaha, Mfrisi, Morogoro, Rufiji, Mikesse, Mpangas, Summit, Zanzibar, Mpara, Mingoyo, Chirimake, N'jangao, Mtama, Mahiwa, Mtandawala, Mnero, Nanganachi, Simbasi,

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



Medical structure



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

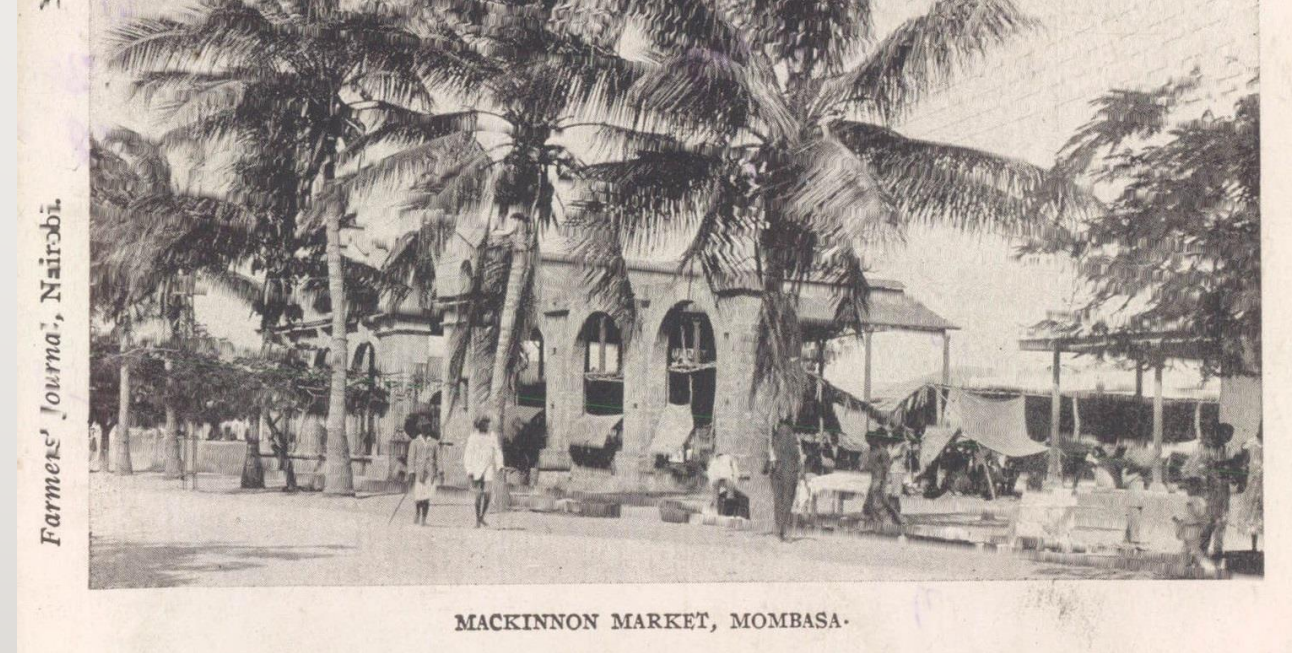
Latrines



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



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/61235405@N00/6017314389>



<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-DOA3050
Foto: Dobbertin, Walther | 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

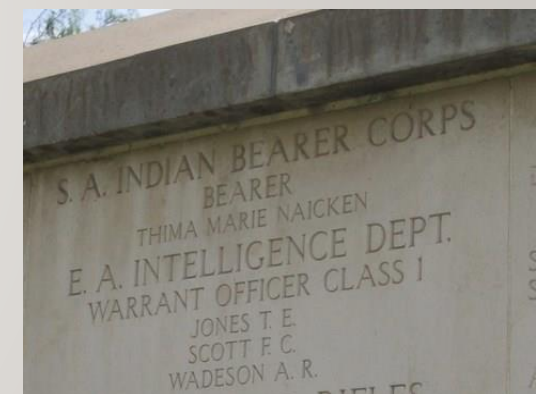
THE SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITAL SHIP *EBANI*
Employed during the campaign against German South-West Africa, 1914–15

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/f2/9adbf200abf89deef79c661cdadeadea.jpg>



Dragging the cans through the water swamps of the Rova River, which at the time
fully five miles.

<http://inkosana.co.za/trans-africa-adventure/>

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.

1/2 lb Bread	3 oz Sugar
1 lb mealie meal	1 lb Meat
1/2 oz Salt	5/8 oz Tea or 1 oz Coffee
2 oz potatoes or green vegetables in lieu is sanctioned	
Soap 1 piece per man weekly.	

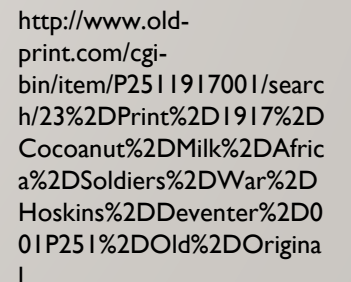
1 lb rice in lieu of 1 lb mealie meal
2 oz Ghee African in lieu ½ lb bread

Rice 1lb 2 oz	Biscuits 4 oz or Mealie Meal 6 oz in lieu
Fresh meat 8 oz	Sugar 2 oz
Chillies 1/3 oz	Cocoa or Tea or Coffee 1/3 oz
Salt 1 oz	Palm or other cooking oils 2 oz
Soap 1 piece per man, per week	

Bread, biscuits or equivalents	½ lb	Rice	1 lb
Meat	½ lb	Sugar	3 oz
Salt	½ oz	Jam or equivalents	2 oz
Tea	5/8 oz	Condensed milk	2 oz
Lime juice	1/10 gill (1/2 oz)		
Soap	1 piece per man per week		

1/2 Bn British VVI Regt is authorised to draw European scale of rations (GRO 1131 dated 4/12/16)

Flour or Bread	½ lb	Rice	1 lb
Salt	1 lb	Fresh Vegetables	8 oz
Beans	4 oz	Sugar	1 oz
Tea	½ oz	Meat or dried Fish or Pork	10 oz
Cooking Oil		½ oz Fuel	3 lb



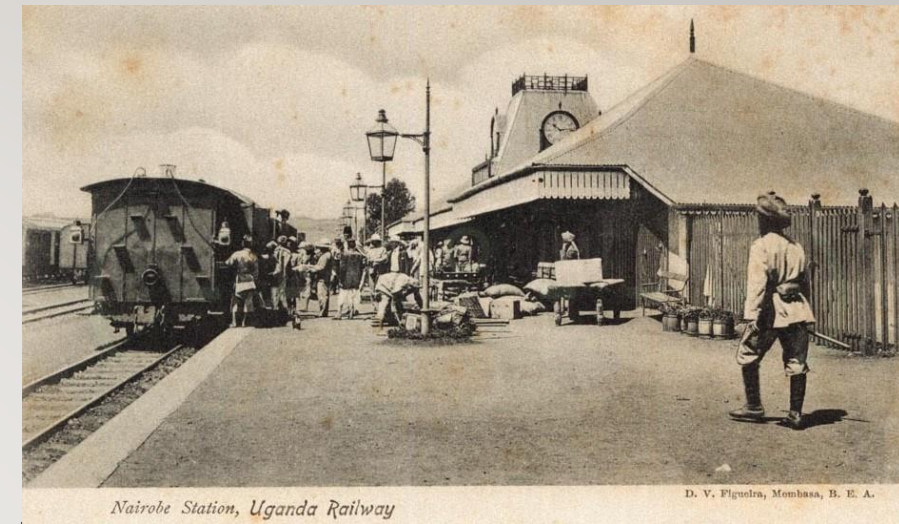
Animals

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

Rations

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



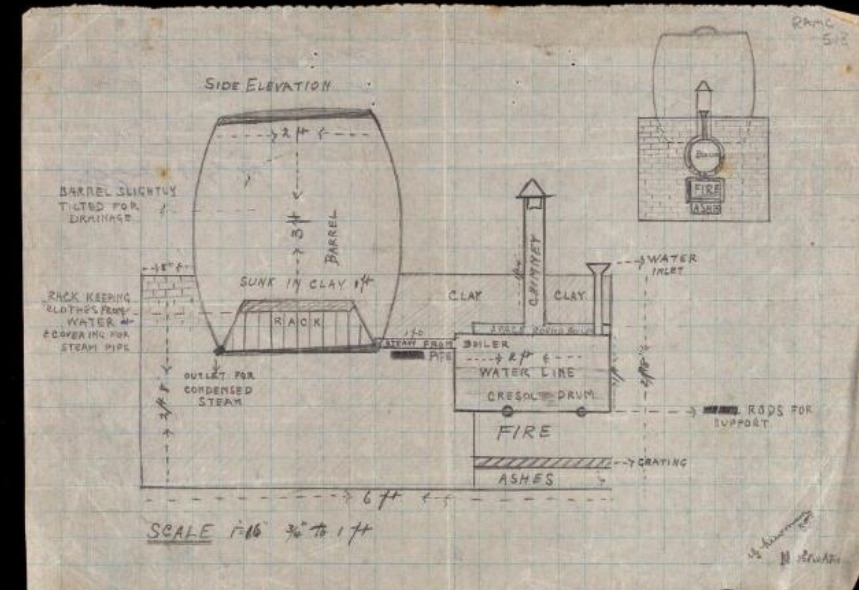
Serbian Barrel - the barrel which saved many lives

MARCH 17, 2016

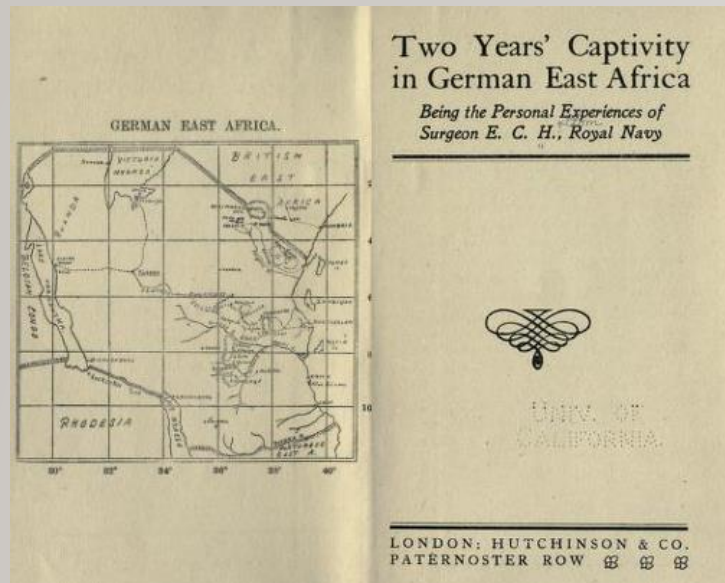
<https://macedonia1912-1918.blogspot.com/2016/03/serbian-barrel.html>



Ms. diagram of a "Serbian barrel" used during the First World War for drying and...



<https://i.piniimg.com/originalhttps://wellcomelibrary.org/item/b18420643#c=0&m=0&s=0&cv=1&z=-0.6401%2C-0.0716%2C2.2801%2C1.43231s/af/84/7a/af847a21fd2a83e8b29110cadf13e35a.jpg>



Book Reviews

A Naturalist in East Africa. G. D. H. Carpenter

G. D. Fuller

First Page PDF

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<https://doi.org/10.1086/333685>

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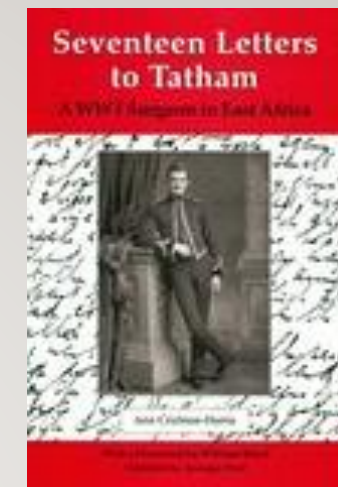
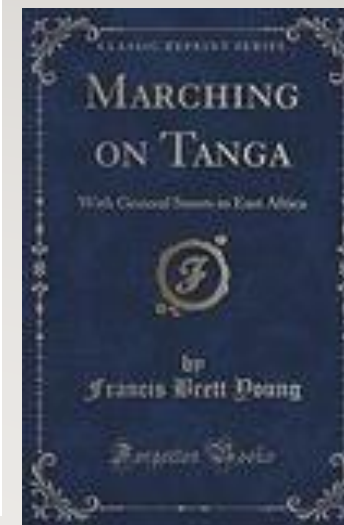
BOTANICAL GAZETTE

[DECEMBER

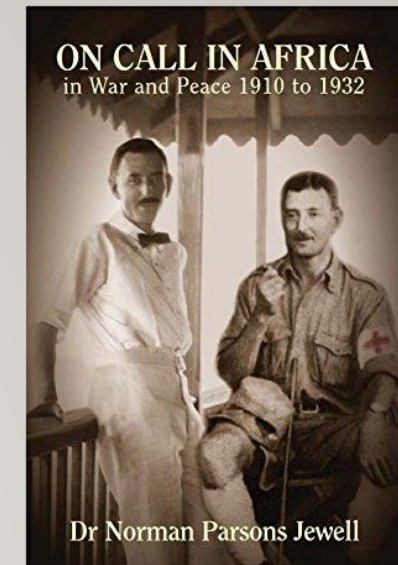
A naturalist in East Africa

An interesting account of his travels in Uganda has been published in book form by CARPENTER.⁷ The author, who was medical officer at various military posts, spent his leisure in studying the natural history of the region. Particular attention was given to the insect life, problems of protective coloration being among the topics discussed, and brief notes on the vegetation are also recorded. The excellent illustrations range from photographs of butterflies, giant lobelias, and bamboo forests, to views of Victoria Falls.—G. D. FULLER.

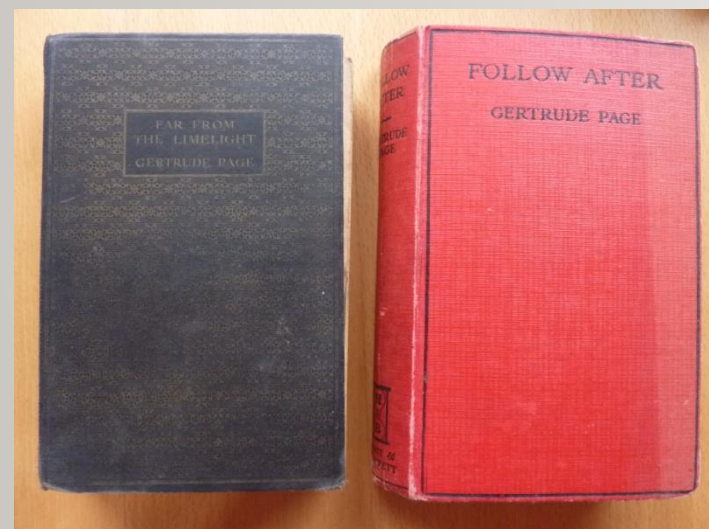
<https://skipperswar.com/tag/gdh-carpenter/>



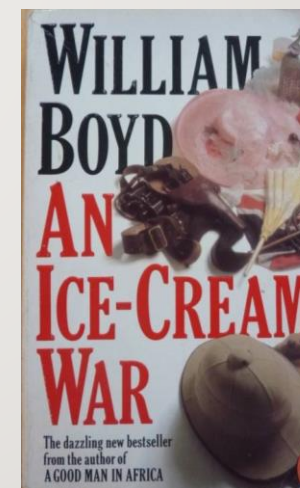
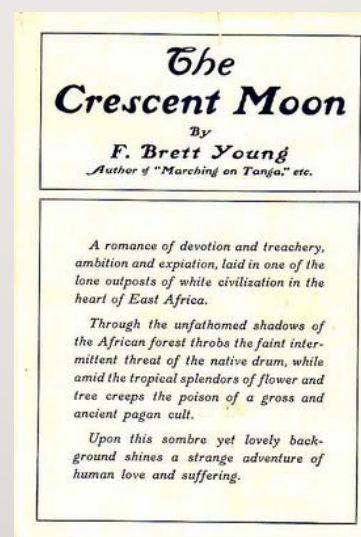
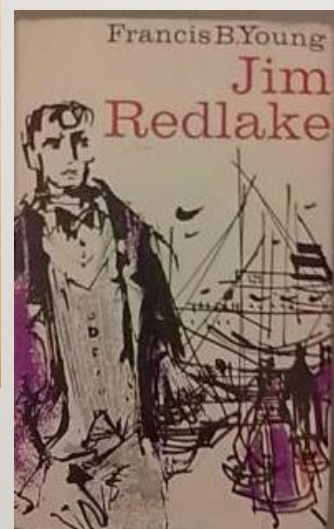
Dr Temple Harris



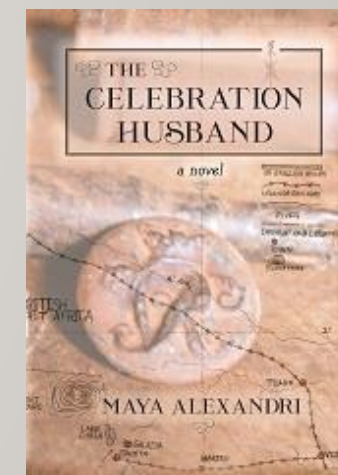
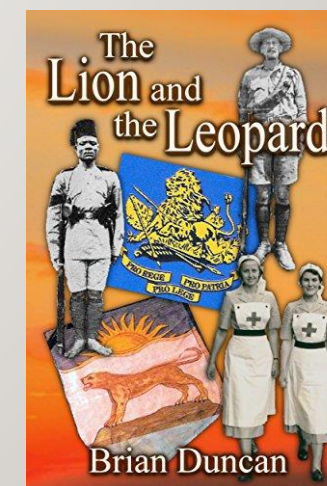
Dr Norman Parsons Jewell



Authors who served
WWI Africa



Post World War 2



Further reading

Doctor memoirs

17 Letters to Tatham – Ann Crichton-Harris

On call in Africa – Norman Parsons Jewell

Marching on Tanga – Francis Brett Young

Practising Colonial Medicine: The Colonial Medical Services in British East Africa – Anna Crozier (2007)

Campaign history

Tip and Run – Edward Paice

Forgotten Front – Ross Anderson

Enquiries

Kirkpatrick – CO 551/101

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

Hill Enquiry – WO 141/30

Duke Enquiry – WO 141/35