

EXTRACTS
FROM
ORDERS AND MEMORANDA
PUBLISHED FOR THE GUIDANCE OF
OFFICERS
COMMANDING COLUMNS
AND
POSTS
IN THE
ORANGE RIVER COLONY.



BLOEMFONTEIN, O.R.C. :
THE ARGUS PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO., LTD.

1901.

CONFIDENTIAL MEMOS, ETC.

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2.	July 14, 1900.	Duties of officers commanding outlying detachments.	<u>C. of S.</u> <u>Circ. Memo.</u> No. 23.
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(1)

C. of S.
Circular Memo.
No. 19.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, 23rd June, 1900.

The following Confidential Circular, dated 21st April, 1900, is re-published for information :—

“ The Field-Marshal Commanding-
“ in-Chief has noticed that as
“ soon as orders for any move of
“ troops are issued, the subject
“ becomes at once public pro-
“ perty, and is freely discussed in
“ town. He desires that all
“ Officers will remember and
“ warn their Non-Commissioned
“ Officers and men that all moves
“ of troops, whether actually
“ ordered or contemplated, should
“ be considered as secret, and
“ should never be discussed or
“ mentioned outside the unit
“ which has to move.”

It has again been brought to notice that Officers are in the habit of not only discussing in Clubs, Hotels, and public places, the movements of the troops and various columns now operating in the country, but also making the general conduct of military operations the subject of their conversation. Such conduct is contrary to military usage and must cease, and the Field-Marshal desires that senior Officers present will at all times use their authority to suppress such remarks or discussions, and report any occurrence of this nature.

By order,

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Major-General,
Chief-of-Staff.

C. of S.
Circular Memo.
No. 23.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS COM-
MANDING OUTLYING
DETACHMENTS.

—
Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, 14th July, 1900.

Several instances having occurred lately where Officers Commanding Outlying Detachments have failed to appreciate correctly the duty assigned to them, the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief desires to draw the attention of all Officers to C. of S./Circular Memo./No. 5, of the 26th January, and C. of S./Circular Memo./No. 17, of the 2nd May, 1900; and in addition, to point out:

- (1). It is incumbent on every Officer in command of a detachment to have a clear understanding of the exact purpose for which he and his troops have been detailed.
- (2). If he has orders to cover a flank, or to bar the advance or retreat

of the enemy, he would be justified in running the risk of heavy losses or even of capture by holding on to the position assigned to him.

(3). If, on the other hand, he has been placed in a position merely for observational purposes, or to keep a road open for ordinary traffic, or to guard a line of telegraph or railway, or to preserve a certain tract of country from molestation, it will be a question for his own judgment whether he should hold on or retire before a superior force of the enemy. If the information received as to the enemy being in superior force is fairly reliable, all small parties should certainly be drawn in and the detachment concentrated in the most defensible position available, ready for a steady retirement, which would, under such circumstances, be the most prudent course to adopt.

(4). Every detachment holding an isolated position should invariably be entrenched in a thoroughly efficient manner. This can best be done by including all the commanding ground within rifle-shot of the position, and by making breastworks of sufficient depth or height, according to the

nature of the soil. If time admits, breastworks should be carefully loopholed.

The Boers are more skilful in utilizing natural cover than the majority of our own soldiers ; it is, therefore, doubly imperative that artificial protection should be improvised immediately on a position being occupied.

Officers Commanding Detachments will be held personally responsible that these instructions are not in any way neglected.

By order,
KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Major-General,
Chief of Staff.

(3)

C. of S.
Circular Memo.
No. 24.

Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, 1st September, 1900.

It has been brought to the notice of the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief that cases have occurred of animals abandoned by columns on the march being picked up by the enemy, and, after a few days' rest, care, and feeding, having become useful to them.

In future all sick and debilitated horses, oxen, and mules, necessarily abandoned on the march, will be destroyed on the spot. Any likely to recover and able to come on with the column are to be left at the nearest military post.

By order,

(Signed) KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Major-General,
Chief-of-Staff.

(4)

TREATMENT OF BOER PRISONERS
OF WAR CAPTURED WHILE
WEARING BRITISH UNIFORM.

Lord Roberts C5/20 of 30/9/00.

Yours, K.194. All prisoners of war dressed in British uniforms, or when disguised in the distinctive dress worn by our troops, are to be at once shot.

Report to me the number of cases dealt with under this order.

By Order,

(Sgd.), G. M. KIRKPATRICK,
Capt., R.E.,
D.A.A.G. (I)

for C.S.O., Hunter's Force.

**Rules for Treatment of Burghers
on Farms in Dewetsdorp,
Wepener, Smithfield, Roux-
ville, Thaba 'Nchu and Lady-
brand Districts.**

1. Burghers who have taken the oath, and who have again joined a Com-mando, are to be sent to Bloemfontein for trial by Military Court for rebel-lion. *The question of being forced to take up arms is not to be considered in awarding sentence.* An affidavit of arrest should accompany all prisoners.

2. The farms of Burghers who have broken their oath of neutrality are to be stripped of everything. The women and children are to be sent into Bloemfontein for protection.

3. Burghers captured with arms are to be sent to Bloemfontein.

4. Burghers found on their farms, and all white males over 12 years of age, are to be brought into Bloemfon-tein for safe-keeping and examination.

5. All horses (rideable) and cattle that can be driven are to be brought to the nearest Military Station.

Receipts only to be given where burghers are on their farms, or where wives are on farms, their husbands being prisoners of war.

6. Farm-houses are not to be burned unless some aggressive act is committed and direct evidence forthcoming of such act.

7. With regard to paragraph 4, exceptions can be made in the case of burghers known by the Military or Civil Authorities to be loyal, or who have assisted the British Government by giving information regarding the enemy.

By Order,

FRED. W. BENSON,
Colonel, A.A.G.

L. of C. Orange River
to Wolvehoek.

Bloemfontein, 1st October, 1900.

REMOVAL OF SUPPLIES AND DESTRUCTION OF BOER FARMS.

Following are instructions which have been received from Army Headquarters at various times:—

1. C. of S. Q2550 of 25/8/1900, para. 4.

“Whilst giving protection to loyal inhabitants in his district, the G.O.C. will see that the country is so denuded of forage and supplies that no means of subsistence is left for any commando attempting to make incursions.”

2. Lord Roberts C5016 of 27/9/1900.

“Clear the whole of supplies, and inform the Burghers that if they choose to listen to De Wet and carry on a guerilla warfare against us, they and their families will be starved.”

Instructions as to Treatment of Towns.

3. Lord Roberts C5811 of

relative to punishment of Ventersburg Road district:

“If Ventersburg proves to be a Depot where the Boers keep their ammunition, destroy every house belonging to a Boer from which owner is absent.”

“The farms in the neighbourhood of
“Holfontein and Ventersburg should
“be destroyed and the grain and
“stores should be removed from all
“farms within 10 miles of those
“places.”

Lord Roberts C5864.

“Have the houses in Ventersburg
“carefully searched. Everyone in which
“ammunition is found, or whose
“owners are on commando, or which
“have been used as a Depôt by the
“Boers, should be sacked of every-
“thing and all movable property
“removed or destroyed.”

By Order,

(Sgd.), G. M. KIRKPATRICK,
Capt., R.E.,
D.A.A.G. (I),
for C.S.O. Hunter's Force.

Bloemfontein,
10th November, 1900.

C of S.
Circular Memo.
No. 25.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OFFICERS
AND MEN TRAVELLING BY
TRAIN.

Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, 27th November, 1900.

1. All Officers and men travelling by train on all occasions must be properly armed.

2. The Senior Officer travelling on a train is responsible for its defence if attacked.

3. For this purpose every Officer travelling should satisfy himself whether he is the Senior Officer on the train or not.

4. The Senior Officer on the train should see that the men travelling by the train have their rifles handy, and that one or two men are detailed to keep a look-out.

5. It has lately been noticed that the enemy, when they attempt the

capture of a train, ride up behind the train when it is going slowly up a grade, and detach the vacuum hose from the rear of the brake van. They then open fire along both sides of the train to prevent anyone getting out.

6. To avoid this a truck is attached to the rear of each train, with the vacuum hose disconnected. If any troops are travelling on the train the Senior Officer should see that some of them are posted, if possible, on the rear truck.

7. Engine drivers have instructions to blow a long blast on the bass whistle, if they have any reason to think that anything is wrong. Troops should be instructed to stand to arms on hearing this warning.

8. When a delay occurs at any post on the line, the Senior Officer on the train will report, personally, to the Commandant of the post.

By order,

(Signed) W. F. KELLY,
Major-General,
Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.

A G.
Circ. Memo.
No. 26.

CIRCULAR MEMO.

1. G.O.C.'s are again reminded of the great necessity for seeing that all posts occupied by troops are properly selected and at once thoroughly entrenched or fortified. Block-houses should be built wherever they are required to protect either the railway or extended positions. The necessary expenditure for hired labour and builders is authorised.

2. The loss of Dewetsdorp was mainly due to a bad selection of the site for the post, and a want of care in building proper protection for the gunners and garrison generally.

3. It should be the first task of every Commandant to make his post impregnable in the least possible time, and nothing can relieve him of his responsibility in this respect. Care should be taken to have always sufficient storage of water and provisions.

4. With the exception of the work necessary for the deepening and improvement of the entrenchments, and the defence of the position generally no other fatigue should be done. The men must sleep and rest in the day time, so as to admit of their keeping awake for patrolling and watching at night.

5. If these orders are read daily to the men, and acted on, the post should neither be surprised nor captured.

6. On many occasions where the enemy have appeared in comparatively overwhelming numbers and with guns, our small posts have successfully repulsed them. This result will invariably follow when a timely and careful provision has been made.

By Order,

W. F. KELLY,
Major-General, A.G.

Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, December 4, 1900.

CONFIDENTIAL.

A G.
Circ. Memo.
No. 26a.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM.

In amplification of A G./Circ. Memo./No. 26., dated 4th December, it may be assumed that, in future, posts will very rarely be subject to serious Artillery attack; and it is also essential to reduce as far as possible the troops for fixed defence. Hence permanent masonry block-houses should be employed as largely as possible, built in lime or cement.

In many cases, in order to see the ground more thoroughly, two storeys are desirable; and a sketch of such a block-house will be forwarded, although it need not be rigidly adhered to. In some cases it may be desirable to mount a machine-gun on the roof of a block-house, which should then have a suitable parapet.

General Officers Commanding are directed to obtain labour from every possible source—from a distance by rail if necessary. Working pay should be issued to artisans employed from the troops.

The Garrisons might be from 20 to 30 men. A wide and moderately high belt of barbed wire entanglement should surround the block-house, within close fire thereof, and within the outer edge thereof small mechanical land mines may with advantage be placed.

By order,

W. F. KELLY,
Major-General,
Adjutant-General.

December 24th, 1900.

CONFIDENTIAL.

The Commander-in-Chief has noticed that, after the passage through a District of a Column of Troops, the food supplies therein do not appear to have sensibly diminished. The Commander-in-Chief knows how difficult it is to collect supplies over a scattered area, and at the same time defend a long column and complete a long march before nightfall, but he urges on Officers Commanding Columns that they should fully recognise the necessity of denuding the country of supplies and livestock, in order to secure the two-fold advantage of depriving the enemy of means of subsistence, and of being able to feed their own columns to the fullest extent from the country.

These, and not the destruction of farms and property, should be the objects of all columns, second only to the actual defeat of the enemy in the

field. Burning farms should only be resorted to in very rare cases, where *such acts as have been already specified by Lord Roberts' Proclamation* are clearly proved against the owner of the farm, or in cases of treachery against his near relatives; and, in every case of such punishment being awarded by the Commander of a Column, a report should be sent in to Headquarters for the information of the Commander-in-Chief.

By order,

W. F. KELLY,

Major-General, A.G.

Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, December 7, 1900.

CONFIDENTIAL.

MEMORANDUM.

The General Commanding-in-Chief is desirous that all possible means shall be taken to stop the present guerilla warfare.

Of the various measures suggested for the accomplishment of this object, one which has been strongly recommended, and has lately been successfully tried on a small scale, is the removal of all men, women and children, and natives from the Districts which the enemy's bands persistently occupy. This course has been pointed out by surrendered Burghers, who are anxious to finish the war, as the most effective method of limiting the endurance of the Guerillas, as the men and women left on farms, if disloyal, willingly supply Burghers; if loyal, dare not refuse to do so. Moreover, seeing the unprotected state of women now living out in the Districts, this course is desirable, to ensure their not being insulted or molested by natives.

Lord Kitchener desires that General Officers will, according to the means at their disposal, follow this system in the Districts which they occupy or may traverse.

The women and children brought in should be camped near the railway for supply purposes, and should be divided into two categories, viz.:—1st. Refugees and the families of Neutrals, Non-combatants and Surrendered Burghers. 2nd. Those whose husbands, fathers or sons are on Commando. The preference in accommodation, &c., should, of course, be given to the first class. The Ordnance will supply the necessary tents and the District Commissioner will look after the food on the scale now in use.

It should be clearly explained to Burghers in the field that if they voluntarily surrender, they will be allowed to live with their families in the Camps until it is safe for them to return to their homes.

With regard to natives, it is not intended to clear kaffir locations, but only such kaffirs and their stock as are on Boer farms. Every endeavour should be made to cause as little loss as possible to the natives removed, and to give them protection when brought in. They will be available for any works undertaken, for which they will receive pay at native rates.

By Order, W. F. KELLY,
Major-General, A.G.

Pretoria, 21st December, 1900.

EXTRACT FROM ARMY ORDER
No. 243, DD. 13TH DECEMBER,
1900.

Military Courts under Martial Law.

Referring to A.O. No. 1, of 19th November, 1900, some misapprehension still seems to exist with regard to the powers of Military Courts held for the trial of inhabitants of a District under Martial Law, as the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies now are.

It must be clearly understood that those powers are not limited to imprisonment, as it would seem is, at times, erroneously believed.

The power of such Courts is unlimited—that is, they have the power to sentence a convicted offender to death for any offence, in accordance with the Customs of War.

As mentioned in the Army Order above quoted, Chapter XIV. of the Manual of Military Law should be studied by Officers called upon to administer Martial Law and to sit on Military Courts.

Assassination, marauding, treachery, spying and the voluntary taking up of arms after having been parole^d or taken oath of neutrality, are offences for which the punishment of death is particularly applicable.

Assassination is the killing by treachery of individuals of a hostile force.

Marauding consists of acts of hostility committed by persons not belonging to an organised body authorised by a recognised Government. What is called in this campaign "sniping" is often the act of marauders.

Treachery is a crime that must be most severely punished. It must not be confounded with surprises, stratagems, or ambushes, which are allowable. In the present war it has usually been associated with the misuse of the White Flag, and with the renewed acts of hostility by persons who have purported to surrender by holding up their hands. In the latter case trial would seldom be necessary, as it may be assumed that they would, as a rule, be summarily dealt with on the spot by the troops whom they had outraged.

Spying is the collecting of Military information in a District occupied by

H.M.'s Forces, secretly or under false pretences, for the purpose of communicating the same to the Enemy.

The Custom of War does not permit, in the present day, the execution of prisoners who are retaken while attempting to escape, but such persons may be shot or otherwise put to death in the act of escaping; nor is breach of parole, which is liable to the punishment of death, usually so punished, except in aggravated cases.

Attention is called to A.O. No. 2, of 14th February, 1900, which is republished for information:—

“The sacredness of the White Flag having been so frequently infringed by the enemy during the present war, the troops are reminded that they are not in any way bound to receive the bearer of a flag of truce during an engagement.

“The bearer of a flag of truce should be unarmed, the side from which he proceeds should have halted and ceased firing, and unless it is clear that the flag of truce is being used legitimately for the purpose of entering on an amicable arrangement, the bearer should be signalled to retire, and if he does not obey the signal he should be fired on.”

SECOND MEETING
OF
BURGHER PEACE COMMITTEE.

At the second meeting of the Burgher Peace Committee, held in Pretoria on the 21st December, 1900, attended by a considerable number of surrendered Burghers, Lord Kitchener addressed the meeting, and the following short notes of his remarks were taken:

Lord Kitchener said he came at the suggestion of the Committee and the Burghers, as he had heard they wished to know something of his views on the present situation. He understood they all really desired an early termination of the war, and it was, in his opinion—for the sake of humanity, and to save their country from utter ruin—the bounden duty of every Burgher to do his utmost to bring the present guerilla warfare to a close. He was glad to meet a Burghers' Committee that had this object in view, and he could assure them he would assist them in every way in his power, and use their advice and help in bringing about the object for which they were all working.

What were the Boers now in the field still fighting for? Was it in order to see the re-establishment of the old Dopper Government under Mr. Kruger, with all its shortcomings? If this was the case it could only lead to the prolongation of the struggle, as they might be sure that nothing could alter the determination of the Government to see the matter through to the end. Great Britain could never allow the re-establishment of such a Government in the Transvaal as would again make it possible for elaborate warlike preparations to be made in order to disturb the peace and prosperity of South Africa in future. The Burghers had, no doubt, heard what Mr Chamberlain had stated in the House of Commons with regard to the future Government which it was desired to introduce into this country. Mr. Chamberlain's statement clearly showed that there was no wish in England to oppress the Burghers in any way; he foreshadowed an enlightened progressive Government, in which the Burghers themselves would take a prominent share, and which would ensure to them and their children all their rights of property as well as their ancient laws and customs. He thought it was the duty of the Peace Committee and of all Burghers who

wished to see the termination of hostilities, to use every means in their power to bring home to those still in the field the uselessness of the struggle upon which they were engaged. All hope of European intervention had passed away. The Powers had refused Mr. Kruger's request to intervene; there was therefore no hope from outside, and the men in the field must see—from the continually diminishing number of their forces—the hopelessness of their struggle. They had made a good fight for their country, but were overpowered; and there could now be no dishonour to the leaders and their followers in recognising that a further continuance of guerilla warfare was inhumane and absolutely futile. They should remember that some 16,000 Burghers were prisoners of war in St. Helena, Ceylon, and elsewhere, cut off from their homes and families, and so they must remain, their numbers continually increasing, as long as war continued. Those leaders who by their influence were now keeping up this hopeless struggle, and were thus the direct cause of so much misery to so many of their countrymen, should think of others besides themselves. When hostilities ceased, British and Boers would be good friends again.

Proclamations have been proved to be of little use. The leaders, when they could, prevented them from reaching the Burghers, and when the Burghers did see them they did not always understand them. Lord Kitchener said he trusted a good deal to the Committee and the Burghers who have surrendered to let those in the field know the truth of how matters stand, and he hoped they would see by his action that it was his strong desire to give the Burghers every chance to come in voluntarily, and that his wish was to leave no stone unturned to bring about, by the most humane means possible, the end that all desired and that humanity demanded. If, however, the conciliatory methods he was now adopting should fail, he had other means at his disposal, and would find himself obliged to put them in force; the responsibility for this would not rest on him, but on those who insisted on continuing a useless, and, what had now become, an illegal struggle. He would, however, give the Committee due notice when he considered the time had arrived that these conciliatory measures had proved a failure.

It having been brought to Lord Kitchener's notice that the principal difficulty that Burghers desirous of

surrendering experienced was that they were not allowed to remain in their own districts, and were afraid of the penalties attached to not having adhered strictly to the oath of neutrality, which they had, in most cases, been made to break by the coercive measures of Boers out on commando, he wished to give the Burghers still in the field every opportunity of becoming acquainted with the treatment he proposed now to extend to them, their families, and their property.

Instructions had been issued to form "laagers" for all the surrendered burghers, their wives, families, and stock, on the railway in their own districts under military protection; and, except where it was proved that a Burgher had voluntarily broken his oath and gone out on commando, no difference would be made between those who had and those who had not taken the oath. To protect deserted women and children, they would also be brought into these "laagers," where their husbands and sons, who desired to live peacefully, could freely join them.

It was essential that the country should be thus cleared, because so long as the means of subsistence remained in and on the farms, so long small commandos were enabled to continue in the field. In return, Lord Kitchener

expected every assistance from those to whom he gave protection. They must each and all help to the best of their ability by influencing in every way in their power those still in the field to surrender. These measures would be applied gradually, and extended if they proved successful. Burghers must understand that no responsibility could be accepted for stock or property, except for that which they brought in with them, and then only if they kept it within the limits of the protection he was prepared to afford.

A Burgher asked Lord Kitchener the following question :—

Q. "If cattle that are left behind with kafirs are captured by the Burghers, what will happen then?"

A. "I can only be responsible for what you bring in; it is at your own risk if left behind."

Another Burgher asked the following question :—

Q. "Will my cattle be given back at the end of the war, and those of the Burghers which were taken after they had surrendered?"

A. "It is not now the time to talk about a personal matter, but the interests of your country. I hope at the end of the war to be able

to divide what stock I have amongst the various sufferers who have lost their property in consequence of having surrendered."

There was now no question of sending men who had voluntarily surrendered out of South Africa or even out of the Transvaal (or the Orange River Colony). They would be allowed to live in the camp nearest to their district. This, of course, does not apply when men surrender under coercion of military force. The leaders need have no fear as to their treatment. All who had fought fairly and in accordance with the recognised principles of war—and there were very few exceptions—would, on surrendering, receive the consideration due to their rank.

Lord Kitchener said he had come to speak to the burghers personally, because he wished them to be able to tell their friends that they had heard what he had to say from his own lips. They might absolutely rely on his giving effect to what he had said, and he hoped they would all work with unanimity to prevent the great ruin that now threatened their country.

The Committee thanked Lord Kitchener, and unanimously decided that his remarks should be printed in Dutch and be circulated.

BURGHER PEACE COMMITTEE.

*Minutes of a Meeting held by
Mr. M. de Kock.*

Mr. de Kock (of Belfast), in his address to the Lydenburg Burghers, informed the Burghers that it was the desire of the British Military Authorities to consider any reasonable suggestion which will have for its object a speedy ending to this regrettable war. Mr. de Kock further stated that he would suggest to the British Military Authorities that it would have a most beneficial influence to send the burghers who surrendered back to their own district towns, not necessarily on parole, but to be kept as prisoners of war in those towns occupied by the British, and also to send out men from each district with proclamations amongst those still in the field.

Mr. Dorey (of Lydenburg) said that he agreed with the first suggestion, but was of the opinion that it would be a mistake to send out proclamations, because it was of no use. He further stated that he was convinced, if the

British Military Authorities acted upon the first suggestion, a very large number of people would surrender who, under the present conditions, would rather do anything than submit to being sent out of the country or out of their districts. He knew of several that would have surrendered if allowed to remain in Lydenburg.

Mr. du Plessis agreed with what Mr. Dorey had said, and could confirm the statement that several men whom he knew would have surrendered if they knew that they would not be sent out of the Lydenburg district, and that they would be treated in the way he was treated, and not in the manner represented to the Burghers still in the field.

Messrs. P. C. Joubert (of Lydenburg), de Kock, de Lange (Waterval Boven), and several others agreed with Mr. M. de Kock that it would have a most beneficial influence if his suggestions were acted upon.

Mr. G. Moolman (of Ermelo) was of opinion that if the British acted upon Mr. de Kock's suggestion a large number of Burghers would almost immediately surrender their arms. Further, that he was of the opinion that hard measures have not the desired effect, but, on the contrary, only influenced the Burghers to

believe anything said against the British by interested parties.

Mr. A. J. Koelman (of Lydenburg) agreed with Mr. Dorey, but was of the opinion that sending out Proclamations would have a good result. He further stated that he knew for a certainty that if it was known that he was back in Lydenburg, where his home is, several of his friends would at once surrender.

Mr. W. Franck (of Lydenburg) agreed with Mr. Dorey that it would have the desired effect if the British Military Authorities acted upon the suggestion offered; he was of opinion that his two brothers still in the field would immediately surrender if they knew that he was back in Lydenburg and that they would be treated in the same way.

Mr. Nortje (of Lydenburg) agreed with Mr. Dorey, and thought several people known to himself would surrender if they knew that he was back in Lydenburg, and that they would be treated in the same way.

It was proposed by Mr. de Kock to submit the suggestions to the British Military Authorities, which was carried by every one present.

Pretoria, Johannesburg, Middelburg, Carolina, Bethal, Standerton, Rustenburg, Lichtenburg, Klerksdorp and

Heidelberg men held the same opinion as Lydenburg, etc., and the following resolution was unanimously carried.

The forming of a committee of gentlemen of the principal towns—Pretoria, Johannesburg and other places, that may be advised—of known standing and influence amongst the Burghers, for the purpose of drawing up a true and concise statement of affairs up to the present time in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, and the hopelessness of further reliance on European or other intervention; this to be attached and distributed with the Proclamations.

The meeting was unanimous that the above suggestions, if carried out, would have a most beneficent effect.

Meeting held 20th December, 1900.

(Sgd) M. DE KOCK, Chairman.

„ G. C. DE GIER (of Pretoria),
Secretary.

(15)

From D. of S., Pretoria.

To G.O.C., Bloemfontein.

Jan. 5, S. S. Your S.B. 24.

In cases where farmers bring in their stock and do not remain themselves as refugees, but return to their farms, receipt may be given for the stock they hand over, and such stock taken in charge and placed on nearest stock farm. But stock the property of Refugees is not to be taken over from them by us, but must be dealt with by Civil Authorities.

(True Copy),

H. S. SLOMAN, Capt.,

D.A.A.G. (I).

Bloemfontein,
6th January, 1901.

3727 Q.

Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, 28th December, 1900.

To Lieut.-General HUNTER,
Bloemfontein.

Some misapprehension appears to exist regarding the issue of travelling permits to civilians.

It has been arranged between the Commander-in-Chief and His Excellency the High Commissioner that no civilians (as such) are to be permitted to enter the Transvaal or Orange River Colony without the sanction of the High Commissioner, who alone now issues travelling authority to such civilians.

In the case of civilians required for "Actual Military Employment," authority to enter the Transvaal or Orange River Colony can only be issued by or on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief, and application for the services of such persons should be addressed in the first instance to Army Headquarters, Pretoria.

By "Actual Military Employment" is meant, service with Railways, Telegraphs, Ordnance, Supply and Transport Departments, etc.

Since the recent trouble in the Cape Colony a further arrangement has been made between the Commander-in-Chief and His Excellency the High Commissioner, to the effect that no civilian or undesirables shall be allowed to proceed to Cape Colony from Orange River Colony or Transvaal without the direct authority of the Commander-in-Chief.

The word "Civilian" does not include Railway Employes, Transport Conductors, Drivers, or any other recognised camp followers forming part of the Army, who move by railway like any other soldiers under the orders of their own immediate chiefs.

(Signed) W. F. KELLY,
Adjutant-General.

(17)

A.G.
Circular Memo.
No. 30.

CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR.

It has come to the knowledge of the General Commanding-in-Chief that cases have occurred where the order for the removal of women and children from their homesteads has not been carried out with proper provision for the removal of their goods and chattels, and that, in some cases, sick and delicate women and children have been moved without adequate arrangements being made.

His Lordship directs that where it is impossible to make such provision, the inhabitants are not to be moved until proper arrangements can be made.

By Order,

W. F. KELLY,
Major-General,
Adjutant-General.

Army Headquarters,
Pretoria, 16th January, 1901.