

MESOPOTAMIA, 1914-1918

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

CONTENTS

General Sources.....p.1

Specific Engagements

-British Advance on Baghdad (1914-1915).....p.4

-Kut.....p.4

-After Kut.....p.5

Special Aspects.....p.7

-Dunsterforce.....p.7

Commonwealth Perspective.....p.8

Central Powers Perspective.....p.9

Other.....p.8

GENERAL SOURCES

Early in the 20th century, as the British Navy began to shift from coal to oil, the oil-rich land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers became increasingly important to Empire strategy. Shortly after hostilities commenced in Europe, the War Office instructed the British Army to establish a presence in Mesopotamia to protect the Anglo-Persian pipeline. The campaign opened with the capture of a Turkish fort at Fao Landing on 6 Nov 1914, and the city of Basra two weeks later. Under the field command of General Charles V.F. Townshend, the British Indian Army met with some Ottoman resistance through the next summer, but it was not enough to satisfy the overall Turkish commander, Enver Pasha. Fearing the ultimate loss of Baghdad, he replaced his commander based in that city, Khalil Pasha, with elderly German General Colmar von der Gotz. He engaged Townshend at Ctesiphon, some 25 miles south of Baghdad, in November, but both forces retreated from the battlefield. Townshend fell back on Kut, which he fortified, but he found himself unable to resupply this isolated location.

Barker, A.J. The Bastard War: The Mesopotamian Campaign of 1914-1918. NY: Dial, 1967. 449 p. D568.5.B332.

_____. The Neglected War: Mesopotamia, 1914-1918. London: Faber, 1967. 534 p. D568.5.B333.

- Bernstein, Jack. The Mesopotamia Mess: The British Invasion of Iraq in 1914: The Lessons We Could Have- and Should Have- Learned. Redondo Beach, CA: InterLingua Pub, 2008. 230 p. D568.5B47.
- Bird, Wilkinson D. "Lost Opportunities in 1915?" Army Quarterly (Jul 1937): pp. 237-47; (Oct 1937): pp. 37-49. Per.
Western Front; Gallipoli; Balkans; Egypt
- Buchanan, George C. The Tragedy of Mesopotamia. Edinburgh, Scotland: Blackwood, 1938. 287 p. D640.B82.A3.
- Burne, Alfred H. Mesopotamia, the Last Phase. London: Gale & Polden, 1936. 124 p. D568.5.B8.
- Candler, Edmund. The Long Road to Baghdad. 2 vols. NY: Houghton, Mifflin, 1919. D568.5.C2.
- Cráster, S.L. "Engineer Stores in the Great War and After." Royal Engineers Journal (Sep 1923): pp. 375-88. Per.
British engineers & supply Mesopotamia, Palestine & Western Front.
- Dane, Edmund. British Campaigns in the Nearer East, 1914-1918: From the Outbreak of War with Turkey to the Armistice. 2 vols. NY: Hodder & Stoughton, 1919. D566.C32.
- Davis, Paul K. End and Means: The British Mesopotamian Campaign and Commission. Rutherford, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson, 1994. 279 p. D568.5.D38.
- Edgar, D.K. "The Works Directorate, Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force." Royal Engineer Journal (Dec 1919): pp. 287-97; (Mar 1920): pp. 141-48. Per.
Logistics (water supply, roads, electrical).
- Egan, Eleanor. The War in the Cradle of the World, Mesopotamia. NY: Harper, 1918. 371 p. D568.5.E5.
- Evans, Roger. A Brief Outline of the Campaign in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918. London: Sifton, Praed, 1926. D568.5.E8.
- Ford, Roger. Eden to Armageddon: World War I in the Middle East. NY: Pegasus Books, 2009. 496 p. D566.F67.
- Fromkin, David. A Peace to End All Peace: Creating the Modern Middle East, 1914-1922. NY: Henry Holt, 1989. 635 p. DS63.2.G7.F76.
- Great Britain. Mesopotamia Commission. Report...Together with a Separate Report by Commander J. Wedgwood... London: HMSO, 1917. 188 p. D568.5.G72.
- Hall, Charles L. "Patterns of the British High Command." Military Engineer (May/June 1927): pp. 212-14. Per.
Gallipoli, Meso, Salonica

- Holdich, T.H. "Mesopotamia." Royal United Service Institute Journal (RUSI) (May 1916): pp. 341-48. Per.
British strategy
- Hamilton, H.W.R. "History of the 20th (Field) Company; Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners." Royal Engineer Journal (Mar 1927): pp. 41-62. Per.
Dujaila Redoubt, Hannah, Baghdad and Palestine.
- Molesworth, F.C. "Engineer Field Parks in Mesopotamia." Royal Engineer Journal (Mar 1923): pp. 103-14. Per.
- Molesworth, F.C. "Engineer Operations, South Persia, 1914-19." Royal Engineers Journal (Jun 1935): pp. 237-47. Per.
Road/bridge building.
- Nash, Tank. Chitral Charlie: The Life and Times of a Victorian Soldier: The Slow Rise and Swift Fall of Major General Sir Charles Townshend, KCB DSO. Barnsley, England: Pen & Sword, 2010. 326 p. DS479.1.T69.N37.
- Parker, W.M. "Supply Services in Mesopotamia." Royal Army Service Corps Quarterly (Apr 1921): pp. 420-31. Per.
- Sandes, E.W.C. "The Adventures of a Bridging Train in Mesopotamia." Royal Engineers Journal (Jun 1924): pp. 233-48. Per.
Pontoons.
- Townshend, Charles. Desert Hell: The British Invasion of Mesopotamia. Cambridge, MA: Belknap/Harvard, 2011. 591 p. D568.5.T68.
- Wilcox, Ron. Battles on the Tigris. Barnsley, England: Pen & Sword, 2006. 245 p. D568.5.W55.
- Wilson, Arnold T. Loyalties; Mesopotamia, 1914-1917: A Personal and Historical Record. NY: Greenwood, 1969 reprint of 1930 edition. 340 p. D568.5.W62.
- Witts, F.V.B. "Light Floating Bridges in Mesopotamia." Royal Engineers Journal (Dec 1923): pp. 637-39. Per.
Bridge building.
- Witts, F.V.B. "Pontoon Experience in Mesopotamia." Royal Engineer Journal (Nov 1921): pp 205-08. Per.

SPECIFIC ENGAGEMENTS

-British Advance on Baghdad

On 12-14 April 1915, the Indian force easily captured Qurna, giving British planners the confidence to advance further, their goal being the capture of Baghdad. Two forces proceeded in that direction. General Charles V.F. Townshend headed up the Tigris, capturing Shaiba, a Turkish fort near Qurna, on 31 May and Amara on 3 Jun. In support of Townshend, Major General George F. Goringe headed up the Euphrates, taking Nasiriya on 24 Jul, after a month of resistance.

Finlay, Luke. "The Mesopotamia Campaign to the Fall of Kut." Infantry Journal (May 1928): pp. 480-91. Per.

Gardner, Nikolas. "Charles Townshend's Advance on Baghdad: The British Offensive in Mesopotamia, September-November 1915." War in History Vol. 20, No. 2 (2013): pp. 182-200. Per.

H.B.R. "A Memory of a Side-show." Army Quarterly (Oct 1921): pp. 77-87. Per.
Kurna, May 1915.

Murphy, C.C.R. "The Attempt to Recapture Basrah." Royal United Service Institute Journal (RUSI) (Nov 1919): pp. 632-46. Per.
Apr 1915

Paris, A.L. "The 3rd Sappers and Miners in the War." Royal Engineers Journal (Jan 1921): pp., 14-20. Per.
Shaiba-14 Apr 1915

-Kut

Townshend had miscalculated the overall strength of Turkish resistance forces that he would meet enroute to Baghdad. Reinforced in late summer, he was ordered to capture Kut-el-Amara. He accomplished this goal dividing the defenders of the Turkish stronghold at the confluence of the Tigris and Shatt-el-Hai Rivers on 27-28 Sep 1915. The Turks withdrew to Ctesiphon, which he attacked, only to be repulsed by a numerically superior force on 2-26 Nov. Townshend withdrew, fighting a rear guard action at Umm-at-Tubel on 1 Dec, arriving at the relative safety of Kut two days later. The Turks commenced siege operations on 7 Dec. Major General Goringe unsuccessfully attempted to lift the siege south of the Tigris on 7 Mar 1916, and Townshend was ultimately forced to surrender on 29 Apr 1916.

Braddon, Russell. The Siege. NY: Viking, 1970. 352 p. D568.5.B7.

Frey, Waldemar. "War Operations in Irak and the Siege of Kut." [Translation of Kût-el-Amâra: Kriegsfahrten und Erinnerungsbilder aus dem Orient" by LTC L.P. Horsfall] Ft. Leavenworth, KS: CGSS, 193? 21 p. D568.5.F7.

- Hartshorn, E.S. "The Mesopotamia Expedition." Coast Artillery Journal (Aug 1923): pp. 95-122. Per. British/Turkish/German - Kut & Mosul.
- Herbert, Aubrey. Mons, Anzac & Kut. London: Hutchinson, 1930? 270 p. D640.H384.
- Jones, Robert F. "Kut." MHQ Vol. 4, No. 2: pp. 58-69. Per.
- Millar, Ronald W. Death of an Army: The Siege of Kut, 1915-1916. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1970. 323 p. D568.5.M52.
- Mousley, Edward O. The Secrets of a Kuttie: An Authentic Story of Kut, Adventures in Captivity and Stamboul Ingrigue. London: John Lane, 1922. 392 p. D568.5.M6.
- Rimington, J.C. "Kut-ul-Amarah." Army Quarterly (Apr 1923): pp. 17-26. Per.
- Sandes, E.W.C. "The Decision to Defend Kut-el-Amarah." Coast Artillery Journal (Jul 1925): pp. 34-45. Per.
- _____. "The Decision to Defend Kut-el-Amarah." Royal Engineers Journal (Sep 1924): pp. 423- . Per.
- _____. "The Defence of Kut." Royal Engineers Journal (Dec 1924): pp. 545- .
- Spackman, William C. Captured at Kut: Prisoner of the Turks: The Great War Diaries of Colonel W. C. Spackman. [Edited by Tony Spackman] Barnsley, England: Pen & Sword, 2008. 206 p. D627.T9.S73.
- Watson, Bruce. Sieges: From the Siege of Jerusalem to the Gulf War. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole, 2009. 214 p. UG444.W38.
See Chap. 5.

-After Kut

Coming four months after the British disaster at Gallipoli, Kut was a watershed of Empire operations in Mesopotamia. Debate in the War Office and HQ, British Indian Army, was not over how to but if offensive operations would continue at all. In August, Sir Frederick S. Maude had been assigned to Mesopotamia command, with orders to maintain a defensive posture. By late autumn, he received permission to renew the offensive. On 13 Dec 1916, he began an advance up both banks of the Tigris. He recaptured Kut in February and captured Baghdad on 11 Mar 1917. Maude died of cholera in November, and was replaced by General William Marshall, who renewed offensive operations in Feb 1918. Kifri, Hit (Khanaqin) and Sharkat were all taken by November, and he supplied support to the Dunsterville operation in Persia through the summer. Marshall accepted the surrender of Khalil Pasha on 30 Oct 1918. British troops occupied Mosul on 14 Nov after the armistice was signed, to secure the oil fields north of Baghdad.

- “Action on 8th March, 1917 at Aden.” Cavalry Journal [British] (Jan 1928): pp. 73-77. Per.
- “Crossing of the Tigris, February 1917.” West Point, NY?: USMA, 1940? 10 p. D568.5.C76.
- Davies, H.L. “The Operations of the 15th Division on the Euphrates, 1917-1918.: Army Quarterly Vol. 25, No. 1: pp. 28-40. Per.
Ramadieh-26-29 Sep 1917; Khan Baghdadih, 25-26 Mar 1918
- Dewing, R.H. “Some Aspects of Maude’s Campaign in Mesopotamia.” Army Quarterly Per.
(Jan 1927): pp. 297-306. Tigris, 20 Dec 1916; Shumran, 23 Feb 1917; Diyala, 7-9 Mar 1917; Apeheim, 18 Apr 1917.
(Apr 1927): pp. 60-77. British Cavalry.
(Jul 1927): pp. 347-55. British 7 Turkish river and rail communication.
- Fanshawe, H.D. “Cavalry in Mesopotamia in 1918.” Cavalry Journal (Oct 1920): pp. 414-29. Per.
Sharqat-20-30 Oct 1918
- Gausson, _____. “Gumbaz.” Cavalry Journal [British] (Jan 1931): pp. 60-67. Per.
Gumbaz Post-20 Feb 1918
- Hamilton, F.A. “Kaneh-Par-Dosh.” Cavalry Journal [British] (Apr 1918): pp. 195-202. Per.
Ahmedabad-17 Jun 1918
- Hamilton, H.W.R. “History of the 20th (Field) Company; Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners.”
Royal Engineer Journal (Mar 1927): pp. 41-62. Per.
Dujaila Redoubt, Hannah, Baghdad and Palestine.
- “Hawk.” “Ramadi.” Cavalry Journal (Oct 1920): pp. 405-13. Per.
Meco/Baghdad-1917.
- Hammond, A. “The Advance on Mosul, October 1918, from the Squadron Commander’s Point of View.”
Cavalry Journal [British] (Apr 1923): pp. 122-30. Per.
- Kirkby, S.A.H. “Mesopotamia.” Army Quarterly Per.
(Oct 1936): pp. 39-50. Ctesiphon, 11 Nov 1915
(Jan 1937): pp. 252-61. Kut, 1915-16; Dujaila, 8 Mar 1916
(Apr 1937): pp. 84-91. Closing the Tigris, Dec 1916-15 Feb 1917
- “The Surrender of Kazimain.” Cavalry Journal [British] (Apr 1927): pp. 161-63. Per.
Baghdad, 11 Mar 1917

SPECIAL ASPECTS

Hall, L.J., Compiler. The Inland Water Transport in Mesopotamia. London: Constable, 1921. 252 p. D546.58.I66.

_____. "Transportation by Inland Waters in the Campaign in Mesopotamia." Military Engineer (Nov/Dec 1921): pp. 499-501. Per.

MacMunn, George. "The Lines of Communications in Mesopotamia." Army Quarterly (Oct 1927): pp. 42-57. Per.
River and rail communication, 1915-16

Massey, William T. The Great War in the Middle East. 2 vols. Great Britain: Leonaur, 2009. D640.M3487.
Perspective of British Journalist.

"Mesopotamia: A Political Retrospect." Army Quarterly (Apr 1931): pp. 69-83. Per.

R.H.D. "A Tribal War." Army Quarterly (Jan 1924): pp. 345-55. Per.

Roy, Kaushik. "From Defeat to Victory: Logistics of the Campaign in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918." First World War Studies (Mar 2010): pp. 35-55. Per.

Schroeter, J. The Importance of Land Fortifications in the World War. [Translation by Colonel Samuel G. Shartle] [Schweidnitz, Germany: Schroeter, 1922]. pp. 54-56. D521.S37.

-Dunsterforce

Davis, Edward. Papers, cited below. 2 Boxes. Arch.

Donohoe, Martin H. With the Persian Expedition. London: E. Arnold, 1919. 276 p. D568.8.D6.

Dunsterville, Lionel C. The Adventures of Dunsterforce. London: E. Arnold, 1920. 323 p. D568.8.D8.

Murray, W.W. "Canadians in the Dunsterforce." Canadian Defence Quarterly (Jan 1931): pp. 209-18; (Apr 1931): pp. 377-86; (Jul 1931): pp. 487-97; (Nov 1931): pp. 92-100; (Jan 1932): pp. 233-43. Per.

Plotke, Alma J. "The Dunsterforce: Military/Intelligence Mission to North Persia in 1918." Phd dss, UCLA, 1987. 372 p. D568.8.P66.

Smith, John T. Gone to Russia to Fight: The RAF in South Russia, 1918-1920. Stroud, England: Amberley, 2010. 221 p. DK265.42.G7.S65.

BRITISH/COMMONWEALTH PERSPECTIVE

Anderson, Ross. "Logistics of the Indian Expeditionary Force D in Mesopotamia: 1914-18." In The Indian Army in the Two World Wars. Boston: Brill, 2012. pp. 105-44. UA842.I53.

The Campaign in Mesopotamia, 1914-1918. 4 vols. Nashville, TN: Battery Press, 1997 reprint of 1923 1927 edition. D521.H574.

Dewing, R.H. "Lessons from Experiences with Irregulars." Army Quarterly (Oct 1924): pp. 86-97.
Per.
Spring 1918; Kurdish Horse; Assyrian contingent.

Gardner, Nikolas. "Morale of the Indian Army in the Mesopotamia Campaign, 1914-17." In The Indian Army in the Two World Wars, cited above. 393-418. UA842.I53.

Lawley, Arthur. A Message from Mesopotamia. NY: Hodder & Stoughton, 1917. 131 p. D568.5.L4.

Leland, F. W. With the M. T. in Mesopotamia. East Sussex, England: Naval & Military, 2004 reprint of 1920 edition. 253 p. D640.L434.
Originally published as With the Mechanical Transport in Mesopotamia.

Light Armoured Motor Car Training (Provisional) 1918: Mesopotamia. n.p., 35 p. UD570.L54.

Nicoll, Maurice [Martin Swayne, Pseudonym] In Mesopotamia. NY: : Hodder & Stoughton, 1917. 166 p. D568.5.N5.

Nunn, Wilfred. Tigris Gunboats: The Forgotten War in Iraq, 1914-1917. London: Chatham, 2007 reprint of 1932 edition. 288 p. D568.5.N86.

On the Road to Kut: A Soldier's Story of the Mesopotamian Campaign. London: Hutchinson, 1917. 304 p. D568.5.O5.

Palmer, Robert S.A. Letters from Mesopotamia in 1915 and January, 1916. London: Women's Printing Society, 1926? 134 p. D568.5.P34.
Killed 21 Jun 1916 at Battle of Um El Hannah.

Roy, Kaushik. "The Army in India in Mesopotamia from 1916 to 1918: Tactics, Technology and Logistics Reconsidered." In 1917: Beyond the Western Front. Boston, MA: Brill, 2009. pp. 131-58. D521.A1.1917.

Syk, Andrew. "Command in the Indian Expeditionary Force D: Mesopotamia, 1915-16." In The Indian Army in the Two World Wars, cited above. Boston: Brill, 2012. pp. 63-104. UA842.I53.

Tennant, John E. In the Clouds above Baghdad: Being the Records of an Air Commander. London: C. Palmer, 1920. 289 p. D602.T42.

Townshend, Charles V.F. My Campaign. 2 vols. NY: McCann, 1920. D568.5.T72.
My Campaign in Mesopotamia. London: T. Butterworth, 1920. 400 p. D568.5.T7.

CENTRAL POWERS PERSPECTIVE

“The Mesopotamian Campaign through Turkish Spectacles.” Army Quarterly (Jul 1934): pp. 314-19.
Per.

Murphy, C.C.R. “The Turkish Army in the Great War.” Royal United Service Institute Journal (RUSI)
(Feb 1920): pp. 90-104. Per.

Sykes, Christopher. Wassmuss, the “German Lawrence.” NY: Longmans, Green, 1936. 271 p.
D568.8.S9.

OTHER (American; Indian)

Clark, Arthur T. To Baghdad with the British. NY: Appleton, 1918. 295 p. D640.C52.
American reminiscence.

Davis, Edward. Papers. 2 Boxes. Arch.
Includes papers from his service as U.S. military observer Allied forces in Macedonia
and Mesopotamia, with the British Egyptian Expeditionary Force, with Allenby’s forces
in Palestine in 1917 and with the Dunsterforce in Persia, 1918.

India. Army. I Corps. Notes of the First Indian Army Corps: From October, 1917 to November 1918.
Ft. Leavenworth, KS: General Service Schools Press, 1928. 205 p. D568.5.I5.

Jones, J. Cethin. "The Campaign in South Kurdistan, 1919." Army Quarterly and Defence Journal
(Oct 1925): pp. 86-95. Per.
Battle of Bazyan Pass, 18 Jun 1919.

Roosevelt, Kermit. War in the Garden of Eden. NY: Scribner, 1920. 253 p. D640.R643.
Son of President Theodore, serving with British forces.

Severn Mark. "Captain Black--A Kurdistan Episode." Army Quarterly and Defence Journal
(Oct 1935): pp. 149-56. Per.
Battle Nineveh (Kurdistan) , 29 Apr 1919

Mesopotamia

p.10

Thurburn, R.G. "The Operations in Southern Kurdistan, March-May, 1923." Army Quarterly and Defence Journal (Jan 1936): pp. 264-77. Per.

See also:

-the WWI section of Iran Overview in Iran.