
Guide to the British Military Operations in Waziristan Photograph Album SC 1174

Finding aid prepared by Beaudry Allen

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Title: British Military Operations in Waziristan Photograph Album

Identifier/Call Number: SC 1174

Contributing Institution: UC Santa Barbara Library, Department of Special Collections

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.02 linear feet(1 folder)

Date (inclusive): circa 1922-1923

Abstract: A photograph album depicting British Military operations in Waziristan, then a region of India, in 1922 and 1923, prior to the Pink's War. Photographs mainly relate to military camps and convoys throughout the region.

Language of Materials: The collection is in English.

Physical Location: Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara

Processing Information

Processed by Beaudry Allen, 2016

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

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Acquisition Information

Purchased by Special Research Collections, 2016.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of Item], British Military Operations in Waziristan Photograph Album, SC 1174. Department of Special Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Related Material

North West Frontier [Waziristan] Photograph Album, ca. mid-1920s, Bernath Mss 189, Special Research Collections

Historical note

After World War I, growing tension in the region of Waziristan, then part of India, now straddling the Pakistan and Afghanistan border, had hit the zenith as local Maseed, or Mahsūd, tribesmen steadfastly refused to be subdued by the British colonial control and carried out a series of successful attacks against British regimental bases. For years British were engaged in a continuing effort to pacify militant tribesmen in the province but were losing ground. The anti-colonial campaign from local tribes eventually led to Pink's War in 1925, an air-to-ground British campaign against mountain region strongholds.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of thirty-eight photographs relating to the British military operations in Waziristan. The photographs depict military camps, convoys, and recreation activities of the region throughout 1922 and 1923, prior to Pink's War. British power was failing at the time these photographs were taken, however, the British had gained new advantage through the use of air raids. The photographs show the terrain and villages; the inside of British camps at Jandola, Saraogha, Ladha, and Razmak; convoys of armored tanks and camels traveling between camps; crossing the Indus in flood; native escorts and Gurkhas; and a Jarga—tribal assembly. In addition to the operational photographs, there are several photographs of officers at Dera Ismail Kahn (winter headquarters of the Derajat Bridage) enjoying a sporting day.

The inscriptions may have been written by Colonel John James Aiken (1878-1946), an officer in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps. The photographs remain in the original order of the creator.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

British--Afghanistan--History

British--India--History--20th century

Pakistan--Pictorial works

Waziristan (Pakistan)