

Capt George Harold Lever (1892-1973)

Campaign in German South West Africa 1914-15.

- I/1 [1956] [G.H. Lever]. Notes on the campaign, intended for use in broadcast or lecture. Purpose of the journey - to train S.A. Army personnel in the use and maintenance of wireless sets. Period at Kuruman Mission Station whilst Eastern force assembling; journey with the Advance Eastern Force Kalahari Desert to Keetmanshoop where Eastern force disbanded and joined Col (Later General) Mybergh's column to Karibib and Tsumeb, where Germans surrendered. Interesting accounts of life on the marsh, digging for water, the Boer natives, meeting General Botha etc. MS. 5 sheets.
- I/2 1915 2 Newspaper cuttings pasted onto sheet of paper. (i) "Manchester Guardian" May 1915. Trials of the South African Campaign. Extracts from letter [by Lever].

(ii) "Manchester Evening News". 4 Aug 1915. "Hardships of the campaign: Account of General Mybergh's column.

Notes on both the above, [by Lever].
- I/3 1915 Sep 8 Maj. N. Stanison, Director of Signals, Pretoria to Lieutenant Lever, thanking him for the work he has done in South Africa. Typed. Signed. 2 pp.
- I/4 1916 Oct 16 T.S. Nightingale, Secretary, Office of the High Commissioner of the Union of S.A. to Marconi Company, thanking them for Lt. Lever's services. Typed. 1p.
- I/5 1915 Oct 25 The Manager, Marconi Co., to the Secretary, High Commissioner S.A. Reply. Typed carbon. 1p.
- I/6 1915 Oct 25 The same to Lt. Lever, enclosing above and thanking him. Typed. 1p.
- I/7 n.d. Attached to I/3-6 above, rough notes by Lever on:-

(i) Failure to develop photographs of the Kalahari Desert.
(ii) Administrative confusion in army resulting in his return to England following West African Campaign.

(iii) Details of wireless experience 1912-1921. MS. 3 sheets.

Photographs: South Africa 1915: with notes on reverse by Lever

- II/1-2 Wireless sets packed for dispatch to the front from training ground at Sea Point, Capetown.
- II/3 The Brown's house at Kuruman Mission.
- II/4 Camel Corps at Kuruman: 'wiped out later'.
- II/5 The Rev. and Mrs. Brown at Kuruman.

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- II/6 [Lever] with grapes at Kuruman Mission.
- II/7-8 The Kuruman Mission Station.
- II/9 'My Little Crowd'. Group photo.
Farmer and house. 'The final resting place before tackling the desert'.
- II/10 Horses and carts 'on trek to the desert'.
- II/11 The crew of one station: typical of the country beyond Kuruman, parallel to the dried up Limpopo River.
- II/12 Lever with his batman by a borehole.
- II/13 Family group of people thrown out of various tribes who directed Lever's party to water.
- II/14 Line of soldiers behind sand "Our front line as we crossed Kalahari [desert]."
- II/15 'Ambulance' stretcher being carried in desert.
- II/16 Boer with two dogs behind the Tsama plant.
- II/17 The oven built from the wings of Sir Thomas Cullonen's German car; 'the talk of the Eastern force'.
- II/18 Boer commando in Main Street, Winduk [Windhoek].
- II/19 Group of officers including General Botha.
- II/20
- II/21-22 [Lever] with wireless sets and more distant view of station and aerial. "Half hour after arrival at Boskop".
- II/23 Lever with springbok he had shot.
- II/24 A blockhouse.
- II/25 Lever on a Basuto pony.
- II/26 Lever with two others and wireless set during its first breakdown.
- II/27 Typical S.A. landscape; veldt.
- II/28 Family of Ovambos.
- Postcards
- II/29 A Zulu boy.
- II/30 A Basuto Girl.
- Other photographs
- III/1 Lever in Hyde Park London, 1915.
- III/2-3 Lever with Marconi Wireless Set taken during his stay at Chelmsford, 1919.

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British Military Mission to Southern Russia 1919-20

- IV/1 1919 Oct 30-
 1920 Jun 29 G.H. Lever Diary covering his service as W/T Officer with the British Military Mission. Detailed diary until 17 April, final two months generally descriptive passages. Typed and heavily annotated by Lever. 125 pp. The diary contains sketch maps, rough index, an introduction written in 1969, an opinion on the diary in a letter written by the Secretary of the Manchester Literary Society dated 28 November 1922 and an extract from the Manchester Guardian House Journal, 1930, about a reading of the diary given by Lever. Also 197 photographs including a few postcards, with a description of each.
[These photographs have been numbered by the Archivist for identification with the lantern slides below.]
- IV/2 49 glass lantern slides in wooden box, reproduced in diary above. Numbers relating to those reproduced in diary above:-
1,3,9,10,32,40,47,49,50,61,66,70,78,82,85,88,93,100,101,102,106,108,109,111,113,115,119,120,128,132,137,139,140,143,148,149,152,158,159,164,167,174,176,177,182.
Other slides not reproduced in the diary:-
(1) St. Sophia and the bay [?].
(11) a map of the Crimea, similar to that on page 25 of the diary.
(111) an Icon.

Miscellaneous papers relating to Lever's service 1914-22

- V/1 1918 Nov 21 Statement by Col A.H.W. Grubb, Director of Signals, GHQ British Salonika Force certifying that Lever had been employed on wireless duties in the Salonika Army. Typed. 1 p.
- V/2 1919 Feb 26 Copy of official report form of Lever's service in the Army, with remarks by A.H.W. Grubb. Typed. Certified for Director of Signals. [Badly worn at folds].
- V/3 1921 Nov 23 Statement by Maj G.G. Rawson, Royal Corps of Signals that Lever had been in his Company for two years in Salonika. MS. 1 p.
- V/4 1922 Mar 2 War Office to Lever, notifying him of demobilization. Duplicated. 1 p.
- V/5 1923 Aug 22 Lt Gen Combe, Military Secretary at War Office to Lever informing him of the records in his Department about Lever's service. MS Note [by Lever], querying the omission of his service in Ireland. Typed. 2 pp.
- V/6 1971 Jun 9 Publicity Manager Marconi Maine to Lever, returning his papers and regretting that the house journal was not able to use them. Typed. Signed. 2 pp.