

**Distribution and Strength of the British Forces
in Afghanistan
10th August 1880**

Northern Afghanistan: Lieutenant-General Sir Davis Stewart, K.C.B.

At Zargunshahar: Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Roberts, K.C.B.

Staff:

79/0/0/0*

Artillery: Colonel A C Johnson

6th Battery, 8th Brigade, R.A.

11th Battery, 9th Brigade, R.A.

No.2 Mountain Battery

Total 18 mountain guns 12/190/5/418

Cavalry: Brigadier-General H H Gough, V.C., C.B.

9th Lancers

3rd Bengal Cavalry

3rd Punjab Cavalry

Central India Horse

Total 19/318/27/1,297

1st Infantry Brigade: Brigadier-General H T Macpherson

92nd Highlanders

2nd Gurkhas

23rd Pioneers

24th Punjab Infantry

Total 19/651/22/1,777

2nd Infantry Brigade: Brigadier-General T D Baker, C.B.

72nd Highlanders

5th Gurkhas

2nd Sikhs

3rd Sikhs

Total 23/787/22/1,743

3rd Infantry Brigade: Brigadier-General C M MacGregor, C.B.

2/60th Rifles

4th Gurkhas

15th Sikhs

25th Punjab Infantry

Total 21/616/25/1,916

At Kabul: Major-General J Hills, V.C., C.B.

Sappers:

10th Company 0/5/2/104

Artillery:

G Battery, 4th Brigade, R.A.

11th Battery, 11th Brigade, R.A.

Total 12 guns 11/238/0/133

Cavalry: Brigadier-General C T S Gough

1st Punjab Cavalry

2nd Punjab Cavalry (3 troops)

Guides Cavalry

Total 0/0/14/889

Infantry: Brigadier-Generals R J Hughes & W Daunt

2/9th Foot (6 companies)

59th Foot

67th Foot

5th Punjab Infantry

27th Punjab Infantry

28th Punjab Infantry
45th Sikhs
3rd Gurkhas
Guides
Details from Robert's Force
Total 58/1,831/38/3,355

En Route from India by Detachments:

Sappers:

2nd Company
3rd Company
3th Company
5th Company
7th Company
Total 0/33/13/485

Artillery:

A Battery, B Brigade, R.H.A.
G Battery, 3rd Brigade, R.A.
6th Battery, 11th Brigade, R.A.
12th Battery, 9th Brigade, R.A.
No. 4 Mountain Battery
Total 30 guns 23/499/5/378

Cavalry:

2nd Punjab Cavalry (3 troops)
19th Bengal Lancers (3 troops)
Total 0/0/11/598

Infantry:

2/9th Foot (2 companies)
67th Foot (detachment)
19th Punjab Infantry
Total 9/272/7/607

Khyber Line Force, Butkhak to Jamrud: Major-General R O Bright, C.B.

Sappers:

6th Company Bengal
A Company Madras
C Company Madras
I Company Madras
Total 0/12/5/369

Artillery:

C Battery, 3rd Brigade, R.A.
L Battery, 5th Brigade, R.A.
No. 1 Mountain Battery
Total 16 guns 11/296/4/230

Cavalry:

6th Dragoon Guards
4th Bengal Cavalry
5th Bengal Cavalry
17th Bengal Cavalry
Total 15/310/24/1,235

Infantry: Brigadier-Generals W A Gib, J Doran & R S Hill

1/5th Foot
1/18th Foot
2/14th Foot
1/25th Foot
51st Foot
8th Bengal Infantry
9th Bengal Infantry

16th Bengal Infantry
22nd Bengal Infantry
27th Bengal Infantry (depot & detachment)
30th Bengal Infantry
31st Bengal Infantry
32nd Bengal Infantry
41st Bengal Infantry
1st Gurkhas
1st Madras Infantry
4th Madras Infantry
15th Madras Infantry
Total 101/3,389/82/7,942

Peshawar District Force: Brigadier-General G C Hankin

Artillery:

E Battery, A Brigade, R.H.A.
I Battery, A Brigade, R.H.A.
10th Battery, 11th Brigade, R.A.
Total 18 guns 8/348/0/139

Cavalry:

8th Hussars
10th Bengal Lancers
11th Bengal Lancers
14th Bengal Lancers
Total 10/292/8/971

Infantry:

1/12th Foot
1/17th Foot
1st Bengal Infantry
6th Bengal Infantry
29th Bengal Infantry
Depots
Convalescents & other details
Total 32/2,166/16/2,977

Kurram Field Force: Major-General J Watson, C.B.

Paiwar Kotal, eastward to Kohat:

Sappers:

8th Company 0/2/1/104

Artillery:

C Battery, 4th Brigade, R.A.
E Battery, 3rd Brigade, R.A.
I Battery, 8th Brigade, R.A.
No. 5 Battery, Garrison Artillery
Total 18 guns 15/410/0/213

Cavalry:

1st Bengal Cavalry
8th Bengal Cavalry (detachment)
13th Bengal Lancers
18th Bengal Cavalry
Total 0/0/21/1,382

Infantry: Brigadier-Generals J J H Gordon & H R L Newdigate

2/8th Foot
85th Foot
4/Rifle Brigade (2 companies)
5th Bengal Infantry
11th Bengal Infantry (detachment)

13th Bengal Infantry
20th Bengal Infantry
21st Bengal Infantry
29th Bengal Infantry
1st Sikhs
Deoli Battalion
Depots and Staffs
Total 61/1,831/49/4,590

Southern Afghanistan: Lieutenant-General J M Primrose

At Kalat-i-Ghilzai:

Staff:

87/97/0/343

Artillery:

C Battery, 2nd Brigade, R.A.
Total 2 guns 2/55/0/5

Cavalry: Colonel O V Tanner

3rd Sind Horse 0/0/2/130

Infantry:

66th Foot
29th Bombay Infantry
Total 8/265/8/721

At Kandahar: (less casualties not reported)

Sappers:

2nd Company Bombay 0/5/2/104

Artillery:

E Battery, B Brigade, R.H.A.
C Battery, 2nd Brigade, R.A.
5th Battery, 11th Brigade, R.A.
Total 10 guns 15/340/0/25

Cavalry:

3rd Sind Horse
Poona Horse (detachment)
3rd Bombay Cavalry
Total 0/0/15/1,103

Infantry: Brigadier-Generals H F Brooke & G R S Burrows

2/7th Foot
66th Foot
1st Bombay Infantry
4th Bombay Infantry
19th Bombay Infantry
28th Bombay Infantry
30th Bombay Infantry
Total 40/1,180/34/3/249

Eastward to Chaman:

Cavalry:

Poona Horse (detachment 0/0/1/68)

Infantry:

16th Bombay Infantry
19th Bombay Infantry
Total 0/0/1/420

From the Khojak, eastward to Quetta, including Peshin:

Artillery:

F Battery, 2nd Brigade, R.A.
14th Battery, 9th Brigade, R.A.

No.2 Mountain Battery
Total 16 guns 9/293/4/164

Cavalry:

2nd Sind Horse
Poona Horse (detachment)
1st Madras Cavalry
Total 0/0/16/906

Infantry:

2/11th Foot
4th Bombay Infantry
9th Bombay Infantry
10th Bombay Infantry
16th Bombay Infantry (detachment)
Total 23/805/25/2,882

En route to Peshin & Quetta from Thal-Chotiali, Sibi, the Bolan
Pass, Jacobabd, &c.:

Sappers:

3rd Company Bombay
4th Company Bombay
5th Company Bombay
Total 0/12/5/222

Cavalry:

1st Sind Horse (detachment)
2nd Bombay Cavalry
Total 0/0/6/491

Infantry:

5th Foot (detachment)
23rd Foot (detachment)
9th Bombay Infantry
10th Bombay Infantry
16th Bombay Infantry
Total 0/0/22/1,467

Recapitulation:

Northern Afghanistan: 94 guns 451/12,253/330/27,553 Total 40/587
Kurram District: 18 guns 76/2/243/71/6,289 Total 8,679
Southern Afghanistan: 28 guns 184/3,052/141/12,309 Total 15,686

Grand Total 64,952 with 140 guns (maximum strength attained during the war)

* Figures are: British officers, British NCO's & men;
British officers of
Native regiments; Natives all ranks

Official History of the 2nd Afghan War, 1878-1800, Appendix 20

Copyright GFN 1994.