

(47)

that it was headless. — ^{by}

I thought that it might perchance be the custom of the Hatigurias to bury the head separately and in order to leave no room for doubt had another corpse uncovered when I found the head intact.

Meanwhile the Mungatung men who were present bit their fingers and filled their mouths with mud in confirmation of the truth of their assertions and concluded by offering to show the spear-wounds in the corpse. —

The latter being, however, in a highly advanced state of decomposition there was no

both Seretung and the Lakhuti
Raja and the former admitted
that Yemtang's head was in
the Lakhuti village, while
the Raja stated that it might
be so but that this was the
first intimation of the fact
he had received. —

On further questioning Seretung
he said "I had a spear in my
hand but it was a very little
one" "When I heard Lingpāmo
call out I threw the spear at
"Bura" and ran away. — Tan
"jāmo of Okotso cut off Yemtang's
head. —

"Lingpāmo and I had not
planned to attack the Munga-
"tūng men. —

Mung

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(49)

goats &c. and expressed their
readiness to build camps and
supply coolies if I visited them.
26.-- On the 5th August accom-
panied by Mr. T. Brodick and
Dr. T. Borah and an escort of
30 men I visited Nankam.--

As we approached the village
a Katiguna dressed in a white
Chapkan and trousers came
out to meet us and stalking
up to me said in assamese
"Did you see a man of my
village ^{yesterday} wearing a black hat,
"well, that was my hat" and
walked off apparently satisfied
that he had impressed me
with a full idea of his position
Nankam is splendidly #

700¹⁰⁷ hundred houses and in
no other part of the Naga
Hills have I seen such a
large crowd of men, women,
and children. — The number
could not have been less
than 3,000 and they had a
healthy flourishing appearance.

The women were tattooed on
the legs and were well dressed
with a blue cloth around the
shoulders and a white cloth
as a sari. — They had large
brass earrings worn on the
top of the ear which at a
distance gave them the
appearance of having horns. —

The men wore the common
Bema painted cloths with

(51)

as semi-civilised Semas. ¹⁸⁸

They are inveterate smokers and have a keen appreciation of English tobacco. —

A considerable number renew a little assamese picked up in the tea gardens adjacent to Anguri where they work for a few months in the cold weather. —

27. — I had a long palaver with the headmen who said that although they paid no revenue they considered themselves as much the Maharan's children as the Lhotas were. One remark struck me as very much to the point they said "when we cut up any Lhotas

we have no one to whom we
can complain. - We cannot
go to Wokha through the
Ghota country and have
to suffer without redress. -

I told them that if they
had any complaint to make
and were prevented from
proceeding to Wokha to give
information to the Subdivisional
officer Jorhāt who would
report the matter to me. -

28. We returned to Mungatung
by noon and found that the
women and children were
coming in from the jungle.
I counted the houses and
found the number to be
409, exclusive of granaries.

(53) con. —

19

57

The village of Mungatung extends for about half a mile along an undulating ridge and presents the appearance of a long narrow street, the roofs of the houses occasionally overlapping one another. — As the ridge is very narrow the front of the house is on the ground while the back projects over the hill side and is supported on a raised bamboo platform some 8 to 10 feet from the ground.

The roads in the immediate vicinity of the village are broad and well laid out and are far better than those made by Angamis

connected with the deaths of
Yemtang and Singpāmo were
in custody and on my return
journey via Okotsō I could arrest
Sarijāmo who was charged with
carrying off Yemtang's head. —

30. In the morning of the 6th
August we left Mungatung,
Lieut. Ternan who was unable
to walk being carried in a
doolie. — I went ahead with
the prisoners, accompanied by
some men of Mungatung and
Nankam; as I wished to examine
the scene of the murder. —

Both Seretung

and Tochang (Bura) agreed as to
the exact position of the parties
at the time of the conflict fully

(55) 20

This was diametrically opposed to his first story and he admitted that he had then spoken falsely.

When Tingpāmo attacked Jemtang, Bura & Seretang were 65 paces in the rear and could not from the nature of the ground have seen what took place. —

Jemtang managed to walk 400 paces after he was wounded, and Bura hid 30 paces from the spot where Jemtang lay down. — From his hiding place he could not see Jemtang although he could have heard a cry. —

31. At Okotso I arrested Tanjāmo who made the following statement
"Jemtang of Margatang slept in my house. — When Seretang came back

and found Tingpāmo's headless
 corpse lying on the path. - I fol-
 -lowed up a track of blood and
 found Jemtang lying dead in the
 jungle a short distance from the
 road. - I cut off his head, it
 was my right to do so as he had
 slept in my house the previous
 night. - A number of Lakhuti
 men came to Okotso and carried
 off the head. -

Palamo of Okotso states. -

"Bura slept in my house.

In the morning the two Lakhuti
 lads told me that they were going
 to Mungatung to meet the Lakhutiraja
 and I told them they had better
 accompany Bura & Jemtang. -

32. Seretung hearing how evidence

whole affair and stated. —

"Tingpamo and I went to Okotso
 "to trade. — Seeing the Mungatung
 "men there, Tingpamo said "Let
 "us accompany these men on
 "the road and take their heads,
 "we are two against two you
 "take the Bura and I'll take the
 "other man". — I demurred
 "and he said "if you don't agree
 "I'll take off your kilt and cut
 "it in pieces and you'll be
 "a woman". — I then agreed
 "and we went off together. —
 "When I heard the cry ahead
 "I threw my spear at Bura
 "and ran away. —

33 - The Lakhute Raja was now
 called up and admitted that he

revenue and Mangatang does not, "I thought that the death of a Watiguria did not matter, but that you were bound to avenge the death of one of my men". —

I had him placed in custody and as Bura was completely exonerated I released him and sent him back rejoicing to his village. —

34. On the 7th we reached Lakhe where I found Jemtang's head. on the 8th Sanigaon and on the 9th Nokha. —

I halted 3 days in order to dispose of several political cases, and on the 13th rode in to Kohma 57 miles. —

The military & police escort

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to have to report that Lieut
Lernan's wound is more severe
than was at first anticipated
and it will in all probability
confine him to his bed for a
couple of months. —

35. To sum up the facts
of the alleged murder it may
be stated that as the evidence
finally given by both Hatigurias
and Lhotas agrees in all details
there can be no doubt whatso-
ever as to what the actual
circumstances were. —

The two Lakhuti lads proceeded
to Okoto to trade and finding
two Hatigurias there could not resist
the chance that was offered

their minds to supplement youth with cunning and attacked the Hatigunas unawares. —

In the conflict a Hatigunia lost his life and one of the Lakute lads Tingpamo also fell # suffering a fate he richly # deserved. —

By his own confession # Seretung was accessory to the death of one Hatigunia Jemtang, and attempted to murder the other, Bura - - - He is quite a lad and taking into consideration the fact of his youth I have only sentenced him to 7 years rigorous imprisonment. —

36. With regard to Tanjamo of

(61)

found him in the jungle. —

Under no circumstances, however had he a right to #
mutilate a corpse in this
manner as the act was
bound to generate ill-blood
between the Ghotas and
Hatigurras and to emphasize
my orders prohibiting such #
offences I have sentenced #
him to 6 months rigorous #
imprisonment. —

37. I have also thought it neces-
-sary to punish the Ghotas villages
of Lakhati & Okoto for the false
statements they made with res-
-pect to the death of the Raja's
nephews. —

I have fined Lakhati 300/- and

749
of these amounts — (62)

38.—In this report I have given step by step the measures adopted to fulfil the purpose for which this expedition was undertaken, and I trust that the Chief Commissioner will agree that no endeavour was spared to arrive at the true facts of the case and to inflict punishment only on those of whose guilt satisfactory evidence had been obtained.

The Hatigarias could not come in to give their version of the affair and had we not proceeded to Mungatung the truth would never have been known. —

(63)

made excellent arrangements
for carriage and supplies,
and afforded most able and
willing assistance throughout
the march. — The hearty co-
=operation of Lieut: Fernan
was invaluable, he was as
anxious as myself to avoid
unnecessary bloodshed and
to ^{attain} ~~attain~~ the true object of
the expedition; the arrest of
the guilty parties. — The
sepoys of the 44th and the
frontier police endured the
long and fatiguing marches
and the discomforts of camp
life in the rains without a
murmur and not a single
instance of high handed pro

109 76 (64)
In collecting coolies and
supplies and in obtaining #
evidence of the alleged #
murder I found Police
Jemadars Kormo Sing and
Jagot bir of the greatest
assistance. —

Dr. Borah, Civil Surgeon
was always to the fore when
ever his services were required
and fully maintained the #
reputation he has acquired
of being the most active and
energetic Civil Surgeon that
the Naga Hills district #
has had. —

I have the
honr to be
Sir.

Your most obt. Serv^t

(65)

N. 1220.

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The Secy to the Govt of India
Foreign Departt

Sir

D 1578
D 16th August 82

+ Page 16.

In continuation of
my ltr. no 1041 d. the

24th July /82 reporting the
murder of a British
Lhota Naga by certain
Hatigoria Nagas across
the frontier, and of the
despatch of an expedi-
tion against the of-
fending village, I am
now directed to submit
for the information of H.E.
the G. Sec Council a copy

the 9th of October. ^{the} alleged
been successful, the ^{same}
has having been arrested

David

he

Ansley

14/8

(66)

(67)

65

INDIAN TELEGRAPH

Shillong

From [unclear]
(Station)

Vends. 32/3 Day 31/7/9 Minute 20

OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

From (Person) By [unclear]

Assam
sent embassy to Mungatung
to demand murderers
could not get beyond
okoto report approaches
to mungatung Panjied and
village stockaded hope to
reach mungatung 2nd august

Sup^r 9th there a file in this
handing this. 24 2/8

Alfred Eaton

RECD. FROM		L. N.	SENT TO		L. N.
At	Hrs.	Mts., By	At	Hrs.	Mts., By

Date SHILLONG 31-7-84
S. P. No. 400 - G. T. F. [unclear]
Telegraph Master.

INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

(68)

Words.			Da y.		our.	Minute.	From (Station)	Office	INSTRUCTIONS.
			7		19		From (Person)	By Cour	Naga Hills

• Reached mungating second inhabitants
 • abandoned village on our approach no
 • opposition offered lieut Terman accidentally
 • panicked on leg wound severe but not
 • dangerous halted mungating four
 • days goonburas after some delay
 • came in and gave up alleged
 • murderer on going fully into
 case ascertained that Lakhu to was
 most to blame and that Transfrontier
 Village ~~is~~ Okotso also implicated
 have arrested all parties concerned
 neighbouring hatiguria villages came
 in stark return today sixth cannot
 carry Terman long marches -

TO FROM		L. N.	SENT TO		L. N.
Hrs.	Mts.,	By	Hrs.	Mts.,	By

1800-8-84
 Tele. Master
 14/5