

**CAVALRY
RECONNAISSANCE**

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Cavalry reconnaissance by Colonel W. W. Norman

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COLONEL W. W. NORMAN

**CAVALRY
RECONNAISSANCE**

CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE

By

COLONEL W. W. NORMAN

22nd Cavalry (Indian Army).

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PREFACE.

THIS work has been written with a view to assisting young cavalry officers to study the art of reconnoissance, and to instruct their men. A number of historical examples have been given in the introduction with the double object of bringing out the importance of information in war, and of providing a series of incidents from actual war which may be of use to make troop and squadron lectures more interesting. For the rest it has been sought to illustrate and amplify those excellent principles laid down in our regulations, and to bring forward certain details on which they are, for want of space, silent, and on which there are no guides for the young officer.

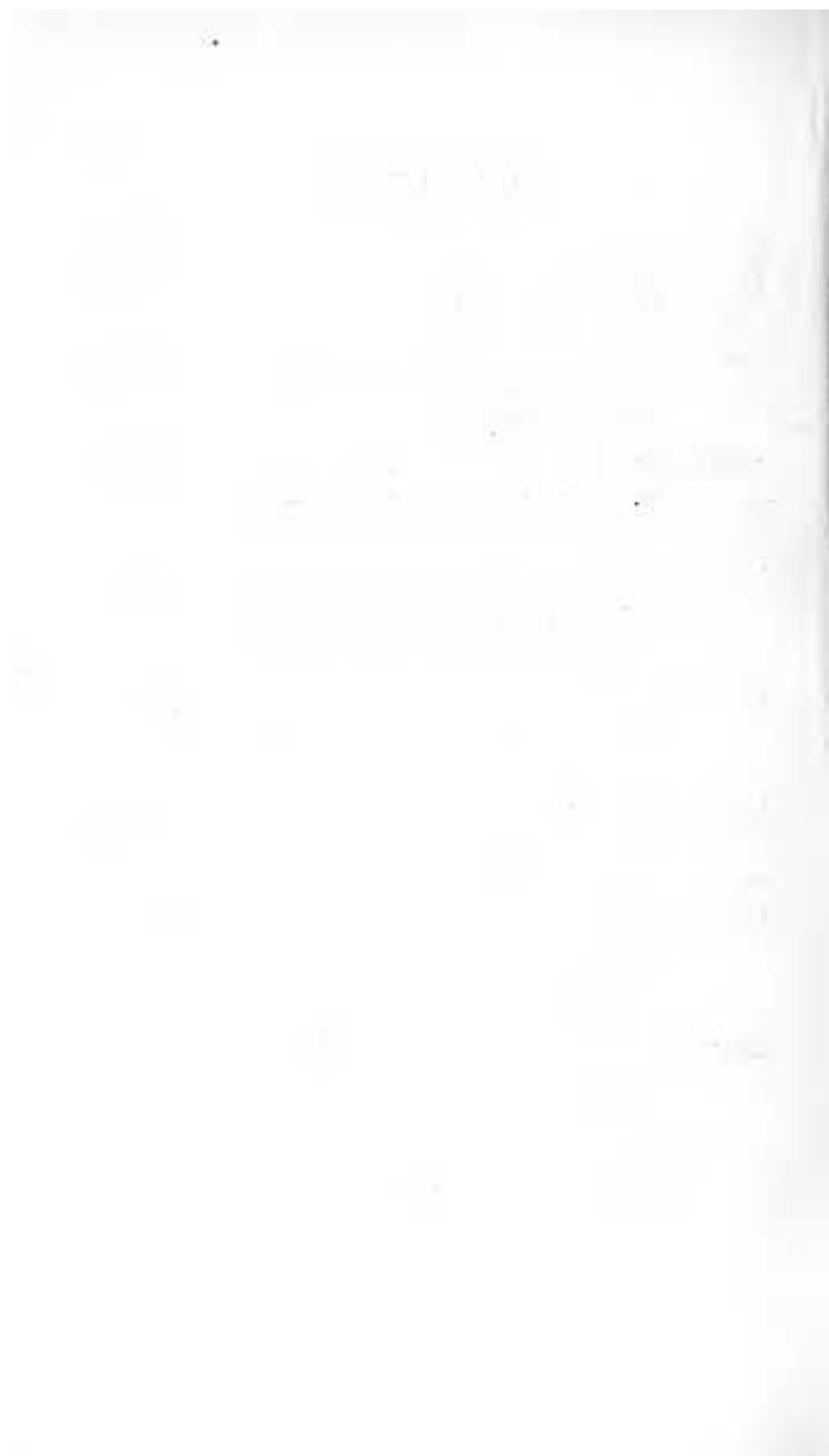
In Chapter III, exception has been taken to instruction in road reports, the collection of statistics in regard to supplies, etc. These are a very minor form of reconnoissance when com-

pared with the great object of obtaining intelligence of the enemy. Peace training in the former is an easy matter, and is, therefore, apt to overshadow the latter, which requires considerable thought in elaborating schemes and in assuming an enemy. To show how instruction in ascertaining the plans of an enemy may be given, a small scheme has been added as an appendix. The solution is simple and can be worked out by the reader. The system, by which information is provided by the scheme, is to give this information in the form of notes to flagmen. The latter are posted at different points and the patrol is directed to these points by suggestions and clues in the notes themselves. The patrol leader would not report each item of information so received, but judge for himself when he has collected sufficient data to warrant him sending in a despatch rider. The system may be extended and elaborated in a variety of ways, and the information given in the notes may be supposed to have been obtained from a variety of sources, such as by actual vision, extracts from newspapers, papers found in camps or in public offices, etc. Such

schemes have the advantage of giving instruction in writing messages and in their verbal delivery by despatch riders.

The information contained in the following pages has been derived from a variety of sources, but I am specially indebted to De Brack's "Cavalry Outpost Duties," Pelet-Narbonne's "Cavalry on Service," and to Furse's "Information." I have to acknowledge the kind assistance of Colonel H. T. Kenny, 37th Lancers, Indian Army, in editing this work.

W. W. NORMAN, Colonel.



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