4/8/42. No. 18

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1942
THIS EMBARGO SHOULD BE RESPECTED OVERSEAS BY PREFACING
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NEW QUARTER-MASTER-GENERAL

The War Office announces that His Majesty The King has approved the following appointment:-

Lt. General T.S. Riddell-Webster, K.C.B., D.S.O., to be Quarter-Master-General to the Forces, War Office, vice General Sir Walter Venning, G.C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., M.C., Colonel The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, Colonel Commandant, Army Catering Corps, A.D.C., whose tenure expires on 14th August.

General Sir Walter Venning reached the retiring age on 17th January, 1942, and completed his three years' tenure of the office of Quarter-Master-General on 1st. February, 1942, when it was decided to retain his services until later in the year.

Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Sheridan Riddell-Webster, K.C.B., D.S.O., has been Principal Administrative Staff Officer to the Commander-in-Chief, the Middle East, since last October. He went to Egypt from India, where he had spent ten months as General Officer Commanding-in-Chief the Southern Command. Cairo and New Delhi followed on many months of not less strenuous war-time service in the War Office. From March 1938 until the end of August 1939 he was Director of Movements and Quartering. Three days before Germany invaded Poland he became Deputy Quarter-Master-General.

As D.Q.M.G., General Riddell-Webster did some of his most valuable work for the Army. During the withdrawal from Dunkirk the great responsibility devolved upon him of organising the transport of the B.E.F. on its return to Great Britain. During this period General Riddell-Webster worked day and night at the War Office.

General Riddell-Webster was born in 1886. Educated at Harrow and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, he was commissioned at 19 years of age, joining the Cameronians. He had been promoted Captain before the outbreak of the Four Years' War. He was one of the first British officers to go overseas in August 1914 and, from the second week of the war until nine months after the Armistice, he served continuously in France and Italy. He was in turn Company Commander in the Cameronians, Staff Captain, D.A.A.G., and D.A.Q.M.G. and A.A.G. and A.Q.M.G. in France and Italy. He won the D.S.O. and both the French and the Belgian War Cross and was seven times mentioned in despatches.

After the war he held Staff appointments at the Staff College and the War Office, before going to India as Brigade Commander, an appointment he held for 3 years. He has passed through the Staff College and the Imperial Defence College.

The Duties of the Quartermaster-General's Branch include movement and quartering, as well as the provision of all supplies to the Army.

On all matters relating to the Branch and its innumerable duties General Riddell-Webster is a leading authority.

WAR OFFICE