

18.3.15

Expect to sight Socotra
this morning. Have been
map making most of week and
now am sitting in R.A.M. to try
three men. Malindin, P & W
Higgins for absence without leave
and for insubordination and
striking a superior officer. The
Alender instead of yesterday but
proceedings are slow and may take
days to complete the hearings.


There have been two
deaths in R.F.M. one a bugler
named Mickey and of heat prostration
and was buried last Sunday. The
other was a Maori who died
of pneumonia. He was buried the
previous Sunday.

Nov Sun 25. We have had a
grand trip across from Colombo
it has been smooth all
the way except between Socotra
and Aden. when there was
a slight joggle but not enough
to move the ship. Socotra is
a rough mountainous island
high at the east end but lower
and not so rough at the west
end. There appears to be a big
bay or harbour in the middle.
We passed Aden in the

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dark in morning of Sunday 21/3/15
but it was about midday when
we passed Pirin. a low
flat topped volcanic island
shaped like horseshoe. The highest
point about middle of shore on
north where lighthouse stands
harbour is old crater and opens
to southeast.  light house
two opening of harbour
one side being formed by
a half natural and half
artificial breakwater 2-3 the
wharves are about 3. while at
4 there is a native village
with some barracks and
Joyce's wireless station on
the hill above. The top of the
island seems to be level about
100 ft. above the sea. Does not
appear to be any grass on the
island but a brown scrub. The
native village is built of clay
houses square low and flat roofed
with narrow streets which seem
to run at random through the
town with glasses we could see
nestle on the tops of their houses