AWM4

Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

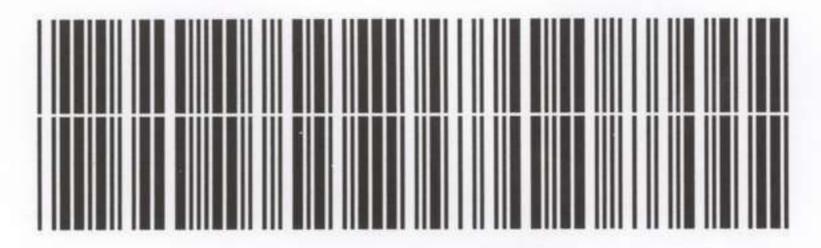
Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/63/2

Title: Intelligence, Headquarters Desert

Mounted Corps

November 1917



AWM4-1/63/2

Intelligence Summary I.51/32

For 24 hours ending 1800, 2/11/17.

Mounted Ball

OPERATIONS - Today troops of A. & N.Z. Mounted Division ' ... pushed northwards from BEERSHEBA to a line KHIRBIT SALANTA - V. of V. TI SIMSIN on HEBRON Road -KHIRBIT TAT REIT TOWAL ABU JER WAL, making touch on thoir loft with infantry of 20th Corps.

> 21st Corps - Attack this morning on GAZA front gained all First objectives. UNBRELLA Hill, EL ARISH Redoubt BEACH Post and SEA post were captured and consolidated. Second and third objectives subsequently gained with the exception of YUNUS BELAH trenches where fighting continues. Total captures on 21st Corps front to date 16 officers, 280 O.R., 5 machine guns, and 1 trench mortar. Hany riflos and S.A.A.

INTELLIGENCE - R.F.C. report between 0700 and 0800 today considerable enemy movement castword, as under :-

(1) From HARMERA to SHERIA and continuing Mast towards KHU LILFEH.

(2) Along GAZA - SHERIA Road towards SHERIA and

continuing East. (3) Behind KHEJUKA and RUSHDI systems also E.

This gonoral movement was shown by a later reconnaissance to have turned more northwards.

Prisoners captured this morning near LEKIYEH belong to H.Q. 3rd Cavairy Division. Those state only troops now East of SHERIA are 3rd Cavalry Division, with H.Q. in hills 2 hours East of SHERIA.

Agonts roport a GERMAN H.Q. and 5000 infantry at HHBRON - this however is unconfirmed, but is corroborated by statement of prisoners of war.

Also there is a large supply depot at DHAHERIYEH. Garrison of DHAHERIYEH stated yesterday to consist

of 300 infantry, 25 cavalry, and 2 guns. Aorial recommaissance at midday today howover reported the place appeared deserted.

Prisonors taken on 31st/1st show the garrison of BEERSHEBA defences to have consisted of elements of the undermentioned units :-

148th 79th 81st 125th Regiments Sind 67th

with the 8th and 8th Oavalry and 13th Artillory Rogts. It does not seem to have been credited by the enemy that a serious attack from the cast was possible. The Headquarters of the 3rd Caw lry Division only loft + hour before our troops entered the town.

Information

Information given by prisoners led to a quantity of ammunition, also wireless plant and other material (which is still being unearthed) being found buried near the hospital.

It also appears that the German engineer officer who was in charge of the arrangements for demolitions of wolls, &c., to be carried out in the event of ovacuation of the town was away on leave at JERUSALEM at the time of our attack. This explains why so little demolition had been done.

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DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

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Intelligence Summary I. 51/33.

For 24 hours ending 1800, 3. 11. 17.

OPERATIONS.

The A.& N.Z. Mounted Division today held the enemy on the line BIR EL NAHL (E. of BHAHERIYEH Hoad) to about KHOWEILFEH.

On the right patrols of the 2nd L.H.Brigade worked round DHAHERIYEH to within 1500 yards of the HEBRON Road 2 miles with of DHAHERIYEH. Three lerries loaded with troops were seen entering the village.

The 53rd Division occupied AIN KOHLEH this afternoon.

INTELLIGENCE. R.F.O. roconnaissance Q530 reported 1500 to 2000 cavalry moving East from SHERIA along W.SHERIA. Also vory large scattered movement around alding at SHERIA. DEAHERITER reportance apparently unoccupied but large slouds of dist in direction of HEBRON.

Later reconnaissance reported 200 cavalry at DHAHERIYEH.

PRISONERS' STATEMENTS. Prisoner professing strong satisfork sentiments

Baid that the 12th Depot Regiment from Jike MALEM has been

moved to HERRON some days back and that tronches had been

prepared near DHAHERIYAH. He, however, cpined that no serious

proposition would be mot between BERRSHESA and JERUSALEM.

opposition would be mot between BERRSHESA and JERUSALEM.
Another prisoner says that a well at KHUWEILFEH has 15 feet

General gossip among Turkish Officers was to the effect that a VIIth Army was to concentrate at HEFRON with FEVZI PASHA as G.O.C. and that FALKENHAYN was to establish his Headquarters a

During our attack on BEERSHEBA the 81st Regiment had 75% of its 1st Batta killed and wounded and the 79th had 40% in one of its Battalion's casualties, mainly from Artillery fire.

TOPOGRAPHICAL. An unusually cultured Dedouin states that the Turkish
Government has made a motor road from DHAHERIYEH to SHERIA via
"UNEILFEH. He himself saw lorry tracks on this road about

five days ago.

Oaptain,
General Staff,
DESERT MOUNTED COL

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

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Intolligence Summary 1.51/34

For 24 hours onding 0000, 4/11/17.

OPERATIONS. Troops of the 2nd Light Horse and New Zoaland hounted Rifle Brigades are holding the enemy on the line W. EL SIMSIN - RAS EL NACH - making touch with the 1st Battalion, I.C.C. Brigade, which is in turn in touch with the Exigndex which is in turn in touch with the Exigndex which is 180th Infantry Brigade near BIR EL BESTAN.

INTELLIGENCE. R.F.C. report early this morning 500-700 Infantry at MH UM BAGHLEH - about 1500 - 2000 around KH EURRAN scattered in bodies of about 300, and 500 N. of MH EL MUKAIMIN. Also 150 cavalry at MH UM AMEIDAR. All the above were halted.

Later 300 men and about 150 herses were observed in DHAHERIYEH.

The Infantry probably belong to the 19th Division, elements of which are now engaged with our 53rd Division about KHUWEILFEH.

A long distance reconnaissance about mid-day reported no movement or concentration seen on HEBRON road right as far as JERUSALM.

The movement and activity at LH Um Amelian station is maintained, 18 rolling stock being seen there today.

This place is now probably being used as a railhead.

STATEMENTS of PRISOHERS and others.

An intelligent Bodouin states that there are 3 enemy batterie at TEL KHUWEILFEH minus their guns.

These are probably the batteries whose guns were captured by the 4th L.H.Brigado at BEERSHEBA on 31st ult:

A Turkish officer in the prisoners collecting station at BEERSHEBA was everheard to lling his men that if interrogated by us as to movements of troops, they were to say that strong reinforcements were being sent from the north.

Thoro is a fairly porsistent, but at present unconfirmed rumour that the 44th Division is coming to this front. This Division consists of the 139th, 140th and 159th Regiments and was last identified in CILICIA.

Turkish prisoners taken in DEERSHELA on 31st ult: wore generally despondent and much terrified by the Australian cavalry.

GEHERAL

- l. Tochmical units in RA Leli are reported to have been ordered to pack up their equipment and stores and move them to DALASOUS.

 To allival of a German Division has been long reported at place but prisoners have heard this so often that they are no longer credit it.
- 2. Although the time and nature of our attack at BEERSHEBA was a surprise to the enemy, they had been warned by Von ERESS that we should actack in November.

Thoy were confident that they could repulse the attack.

P.T.O.

3. SUPPLY DEPOTS. The following have been located by statements of P. of W.

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Information supplied by prisoners has lod to wireless telegraphy gear, and quantity of ammunition and gelign which had been buried by the enemy in BEERSHEBA being unearth Also, the detection of land-mines.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

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Intelligence Summary I.51/35

For 24 hours ending 1000, 5/11/17

OPERATIONS. The situation on our front has not changed.

On the GAZA sector yesterday two enemy attacks near APEX
LEFT were repulsed.

INTELLIGENCE. Air reconnaissances during the day report - ...

Eddouin sholters - N. of DHAH EKIYEH between HEBRON and YUTTA roads.

At DHAHERIYEH about 300 camiry in the town - but no movement on roads behind (0800 hours).

Botween Foint 2070 and UM EL KUSAH 4 detachments mounted troops, not more than one regiment. in and.

TEL MEJADEL strongly hold by infantry on southern and Eastern sides.

On flat ground between EL KERU and W. MEJADIL about 2 regiments mounted troops scattered in small formations (1500 hours)

500 men (and horses) apparently entrenching on front clopes of TEL KHUWEILFEH (0800 hours)

About 300 mechanical transport seen in parks of 20 oxtended over area 3 miles due east of AMEIDAT station.

The trenches running East from SHERIA station railway to about U.22 were observed to be occupied at 1400 hours.

Estimated garrison 300 - 500.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Thoughth Regiment, 19th Division, has been definitely Identified opposite our 53rd Division at KHUWEILFEH.

Prisoner says the 72nd is also in line, but no contact has been yet made with this. Strength of this regiment is out stated to be only 900 riflos - but this is probably an 77 under-estimate.

GEMERAL. Turkich military postman states -

That ground is soft on sides of all wadis leading from a line TEL EL SHARIA - KHUWEILFEH - DAHARIYEH and that whoeled traffic can pass over with case. Ground north of DAHARIYEH is difficult with the exception of main road.

From DAHARIYEH north west the ground is easy towards

Discipline: Extracts from captured documents show that the following system of dealing with supply and transport officers who are lax in the performance of their duties, holds good in certain formations.

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June Des Heylballau - Bellalewuhn - alfland du der onti

- (i) Rationing bad in a battalion; the officer i/c rationing doos 3 days and nights on patrol in the front line.
 - day report -(ii) If rations arrive irregularly; the transport and baggage officers with their clerk will be sent out as above.
 - (iii) Water supply bad; officers concerned will be punished in the same way.
- 3. Two reasons prompted the Turks to withdraw the minos from the wells at BEERSHEBA. The arrival of the 24th Division made them feel they could hold the to wn in the event of attack. Also the HAIDAR PASHA explosion made them Pric N'THISHOR HO WE foar the mines might go off by accident (or otherwise) while they were still here.
 - scools diustil Propoganda - Prisoners state that if leaflets are dropped from soroplanes in large parcels they are taken at once to the officers and the troops do not got access to them. They should be dropped in as large a number as possible of small leaflets.

- sectada mandison ymadilin detinaT

5. The Troks were using oil Shale as finel for heating in BEERSHEBA. This was brought from near JERICHO.

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General Staff,

Dosort Mounted Corps.

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characteristics

Intolligence Summary I.51/35.

For 24 hours on ing 1800, 6/11/17

OPERATIONS. This morning the 53rd Division captured TEL EL KHUWILFE, being engaged with elements of four enemy divisions. An enemy counter attacked at 1600, was repulsed, and the ground gained remains in our hands.

Thel Yeomanry Lounted Division is now disposed between the left of the 53rd about AIR MOHLEH and the right of the

74th Division about UE EL EAKR.

Troops of the XXth Corps after captum ng the works about U.19 - 22 occupied SEERIA about 1700 meeting little opposition and capturing one M.G.

E. Friedmans agree that no regimental rifle atrone On the GAZA SECTOR the bombardment was continued according to plan.

tere-war cetablishmont 5.000). INTELLIGENCE. Prisoners were taken today by the 53rd Division about KHUWEILFEH from 67th, 79th and 81st Regiments (27th Divn), 125th Rogiment and 16th R.F.A. (16th Divn) and 143rd Rogiment (24th Divn).

Yostorday concact had been made in the same area with the 79th and 77th Rogimonts (19th Divn).

Elomonts of four d visions have thus been attracted to this area.

Later the 74th Division captured a prisoner from the 47th Rogiment (18th Dive) about U.15, S.E. os SHERIA. This lattor stated that the 26th Division (hitherto unlocated in those operations) are at SHERIA.

Tho prisoner of the 143rd Regiment stated that the 16th Divisional cavalry squadron was on his left and the 16th

Divisional Assault Company on his right.

This all seems to indicate some not inconsiderable confusion amongst enemy units on this front, and a tendency to roinforce the KHUWEILFE sector and a corresponding thinning of the line E. of SHERIA

Company Staff R.F.C.RECONNAISSANCE. Reconnaissances during the day report DHAHLRIYEH - no movement in town, and road all clear at 1200 hrs. There seemed to be a considerable concentration of troops W. of WADI MEJADIL. At TOR EL SADAM detachments of some 50 enemy with madino guns.

In the triangle NEJILE - ZUBRALA - KHUWEILFEH about 1400 -1600 horsomen scattered. Considerable quantity of rolling stock in AMEIDAT station - hospital train with stoam up facing North. WATER was observed in WADI BARRAM. Enemy Headquarters at KH EL

RIJM (square 0.3) has been completely burnt.

STATELENTS of PRISONERS. The 52nd Regiment (19th Division) higherto unlocated is stated to be 2 hours N. of KHUWEILFE. Other prisoners opine that it is at HEBRON.

Tho 40th Regiment (16th Divn) isstated to have been

wiped out today in KAWUKA systom.

The belief that the 44th Division is on its way seems to be general amongst prism ors. This may, however, be festered by design. Others say two divisions are coming but do not know number of the other. Our attack today appears to have been expocted by onomy.

Casualties seem to have been heavy in 16th Division. A company of the 125th Regiment suffered 80 out of a rifle strength of 110. Prisoners have heard their officers say that the next line of defence b at JERUSALEM - and that there

STATEMENTS of PRISONERS (contd)

are no reinforcements available pending the arrival of tho 2 divisions mentioned above. R.F.A. officer prisoner said that only heavy gins have gas sholls on this front .

GENERAL

- T berringen noisluig hatt cir anteres alife 1. The health and moral of the 24th Division appears to be very bad. It contracted cholora at ALEPPO and suffered much from desertion on the march southwards. Casos of amoobic dysentry and many of conjunctivitos were loft in the hospital at ShERTA. The 2nd Regiment suffered at our hands on Octobor 31st at ESENSHEBA, and it is doubtful if the present rifle strength of this division is much over 3,000 (not allowing for lesses incurred today).
 - 2. Prisonors agree that no regimental rifle strength on this front is above 1500 - 1200 being a fair avorage. (Pro-war ostablishment 3,000).
- 3. The total prisoners captured since October 31st totalled 3,010 yost orday evening.

4. A trushoothy agent reports that the Railway Bridge E of IRGER is mined. 2 of the four hellars are recessed for the reception of charges of 15 Dynamite controlges. Wis lead from her to a hole near new well about 100 promiter frielge ald no saw northaups yrinven lanotsivia ditti . trigit min no wracomo o timenta Lanoinivia eldereltanoont fon emes clastbal of amoss fis sid!

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and no beliliated For 24 hours on ling 1800, 17/11/17.

OPERATIONS AREAS AND TO HOLD at atast a send bosto

Agro neew sed admod yd gu nwold naw guillevand naw (.D.A lilly Our advance was continued yesterday northwards. The N.Z.H.R. Erigade entered JAFFA and found the city undamaged. Water sumply unlimited but very fer supplies found. Today patrols pushed on and reached the line of NARH EL AUJA. Patrols of the Yeomanry Division pushing N.E. found the enemy holding a line from KULEH in U.31 through YEHUDIYEH N. T. to a point N.E. of JAFFA. He appeared to be falling back in two directions - one along the railway, the other towards JERUSALEU.

R.F.O. RECONNAISSANCE, officerd beleeft to line bus valor tomosed

R.F.C. report trenches facing S.E. from L.8 to L.3 (about YASUR). Also 6 short lengths facing S.E. from L. 15 to L.21 (across JAPPA charge seen moving N. about 0.3.

INTELLIGENCE.

Some 14 officers and 300 o.r. prisoners were taken at LUDD by the A. & N.Z. Lounted Division. These belonged to the undermentioned regiments: 2nd, 19th, 32nd, 47th, 48th, 57th, 78th, 78th, 79th, 184th and 185th. This assortment of units out of a batch of 300 prisoners gives an idea of the mix up which must exist in the enemy force. Officers said the enemy will hold the line covering HAIPA

The N.Z.I.A. Brigade report many wounded in AYUN KARA belenging to the 19th Division. These fought victoriously under ACKENSEN in ROU. ANTA last year and offered a substantial resistance to our 53rd Division at KHUTEILFEH 10 days ago. They are now very despondent, and said "You cannot beat the English unless you

GENERAL

1. A trustworthy Jewish inhabitant of JERUSALEM who left the place on the 1"th inst. says "There are now very few troops in JERUSALEMI. The Turlish civil and military authorities have gene to MABLUS (This is confirmed from other sources). The German and Austrian Commanders called on their subjects and told them to remain without, fear, as, if the British occupy the town they are gentlemen and 7111 not hurt anyone"! The Austrian commander had proviously approached conoral Falkenhawn about the safety of his subjects and les informed that it was as much as the general could do to get his own personnel away. There have been no measures taken to organise a defence of JERUSALES and the Turks seem resigned to the English occupying the place, but FABLUS will be defended to enable troops and material to get away to DA. ASOUS. The Germans are cursing the Turks saving that they give way and vill not fight notwithstanding all Cermany has done for them. The Turks say "To Hell with the Gormans, who have brought us to our present state."

- 2. Within the last 5 weeks 14 hostile aircraft have been captured or destroyed - 13 of these are now in our lines.
- The 22nd Independent Regiment has been identified on this front - it was apparently hurried up from CONSTANTINOPLE.
- It is reported that a train in which DJEMAL PASHA (G.O.O. VIII A.C.) was travelling was blown up by bombs between DERAA
- and ALMAN. Amongst the killed was DJEMAL's A.D.O.

 5. Topographical. The following information on the route LUDD -BERFILYA - DIREH - JERICHO has been received from a good source. The road passes via JIDZU - BERFILYA - EL BURJ - BEIT UR EL TAHTA RAILALLA - BIREH - DEIR DIWAN - AIN EL DUK - JERICHO. Except for first 6 miles from LUDD it is quite unfit for wheeled traffic till RAIM ALLA is reached. From here to BIREH it is a good motor road. After DIREH, where the JERUSALEM SHECHEM road is crossed, it again becomes rocky and unfit for wheeled traffic till AIN EL DUK, where it becomes carriageable after the JORDAN valley is entered.

Water on Route - At JIMZU one well with windlass - fair supply. At BEIT UR EL TAHTA water in wadi below village. Good water at AIN EL JERMUT (spring) but at POOL below BETUNIA very little. Large quantity of good water at RAHLALLA (wells and springs) and running water, practically unlimited, at BIREH. Running water (unlimited) at AIN EL DUK, at entrance to pass to JORDAN Valley. At JERICHO, running water used for irrigation vd ddul ta movat over atemoster . T.o. not but recolling

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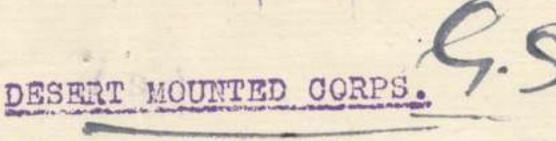
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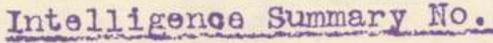
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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



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For 24 hours ending 1800, 18.11.17.

OPERATIONS. Australian Mounted Division reported enemy holding line LATRON - AMWAS this morning. Bnemy appeared to have two or three Mountain Guns which command main road.

8th Mounted Brigade passed through ANNABEH at noon and patrols passed through JIMZU early this morning and reported all clear.

A hostile aeroplane flew over RAMLEH this swening at a height of 600 feet, firing at our troops with its Machine Gun. Casualties so far unknown.

INTELLIGENCE.

- N.Z.L.R.Brigade report the stream NAHR EL AUJA is of considerable size - 35 yards wide and 10 feet deep - good clear mouth in Y.18 - 3 feet There is a ford at the deep with hard bottom. Crossing at MILL in Z.21 passable for dismounted troops in single file. Bridge at Z.18 passable for all traffic, and would take three men abreast. (This reconnaissance carried out under enemy's rifle fire).
- N.Z.M.R.Brigade also reported enemy bivouacs consisting of 300 men, 40 vehicles, and 300 camels in Z.5 (near TEL EL NARIYEH) yesterday evening.
- 3. Inhabitants of EL BUREIJ report 80 mounted Turks left the village on 15th retiring East. Our patrols encountered 2 troops enemy cavalry E.S.E. of EL BUREIJ on same day. These carried their rifles slung in the same way as Australians do, and were hard to recognise.

The following statistics of enemy casualties are fairly accurate and may be of interest.

DIVISION.	CASUALTIES.	REMAINING EFFECTIVE STRENGTH.
3 7 16 19 20 24 26 27 53 54 3rd Cav. Detached Regts.	2,600 rifles. 1,300 3,000 1,500 1,600 2,000 2,200 2,200 1,300 1,300 300 sabres. 500 rifles	1,600 rifles. 2,700 1,500 3,000 4,300 1,800 1,200 1,800 1,800 1,500 sabres. 1,000 rifles 200 1,400
TOTALS	18,900	26,200 rifles. 1,500 sabres.

(2).

TOPOGRAPHICAL.

JERUSALEM - NABLUS Road (information 4 months old).

This road had been repaired and was then in very good condition and fit for hotor Transport. There were some bad patches between JERUSALEM, KH ERNYAH and ER RAM. From ER RAM on to NABLUS Road was in very good condition. If motor lorries are heavily laden difficulty is sometimes experienced on this hill.

The Northern route through SHILTA Eastwards to JERUSALEM is reported to be fit for motor traffic. This, however has been questioned and requires confirmation.

The following Turkish communique for 14.11.17 may be of interest "SINAI front - Aptillery and Infantry battles still continue".

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General Staff,
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

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DESERT MOUNTED CORPS. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 51/39 For 24 hours onding 1800, 19/11/17.

OPERATIONS - AMWAS and LATRON were occupied today without opposition by the 75th Division. Armoured cars were at the mouth of the derbend on JERUSALEM Road in M. 18.c. Loud explosions were heard near this point, which may possibly be have been the mines reported hero (BAB EL WAD) going off.

2nd L.H. Brigade reported RANTIEH all clear and 2 redoubts at NEBI TARI and 2 troops of enemy on high ground. N.Z.M.R. Brigade say enemy occupying tronches about 60 yards N. of bridge in Z.16 (over NAHR EL AUJA), Infantry and machine guns - strongth uncertain. Also infantry and machine guns on the hill at KHIRBIT HADRA.

R.F.C. REPORTS - Reconnaissance at 1300 today reports 1000 cavalry about 2 miles W. of JERUSALEM on RAMLEH road. Also M.T. going N. on SHECHEM road near BIREH. Movement northwards of 4000 infantry and 200 H.T. seen between Bethlehem through JERUSALEM to a point 6 miles N. on the SCHECHEM Road. No defences seen, around BIREH. A considerable dump of forage seen at EL KENISEH, on the railway 4 miles N. of LUDD. Also a large dump at JIL JULIEH both sides of the lime. The railway bridge over the Wadi 1 miles N. of LUDD has been destroyed but all others as far as LIL JULIEH appear intact. There are three large sheets of water in the NAHR EL FALIK, 15 miles N. of JAFFA, about 1 miles from the Sea.

INTELLIGENCE - Engineer officer attached Headquarters XXth Corps who made the SIMSIM - BUREIR trench line says it was intended to held this line, but the vigour of our pursuit swept the enemy past it. He was disappointed that this line, which was well prepared, was not used. He says that efforts will certainly be made to held the line covering AFULE - HAIFA but if this is not possible PALESTINE will be abandoned and everything staked on helding the DAMASCUS - BEIRUT line. It is considered that by combining the HEJAZ and PALESTINE armies and reinforcing them by 2 German Divisions this should be possible. (This officer had been some time on H.Q. and seemed to be well informed). He further stated that during the retreat no one - corps, divisions, regiments - had any idea where anyone else was.

- Officer of Pioneor Regiment 19th Division captured by Yoomanry Division in SUFFIA says there is werd now a Gorman Division around JERUSALEM which will loave that area tomorrow (20th). (The presence of this Division is unlikely). There are however fairly persistent reports of 5,000 German troops soon at DAMASCUS destined for this front, and some may possibly have come south, and have given rise to the the idea that a German Division in Division to the Germans were reliably reported to be mainly technical men (telephonists, wireless &c
- 3. P. of W. say that the present garrison of HEBRON consists of the 24th Division (rolics of), 12th Depot Regt. (about 400 rifles), Cavally Petachment, Camel Gorps Detachment, about 7 guns, (about 2.200 : iflos in all).
- An English sorgeant-major who in company with an officer was captured by the Turks in October appears to have told them that we were going to attack at GAZA and SHERIA simultaneously. The officer declined to make a statement.

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

DESERT OUTTED CORPS

Intalligance Summary Mo.I. 1/40.

For 34 hours ending 1800, 20. 11. 17.

OPERATIONS.

75th Division occupied SARIS today at 1300, capturing 40 prisoners. Some opposition was encountered, but the enemy shewed signs of retiring. The 8th Wounted Brigade had advanced this morning to a point 3 miles E. of EMIT UP BL TARTA. This morning the 5th Mounted Brigade were pressing the enemy who was holding the high ground at EMITUNIA.

INTELLICENCE

Refugees from JERUSALEM report that German troops were taken in lorries all over the country round - from NABLUS to LUDD .
TULKERAM and JERUSALEM to give the Turks the idea that German reinforcements had arrived, to induce them to make a stand.
Actually no Germans have arrived since our attack. They say that fortifications are now being constructed at AFULE in anticipation of our making a landing at HAIFA, of which the Turks are apprehensive.

Two weeks ago VON KRESS asked CONSTANTINOPLE for reinforcements, but no new troops arrived - but the last orders were to

call up all males from 18 - 30 years of age.

Officer prisoner who surrendered to A.& N.Z. Mtd. Division, in plain clothes said he was M.O. (Syrian) of 79th Regiment, which he said had been destroyed.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.

The following information was obtained from good local sources Road KERKUR - AFULE. - Road passes by ARAMA - MUSKUS - MERJ - IBN - AMIR, and is fit for motors throughout its length. There is no other direct carriageable route from TULKERAK to MAELUS.

Stream. KALKILI - 15 Wells motor pump and hand wheel.

MISKE - Many Wells - Eule wheels. AZZUN - 4 springs.

TULKERAM (VIIIth Army H.Q.)? - Lotor and tank large well.

KAKUN - 1 Well 15 feet deep. No appliances. ZEITA - 5 springs.

ARARA. One spring N. of the road and another South thereof.

MUSMUS. One very strong spring. EL FULE - 2 Wells - one with motor engine.

Other water springs in neighbourhood;

JEMMAIN - Hany wells worked by mules. KIRE - " springs.

TILL - 6 springs. JIMSAFAT - 4 wells worked by mules.

RAFIDIA (N. of NAELUS) - 1 spring, very strong. JEMIN - A stream of good water.

General Staff.
DESURT MOUNTED CORPS.

Intelligence Summary Bo.I.51/48. For 24 hours ending 1800, 29th Novr. 1917. OPERATIONS - During yesterday the enemy, the had appearedly been considerably reinf road, displayed some activity against managery Division alout ABU ZEITUN, FUKA and BEIT UR EL TAHTA, and against the 54th Division on their left. Our line had to be withdrawn at some pointa in this area. and about 50 of the enemy killed. Our casualties Two wounded.

A very suppossful raid was carried out last night by 181 Brigade on enemy post on NAHR EL AUJA at Z. 18.0. The enemy post consisted of 100 men of the 134th Regiment and the strength of

our raiding party was 40. Eight prisoners and 2 M.Gs. captured

R.F.O. REPORTS .- Air roconnaissance yesterday morning reports TABSOR and TOL KERAM defendes seemel strongly held - about 750 enemy being seen at the former place.

Five aeroplanes were seen on the corodrome at TUL KERAM. Considerable movement on TULKERAM - JAFFA road - about 500

infantry and 20 b.T. going S.W.

INTELLIGENCE - (E) One deserter belonging to 48th Regiment, 18th Division surrendered to 54th Division teday near WILHELMINA. Deserter is a Russian who was captured by the Austrians and forced to join Turkish Army. This desertor says 1 Bn. 22nd Divn. arrived S. of TUL KERAM yestorday. (This Division may possibly have been reformed - the original 22nd Division was destroyed in the Caucasus in 1916.) He further stated that the enemy believed our left flank from RAMLER to the sea was hold by only one or two battalions.

- (2) Another deserter who currendered to the Camel Brigade belongs to 62nd Regt. 20th Division. Ho says 61st and 62nd Regts arrived 3 days ago by march route from DAMASOUS, and were engaged on Tuosday W. of hailway. Bofore the attack the 20th Division were one hours march W. of Railway. Regiments in his Division have 3 battalions and average Coy. strength of 160.
- (3) Other prisoners say that the demonstration against the 75th Divn. about BEIT SURIK (T. 18.) was carried out by Assault Coy. (Stoos Trupp (a) of 28th Division Strength 150 - 200. Whole of 2th Division was (on 27th) at BIREH and whole 28th Divn. at BEIT IKSA - lut no company strongin in oither of these more than 60 rifles. (Giving about 2000 rifles to a Division).
- (4) A Jowish refugee reliability unstated who left MULEBBIS area 2 days ago reported that on 27th two German Divisions had begun to detrain at MAS EL AIN Station.
- (5) Prisoners of 134th Regt taken in Raid on enemy last night say their regiment arrived, 520 strong, at 1800 on 27th. It, and Divisional H O, are now one house, march N. of river. They confirm that 3rd Division is on right, th. The post represented a whole company, about 80 - 100 strong.

TOPOGRAPHICAL . The following names of hills have been allotted and will be taken 1 to general use gos to be known as ONE TREE HILL. H111 in 085 . 15.00, S.W. of Pt.

Hill in 084 Z 27 b., S,W of JERISHEH, to be JERISHEH HILL.

GENERAL.

states that a considerable beautifation of the long fame JENIN took place here - is many as 10.000 being estimated at and the town. An order was received from DABASOUS for a move to be made S. on SHEUHIM. On arrival at SHEUHIM a munior of battalion commanders were taken away from their regiments to attend a court martial. It afterwards transpired that 114 officers had been put under arrest for retiring without orders. It was stated that some were hanged (but this is probably only hearsay).

about 100 " and and by 8 horsos, some by 6. The gunners said

thoy had come from DAMASCUS.

. Il services leading and the

Decr!

officers visited the place in 6 motor cars. In a speech made by Enver he said the British advance was not really a victory, and that they, the British, would seen be driven back to the Canal!

METEORCLOGICAL - Takon at G, H.Q. - 28/11/17.

	THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.		THE PROPERTY OF
Description.		Reading.	Difference from provocus day.
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General Staff, DESERT FOUNTED CORPS.

(No Summary issued yesterday)

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

Intelligence Summary I.51/49.

For 24 hours ending 1800,30.11.17.

OPERATIONS.

A party of 50 enemy attacked post of 182nd Infantry Brigade about near BEIT NABALA at 0445 this morning. They were driven off by our fire to the lower slopes of the hill. A small counter attack was then laumched by us and the enemy bolted into our 4.5" barrage.

The I.C.C., Brigado carried out a raid at ONE TREE HILL (Pt.265) last night after an hours bombardment. The trenches dug by the enery on the hill itself were found unoccupied, but 15 Turks word in the trench on the East shoulder of the hill. These fled chased by our men with bombs etc. The whole raiding party returned safely. Our casualties 3 wounded but enemy's unknown. an During the raid the enemy made a dotermined rush advanced outpost about 1,400 yards in front of our against main line. After a bomb fight the post, taken in flank by machine Gun Fire withdrew to support position. Enemy then began digging in at 200 yards from our line. Whon day dawned it appoared that the position selected by the enemy was a very bad one, and he was quickly surrounded by the 7th L.H.Regiment. 2 Officers and 148 Other Ranks surrendered, also 4 Automatic rifles of a pattern not hithorto met with on our front.

INTELITGENCE. I. The above prisoners belonged to the 57th Regiment, now under orders of the 16th Division. The strength of the 57th Regiment. is 1100 rifles. Von Kress, thoy say, visited the front yesterday and ordered the attack last night, but the O.C., 22nd Corps, Col. RAFET BEY wishes to attack down the Railway. 2. Prisoner, who was taken today by the 7th Mounted Brigade near EL BURJ, belongs to the 154th Regiment, This Regiment belongingto the 49th Division was last located at SMYRNA. He says his Regiment left DAMASCUS one month ago and reached this front two days back, having come by march route. 3. From contact identification and prisoners statements it appears that the enemy dispoditions on our front are as follows :-(from West to East) 31st Regt. 138th Regt, (3rd Division), 134th Regiment (7th Division) from Sea to KHIRBET HADRA inclusive. Then a gap of three kilometres, with sentinels only. Then two Battns. 57th Regiment South of MULEBBIS, (with the 48th in the vicinity but not in the line) Thon 82nd Regiment (20th Division) as far as the Railway. West of the Railway the 77th Regiment has been identified abour BUDRUS, and the 154th (now arrival) about SUFFA but further identifications are required to build up the enemy line about LIDILH. There are indications that the 72nd Regiment is here but this wants confirming. The Headquarters of the Cavalry Division (8th, 8th, and 27th Regiments) are said to be at DEIR EL JALY (in 0.98.T.5.).

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R.F.C. REPORT.

A bombing expedition last night bombed TULKERAM aerodrome with effect - These reported very large enemy camps between FURDISTA and railway, and also North of NAHR EL FALIK, by the sheets of water there. These were also suitable dealt with. There is a considerable camp(about 200 bivouacs) at RAS EL AIN - the enemy is apparently using this place as a Railhead. About 300 Infantry were seen walking about here and a later reconnaissance reports about 200 Infantry at NALIN, and some 300 about Z.20.d. (in Wadi). A pontoon bridge over the NAHR EL AUJA has been constructed in Z.21.b.

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DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.