

AWM4

**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/63/5

Title: Intelligence, Headquarters Desert
Mounted Corps

February 1918



AWM4-1/63/5

~~SECRET.~~

A.G.A.I.F.
No. 16040
Date.

2.51/5.

~~DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.~~

~~Summary of Intelligence.~~

To London & G.U.M. For week ending 4th February 1918.

OPERATIONS. 1.

- (a). A patrol of XXIst Corps occupied RENTIS to enable inhabitants to collect and bring away some of their stores - Rifle and Machine Gun fire from EL LUBBAN and from North of RENTIS prevented the inhabitants from reaching the place.
- (b). A patrol to 084.D.31.b. discovered 3 enemy waggons in good condition, containing 150 - 4.2 shells.
- (c). A patrol reconnoitred the BIR ADAS road as far as square 084.D.20. and met no enemy. 60 - 4.2 shells were destroyed and 1 - 4 wheeled vehicle brought in from isolated wood in 084.D.31.b. (XXIst Corps 28.1.18.)
- (d). 53rd Division advanced their line on night of 29th to include ARNUTIEH 099.H.22.d. (XXth Corps 30.1.18.)
- (e). Two enemy planes (Rumpler 2 seaters) were attacked by one of our Bristols on 29th over Wadi Hanein - one plane was put out of action and landed near SHAHMEH - one of the occupants was killed and the other taken prisoner - The second plane got away by flying into some heavy clouds, chased by our plane. This plane was engaged by our anti-aircraft, who registered a hit but not serious enough to bring the plane down.
- (f). XXth Corps detachment have collected from all sources in HEBRON District up to 31.1.18 - 2,368 rifles (400 of these modern).
- (g). XXth Corps occupied MUKHMAS on 31.1.18. Enemy counter attack on 099.X.6.E. easily repulsed - The reconnaissance being completed, posts were withdrawn. (XXth Corps 31.1.18.)
- (h). Some activity of enemy patrols during evening of 31.1.18. One, of about 30 men, attempted to pass between ABDALLAL and ARNUTIEH and two of 15 and 25 were driven off N.25.b. (XXth Corps 1.2.18.)

MOVEMENTS FRONT AREA. 2.

- (a). A wireless station, previously reported at SINJIL, is reported by Agent on 26th January to have been removed to EL LUBBAN -(099.H.12.b.) (Note) This may indicate move of IIIrd A.C. Headquarters.
- (b). Agent reports on the 26th that troops are concentrated at LUBBAN. 099.H.12. (Note) Those are probably units of 19th Division.
- (c). Reported that Germans are concentrating at AMMAN and would attack JERUSALEM from the East.
- (d). Large parties of men seen about the new camp S.W. of KALKILLIEH and a number of vehicles moving to and fro between it and the village. (XXIst Corps 29.1.18.)

(2).

MOVEMENTS

FRONT AREA. 2.

(Contd.)

- (e). Turks have been sending nightly to AIN YABRUD, a patrol of 10-15 men and taking away the cattle and food of the inhabitants.
- (f). Air reconnaissance reports on 30th an unusually large number of boats at RUJM EL BAHR (114.V.17) 10 large and 10 small boats seen.
- (g). Enemy reported in some strength at RAS ET TAWIL (115.c.14) XXth Corps 31.1.18.

(h). An Officer deserter, and confirmed by 2 refugees from JERICHO, state that 600 Cavalry based on JERICHO, left on 26th for MADEBAA and KERAK.

(Note). This is very probably the 7th Cavalry Regiment.

MOVEMENTS

BACK AREA. 3.

Nothing special to report.

IDENTIFICATIONS. 4.

<u>UNIT.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>	<u>POSITION</u> <u>ON MOVE.</u>	<u>SOURCE.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
267th M.G.Coy.	26.1.18.	G.H.Q.	6 guns and to form the Regt.M.G. Coy. of 19th Divn.	
201st Germ. Mtn.M.G.Coy.		Reported re- lived in SALONIKA and to be coming to this front.		
702 and 703 Germ.Inf.Bns.	27.1.18	702nd on JERUSALEM Front. 703rd at HAIFA	Deserter joined with the from 701- purpose of deserting and getting away from Turks.	Deserter is a Jew from AFULE, who
GERMANS. 505th M/T Pk.	26.1.18	TIBERIAS	Turkish deserter this unit.	Pasha I unit.Rail- road for this area is SEMAKH whence lorries transport stores & supplies to TIBERIAS.
218th Field Hosp.	25.12.17	Arr.RAYAK	Agent.	Probably Pasha II units.
219th	"	went to ZAHLE.		
219th	27.12.17.	Left RAYAK for DAMASCUS.		
4th Bn.50th (Austrian) Infantry Rgt.	20.1.18.	Left Italian front for PALESTINE.	Report per War Office	

(3).

IDENTIFICATIONS 4.
(Continued).

<u>UNIT.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>	<u>POSITION OR MOVE.</u>	<u>SOURCE.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
54th Division.		19th Rgt, reported near MEJDEL Y.BA. 085.U.1.	Deserter	said to be disband and absorbed by 7th Division. The 7th said to consist of 19, 20, 21 Regts. each 1500 to 1800 strong. NOTE. Previously reported as being stronger than 19th Rgt. was probably due to another deserter stating that 19th Rgt. was going to rejoin 7th Div confirmatory.
CHANGES IN ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.	5.	ACHT . . . 000.7 . . .	11.0.0.0 . . .	00.0.0.0 . . .
		From Mediterranean to Dead Sea.		

7th Division now consists of 19th, 20th and 21st Regiments - Have taken over the line from 54th Division.

54th Division - 19th Regiment now with 7th Division. 104th and 165th Regiments possibly absorbed.

3rd Cav.Divn. now have 6th and 8th Regiments in the line - 27th Rgt. is not located - but the 701st and 702nd German Cavalry troops, and a Camel Company (first appearance of the latter) are now attached and in the locality of SH.SUH - KEFR HARRIS and SH.NAFUKI respectively.

1st Division have got 70th and 124th Regiments in the line and 71st at ATTARA.

24th Division have now 2nd in the front occupying the frontage of 7th Cavalry Squadron, withdrawn.

19th Division now withdrawn to NABLUS.

53rd Division have the 48 Division less 4 Battalions attached and are in the following order :- 163rd Rgt, 48th Divn. less 4 Battalions opposite 32nd and 136th Regts.

7th Cav.Rgt. appears to have been withdrawn and sent to KERAK area.

8th Division (elements) now at AMMAN.

703rd Germ.Inf.Battn. from NABLUS to NAZARETH, - HAIFA line

ARTILLERY
ACTIVITY. 6.

- (a). Desertors report heavy Artillery in NABLUS is gradually being withdrawn to MAZARETH.
- (b). 90 shells of 77 mm and 4.2" shrapnel and H.E. shells fired on 099.N.25.b. apparently from TEL ASUR 099.L.35.c.
- (c). One 5.9 shell on hill 2984 099.m.24.c. put one of our Machine Guns out of action.
- (d). It is of interest to learn that prisoners report only 6 field guns are in position on JERICHO front and they are near bridge at 114.I.22.
- (e). 10 Mountain Guns with German personnel seen by deserter coming South near SINJIL 099.J.33.
- (f). Smoke of guns firing observed as follows :-

From 084.C.22.a.82	distance 8,000 yards	magnetic bearing 08°
.. C.23.C.11	.. 7,000 ..	True bearing 110°
.. G.8.B.89.	..	95°

From native sources (reported fairly reliable) :-

- (g). WADI RABAH. One heavy gun in wadi fired on MULEEBIS 084.M.14.15. on 19th instant.
- (h). HABLEH. 084.K.9.b. Battery of four guns to "right" (? East) of village close to a tomb fired on MULEEBIS on 22nd instant.
- (i). JILJULIEH. Battery of five or six small guns behind low hill (084.D.18.b.) E. of village (about K.13.a.). Tranchos "in front" of village are always held, as are those to the North on a mound near the KALKILIEH track.
(XXIst Corps).
- (j). Enemy fired salvos of 4, every 10 minutes on ABDALLAH 099.M.24. and N.25.b. from 2115 to 0445 night of 31st.
- (k). Enemy registered several points on Coastal sector and during the last 2 days fired over 300 shells into this sector.
(XXIst Corps 31.1.18.)
- (l). Deserter from 19th Regiment states that there is a German Artillery Battalion near MEJDEL YABA.
(Note). An Artillery Battalion would normally consist of 3 - 4 gun batteries 2 of 7.7 cm field guns and 1 of 10.5 cm. Field Howitzers.
- (m). 2 Austrian guns reported East of RAS ET TAWIL. 113.C.15.a.

(5).

ARTILLERY
ACTIVITY. C.
(contd.)

(n). Artillery. It is estimated that the enemy have the following guns on this front:-

7.5 cm. 7.5 cm. 10.5 cm. 10.5 cm. 15 cm. 15
Field. Mountain. guns. Howitzers. guns. Howitzers.

210	28	12	78	10	39
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TOTAL 377

plus Artillery
8th and 48th Divs. 28

less estimate
captured and not
allowed for in
above

41

Guns damaged and
destroyed 1.11.17
to 1.2.18

67 108

297

ENEMY DEFENCES. 7.

(a). New barricados observed on hill in 113.G.13.a.

(Noto). Wiro is apparently scarce as very few entanglements have been reported.

(b). 200 yards of wire has been erected in 084.A.35.d.

(c). The following places in front line are specially noted during the week as centres of considerable movement and work :-

RUJM EL BAHR.	114.V.17.b.	JERICHO	113.K.23.c.
KURUNTAL.	113.K.8.b.	TALAT ED DUMA	113.G.13.b.
RAS ET TAWIL.	113.C.15.a.	RUMMON.	113.A.7.a.
SELWAD.	099.L.32.b.	YEBRUD.	099.N.19.a.
DEIR ABU MESHAL	085.X.50.b.	KH.DIKERIN.	085.U.13.d.
WEJDEL YABA.	035.J.1.a.	BIR ADAS.	084.D.9.c.
HABLEH.	084.K.9.b.38	TABSOR.	084.A.23.c.
JIL JULIEH.	085.D.18.		

ENEMY DUMPS.

DEPOTS. 8.

(a). RAYAK. Agent reports considerable reorganisation at the depots by German Officers.
An accumulation of some 250 trucks of munitions, supplies, petrol etc. have been transferred from the normal gauge line to the 10.5 cm.gauge line and the Railway stock returned to ALEPPO for refilling.

(b). MADJBA. Refugees who left there about 18th inst report large quantities of grain stored in Roman Catholic Church and other buildings, it is being transported gradually to AMIAN and is guarded by 30 Turks.

(c).

ENEMY DUMPS
DEPOTS. 8.

- (c). Armenian deserter states that the IIrd Army Corps is supplied from Railroad N. W. of KABLUS to SINJIL (099.J.33) by motor lorry, thence to units by pack transport. There are about 40 lorries used, but they are practically useless when it rains.
(Note). This does not speak too well of the ~~road~~ condition of the roads. The German establishment of Motor Lorry Column on this front is 25 lorries, so apparently two columns are in use by the IIIrd Corps.

(d). On the 28th a patrol exploded a dump of 10.5 cm shells at 084.D32a

(e). A German deserter states on hearsay that the 701st German Battn. now draw ammunition and supplies from KAKON (084.U.4) instead of from KALKILISH (084.H.25) as hitherto. Another prisoner says their ammunition Depots are at AFULE and ~~BAZARETH~~.

29.1.18.

(f). A deserter says that the XXth A.O. is short of S.A.A. In his unit (136th Rgt.) no fresh supplies have been received since the retreat.

(g). Prisoner of War gives the following information re Depots.

At AMMAN	60,000	kilos wheat.
	1,500	.. kulgur
	1,000	.. figs and raisins.
At ES SALT.	1,000	.. wheat.
.. JERICHO		small depot of wheat.
.. AMMAN.		Large ammunition Depot.
.. JERICHO.		fairly large ammunition depot.
.. AMMAN	3	ovens for baking bread for drafts and troops in neighbourhood.
.. ES SALT	2	..
.. JERICHO	3	..
.. AMMAN	125	motor lorries.
.. ES SALT	10	..
.. JERICHO	10	..

(h). Between DAMASCUS and AMMAN 4 trains run daily, carrying supplies consisting mostly of wood.

(i). Prisoner states he made 10 journeys with petrol and oil to a station $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles E. of ~~P~~ where it was handed over to German sailors BEYROUT

(j). Another prisoner states that there is petrol stored for submarines at a castle on sea coast 1 kilometre W. of MUSINA and near the old railway.

31.1.18.

(k). A large supply depot is reported at TARSUS and a smaller one at NISSIS (15 kms. E. of ADANA).

(l). Large store of Russian S.A.A. at TARSUS.

(Note). A monk who came into XXth Corps lines after being expelled by the Turks states that he saw Turks carrying Russian rifles and they told him it was because they were short of S.A.A. for their own rifles.

0933

ENERGY DUMPS.DEPOTS. 8.

(Contd.).

(m). SEMAKH is railhead for troops in TIBERIUS area. In dry weather motor lorries are used. In wet weather two barges each carrying 12 tons and 1 steam tug carrying 12 to 14 tons are used.

(Note reported that the Germans are constructing another large barge to be worked by petrol.

(n). RUJU EL BAHR. There appears to be an increase in supplies here. 40 small dumps covered with brushwood noted, as compared with 12 on 30th January. It is probable that all supplies that can be transported are being moved from the S. and E. of the Dead Sea area on account of recent raids by the arabs further South.

STRENGTH AND MORALE. 9.

(a).	1st Coy. 136th Regt.	100 Rifles	January 9th.
	7th Div.	2000 ..	December 29th.
	7th Cav. 2nd Bn. 59th Regt.	100 ..	January 9th.
	3rd Coy. 3rd Bn. 76th Regt.	30 ..	December 22nd.
*	* 3rd Coy. 3rd Bn. 159th Regt.	200 rations	December 19th.

* Hitherto only the 2nd Bn. attached to 26th Division identified.

77th Regt.	800 rifles	January 1st.
72nd Regt.	Reduced to 1st and 3rd Battalions.	
73rd Regt. M.G. Coy.	110 effectives	January 5th.
	6 M.Gs.	
	9 Auto rifles.	
57th Regt. 3rd Bn.	450 rifles.	

Pasha II force will include Germans from MACEDONIA and ROUMANIA. The whole force will total 45,000 rations.

(Report by prisoner.)

(b). Nativo gave following locations and strengths which are probably exaggerated :-

SELWAD.	150 men.
TEL ASUA.	2 Coys M.Guns. and 3/4 Mountain Guns.
AIN ESH SHARAYEH (L.33.a&c)	2-300 men.
YEBRUD.	2-300 men
AIN SINIA.	100 men.
BUKJ BARDAWIL (L.31.a).	40-50 men.
AIN EL NUS (L.25.a.)	100 men Good water.
SH. KATRAWANY (L.26)	100-150 men. 2 mountain guns.
ATTABA.	200-300 men.
TUBAUS AYA.	100 men.
SINJIL.	50 men 3 heavy guns.
NABLUS.	5-600 Turks. No German Inf.
SAWILH (Z.26).	200 men working on road.

TOPOGRAPHY. 10.

ROADS.

- A. (1). MEZRAH ESM SHERKIYEH (099.L.22.a) to main road in (099.L.9.a) is fit for wagon transport
- (ii). Rummon (113.a.7) TAIYIREH (113.S.19.a.) TURMUS AYA (099.J.35) R.F.O.
is used by enemy for pack convoys, no information re route
but probably via KEFR NALIK. (113.Q.31).
- (iii). Track from Cave Hill 099.F.15 to point 1000 099. F.13. suitable for pack transport.
- (iv). WADI EL NEDA between 099.Z.24.b. and F.19.a. can be made suitable for wheels.
- (v). Track along Wadi from DEIR AMMAR ~~km~~ to S.EBTIN can be made suitable for wheels.
- (vi). wadi JANNATA only passable for pack transport.
- (vii). JILJULIEH KEFR BARAII (064.K.27.a) fit for wagon transport
(21st Corps 25.1.18).
- (viii). JISa BENAT YAKUH (C.4) to near DEIR MIMAS (0.3). This road was built by Jewish Colonists and runs along West bank of Lake HULEH (C.4) near E L.KHALISAH (C.4) - MUTALLAH (C.3) - joining metalled road near DEIR MIMAS (0.3) It has been used by cars and guns. It is dominated from HUNIN.
- (ix). DEIR MIMAS to SALDA~~E~~. This road runs via NABATIYEH (B.3 - C.3) HABSBUSH (B.3-C.3) - DEIR ZAERANI (B.3) - ZIFTE (B.3) - HAJE (B.3) to SAIDA (B.2). It is used by motor lorries and is in good condition.
- (x). AMMAN - KALAAT ES ZERKA (lat.52° 4' long, 36° 8') is fit for wheeled transport and artillery but not for motors. The track North from KALAAT EZ ZERKA along the WADI SHABA, through TINEKRI (lat.32° 24' long, 36° 0') and ER REMTE (lat.32° 35' long 36° 2') to DERAA to unfit for wheels (P.of W.)
- (xi). MEJDAL YABA to RAS EL AIN - well defined track, appears to have been used lately.
- (xii). MEZEIRAH to JILJULIEH. Well defined track in bed of Wadi SAHUY leading from hills and thence N. skirting the hills through MEJDAL YABA towards JILJULIEH.
- (xiii). DURAH to AFFARA road via JUFNA - BIR EL ZEIT ~~km~~ is passable for field guns.

(XXth Corps 29.1.18.)

... water has been to product

would be used to produce

TOPOGRAPHY 10.

(8a.)

- WATER. B. (1) RUMMON 113.A.7 - 20 cisterns.
(ii) AIN EL AUJA (115.T.15.c.) numerous springs (approx. 10)
excellent quality: abundant supply.
(iii) DAR JERIR (113.S.7.c.) 20 small cisterns
(iv) SINJIL (098.J.33.a.) springs: supply plentiful & good.
(v) AIN ES SURAR (099.M.12.b.) springs good quality, but
small supply.
(vi) EL LUBBAN (099.M.12.b) springs good quality, and
plentiful supply.
(vii) BIR EZ ZEIT (099.M.8.b) spring, good quality and
plentiful supply.
(viii) JUFNA (099.M.16.a.) several wells.
(ix) AIN SINIAH (099.M.5.d) three springs.
(x) DURAH (099.M.23.b.) one large spring.
(xi) The River Jordan from Lake Tiberius to Dead Sea. Length
of stream 185 miles ~ Distance as the crow flies 40
miles - Fall in this length 610 feet. Width varies
from 80 to 160 feet. Depth except in times of heavy
rain 5 to 12 feet. River often overflows after heavy
rain.
(xii) RAS DALÈ (on the DEAD SEA). There is apparently a deep
water channel in the mouth of the Wadi at RAS DALE
and it appears to be quite possible to harbour and
secrete boats from observation there (lat. 31.34'
long: 35 33' JERUSALEM 1/250,000 map)
(xiii) The Wadi from 084.D.19.b. to D.15.c.28 contains a foot
of water: banks vary in height from 1 to 3 feet, and
in breadth from 4 to 8 feet.
(xiv) 15 springs in all were discovered near RAS EL AIN, of
which 3 were large, the remaining being quite small
with a gentle stream of water flowing from them.
From EL MIRE to RAS EL AIN the main stream has a slow
current, and is very sluggish at the sides in the
widest parts. The average height of the bank is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet
above the surface of the water. There is quite low
ground extending for about 40' on either side of the
stream, when the ground slopes up to the general level
of the plain 10 ft. above.
(xv) There were no trenches at RAS EL AIN of recent
occupation by the enemy.

(10)

TOPOGRAPHY. 10.
(contd.).

Particulars of Wells and Springs.

- (xvi). KEFR SABA (Jew. Col). 084.B.29.c. 1 well 3 h.p. Hornsby 2-throw Pump.
do. (Native). do. 1 .. Sacia.
- (XVII). NEBI YEMIN 084.B.36.c. wells. 3 h.p. Hornsby's & pump.
- (xviii). KEFR ZIBAD 084.Z.30 1 well 100' about.
- (xix). KEFR SUK. 084.Z.18. 1 .. Saqia. ..
- (xx). KEFR LAKIA 098.0.26.d. 1 .. do.
- (xxi). SH. MASUD. 084.Y.10.b. 1 .. do. 150' about.
- (xxii). SH. MESHEHRAJ. 084.Y.24. 1 100' about
- (xxiii). KALKILIEH. 084.H.25.d. 4 wells Two 3 hp. One 5 hp. One 6 hp. Hornsby's working pumps.
- (xxiv). HUDEIRKA. 085.V.23. About 25 pumping plants up to 25 hp. (all Hornsby's).
- (xxv). BLAKEF AFA. 083.D.25.c. 4 pumps for irrigation: one 5 h.p., one $7\frac{1}{2}$ h.p. one $17\frac{1}{2}$ h.p. and one 35 h.p. Hornsby's.
- (xxvi). ZIMMARIN 083.R.24.b. 2 wells 25 H.p. 3-throw pump $3\frac{1}{2}$ " plungers.
35 h.p. 3-throw pump, 6" plungers.
- (xxvii). TANTURAH (Glass factory). 083.P.26.a. Water along coast at a few feet by breaking through the rock. Native wells get flooded by sea during storms.
- (xxviii). ARRABEH. 097.Y.1. Supplied by cisterns.
- (xxix). ANZA 098.H.3.d. Supplied by springs.
- (xxx). GALTAN farm with a pump between ARRABEH and KERKEH.
- (xxxi). SHUFEH. 098.0.25.d. Supplied by cisterns.
- (xxxii). KUZAT. 098.X.10.d. Supplied by springs.
- (xxxiii). ATHLIT. 082.D.27. Native wells (shallow.)
- (xxxiv). SHEFEIA 083.W.14. Depends on springs.
- (xxxv). UM EL JAMAL (Jew. Col) 083.W.5.c. Good wells.
- (xxxvi). The wadi el FUWAR has water in it all the year.
- (xxxvii). NAHR EL ISKANDERIYAH, which has water always up to JISH EL ET 113.C.15.a. area Large number of cisterns. MAKTAEEH
(xxxviii). RAS EL TAWIL. 113.B.20.d. A well with good water.
- (xxxix). KHURBET RUMMAMANGH. 113.A.16.d. Cistern.

OG 1

*Kontroll te si gitaristot eit - JUSSI JÄRVI (x)

177.3 442 177.3 442 177.3 442
177.3 442 177.3 442 177.3 442

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D. (i). RAYAK - ALEPPO Railway - Agent reports considerable delays caused on the line on account of fuel. - Green-poplar wood is now used as there is no time to dry it prior to use.

(ii). Engines also considerably deteriorated for want of repair.

(i). Bridge over JORDAN at GHORANIYE. - wood.
Construction - wood.

SLIKKORT, BEVX 100 pages in length. TAKS PERIOD (12) consists of two 5-10 pages over the water. SLIKKORT reported capable of carrying 1" guns.

(ii). A new stone bridge is reported as being built about 10 miles to the JERICO side of E.S. SALT on the main road. This is in addition to an old wooden bridge. The dimensions of the new bridge are - height 4.5 metres; breadth 3 metres length 15 metres.

(iii). A new railway bridge reported under construction by
enemy W. of ET TINEH from Pt.084.T.28. to 084.S.38.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS. 11. — INTERVIEW to discuss the value of books

(a). Natives have been ordered by Turks to evacuate SELWAD, ATTARA, and to go to NABLUS.

The Turks have taken all available food from these places.

(b). The muktar of JCFNA reports that Turkish soldiers on 24th would not allow his people into the village and threatened to shoot them. They carted away all the food, & cattle etc.

(c). (i). A German deserter on 25th states that there are 15 German
submarines at AIFA and had seen one of the crew.

(Note) The number is most probably exaggerated.

(ii). Prisoner of war states that three months ago he saw three
submarines, numbers U-92, U2, and U-93, get petrol from a castle
one kilometre west of MERSINA on sea coast West of ALEXANDRIETTA

- (d) According to native reports Civil authorities have left KERAK (probably caused by fear of Arab raids further South).
- (e) MEZEIRAH Not held by Turks but a few come in every day and take food from the villagers.
- (f) MEJDAL YARA. A few days ago the Turks gave the 400-500 inhabitants 3 days in which to clear out towards the interior. Garrison of this place was then said to be 100 Infantry., 3 machine guns. 30 to 40 Turkish Cavalry, and 15 to 20 German Cavalry; most of the latter proceed daily to DEIR BALLAT, RENTIS or ZAWIYAH for corn.
- (g) Rainfall - The following is of interest.

Total for January	...	...	5.77
Total for Oct. 1/17 to Jany. 31/18	...	...	9.73
Average : : : : : : : :	...	...	19.52

12.

News from
Other Fronts.

- (a) The Independent Turkish Cavalry (1st Lancers (250 sabres) 13th Cavalry Regt. 300 sabres and 1 battery horse artillery) left KIFRI for MOSUL about the end of November - said to be en route for ALEPPO.

Western
Front.

- (i) We dropped 300 bombs on GOUTRAI and DOWAI Railway stations. We brought down 7 enemy planes and 5 others were damaged and out of control. 2 of ours are missing. One was seen to collide with enemy plane.
- (ii) Bombed GHENT, ROUERS, MANNHEIM, TREVES, THIONVILLE, SAARBRUCKEN, and OBERSILLIG, one of our machines is missing. 29/1/18.
- (iii) Hostile artillery has been active S.W. of CAMBRAI, north of LENS and PASSOCHENDAELLE.
- (iv) Enemy aeroplanes attacked PARIS on 31/1/18, inflicting material damage and some casualties.
- (v) British troops continued attack on 29th in neighbourhood of APELHY and south of HAVERNOURT in LA SASSEE sector and E. of POLYGON WOOD.
- (vi) Information from WASHINGTON states that in United States there are now 16 national Army Camps and 16 national guard camps = to 32 full divisions ready to go to France. There would be 500,000 United States men in France shortly and during the year 1½ millions more available to go there.

Caucasus Front

Natives of DIAREKIR state that the whole force in that district consists of 2 battalions - all the rest left for ALEPPO late in December (This possibly refers to the reports that the 11th and 8th Divisions were en route for PALESTINE FRONT).

- Middle East (i) Further Arab successes. They occupied the Turkish post at T. SHIR and captured the garrison, and routed the Turks in retreat against them near the DEAD SEA. (note TAFIRI, is probably TAFOUR).

K+

- (ii) Nine miles of MEDJAZ railway completely destroyed by Arabs. Arabs occupying positions 7 miles W. of MAAN. Arabs attacked Turks and routed them at SOILOLHASA. Turks retreated towards KERAK vigorously pursued by Arabs. 26th Jany.

Italian Front. (i) The heights eastward of ASIAGO Basin were stormed by the Allies who broke through the enemy positions at several points. 1500 prisoners were taken. Our aircraft was everywhere superior, bringing down 12 enemy machines. Naval aircraft dropped bombs on aerodromes at ALTRYCKE and ANGEL.

- (ii) Further reports show energetic thrusts kept up in ASIAGO front to W. of FRENZELA Valley and positions improved and it is stated that the successes now restore the defensive line barring the entrance to the Venetian plain.

Russian Front. (a) The Bolsheviks announce diplomatic relations with Roumania broken off.
(b) Roumanian troops entered KISHINOFF in BESSARABIA north of ODESSA, amid cheers of the populace and on the invitation of Russian High Command in S.W.

- General News 13. (a) As a protest against continuance of war and bad food it is reported that there are more or less serious labour troubles in Berlin. Independent Socialists are distributing pamphlets advertising a general strike and according to German wireless there were 100,000 strikers from 40 concerns in BERLIN. Strikers were mainly youths and girls.
(ii) The strike is declared to be spreading seriously. The following towns have been declared in a state of siege. HAMBURG, ALTONA, and WANDSBECK, shipyard work at those places and at KIEL stopped. Thousands of munition works are today (1/2/18) said to have stopped work.
(b) The "Vorwärts" yesterday stated that war industry at BERLIN & neighbourhood was at a standstill.
(c) BRAZIL are sending a naval division of armoured cruisers and destroyers under command of Admiral Frances Co. Matos shortly to be incorporated in English North Sea fleet.
(d) The last heard about GOEBEN stated that her hull was awash. Now on 30th comes news that the GOEBEN was no longer ashore in the Narrows. (Presumably she has again escaped).
(e) The excellence of our defences of London against aircraft is reported by the fact that not one enemy machine penetrated the capital in the recent raid.
(f) Official record for year shows a loss of 69 United States ships sunk by Germany.

Paul G. Love Major,
General Staff,
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

=====
SECRET
=====

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

L 51/4

SS

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE

For week ending 11th February 1918

OPERATIONS. 1. (a) Our aeroplanes dropped 920 lbs of bombs on hostile troops and camps (areas not stated). 37 direct hits obtained. (G.H.Q. 5/2/18)

(b) On the 5th instant at 2300 enemy had a demonstration near JUFNA, 099 L.1G; bombs and rifle fire from about 100 rifles, lasting 10 minutes. At 0100 further rifle fire from about 200 rifles, 2 machine guns, and bombs, lasting 15 minutes. At 0230 the same performance was gone through.

(XX Corps 8/2/18)

(c) A patrol of XXth Corps proceeded to the foot of MUNTAR, 114.Q.12., on the 3rd instant. (XX Corps)

(d) Snipers of XXI Corps worked forward and fired on 5 German officers using maps and observing our line at 070 V.11.a.& b. One was seen to fall as if wounded.

(XXI Corps 8/2/18)

(e) On the 6th 3 Germans approached post 070 V.21.d. One of these who was wounded was captured and has since died; the others escaped. (XXI Corps 8/2/18)

MOVEMENTS FRONT AREA. 2. (a) Reported by prisoner that all forces E. of JERUSALEM are going to retire across the JORDAN and entrench themselves. (G.H.Q.)

(b) The Attack Company of 23rd Division left AMMAN on 2nd January with all its baggage and original transport. (G.H.Q.)

NOTE: The 23rd Division was last heard of near ALEXANDRETTA.

(c) The Attack Company of 48th Division is reported on hearsay to be going with its division back to MERSINA, as it was feared that the British were going to land troops there. (G.H.Q.)

(d) A Turkish prisoner reports while he was in hospital at NABLUS, 20 days ago, he saw an Austrian infantry regiment ? Battalion., and the 19th Division also there undergoing training. (G.H.Q.)

MOVEMENTS BACK AREA. 3. (a) Part of the 47th Division is reported to be still in the SAYNA area. The remainder of the division is reported to be at ALEPPO. (G.H.Q.)

(b) 44th Division reported by prisoner at ADANA, whom he left in December. He came with a draft Attack Coy. of this Division about 450 strong and they lost heavily at ZAMBY and WHITE HILL, and the remainder were drafted into the 136th Regiment.

(XX Corps 7/2/18)

(c) It is reported that the 7.5 cm. light minenwerfer, destined for PALESTINE, arrived at SIRKEDJI, the terminus in CONSTANTINOPLE of the European railway on 13/12/17. NOTE: This type of minenwerfer fires a H.E. projectile weighing 10 lbs. with a range of from 175 to 1145 yards. (G.H.Q.)

/ IDENTIFICATIONS

22 2000 2.0. THREE
IDENTIFICATIONS. 4.

Unit.	Date	Position or Source.	Remarks.
152nd Rgt. 4/2/18	Attached to 53rd Division Arab in KUMMON desert Aroa.	This regt. belongs to 48th Division, the other elements identified being 150th & 151st Regts. (G.H.Q.)	(a)
GERMANS 300 Flight.	29/1/18 at JENIN	German aviator 304 Flight.	Entirely scouts. O.C. Capt. FELMY (the younger) (G.H.Q.)
304 Flight	"	"	Entirely two-soothers for strategical reconnaissances. O.C. Capt. WALZ. Bavarian Unit. (G.H.Q.)

CHANGES IN DISPOSITIONS. 5.

The 701 German Infantry Battalion seems to be simply used for patrols only - in Coastal sector - and is consequently much dispersed.

The 58th Rgt of 24th Division is now at DURAH on the right of the 145th Regiment.

The 48th Division has been withdrawn from the line E of JERUSALEM, across the Jordan to SHUAFET MIRRIK.

A decrease of 800 rifles is accounted for in KUTRANI-KERAK area on account of casualties to Turkish force at SEILELHESA on 25/1/18. (b)

(a) 2000 2.0. THREE
Changes of disposition of military units etc to JERUSALEM
Reinforcement of military units to reinforce etc
(C.H.Q.)

(b) 2000 2.0. THREE
Changes of disposition of military units etc to JERUSALEM
Reinforcement of military units to reinforce etc
(C.H.Q.)

(c) 2000 2.0. THREE
Reinforcement of military units to reinforce etc
Reinforcement of military units to reinforce etc
Reinforcement of military units to reinforce etc
(C.H.Q.)

CONFIDENTIAL

8.

ARTILLERY 6. (a) The following is a statement of our captured ACTIVITY during 1917.

Field Guns & Howitzers 119 ms 4.7 guns
4.5" guns 2 Ammunition wagons 51
Gun and howitzer ammunition over 58,000 rounds.

(S.H.D.) ACTIVITY

(b) Enemy artillery during the week was as follows :-

- (i) 3rd inst. Registration of his own front line S.W. of TABSOR. About 50 rounds with 77 mm.
084 V.22.d. 10 rounds with 4.2.
- (ii) 4th inst. parts of his own front line and no man's land W. of TABSOR. 65 rounds with 77 mm.
Scoured from 084 V.21.d. to V.23.a. & b. - 51 rounds.
Shelled 084 O.1.d., G.25.a. and P.1.a. lightly with 77 mm.
Fired at 070 V.22.d. - 3 rounds.

(XXI Corps 6/2/18)

(c) Our heavy battery dispersed a working party of 200 at 084 S.27.b. and registration was carried out on several enemy points in the Coastal sector.

(XXI Corps 8/2/18)

(d) Enemy registered on 070 X.6.a. and X.12.a., N.E. of JELIL, with 7.7 cm. H.E. (XX Corps 10/2/18)

ENEMY DEFENCES (a) Prisoner reports that the 53rd Division have 6 mountain guns near SERKY, East of RAS ET TAWIL.

(NOTE: SERKY means a Field Ambulance) (XX Corps 9/2/18)

(b) Considerable movement, fresh work, and new trenches have been noticed during the week in the following localities.

(1) Coastal Sector. Work was carried out during the day and night noticed on redoubt on TABSOR HILL 084 A.20.b. and on redoubt at 084 A.2.B. Point 084 S.27.b. KHAREISH 084 K.26.b. and KEFR KASIL 084 M.9.a. KAFR HATTA 084 M.2. and on redoubts on Hill 085 U.1.a. and near MEZEIRAH 085 P.30.c.

(2) Central Sector.

DELR EN NIDHAM, 085 K.30.a. out of garrisoned out of KENTIS, 085 X.2. DELR EN NIDHAM, 099.0.

(3) Eastern Frontline. Work was carried out on TALAT ED DUL, 085 G.12. ARAK IBRAHIM, 115 G.19. out of garrisoned out of Hill at 115 G.21.a. and 115 G.14.d. RAS ET TAWIL, 115 C.14. Some work done to 3K 6A

ENEMY DUMPS & DEPOTS (a) A Turkish prisoner gives the following information. At HAURAN Station 25 miles N. of DERAA about 900 District tons grain, but 220 tons of wheat out of this had to be given to the Bedouins in the district to pacify them.

At GHAZALE Station, 12 miles N. of DERAA about 900 tons grain. Some came from DAMASCUS but most from the HAURAN.

(b) out of Ammunition dump at ES-SALT supplies XX Corps Jericho area.

(G.H.Q.)

(c) (G.H.Q.)

(o) XX Corps supplies are - JERICHO 8 days reservations.
 SHINER NIMRIN replenishes JERICHO and holds a reserve of about
 8 tons wheat, 3 tons barley, 14 tons raisins, 17 tins sesamo
 oil, 8 tins olive oil, 20 cows, 53 goats.
 A bakery is established here and supplies bread for the whole
 corps.
 main Supply Depot is at MADEBA, holding 2 months supplies.
 (G.H.Q.)

(a) The chief controls of railway activity during January
 were at TULKERAH and MUSUDIYEH station, 098.D.35a.
 (G.H.Q.)

(o) Motor parks and refilling points near NABLUS & RAMMIN,
 098.D.20.
 Traffic in motors decreased and horse transport increased.
 This is accounted for by the state of the roads.
 (G.H.Q.)

<u>STRENGTH</u>	9. (a) Prisoner reports following strengths -
&	78th Regt., 26th Div. XX Army Corps 300 rifles Jan. 6. 1918.
<u>MORALE</u> .	1st Bn. 165 Regt. 54th Div. XXII " 200 " 15 "
	3rd " 62 " 20th " " " 375 " " "
	7th Cavalry Regt. 260 sabres " 6 "

(b) Desertion is rife, consequent on scarcity of food.
 Prisoners of the 26th Division report they have not been
 issued with rations for 3 days and had to boil and eat grass.
 (XX Corps 7/2/18)

(c) Prisoner reports the 5, 6 & 7 Companies of 138th Regt.
 53rd Division total about 95 rations. The whole regiment is
 estimated about 400 rifles.
 (XX Corps 7/2/18)

(d) About 130 bakers from the 7th and 54th Divisional
 Bakeries at KALKILISH were drafted during the last week in
 January to the 10th Regt., 7th Division, and were being trained
 to fight. One of these was captured and states he was given
 120 rounds of ammunition; he threw 100 rounds away as he
 did not know what to do with them.
 (G.H.Q.)

(e) The following is the translation of a report found amongst
 the papers of a P. of W.
To the Commandant 1/81st Regiment.

As yesterday the soldiers olive oil ration was not
 sent from the station to the stores, I was compelled to
 use a six kg of Officers butter. To-day, I only received
 from the Supply Office broken wheat, lentils, salt and
 45 kg of wood. I asked for meat, olive oil, as well as
 for butter to replace that which I had used yesterday,
 but I was refused. Some privileged people receive issues
 of butter and other rations. To-day also some units have
 received sugar, coffee, tobacco, but others have not re-
 ceived any. Although each soldier is entitled to receive 700
 gr of wood, the quantity issued by the Supply Office
 varies from 250 to 300 gr. Today's issue was only 100
 grammes. There are neither forests nor bushes in this
 region. How therefore is food to be cooked? Fatigue parties
 are sent to collect brushwood, and the training of the
 troops is delayed. After making several requests to the
 Officer in Charge Supplies, I was driven away. If this state of
 things continues as at present I cannot be responsible.
 I therefore submit this report to you.

(Signed Lieut. ABULLALIF, Mess Officer, 4/81st Regt.).
 (G.H.Q.)

TOPOGRAPHY 10. Roads (a)

- (i) NEBY MUSA - JERICHO, and NEBY MUSA - MUNTAR roads appear fit for wheeled traffic. (XX Corps 4/2/18)
- (ii) JERICHO to TAWIL; prisoner reports very bad, hardly fit for pack transport. No work has been done. (XX Corps)
- (iii) JERICHO to KUMON. 4½ hours walk. Prisoner reports a good pack track and engineers working on JERICHO end. It is now passable for mctors for about 6 to 7 miles from JERICHO. (XX Corps)
- (iv) Fords over the JORDAN.
- ✓ ULM ESH SHERT (127 F.2.a.) - Cavalry & pack animals & camels can cross at all times of the year.
 - ✓ EL AUJA (113 J.12.a.) - - do -
 - ✓ EL LANDESI (127 O.19.a.) - - do -
 - ✓ MAKHADET HAJLEH (127 S.3.c.) Reported to be 3 to 4 feet deep normally sandy bottom, good approaches. No doubt in rainy weather this ford is impassable.
- (NOTE : On the new road map 1/100,000 recently issued a bridge is shown - G.H.Q. now report that this does not exist). G.H.Q.
- (v) Roman Road in 113 F.19.a. & d. reported passable for pack animals only in its present condition. (XX Corps 8/2/18)
- (vi) A patrol of XX Corps reports track along WADI HINDI 100 J.35.36 - 114 O.31.25 to 26 contral passable for limbers, and from this point through O.27 - 28 - 29 - 23 - 17 to WADY EL AUWAJ develops into a footpath only. (XX Corps 9/2/18)

(b) Water.

- (i) Prisoners report that all water for area 113 F.G.O.U. is brought from JERICHO by pack transport, with the exception of some obtained from a stream just N. of 113 G.13. (G.H.Q.)
- (NOTE : This is doubted as there should be water in all wadis at this season of the year).
- Paras. ii, iii, iv, v, vi, & vii, are extracts from Survey of Egypts. 88, = 800, Western Palestine, Vol. III, published in 1882.
- (ii) AIN FAQAH (113.F.2.c.). Perennial spring; abundant supply; excellent quality.
- (iii) AIN WADY KELT (113.L.32.c.). Perennial spring; abundant supply and excellent quality. Standing water in the Wady during most of the year.
- (iv) AIN ES SULTAN (113.K.10.c.). Copious supply of good cool water, perennial, and flowing for a distance of over one mile in summer. Water discharges into a shallow reservoir 24' x 40'.
- (v) AIN DUK. AIN EN NUBIALEH (113.H.25). Two good springs within a few yards of each other; water pure and cool; flows in a stream about a foot deep.
- (vi) AIN HAJLAH. (113.H.5.c.). Spring; well of stone about 6 ft. diameter. Dark blue colour but fresh; and water forms a small stream to the JORDAN.
- (vii) AIN FESHKHAH (114.I.23.c.) AIN ET TANNUR (114.W.17.c.). On the border of the DEAD SEA. Water comes from beneath the cliffs into a pool, and runs over a shingly bed into the DEAD SEA. Copious perennial supply, but slightly brackish.

TOPOGRAPHY. 10. Bridges (c).

(I) Road bridges blown up at 113 F 18 d. and F 24a on JAUUSALIM - JANICHO Road. (G.H.Q.)

(II) The following bridges are reported -

3 Kms E of TULKERAM. 2 Aches -

ANABATA 098. C.9.c. 4 " -

SEBUSTIEH 098 K.25. 2 " -

(G.H.Q.)

(III) Bridge over WADI ISHKAR in 084 D 18 - is single arched -
of rough stone 9 feet wide, total length 36 feet -
about 8 feet above the water, suitable for all traffic
up to limbers. (XXI Corps 6/2/18.)

Railways & Miscellaneous (d)

(I) The following are the positions of Jewish Colonies not shewn on the 1" map:-

ZERKAS 083 K 13a 1.8. BADUS 083 H 30 C.2.z. SHEFEIA 083 W 8a & C. UMEELJELAL 083 W 5a 3&9, ZILLARIN 083 W=8 R.17d 18c and 24a - EL HUDEIRAH 083 D 14 b & d and 15 a & c. (G.H.Q.)

(II) Reliably reported that the broad gauge line is now completed through FAURUS, through trains now run between HALBAR PASA, sea coast E of Constantinople to ALEPPO. (G.H.Q.)

NEWS FROM OTHER FRONTS. 11.

WESTERN FRONT:-

(I) We raided enemy trenches S.W. of LONCHY le PREUX:-
prisoners taken. 3/2/18.

(II) Enemy raided our trenches at a post N E of POELCAPELLE.
Enemy artillery more active than usual at EPEHY, GAVRELLE & YPRÉS.

(III) We repulsed enemy raids on 6th inst at MERICOURT and ALICOURT and captured a few prisoners.

(IV) The following extracts are taken from a captured German Order of first day's fighting in the ARRAS Battle:-
"The enemy's counter battery work was doubtless carried out with considerable success and continued during the bombardment immediately prior to the assault. In one Division, only 9 out of 24 light field howitzers were left in action".

"Gas shelling was most effective against our horses; and the break down in ammunition supply must, in many cases be attributed to this fact, and efforts to withdraw batteries at the right time were frequently unsuccessful." (G.H.Q.)

(V) There has been lively artillery activity during the week on both sides - especially at HAVERLINCOURT, SOUTH & NORTH of LEIS - Monin road locality - ARMENTIERES - Arras locality -

7.
NEWS FROM OTHER FRONTS. II. (Continued)

(VI) The Germans made three surprise attacks against the French on the right bank of the Meuse and in Alsace. All were repulsed and heavy casualties inflicted on enemy and the French in return successfully raided a German post West of Forges, on the left bank of the Meuse.

MIDDLE EAST FRONT - (Continued from page 6)
(I) Further information states, in recent operations N of EL FARILE at SAILL NASA, three Turkish battalions attacked the Arab force and were repulsed. The Turks lost over 400 killed and 300 prisoners including the Commander, 2 Mountain guns, 23 Machine guns, 300 rifles and 200 horses and mules. (Later) all their Officers are reported either killed or captured. (G.H.Q.)

(II) On the 31st January an enemy train en route to repair the railway line near MEDINA (80 miles N of MEDINA) which was destroyed by the Arabs recently, was mined and two engines, the tender, and three wagons completely wrecked. (G.H.Q.)

An East African communiqué says that Cape Coloured Corps pursued the enemy to LAIAKKA, seized PENGUINE HILL, 45 miles inland from Port AMELIA, capturing 30 tons of food, and occupied ANKABE.

ITALIAN FRONT -

- (a) A large fire was caused by our airships in ammunition stores at S. SPIRO. DI LIVCOZA.
- (b) 5 hostile machines were brought down on 6th inst.
- (c) Enemy bombed VENICE, ASSIRÉ and FASINSO? on 6th inst.
- (d) Between January 26th and February 6th Italian and allied airmen downed a total of 56 enemy machines.
- (e) 13 enemy planes were brought down on the 4th, 8 of these were accounted for by British airmen.

RUSSIAN FRONT -

- (a) After hearing a statement from the Ukrainian Rada representative at WEST LITOVSK, in which he ferociously attacked TROTsky, the Central powers delegation decided to recognise the representatives of the RADA as entitled to speak for the Ukraine.
- (b) A German report states that Polish Units in the Russian Army are revolting against the Bolsheviks and have arrested KAYLAH, the Bolshevik Commander-in-Chief.

(b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g)

8. General news. 12.

- (a) An ammunition factory exploded near the City of PRAAGUE resulting in a catastrophe, involving considerable loss of life and destruction of secrets of munitions. Some papers say that this was not an accident.
- (b) Enemy have commandeered all food-stuffs at JERICHO and sent the Greek monks to Damascus. (G.H.Q.)
- (c) we captured during 1917. 181 Machine guns, 22932 rifles and 18½ millions of S.A.A. and a great quantity of other Ordnance Stores, 36 hostile aeroplanes destroyed and an additional 11 up to 26th January 1918 and approximately 753 Officers and 16287 other ranks during 1917 -
- (d) The Frankfurter Zeitung says the Government is responsible for the bloodshed in Berlin owing to ruthless suppression of the grievances of the masses. This Journal states the strike is extending to many other Towns despite proclamation of martial law.
- (e) Admiralty announces the following:- Outwards - 2339 - inwards - 2373 - 10 over 1600 tons and 5 under 1600 tons were sunk - (no dates given)
- (f) The following enemy salvage has been collected by XXth Corps during January:-
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| S.A.A. | 52435 rounds |
| do empty cases | 1200 |
| Sayonets | 20 |
| Rifles | 33 |
| Swords | 1 |
| Machine gun bolts | 48 |
| " " locks | 1 |
| 5.9 Shells | 424 |
| 77-mm shells | 159 |
| 10.5cm shells | 37 |
| Aeroplane bombs large | 27 |
| " small | 122 |
| 5.9 cartridge cases | 200 |
| 10.5 cm " " | 200 30 31 |
| Brass shell cases | 1033 |
| M.G. Ammunition boxes | 32 |
| Stick grenades | 300 |
| Hand grenades | 250 |
| Detonators | 500 |
| Bolt filling machine | 1 |
| Miner's for shells short | 68 |
| " " long | 88 |
| Native modern revolvers | 22 |
| Carbines | 22 |
- (g) Propaganda leaflets dropped by our aeroplanes have been read by Turkish soldiers and a copy sent to DJEAL PASHA who commands the Turkish forces on this front.

XX Corps 7/2/18

GENERAL NEWS. II. (Continued)

(h) Admiral Lord Jellicoe expressed confidence that the submarine menace will be killed by August.

(1) RAINFALL -

Total for October 1917 to February 9th 1918	11.87
Average Sarona for previous years	
Octr 1 to Feby 1	19.52
Octr 1 to March 1	22.43

Major,

General Staff,

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

APPENDIX
NOTES on Austro-Hungarian Troops for
service in Palestine and Asiatic
Turkey.

NOTE ON AUSTRO-GERMAN TROOPS FOR SERVICE IN PALESTINE & ASIATIC TURKEY.

Note. It has long been German policy to spread rumours on every possible occasion of the impending arrival of German reinforcements. The Turk clings to his hope more strongly as each fresh disaster overtakes him - hence the constant rumours of German units "about to" arrive on this front. Germany is now in a position to move easily spare reinforcements; otherwise there seems no ^{more} reason why they should especially arrive now than earlier in the war.

We know of the undermentioned German forces on this front. 1200 effective rifles, 54 M.Gs. 69 automatic rifles, 150 sabres, 10 75 or 77-mm. guns. 8 10.5-cm Hows., 8 mountain Hows., 12 Heavy Hows. all with German or Austrian personnel: ultimately the 1200 effective rifles will rise to 1800.

In addition a generous estimate of 2000 German effective rifles from all sources in and South of ALEPPO area has been allowed for - a large number of these it is thought could only be brought up to the firing line after considerable dislocation of L. of C. Services. It is likely that PASHA III formation will in due course arrive on this front. If, as is likely, its establishment is similar to Pasha II, it will mean the following German reinforcements

1800 effective rifles, 150 sabres, 24 M.Gs. 69 Automatic rifles, 10 77 or 75-mm guns, 8 10.5 cm. Hows.

Other reinforcements are alleged as likely to be coming to this front - until their arrival is definitely known, it would seem to be more in keeping with past events to disregard them.

8th Feb. 1918.

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has not yet arrived
from Syria
mentioning
date of 10 Feb.
with a reference

(Addendum)

DETAIL OF AUSTRO-GERMAN TROOPS ESTIMATED TO BE ON OR DESTINED FOR

PALESTINE FRONT.

1. Infantry.

Location.

Rifles. M.Gs. Automatic Rifles.

A. PALESTINE FRONT.

701st Inf.Bn. & M.G.Coy.	Coastal Sector (VIII Army.)	400	8	20
702nd Inf.Bn. & M.G.Coy.	? NABLUS. (VII Army Area)	400	8	20
601, 602, 604, 606, 607, etc. M.G.Coys. (German personnel of these may have been withdrawn, all or in part).	Instructional Coys now probably att'd to formations.		30	
	TOTAL	800	48	40

N.B. (i) Successive P/W from 701st Bn. have given higher rifle strengths. This is probably accounted for by arrival of "ABKOMMANDIERTE" who had been detailed and left behind at CONSTANTINOPLE and on L.O.C. on guards etc. The normal establishment now of a German Bn. on Western Front is 750 rations exclusive of the M.G.Coy.

(ii) The 601 - 607 M.G.Coys. formed part of PASHA I - there was contact with certain of these during recent operations.

B. SYRIA L. OF C.

703rd Bn.	? HAIFA.	400	8	20
M.G.Coy.	DAMASCUS-ALEPPO.	2600	?	?
Estimated.	TOTAL.	3000	8+?	20+?

N.B. Location of 703rd Bn. at HAIFA was reported by a P/W of 701 (hearsay). There is no definite information as to the arrival of any other German units in SYRIA. Turkish P/W have however several times reported seeing "so many thousand Germans etc. on R. of C." The estimate of 2600 rifles is in accordance with our return to the War Office.

C. REPORTED AS DESTINED FOR SYRIA.

704 to 718 Inf.Bns. + M.G.Coys.	Probably for the most part still forming in Germany or not yet even commenced to form.	6000	120	300
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(Contd.)

C. Reported as destined for SYRIA (contd.):

	Location.	Rifles.	M.Gs.	Automatic Rifles.
704/103 Aust-Hung. Inf. Rgt.	(at Belgrade)	6000	120	300
750th	(at Belgrade)	2000	30	X
732nd	(at Belgrade)	-----	-----	-----
	TOTAL.	8000	150	300

Bns.

- N.B. 704 - 718 Inf. Bns.
- P/W. from 701st Bn. have reported that these units were being formed in Germany. Some P/W have talked of a 724th Bn.
 - Dirmilint had information from other sources that Bns. up to 708 were being formed in Germany last August, and accepts probability of the series reaching 718. A mechanical unit numbered 715 has been reported (IA.5161). Pasha III Formation for Palestine at BERLIN was only due to leave Germany in February (D.M.I. - I.A.5300).
 - Austrian Bns. Reports that these had left Eastern Front for Palestine via Belgrade from W.O. (I.A.4654 & 5131).

D. FUTURE TOTAL OF INFANTRY.

9800 rifles (+11800?)
206 M.Gs.
360 Aut.rifles.

It is probably however that 2600 rifles allowed for under B. form part of the 704 - 718 series.

2. Cavalry.

A. PALESTINE FRONT.

701st and 702nd Cav.Troops.
att'd. 3rd T.Cav. Div. 100 sabres + 6 automatic rifles.

B. SYRIA L. of D.

703rd Cav.Troop. 50 .. + 3 ..
(at ? HAIFA. P.W. 701 Bn. (hoarsay))

C. REPORTED DESTINED FOR SYRIA.

704 - 718 Cav. Troops (from P/W statements.)	750	+ 45	..	..
	900 sabres	54 automatic rifles		

3. ARTILLERY.

A. PALESTINE FRONT.

701st F.A. Abteilung (3 batts.)	13 guns and Hows	*
Von Marno's Aust-Hung.Mtd.How.Div.		8 Hows.
18th Aust.Heavy Battery.		4 ..
20th		4 ..
" X "		4 ..
701 & 702 Infanterie Geschütz Zug.	4 ..	1200ft

	18 guns and Hows.	20 Hows.

* P/W 701st Bn. stated 8 of these guns were 10.5 cm. Hows.

B. SYRIA L. of C.

703 Infanterie Geschütz Zug. 2 guns Hc. 1000ft

C. REPORTED AS DESTINED FOR SYRIA.

704 F.A. Abteilung. } From D.L.I.	60 guns & Hows
707 } I.A. 5161	
710	
713 } From P/W.	
716	

? 704 - 718 Infanterie Geschütz Zugs 30 ? .. (From P/W statements).

? FUTURE TOTAL. 106 guns & Hows.

D. A&A. SECTIONS.

There are the following A.A. Sections on PALESTINE FRONT and

on SYRIA L. of C. :-

28th, 133rd, 133rdA. 136th, 141st, 142nd, 170th, 177th,

also the 15th Motor A.A. Battery which may, however, have gone to MESOPOTAMIA.

E. TRENCH MORTARS.

Following Minenwerfer Trupp each of 4 T.Ms.

(i). 701 on Palestino Front. } (various)	
702 } 12 T.Ms.	
703 .. Syria L. of C. } AT THE END OF THIS CATHEDRAL	

(ii). ? 704-718 Truppen reported as coming to Syria (from P/W statements).

? FUTURE TOTAL. 72 T.Ms.

4. VARIOUS.

(i). Each Bn. of 701 - 718 series ?has or? will have (a) a Pioneer Abteilung, (b) a Telephone Trupp (c) a Grenadewerfer Trupp. (P/W Statements.).

Various contd.

- (ii). 145th, 724th, 1731st, 1735th W/T Sets or Detachments in SYRIA.
(iii). 27th Survey Detachment in SYRIA (probably Palestine Front).
(iv). Field Meteorological Stn. 202 in SYRIA (- do -).
 Post 300
(ii), (iii) & (iv) from P/W.

5. AVIATION.

Following units in SYRIA.

300 - 303 Flights. } Palastino Front - definitely identified.
304 Baw. .. }
508 Flying Depot. - Damascus.

305th Flight has probably arrived by now on Palastino Front.

N.B. Normal establishment of a flight proved to be 14 aeroplanes but present estimate of total is at most 70 aeroplanes.

6. MOTOR LORRY COLUMNS.

(i). Following Columns on Palestine Front and Syria L. of C.

3, 7, 105, 106, 107, 111, 114, 115, 116, 202, 210, 500, 502, 503, 504,
506, 507, 515, 517, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709,
710, 711, 712, 713.

Also the 505 Motor Lorry Park.

N.B. Each Column consists of approximately 25 motor lorries.

Most of these have been reported by 2 or 3 P.s./W.

(ii) Uncertain 508, 513, 514 Columns (Reported by D.M.I. only).

TOTAL. 36 Columns.

7. MEDICAL.

- (i). On Palestine Front or Syria L. of C. are the
212, 213, 218, 219 Field Hospitals and the 300th Bearer Coy.
(ii). 125 Motor Ambulance Column.
126th .. Lorry Column.
(for medical supplies).

~~SECRET~~

DESEKT MOUNTED CORPS

No. I.51/5

G8

BRITISH ARMY
ARMY BOARD

Summary of Intelligence (a)

For week ending February 18th, 1918

OPERATIONS. 1.

(a) We occupied DEIR DIWAN (099 V.22.a.) and KHELALIA (099 V.4.central), LUKHMAS (099 X.5.d.) TEL EL SUWAN (099 X.6.a.b.) with very little opposition and established posts on 113 F.25.a., 113 O.1.b. and d. and 113 O.7.b. and c.

Captures - 15 Turks - 1 Arab.

XXth Corps.

14/2/18.

(b) Enemy force about 60 counter attacked post on 099.C.1 central and reached bombing distance, but were repulsed.

XXth Corps. 14/2/18.

(c) On the night of 12/13th green very lights were fired by enemy at intervals from 2045 to 2115 from MEJDEL YABA and between 2100 and 2115 on the same night 11 white very lights were fired at regular intervals from the direction of Brown Hill.

XXIst Corps. 14/2/18.

(d) Our airmen fired 150 rounds into enemy trenches in 084.A.35.d. and A.34.central and at camp at 070.M.17.

XXIst Corps. 15/2/18.

MOVEMENTS

FRONT AREA. 2.

(a) KUJM el BAHR - 15 boats on water - 4 on shore. 11/2/18.

XXth Corps.

NOTE: There has been considerable activity in this area lately. Apparently great efforts are being made to remove supplies from KERAK area, where our Arab friends are operating so successfully.

The roads in the KERAK - KUTRANI area have been favourably reported on and this route seems a very suitable one, to utilize the water route to supply troops E. of JERUSALEM.

MOVEMENTS

BACK AREA. 3.

(a) The headquarters of V Turkish Army is being transferred from PANJERA to SALTZA.

G.H.Q.

(b) An order recently issued by G.O.C., 5th Turkish Army (Liman Von Sanders) ordered all troops including convalescents to return immediately to their units. 50% of the labour battalions have now been enrolled in combatant units.

G.H.Q.

10%

~~MOVEMENTS
BACK AREA~~

3. (contd).

- (a) The railway line from ALEXANDRETTA to PAYAS, on the branch line, which connects with the main trunk line from CONSTANTINOPLE to this front has been taken up, and it is intended to remove a further portion as far as ENZIN Station.
The remainder is being left as a wood line, on account of the timber in that district.

G.H.Q.

IDENTIFICATIONS. 4. Nothing special to report.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. 5. From coast to Dead Sea (left to right).

The position is practically unchanged - with the exception of the following minor changes

701st German Infantry battalions - between TABSOR and KEFR SABA.

71st Regiment has come into the line S.W. of AIN SINAI changing places with 124th Regiment to AYAKA.

76th Regiment has changed with the 59th.
the 76th about TALAF ED DUM area
the 59th " JEBEL EKTEIF "

134th Regiment, which has been reported still requires verification, and is at present unplaced.

ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. 6.

(a) A new battery reported to be firing from behind "The Sisters" 070.V.11 a and b.

XXIst Corps.

(b) Our heavies fired for neutralization on 084.A.2.d., A.3 A.35.d.70.

Field artillery dispersed working parties on TABSOR Defences.

XXIst Corps, 12/2/18

(c) Enemy 77 mm batteries shelled AYSUR area 070.V.15. to V.34 with 120 rounds. Also V.28.b. X 6 and 12 with 23 rounds and registered 084 G.12.c.

(d) 245 rounds 75 mm. and 25 of 4.2 were fired by enemy on BIKEH salient. No damage or casualties were caused.

G.H.Q., 13/2/18.

(e) Enemy shelled AODALLAH 099 N.24.c. and ridge to N.S.

XXth Corps, 14/2/18.

(f) Our artillery dispersed enemy party in 084 U.25.d.

XXIst Corps 14/2/18

(g) 150 rounds 75 mm. shells were fired on our line N.E. of JEBIL, 070 K.10.c. on 13/2/18.

G.H.Q.

(h) Our heavies engaged hostile battery in 084 A.11.c. - 180 rounds, and also L.G. emplacements in 084.U.14.c.2.e. with satisfactory results.

XXIst Corps 13/2/18.

G.H.Q.

ARTILLERY ACTIVITY 6. (contd)(Below) ENEMY DEFENCES

- (j) On the 14th we engaged battery position in 084.B.27.b. 38 rounds fired, 12 were O.K. and 17 in close proximity, a further 90 rounds then plumped in XXIst Corps. 14/2/18.
- (d) Enemy several times have shelled our salient N. of JERUSALEM in the locality of SH. ABDULLA and ARNUTIEH and Wadi in 099 N.23.b. LXth Corps 18/2/18.

ENEMY DEFENCES. 7.

- (a) KAKON defences are reported by R.F.C. as being strengthened. G.H.Q. - MARJAH

- (b) Minefield previously reported off BEIROUT has again been reported from an apparently reliable agent source. It is now stated that the mines can be fired from the H.Q. of the German consul in RAS BEIROUT.

- (c) It is reported that wire or wooden stakes are erected in enemy support system, in 084 A.36.a. and B.31.d.

- (d) The following are noted as conspicuous for now work, new trenches, sargars, and much enemy movement and activity - during the week, and these are located in 3 principal groups, covering the 3 main lines of communication :-

Coastal Group	TABSOR 084 A.23.
070 N.084.A	KEFR KASIM 084.M.9.
B.D. & K.	JILJULIEH 084.D.8
	MISKEH 084 B.
	MEJDAL YABA 084.O.
	Lezeirah 084 U.25.

JERUSALEM - NABLUS road group	AJUL 099 D.12. K.7
099 D.K.L.H.V.	ULU SUFFAH 099 E.16.
	WADI AIN DARAH 099 K.18.19
	SELWAD 099 L.32.

113 S.	TAIYIBEH 113 S.19
JERUSALEM - JERICHO road group.	RASET TAWIL 113 C.15
113 C.D.F.G.	TALAT ED DULM 113 G.13
114 P.Q.	JEBEL EKTEIF 113 G.28
	RUJN EL DABR 114 V.11

ENEMY DUMPS & DEPOTS. 8

R.F.C. report of 3rd states no dumps seen at KABR EL KUJAHID, 127 W.19. (NOTE Dumps were previously reported here).

STRENGTH MORALE 9.

- (a) The following are the estimated enemy strengths -

113 S.11 at 1000 hrs 113 C.15 at 1000 hrs 113 G.13 at 1000 hrs 113 G.28 at 1000 hrs 114 V.11 at 1000 hrs

113 C.15 at 1000 hrs 113 G.13 at 1000 hrs 113 G.28 at 1000 hrs 114 V.11 at 1000 hrs

STRENGTH MORALE. 9 (contd)

(D.J.100) 10 DIVISIONS
Auto
rifles. Sabros. M.G. rifles

VII Army. made up of

2nd Caucasus Cav Div, 3,7,16,20,54
Inf. Divns and 701,702,703, German
Battalions and Cavalry Troops.

14800 1650 255 44

VIII Army

3rd Cav Div, 19,24,1,26,27,53,48
Infantry Divisions.

12000 2000 236 30

North Palestine and L. of Q. Troops

4000 150 48 20

KURANI - KAAK area

250 650 9 -

GRAND TOTAL

31050 4450 548 94

(b) The following statistics are interesting

<u>Area.</u>	<u>2nd Fby.</u>	<u>15th February.</u>
Tent shelters.	Western area	2148 2141
	Eastern area	2096 2176
	East of JORDAN	614 736
	SYRIA L.O.C.	195 195
		5053 5248

NOTE: The Western area extends from the coast to RENTIS
Eastern area extends from RENTIS to the JORDAN.

G.H.Q.

TOPOGRAPHY 10.

roads. A. 1. The Roman road in 099 Z.24.c. and d. and 113 F.19.a.
and d. would require little work up to Z.24.d. to make
it passable for wheels, but the rest of the track would
require considerable labour.

XXth Corps.

2. The road running along the Wadi EN MAR (100 L) is
level and has a fairly smooth surface.

XXth Corps 12/2/18

3. A track exists in the Wadi THROGHET RAHWAH (114 Q)
passable only for infantry in single file.

XXth Corps 12/2/18.

4. The track to BIR ET SAK 114 Q.4.c. is only suitable
for infantry and possibly for cavalry - as it converges
to a narrow path in several places.

XXth Corps 12/2/18.

5. SUFFA to WAITE HILL 085 J.5.b. and to bed of Wadi
099 F.2.t.b. passable for pack and camel only.

XXth Corps 12/2/18

6. A footpath from ARAK IBRAHIM to Wadi in 113 F.27.d.
indicates considerable traffic.

XXth Corps 12/3/18.

7. KABA EL MUJAHIM (127 W.19) was reconnoitred by RFC
on 3rd instant. The road between this place and JORDAN
bridge showed no heavy traffic. It is a good dry
weather road unmetalled

G.H.Q.

TOPOGRAPHY

10. (contd)

5.

roads. 8. MEJDEL YABA 085 U.1 - KULAT RAS EL AIN 084 G.16
is fit for light wheels except in wet weather near
the latter place (see Intelligence Summary 4/2/18).

G.H.Q.

9. UMM BUFAH 099 D.17.c. to NABLUS via
via AJUL 099 D.6 d ARURAO99 B.29.c.d.

MEZRAH 099 B.23.c. - SELFIT 098 T.30.c.

MENDA 098 Y.7.b. - JEMMAIN 098 W.32.a.

URIF 098 W.10. - ASIRET EL KIEILYEH 098 U.33

EL ARAK 098 U.17.b. RAFIDIA 098 M.29.d.

A fairly good path for pack animals, steep and rocky
ascending to ARAKA and SELFIT.

G.H.Q.

10. UM SURFAH 099 D.17.c. to BEKUKIS 099 A.10.c. via
AIN EL KEL-EH 099 D.8.a., up the valley between KEFR AIN
099 A.30.a. and KURAWA IBN ZEID 099 A.24. This route is
better than via KEFR AIN, as it avoids rough and stony
piece of road, and is fit for pack transport.
(See also our summary 21st January)

G.H.Q.

11. Reconnaissance of track SH YUSEF 099 U.3.d. to ABU
KUSH 099 M.19.c. Track marked on 1" map is very stony and
hardly fit for pack in present condition.
The best route for a road for wheels would be along the
track from 099 U.3.d.6.2 to U.3.central, thence along
a road already made to Pt.2635
099 U.2.a. From this point a road could be made - along
the wadi.E. of Pt.2635 to track marked on map at M.26.
c.2.0 thence along this track to 099 M.25 central, then
leave the track and around S.W. shoulder of hill and
rejoin the track at about 099 M.25.b. 0.5. thence to
ABU KUSH. This road is screened from enemy observation
until after leaving Pt.2635 when it is exposed from
direction of BIR EZ ZEIT 099 M.8.b.

12. EL KERAK - KUFANI (East of Dead Sea)
This road previously reported as in excellent condition
is now reported as "apparently fit for wheeled traffic
and metalled in places".
Route along WADI ES SIAI, then N. to LEJJUN - thence
E. to KUFANI.

G.H.Q.

13. FELL EL AUKHMAK 084 G.36 KEFR SABA, 084 B.29.c.
is a metalled road and fit for all traffic.

G.H.Q.

14. reported road along WADI AUWAJ 114 O.22.c. and
along track from 114 O.23.b. running north to 114
O.5.a. possible for wheels.

XXth Corps 16/2/18.

15. Road at 084 C.5 - A.36 Two traps for motor traffic
have been made consisting of pits the width of the road
and about 30 to 40 feet in length, covered with
branches and gravel. These are situated about 200 metres
in front of trenches, so as to be under close fire.

TOPOGRAPHY 10.4

TOPOGRAPHY 10.

Water. B. 1. Water in wells at 114 Q.14.a.5.4. for drinking.
Quantity not stated.

XXth Corps, 15/2/18.

2. DEIF ELLO 099 F.6 and neighbourhood.
Well called AIN JANNATA 099 G.2.b., and
AIN EZ ZERKA 099 C.28.a.

Three springs in vicinity of 099 C.36.d. and C.29.b.

Several springs between AIN JANNATA 099 C.33.d.
and AIN ZERKA 099 C.28.a.

Bridges. C. 1. bridge over NAHR ISKANERUNSH about 3 miles inland
reported by a prisoner medical officer of the 20th
regt. 7th Divn.

XXIst Corps.

2. Between 1 and 12½ Kms S. of AMMAN on railway
bridges - masonry viaduct of 10 arches each 25 feet
span with supporting arch in centre. bridge 200
feet long and 66 feet high approached through earth
cutting 40 feet deep - Tunnel in soft white rock
at about 462 feet long.

G.H.Q.

3. 12½ Kms. N. of AMMAN bridge of 6 - 30 Feet
masonry arches over W.ZERKA.

G.H.Q.

4. 15 Kms N. similar bridge to (3).

G.H.Q.

5. Jordan bridge - reported as mined and mines
connected up to SHUWEET NIMRIN 127 P.22.
This was previously reported.

G.H.Q.

6. Bridge 084 W. 18.0.d. is now reported to be
finished.

G.H.Q.

7. GHORANIYEH BRIDGE - about 100 yards up stream,
there is a square cutting on either bank, giving
the appearance of preparation for a new bridge.

8. At 113 F.18.d. and 113 F.24.a. report confirms
destruction of these bridges. The former was
reported as partially destroyed some time ago.

Railways. D. (a) At AMMAN railway station there is an 11200
gallon tank with steam pump for filling it.
Fuel depot - and an accumulation of Railway
Rolling Stock.

G.H.Q.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS. 11.

(a) Just north of NAHR EL FALIK L.30.a., there is a
stranded ship with decks awash. No dumps or stores
seen on shore.

(b) A prisoner and destroyer of 136th Rgt, 53rd Div.
states there is very little sickness, but a few
cases of frozen feet.

(c) Men in attack companies carry 300 rds SAA and
4 bombs.

Regiments " 120 rds SAA and
8 bombs.

XXth Corps 12/2/18

NEWS FROM OPPOSING FRONTS. 12

HEDJAZ Front. (a) Renewed Arab attacks on 7th on railway near MEDINA, 85 miles N. of MEDINA on the 7th instant, when 3000 rails and 7 culverts were destroyed. 20 Turks killed and 30 prisoners taken.

(b) A report states that all civilians were expelled from MEDINA 8 days ago owing to food shortage. G.H.Q. 15/2/18.

(c) Australian Flying Corps dropped 1040 lbs of bombs on EL KULAMI on 12th. 14 direct hits were obtained on station buildings and railway 2 of which were on a train, and one on an engine in the station.

(d) On 8th Arabs again attacked railway between BIR JEDID and TOWELAA 125 miles N. of MEDINA and destroyed 11 Culverts and 7 miles of telegraph and railway lines, 14 Turks were killed and 9 captured.

G.H.Q.

MESOPOTAMIAN

Front. (a) Indian prisoners who escaped from the Turks confirm the departure of 46th Division from that theatre to SINAIA, also a cavalry brigade. G.H.Q.

(b) Railhead still at TEL AWERAT, no further progress since November. The earthwork is complete to NISIBIN and being continued to TEL AWERAT via DEMIR HAPU KHAN. 35 miles N.W. of TEL AWERAT a bridge has been constructed at DEMIR HAPU KHAN and the

G.H.Q.

(c) During the past fortnight 137 deserters including an officer came over to our lines.

WESTERN Front.

(a) It is noticed that the enemy are more frequently raiding our trenches recently. This seems to point to special reconnaissance, to feel our strength in different sectors.

(b) A successful raid by Canadians on 14th instant S.E. of MARCOURT accounted for many Germans killed; 13 prisoners, and 2 machine guns captured, and 4 trench mortars destroyed. 17 dugouts in front line and others in support line, whose occupants refused to come out were then bombed. Another successful raid in the neighbourhood of hill 70 N. of LENS, was also carried out. 8 and 2 machine guns were captured.

Pioneer's

(c) The American Army's first offensive took place on Wednesday 13th instant. American batteries participated in artillery preparation for the French attack on butte de Mesnil.

(d) French in Champagne carried out an extensive raid S.W. of butte de Mesnil on a front of 1200 metres; and penetrated the German 3rd line, scattering enemy defences. Over 100 prisoners were captured.

ITALIAN Front. (a) Increased fighting activity continued yesterday 12/2/18, on northern slopes of Mount Lasco delle and E. of Val Frenzela. Enemy forces were located in good time and decimated by our artillery.

NOTES FROM OTHER FRONTS. 12. (contd)

RUSSIAN Front. (a) A report from Berlin states that General Brusiloff has been arrested at Moscow by order of the local Soviet.

(b) Peace was signed on 10th instant at Brest Litovsk between the Central Powers and the Ukraine Rada.

The Bolsheviks assert that delegation who signed the peace is a non-existent authority.

(c) The Bolsheviks appear to be succeeding in their operations and have taken the whole of Kieff.

(d) The Press Bureau adduces evidence of the transfer of 7 German divisions from this front to the Western front, subsequent to the signing of the Russo-German armistice on 15th December, under which all transport was prohibited.

(e) Poles throughout Austria are showing firm opposition to the German arrangement, which gives Polish territory to Ukraine.

BALKAN front. (a) Swiss telegrams state that Germany has sent an ultimatum ordering Roumania to open peace negotiations within 4 days (12/2/18). The Roumanian cabinet handed their resignation to the King who accepted them.

(b) It is now reported that Germany has not sent an ultimatum to Roumania, but is negotiating on the question of present armistice.

GENERAL NEWS. (a) A Swedish owned vessel from Baltimore to Rotterdam carrying Belgian relief grain has been torpedoed.

(b) The International Red Cross Committee have issued an appeal to all belligerents asking them to abandon the use of poison gas.

(c) An agreement is being negotiated between Holland Entente and America whereby Dutch ships will transport supplies to Holland, and the remainder of the ships to be placed at disposal of America's and Great Britain's use outside of danger zone.

(d) GOESEN now reported alongside jetty S. side of Stonia Bay, CONSTANTINOPLE.

(e) A British destroyer "Boxer" sunk in the channel through a collision.

Tripoli in Africa. (f) It is reported that at MISRATA 112 miles E.S.E. of TRIPOLI on the coast of AFRICA - that there are 2 German officers and 4 soldiers and a wireless station, and that small submarines (50 metres long) land a cargo of munitions every three weeks, and that NUFI has announced the impending arrival by this means of an aeroplane and 2000 bombs.

1/2/18.

G.H.Q.

Major,
General Staff,
Desert Mounted Corps.

~~SECRET.~~

No

g 8

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE
for week ending 18th Feby 1918

18. 12/18

OPERATIONS. 1.

- (a) Our Reconnaissance patrols have been particularly active during the week. XXIst Corps.
- (b) 20 enemy attempted to rush O.P. at 070 V 1^o b 7.2 but were repulsed. XXIst Corps. 18/2/18.
- (c) 53rd Division on evening of 18th occupied EAFR MATA 099 V 29 c KH W. IDRIS 099 V 23 d and 099 V 34 d.6.9 and on the morning of 19th Hill 099 V 6 and KUJUN and cleared the ground as far East as W. EL ASA. 60th Division on morning of 19th occupied ED. AUNTAK. RAS UN DEISIS. ARRI IBAHIL. RAS ST TAIL and SPLASH HILL (113 c 2 d) XXth Corps 19/2/18.
- (d) Our R.F.C. brought down a hostile plane which was seen to crash North of Birsh G.H.Q.
- (e) Progress has been slow, moreon account of the extremely difficult country than the resistance of the enemy - It is estimated that the two Divisions (26th & 53rd) operating E of JERUSALEM, in opposition to our advance, have about 3000 rifles. We have captured today 20/2/18 JABEL ANTALI. TALAP ED DUMM KH EL ISHRAE high ground in 113 D 26. 113 d 8. 113 c 2. Our Cavalry at 1^o00 on 20/2/18 were at JABEL EL YAHU. 114 U 19 114 U 20 and 114 U 27. XXth Corps 21/2/18.
- (f) We also advanced our line N of JERUSALEM; taking EAST PARADEH 099 C 27 and have advanced posts at 099 G 22 b and at KH HALAH 099 G 1^o and at SHEI GHITH. XXth Corps 21/2/18.
- (g) We occupied HEEB USA 114 U 3 c at 0625, 21/2/18 and our Cavalry occupied JERICHO at 0820 21/2/18. XXth Corps 21/2/18.
- (h) Armenian I.O. captured states enemy intend making a stand at ED SALT. XXth Corps 21/2/18.
- (i) Officer (Captain 136 Regt) states enemy were aware of our impending attack by observation of our movement from O.P. on SPLASH HILL (113 C 2 d)
- (j) No stores found at JERICHO or KUJI EL EAHR. G.H.Q.
- (k) Our mounted patrols are in touch with enemy at HADI AUJAH and high ground 113 V 9 and KH EL AUJAH 113 V 24. enemy reported to be about 1000 strong. 1 Regiment is being left in this area and remainder of Division returning to JERUSALEM area. XXth Corps 22/2/18.

1/06

OPERATIONS. 1. (Continued)

- (1) Patrol covering reconnaissance by 10th Division made good JILJIL
099 C 32 b and KH ER RASHAIIKH 099 C 27 d C 22 c; 8 prisoners
were captured. XXth Corps 22/2/18.
- (m) During recent operations on JERICHO, we captured about 4 Officers
and 40 other ranks and over 175 dead have been reported.

MOVEMENTS. FRONT AREA. 2.

- (a) A Turkish Officer captured on 19th inst states there were no
German or Austrian Troops in JERICHO. G.H.Q. 20/2/18.
- (b) 150/200 Cavalry reported at ALEI LUSA 114 U 3c - 100 Cavalry
observed in JERICHO. C.H.Q. 19/2/18.
- (c) A reliable Agent who visited MADEBA 143 Q 16 on 3/2/18 states that
DJEMAL PASHA instructed all the SHEIKHS of that district to
supply 500 Cavalry for patrolling between MADEBA and AIN ZERKA
(11 miles S.W. of MADEBA) to protect transport. G.H.Q.
- (d) Armenian M.O. reports 19th Division which has been at NABLUS
training was suddenly ordered to the 3rd Army Corps front last
week and that 53rd Division are being relieved by 44th Division
now at SMYRNA. XXth Corps 21/2/18.
- (e) It is reported that 2 Caucasus Battalions and the 17th & 23rd
Regiments of 8th Division have arrived in SYRIA. G.H.Q.
- (f) Reported that 2000/2500 troops and 8 guns crossed the JORDAN
night of 20/21st. (probably 26th Division and part of 53rd Div)

MOVEMENTS. BACK AREA. 3.

42nd Division - part from ALEPPO - to this front. G.F.C.

IDENTIFICATIONS. 4.

UNIT	DATE	POSITION OR MOVE	SOURCE	REMARKS
7th Division 21st Regt	Feb. 9th	SEA COAST	L.P. 20th Regt. Deserter	Relieved Germans who had previously relieved 2nd Caucasus Cav Bde. Now consists of 19. 20. 21st Regts attack Bn (about 100 strong) and 1 Cav Sqdn.
16th Division. 125th Regt.	"	MISKEH (084.E.3.c)	"	VIII Army Reserve
20th Division. 51st Regt	"	"	"	"
2nd Caucasus Cav Bde.	"	Reserve ? at KULUNSAWEH (084.W.27.a)	"	In all 1000 rations.

IDENTIFICATIONS. 4. (Continued)

Unit	Date	Position or move	Source	Remarks
VIII Army Depot Bn	Feb. 9th	EL HUSIRA (A3, LAIFA Sheet 1/250,000)	A.O. 20th Regt.	700 strong
XXII A.C. H.Qrs	"	KISREH	"	G.H.Q.
3rd Division	"	-	"	reported absorbed in 18th Div:
54th Division	"	-	"	164 & 165 Regts absorbed in 20th Regt. (Note - the whole of this Div: is now apparently ab- sorbed)
134th Regt.	"	-	"	Absorbed in 21st Regt of 7th Div G.H.Q.
1/150 & 2/151 Regiments.	Feb. 21st		A.O. Armenian	Said to be attached to 53rd Div. These two regts belong to 48th Div which was badly cut up recently by the Arabs.

ITALY DISPOSITIONS. 5.

- (a) Officer prisoner of 2/136 Regt on 4/2/18 states:-
 32 Regt occupying RUMMON to opposite TEL ES SUMAN:
 136 " " 113 c 15.16.18.9.
 163 " has 3 Battalions in reserve at JERICHO.
 XXIst Corps 18/2/18.

2 Greek Deserters of 1/19th Regt 7th Division state:-
 1/19th Regt holds line near KH DIKERIN.
 2&3rd/19th " between MEJDEL YABA & JILJULIEH.
 20th " at JILJULIEH. XXIst Corps 18/2/18.

The following alterations noted:-
 53rd Division have the 2/151 Regt of 48th Div: attached.

- ✓ 19th Division have the balance of 57th Regiment now with them and have taken over part of the Tabsor defences.
- ✓ 158th Regt appear to have been absorbed. No definite information yet.
- ✓ 54th Division (164.165 Regts) absorbed by 7th Division.
- ✓ 3rd Division (31.138.161 Regts) absorbed by 16th Division.
- 42 Division (part) is now reported at DERAA.
- 8th Division is now reported North of DALASCUS.
- (NOTE) This Division has been reported on many occasions in different localities; last reported at DERAA.

ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. 6.

- (a) Enemy registered PI. FAS ILM in 084 C 1 d.
" " CACTUS GARDEN in 084 A 30 c with 1.6.
XXIst Corps
- (b) Deserter states that we knocked out an enemy gun in Cactus Garden 084 A 30 c on 14th inst - 2 men and 3 horses were killed and 5 men wounded. XXIst Corps. 18/2/18.
- (c) Our artillery silenced enemy battery at 084 A 14 d. Our heavy battery fired 130 rounds on 084 A 11 a 30.10. Snipers at pt 429.084 U 25 b 4 5 were dispersed. " 084 P 30 b 3.0 were silenced. XXIst Corps 18/2/18
- (d) Enemy artillery more active than usual. A large number of 77mm shells fired at 070 V 21.27 & 28 Registered on 084 A 14 d 6 rounds 4.2.
084 C 27 d 6 rounds 5.9.
084 J 21 d 11 " 5.9.
XXIst Corps 18/2/18.
- (e) Enemy poured 600 shells of various calibre on area E of RUMMON & 099 N 25. G.H.Q. 21/2/18.
- (f) Over 350 rounds fired by enemy on Coastal sector on 19th 20th & 21st inst, from:-
4.2 howitzers
Heavies
77 mm guns
Field Guns XXIst Corps 22/2/18.
- (g) Extra heavy shelling by enemy on:- SHEIK AEDULAH 099 M 24 c.
SHEIK 099 J 2. RUMMON 099 V 6.
XXth Corps 22/2/18.

SILHOUETTE DEFENCES. 7.

(a) Wire erected at 084 D 3 a 8 3.

(b) wire erected at dip in the hill at 084 U 19 b.

ENEMY DUMPS & DEPOTS. 8.

- (a) An intelligent Deserter who was present when the explosion occurred at HAIDAR PASHA railway station last September, states:- that there were large quantities of shells, benzine and other stores in stacks near the quay, the explosion of which killed 750 civilians. A large number of German and Austrian troops who at the time of the explosion were on board the SCOUTAI-FAIROUL *ferry boat* were all killed and the steamer destroyed. The new station on the quay was gutted, also a number of trucks, passenger cars and railway engines. It was stated the fire was caused through a cigarette being thrown on some inflammable material. C.H.A.
- (b) RUJN EL EAHN 114 V 17 b. about midday 21/3/18 - the enemy burnt the largest of the sheds there and a large boat.

STRENGTHS & MORALE. 9.

- (a) From a supply Officer at JERICHO an Agent obtained the following, Total ration strength based on JERICHO on 14th inst = 3500 - Troops were 26th & 3rd Divisions, less their transport. G.H.Q. 19/3/18.
- (b) 136 Regiment 450/500 rifles. 16 M.G.'s reported by Officer prisoner. XXIst Corps 18/3/18.
- (c) The following comparative figures of estimated strengths are given:-

	PRESENT				PREVIOUS			
	Rifles	Sabres	Camels	M.G.'s	Rifles	Sabres	Camels	M.G.'s
VII Army - - - - -	8550	1450	150	220	15200	1650	150	260
VIII Army - - - - -	10450	1200	110	266	12000	2000	110	238
N.Palestine & L of C	2700	50	10	32	3600	150	10	44
Kutrani Kerak area	400	400	10	12	100	60	10	10
	22100	3100	150	332	30900	4450	150	550

The reduction is accounted for by:-

- (a) Over estimation previously of rifle and sabre strength of all Units
Divisions are extremely weak as shown by recent absorptions
- (b) Casualties suffered by enemy in the operations of 20th and 21st inst.
- (c) 8th Division not now included (its probable location being considerably N of DEHAA).

TOPOGRAPHY. 10.

ROADS (a)

- (1) 114 p.9.a - JERUSALEM, by a track along WDY EL MUDOWERAH to WADY ABU HINDI 100 L 6.a. - ABU DIS (100 J 28 a) fit for pack animals only. XXth Corps
- (2) WADY EL AUWAJ (114.o.22.a) - 114.o.23.b. - KHAN EL AHIAR (114.o.5.a) reported possible for wheels. XXth Corps.
- (3) ARSUF area. (170.V). Tracks in this area are marshy and appear unfit for wheeled traffic. The same applies to the majority of the ground in Square 084.S. G.H.Q.
- (4) Track from 070 V 16.d. apparently fit for wheeled traffic except at BIRKET MUZORAKAH. 070 N 12.d. (NOTE) This contradicts the above - XXIst Corps.
- (5) AIN DELAXUN (099.M.22.c) - ABUD (099.C.7.c) - West of JUFNA (099.M.16.a) - BIR EZ ZEIT (099.L.8.b) over the fields - ULIA SUFFA (099.D.17.c) along old roman road - ABUD is possible for wagons the only bad part being a few hundred yards at TIEHEH (099.C.16.c) ABUD (099.C.7.c). - RANTLEH (085.P.27.d) via old Roman road and DEIR DAKLEH (085.V.33.a.b) .. KULEH (085.U.31.a) possible for wagons; thus providing lateral communication, a short distance in front of our present line.
- (6) TUL KERAM - DAMASCUS. Condition of road in January is reported to be as follows:-
- TUL KERAM-MESSUDIYEH (098.D.35). In parts good, difficult for Motor lorries in bad weather. Good.
- MESSUDIYEH-AFUL-E-JENIN. Bad; is metalled but reported impassable for motor lorries in wet weather. Good.
- AFULE-NAZARETH. In excellent condition.
- NAZARETH-TIBERIAS. Bad; is metalled but reported impassable for motor lorries in wet weather. Good.
- TIBERIAS-KH. ABU SHUSHEH (110. X.7.d) In excellent condition.
- KH. ABU SHUSHEH-JISR BENAT YAKUB (123.o.36) In bad condition.
- JISR BENAT YAKUB-EL KUNEITRA. Very bad condition.
- EL KUNEITRA-DAMASCUS. Excellent condition. G.H.Q.
- (7) JERICHO-MADEBA. Two routes for pack animals, via:-
- (1) GHORANIYEH Bridge - 127.Q.17.b. - W. EL KEFREIN at 127.R.27.d - near KABR SAID at 127.T.6.b. - KABR ABDALLA (143.O.7.b)
- (2) Point 127.Q.17.b. - W. ABU GARABA (not marked) at about 127.T.1.a. - W. EL JORFE at 127.T.20. W. GHUEIR about 128.B. 9.a. - EL BARRAKAT (128.I.6) - W. EL MEKHABBE at 128.d.24, thence via EL MHATA and ABU IRGIE (not marked) - MAAIN (1 mile due S of BIR AKAD, 128.L.27.c.)
- (8) NEBY SALEH (099.C.12.d) - DEIR EN NIDHAM (099.C.23.c) - ABUD (099.C.7.c) good for wagons in all weathers, also from NEBY SALEH and BEIT RYMA (099.C.42c). From the latter to ABUD, there is a good pack track via AIN ZARKA (099.C.1.c.) but direct route is only a foot path.
- (9) DEIR GI USSANEH (099.A.27) - EL KEFR (099.A.4.a) fit for wagons

TOPOGRAPHY. 10.

WATER. B.

- (1) WADI AUJA. There is water in this Wadi from 113.T.15.c to 113.Z.25
The water in this area is used up for irrigation purposes and
there is no water in the Wadi East of the point mentioned.
(Advantell East) G.F.Q.
- (2) MAR SABA. (114.Q.29.d.30.c)
Eight cisterns. All, except one in the Convent. One of the
cisterns inside the Convent is approximately 10m. x 6m. x 6m.
There is also another one at the bottom of the staircase leading
to the Tower of JUSTINIAN and is called the "Cistern of the
Column". This one is considered the largest and supplies suffi-
cient water for the Convent. (Advantell East) XXth Corps.
- (3) ATTARA (099.K.21.a-b) One well, good water, supply only suffic-
ient for 50 men daily. At 099 K.15.d.3.2., cistern, 8 metres
long, 4 metres broad. 1 m. watered here without making any
difference to depth of water in cistern.
- (4) BIR EZ ZEIT (099.M.8.b) Fountain called AIN EL HAMAM. Water
supply plentiful, quality good. G.H.Q.
- (5) The W. REIYA (099.C.9) is a perennial stream, in winter about
9' wide and 2' deep, in summer about 10" deep. It flows into
W.ZERKA (085.V.35).
- (6) Inhabitants of ABUD give the following information re water in
this area:-
ABUD (099.C.7.c) Only cisterns.
BARBARA (085.X.12.a) Between here and ABUD, a large well 20 ft
deep; not much used.
W.REIYA (099.C.9.). There are four springs between ABUD and the
junction of the Wadi with W. ZERKA; one of which is large.
G.H.Q.

BRIDGES. C.

- (1) 084.H.25.a. A two-arched stone railway bridge over wady.
084.W.18.c-d. A large two arched railway bridge over wady and
100 yards East a road bridge over same wady being rebuilt and
converted into a five-arch bridge.
There are known to be 15 culverts on the main road from TUL
KERAM to KALKILISH (084.H.26) G.H.Q.
- (2) New pontoon bridge across JORDAN, 100 yards N of GHORANIYEH
Bridge (127.Q.2) between cuttings in banks, reported lately.
Bridge consists of seven pontoons.
- (3) EL HARITHIYEH (096.Q.15) About $\frac{3}{4}$ mile West there is a four
arched stone bridge 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ metres long and about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ metres wide.
The Wadi it crosses is dry in summer.
- (4) EL GHAJIR (122.Q.23). There is a bridge here across R. HASDANI
on road from TIBERIAS - BANIAS (122.R.36) - DAMASCUS, of solid
masonry, but so narrow that carts can only pass over with
difficulty.
- (5) JISR KHURDELA (lat. 33° 21', long 35° 33') is a 3-arched
stone bridge over a gorge about 1,200 feet deep. G.H.Q.

TOPOGRAPHY. 10.

NATURE OF COUNTRY. D&

- (1) The lie of the hilly country round ABUD appears to be as follows:- It is dominated on the N.E. by three hills, BATN ES SINAM (099.C.2.d) RIJAL SUFAH (085.V.30.d) BENAT BURRY (085.V.23.d) which are slightly higher than ABUD, and then the Country N as far as RAFAT (085.V.4.c). It is dominated from the Eastern side (See Road Report - lateral communication) G.H.Q.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS. 11.

Nil.

NEWS FROM OTHER FRONTS. 12.

HEJAZ -

On 10th February an Arab force attacked the railway 10 miles S. of TEBUK, about 130 miles S. of MAAN. Three Turks killed including the Chief Engineer and 20 prisoners captured. A train and 2 Engines severely damaged by means of an electric mine. G.H.Q.

4 more machine guns taken at SA'IL EL HESSA have been brought in thus accounting for the whole number which left KERAK with the Turkish force. G.H.Q. 19/2/18.

S.W. of MEDINA on the 6th, 15 Turks were killed and 12 captured by Arabs under SHERIF ALI. 9 Deserters have surrendered to the Sheriffs forces since 6th February. G.H.Q.

Agents report Turkish force at KERAK - 500 Cavalry - 300 Infantry 4 Field guns - 25 Machine guns - It is thought that these figures are exaggerated.

A Report dated 18/2/18 states that Officers and men of 42 Regt are very discontented and if an opportunity arises will desert to Sherif forces. This regiment is at present in MEDINA vicinity. G.H.Q. 21/2/18.

MESSOPOTAMIA.

Our troops occupied KHAN ABU RAYAT (16 miles W of RAMADIE) on the 21st inst and on the 22nd QUBEAH, 10 miles S. of HIT. 30 prisoners captured - Little opposition and no casualties.

CAUCASUS.

TALAAT PASHA recently recommended a cessation of troops being transferred from this front, pending a decision of reoccupation of Armenian territory, now in the hands of the Russians.

WESTERN DESERT.

Car Reconnaissance towards KUFRA. A light car patrol which started on January 21st carried out a

~~PRO OTHER FRONTS~~ 12. (Continued)

12 days' reconnaissance of the ~~desert between DAHLA and KUFRA~~, depots having previously been made. A total map distance of over 670 miles was covered the farthest point reached being about 300 miles west of DAKHLA. Heavy sand prevented further progress.

G.H.Q.

WESTERN FRONT.

- (a) The Times Correspondent in France, predicts a great German attack at a very early date.
- (b) Our airmen have been doing extraordinarily well, in 2 days accounting for 40 enemy planes, with the loss of 8 planes. Incessant bombing and air raids continue.
- (c) A Belgian official states that during the night of Thursday to Friday the enemy attempted several surprise attacks on advanced posts at Aerstille Farm end of RIPPE. All these attempts were preceded by violent artillery preparation. With the exception of advanced elements to the west of Aerstelle farm in which the Germans temporarily set foot, they were unable at any point to penetrate our lines and were repulsed by violent hand fighting. Notably they were compelled to retire after a hard hand to hand fight in the course of which several of the enemy were put out of action. Artillery and bombing duels were of the usual importance in the neighbourhood of Dixmude and Nieuport.

ITALIAN FRONT.

- (a) The British line in Italy has been considerably lengthened East of Montello Ridge along the Piavo - It now extends some miles East of NERESA.

RUSSIAN FRONT.

- (a) Operations have been resumed. The German army crossed the Dvina without opposition, marching on Dvinsk - continuing against the Bolsheviks in the direction of ROVIL.
- (b) The Russian Baltic Fleet has left Helsingfors.
- (c) A Lemberg telegram states:- The United Polish parties held a great demonstration on the 14th and decided to organise a general strike in all public offices, institutions, schools and factories as a protest against the new Ukraine frontier.
- (d) Manifestoes have been issued to Russian people that all forces must place themselves at service of defence organisation - positions will be defended to last drop of blood. Railways must be destroyed, stations burnt or blown up, all rolling stock sent into interior and provisions in danger of falling into enemy hands must be destroyed.

BALKAN FRONT.

- (a) The extension of the armistice with Rumania is being negotiated.
- (b) The Germans still have 32 Divisions of Infantry and several of cavalry on this front.

NEWS FROM OTHER FRONTS. 12. (Continued)

- (c) Near Lake Bukovo a British detachment entered enemy trenches and destroyed them.
2 Bulgarian reconnaissances were repulsed on Serbian front.

GENERAL NEWS. 13.

- (a) Sir William Robertson has resigned the position of Chief of the Imperial Staff and Sir Henry Wilson has been appointed in his place.
OFFICIAL (Press Bureau Saturday) - The extension of the functions of the permanent military representative, which was decided on at the last meeting of the War Council at Versailles necessitated the limitations of the special powers hitherto exercised by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff. The Government, therefore, thought it right to offer General Sir William Robertson the choice either of becoming British military representative at the Versailles War Council or continuing as Chief of the General Staff under the new conditions. As Sir William Robertson for reasons which the Prime Minister will explain in the House of Commons felt unable to accept either position, the Government regretfully accepted his resignation. The position of Chief of the General Staff has been accepted by Sir Henry Wilson; the appointment of British representative at Versailles will shortly be announced. (Later, General Rawlinson appointed)
- (b) German method of obtaining information.
British prisoners of war and particularly R.F.C. Officers, more especially on being first captured, are often kept in solitary confinement for some days and then placed in with other P/W in a room fitted with microphones - the whole of their conversations being then taken down. This has been proved beyond question - proof included the tearing down of match-boarding and revealing the actual instruments.

Major, H.A. Greenhalgh

Major,
General Staff,
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

25/2/18.

ROAD REPORT

JERICHO - SALT - AMMAN

This road is suitable for motor transport in dry weather.

Distances - approximate

Place	Distance Inter- mediate	Total	Notes
JERICHO	-	-	JERICHO to GHORANIYEH bridge. The banks near the GHORANIYEH bridge are of clayey nature. The area around GHORANIYEH bridge is liable to floods on both banks more especially on the Eastern for a distance of 2 to 3 kilometres. The valley plain is muddy and marshy after rain, with several deep water-courses, constituting obstacles to traffic. On the west bank of the river there is a considerable growth, forming thickets in some places.
GHORANIYEH bridge.	5½	5½	GHORANIYEH Bridge. The bridge is 100 paces long, 56 of which are over water. It is constructed of wood and not very solid. It is said to be able to take 6 inch guns. It has been reported several times that a new bridge is being constructed about 50 yards below the old bridge. The former is said to be narrower than the latter, 100 yards above the bridge square cuttings in the banks on either side of the river are reported, which give the appearance of preparations for a new bridge. It is reported that abundant drinking water is available near GHORANIYEH bridge at all seasons of the year.
SHUNET NIMRIN. (127 P.18)	8½	14	GHORANIYEH Bridge to SHUNET NIMRIN. The road becomes impassable after rain and is crossed by deep water-courses, which form obstacles to wheeled traffic. During high river the ground from 2 to 3 kilometres E. of the bridge is liable to become flooded.
ES SALT	9½	23½	SHUNET NIMRIN to ES SALT. The road lies over steep rocky and broken ground. The total rise from the Jordan to ES SALT is 4,100 ft. There is a new stone bridge near SHUNET NIMRIN (exact position uncertain) in addition to an old wooden one. The stone bridge is 15 metres long, 3 metres broad, and 4.5 metres high. Cavalry would find movement off the main road difficult.
AMMAN	10	41½	ES SALT to AMMAN. The country is bare and stony. About 6 miles N. and about 8 to 9 miles S.E. of AMMAN the country is hilly with deep wooded valleys. At AMMAN there is open veldt country near the Pilgrim route.

Notes on the River Jordan between
GHORANIYEH and JISR ED DAMIEH

Nature of stream. In this section the Jordan River presents the same features throughout its course; it is a rapid turbid stream, so sinuous that the length of the river is about 3 times as great as the distance from point to point as the crow flies.

Numerous tributary streams swell the river in winter and its breadth varies from 100 to 160 feet. After heavy rain the neighbouring plain becomes flooded. Floods may occur independently of rain in the JERUSALEM area any time between mid December and the end of March; in the spring melting snow on the HERMON range cause a rise in level of about 2 feet but no sudden variations in level arise from this cause. The mean depth of the river is reported to vary from 4 - 8 feet according to the season. The current is always strong, the fall of the river varying from 4" to 8 feet. in the mile. In mean river the volume of water is believed to be 95 cubic metres per second.

Banks and bottom. The immediate banks of the stream and the bottom are of marly clay and become very slippery after rain; for this reason though passable by men, both banks and bottom are difficult for heavy wheeled traffic and would become impassable with prolonged use. The thickets which border the stream provide suitable brushwood for fascines. The beds of the wadis leading into the Jordan valley generally consist of shingle and gravel brought down from the mountains.

Crossings. More exact details as to the banks and bottom are known regarding the below mentioned crossings:-
These may serve as a guide for bridging operations.

Fords.	Width of water.	Depth	Banks	Bed:
UHM ESH SHERT (127 F.2.a.)	45 metres	.80 - 1 metre.	Stone	Boulders
EL MANDESI (127 C.19.a)	50 metres	1 - 1.25 metres	Solid earth	Sand
KUSR EL YEHUD (127 Q.32-33)	30 metres	1.50 metres.	Sand	Sand

* - NOTE: between EL AUJAH (113.J.12) and JISR ED DAMIEH (112 N.12) 4½ feet.

ROAD REPORT

JERICHO - MADEBA via KABR ABDALLA

Distances are approximate only.

Not suitable for wheeled transport.

Route	Total distance in miles	Intermediate distance in miles.	Notes
JERICHO	-	-	After crossing the EL GHORANIYEH bridge the road which then runs East by South crosses the Wadi
EL GHORANIYEH	5	5	KEFREIN and follows a steep and rocky path between the Wadi HESBAN and the WADI AYUN MUSA through KABR ABDALLA (lat. 31° 47' Long. 35° 45' 30") to where it joins a good road running N. and S. along a plateau to MADEBA. Owing to the broken nature of the country between the Wadi KEFREIN and KABR ABDALLA the route cannot be used by wheeled transport. Exact details regarding the route are not available but it is reported that there is a plentiful supply of water in the fertile wadi of AIN MUSA and at HESBAN (N. of KABR ABDALLA).
W. EL KEFREIN	10	5	
KABR ABDALLA.	21	7	
MADEBA.	26	5	

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