

AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/63/8 Part 1

Title: Intelligence, Headquarters Desert
Mounted Corps

May 1918



AWM4-1/63/8PART1

SECRET

I.51/42

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

7/5/1918

1. OPERATIONS

- (a) Australian Mounted Division report 2130 (6/5/18) 300 Turks reported broken through about 113.Z.6. 3rd and 4th A.L.H. Brigades pushing reconnaissances in that direction at once.
- (b) Australian Mounted Division reports 2245 situation quiet. Line now runs approximately 113.Z.12.b.10.6 - Z.17.b.10.8 - Z.11.b.7.0 - Z.4.d.5.0. - thence as before Z.3.b.4.0. - X.31.b.2.5.
- (c) A. & N.Z. Mounted Division reports - quiet night, but bombed early this morning (See aeronautics).
- (d) During the recent operations the following captures were made
- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 German officer | 43 German other ranks |
| 48 Turkish officers | 967 Turkish other ranks. |
| | 39 bedouins |
| 1 Armenian officer | 17 other ranks - deserters |

2. MOVEMENT IN FRONT AREA.

Ref 1/63360
Sheets XV & ES SALT.

R.A.F. Report 0730.

100 enemy cavalry stationary in 113.X.8 approximately. No movement in area 113.X.15 - X.17 to X.5 - X.6 No movement on roads North to 113.U.15, U.17. Circular trench system in X.1 Road from NIMRIN North to C.10 clear. 30 infantry proceeding north in C.10. 100 infantry in area of RED HILL. 200 cavalry proceeding south in 127.A.29. No movement between NIMRIN and GHORANIYE bridge. 40 infantry in 113.W.31:.....

R.A.F. REPORT 0900. Slight rifle fire experienced in 113.Q.33

No movement in area 127.T.
No concentration east of JORDAN, south of NIMRIN - GHORANIYE bridge.....

3. AERONAUTICS. On 5th instant bombs were dropped amongst the station buildings and on dugouts at AMMAN.

R.A.F. 5/5/18

At 0455 today 6th Mounted Brigade camp area was bombed. One Officer was wounded.

6th Mtd Brigade

At 0600 6 enemy planes carried out a bombing attack on 2nd A.L.H.B Brigade. Our casualties were 7 other ranks killed 1 O.R. missing, 10 O.R. wounded.

1st A.L.H. Brigade casualties 1 officer 2 O.R. wounded - 3 horses killed and 17 wounded.

C.T.C. casualties: 10 natives killed, 36 wounded, 68 camels killed and 70 wounded.

4. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Unit	Date	Position or move	Source	Remarks
{ 2nd Regt { 143rd " " { 24th Div.	21/5/18	Crossed from W to E of JORDAN.	Prisoners 2nd Regt.	Whereabouts of 58th Regt not known.
{ M.G. Co { 73rd Rgt	22/4/18	HAMA	Prisoners hearsay.	The 73rd Regt was reported to have pass: ed DERAA going W between 13th & 20th April.
703rd Bn.	1/5/18	NABLUS	" "	
703rd Inf Geschutz Zug.	"	AMMAN - ES SALT road.	Prisoner from unit	Consists of 2 10.5 c.m. Hows.
{ One Coy { Jaeger Bn.	"	Attd 703rd Bn.	Prisoners hearsay.	Possibly part of the 11th Jaeger Bn.
{ One Coy { 146th German { Rgt.	"	ES SALT area	Prisoners from unit	The rest of the Rgt is stated to be in the coastal sector, but this requires confirmation.
507 Motor Lorry Col.	"	AMMAN	Seen by prisoner	
5th Divn.	March 1918	VAN area	Seen by prisoner.	

11. 42nd Division. Prisoners state that when at CONSTANTINOPLE the 66th Regt was attached to the 25th Div. It left on April 9th (about 900 rifles strong) and arrived in the ES SALT area on May 2nd.

The 123rd Regt left CONSTANTINOPLE on ships for the CAUCASUS (possibly less 1 Bn. which has been reported East of JORDAN).

NOTE: The 65th Regt the third regiment of the 42nd Div was absorbed in units of the VIIth Army. It would therefore appear that the 42nd Div has been broken up.

111. According to the statements of two P of W the 5th Division relieved the 8th Division in the MUSH area early in March. On being relieved the 8th Division withdrew to CHEVELIK (between MUSH and KHARPUT) where it was eventually abolished, and the Headquarters transferred to the 12th Division. The 17th, 23rd and 24th regiments left for PALESTINE. On arriving at ALEPPO the 1st and 3rd Bns 24th Regt proceeded down the EUPHRATES by boats. One of the prisoners heard they were going to replace a Turkish division which had been captured by the British. The 25th Regt, 2nd Bn, 24th Regt came down to the Palestine front, where they were joined later by the 14th Regiment, the 1st and 2nd Bns of the latter were at ES SALT, and the 3rd went to NABLUS.

G.H.Q.

4. IDENTIFICATIONS (contd)

IV. One unarmed prisoner taken 6/5/18 by 3rd L.H. Brigade, 2 1/2 miles North east of AUJAH bridgehead, belongs to 3rd Bn. 32nd Regiment, 53rd Division states, arrived East of Jordan two days ago and that the whole division is in the foothills East of Jordan. He has no knowledge of intentions.

Australian Mtd Div
6/5/18.

N.B. This requires confirmation, as the prisoner was extremely un-intelligent, and could not say where he crossed, except that he crossed over the Jordan by a boat - He was out with a patrol, and sat down to rest and lost touch with his patrol and was surrounded and captured.
He is being specially interrogated at Jerusalem.

TENTS & SHELTERS 5.

Western Sector. An early morning count shows a decrease of 280 tents and shelters in the western Tactical area since last count, as follows:-

	27/4/18.	1/5/18.	4/5/18.	Increase	Decrease
SERTA	130	-	80	-	50
ZAWIEH	250	-	200	-	50
HABLEH	500	-	300	-	200
KEFR SABA	60	-	100	40	-
JEWISH COLONY	100	-	100	-	-
COASTAL	-	300	200	-	20
				40	320

Total decrease = 280.

(This suggests movement of troops from west to east)
R.A.F. 4/5/18)

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. The following new trench work is reported:-

EASTERN SECTOR Ref 1" map.
127.P.24 50 yards of trench facing N.W.
127.P.10 300 yards of " " West
..... 127.H.29 200 yards of " " West.

(RAF 5/5/18).

WESTERN SECTOR Ref 1" map.
084.A.29 Fresh work on trenches to A.16.e.2,8.
084.A.16.d.5.5. trench in extended/
084.S.9.a. trench is extended 200 yards westwards.
070 V.10.a. Fresh work on trenches.

G.H.Q. 5/5/17.

Ref: 1/40,000 TELFIT sheet.

Fresh trenches have been dug and sangars built from R.31.a. to H.32.c. and d. Small trench at H.13.b.8.9. There appears to be an O.P. about H.8.c.3.3. Small trench in front of wall at H.23.d.2.4., has been extended about 5 yards East.

XXth Corps 6/5/18.

Alan J. Love
Major
General Staff
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

Further Interrogation at JERUSALEM; Prisoner 3/32nd Regt states He was sent to hospital 1/5/18, leaving regiment west of Jordan. Discharged 5/5/18 and ordered to rejoin his regiment east of Jordan which he failed to find. Has heard nothing further about other two regiments since leaving his unit for hospital.

SECRET

I.51/43

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

8/5/18

1. OPERATIONS.

- (a) Australian mounted Division report 2115 last evening: Turkish patrol of 10 men advanced on line in front of I.C.Ede. and were driven back by Hotchkiss fire. Enemy casualties 2 killed and 1 wounded. Identifications will follow as they are at present under enemy rifle fire.
- (b) Australian mounted Division report: 0630 Quiet night. Small patrols at 113.Z.6.b.5.1 and Z.5.a.11 dispersed by Hotchkiss fire at 0430.
- 3 hostile machines at 0500 bombed I.C. Brigado H.Q. - no damage, and
- At 0520 22nd Mounted Brigade. Casualties -
- | | | |
|---------|----|-------------|
| Killed | 2 | other ranks |
| Wounded | 10 | " " |
| Killed | 4 | horses |
| Wounded | 8 | " " |
- (c) A. & N.Z. mounted Division report 1715. Patrol on reaching KABA SALD was fired on this morning. Patrol reports working party 40 men yesterday evening and this morning seen in hill 127.P.29. Patrol this morning fired on by 30 enemy who were advancing down Wadi NIMRIN, just below foothills. On coming under our fire, enemy retired.
- (d) 20th Corps report quiet night.
- (e) 21st Corps report situation unchanged.

2. MOVEMENT - Front area.

- Motor
- (a) Tractor drawing heavy gun S.W. along ROMAN ROAD in 113.N.8 seen last evening.
- (b) R.A.F. Report 1133.
- | | |
|----------|---|
| 113.X.12 | 2 H.T. moving W. |
| 113.V.30 | 70 pack animals apparently loaded - stationary. |
| 113.V.12 | 25 cavalry moving S. |
- Enemy appear to cross Jordan at 113.X.11. No barge or pontoon seen, but many tracks observed.
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 127.G.21 | 10 cavalry moving S. |
| 127.M.18 & U.13 | 450 cavalry moving South and considerable movement of infantry in this area. |
| 127.U.2 | 2 M.T. transport moving S. |
| 127.U.28 | 150 cavalry moving South. |
| 127.W.15.19 | Considerable infantry movement here. |
| 127.W.23 | 25 pack animals stationary. |
- R.A.F. report 1408.
- Lower WADI F'ANAH area 80 T.S. including hospital 30. 4 M.T. at hospital 6 H.T. moving W from Ferry. 15 H.T. halted at Ford.
- DAMIE - SALT ROAD. 25 H.T. 2 miles from ES SALT moving towards DAMIE.
- ES SALT. No movement in town. 4 M.T. 30 cavalry entering town on AMMAN road. 2 bell tents.

2. MOVEMENT - Front area (contd)

R.A.F. Report 1408 (contd)

SALT - SUWEILEH road. 20 H.T. leaving SALT. 37 M.T. between SALT and SUWEILEH going both ways.

SUWEILEH.

No movement in town. 15 M.T. entering town from AMMAN. 12 M.T. halted at 142.P.35.

AMMAN.

200 infantry halted in town. 100 cavalry moving towards station. 7 MT parked on road E of town. 40 T.S. at AMMAN.

AMMAN Station.

34 R.S. No engine. 30 T.S. 8 M.T. halted near station. Aerodrome 1 hangar. No machines on ground.

AMMAN - AIN ES SIR rd. No movement observed.

ES SIR.

No movement. 150 cavalry scattered in T.10b

3. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

(a) Australian Mtd Divn report slight shelling of bridge during yesterday.

(b) Enemy shelled MUSALLABEH and road in 113.Y.10.d. with 20 rounds 77 mm. M.E.

(c) patrol to TEL EL TRUNY observed no enemy movement.

XXth Corps artillery shelled trenches in 099.J.21 & Q.2.a.

DEFENCES

4. Our defensive line now runs as follows:-

GHORANIYE bridgehead line

127.Q.9.c., Q.4.d., 0.34 central, 0.28.c.7.2., 0.27.b.8.1., 0.26.d.9.5., 0.26 central, 0.20.d.2.5., 0.20.c.6.9., 0.25.a.5.5.

AUJAH crossing bridgehead.

113.J.24.b.1.9., 127.0.13.c.1.9., 0.13.b.3.6., 0.7.a.7.3.

West of Jordan.

113.Z.12.b.7.9., 17.b.9.9., 11.b.5.5., 3.D.4.3., 3.a.5.5., X.32.0.5.5., 31.b.5.5., Y.12.b.5.5., Y.6.c.central, 5.a. central, W.35c central, 34.a.central, 34.d.central, Y.4.d. central, 10.b.central, 16.a.central, 15.b.central, 16.c.central, 21.b.c. Posts Y.20.a. T.24.c.

Enemy dispositions: 113.X.9 - X.17 line of posts held by infantry with bivouacs in rear.

127.G. Foothills appear strongly held.

5. CAPTURED STORES Amongst the material captured at ES SALT were the following:-

27 machine guns
1 automatic rifle
1 Pom-pom.
5 motor lorries.
7 light wagons.

The above were all smashed and rendered useless before withdrawal of our troops. A large stock of bombs was also found in the Ordnance Depot at ES SALT and some were used by our troops in repelling the enemy attacks.

Alan J. Lane
Major, G.S.
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

SECRET

I.51/44

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

9/5/18

1. OPERATIONS

- (a) A. & N.Z. Mounted Division report 0630: Quiet night.
- (b) Australian Mtd Division report 0645: Quiet night.
1015: Identifications of 2 enemy
killed and wounded unobtainable as enemy have removed them.
- (c) XXth Corps report 0740. Situation unchanged.
- (d) XXIst Corps report 0810: 30 enemy attacked post in 084 G.29.b. at
2100 yesterday, and were driven off.
- (e) Aeronautics. In retaliation for an enemy bombing raid 900 lbs
of bombs were dropped on 7/5/18 on AMMAN station.
10 direct hits were obtained, 2 on a siding and 6 on the station
buildings. The latter were set on fire and an explosion occurred.
4,000 rounds were fired by machine gun into ground targets.

G.H.Q.

2. ENEMY MOVEMENTS.

- (a) Aeroplane report: 0515/0735.
No unusual movement or concentration on Desert Mtd Corps front.
P.21.c. 100 men and bivouacs.
24.c. 50 men stationary
SHUNET NIMRIN apparent decrease in tentage.
U.2.a. 4 bell tents
G.30 100 men stationary.
D.20 100 men and bivouacs
RED HILL area - no movement
113.X.17.d. Patrol of 8 mounted men moving East.
- (b) 0900/1030.
Lower WADI FARAF - DAMIE area
112.L.27 25 H.T. halted
112.N.2 10 H.T. halted
ES SALT - AMMAN road - considerable movement of H.T., M.T.
and cavalry.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS

- (a) An unintelligent deserter mentions the recent arrival of
Austrian gunners E. of the Jordan.
This report should be taken with reserve. G.H.Q.
- (b) From a diary belonging to an officer of 66th Regiment it appears
that the 42nd Division was disbanded at Constantinople on
6th January.
The 66th Regiment was then attached to 25th Division and left
for this front on 9/4/18. G.H.Q.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY Nothing special to report

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Australian Mounted Division report - enemy appear to be fortifying line running East from UMM ESH SHER towards foothills, and are laying wire in front of this position.

The following works are reported

- 113.X.1 Circular redoubt on hill
- 113.W.29 400 yards of trench on hill
- 113.W.9 100 yards of trench facing S.E.
- 127.R.11. central 4 short trenches - 8 bivouacs and 50 men in rear.
- 113.U.33.d. 50 yards trench covering BEISAN road.

6. ENEMY DUMPS.

Aeroplane report: 92 piles of ammunition were seen at AMMAN on 7/5/18

7. TOPOGRAPHY. Following is report of patrol that proceeded towards UMM ESH SHER last night.

1. Wadi in 127.F.1.d. and F.2.c. was reconnoitred as far as to where it joins the Jordan
 - (a) it is a definite obstacle to artillery and cavalry
 - (b) depth 12', Width 4½'. Dry.
 - (c) Country on either side impassable except for infantry
2. Infantry could climb out of the valley at a point 300 yards N. of F.1.c.8.0. and almost anywhere between this point and the track leading down to the ford.
3. Track at C.31.d.0.3. Patrol proceeded down this track as far as the ford.
 - (a) The track running W. from the Ford is passable for all arms except for a distance of 200 yards near the Jordan, which is only fit for infantry in single file, if this piece of track was widened it would be fit for cavalry, but not for artillery.
 - (b) The country on either side of track is unsuitable for either cavalry or artillery.

8. GENERAL NEWS

Nil

9. NEWS FROM OTHER FRONTS.

- HEJAZ (a) Turkish working parties who were attempting to repair the railway line in the vicinity of JERDUN (12 miles N. of MAAN) were attacked by the Arabs on 3rd May. The Arabs captured 125 prisoners and inflicted serious damage to the line. G.H.Q.
- (b) On 1st May Arabs destroyed 2 miles of railway in the vicinity of BOWAT (37 miles N. of MEDINA). G.H.Q.

WESTERN ANATOLIA Reports indicate that the inactivity of enemy aircraft in this area is due to a number of machines having been sent to Syria.

Alan J. Love
Major, G.S.
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

G.H.Q.

SECRET

I.51/45.

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

10/5/18

---*---

1. OPERATIONS

- (a) A. & N.Z. Mounted Division report quiet night.
- (b) Australian Mtd Division " " "
- (c) XXth Corps report quiet night

....(d) XXIst Corps report - situation unchanged.

2. ENEMY MOVEMENTS R.A.F. report: 0900/1050.

Lower WADI FARAH - 6 M.T. parked at hospital
N.20 - 3 M.T. halted.

DAMIE - NABLUS rd- 4 M.T. going towards NABLUS.

ES SALT. 50 people in town.
8 M.T. in town
2 M.T. entering from N.
2 M.T. entering from S.
1 M.T. leaving towards AMMAN.
3 H.T. going towards KEFR HUDA.

127.J.9 50 infantry halted.

ES SALT - AMMAN Scattered M.T. (6 in all)
road.

AMMAN. 50 cavalry in town.
100 people in town
5 M.T. parked E of town
9 H.T. parked S.W. of town
2 H.T. entering from W.
20 H.T. on station road.

.... AMMAN station 26 R.S. 1 engine shunting.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Prisoners & Deserters. During 24 hours ending 1900 10/5/18 the following are recorded.
To A. & N.Z. Mtd Divn. 5 deserters came in to GHORANIYEH bridgehead.

The deserters are 3 from 1/17th Regiment
1 " 11th Cavalry Regiment
1 " 1/66th Battalion.

To Australian Mounted Division: 3 prisoners from 2nd Battalion 63rd Regiment were captured AUJAH area East of Jordan.

They make the following statements:-
The 63rd Regiment came from KALKILIEH arriving in this sector on 9th instant. The 47th Regiment which is west of Jordan, is the next regiment on their right. On their left are Germans.
The rifle strength of 63rd Regiment is 1800.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Australian Mounted Division report 1655, 9th.

No.1 subsector - Enemy fired 15 rounds small calibre into AUJAH bridgehead at 1000 yesterday. Gun located 127.D.21.central.
Another battery located by No.2 subsector under foothills 70° bearing from 127.M. F.7 A.7.Q.a.

XXth Corps report 9th: Our artillery shelled Q.28 B.24, Q.1.c., J.36.d. Wadi Q.22.c., bivouacs Q.9.a. Working party Q.8.c.
Machine gun Q.2.c.b.d.



.....
4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY (contd).

21st Corps report: 10th, Our artillery carried out 10 minutes bombardment of SABIEH area at 2400.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES Nil

6. ENEMY DUMPS Nil

7. TOPOGRAPHY. Ref: 1/63,360 & (0.5) (0.6).

(a) JERICHO - NABLUS via AKRABEH. From KH FUSAIL (113.U.38) to RUJM ABU MEHEIR (113.U.13.a.)

there is a steep and difficult ascent and no information is to hand as to the use of this sector by wheeled transport; but beyond to AKRABEH (C.28.b.) it is reported by aerial reconnaissance to be "a very good road" and M.T. have been seen on it.

There is a M.T. park at MEJDEL BENI FADL (F.24.b.) and the route appears to be via the above village and not by the old ROMAN ROAD shown on the 1/63,660 map.

Numerous M.T. and H.T. have been reported on the road from AKRABEH - NABLUS, but no trace of the old Roman Road shown on the 1/63,660 map can be found on aeroplane photographs, beyond the Wadi in C.8.b., but there is a track along the bed of the Wadi from this point, joining the road via AWERTAH (X.4.d.) at V.34.c. This latter road is a good hard road, fit for motor transport and joins the JERUSALEM - NABLUS road at V.16.a. The branch track from V.22.c. - RUJIB (V.17.c.) is also fit for MT.

Ref: (b) JISR ED DAMIE - NABLUS. via TELL EL MAZAR (112.L.25.b.) and AKRABEH (112.U.24.b.). This route is being used for H.T. by the enemy, and the sector between TELL EL MAZAR to 112.G.6.a. is in good condition.

1/63,
360.

(c) JISR ED DAMIE - NABLUS via W. FARAH. This route is used now by M.T. throughout its entire length (see T.R. of 1/5/18, para 3 (a)).

(d) TELL EL ABEID (at 112.W.14.b.) - 112.L.13.c. H.T. have been observed recently on this route, which is the first intimation of its use by the enemy for wheel transport.

(e) JISR ED DAMIE - BEISAN. Air reports state that the road is fit for wheels as far as 126.O.13, but beyond enters rough country, and appears to be merely a track. H.T., however, have been reported in the good sector, moving north. An alternate route suitable for wheels, which would avoid this "reported" bad sector, is via the WADY FARAH to 112.Y.19.c., and thence by "ancient road" to 112.X.6.b., where it rejoins the JERICHO - BEISAN road.

8. GENERAL (a) Enemy tactics: An officer prisoner of the Signal Service captured 8/5/18 states:-
G.O.C., VII Army recently issued a circular memorandum urging all commanders to adopt offensive tactics, such as raids. GHQ

(b) According to the Turkish Official Communique, dated 5/5/18, Colonel Essad Bey, O.C. 3rd Cavalry Division was wounded in the recent operations E of the Jordan. G. H. Q.

Stanley G.S.
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

SECRET

I.51/46

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

11/5/18

---*---

1. OPERATIONS

- (a) Right sector - quiet night.
1 squadron and 3 companies of enemy seen at 1000 today in WADI NIMRIN, who sent out a small patrol down the wadi towards Bridgehead. This patrol was engaged and 2 prisoners (Turks) taken. Enemy last seen retiring along ES SALT road. Prisoners not yet identified.
- (b) Left sector - quiet night.
- (c) The Corps on our left reports quiet night - nothing to report.
- (d) The Corps in Coastal sector reports - situation normal.

Aircraft Yesterday afternoon our aeroplanes carried out a raid on the aerodrome at JENIN in retaliation. Direct hits were obtained on hangars and one was seen to be on fire. Observation was, however, difficult owing to dust and smoke. Direct hits were also obtained on the station and on transport. The raid is considered to be the most successful carried out on this front up to the present.

Corps Coastal Sector

- (e) Reference Intelligence Summary No. I.51/42 of 7th, prisoners and deserters captured during period 29/4/18 to 7/5/18 inclusive, are as follows - and not as stated in above
- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|----------|
| Germans | 1 officer | 43 O.R. |
| Turks & Armenians | 49 officers | 849 O.R. |
| Bedouins, armed | | 39 |

2. MOVEMENT - Front area.

Right sector report at 0600 yesterday -
40 pack animals proceeded from 127.P.2.a. to SHUNET NIMRIN.
Continuous movement of packs and small parties of cavalry between Wadis MIDAN and NIMRIN.
Patrol of 14 enemy retired at 1000 in 127.P.14.b.

R.A.F. report C530 - 0700
Lazer Wadi FARAH - No movement observed - but there is a considerable camp there (104 B.T. which includes 14 hospital tents - and 4 marquees.)
6 H.T. stationary at hospital.

SALT - SUWEILEH road - 4 H.T. stationary
30 cavalry going W.
1 M.T. going W through SUWEILEH.

SUWEILEH - AMMAN road. 250 infantry stationary 2 miles W of AMMAN.

AMMAN Station. Considerable camp - 40 B.T. 3 marquees.

AMMAN.
5 M.T. leaving town going W.
Considerable camp. 30 B.T. 3 marquees &c.
10 H.T. parked.

AMMAN - AIN ES SIR road - 300 ea alry grazing about 142.T.2.

2. MOVEMENT - front area (contd)

R.A.F. report 0515 - 0735.

127 R.18	30 infantry stationary
R.27	10 " "
R.22	6 cavalry "
P.8	20 cavalry moving N.
O.4	30 " among trees
D.25	100 infantry
G.9	50 cavalry moving N.
113.X.6	50 infantry
V.22	60 horses grazing
127.C.23	10 cavalry

R.A., O.P. reports: Frequent movement of small bodies enemy troops in 127.D.19 - G.14 - G.7, and along track in 113.W.27.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS. On re-examination 3 P/Ws, 2nd Battalion, 63rd Regt, 20th Division, captured 1 1/2 miles N.E. of AUJAH state that 2nd Battn, 63rd Regt., proceeded from KALKILIEH area to east of Jordan, arriving about 9th inst: in order to dig trenches. The battalion was conveyed by motor transport from TUL KERAM to NABLUS and marched the remainder of the journey. They don't know how or where they crossed the Jordan.

1st and 3rd Battalions, 63rd Regiment remained at TUL KERAM. 61st and 62nd Regiments are in the line in KALKILIEH area.

E. of the Jordan the units on the right of 2nd Battalion, 63rd Regiment are 24th Division with 48th Division on the right of 24th division. On the left, and in reserve, are Germans (units unknown).

N.B. In the re-examination they make no mention of 47th Regt as reported in yesterday's Desert Mounted Corps Summary. Two were moderately intelligent, and one was stupid, and as they had lost their way on a night march, could not give location of their unit.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

(a) Our artillery dispersed enemy party in 098.S.26.a.
Corps Coastal Sector

(b) Enemy shelled heavily yesterday DEIR SIMAN (085.V.11.c.) and RAFAT (085.V.4) also BALLUT RIDGE intermittently.
Corps Coastal Sector

(c) Yesterday a successful shoot was carried out by our heavies on a 4 gun enemy battery in 127.G.1.a.. 2 O.K. were signalled by our plane. The bivouacs and horse lines in rear were also shelled with good effect, inflicting casualties on men and horses - who were seen to disperse.

(d) 0700 yesterday enemy fired 12 rounds on MUSALLABEH (113 W.34.c.) (2 of these were Q.F. 13-pdr) from about 14° mag: from 113.W.34.d.7.8.
At 0730 - 10 rounds on same place, sound bearings 20° mag: from Y.18.b.7.9.
Enemy battery in 127.G.24 also fired a few rounds in direction of AUJAH bridge-head.
We fired 8 rounds in retaliation on GREEN HILL (113.W.28) result not known.

* R.A. O.P. 1700. 20 to 30 enemy infantry seen moving along track 113.W.14 and 20.
Small post observed in F.9.c. and d.
Working parties in F.4 and 5.

3.

5. ENEMY DE ENCES.

Right sector reports: Enemy posts observed at 127.O.6.d. & P.1
1 squadron at 127.P.7.d.
Small post at 127.P.10.a.

R.A.F. reports 0515. .

200 yds circular trench at 127.Y.7
Fresh digging at 127.A.32
Emplacements facing W. in 127.F.30.d.
20 yds trench facing W in 127.F.28.
Number of new trenches on RED HILL 113.X.6
Gun pits in 127.A.31
3 50-yd trenches facing S. 127.O.23
300 yards trench on hill in 113.X.15
Fresh digging in 113.Z.11.b.
Small trenches in 113.W.28.
20/10 yds trenches facing S in 113.U.33
100 yards trench facing S.E. in " U.34
200/V trench facing S.E. & S.W. - W.9
yds
No concentration on any part of front.

6. NEWS FROM OTHER FRONTS.

MESOPOTAMIA. BAGHDAD report our cavalry have advanced to within 6 miles of ALTUN KEUPRI, capturing 2 mountain guns, 2 M.Gs. and 30 prisoners.
N.B. ALTUN KEUPRI is 25 miles N.W. of KURKUK which is 185 miles N. of BAGHDAD.

G.H.Q.



Major, G.S.
DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

.....
SECRET

I.51/47

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

12/5/1918

.....
1. OPERATIONS

- (a) Right sector: Quiet night, nothing to report
1430 yesterday about 300 cavalry observed in
P.21 moving S.W. and movement of ambulances
about 127.P.18.c.
- (b) Left Sector: Quiet night:
Patrol along ROMAN ROAD on 10th towards 113.
W.29.c. encountered 3 men and 6 pack mules.
Shots were exchanged, and 2 mules captured
carrying 4 British 12 gallon fanatis.
- (c) Corps on our left: Situation unchanged. ✓
- ... (d) Corps Coastal Area: Situation unchanged. ✓

2. MOVEMENT - front area

- (a) O.P. 113.Y.11.c. report 11/5/18. 12 horses 5 men seen to leave
Wadi near 113.W.7.c. N.E. towards camp in 113.U-15 yesterday.
About 200 cavalry in sections E of Jordan from N. of RED
HILL moving south through 127.C. 21 & 29.
Our guns shelled them - result not known.
Considerable enemy movement in 127.F.11 S.E.
- (b) R.A.F. Report: 12/5/18.
1115. 25 cavalry in 127.P.8 going S.E.
1125. 25 cavalry and transport in 127.G.8 going S along track ✓

Lower Wadi FARAH 30 H.T. facing E. 3 miles W of DAMIE
crossing.

DAMIE - SALT road. About 100 cavalry in small patrols. ✓

ES SALT. 9 H.T.
40 cavalry
400 persons in streets.

ES SALT - AMMAN Rd. 24 M.T. and 10 H.T. going E.
Several small patrols of cavalry about
100 in all.

AMMAN Station. 30 R.S. in station.

AIN ES SIR.- NAAUR. 200 scattered cavalry.
N.B. about 300 cavalry horses were seen
grazing in this area about 142.T.2,
reported in summary of 11th inst.

.....
3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

- (a) A Greek deserter states that the remnants of the 66th Rgt
have been absorbed in the 23rd and 2/24th regiments.
This is not thought probable, in view of the fact that
parts of this regiment and its machine gun company had
previously been sent down as drafts to the Vith Army -
and that the O.C. of this regiment remained at CONSTANTINOPLE.

G.H.Q.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS (contd)

- (b) A Corporal of 2/11th Cavalry Regiment 2nd Caucasus Cav Ede intelligent and willing, gives the following information:
 He deserted on the 5th at WADI NIMRIN.
 The 11th Cavalry Regiment was then about 127.G.18. ✓
 The 6th Cavalry Regiment was on the left and the 24th ✓
 Division on the right of his regiment.
 2 German Infantry Battalions were on the left of the 6th Cav
 Regt at about 127.U.7.
 The 11th Cavalry Regiment strength is
 400 sabres - 500 rifles
 4 machine guns.
 Their casualties in the recent engagements were 22/25. ✓
 It was rumoured that the 3rd Cavalry Division captured 2 ✓
 British guns, 2 motor cars and 2 prisoners.
 He states the daily average of deserters is 20/25.
 He was told that the III A.C. is coming E of the Jordan ✓
 and on its arrival the Turks are going to take the
 offensive and attack Jericho.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Corps on our left: Artillery fired on enemy bivouacs in 099 J.36 ✓
 and trenches in J.22 and Q.2.c.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Left Sector: Enemy appears to have wired trench on N bank of
 Wadi BAKR, about 113.W.31a.

6. ENEMY DUMPS. On April 28th the ammunition stores at DERAA ✓
 station were being moved into the village for
 fear of aeroplane attack.

G.H.Q.

TOPOGRAPHY 7. (a) The following routes are reported by left sector. ✓

From 115.H.35 to 113.Y.21.b. via H.54.b.9.9. ✓
 H.28 central, H.20.b., H.14.b., H.8 central, Y.26.
 Passable for all arms, grades easy but stony.

(b) From 115.H.35. via Old Roman Road North W to 113.B.10 - ✓
 Fit for wheels if stones removed and grades reduced in a few
 places.

N.B. Both these routes are under enemy observation for 2/3rd
 of the distance.

(c) From Roman road in 113.H.8.central to H.14.d. along Wadi ✓
 OBEIDAH - winding and long route - Suitable for horses and packs
 only.

N.B. This connects main road and route (a) above.

(d) From 113.H.2.b. to Y.22.d. -Along Wadi ABEID. This route is ✓
 probably the most protected from enemy observation and is
 passable for all arms.

(e) From junction Wadi AUJAH and Wadi ABEID in 113.Y.22 central ✓
 to B.11.r.

Along Wadi ABEID -

Stony in places but passable for all arms.
 North bank of Wadi is recommended for movement by night.

Amfard Capt/3
 Major,
 General Staff,
 DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

13/5/18

1. OPERATIONS.

- (a) Right Sector report quiet night ✓
- (b) Left sector report quiet night. Patrol to TEL EL TRUNY fired on from TEL EL RISHTEH (113.T.17). ✓
- (c) Corps on our left report: Situation unchanged - quiet night. ✓
- (d) Corps Coastal Sector report situation unchanged. ✓

R.A.F. Report: Hostile aeroplane was brought down on morning of 11th and crashed S. of WADI EL KUB (099.H.19.a.) ✓
One of the occupants fell in our lines. The aeroplane/wrecked between our lines.

2. MOVEMENT - front area.

- (a) O.P. in 113.Y.11.c. report 13/5/18.
About 0630 Infantry, cavalry and pack mules moving in 113.W.14 - 1, 2 and 3.
0715. 3 large working parties on RED HILL
Working party on 127.G.7.a.
Enemy transport in 127.G.30 central.
1130. 50 cavalry in 127.D.25 and 19.
Enemy camp in 113.U.32.

(b) Right Sector Report: 12/5/18.
Patrol was fired on from both banks of WADI NIMRIN at 127.P.20.d.9.2.

(c) R.A.F. Report 0645/0830.

ES SALT 50 infantry in town. ✓
10 M.T. in town
4 H.T. going E.

SALT - 3 M.T. going W. 1 going E.
SUWEILEH rd. 75 infantry and 10 cavalry going E.

SUWEILEH. 12 M.T. facing E. on W. of town ✓
3 H.T. and 4 M.T. going W.

SUWEILEH - 2 M.T. and 4 H.T. going W. ✓
AMMAN rd. 100 camels laden going W.
50 cavalry apparently escorting them.
150 pack animals halted alongside road.
100 cavalry scattered
10 cavalry going W.

AMMAN. 150 infantry in column going W. ✓
50 infantry halted W of town.

AMMAN Stn. 70 R.S. in 3 made up trains, and 3 engines. ✓

AIN ES SIR 4 H.T. going W. ✓

AMMAN road. 50 cavalry halted on road. ✓

* 250 cavalry grazing E of AIN ES SIR.

* See also D.M.C. summaries 11th & 12th

10/6

3000

2.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

(a) Reliable deserter states he belongs to 10th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Caucasus Cavalry Brigade. His regiment is one kilo north of main SALT - JERICHO road and four kilos S.W. of SALT.

Strength, including M.Gs, 500 rifles and 4 machine guns. Left Caucasus front 20th March; arrived this front 9th May. NB. It would now appear that the 2nd Caucasus Cav Brigade now consists of 9th, 10th, 11th Regiments, with a total strength of about 1,000 rifles.

(b) Deserter taken by Left Sector on evening of 11th states:- He belongs to the 3/20th Regt, 7th Division. The regiment is about 1 hour North of AUJAH. The whole division, viz 19, 20, 21st Regiments are on the front of Left Sector. 24th Division on the left, 53rd Division on the right. Regiment rifle strength about 350.

(c) Corps Coastal Sector report: A deserter who came in at G.36.d.8.2. on 9th belonged to 11th Coy, 3rd Bn., 20th Regt. Location of 7th Division H.Q. 084.K.4.central, approx; Regiment rifle strength 750 rations, approx; N.B. This rather contradicts para (b).

(d) 3rd Bn., 17th Regt, on 10th reported by deserter N. of BIDIEH. 1st and 2nd Bns East of Jordan. G.H.Q.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. R.A. report 12th.

7	rounds H.E.	on enemy working party	127.G.7.a.
5	"	" " " " transport	O.30
12	"	" " " " cavalry	D.25.
16	"	" " " " infantry	113.W.14
5	"	" " " " O.P.	T.5.b.
4	"	" " " " patrols	W.20.a.

Results - enemy troops observed to scatter.

Enemy fired 9 shells in 127.O.34. Flash of gun seen W. of house in 127.P.17.c.

R.A. report 13th. 1030. Our heavies dispersed 20 cavalry in 127.P.6.d. and camel convoy in 127.P.5.d.central.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy are reported occupying position about 200 yards W. of SALHA (127.R.23.a. or c.)

N.B. Enemy trench has been previously located in 127.R.23.d. New work reported on highest point of RED HILL.

6. ENEMY DUMPS. ... N 1 1

7. TOPOGRAPHY. Road.

Report on route 13, known as UMM ESH SHERT - ES SALT track. Reference map ES SALT - east of JORDAN 2nd Edition 1/63,360. Track follows dotted line.

At 127.K.6.b. grade is difficult for about 7/4 mile and requires blasting and cutting to make it fit for wheels. From there to cisterns (not shown on map) in 127.K.21 grades are easy, and road suitable for limbers. From this point turn S.W. into Wady (probably Wady ABU MUHAIR) roughly in 127.K.26.d.1.5., then to D.36.a.34.d., G.3.c., G.8.6, and F.12 on to the plain, and the road to GHORANIYEH Bridge.



.....

7. TOPOGRAPHY Road. (contd)

The latter part (G.3.c. G.8.c.) is in places very steep, but with labour could be made suitable for wheels. This route has greatly improved by the ^{recent} considerable traffic.

The other route:
From 127.K.21 west through D.22 to the plain is practically impossible to be made fit for wheels.

.....

WATER. The following cisterns were located:

127.H.34.central	127.K.4.a.5.10	127.K.3.b.7.0
127.K.21.a.4	127.K.20.b.10	127.K.20.b.6.2. ✓
127.K.21.d.1.3.	127.K.26.b.1.3.	127.K.30.c.27.
127.K.36.a.2.8.		

.....

TELEGRAPH

The telegraph line (single wire) was still standing and used by our troops in recent operations.

The line runs roughly as follows:-

In an almost direct line ES SALT to A in ARSENIYET and thence to GHORANIYE Bridge.

A Branch goes south from the above point to SHUNET NIMRIN.

The wire from A in ARSENIYET to the GHORANIYEH bridge has been taken down.

.....

8. GENERAL.

(a) An employee on the Asia Minor railway on 12th March stated that unless new rolling stock, including locomotives, is sent very shortly, railway traffic on these lines will stop.

G.H.Q.

(b) According to a statement of a P/W, desertion from 1st and 2nd Bns, 173rd Regt, 56th Division was frequent, 8 or 10 going at a time. During the summer when food is obtainable, desertion increases. Large numbers are expected to desert this summer.

G.H.Q.

Raw J. Love

Major,
General Staff,
Desert Mounted Corps.

JH

I.51/49

Desert Mounted Corps

Intelligence Summary

14/5/18

---*---

1. OPERATIONS.

- (a) Right Sector - quiet night ✓
- (b) Left Sector - quiet night ✓
- (c) Corps on our left - Situation unchanged, but enemy restless MUGHEIR - AMURIEH sector. Throughout the night frequent bursts of machine gun and rifle fire, and numerous Very lights being fired by them.
- (d) Corps Coastal Sector - Situation unchanged.
A post of 40 Turks on HARAM ridge were dealt with by our machine guns.
- (e) R.A.F. 13/5/18. 4 bombs dropped on SHUNET NINRIM and 1000 rounds of machine gun fired on various camps.

2. MOVEMENT - Front area.

- (a) Right Sector: See report R.A. below. (para e)

1220. Considerable movement between 113.X.11 central and X.16 central. Enemy have been seen dribbling into Wadi MELLAHAH at point 113.X.21 for last half hour, in twos and threes.

- (b) Left Sector: Considerable amount of enemy activity on road running N. & S. along foothills E. of Jordan. Enemy camps located in 113.U.15 and 33.b. N.B. The camp in U.15 was first reported in Summary of 12th.

- (c) R.A.F. 0815/1120. The following tents and bivouacs are reported:

113.R.11 & 12 T.S. 50
 DOMEH & MEJDEL BENI FADL 250/300 in area
 EL MUGHEIR 113.Q.35 T.S. 25
 Q.14.15 T.S. 30

No unusual movement or concentration observed E. or W. of Jordan.

- (d) R.A.F. 0830/1030.
 Lower WADI PARAH 112.E.14. Horse lines (30 horses)
 100 cavalry proceeding E near the River Jordan.

DAMIE - ES SALT road. No movement

ES SALT - SUWEILEH rd. 50 cavalry in 142.O.14
 23 M.T.
 8 pack camels

AMMAN. 100 pack animals
 11 M.T.

AMMAN station. 30 R.S. in station
 12 H.T.
 2 M.T.

AIN ES SIR (142 T) 400 horses grazing.

2. MOVEMENT - front area (contd)

R.A.F. 0850/0915.

Wadi in 127.P.10. 25 cavalry and transport going S on track.

No movement observed in RED HILL - EL HAUD - SHUNET NIMRIN areas.

(e) R.A. 1150. 13/5/18. Considerable movement of troops on plateau DERBASI. 300 infantry seen moving S. in 127.P.18.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

(a) A prisoner from the 62nd Turkish Regiment taken 10/5/18 reports a German Regt - 2 battalions strong, E. of 62nd Regt.

(i.e.) Astride the railway near JILJULIEH.

This may possibly be the 146th German Regt (less half Battalion East of Jordan) which is believed to be in the VIIIth Army area.

(b) 2 deserters of 1/17th Regiment (1 Corporal, 1 private) state they arrived at SALT about 3rd or 4th May with a draft (Corporal says 100, Private says 400) and that 30/40 were drafted into 1/17th Regt and the remainder amongst other regiments.

The 1/17th Regiment is near and N. of SHUNET NIMRIN and it is thought that as the regiment is reported to be weak, the 1/17th reported by Corporal to be 200/220 rifles and by the private as 80 rifles and 3 or 4 M.Gs. the Sergt deserter of 3/152nd Regiment believes it to be holding the left sector of the 23rd Regiment. The Corporal of 1/17th however, states that the 1/17th is between the 23rd Regt and the SALT - JERICHO road.

(c) Sergt deserter of 3/152nd states

Position 500 yards S of bridge at SHUNET NIMRIN.

Unit on right 23rd Regiment (note above)

Unit on left 1/152nd Regiment

Strength 2/152nd 1 kilo S.W. of 3/152nd.
3/152nd about 150 rifles, 3 M.Gs and the other two battalions are about the same

About 28th April, a draft of 500 men came to the 48th Division from DALASSOUS, and was divided up among the regiments, 30 being drafted to 3/152nd.

The 152nd Regiment came from KUTRANI about the beginning of April, after the first attack on SALT.

(d) 48th Divisional Headquarters reported by deserter to be in WADI SHAIB (SHUNET NIMRIN).

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

(a) Right Sector. 0835. Nil.

(b) Left Sector. GHORANIYEH bridgehead shelled at point 127.Q.34 and 35. 1720. 13/5/18. Smoke observed after each shot just E. of hill in 127.P.17.a. and b.

(c) R.A. 13/5/18. 60-pdrs fired 9 rounds on infantry in 127.P.24 & 30. 60-pdrs fired 12 rounds on suspected 4.2 battery at 127.P.17.6.3 & 5. A gun flash was reported yesterday in 127.P.17. 10 rounds on 300 infantry moving S in P.17. One direct hit reported - Infantry scattered.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY (contd).

- (c) R.A. (contd). Enemy fired 15 rounds on our cavalry patrols going out to SHUNET NIMRIN - also on WADY.
- (i) NIMRIN 127.0.28.b.5.0. Fire from direction of 127.P.18.
- (ii) Our heavies carried out a successful shoot with aeroplane observation on enemy 4.2 battery in 127.P.18, 1 direct hit being obtained and 2 Z, 2 Y, and 2 A reported.
- (iii) Our anti-aircraft fired on hostile plane, which was struck, and was seen to land near EL HAUD.
- (d) Corps Coastal Sector. Enemy shelled beach from 070.V.26.d. 1745. 13/5/18. to X.2.d. and 085.V.10.b. and hill 1249 in V.12.b.
Enemy fired about 200 shells.
0730. 14/5/18. Enemy shelled MEJDEL YABA and MEJDEL YABA - WILHELMIA road for 500 yards heavily for 15 minutes.
We shelled KEFR KASIM for 5 minutes at 2200 and 2310.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a) Left Sector; 100 yards enemy rifle pits dug during the night in 113.W.13.a.
Small mounds thrown up for 300 yards in 113.W.28.c.
1220 - Strong enemy outpost observed in 113.X.16.central.
- (b) Corps on our left: O.Ps. located at 113.Q.17.c. and 099 J.35.a.8.0.
- (c) R.A. New earthworks on EL HAUD 100 yards S. of summit.

6. ENEMY DUMPS. Nil.

7. TOPOGRAPHY. Bridges.

Ramps have been made N. of the bridge in 127.N.2. enabling transport to cross the Wadi.

G.H.Q.

Alan J. Love
Major,
General Staff,
Desert Mounted Corps.

SECRET

I.51/50

Desert Mounted Corps
Intelligence Summary

15/5/18

1. OPERATIONS

- (a) Right Sector: 0650. Situation normal. Our patrol met enemy patrol in 127.P.30.b. and shots were exchanged. Enemy patrol withdrew.
- (b) Left Sector: 1850. 14/5/18. Quiet night. Patrol to UMM ESH SHERT road via 127.F.7.a. did not come in contact with enemy. No indications of wire observed.
- (c) Corps on our left: Nothing unusual
- (d) Corps Coastal Sector: During night of 13th, accompanied by intense shrapnel fire, about 300 enemy raided post in M.25.b.13. One advanced Lewis gun was lost, but enemy did not penetrate our line. Our casualties 1 officer wounded, 1 O.R. killed, 10 O.R. wounded, 1 O.R. missing.

2. MOVEMENT - Front Area.

- (a) Left Sector: 1850. 14/5/18.
- (i) WADI MELLAHAH: Enemy moving considerable numbers from 113.X.11 to X.13 central. Movement is fairly continuous. (N.B. See D.M.C. Summary of 14th). At 1220 yesterday enemy seen dribbling into Wadi MELLAHAH at point 113.X.21 in twos and threes for last half hour. *Now thought to be working party* About 130 pack horses observed moving N.
- (ii) Foothills E of JORDAN. About 80 horses observed grazing.
- (iii) 113.W.9 & 13. About 80 horses observed grazing.
- (b) R.A.F. report 14/5/18.
1525/1725.
RED HILL) No unusual movement or concentration.
WADI MELLAHAH)
- WADI EL DALIEH About 120 TS in 113.R.2.3.4.8. and 10.
- WADI FUSAIL. About 40 TS in U.25. and 34.
- 127.C.32.d. Considerable movement of transport on road. 26 men and ambulances (number of latter not stated).
- (c) 127.P.15
15/5/18: 0845/1015
Lower WADI FARAH. 10 H.T. moving W.
20 HT and 30 cavalry moving E.
Hospital of 6 marquees just E of crossing JISR ED DAMIE.
50 cavalry scattered round hospital.
- DAMIE-SALT rd. No movement.
- ES SALT. 10 M.T.

R.A.F. 15/5/18. 0845 - 1015. (contd).

SALT-SUWEILEH road. 50 pack animals moving W.
100 " " halted
22 M.T.

SUWEILEH-AMMAN rd. 10 MT
10 HT.
250 cavalry grazing 2 miles W of AMMAN.

AMMAN 50 cavalry in street
10 MT

AMMAN station. 45 RS in station
50 cavalry scattered N. of station.

AMMAN - ES SIR 2 HT
500 cavalry halted S of BKT UMM AMUD
250 " watering at pool

NAAUR No movement

(d) 15th: 0530/0615.
SHUNET NIMRIN

T & S approx 500/600.
(N.B. This appears to be an increase).
300 men in vicinity of camp
Hospital in WADI JERIA
20 limbers close to hospital

E. of JORDAN No movement observed in any tracks.

ES SALT, SHUNET
NIMRIN road. No movement as far N. as 127.M.27.

112.N.28 400 infantry with 5 HT and pack animals
going N.

BEISAN Road. No movement.

JISR ED DAMIE No movement along river banks.
3 boats moored in stream at 113.V.11
(I.B. Enemy previously reported crossing
S. of JISR ED DAMIE).

DOMEH.113.O.3 200 horses scattered, apparently going
to water.

113.F. 135 T & S.

.....113.W. 40 T & S.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS

(a) Deserter from 3/191st Regt, 48th Division states:-
Position 127.P.21.a.
Unit on right 2/191st at 127.P.21.b.
Headquarters of 191st and Composite Force one hour S of bridge
on SALT - JERICHO road.
Strength - of battalion rifles ~~47~~ 60, rations 70, 2 M.Gs.

(b) Another deserter, same regiment states
Strength of battalion - rifles 147, rations 160.

(c) Deserter from 2/191st, 48th Division states
Strength of battalion rifles 60, rations 70.

(d) Deserter from 3/63rd Regiment, 20 division states:
Position 127.R.11
Unit on right 2/63rd
" " left 1/63rd.

.....
3. IDENTIFICATIONS (contd)

(d) contd:

Headquarters 63rd Regt on left of 1/63rd.
Headquarters 4th Army Corps ES SALT
Strength of battalion Rifles 300, rations 400

The personnel of M.G. Coy absorbed.
No M.Gs. Each Coy now has 3 auto-rifles.

The whole of 63rd Regt left CONSTANTINOPLE for this front 7 months ago and arrived in MULEBBIS area, where they remained until 12 days ago. It took them 4 days to march from there to E of Jordan, where they arrived about 7 days ago - and relieved 11th Cavalry Regiment.
Does not know where 11th Cavalry Regt are

.....(N.B.)..... Only one of these deserters was tolerably intelligent.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. a. Nothing special to report.

(b) Corps Coastal Sector: At 1820 yesterday enemy shelled O70 V.15.b., V.21.a. EL HARAM, V.27.a. and d. for 20 minutes.
..... No damage done.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Right sector N i l

(b) Left Sector: 14/5/18. 127.F.24.b.1.0. sangars being built
127.O.7.b.1.6. digging observed
113.X.17.a.9.1. " "
113.W.9.c. trenches enlarged.
113.W.28.c. central 10 yard stone sangar built.

(c) R.A.F. 15/5/18. WADI FUSAIL: 113.W.25.a. 30 yards trench
113.W.26.a. and b. 100 yards of trench facing S.
113.W.31. 100/150 yds trench facing S.

.....
6. ENEMY DUMPS. N i l

7 TOPOGRAPHY. A track has been located by R.A.F. running from BEISAN road at 113.U.34 into WADI ABU ZERKA through WADI

KEREIKER to P.21, thence into wadi at P.29.c. through P.26.a. P.25.b., P.25.c., P.36.b., N.E. side of EL MUGHEIR.

It does not appear fit for wheels throughout its length.

On the 11th R.A.F. reported 5 M.T. in P.21, apparently on this track.

A P/W states that the track entering MUGHEIR is not fit for wheels.
.....

8. GENERAL.

(a) According to a captured Turkish document dated 15/9/17, there are 106 locomotives in the DAMASCUS, DERRA, HEJAZ and PALESTINE lines.

made up as follows:-

6 armoured locomotives S. of DERRA - HEJAZ line.
5 in process of being armoured S. of DERRA HEJAZ line
1 " " " " W. of DERRA (Palestine line).

94 ordinary.

of these are:-

41 under repairs, thus leaving 65 operative at that time
7 engines have since been captured
12 " " " " destroyed by the forces of
the King of the Hejaz.

Alan J. Lowe
Major, GS
Desert Mtd Corps.

SECRET

I.51/51

Desert Mounted Corps

Intelligence Summary

18/5/18

.....
1. OPERATIONS

- (a) Right Sector: Quiet night.
- (b) Left Sector: Quiet night.
Patrol to TEL EL TRUNY fired on from 1200 yds N. of this place.
Patrol towards foothills E of JORDAN fired on with shrapnel.
- (c) Corps on our Left: Quiet night, nothing to report.
- (d) Corps Coastal Sector: Situation unchanged.

2. MOVEMENTS - Front Area.

- (a) Right Sector: Nil
- (b) Left Sector: Considerable movement seen during yesterday on ES SALT - GHORANIYEH road about 127.P.18. Considerable movement yesterday in 113.X.11 & 16.
Pack animals in small groups backwards and forwards along road at foothills in 113.W.8 - 14 & 20, and entered and left W. RISHEL and W. MAHMUD.
- (c) R.A. Report: 15/5/18.
1050. 127.P.17 about 100 infantry.
1810. 127.C.32.d. Considerable number of enemy transport on road. Numbers not stated on account of bad light.
- (d) R.A.F. 0830/1030. 16/5/18.
- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 127.U.21 | 30 packs and 1 HT going N.W. |
| 127.U.23 | 10 camels going E. |
| AIN ES SIR | 450 cavalry watering.
10 HT halted and 1 HT going E. |
| AMMAN | 11 HT going W.
2 HT and 2 MT going E. |
| AMMAN Station. | 40 RS in 3 trains - no engines. 6 HT.
200 cavalry south of Station. |
| AMMAN - SUWEILEH Road. | 2 MT and 2 HT & 80 cavalry going W.
1 MT, 3 camels, 10 cavalry going E. |
| SUWEILEH. | 70 cavalry camped alongside road.
12 MT on road W of town.
30 laden pack animals going E.
1 MT going E. 2 stationary. |
| SUWEILEH - SALT Road. | 1 M.T. going W.
2 MT and 12 cavalry going E.
150 Infantry halted |
| SALT. | 8 HT going E. 11 HT halted. |
| JISR ED DANIE 112.N.3. | 8 HT going S. 4 HT going N. |
- R.A.F. 0520/0725 16th.
WADI EL DALIEH area.
113.R. No movement.
WADI ABU ZERKA
113.P.22.23.& 36. 50 infantry scattered in wadi.
DOMEH area: 113.P.13.b. 10 HT stationary
113.P.7.a. 10 pack animals going N on track which

R.A.F. 0520/0725 16th (contd)

DOMEH area: 113.P.7.a. (contd)
joins track at 113.F.22.d. in KUSRAH
area.

0505/0735.
WADI FUSAIL area. No movement on BEISAN road or other
tracks in area.
113.U.29. 50 tents
113.U.28 30 "
113.X.16 & 19. 20 "
RED HILL No movement 5 tents seen.

UMM ESH SHERT area No movement in area.
127.F.4. 29 bivouacs
127.D.19 12 bivouacs.
127.G.1 Battery and tents gone.
127.C.25 25 bivouacs.
SHUNET NIMRIN area. No movement observed on any roads
or tracks.
127.W.16 & 29 50 tents
Q.36 20 cavalry going S.W.
29 6 bivouacs.

R.A.F. report general decrease in tentage in SHUNET NIMRIN
area. Yesterdays summary showed an apparent increase. This
is now accounted for by a larger area being
covered by aeroplane report than hitherto.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS

Prisoners & Deserters (a) From 8th to 14th inclusive:
captured. Prisoners 6
Deserters 31

24 hours ending 1900. 15/5/18
Deserters 4
Prisoners 5

(b)

Prisoners	Deserters	Unit	Taken at.	Taken by	Remarks
3	-	HQ Comp. Force.	127.P.11.a.	Onediv	See Summary 15/5/18.
2	-	1/66th	127.P.13	"	
-	1	Arab labour Corps.	Not given	"	
-	1	2/91st	" "	"	
-	2	2/63rd	2 miles N AUJAH bridge- head.	Auediv.	
5	4	-	-	-	-

(c) 2 prisoners, H.Q. Composite Division state:
A new division arrived at SHUNET NIMRIN on the night of
14th from Constantinople.
One prisoner states he was told that this was the 25th
Division.

N.B. A Division was previously reported marching S. along
the BEISAN road - and it was thought that this was
the 73rd Regt of the 25th Division. It is therefore
possible that another Regiment, either 74th or 75th
of this division has now arrived. No prisoners or

(c) (contd) deserters have yet been taken to definitely identify any part of this division.

(d) An Agent Reports: A body of men (agent was told 1 Eattn) arrived from Damascus on the 11th with 3 M.Gs, also a German cavalry regiment and 1 Turkish Infantry Battalion on the 10th.

It is quite possible that these units may ^{represent} the same as reported above in (c)

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

(a) Right Sector: 15/5/18: Enemy 77 mm fired in 127.R.27. and Q.5. Two bursts shrapnel on Mysore led horses in 127.P.24.D.5.0. No casualties.

(b) Left Sector: 127.O.4. Enemy shelled scrub and searched northwards immediately E of O.P. in 127.O.4. 113.Y.11.c.8.7. slight shelling of MUSSABLAHEH ridge by gun on bearing 355°.

(c) R.A. 15/5/18. Our night lines were tested. All was found correct.

113.W.10. 10 rounds fired on bivouacs.

113.W.13 8 rounds fired on enemy convoy

127.P.10.17.a. 22.a. 8 to 10 rounds 60-pdrs on horse transport, small enemy party and mounted patrol, respectively.

127.O.18.c. 2 rounds 4.2 Cavalry patrol.

127.R.22.b. Rounds not stated. (60-pdrs) 50 enemy cavalry dispersed.

16/5/18. Our 60-pdrs fired 30 rounds on cavalry with effect.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Left Sector: 113.X.18.b. Large working party and men seen digging.

T.23.b. Small enemy post N of WADI AUJAH believed to be about 20 strong.

T.6.a. Standing mounted patrol.

R.30.c.7.5. O.P.

RED HILL. Digging continues

127.G.1.c. Sagar built.

N.E. R.A.F. report battery and tents gone from here).

(b) R.A.F.

UNM ESH SHERT area.

127.F.3. 200 yards trench facing W.

127.D.31.d. Suspected battery position

127.W.15 " " "

127.W.19 New trench facing N.W.

6. ENEMY DUMPS. R.A.F. 16/5/18. 95 ammunition dumps. 50 other ordinary dumps.

7. TOPOGRAPHY. Roads: Reference 1/63,360.

(a) GHORANIYEH - JISR ED DANIE via 127.P.26.a. - 127.A.6.a. This road is fit for light M.T. throughout its course.

(b) ES SALT - JISR ED DANIE. H.T. have been seen on this road about two miles from ES SALT and also on the sector from 127.A.6.a., but there is no evidence to hand of this route being used for wheeled transport throughout.

7. TOPOGRAPHY. Roads (contd).

- (c) Ford at 113.X.12. H.T. have been seen in 113.X.12.c. & d. approaching the ford from the East, which indicates the existence of a track fit for wheels connecting the Ford with the GHORANIYEH - JISR ED DAMIE road, but its course is not known.
- (d) EL BAGHALAT (113.W.21.b.) - DOMEH (113.P.14) via J. ABU MAHMUD to 113.R.10 - N. by W. to 113.P.27. - by track on DAMIE and TELFIT 1/40,000 map, As far as 113.R.18, this route has been used by M.T.; from here to P.27. character of track is not known; beyond it is passable for M.T.
- (e) KHURBET FUSAIL (at 113.U.34.b.) - DOMEH via W. ABU ZERKA and W. KERIKIN - P.27.b. Air report states that this track "does not appear fit for wheeled traffic throughout its length"
- (f) TELL EL ABEID (at 112.N.14.b.) - 112.L.13.c. M.T. have recently been seen on this road. (See T.R. of 8/5/18, para 1. (d)).
- (g) BEIT DEJAN (112.B.19.b.) - HABLUS. via SALIM (112.A.9.a.) is being used by H.T., and there is a transport park at SALIM. There is also a hospital at 112.B.24.a. and it is possible that the above route continues East from BEIT DEJAN, passing close to the hospital and joining the WADI FARAH road at 112.H.15 or H.27: but no H.T. has been reported on this sector to date.

8. GENERAL.

- (a) A German medical officer of the 218th Field Hospital, captured E of the Jordan give the following information.
- (i) 218th German Field Hospital was attached to 703rd German Inf Bn.
 - (ii) The personnel consists of 1 Surgeon
9 doctors
40/50 other ranks.
 - (iii) Tents - 20, each accommodating 10 patients.
 - (iv) Drugs, cotton wool, special foods, etc were plentiful, castor oil was scarce.
 - (v) Main diseases treated: Typhoid, recurrent fever, dysentery
Only one death occurred (and that from dysentery) in the 6 weeks prisoners spent E. of JORDAN.

Alan J. Love
Major,
General Staff,
Desert Mounted Corps.

SECRET

I.51/52
=====

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

17/5/18
---*---

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Right Sector: (i) Situation normal - quiet night.

(ii) 15/5/18: Patrol towards AIN SUEIME fired on by enemy patrol from 128.H.13.c. who were reinforced by a troop and 1 auto-rifle from KABR SAID. Our patrol withdrew followed by enemy who in turn was driven back over ford in 127.T.1.

(iii) Patrol to SALHA found village unoccupied.

(iv) ~~Enemy drove back our picquets at TEL EL~~
~~cross roads TEL EL~~ (127.A.28.d.) with machine gun.

(b) Left Sector: i. Quiet night.

(ii) A little sniping all yesterday, but less movement observed in low ground - and more movement than usual in the foothills.

(iii) Enemy patrol appeared at 113.Y.14.a.7.5. and were fired on, and retired, carrying one man back with them into WADI DUBA.

(c) Corps on our Left: Situation unchanged - nothing to report.

(d) Corps Coastal Sector: Considerable movement during night N. of RAFAT.
RAFAT and our line N. of EL KEFR shelled.

2. MOVEMENT. Front Area:

(a) R.A.F. 1600/1800 16th inst:
127.C.29 4 tents and 5 huts
127.U.22.b. 8 HT going S.E. (on wady JERIA road).
113.V.22.b. 50 tents approx in area
V.24. 5 " E. of Jordan.
No sign of bridge or boats.

(b) 0610/0720 17th inst.
ES SALT road clear N.E. to 127.M.22
AIN ES SIR road clear E. to U.28.

(c) 0500/0710 17th inst:
EL MUGHEIR area. No movement
Trench work improved
Camps normal.
ABU ZERKA area 20 horses and small camp 300 yds in rear
127.P.27.b. (suspected battery position).

(d) 0700/0840.
AIN ES SIR & NAAUR Usual cavalry patrols (about 200)
AMMAN station. 50 RS.
Dumps and aerodrome normal.
50 men in yard
150 men half mile S.E.

MOVEMENT - Front area (contd)

(d) contd.
 AMMAN Normal
 AMMAN - ES } 18 MT. 20 HT General movement.
 SALT road)
 ES SALT. A new camp of 3 BT 7 shelters W of town.
 otherwise normal.
 SALT - DAMIEH } 3 HT moving W.
 road.)
 DAMIE. 30 camouflaged shelters E of Ford.
 150 cavalry 1 mile SE of ford.
 Lower WADI Normal.
 FARAH.

(e) Corps Coastal sector: report camps in strategical area appear normal.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

(a) Prisoners and deserters captured during 24 hours ending 1900 16/5/18 as under -

Prisoners	Deserters	Unit	Taken at	Taken by	Remarks
2		2/33rd	2 miles N of AUJAH.	AUSDIV	
1		1/63rd	127.P.28	ONEDIV	
	1	1/63rd	127.P.27b	"	
	1	3/63rd		"	
	1	2/23rd		"	
	2	Labour Corps		"	
4	4				

(b) P/W of 8/2/63rd Regt states:-
 Position of regiment in Wadi in 127.A. - Where the 8 British guns were abandoned in recent operations,
 Unit on left: German battalion
 Unit on right: 7th Division *
 * NB. This points to confirmation of part of this division being in this area.
 Strength 2/63rd Rifles 350. Rations 420. 4 MG. 3 Auto-rifles.

Each battalion has 4 M.Gs. and 3 auto-rifles.
 Regtl M.G. Coy consists of 4 M.Gs. arrived
 Only the 63rd Regt E of the Jordan/arrived about 20 days ago, and has since been attached to 24th Division.
 Each man carries 250 rounds ammunition and two hand-granades (the latter are of Austrian make).
 There is a large munition depot at TUL KERAM.
 The 63rd are digging disconnected trenches about 3'6" deep. No parapet - and erecting wire 3 rows on wooden stakes, 3 yards apart. Wire is very scarce.
 P/W is a very fine specimen, decorated with a German and Turkish Order.
 Lack of food is most pronounced during the last 15 days. He says there will be a great deal of desertion in the future.

(c) P/W Headquarters Composite Division states:
 H.Q. Composite Division near wooden bridge SHUNET NIMRIN.
 H.Q. 24th Division at MISRA SCHARKIA (not shown on map)

3. IDENTIFICATIONS (contd)

(c) contd.

The night before last (14th) a new division arrived from Constantinople. He saw them on the Salt road. Does not know number of Division. At the head of the Division a man was holding a Red and White flag. Another P/W Headquarters Composite Division confirms the above, and heard that this new Division was the 25th Division. (NB. See Summary of 16th inst:)

(d) Our F.O.O. reports at 1000 16th inst 2 large white flags seen at the head of 2 fairly large bodies of enemy (mounted and dismounted) moving S.W. through 127.P.18.c.

4. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

R.A. 16/5/18. Several rounds fired on working party, convoy and pack animals in 113.W.21 and 113.W.14 - respectively.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. R.A.F. 16/5/18. The following trenches in WADI FUSAIL and SHUNET NIMRIN areas are located as follows:-

Area	Reference	Dimensions	Orientation	Notes	
WADI FUSAIL area.	W.26.a. & b.	100 yds	trench facing S.		
	W.25.d.	30 "	" " S.		
	113.W.4.	50 yds	trench facing S.		
	W.35.b.	20 "	" " S.		
	X.1.d.	10 "	" " S.W.		
	X.15.cent	10 "	" " S.		
	X.15.b.	10 "	" " S.W.		
	X.14.d.	2/10 "	" " S.		
	UMM ESH SHEET	127.O.1.cent	10 "	" " W.	
		C.13.a.	15 "	" " W.	
C.36.b.		10 "	" " W.		
F.3.cent		200 "	" " W.		
SHUNET NIMRIN.		127.G.7.d.	20 "	" " W.	
		G.16.d.	300 "	" " W.	
		G.18.c.	50 "	" " N.W.	
		G.23.b.	100 "	" " W.	
		G.26.c.	100 "	" " W.	
		P.6.cent	200 "	" " W.	
	P.16.b.	150 "	" " S.W.		
	P.36.c.	150 "	" " S.W.		
	R.6.c.	20 "	" " S.W.		
	R.17.c.	10 "	" " S.W.		
W.19.c.	150 "	" & circular redoubt facing W.			
W.21.d.	50 yds	trench facing S.W.			
Q.28.a.	15 "	" " W.			
S.6.b.	20 "	" " S.W.			
Y.1.c.	100 "	" " N.W.			

R.A.F. Tactical 1600/1800 16th inst.

- 127.T.1.c. S shaped trench
- R.21.c. 25 yards trench parallel with road
- W.35 4 gun emplacements.
- P.18. 2 out of 4 gun pits occupied.
- G.2.a. 4 rifle pits,
- G.24. 6 sangars
- 113.X.15 New work on rifle pits (previously reported 300 yds trench).
- X.15 Gun pits apparently empty.
- X.9.c. Suspected gun position.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES (contd) 0610/0720 (17th inst).

127.F.12.d. F.18.b. 5 short trenches facing W.
 * W.35 Suspected gun position:
 Slight movement and digging here.
 D.31.d. Suspected gun position - digging here.
 113.X.3.a. Gun position - digging here.
 W.25.c. R.30.b. 300 yds trench facing S.

0500/0710 17th.
 113.P.27.b. Suspected battery position

1605/1825 (15th)
 113.Z.6. Trench reported
 127.H.29 & 35 5 short lengths of trench W of ES SALT

Left Sector reports: Enemy appear to be digging a redoubt in
 127.G.2.c.
 There appears to be a redoubt covering UAM
 ESH SHERT track to the foothills at 127.C.27c
 Post of 20 men at 127.G.13.

.....
 6. ENEMY DUMPS. Large munitions dump at TUL KERAM (P/W)

7. TOPOGRAPHY. " N 1 1

8. GENERAL.

(a) Enemy motor lorries identified on this front are:-
 Damascus, Aleppo, both inclusive 5 columns = 125 lorries.
 W. of Jordan (identified in 1918) 10 columns } 287 lorries.
 " " " " " 1 park }
 E. of Jordan " " " " ") 2 columns 50 lorries.
 TOTAL:..... 462

Not identified Palestine front:
 13 columns less 3 estimated absorbed or destroyed
 = 10 columns = 250 lorries
 G.H.Q.

(b) Deserter from Supply Depot MADEBA states:
 There used to be 2 large stores there:
 1 of wheat, figs &c.
 1 " barley "
 By April 28th the latter was exhausted and only about
 30 ardebs of wheat remained in the former.
 G.H.Q.

Alan J. Love
 Major,
 General Staff,
 Desert Mounted Corps.

SECRET

I.51/53

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary.

18/5/18

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Right Sector: (i) Quiet night

(ii) Our patrol fired on by about 20 rifles from 127.F.7.b. 8.a. & b. One of our horses shot.

(iii) Enemy patrols active in 127.F.7.d. and 14b. These patrols were driven north towards UMM ESH SHERT.

(iv) Patrol to TELL ER RISHAH heavily fired on by rifles and M.Gs from direction of TELL EL MUSSETERAH.

(b) Left Sector: (i) Quiet night

(ii) 0915. 18th. Enemy troop advanced from 127.P.17.d., but retired when fired on.

(c) Corps on our Left:

(i) Situation unchanged.

(ii) Rather more than usual enemy artillery activity about Jerusalem Neblus road.

(d) Corps Coastal Sector: Situation unchanged.

2. MOVEMENTS - Front Area.

(a) R.A.F. 1600/1750 (17th.)

BEISAN ROAD 113.U.23.b. Only 1 HT going S. No other movement.

WADI FUSAIL * V.35.c. 100 bivouacs (only 30 seen on * morning of 18th).
1000 infantry (approx) in neighbourhood.

113 V.17 Dust rising - fire experienced.

RED HILL area No movement

UMM ESH SHERT } 2 tents 10 bivouacs.
127.D.31.c. }

SHUNET NIMRIN No movement
area. Camps normal.

(b) G.H.Q. R.A.F. 16/5/18.

ES SALT ♂ 400 cavalry watering near ES SALT

♂ 2 B.T. 8 shelters 12 bivouacs.

♂ (These were omitted in R.A.F. report of 16th).

G.H.Q.

AMMAN.

11 marquees 22 ET 40 shelters 26 bivouacs. This shows an increase in one day of 8 marquees, 12 ET, 35 shelters 26 bivouacs.

(c) R.A.F. 0520/0720 18th.

EL DALIEH area No movement observed

EL MUGHEIR (113.O.27 b.) Working party - 20 infantry.

(113.O.27. to O.29) 20 new tents, 15 bivouacs, otherwise tentage normal in area.

2. MOVEMENTS - Front Area

(c) R.A.F. 0520/0720 18th. (contd)

AEU ZERKA NO movement
Camps normal.
DOMEH Slight movement between village and BAJDEL
BENI TADL.
Approx 150 men and horses.
Some stationary, others moving N.E.

(d) R.A.F. 0535/0810 18th.

RED HILL area No movement
WADI FUSAIL Total tentage in this area not estimated.
113.X.13 20 tents - 5 HT stationary
X.14 15 tents
K.g.c. 30 "
SURTUBEH* V.35.c. 100 infantry and cavalry
30 tents (100 seen yesterday) see above)
20 to 30 just E of river.
White oblong ground strip.
between V.35 & V.6 150 tents on both sides of river
V.28.c. Large marquee
V.34 7 HT going E.
200 cavalry stationary in small parties
V.19 8 HT going E on track along Wadi of HUMR.
V.7 Hospital. 25 tents, 12 HT going N along road
U.18. to N.2
U.23 6 tents. 4 shelters
JISR ED DANIE 1 barge stationary on West side of river.
area. Wire ropes seen across Jordan, just below
ED DANIE. No other boats seen.

LOWER WADI

FUSAIL. 112.L.20. to N.12. Considerable traffic excluding
several M.T. and H.T. North-west of DANIEH
coming S.E. along road between 112.L.20 to
N.12.
Approx 200 tents in this area on either
side of road.
No large bodies of troops observed.
SHUNET NIMRIN Total tentage this area not estimated, only
special points enumerated below.
127.O.16.b. 50 cavalry
P.17 50 tents and bivouacs on hills.
EL HAUD & M.9 30/40 tents between EL HAUD and M.9.
W.14.15. 50 large bivouacs
100 horses scattered.
Very slight movement noticed.
W.22 & W.10 Slight increase of tentage along Wadi
between W.22 and W.10 and slight movement
here. 50 to 75 pack animals going N.E.
No movement between SHUNET NIMRIN and
Dead Sea.

(e) Left Sector: What appeared to be a large white flag seen
flying at 113.X.8.a.
30 to 50 camels seen moving E on a line
about 113.U.31 & 35 - every half hour and
returning by same route.

(g) R.A. 113.W.10. Considerable movement all morning on
Roman road.

113.V.8 to V.25 2 suspected guns drawn by 6 horses
moved from 113.V.8 to V.25 accompanied
by 20 men on foot - considerable movement
at this point.

2. MOVEMENTS FRONT AREA (contd)

N.E. The following particular tentage increases are noted:

WADI FUSAIL area 113.V. etc.	120
SURTUBEH " 113.X. etc.	35
Lower WADY FARAH 113.L.N. etc	55

N.E. This allows for previous figures

Lower Wady FARAH '95	95
& 112.J.35	50
	145

Today's count = 200.

Total increase in 3 areas = 210

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

(a) Prisoners and deserters captured during 24 hours ending 1900 17/5/18 as under -
Total from 8th to 17th inclusive

Prisoners	17
Deserters	46

Prisoners	Deserters	Unit	Taken at	Taken by	Remarks
1	-	Mule Mtd I.		Onediv	
1	-	191st Regt.		" "	
	1	1/63rd	127.P.26.b.	" "	
	2	2/63rd	1 1/2 miles N. of AUJAH Bridgehead E of Jordan.	Ausdiv	
	2	1/191st	near WADY NIMRIN	Onediv	
	1	Labour Corps	127.P.26.b.	" "	
2	6				

(b) Intelligent deserter from 1/63rd Regt M.G. Coy states. Position of Regt M.G. Coy 127.P.29.c. 1/63rd are at SHUMET NIMRIN. 2 & 3/63rd are some distance on the right (see yesterday's summary).

M.G. Coy strength. Rifles 65. Ration 70
3 M.Gs and 8 auto-rifles.

1 Corporal and 2 men to each M.G. Previously belonged to 77th Regt 19th Division, but deserted and joined the 63rd and a few days later came E of Jordan.

When with the 77th says 3 Indians deserted to 77th and a British officer was taken prisoner by them. The officer refused to make a statement.

(c) Prisoner from Mule Mtd I. states
Position of regiment approx: 127.P.17.
Consists of 3 sqdns Strength 150 sabres
1 M.G. Coy 2 guns
1 Mtn Battery 4 7.5 cm Mtn guns.
The guns are approx 127.P.16.d.
They have only 240 rounds for the 4 guns.
Very stupid and can give no further information.

(d) Deserter from 3/63rd Regt states
Position of 2 & 3rd Bns - as stated in yesterday's summary
Unit on right 2/63rd Regt
Unit on Left 32nd Regt.
There are 4 7.5 cm German Howitzers on right of 3/63rd Regt.
Each man carries 110 rounds S.A.A. and 3 bombs.
No trenches in area, only disconnected sangars. No wire.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

(d) contd.

Water has to be carried from the Jordan river.
 Regiment was attached to 24th Division, but about 6 days it
 was attached to 48th Division.
 Signals- Battalion, Regimental and Division connected by phone.
 One Red Very light - artillery co-operation
 One white " " = all clear.

(e) Deserter from 2/23rd Regt states:

Position TEL EL MUSTA

Unit on left 68th Regt and

1 German battery 4 10.5 cm guns

1 Austrian " 10.5 cm "

Strength Rifles 200, rations 280, 4 M.Gs.

Each man carries 200 rounds S.A.A. No bombs.

No trenches in area, each man makes small redoubts of stone.

Water plentiful here, but quality bad.

Rations very scarce, causing great discontent.

Patrols: 16 men sent out from each (probably regiment)

4 men in a patrol

They go out just after sunset.

Remain out till dawn.

Patrol 2 hours distance from regiment.

(f) Deserter from 1/63rd states:

Was told by his O.C. that an Army Corps from the Caucasian
 front had arrived at Damascus.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

R.A.F. 17th. UMM ESH SHERT 127.D.31.c. Possible gun position

Left Sector: 20 enemy with a M.G. seen on hill in 127.G.13.

R.A. Working party of 30 men in 113.U.23.

5. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.R.A. 17th. Enemy 77 mm fired on 113.X.31 bearing to flash from
113.Y.16 central 17°.

Right Sector: Enemy fired 12 H.E. in 127.Q.11.d. from direction of P.12.

" " H.E. on a bearing of 80° from
127.Q.28.a.

10 77 mm shells in 127.Q.4

Our guns fired on 120 infantry in 127.P.18.c. and
dispersed them, and on cavalry and infantry groups
in 127.P.13.a. 21.d. and 22.d.Left Sector: Our heavies engaged enemy battery in 127.D.25.c.
with aeroplane observation.

Enemy guns shelled 127.O.2. & 9.

" " registered 113.X.15.a. X.7, W.12, X.20,
X.19.113.Y.10.b. Enemy shelling this locality at
intervals this afternoon.6. ENEMY DUMPS.

R.A.F. 16th.

ES SALT - 30 dumps alongside road.

7. TOPOGRAPHY.

There appears to be a track from Roman road
113.U.17 along WADY EL HUMR to the Jordan - 2
lots of H.T. going E are reported.

8. GENERAL.

N i l

.....
9. NEWS FROM OTHER FRONTS.

HEJAZ (a) On the 12th instant the Arabs again successfully raided WADI JERDUN 10 miles N. of MAAN, capturing the station - 3 M.Gs, 1 mountain gun, and 115 boxes of mountain gun ammunition. 140 prisoners were taken and 30 Turkish dead counted. 3 masonry bridges and a considerable section of the railway destroyed.

(b) On the same date:
124 prisoners were taken at MAAN.

(c) On the following day:

An Arab force operating in the vicinity of BATN EL GHUL (45 miles S of MAAN) destroyed the railway on the escarpment section. 1500 rails were cut, over 100 sections of track destroyed along the escarpment. A 30 ft cutting was blown in - 8 kilo of telegraph poles and wire removed, and the station buildings at BATN EL GHUL and AKABAT EL HEJAZIA (32 miles S of MAAN) completely destroyed.

G.H.Q.

Alan J. Love.
Major,
General Staff,
Desert Mounted Corps.

SECRET

I.51/54

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

19/5/18

1. OPERATIONS.

- (a) Left Sector: Quiet night
- (b) Right Sector: Quiet night.
- (c) Corps on our Left: Quiet night.
- (d) Corps Coastal Sector: Situation unchanged.
Enemy rifle fire W. of RAFAT only
this morning.

2. MOVEMENTS - Front Area.

- (a) Amendments to Summary of 19th. No.51/53.
para (b) for AMMAN read "AMMAN STATION"
para (d) for "Lower WADY FUSAIL" read "Lower WADY FARAH".

- (b) R.A.F. 1545/1800 18th.

127.T.1	20 Infantry and cavalry
T.4.a.	10 cavalry going E.
SHUNET NIMRIN	Tentage normal
127.U.4.a.	10 MT going E.
G.2.	50 cavalry
W.22 to W.10.	Considerable movement in Wadi.
	200 pack animals
	8 H.A.
	200 infantry
W.21.c.	1 sqdn: cavalry going E.
W.15	200 horses scattered
113.V.35.	Situation unchanged since morning.
28.a.	200 cavalry going N. and 100 cavalry going S.
ED DAMIE - NABLUS	Less movement on road running N.W.
road.	

- (c) R.A.F. 0520/0810. 19th.

127.G.23	50 infantry and pack animals
T.1	20 cavalry stationary (see report above)
SHUNET NIMRIN area.	Total tentage approx: 700, including recently made huts and shelters.

(N.B. This is an increase of tentage but not necessarily
of troops. This is only noticeable E. of a line
N. & S. through SHUNET NIMRIN.

RED HILL
113.V.22
(See 2nd Edition
Composite Sheet)
113.V.36.
UMM ESH SHERT
WADI FUSAIL
(127.C.31.c.)
113.V.27
U.17 & 20

No movement.
Landing stage E of Jordan and rope across
river. Barge stationary on west bank.

100 Infantry stationary.
Total tentage approx: 80.
20 Horses grazing.
Total tentage approx: 200.
40 cavalry stationary
Cavalry going North.

No movement on roads either side of
Jordan to 127.A.5. and 112.N.8 except
as stated.

2. MOVEMENTS - front area (contd)

(d) Crossings over the Jordan:

The following have been reported by R.A.F. at different times.

JISR ED DAMIE. 3 boats, capable of holding 30 to 40 men.
 113.V.22 Barge with rope stretched across.
 115.V.11 3 boats moored.
 while there is a suspected crossing at 113.X.11.

(e) Left Sector:

115.W.14.a. 57 packs moved N. from 113.W.14.a.
 113.U.15 40/50 camels seen to enter camp from NE.
 U.33.b. 2 6-horse teams with limbers (probably guns) entered Wadi at BIRKET FUSAIL from N.
 X.11.16 Much movement of troops

(f) R.A.F. Afternoon 19th.

AIN ES SIR 50 cavalry E of town.
 AIN ES SIR -) 6 H.T. going E.
 AMMAN road.) 6 H.T. and 10 cavalry going W.
 AMMAN: Normal
 4 marquees, 1 E.P., 36 B.T., 8 shelters, 24 bivouacs.
 16 M.T. parked. 6 M.T. halted in town.
 4 H.T. going W.
 AMMAN Station. 2 marquees, 2 E.P., 30 B.T., 78 shelters
 (N.B. On 16th there were 11 marquees, 22 B.T., 40 shelters and 26 bivouacs).
 20 H.T. parked
 65 PS in 2 trains. No engines.
 100 pack animals being loaded
 10 H.T.
 50 cavalry
 AMMAN - SUWEILEH 160 cavalry and 25 infantry halted on road.
 road. 22 B.T.
 E. of DAMIEH 200 cavalry watering E of ford.
 Lower WADI FARAH 13 marquees, 1 E.P., 194 B.T., 44 shelters, 12 bivouacs, including 3 hospital.
 14 H.T. parked at hospital.

Remainder of areas not reported on - under clouds.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS

(a) Prisoners and deserters from 8th to 18th inclusive
 17 prisoners - 53 deserters.

(b) Captures during 24 hours ending 1900 - 18th aa under

Prisoners:	Deserters:	Unit	Taken at	Taken by	Remarks
Nil	6 O.R.	3/63rd	127.0.24.c.	ONEDIV	
	1	M.G.Coy. 11th Cav Rgt.	" "	"	
	1	3/191st	" "	"	
Nil	8				

3. IDENTIFICATIONS (contd)

(c) 5th Cavalry Regt, 2nd Squadron, Deserter states is located on railway between MAAN and KUTRAMI.
Probably divisional squadron, 48th Division.

G.H.Q.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES

(a) R.A.F. 1545/1800 18th.

127.Q.5.c.	100 yds square redoubt being built
W.35	Battery here has moved
W.15	Gun-pits
F & G.	No sign of active gun positions.

(b) R.A.F. 0520/0810 19th.

127.G.23	200 yards trench
F.16	10 " " facing W.
D.10.b.4	Small emplacements being dug.
W.10.c.	2 small " "
C.27	20 yards trench facing W.
113.W.31.	200 yards trench facing S.
113.V.22.d.	Anti-aircraft

(c) Right Sector:

127.P.28.a.	Enemy machine gun
P.22.c.	House held by enemy

(d) Left Sector:

127.G.13	Redoubt. Working party of about 20 men seen
113.X.15.central	Small parties seen digging at a wired post here.

5. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

(a) Right Sector:

Enemy 77 mm and 4.2 fired intermittently in 127.R.23 - registration.
4.2 fired 3 rounds in R.23.

(b) Left Sector:

6 rounds fired on enemy battery in 113.X.1.c
10 " " " " " " " " " " " " " 113.R.29.b
Our 60-pdrs silenced enemy battery in 113.U.34.
Enemy registered in 113.X.13.
Enemy 77 mm fired 6 rounds on MUSALLABEH.
" 77 mm shelled 113.Z.4.a. and about every 200 yards along W. BAKR.
Other registration shots were fired.

6. ENEMY DUMPS.

N 1 1

7. TOPOGRAPHY.

Roads.

(a) Reports by engineers state that the following, TEL ES SULTAN to KUBBET RUMMANANEH and TEL ES SULTAN to RASSEL TAWIL, are unsuitable on account of grades and labour required.

8. GENERAL

N 1 1

R. G. Jones
Major,
General Staff,
Desert Mounted Corps.

SECRET

I.51/55

DESERT MOUNTED CORPS

Intelligence Summary

20/5/18

.....
1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Right sector:

(i) Situation normal. Quiet night.

(ii) Right Sector 0400 - 0800.

A patrol proceeded to 127.P.27.d. and was shelled from P.22.d. The patrol proceeded via P.27.b. to south of NIMRIN and saw 20 infantry and 9 cavalry. Four shells were fired at the patrol.

(iii) 0520: Patrol fired on by rifles and machine guns from N. of White House (127.P.17.c. and P.22.c.

(iv) Our patrol advanced to 400 yards from foothills ARSENIYET track and drew rifle and machine gun fire. Patrol reports enemy burning crops in front of foothills.

(b) Left Sector: Situation quiet.

(c) Corps on our left: Situation unchanged.

(d) Corps Coastal Sector:

Between 21.25 and 21.40 enemy scattered 50 5.9 and 4.2 shells over left of the front of Division holding Coastal sub-sector. Of these 50% were duds. No casualties.

.....
2. MOVEMENTS - Front Area.

(a) R.A.F. 1520 - 1740 19th inst.

SHUNET NIMRIN

127.E.18.d.

127.U.7.a.

P.7 - M.26

G.21

SHUNET NIMRIN

ES SALT road.

UMM ESH SHERT

127.C.51.d.

WADI FUSANL

113.X.17.d.

V.18.a.

127.C.13. &)

113.V.6)

4 HT moving south

3 HT moving W.

15 HT moving east.

50 infantry stationary.

Considerable number of HT moving in either direction; also several groups of 5 to 10 infantry, moving towards ES SALT.

50 cavalry stationary

20 infantry stationary

60 cavalry scattered in area.

Fire experienced.

(b) R.A.F. 1545/1725 19th.

WADI EL DALIEH

113.T.11

T.6

R.28

300 tents

40 tents in wadi.

In wadi BAKR 30 men behind bivouacs and tents. M.G. fire experienced here. Two bombs dropped, both direct hits on bivouacs and men. Several bivouacs were seen to disappear.

Further observation impossible owing to clouds.

2. MOVEMENTS - Front Area.

(c) R.A.F. 0525/0750 20th inst.

127.Y.5 - 6 15 to 20 bivouacs. 4 short horse lines.
 SHUNET NIMRIN
 W.21-22 80 infantry stationary.
 Some bivouacs and possible gun position.
 127.P.36 15 tents and shelters
 P.11.c. 20 bivouacs
 P.5.central 3 tents in rear of 20 yards of trench.
 No movement ES SALT - AIN ES SIR roads
 to 127.M.22 and U.23.
 G.23.b. 150 infantry stationary around 30 bivouacs.
 No movement on any roads.
 RED HILL -) No movement. Camps normal.
 UMM ESH SHERT.)
 WADI FUSAIL
 113.W.51-32 100 bivouacs approximately.
 U.36.b. 30 bivouacs
 X.28 6 bivouacs near possible gun position.
 No movement on roads North to U.2

(d) R.A.F. 0900/1100 20th inst.

UPPER WADI FARAH
 112.S.1 5 HT moving N.
 Q.36 3 HT stationary
 H.2 6 HT parked
 H.28 2 horse lines of 30 on each line.

LOWER WADI FARAH
 TEL EL ABEID

4 EP. 18 BT, 2 shelters (an increase of 3 EP).

112.N.3.

Other camps normal.

112.N.12

150 cavalry halted.

112.L.1

300 cavalry E of Jordan.

Punt against W bank of Jordan

6 HT parked N.W. of hospital

..(e) Left Sector:

New O.P. located at W.32.c.9.6.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

(a) Prisoners and deserters from 8th to 19th inclusive :-
 17 prisoners 59 deserters.

(b) Captures during 24 hours ending 1900 as under:

Prisoners	Deserters	Unit	Taken at	Taken by
Nil	2 OR	3/63rd	2 miles N. of wiro at AUJAH bridgehead W. of Jordan.	AUSDIV
	2 OR	M.G.Coy. 191st	Immediately E of GHORANIYEH Bridgehead.	ONEDIV
	1 O.R.	191st		
	1 O.R.	Attd: German M.G.Coy.	127.S.6.b.	ONEDIV

TOTAL 6 O.R. Deserters				

3. IDENTIFICATIONS

(c) P/W 136th Regt, captured 6/5/18, states that 163rd Regt relieved 32nd Regt E of EL MUGHEIR.

(d) P/W 11th Cavalry Regt states that 29th Cavalry Regt was in SAMT early in May. Unit is newly formed. P/W may refer to squadron of this regiment already identified E of Jordan.

(e) 7th Cavalry Regt: A prisoner from the 7th Cavalry Regiment states that two companies of 126th Infantry Regiment were mounted and drafted to 7th Cavalry Regiment.

(f) 66th Regiment: Prisoner states that remnants of 2 and 3/66th together with 100 men from 1/66 were drafted to 191st Regiment about 10/5/18.

(g) 65rd Regiment: Deserter from 3rd Bn. 63rd Regiment states: this regiment relieved the 24th Division on the 6/7th instant, the latter crossing West of the Jordan and has probably returned to the NABLUS Sector. The 65rd Regiment is now attached to the 48th Division and holds the extreme right flank of the 48th Division with the right flank of the regiment resting on the East bank of the Jordan. (This report requires confirmation and is given under reserve).

(h) P/W, 10/3/63rd Regiment states:
 1/63rd on right of 191st.
 2/25rd one hour on right of 1/63rd, and 3/63rd 1½ hour on right of 2/63rd.
 On the right flank behind JISR ED DAMIE there are two cavalry regiments, probably 9th and 11th.
 Strengths: 10/3/63rd Regiment - 112 rations, 70 rifles.

Machine Guns. 10/3/63rd = 3 M.Gs. No Regtl M.G.Coy.

Munitions. 200 rounds S.A.A. per man and two bombs.

Supplies: Supplies for 63rd Regt come across the ford at JISR ED DAMIE.

Defences: In area of 63rd Regiment a few disconnected lengths of trench, sufficient to hold one Coy. Depth varies from 2'6" to 4', breadth 3 ft, parapet of sandbags. No barbed wire.

Water: Water is transported on two horses from the Jordan and takes 2½ to 3 hours. Quality very bad and quantity scarce.

Signals: Companies, Battalions, Regiment and Divisional H.Q. are connected by telephone.
 One WHITE Very Light = all clear
 " RED " " = enemy attacking
 " BLUE " " = artillery, lengthen range

GAS: 63rd Regiment all have gas masks.

Patrols: 3/63rd send out two patrols consisting of 30 men, 15 in each patrol in charge of a 2/Lieut: Patrols go out at dusk and return at dawn. They patrol the plains.

They only go a distance of 2 miles from Regt. The orders are to attack small parties of the enemy, and to fall back if enemy is in strong force.

Another Deserter 3/63rd, confirms statements re rations and water.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS (contd)

Ford at JISR. ED DAMIE consists of two boats, one 12 yards long and 3 yds broad, which only take men and supplies over. The other is lighter, 6 yds long and 4 yards broad, and can hold 4 horses and 4 men only. These boats are pulled from side to side by 4 men, and take 10 minutes to cross. Knows of no other crossing.

Rations: Rations very bad. All the men are ready to desert. They are very discontented with their officers, who keep most of the rations for themselves.

Enemy Intentions When we attack, the Turks have received orders to withdraw immediately to ES SALT, where a stand will be made.

(j) Deserter 3/191st Regt, 48th Division, states that all the 1/66th Regiment has not been broken up, but 100 men were taken from it and drafted to the 191st Regiment.

Germana: A troop of cavalry of about 40/50 Germans are at Shunet Nimrin Has seen no German infantry.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) R.A.F. 1520/1740 19th instant.
127.P.4.central 3 gun pits.

(b) R.A.F. 0525/0750 19th inst.

127.P.36	50 yards trench facing N.W.
P.11.c.	30 yards trench facing W.
P.5.central	20 yards trench facing W.
F.1. West of Jordan.	20 yards trench facing S.W.
113.W.51-32	300 yards of trenches occupied.
U.56.b.	Gun position 4 emplacements.
X.9.a.	4 short trenches facing S.

(c) Left Sector report: Enemy were erecting wire between 127.F.8, JMM ESH SHERT and 127.P.8.

113.W.21.b. & d.

About 100 yards of barbed wire were seen on S.E. slope of BROWN HILL.

113.U.18.d.

Considerable number of men seen; probably working parties.

113.X.14

Enemy battery position reported.

5. ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

(a) Right Sector: 19th instant

0855. 60 pdr fired 15 rounds H.E. on 4.2" position
127.P.18.b.
1200 4 rounds fired on same target.

(b) Left Sector: 18th instant.

Enemy gun continued to shell MUSALLABEH at intervals from about 113.R.29.

0805. Enemy battery at 113.W.4.c. central was silenced by our artillery.

1820: Enemy battery about 113.X.14 was engaged, but light too bad to observe effect.

Morning 19th instant. Enemy battery, thought to be in 113.R.29.a. fired at intervals on 113.Y.16.b., Y.22.a. W.35.c.

5.

.....
6. GENERAL - Temperatures for weekending 17/5/18 taken at Anzac Field Laboratory at 113.K.27.a. in a ventilated hut about 700 feet below sea level.
(N.B. These temperatures are about 3° lower than those taken in E.P. tents).
.....

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Temperature</u>
May 11th	1400	106 degrees
" 12th	1400	99.5 "
" 13th	1400	98 "
" 14th	1545	99.5 "
" 15th	1115	106 "
" 16th	1030	103 "
" 17th	1400	97 "

A. V. Heynes Captain
for
Major,
General Staff,
Desert Mounted Corps.