



*"... The small campaign which began in 1914 on the banks of the Suez Canal had slowly grown into a significant and comprehensive operation. The Allies had, despite all difficulties, passed the Sinai Desert, then broken through the Turkish positions on the southern border of Palestine and finally conquered The Holy City. This crusade was now drawing to a close, and the multitudes of modern crusaders would surely have astonished a Richard the Lionheart; for but a small number were European troops. There were French troops from Algiers, Indian Musalmans, Arab tribes, people from Hindustan, African negroes and some battalions of Jews. Thus was composed the army which was to liberate the Holy Land.*

*In September 1918, the Turkish army in Syria under General Liman von Sanders stood from the coast north of Jaffa; north of Jerusalem to the Jordan and along the river south to the Dead Sea. The troop distribution from west to east was as follows: 8th Army (7 divisions) under Djevad Pasha, 7th Army (4 divisions) under Fevsi Pasha and east of Jordan 4th Army (2 divisions) under Kutschuk Djemal Pasha.*

*All the divisions had only very small forces. The catering force was approx. 100,000 men, while the fencing force numbered only 32,000 rifles, 4,000 sabers and 400 cannon. In addition, the forces advanced against the Hedjaz railway, II. Army Corps, approx. 6,000 men and 30 guns, and finally a small reserve of 3,000 men and 30 guns.*

*General Allenby had: 2 cavalry divisions and 2 mounted infantry divisions, 7-8 infantry divisions and 1 French brigade. In total approx. 12,000 sabres, 57,000 rifles and 540 cannons. In addition, the Arab forces south of Amman ..."*

*The other maps originate from A Brief History of the Advance of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force July 1917 - Oct. 1918, London HMSO 1919, but is reproduced here from the book Riders of Destiny, The 4th Australian Light Horse Field Ambulance 1917-1918 by Patrick M. Hamilton, Mostly Unsung Military History, Melbourne 1996, ISBN 1-876179-01-5.*