



THIRD SUPPLEMENT

TO

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MONDAY, 11 AUGUST, 1919.

War Office,
11th August, 1919.

The Secretary of State for War has received the following Despatch from Field Marshal Sir Edmund Allenby, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief, Egyptian Expeditionary Force:—

General Headquarters,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force,
28th June, 1919.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward a despatch describing events in Syria and Palestine, subsequent to the conclusion of the armistice with Turkey on October 31st, 1918.

I have taken the opportunity in this despatch to give a brief general summary of the campaigns in this theatre; and to express my thanks to some of those who have assisted me during my command of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Part I.—Events from the armistice with Turkey up to March, 1919.

Execution of the Terms of the Armistice.

1. The situation of my troops and of the Turkish troops in Northern Syria, at the con-

clusion of the armistice with Turkey, by the terms of which hostilities ceased at noon on October 31st, was approximately as follows:—

The 5th Cavalry Division and a portion of the Arab Army occupied Aleppo; the Turkish VIIIth Army, formed of the remnants of the defeated IVth, VIIth and VIIIth Armies, and estimated at about 5,000 strong, having withdrawn northwards along the Alexandretta and Muslimie roads. The Turkish IInd Army, about 11,000 strong, occupying Cilicia from Alexandretta to Bozanti, was the only other formed body of Turkish troops to be reckoned with.

The remainder of the Desert Mounted Corps was still in the Damascus area; the Australian Mounted Division was commencing to move from Damascus to Homs; while the 4th Cavalry Division, which was weak from sickness, had remained in the Baalbek area.

Of the XXIst Corps, moving up the Syrian coast, the 7th (Indian) Division had reached Tripoli, the Detachement Francais de Palestine-Syrie Beirut, and the 54th Division a point half-way from Haifa to Beirut.

The 75th Division was engaged in clearing the battlefield and improving communications in the coastal plain from Kalkilieh to Haifa;