

the Middle East

and

Islam



History on Film

Oswayo Valley High School

Overview

The Middle East and Islam

Materials

- Video -- "Movie Real: *Kingdom of Heaven*"
- Map Skills -- The Middle East
- Video -- "Kingdom of Heaven"
- Video -- "History Vs. Hollywood: *Kingdom of Heaven*"
- Video -- "Islam: Empire of Faith"
- Islam on the Internet
- Video -- "Lawrence of Arabia" Anniversary Edition
- "The Enigmatic Lawrence of Arabia". *Military History*, October 2003; accompanying worksheet
- Viewing guide for "Lawrence of Arabia"

General Pennsylvania Academic Standards

- 1.4.11.B Write complex informational pieces
- 1.4.11.C Write persuasive pieces
- 1.5.11.A Write with a sharp, distinct form
- 1.5.11.C Write with controlled and/or subtle organization
- 1.5.11.D Write with a command of the stylistic aspects of composition
- 1.5.11.G Present and/or defend written work for publication when appropriate
- 1.6.11.B Listen to selections of literature
- 1.6.11.F Use media for learning purposes
- 5.4.12.B Analyze the United States' interaction with other nations and governmental groups in world events
- 5.4.12.C Compare how past and present United States' policy interests have changed over time and analyze the impact on future international relationships
- 5.4.12.D Explain how foreign policy is developed and implemented
- 7.1.9.A Explain and locate places and regions
- 7.3.12.A-E Analyze the significance of human activity in shaping places and regions by their population, cultural, settlement, economic, and political characteristics
- 7.4.12.A Analyze the impact of physical systems on people
- 7.4.12.B Analyze the impact of people on physical systems
- 8.1.12.A Evaluate chronological thinking
- 8.1.12.B Synthesize and evaluate historical sources
- 8.4.12.A Evaluate the significance of individuals and groups who made major political and cultural contributions to world history since 1450
- 8.4.12.B Evaluate historical documents, material artifacts and historic sites important to world history since 1450
- 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change through history has impacted belief systems and religions, commerce and industry, innovations, settlement patterns, social organization, transportation and roles of women since 1450
- 8.4.12.D Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among social groups and organizations impacted world history from 1450 to the present
- 9.4.12.B Describe and analyze the effects that works in the arts have on groups, individuals and culture

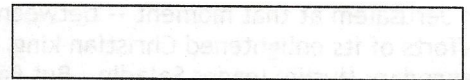
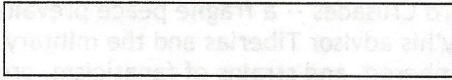
Specific Learning Objectives The student should be able to...

- Complete viewing guides on the assigned videos
- Locate and identify geographic features of the Middle East
- Explain the basic beliefs of Islam
- Evaluate the person, Thomas Edward Lawrence. Cite specific examples from the film that illustrate his character development and/or influences on his life. What are your impressions of him? What good did he do? What impact did his involvement in Arabia have on his character and personality? Etc.
- Analyze the relevance and the lessons of "Lawrence of Arabia" to contemporary United States foreign policy in the Middle East.
- Research desert survival and warfare

Movie Real "Kingdom of Heaven" A+E Network

This video introduces us to the film "Kingdom of Heaven"; it provides historical background for the Crusades, the era in which the film takes place.

Two constants of Medieval life seemed to conflict --



The _____ appeared to resolve this conflict by directing their aggression towards the Arab Muslims rather than fighting fellow Christians in Europe. A _____ offered European Christians a means by which they could "atone", or make up for, their sins. The objective of the First Crusade was the city of _____. After several months of siege, the Crusaders succeeded in taking the city. In the process, however, they _____ all the Jews and Muslims living within the city.

The Crusaders who remained in Jerusalem soon realized that they were alone as an _____ within a sea of _____. They saw economic and political opportunities. Survival required _____ with the Muslims. Such actions by the Christian leaders resulted in sharp divisions between the Crusader knights and nobility. Disunity within the Christian kingdom contrasted sharply by the growing _____ with the Muslim states, led by _____.

The _____ were the elite fighting force in the Crusader kingdom. Of all Europeans in the Middle East they held their religious convictions most strongly—maintaining Christian control of the Holy City remained the highest priority. Struggles between reason and religion provide conflict historically and good drama theatrically. They relied on the _____ charge, heavy cavalry to break the lines of their opponents. "Kingdom of Heaven" shows the opposing tactics between the Christian and Muslim armies.

Under the leadership of Saladin, the Muslims begin reclaiming lands lost to the Crusaders. Individual cities, realizing they could not repel their attackers, surrender. The ultimate goal was Jerusalem, defended by Balian. The Muslims intended to "take Jerusalem by the _____" which means they would avenge the massacre committed against them nearly a century before. Balian thwarted this effort by threatening to level the city. After surrendering, he leaves control of Jerusalem to the Muslims—a city they hold for nearly 1,000 when World War I brought European armies once again to the Holy Land.



"Kingdom of Heaven"

Storyline

Balian is a blacksmith who has lost his family and nearly lost his faith. The religious wars raging in the far-off Holy Land seem remote to him, yet he is pulled into that immense drama. Amid the pageantry and intrigues of medieval Jerusalem he falls in love, grows into a leader, and ultimately uses all his courage and skill to defend the city against staggering odds. Destiny comes seeking Balian in the form of a great knight, Godfrey of Ibelin a Crusader briefly home to France from fighting in the East. Revealing himself as Balian's father, Godfrey shows him the true meaning of knighthood and takes him on a journey across continents to the fabled Holy City.

In Jerusalem at that moment -- between the Second and Third Crusades -- a fragile peace prevails, through the efforts of its enlightened Christian king, Baldwin IV, aided by his advisor Tiberias and the military restraint of the legendary Muslim leader Saladin. But Baldwin's days are numbered, and strains of fanaticism, greed, and jealousy among the Crusaders threaten to shatter the truce.

King Baldwin's vision of peace -- a "kingdom of heaven" -- is shared by a handful of knights, including Godfrey of Ibelin, who swear to uphold it with their lives and honor. As Godfrey passes his sword to his son, he also passes on that sacred oath: to protect the helpless, safeguard the peace, and work toward harmony between religions and cultures, so that a kingdom of heaven can flourish on earth. Balian takes the sword and steps into history.

From Ridley Scott, the master of the modern epic, comes Kingdom of Heaven, which tells the sweeping saga of the Crusades through the eyes of one man caught up in an epic struggle for an ideal. Using historical events as a backdrop for an intimate human drama, Scott, who directed the Academy Award-winning Gladiator, puts flesh on the age-old mystique of the knight errant and brings to vivid life the titanic struggle between Muslims and Christians over the Holy Land that took place a millennium ago, and echoes into the present.

Source: <http://www.movieweb.com/movies/film/52/2352/synopsis.php>

Cast of Characters

Balian (Orlando Bloom): A village blacksmith who discovers that he is the illegitimate son Godfrey of Ibelin. Balian ends up a knight in the service of the King of Jerusalem, involved with the king's sister and the defender of the city.

Godfrey of Ibelin (Liam Neeson): Returning to France to recruit more men for the defense of Jerusalem, he invites his illegitimate son, Balian, to join him. Returning to Jerusalem, he is wounded, but knights his son before dying.

King Baldwin (Edward Norton): King of Jerusalem who is trying to keep peace between several factions. He is stricken with leprosy and his sister is married to a treacherous Templar Knight.

Sibylla (Eva Green): The sister of King Baldwin, who is married to the treacherous Guy de Lusignan. She becomes involved with Balian.

Guy de Lusignan (Marton Csokas): A treacherous Templar Knight who is scheming to become king of Jerusalem with the help of Reynald.

Hospitaler (David Thewlis): He was Godfrey's advisor and takes the same role with Balian.

Tiberius (Jeremy Irons): King Baldwin's advisor who does not want Guy de Lusignan to become king.

Reynald (Brenden Gleeson): A Templar Knight who is scheming to help Guy de Lusignan become king.

Saladin (Ghassan Massoud): King of the Saracens, who also wants access to Jerusalem: by peaceful means, if possible, or by siege if necessary.

Source: <http://www.patriotresource.com/film/general/kingdom/characters.html>

The Middle East and Islam

Map Skills

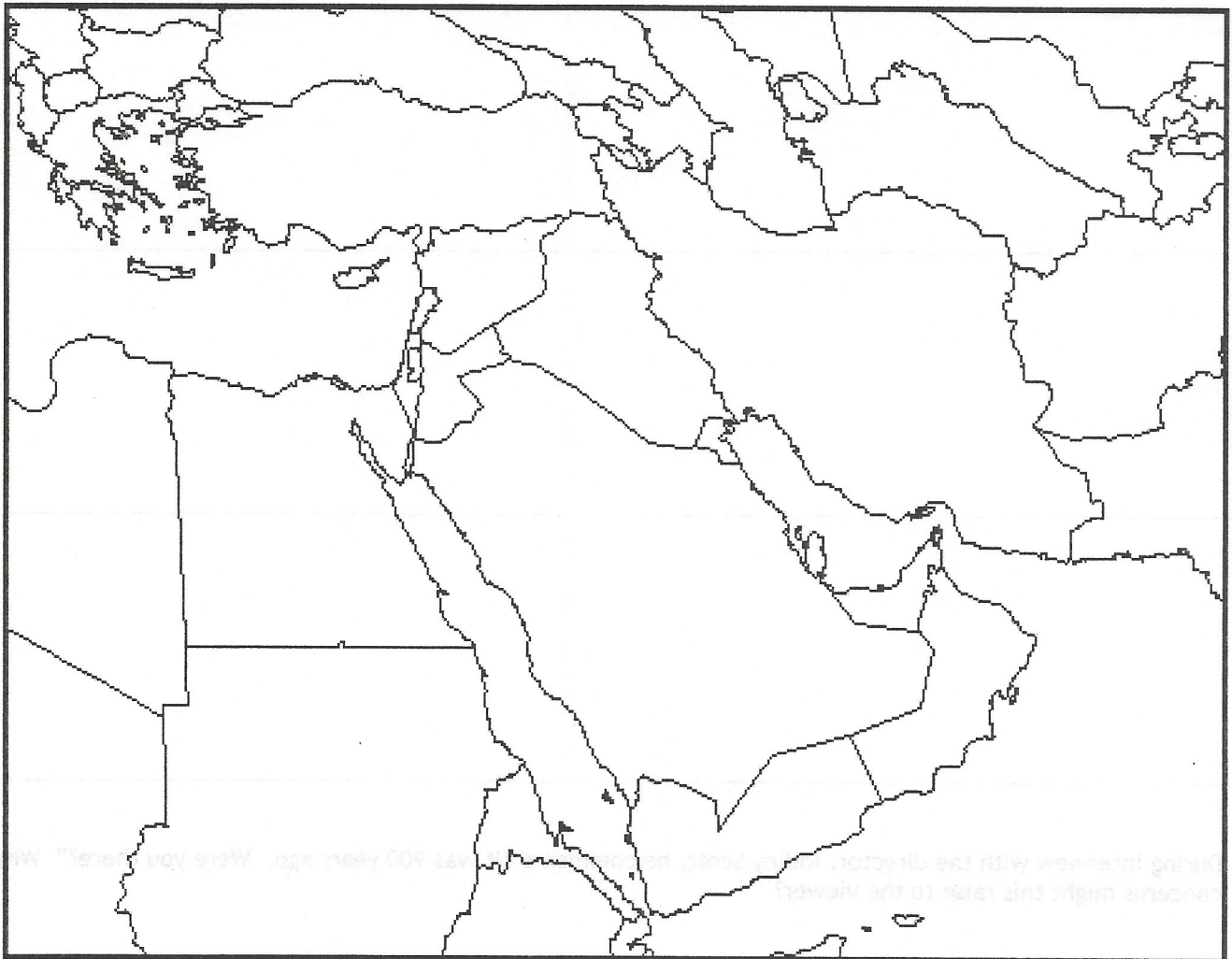
Locate and label the following locations on the map below:

Cities: Aqaba, Damascus, Baghdad, Jerusalem, Mecca,

Bodies of Water: Black Sea, Bosphorous Straits, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Strait of Hormuz,

Countries: Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey

Miscellaneous: Rub al-Kali, Sinai Peninsula, Syrian Desert



History Vs. Hollywood

"Kingdom of Heaven"

The History Channel

The movie, as dramatic as it is and as realistic as it appears to be, differs from the historical record. Use the chart below to document some of those differences. Be specific with your explanations.

History Fact	Hollywood Fiction

During interview with the director, Ridley Scott, he comments "it was 900 years ago. Were you there?" What concerns might this raise to the viewer?

ISLAM

Empire of Faith

Write fifteen facts about the Islamic Civilization. Be prepared to discuss the information recorded from the video; you may need to write more than just one sentence for each.

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The Islamic Civilization

A Brief Overview

THE LAND OF ARABIA

- Barren _____ and _____ kept Arabia _____ until the birth of _____
- Earliest inhabitants were _____ -- _____ herdsmen loosely allied by family and _____, but very _____ and _____
- Some _____ developed along major trade routes:
- A natural land _____ connecting the West with the East—the _____ East

THE RELIGION OF ISLAM

- Muhammad, claiming to be the last and greatest _____ of Allah, founded Islam. He believed the _____ Gabriel gave him a revelation to be a _____ to the people of Allah's _____. His teachings, which threatened the prosperous trade between merchants and religious _____, forced him to flee from _____ to _____ -- the Hegira. There, he was well received and his teachings spread.
- The _____ of Muhammad, as recorded by his followers, became the holy book of Islam - the _____. The central doctrine of the faith is the _____ of Allah. Allah is to be _____ because he will reward _____ and _____ evil.
- The Five Pillars of Islam form the basic beliefs
 - Reciting the _____ "There is no god but Allah and _____ is his prophet."
 - _____ five times a day while facing Mecca
 - Giving _____ to the poor
 - Fasting from sunrise to sunset during Ramadan
 - Making a pilgrimage to the holy city of _____
- The successors of Muhammad, called _____, directed a rapid expansion of Islam throughout the Middle East. They established _____ dynasties in chief cities of the empire: _____ and _____. At the height of their empire, the Muslims controlled land from _____ in southwestern Europe to _____ in the East. They were united by a common _____.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MUSLIM CULTURE

□ A unified _____ through a _____ of the cultures of the _____ people.

□ In Economics:

□ In Academics:

□ In Medicine:

□ In Art and Architecture:

▪ Islam _____ the representation of _____ and

_____ in art - they feared it develop into the worship of _____

▪ _____ : elaborate, beautiful handwriting

▪ Manuscript illumination:

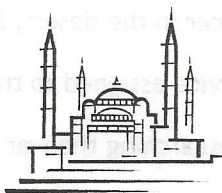
□ Contact with the Middle East stimulated the _____

THE MIDDLE EAST INTO THE MODERN ERA

□ The Arabs governed the Middle East for nearly _____ years. Their early successes faded with growing influence of the _____ .

□ Islam spread to the _____ , a different ethnic group from the Arabs. They conquered the dynasties of the Middle East and ruled the region into the 20th century.

□ Moves toward Arab _____ were hindered by tribal _____ and _____ between various leaders. When the Turks entered World War I, the Allies (English, France, Russia) saw an opportunity to expand their influence into the Middle East. For their cooperation against the Turks, the Arabs were granted _____ independence, restoring many of the kingdoms formerly governed by the caliphs.



"Lawrence of Arabia"

Synopsis

The story opens with the death of Thomas Edward Lawrence in a motorcycle crash. When a reporter asks questions at the memorial service at St. Paul's a flashback to the desert campaigns of the legendary figure begins. In 1916, Lawrence is a disgruntled young lieutenant with the British H.Q. staff in Cairo. Discontent with a desk job, he persuades Mr. Dryden of the Arab Bureau to let him seek out the Bedouin Chief, Prince Feisal, to check on the progress of the Arab Revolt. Lawrence suggests the possibility of helping Feisal unite the Arab tribes against their common enemy, the Turks, with whom the British are also at war.

Having received permission to try, Lawrence journeys to the desert. There his first encounter with tribal rivalries occurs when Sherif Ali, who is later to become one of Lawrence's strongest allies, shoots Lawrence's guide for drinking from a water-hole which belongs to Ali. With the help of Ali, Prince Feisal is convinced into allowing his own guerilla army to cooperate with the British.

Lawrence soon becomes a charismatic Leader to the Arab hordes. Sustaining the independent spirit of the Arab revolt, Lawrence leads a miraculous crossing of the Nefud Desert, making it possible to capture the Turkish port of Aqaba. His is triumphantly proclaimed "El Aurens" by the Victorious Arab Warriors.

However, when Lawrence and Ali go on a scouting expedition into Deraa, which the Turks are holding, Lawrence is captured by the Turks, tortured and then released. This incident breaks the illusion of invincibility which Lawrence has of himself and which the hero-worship of the Arab tribes has created. Again he is tempted to resign his command, but once again Allenby sends him back to the desert.

Once more too, Lawrence becomes caught in the aura of killing and cannot stop himself from leading the brutal massacre of a Turkish column. Having arrived in Damascus, the Arabs establish an Arab Council, which falls apart because of tribal divisions. After having championed Arab nationalism and having led the Arabs to victory in order to gain their political independence from the British, Lawrence becomes disillusioned when he discovers that the Arabs are being used by his own countrymen in various political maneuvers in the Middle East. He returns to England a hollow individual to let Feisal and Allenby come to terms.

Source: http://www.davidlean.com/synopsis/lawrence_synopsis.html

Cast of Characters

Thomas Edward Lawrence - British Intelligence officer who, operating behind enemy (Ottoman Turk) lines during the First World War, incited an Arab revolt against the Turks

Prince Feisal - leader of the Arab Revolt; heir to the throne in Mecca

Auda abu Tayi - Bedouin leader of the Howeitat tribe

General Lord Edmund Allenby - commander of British forces in the Middle East

Sherif Ali - Lawrence's Bedouin friend

Colonel Brighton - Lawrence's ranking officer in the desert; British liaison with Feisal

Mr. Dryden - member of British foreign service assigned to the Arab Bureau in Cairo; political advisor to Allenby

Jackson Bentley - an American reporter researching the war in Arabia

Farraj - Bedu servant to Lawrence

Daud - Bedu servant to Lawrence

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA

Viewing Guide

Counter	Content	Questions
0:00	Introduction to Anniversary Edition	What made filming the movie difficult?
1:20	Film Short "Wind, Sand and Star"	
5:54	Commentary and Credits	
10:40	Overture and More Credits	
16:48	England. Motorcycling	What does the Arab Bureau want Lawrence to do?
18:22	England. Memorials: Allenby, Bentley (reporter)	
20:06	Cairo. Map room	
22:17	Cairo. Officers' lounge	
23:04	Cairo. Meeting with the general	When will the Arabs cease being a "little people", according to Lawrence?
27:02	Cairo. Instructions from Dryden	
28:19	Arabia. Riding to Feisal, Bedouin ways and customs, crossing Harif country	
37:20	Arabia. Incident at the well, meeting Sherif Ali	
43:32	Arabia. Alone, meeting Brighton, aerial attack, meeting Prince Feisal	What is it about Lawrence that catches Feisal's attention?
52:00	Arabia. Prince Feisal moves camp south	
54:12	Arabia. In Prince Feisal's tent, readings from the Koran, strategy for Yenbo and the Arab army	
1:02:50	Arabia. Lawrence plans alone, he announces his plan to attack Akaba	
1:09:36	Arabia. The oasis, Lawrence acquires two servants (Farraj and Daud)	What is "written"? (one word answer)
1:11:56	Arabia. Crossing the Nefudh Desert, Lawrence "drifts", on the "sun's anvil", Lawrence rescues Gasim	
1:33:17	Arabia. Discussions with Sherif Ali, Lawrence goes native, Lawrence meets Auda abu Tayi	
1:43:45	Wadi el Azlam. In Auda's tent, servants and masters	
1:50:16	Wadi el Azlam. Departure for Akaba	What does the meeting between Auda of the Howeitat and Ali of the Harif illustrate about the Bedouin? <i>Don't answer until Gasim reappears.</i>
1:53:33	Akaba. Scouting the city, Bedouin blood feuds and justice	
1:57:20	Akaba. The Bedouins take the city, fail to find the promised gold, Lawrence departs for Cairo	
2:05:18	Sinai. Enroute to Cairo, the loss of Daud	
2:13:45	Cairo. Lemonade, announcing the capture of Akaba	What does Farraj's presence in the officers' bar illustrate about the British attitude toward the Bedu?
2:18:24	Cairo. Meeting with Allenby, a revealing look into Lawrence's personality	
2:24:55	Cairo. The strategy for the Arab army, outfitting the Bedouins	What is the Arab suspicion concerning the British?
2:28:40	Cairo. Allenby, Brighton, and Dryden	

Counter	Content	Questions	
0:25	Akaba. Mr. Bentley meets Prince Feisal	Why do the Arabs leave no wounded behind?	
6:51	The Desert. Attacking the train		
12:20	The Desert. Lessons from looting		
13:30	The Desert. Learning politics	1. What do these people hope to gain? 2. What is it that attracts Lawrence to the desert?	
16:13	The Desert. Something "honorable" for Auda, deserters and fools		
20:16	The Desert. Sabotaging the tracks, the loss of Farraj		
23:31	Cairo. Allenby and Brighton discuss Lawrence and the Arab north army		
24:55	The Desert. Ali and Lawrence in the cave, "Do you think I am just anybody?", doubts about Lawrence		
26:54	Deraa. Capture and torture by the Turks		
35:22	The Desert. Recuperation and recovery, Lawrence		
39:00	Jerusalem. Getting back to ordinary life, treaties and agreements		What accounts for Lawrence's deep emotions and feelings?
45:10	Jerusalem. Bentley demands information		"The best of them won't come for money; they'll come for _____."
45:52	Jerusalem. "I'm extraordinary." The challenge to reach Damascus		
47:33	The Desert. Return to the Arab army, a changed Lawrence		
51:00	The Desert. British plans	What is happening to Lawrence?	
51:56	Enroute to Damascus. The two armies approach the city, attack on a Turkish column, "no prisoners"		
1:02:27	Damascus. Allenby and Dryden discuss options, the Arab National Council	Describe the Arab National Council.	
1:07:14	Damascus. The Arabs leave, "there is only the desert for you", "how must he fear himself who hates himself"	"Young men make the _____ Old men make the _____." <i>Prince Feisal</i>	
1:11:51	Damascus. Objections by the British medical officer		
1:14:21	Damascus. Feisal and Allenby negotiate		
1:19:13	Outside Damascus. Going home		
	THE END		

You have two writing assignments for "Lawrence of Arabia." The essays must meet the following criteria: introductory paragraph; minimum of three support paragraphs; conclusion; typed; Times-Roman font; 11 point; .75" margins on all sides; name, date, and title in upper right hand corner of first page. Be prepared to discuss in class. Be specific with information.

- Ⓒ Evaluate the person Thomas Edward Lawrence. Cite specific examples from the film that illustrate his character development and/or influences on his life. What are your impressions of him? What good did he do? What impact did his involvement in Arabia have on his character and personality? Etc.
- Ⓒ Analyze the relevance of "Lawrence of Arabia" to contemporary United States foreign policy in the Middle East.

Answer the following questions about T.E. Lawrence from the Military History magazine article "The Enigmatic Lawrence of Arabia", October 2003.

1. What two forces developed Lawrence's complex character?

2. What was the "side-show of a side-show"?

3. Why did Lawrence's work in Cairo not fulfill him?

4. Describe the Bedouins as warriors—include their strengths and weaknesses. Be specific.

5. Who was "the leader who could bring the Arab Revolt to full glory"?

6. What was the SYKES-PICOT AGREEMENT?

7. What was the BALFOUR DECLARATION?

8. Other than his role in the Arab Revolt, how else did Lawrence distinguish himself?

Use the following website to answer these questions:

www.pbs.org/lawrenceofarabia/revolt/

Desert Survival

1. What are three Bedouin "tricks" for finding water in the desert?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
2. _____ What are the two traditional animals kept on the fringes of the desert?
3. _____
4. _____ A traditional Bedouin tent is divided into sections: one for the __4__ (mag'ad) and one for the __5__ (mahamara)
5. _____
6. _____ What is the ultimate desert transport?
7. What is meant by the Arab navigation technique of "detouring"?
8. _____ What has fostered Bedouin hospitality?

Arab Warfare

9. _____ The Arabs fought as a __9__, they did not see themselves as a single nation but as partners of __10__ united in their determination to rid Arabia of the Ottomans. Tribes preferred to fight under their own __11__ as individual warriors and as members of __12__. But each tribe guarded their __13__ fiercely and quarrels were frequent, sometimes with tragic consequences.
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. Lawrence used what he called a "war of detachment" to hit the Ottomans where it hurt. What is that strategy?
15. What effect would a "tulip bomb" have on railroad tracks?

BONUS: According to Lawrence, what article of clothing should British officers avoid wearing in public?



THE ENIGMATIC Lawrence of Arabia

T.E. Lawrence turned Arab Bedouin tribes into a powerful guerrilla army against the Turks, then fought to get them justice from Britain.

BY O'BRIEN BROWNE

The Arabian heat rose up in shimmering waves, blurring the Bedouins' vision and parching their throats. They were deployed along the crest of a hill, taking shots at Turkish soldiers who fired back at them from their post below. Suddenly, there erupted a thundering sound as about 50 camel riders, led by the fierce Howeitat warrior Auda abu Tayi, galloped downhill into the rear of the terrified Turks. Then a tribal leader among the motley collection of Bedouins sniping from the hill looked over at the lone British officer among them and yelled, "Come on!" Both men rushed downward, followed by 400 camel-mounted Bedouins, robes and headdresses flowing about them as they smashed into the flank of the Turkish force.

Now in the enemy's midst, the British officer was firing with his service revolver into the fleeing khaki shapes around him when all at once his camel dropped like a lead shot. Hurling to the ground, he lay stunned, waiting to be killed by the Turks or trampled by his own men. When the dazed Briton sat up, he saw that the battle was over. It had lasted only a few bloody moments. The Bedouins were finishing off the Turks with rifle and sword. In the end, 300 of the enemy lay dead, for the loss of only two Arabs. It was a brutally efficient battle, fought with surprise, fury, courage and a fine tactical sense, qualities that would become emblematic for the campaigns of T.E. Lawrence, "Lawrence of Arabia," one of the 20th century's most brilliant and fascinating military minds.

Born in North Wales on August 16, 1888, Thomas Edward Lawrence had always been unique, his complex character shaped by several forces. One was his height. Standing only 5 feet 5 inches, he felt different from his four brothers and the boys at school. Another deter-

In sharp contrast to most military portraits of the time, painter James McBey's sensitive 1918 rendering of Lt. Col. T.E. Lawrence presents a slight, almost frail figure in characteristic Arab garb.

mining factor was his discovery that he was the illegitimate son of Sir Thomas Chapman and his Scottish-born mistress, Sarah Lawrence. Lawrence's independent nature was thus formed by an acute sense of his otherness, his knowledge that whatever he achieved in life would be due to his own efforts. He was bright and strong-willed, and as a boy he began physically and mentally testing himself, as if for some inevitable future ordeal. A fine student, Lawrence went to Oxford to study history and wrote his thesis on Crusader castles. During a three-week research tour in the Levant, he became enchanted by the Arabs. Back in Britain, he completed his studies with a First Class Honors degree, and then, burning to return to the Middle East, he joined a British Museum excavation at the Hittite site of Carchemish in northern Syria, as an archeological assistant. He worked on and off at that important dig from 1910 to 1914, learning Arabic and how to deal with the Arabs. Then the war broke out.

Lawrence was commissioned a lieutenant in the British army and, with his specialized knowledge of the region, detailed in 1915 to the Military Intelligence Department in Cairo, under the direction of Colonel Gilbert Clayton. The atmosphere at the office was relaxed, with little concern for military etiquette. Lawrence was soon recognized as an invaluable member of the staff, with a quick and agile mind. He collected geographical data for mapmaking, interviewed prisoners and worked on a reference book, the *Turkish Army Handbook*. The war in the Middle East was often derided as a "sideshow of a sideshow" by war planners with a West-centric viewpoint, but Lawrence knew that it was of enormous importance for the millions of Arabs living under Ottoman rule.

Although promoted to captain in March 1916, Lawrence

found office work dull and longed for action. His brothers Will and Frank had been killed on the Western Front, which filled him with guilt as he sat in the comfort of colonial Cairo. He also dreamed of leading an uprising of Arabs against their Turkish oppressors. His desires were soon fulfilled when he and two other British officers were dispatched on a secret mission to secure the escape of an Anglo-Indian force led by Maj. Gen. Charles Vere Ferrers Townshend, which had been surrounded by Turks at Kut al-Amara in Mesopotamia. Lawrence and his fellow officers met with their Turkish counterparts, but all they could obtain was the release of some of the wounded. It was a sad and frustrating business. Townshend and 12,000 of his surviving men surrendered on April 29, 1916. Lawrence's finely written reports on Kut and

Arab nationalism, however, impressed his superiors so much that they sent him on another important mission.

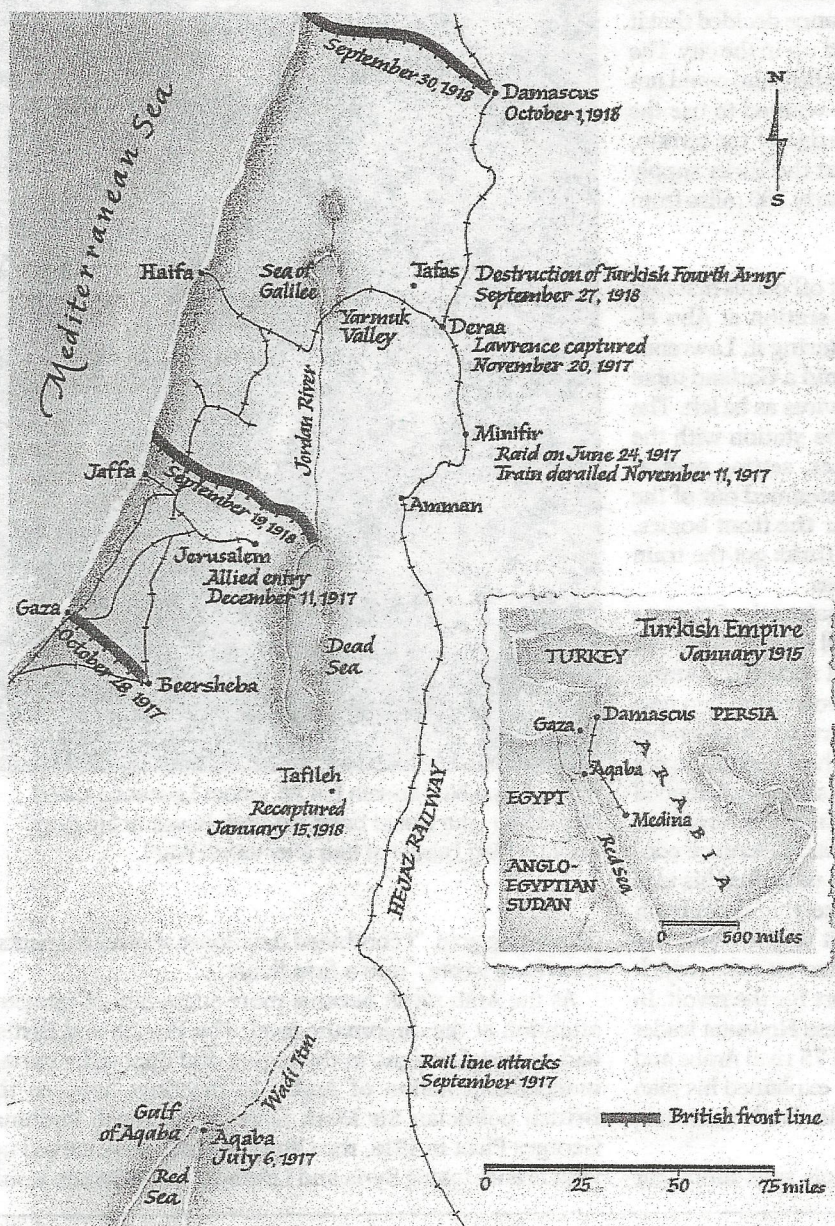
In the Hejaz (western coastal Arabia) something momentous had taken place. King Hussein of the Hashemite clan, the grand sharif (a descendant of Muhammad) of Mecca, had declared a revolt against Ottoman rule on June 5, 1916. Lawrence was dispatched to Jeddah to report on developments. A keen observer of men and character, Lawrence met Hussein's four sons, sizing them up to see if one of them was fit to become the military leader of the revolt. In *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, Lawrence's epic account of the revolt, he recalled dismissing them all until he met the tall, elegant Prince Feisal bin Hussein bin Ali, immediately realizing "that this was the man

I had come to Arabia to seek—the leader who would bring the Arab Revolt to full glory." He returned to report on the situation but was promptly sent back to Arabia in December, to act as adviser and liaison officer to Feisal. He would remain in the field for the next two years.

The situation was grim. The Bedouins were fickle warriors, ferocious when honor or booty were at stake, but tending to drift away when they grew bored or took too many casualties. For their service, Feisal and Lawrence had to pay them gold and balance the varying blood feuds and traditional mistrust between the clans. Although their numbers were not insignificant—according to a report Lawrence wrote in 1919, at one point the Arabs had "raised some 14,000 Harb tribesmen, 11,000 Beni Salem villagers and 9,000 Juheina"—discipline was slack, and artillery was sorely needed to give punch to their attacks.

But Lawrence was impressed by Feisal's cool and resolve. Staying in the leader's tent, Lawrence carefully observed how he handled his men with patience and tact. During that time, Feisal presented Lawrence with beautiful robes of silk and gold. Lawrence readily put them on, for in such garb—a visual symbol of status and importance—he would be more acceptable to the Arabs. The flowing gowns were also ideal for the heat and camel riding.

On January 3, 1917, Lawrence went off on his first desert raid with 35 armed tribesmen. Under cover of darkness, they rode their camels out of camp, dismounted and scrambled



Besides launching many attacks on the Hejaz Railway, Lt. Col. T.E. Lawrence and his guerrillas also seized the Red Sea port of Aqaba after a remarkable desert trek.

JOAN PENNINGTON

up a steep hill overlooking a Turkish encampment, which they peppered with rifle fire until driven off. Returning, they came across two Turks relieving themselves, and took them back to camp for questioning. That minor triumph was later counterbalanced by a small tragedy when, to prevent a crippling blood feud from breaking out, Lawrence had to personally execute a member of his own band, a deed that would haunt him for the rest of his life.

An important steppingstone in the revolt was the capture of the coastal town of Wejh, which fell with the vital assistance of the Royal Navy in 1917. After that, ill with dysentery and malaria, Lawrence—an amateur soldier unhampered by formal military training—had time to reflect on the course of the revolt and grand strategy. Both Feisal and Lawrence felt that the revolt must move northward toward Syria and Damascus, with the goal of achieving Arab independence. The idea of the uprising had always been to drive the Turks out of Medina and the other major cities of Arabia. While he was ill, however, Lawrence decided that it would be better to keep the Turks bottled up in the city. The Bedouin forces had no taste for siege warfare and could not fight like a regular army, so Lawrence wanted to use the Arabs' strengths—speed, superb knowledge of the terrain, immense individual courage—to strike at the Turks' supply lifeline, the Hejaz Railway, stretching nearly 700 miles from Medina to Damascus.

At the end of March, Lawrence set off on his first raid against the railway, a Turkish station at Abu el-Naam. After carefully reconnoitering it, Lawrence crept down to the lines at nightfall and laid a Garland mine under the tracks, cutting the telegraph wires as he left. The next morning, the Bedouins overran the station with the aid of a mountain gun and a howitzer, setting several wagons of a nearby train on fire. As it steamed out of the station, Lawrence blew the mine under the front bogies, knocking it off the rails. Although the Turks got the train rolling again, the operation was a success.

Such victories were mere pinpricks against the Ottoman forces, however. Lawrence's gaze now fell on the important Red Sea port of Aqaba. Taking it would secure the Arabs' supply routes from Egypt, enable the revolt to tap into new sources of manpower and allow raiders to comfortably strike at the Hejaz Railway. Lawrence had visited Aqaba before the war and knew that the port was heavily defended from the sea at Wadi Itm, a narrow passage. Capture Wadi Itm, and the port would be in Arab hands. Lawrence consulted with Feisal and other Arab leaders, who liked his idea of slicing through the desert to surprise the Turks from behind. As a preliminary to the attack, it was necessary to establish contact with the powerful Howeitat tribe, which would swing the other tribes into support for the revolt. In March Lawrence met the fierce and fearless Howeitat leader Auda abu Tayi, who had reputedly killed 75 rival Arabs and didn't bother counting Turks. Lawrence explained his plan for Aqaba, which Auda thought feasible. Both men then worked out the details.

The two men liked each other, which says much for

Lawrence's ability to sway men more powerful than himself. Although he possessed abundant charisma and a forceful character, his strength lay in his ability to enable others to achieve their goals. He understood that to motivate the proud Bedouins one did not need to bark out orders, but rather to gain their respect through deeds and high personal courage. "Lawrence rarely spoke," recalled Colonel Pierce C. Joyce, who fought alongside him. "He merely studied the men around him and when the argument ended...he then dictated his plan of action which was usually adopted and everyone went away satisfied.

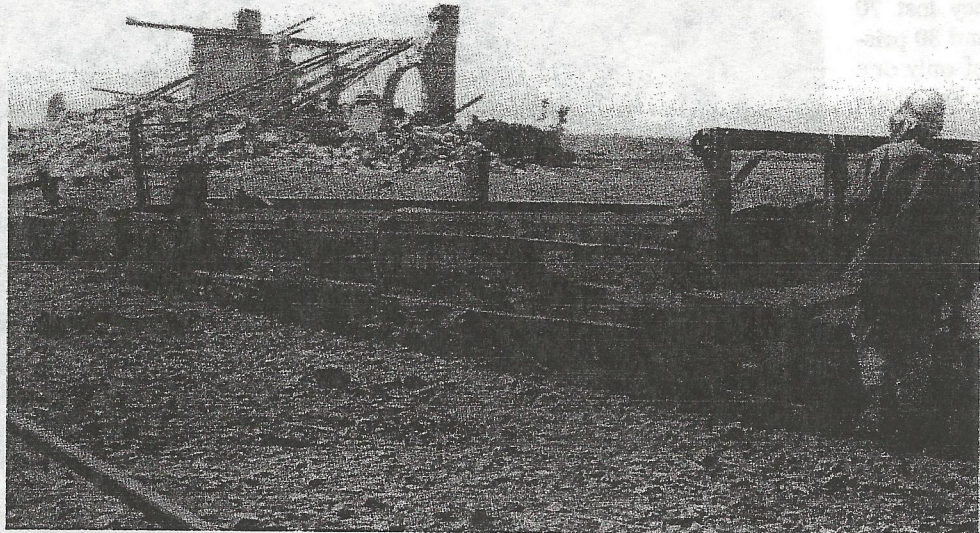
"It was not, as is often supposed, by his individual leadership of hordes of Bedouin that he achieved success," Joyce added, "but by the wise selection of tribal leaders." That and



Prince Feisal bin Hussein bin Ali, whom Lawrence called "the leader who would bring the Arab Revolt to full glory," became King Feisal I of Iraq after World War I.

dispensing gold. "I combined their loose shower of sparks," Lawrence wrote, "into a firm flame...."

As the Arab revolt became more successful, it attracted attention at the diplomatic level. The French and British had imperial designs in the region and opposed a strong, independent nation of Arabs. In meetings between the British politician Sir Mark Sykes and French diplomat Georges Picot in 1916, the Ottoman lands were carved up, with France taking Syria and Lebanon, while Britain would



Lawrence examines the results of a strike on a Turkish train in 1917. In spite of the brilliant success he and his Bedouins enjoyed, he confided in a letter, "This killing and killing of Turks is horrible."

administer Mesopotamia, Transjordan and most of Palestine. Lawrence learned of that deal from a cynical letter Colonel Clayton had written outlining the Sykes-Picot Agreement, stating that "the occupation of Aqaba by Arab troops might well result in the Arabs claiming that place hereafter. It is thus essential that Aqaba should remain in British hands after the war." As the British officers fighting alongside the Arabs learned of that agreement, they were appalled. Feisal, an astute politician, sensed that Britain and France had agreed upon some sort of a deal, and he began to lose faith in them. And Lawrence, an idealist nourishing a romantic image of Arab freedom, was plunged into a deep depression. He admired the Arabs and considered Feisal a friend. He was surrounded by men who passionately believed in the cause without knowing the truth. "In revenge," Lawrence told himself, "I vowed to make the Arab Revolt the engine of its own success...to lead it so madly in the final victory that expediency should counsel to the Powers a fair settlement of the Arabs' moral claims."

But there was still much to be done. With Auda and his men, Lawrence set out on the long march through the simmering heat of the desert to Aqaba. Along the way, they blew up railway lines near the town of Deraa and then entered the barren, sun-beaten desert called El Houli. They visited one Bedouin camp after another, feasting on rice and lamb by night, recruiting and swelling their ranks by morning. But in the back of his mind Lawrence felt guilty, felt that he was betraying these men. "I had to join the conspiracy," he wrote in *Seven Pillars*, "and...assured the men of their reward...but, of course, instead of being proud of what we did together, I was continually and bitterly ashamed." His personal crisis worsened. In his notebook, Lawrence wrote on June 5: "Can't stand another day here. Will ride north and chuck it." Another message said ominously, "Clayton.

been a grateful vent for my internal perplexities...." For that exploit, Lawrence was recommended for Britain's highest award for bravery, the Victoria Cross. He was ineligible, however, because no other British officer had witnessed his deed.

Back again with Auda, Lawrence and the Arabs made a large semicircular trek through the desert and fell on Aqaba from behind on July 6. The surprised Turkish garrison quickly surrendered. With that astonishing, almost bloodless victory, the Arab revolt became a force to be reckoned with. "After the capture of Aqaba," he wrote in 1927, "things changed so much that I was no longer a witness of the Revolt, but a protagonist in the Revolt."

Lawrence was being modest, for he played a major role. The Turks were offering a reward for his capture, and a report on the situation in Arabia, sent to Cairo in February 1917, said that "Lawrence with Feisal is of inestimable value...." After Aqaba, Lawrence was awarded the Companionship of the Bath and promoted to major. He then had an important meeting with the new commander in chief of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, General Sir Edmund Allenby, who agreed to Lawrence's strategy for the revolt. "I gave him a free hand," Allenby said after the war. "His cooperation was marked by the utmost loyalty, and I never had anything but praise for his work, which, indeed, was invaluable throughout the campaign." Lawrence now held a powerful position, as an adviser to Feisal and a person who had Allenby's confidence.

The attacks on the railway continued throughout 1917. During one, Lawrence blew up a locomotive with an electric mine. "We had a Lewis [machine gun]," he wrote in a letter to a friend, "and flung bullets through the sides. So they hopped out and took cover behind the embankment, and shot at us between the wheels at 50 yards." The Arabs brought

I've decided to go off alone to Damascus, hoping to get killed on the way: for all sakes try and clear this show up before it goes further. We are calling them to fight for us on a lie, and I can't stand it."

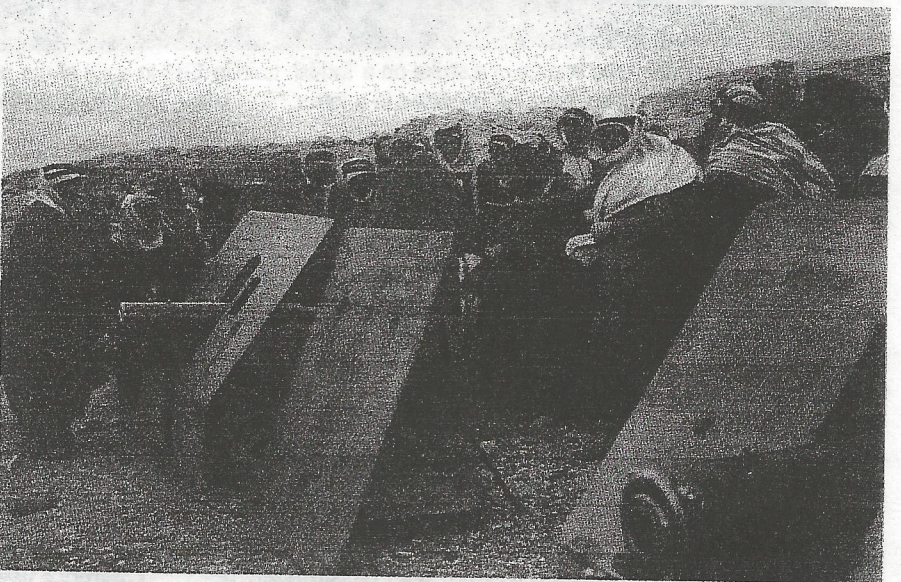
Lawrence then broke away from the main force and embarked on an extraordinary 300-mile trip into Lebanon and Syria, talking with clan leaders to enroll their support for the revolt. With the help of local tribes, he blew up bridges and rode to the outskirts of Damascus to meet with resistance leaders. "At the time," he recalled, "I was in a reckless mood, not caring very much what I did.... A bodily wound would have

HULTON/ARCHIVE

up a Stokes mortar, and the Turks fled across open ground. "Unfortunately for them," Lawrence continued, "the Lewis covered the open stretch. The whole job took ten minutes, and they lost 70 killed, 30 wounded and 80 prisoners," for the loss of only one Arab. While the Arabs looted the train, another Turkish force arrived, nearly cutting off the Bedouins. "I lost some baggage, and nearly myself," Lawrence added nonchalantly. In another letter about that same "show," Lawrence confided, "I'm not going to last out this game much longer: nerves going and temper wearing thin.... This killing and killing of Turks is horrible."

Lawrence's exhaustion was heightened when he and a raiding party of about 60 Arabs failed to blow up an important railway bridge over the Yarmuk River. Allenby had requested the raid, and Lawrence was wracked with guilt over its failure. Later, while reconnoitering the important railway junction at Deraa, Lawrence, trying to pass himself off as a light-skinned Circassian, was arrested by the Turks, brought to their commander and severely beaten before being "dragged about by two men, each disputing over a leg as though to split me apart: while a third man rode me astride." Lawrence escaped, but the torment of that night was seared upon his consciousness and his soul, emotionally maiming him.

Although those personal tragedies were immense, global events were sweeping away the old order and remaking the world. In November, the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia, publishing secret documents discovered in Tsar Nicholas II's files. One of them was the Sykes-Picot Agreement. The embarrassed British government hurriedly reassured the Arabs that the terms of the agreement had not yet been ratified, which Feisal and other Arab leaders only partially believed. Later, the Balfour Declaration was published, stating that the British government favorably viewed the establishment of a Jewish homeland in largely Arab-populated Palestine. Both of those events would have an enormous impact on the region and the world after the war, up to the present day. Then, after a brilliant series of battles fought by Al-

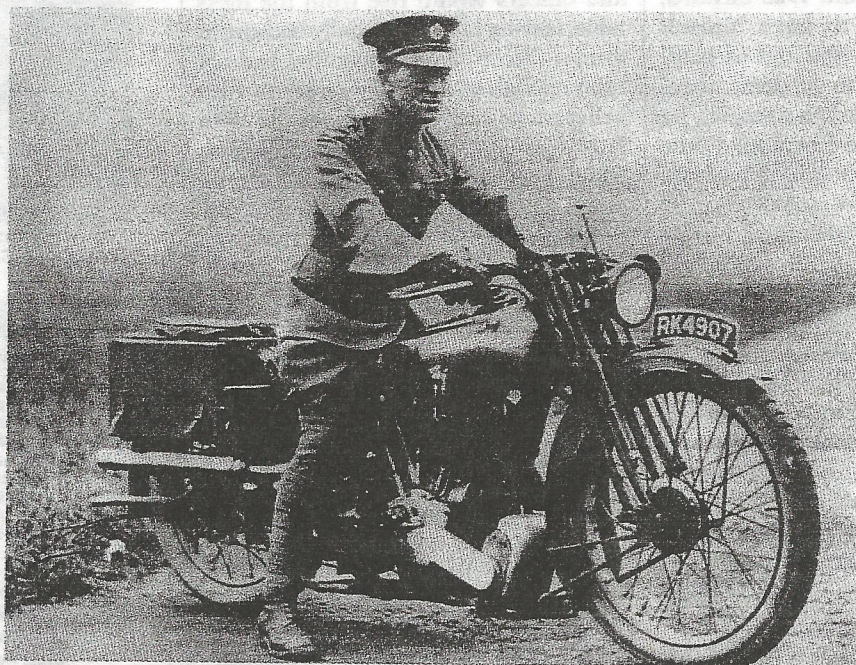


PHOTOS: IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

Top: Sherifan Arabs pass British soldiers as Damascus falls to Allied forces on October 1, 1917. **Above:** Feisal's brother Zeid (left) and fellow Bedouins show off guns captured from an Austro-Hungarian contingent attached to the Turkish army at Tafileh.

lenby, British forces entered Jerusalem on December 11. Allenby invited Lawrence to enter with him on foot. An official uniform was borrowed for Lawrence, who was delighted by it. "For me," he later wrote, "it was the supreme moment of the war." But now the race was on to Damascus, the intellectual and political heart of the Arab world.

After a well-earned week's rest in Cairo, Lawrence returned to Aqaba, which was now utterly transformed. Ships were offloading weapons, bags of gold coins, Rolls-Royce armored cars, a squadron of aircraft and a battalion of Imperial Camel Corps. The fluid band of Arab fighters was now being called the Arab Northern Army, and the Arab



MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

Fatal attraction: Among Lawrence's many passions was motorcycles. On May 13, 1935, he was injured in a motorcycle accident. He died six days later.

Regular Army boasted about 6,000 men.

In January 1918, Lawrence and an Arab force commanded by Feisal's brother Zeid helped direct the closest thing to a set-piece battle in the entire campaign. At Tafileh, a village south of the Dead Sea, they were frontally attacked by three battalions of Turks. Marching into withering fire from the Arabs, the Turks were then outfought on the field by the fluid, flexible counterattacks by the Arabs. In the ensuing rout, 400 Turks were killed and more than 200 taken prisoner in what military historian Basil Liddell Hart labeled "a miniature masterpiece." Lawrence was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for that action, and in March he was promoted to lieutenant colonel.

Although mentally and physically exhausted and eager for Allenby to reassign him to a quieter job, Lawrence had to push on with the fight. Throughout the spring and summer of 1918, while the Germans pursued a massive series of offensives to win the war on the Western Front, Allenby laid plans to use the forces available to him to launch the final assault on Damascus, assigning Feisal's Bedouins the task of cutting railway and telegraph lines. The offensive was finally launched on September 19. In a magnificent tactical move, Allenby had the Arabs execute a feint at Amman, which drew Turkish forces into that direction while the main British armies struck a hammer blow at the weakened Turks in the Levant. With four armored cars, 40 machine guns, four artillery pieces, two aircraft and 8,000 tribesmen, Lawrence and Feisal swept through Deraa and massacred a rear column of the Turkish Fourth Army. Joining up with units of the British cavalry, they swiftly marched northward toward Damascus. Lawrence pushed the Arab forces on, making sure that they would enter the city first and thus

establish their authority for the peace talks afterward. Driving in a Rolls-Royce tender, Lawrence entered the city on October 1 as the populace poured out wildly into the streets, yelling "Feisal! Urens!"—as the Arabs pronounced "Lawrence." "From this cup," Lawrence later wrote, "I drank as deeply as any man should do, when we took Damascus: and was sated with it." His war was over, and two days later he was heading back to England.

But his work was yet not done. As the victorious Allied governments planned to meet with their vanquished enemies at Versailles in 1919, Lawrence presented his views on the region to the British cabinet. He gained added prestige and notoriety when, in a private audience with King George V, he refused to accept the insignia of the awards he had received, citing Britain's unfulfilled promises to the Arabs. Lawrence went to Paris with the British delegation to the

peace conference in January as adviser and interpreter for Feisal. At the conference, before the press and at social gatherings, Lawrence argued the Arab cause. At that same time, he began working on his *Seven Pillars*. The Middle East, however, had little priority for the imperial powers.

With Britain and France intent on partitioning the Middle East, Lawrence returned to England to write, refusing all offers for a career in government. In 1919 the journalist Lowell Thomas, who had met Lawrence briefly during the war, began a series of slide shows about the battles in the Middle East. These proved extremely successful, and "Lawrence of Arabia" became famous. Although Thomas' lectures were sometimes pure fantasy—labeling Lawrence "the uncrowned king of Arabia" and the like—Lawrence used his newfound celebrity to revive his efforts to seek a just settlement for the Arabs. He also started a letter-writing campaign in *The Times* and elsewhere. By 1920, however, the French had thrown Feisal out of Syria and the Arabs were rebelling against the British mandate in Iraq. Lawrence joined Winston Churchill at the Colonial Office to find a solution, which eventually resulted in Feisal's becoming king of Iraq and his brother Abdullah king of Transjordan. It was, Lawrence felt, an honorable settlement.

But Lawrence was a shattered man. His body was wracked by illness and weight loss and scarred by dozens of wounds. The war, the deep psychological trauma suffered at Deraa, politics, writing *Seven Pillars* and his celebrity status had all taken a toll on him, and he became depressed and tormented by existential angst. A terrible indication of

Continued on page 79.

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LAWRENCE

Continued from page 32

his burdens is that from 1923 onward, Lawrence arranged to have himself beaten. Whether that was out of penitence, punishment or to suppress undesired urges is unknown. As a respite, he joined the ranks of the Royal Air Force (RAF) under the name of John Hume Ross in 1922. When that was discovered by the press, he was discharged, but he joined the Royal Tank Corps the next year under the alias of T.E. Shaw. In 1926 he completed *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, which was available only by subscription. By then he was back in the RAF and stationed in India when *Revolt in the Desert*, a popular abridgement of his book, was published to instant acclaim. Lawrence also wrote a novel, *The Mint*, about life in the RAF, and completed a highly praised modern translation of Homer's *Odyssey*. He kept up a voluminous correspondence with some of the most influential artists and politicians of the day. Haunted by the press, who were now claiming that he was a spy in India, he returned to Britain, where he lived in seclusion at Clouds Hill, his cottage in Dorset. Stationed at Plymouth, he was influential in the design of a high-speed rescue boat for the RAF. He also indulged in one of the great passions of his life, motorcycle riding. He retired from the RAF in March 1935, but just two months later, on May 13, he was injured in a motorcycle accident near Clouds Hill, and died six days later.

Lawrence had longed for fame and was appalled by it. He wished to be accepted by others, yet was a strong individualist. He was an intensely lonely man who had legions of friends. A bookish person, perhaps his first love in life was writing and literature. But his talents were legion, and he excelled at everything he put his hand to. From such volatile mixtures, geniuses are born; the contented rarely achieve greatness. Lawrence was a rarity, for he had dared to dream and to turn his dreams into reality. **MH**

O'Brien Browne writes from Heidelberg, Germany. In his opinion, the best biographies are the dryly factual Lawrence of Arabia, by Jeremy Wilson; the sensitively written A Prince of Our Disorder, by John Mack; Malcom Brown's A Touch of Genius; Basil Liddell Hart's Lawrence of Arabia; and Lawrence's Seven Pillars of Wisdom.

MYER'S DRIFT

Continued from page 40

and officers would rise from the mess table, leaving behind partially consumed drinks. Clearly, a legal acquittal had not been enough to erase the dishonor they believed he had inflicted on the 80th Foot. Harward put on a brave face for a while, but ultimately he could take no more. On May 11, nine weeks after his restoration to the regiment, he resigned his commission.

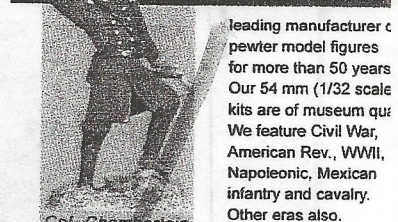
Although it has never been admitted officially, Major Tucker—later Colonel Sir Charles Tucker—was so embarrassed that he issued a standing order to the 80th's regimental officers: "The name of Lieutenant Henry Hollingworth Hayward [sic] will never be spoken in this Regimental Mess ever again."

Author's note: Today, in the regimental (80th Regiment) officers' mess in Lichfield, there proudly stands the "Ulundi Vase," on which are inscribed the names of all the regimental officers who fought in the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879. The only exception is that of Lieutenant Henry Hollingworth Harward.

*I visited the 80th Regiment's mess several years ago, while researching the Myer's Drift incident in the regimental museum and library. I knew a lot about Harward, from his birth on November 25, 1847, his education at Brighton College, and his military postings and promotions. When I sought to learn about what happened after he resigned his commission, however, I was confronted with the gentlest and politest of stone walls. To a man, all the officers would quietly and imperceptibly divert my line of questioning to the heroics of their favorite son, Colour Sergeant Anthony Clarke Booth, VC, for whom they were most enthusiastic and generous in their praise. Even when I countered that those two soldiers were initially together on the southern bank of the Ntombe River on March 12, 1879, not one officer mentioned the name of Henry Hollingworth Harward. **MH***

For further reading, London-based writer and founding member of the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 Historical Society John McAdam suggests: The Zulu War and the 80th Regiment of Foot, by Robert Hope; Brave Men's Blood, by Ian Knight; Blood on the Painted Mountain, by Ron Lock; and Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift, by Dr. Adrian Greaves.

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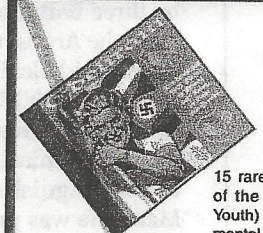
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