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**Command and Leadership Series**

**Lawrence of Arabia**

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## Lawrence, Thomas Edward (1888–1935)

### Introduction

Famously known as ‘Lawrence of Arabia’, T E Lawrence traveled to the Middle East from Jesus College, Oxford, to study Crusader castles in 1909. He was commissioned into the British Army at the start of World War One and was sent out to Cairo, attached to an Arab section of Military Intelligence Staff, after Turkey’s declaration of War.

Lawrence rejuvenated the Arab revolt in 1916 and helped plan the capture of Wejh by the Red Sea in 1917. He was promoted to lieutenant after supporting Allenby’s first offensive around Tafila in 1918 and directed Arab forces in seizing Damascus later that year. By 1921, he had become an Adviser on Arab affairs to the Middle Eastern Division of the Colonial Office. He then became disillusioned with the political machinations of the British Government’s policy towards Arab nationalism and joined the RAF as an ordinary airman. He was a prolific writer throughout his life, one of his most famous works being, ‘The Seven Pillars of Wisdom’, a story of his adventures in the Middle East. After leaving the RAF, he retired to Dorset and was killed in a motorbike accident in 1935.

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This bibliography has been designed to provide a guide as to where to find information on T. E. Lawrence. Please note that the list of references below is a selection of the more relevant titles and information on the subject. The list is not intended to be exhaustive or definitive but is an introductory guide to some of the resources available.

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Roe, Maj Andrew M. *The evolution of a revolt: the insightful musings of an unconventional British guerrilla*. **British Army Review**, No 142, Summer 2007, pp. 52-56

#### Websites

The Lawrence of Arabia Factfile  
<http://www.lawrenceofarabia.info/>

The T.E.Lawrence Society  
<http://telsociety.org.uk/telsociety/index.htm>

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