

In memory of
Serjeant* John Lewis Michaels



June 20, 1911 - April 07, 1941
Born in Montreal, QC - Died in North Africa

John L. Michaels, the son of Michael A. and Muriel Hart Michaels, was born on June 20, 1911 in Montreal. He attended Argyle Academy and Westmount High School, the latter of which he graduated in 1929. He later went on to study for his B.A at Bishop's University in Lennoxville, where he graduated in 1935. *Traditional spelling from the time.



A picture taken in front of Argyle Academy



A picture of current day Westmount High School

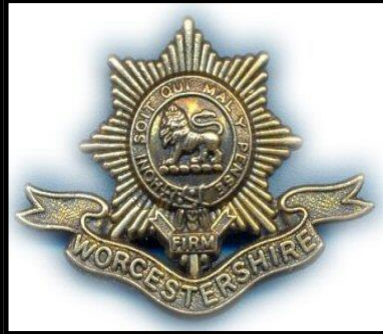
After Michaels' graduation, he moved to the United Kingdom and enlisted in the Army. He enlisted during the Munich Crisis (1938) and became part of the Artists' Rifles, having joined with the rank of lieutenant. However, he later resigned his commission and re-enlisted into the Royal Worcester Regiment.



Munich Agreement, 1938



Artists Rifles emblem

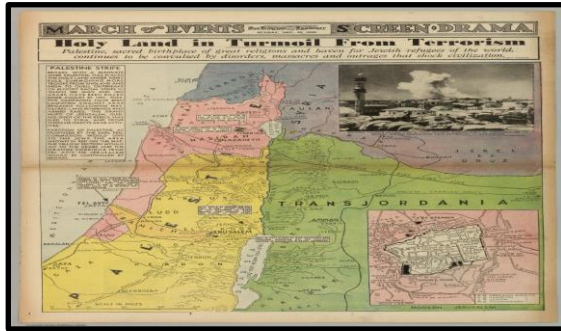


Royal Worcester Regiment emblem

After his enlistment into the Royal Worcester Regiment, he was deployed to Palestine. Michaels' specialized in tactics and mortars. This was useful during his deployment in the Middle East. While in Palestine, Michael's participated in putting down many Arab riots. Due to the role he played in Palestine, he won the Military Medal for Bravery.



Palestine, 1938



Map of Palestine, 1938

When World War II broke out in 1939, Michaels' regiment was already stationed in Palestine. In the following months, Michaels' took part in the East African Campaign. This campaign was mainly fought by the British Empire against the Axis forces, Italy and their colony of Italian East Africa, between June 1940 and November 1941. Sadly, Michaels' died before the campaign ended, on April 07, 1941.

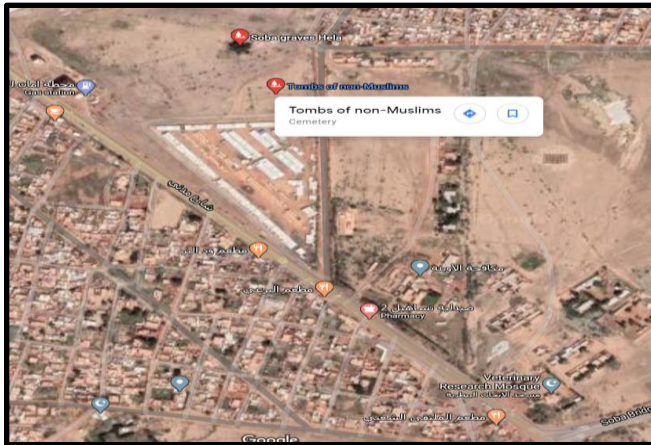


South African soldiers with a captured Italian flag, 1941



Map of East Africa

The circumstances of his death are unknown, however, his body was retrieved and buried in Sudan. He was buried in the Khartoum War Cemetery in the non-Muslim section. John Lewis Michaels lost his life at the age of 29.



Location of John L. Michaels burial site



map of Sudan Michaels name

John Lewis Michaels' name is now immortalized on the Westmount High School memorial plaque.



Westmount High School memorial plaque

By: Christophe Bergeron & Michael DeHaney

Bibliography

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