

**British and Greek Forces
On Crete
20 May 1941**

Creforce HQ (28/90)*¹
Creforce HQ Signals (3/86)
CRA, CE, ADST, ADOS, ADMS (20/60)*
Naval Staff (3/20)*
HQ RAF & signals (20/75)

HERAKLION SECTOR

HQ 14th Infantry Brigade (10/100)*
14th Infantry Brigade Signals & Misc. Dets. (3/60)*
Naval Staff (2/20)*

RAC

Det/3rd Hussars (6 light tanks) (3/34)
Det B Sqn, 7th Royal Tank Regiment (2 I Tanks at Heraklion & 3
at Tymbaki (3/30)

Artillery

234th Medium Battery RA, (13 field guns, Italian or French
75mm & 100mm) (10/190)*
7th Australian Light Anti-Aircraft Battery (less 1 troop & 1
section - 6 Bofors) (5/100)*
1 Troop, 156th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (4 Bofors) (3/60)*
1 Section, 15th Coast Artillery Regiment, RA (2/4" guns) (5/80)*
2 Sections, C Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, RM (4-3" guns) (5/118)
1 Troop, 23rd Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RM (LMGs only) (2/60)

Engineers:

CRE (3/20)*
1 Section, 42nd Field Company, RE (1/70)*
Dets, 1017th Docks Operation Company & 1038th Arab Stevadore
Company (2/94)

Infantry:

2nd Leicesters (23/614)
2nd Yorkshire & Lancashire (20/722)
2nd Black Watch (34/833)
2nd Argyll & Sutherland (at Tymbaki) (32/623)
2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion (33/520)
7th Medium Artillery Regiment (less 1 btry) (20/300)*
3rd Greek Regiment (20/1,080)
7th Greek Regiment (20/780)
Greek Garrison Battalion (20/780)

Medical:

Company, 189th Field Ambulance, RAMC (3/50)*
RASC (10/150)*

¹ Numbers are officers & other ranks.

RAOC (2/50) *

RAF:

220th AMES (1/50)

Airfield Detachment & 112th Squadron (16/125)

CENTRAL SECTOR (RETIMO-GEORGEOPOLIS):

HQ 19th Australian Infantry Brigade (7/60)

Signal Construction Section (2/40)

Austrian Signals Details (2/60)

RAC:

Det/7th Royal Tank Regiment (2 I tanks) (1/11)

Artillery:

Section, 106th RHA (2 2pdrs, anti-tank) (1/15)

"X" Coastal Defense Battery, RM (2-4" guns) (3/84)

2/3rd Field Regiment, RAA, (14 field guns, Italian or French
75mm & 100mm) (15/175)

Engineers:

2/8th Field Company, RAE (6/145)

Infantry:

2/1st Australian Infantry Battalion (32/549)

2/7th Australian Infantry Battalion (21/650)

2/8th Australian Infantry Battalion (14/370)

2/11th Australian Infantry Battalion (35/610)

2/1st Australian Machine Gun Company (6/164)

Medical:

B Company, 2/7th Field Ambulance (2/50) *

AASC Detachments (5/100) *

Ordnance:

DADOS Retimo, 2/1st Austrian Ordnance Store Company & Misc Dets.
(10/140) *

Miscellaneous:

Provost (2/75) *

Airfield Signals Detachments (RAF, Naval, Army) (1/30) *

Minor Austrian Units (7/120) *

Greek Units:

4th & 5th Greek Infantry Regiments (50/2,250)

Gendarmerie (20/780)

MALEME SECTOR (INCLUDING GALATAS):

HQ New Zealand Division (12/84)

New Zealand Divisional Signals (2/42)

CRE (2/28)

RAC:

Det/3rd Hussars (10 light tanks) (5/70)

Det, B Squadron, 7th Royal Tank Regiment (2-I Tanks) (1/12)

Artillery:

1st Light Troop, RA (4 3.7" howitzers) (4/83)
5th New Zealand Field Regiment (less Infantry Det) (17/239)²
1 Troop & 1 Section, 156th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (6 bofors)
(4/90)*
1 Troop, 7th Australian Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (4 bofors)
(3/80)*
1 Section, "C" Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, RM (2-3" guns) (2/60)
"Z" Coastal Defense Battery RM (2-4" guns)
1 Troop, 23rd Anti-Aircraft Battery, RM (LMGs only) (2/60)

Infantry:

4th New Zealand Infantry Brigade³
HQ & Signals Section (10/114)
18th New Zealand Infantry Battalion (27/650)
19th New Zealand Infantry Battalion (25/540)
20th New Zealand Infantry Battalion (27/610)
1 Platoon, 27th New Zealand (Machine Gun) Battalion (1/34)
5th New Zealand Infantry Brigade
HQ & Signals Section (10/115)
7th New Zealand Field Company (as infantry) (3/145)
18th A Troops Company (as infantry) (6/210)
21st New Zealand Infantry Battalion (24/352)
22nd New Zealand Infantry Battalion (24/620)
23rd New Zealand Infantry Battalion (24/547)
28th (Maori) New Zealand Infantry Battalion (29/590)
2 Platoons, 27th New Zealand (Machine Gun) Battalion (4/107)
1st Greek Regiment (at Kastelli) (30/1,000)
10th New Zealand Brigade
HQ & Signals Section (6/30)
New Zealand Cavalry Detachment (19/175)
New Zealand Composite Battalion (37/970)
4th New Zealand Field Regiment (18/159)
5th New Zealand Field Regiment (5/100)
New Zealand Divisional Supply Columns (3/140)
New Zealand Petroleum Company (7/301)
New Zealand Reserve Motor Transport Company (4/270)
1 Platoon, New 27th Zealand (Machine Gun) Battalion (1/32)
6th Greek Regiment (39/1,446)
8th Greek Regiment (39/974)

Medical:

5th New Zealand Field Ambulance (8/146)
6th New Zealand Field Ambulance (8/179)
4th New Zealand Field Hygiene Section (1/30)
7th British General Hospital (including 2nd New Zealand General

² 27th Btry in support of 5th Brigade (7 field guns, French & Italian 75mm, 2 3.7" howitzers)
RHQ and 28th Btry in support of 10th Brigade (2 Italian 75mm & 1 German 77mm gun).

³ The 4th New Zealand Brigade, less 20th Battalion in Force Reserve. 20th Brigade under
command of 10th New Zealand Brigade but acting as New Zealand Divisional Reserve.

Hospital) (21/162)*
Patents 7th General Hospital (10/100)*
HQ NZASC & DID (4/30)
DADOS Maleme Sector (1/15)

Miscellaneous:

New Zealand attached Greek Units (9/27)
New Zealand Provost Company (0/72)
New Zealand Entertainment Unit (2/28)
New Zealand Postal (1/23)

RAF:

252nd AMES (2/54)
30th & 33rd Squadrons (19/210)

Fleet Air Arm:

805th Squadron (5/50)*

SUDA BAY SECTOR

Sector HQ (including HQ MNBDO) (29/223)*
Suda Sector Signals (Army) (2/40)*
NOIC Suda and Naval Base Details (15/300)*
MNBDO Signals Company (6/220)*

Artillery:

"M" Group

HQ 52nd Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RA (6/70)*
151st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (8 3.7" guns) (8/280)*
129th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (12 Bofors) (9/240)*
156th Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (less 2 plats & 1 sect)
(2 bofors) (3/60)*
1 Section, 7th Australian Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA
(2 bofors) (2/40)*
23rd Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (less 2 troops) (LMGs only)
(4/100)

"S" Group

HQ, 2nd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RM (4/7)
"A" Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, RM (8-3" guns) (10/260)
1 Section, "C" Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, RM (2-3" guns) (3/60)
234th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, RA (8-3.7" guns) (8/280)*
304th Search Light Battery, RA (20 lights) (10/300)*
Section, 106th RHA (2 2pdr anti-tank guns) (1/15)
16th Coast Regiment, RA (less 1 section) (4-6", 2-4" 2-12pdrs
& 2 search lights) (25/440)*

Engineers:

CRE (2/30)*
42nd Field Company, RE, (less 1 section) (4/160)*
5th New Zealand Field Park Company (4/116)
Crete Composite Company, RE (10/200)*
1003rd Docks Operations Company (4/80)
RE Stores Depot (4/80)*
Australian Engineers & AASC Stevedores (10/350)*
NZE Stevedores (2/50)

Infantry:

1st Welch (Force Reserve) (233/831)
1st Rangers (9th Bn, KRRC) (16/401)
Northumberland Hussars (11/268)
106th RHA (16/291)
2/2nd Australian Field Regiment (34/520)
Det, 2/3rd Australian Field Regiment (11/295)
16th Australian Composite Battalion (2/2nd & 2/3rd Bns) (16/427)
17th Australian Composite Battalion (2/4th & 2/5th Bns) (20/367)
HQ S/L Regiment & "S" S/L Btry, RM (14/350)
"Royal Perivolians" (Det misc British Units) (30/670)*
1st Echelon New Zealand Supply Column (5/140)
2nd Greek Regiment (500 rifles only) (30/900)

RASC:

231st Motor Transport Company (10/450)*
101st Petroleum Company (7/250)*
1st Petroleum Depot (2/50)*
2 Supply Depots (10/200)*
1 Base Supply Depot (5/65)*
37th DID (2/30)*
Dets 1st & 26th Field Bakery (2/65)*
Misc. RASC (10/100)*
Det, EFI (2/50)*

Ordnance:

5th Indian Brigade Workshops (4/100)*
2nd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Workshops, RM (1/25)
52nd Light Anti-Aircraft Workshops (1/50)*
Misc Units (30/600)*
 Ordnance Offr. Docks
 Ordnance Depot
 Ammunition Depot
 Misc. Ordnance Detachments

Medical:

4th Light Field Ambulance, RAMC (4/100)*
168th Field Ambulance, RAMC (2/100)*
189th Field Ambulance, RAMC (6/100)*
2nd Armored Division & 48th Field Hygiene Sections (2/50)*
1st Tented Hospital, RN (12/52)
Dets, 2/1st, 2/2nd & 2/7th Australian Field Ambulances (8/210)

Miscellaneous Units:

MNBDO Landing & Maintenance Unit plus
 MNBDO Pioneer & Labor Group (12/288)
270th FSS (1/20)*
Base Pay and Field Cash Office (5/30)*
CMP (4/60)*
Suda Island Detachment (1/28)
RAF Details (3/33)
Misc Australian Minor Units (10/130)*
Misc British Minor Units (25/150)*
Pioneer & Labor Units

606th Palestine Pioneer Comany (3/439)
1004th, 1005th, 1007th, & 1008th Cypriot Pioneer Companies (11/688)
Miscellaneous Pioneers (0/200)

Layforce (landed 24-27 May) (40/760)*

Notes:

British Army - Total known, & figures for infantry and some other units are accurate.
Remainder of figures compiled from establishments and any other available information.

Royal Navy - no totals known, all figures are estimates.

RAF - strengths are accurate, based on detailed RAF statements.

Royal Marines - Strengths reliable, based on exact disembarkation returns on arrival
in Crete.

Australians - Total known, & figures for infantry and most other units are accurate.
Remainder of figures compiled from establishments and any other available information.

Greek Army - strenghts are as recorded in Crete, but these are probably, in instances,
estimates.

New Zealand - Strengths are almost exactly accurate.

Information as to British & Australian units provided by British & Australian Historical
Sections. Estimates are marked with *.

Daven, D., Crete, 1953, Wellington, War History Branch.

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