

**Axis Forces
Invasion of Crete
20 May 1941**

Luftwaffe:

Kampfgeschwader zbV 1 (in Dadion, Megara & Corinth)

1/Kampfgeschwader zbV 1
2/Kampfgeschwader zbV 1
1/Kampfgeschwader zbV 172
2/Kampfgeschwader zbV 172

Kampfgeschwader zbV 2 (in Topolia)

Kampfgruppe zbV 60
Kampfgruppe zbV 101
Kampfgruppe zbV 102

Kampfgeschwader zbV 3 (in Tangara)

Kampfgruppe zbV 40
Kampfgruppe zbV 105
Kampfgruppe zbV 106
1/Luftlandesgeschwader I (DFS 230 glider tugs)

Total of 520 Jf52/3m transports and 72 DFS 230 gliders

Staff/,1/,3/Kampfgruppe 2	(Do17z at Menidi)
3/Kampfgruppe 3	(Do17z at Menidi)
1/,2/LG 1	(Ju88A at Eleusis)
2/Kampfgruppe 26	(He111 at Eleusis)
Staff/,2/Stukagruppe 1	(Ju87B at Argos)
Staff/,1/Stukagruppe 2	(Ju87B at Molaoi and Mycene)
3/Stukagruppe 2	(Ju87B at Scarpanto)
1/Stukagruppe 3	(Ju87B at Argos)
1/,2/,3/Stukagruppe 77	(Ju87B at Argos)
Staff/,1/,2/Zestörergruppe 26	(Bf110 at Argos)
2/Zestörergruppe 76	(Bf110 at Argos)
2/,3/Jagdgruppe 77	(Bf109 at Molaoi)
1(J)/LG 2	(Bf109 at Molaoi)
2(F)/11	(Do.17P and Hs126A)
2/Seeaufklarungsgruppe 126	(He60 at Scaramanga)
Seenotdienststaffel 7	(Do24 at Scaramanga)
7(F)/LG 2	(Bf110)
Aufklarungsstaffel XI Flieger Korps	(Bf110) (detached)

2/Kampfgruppe 4 based in Gadurra (Rhodes) and operating in mining operations against Alexandria and the Suez Canal.

228 medium bombers, 250 Stukas, 114 Bf100, 119 Bf109 and 50 reconnaissance aircraft

Italian Airforce:

39° Stormo

92° Gruppo BT (200° & 201° Squadriglia)	(S.79 in Gadurra, Rhodes)
41° Gruppo AS (204° & 205° Squadriglia)	(S.84 in Gadurra, Rhodes)
281° Squadriglia Autonomo AS	(S.791sil in Gadurra, Rhodes)
50° Gruppo Autonomo BT (210° & 211° Squadriglia)	(Z.1007bis in Maritza, Rhodes)
172° Squadriglia RT	(Z.1007bis in Maritza, Rhodes)
161° Squadriglia Autonomo CM	(Ro.43/Ro.44 in Leros)
162° Squadriglia Autonomo CT	(CR42 in Scarpanto)
163° Squadriglia Autonomo CT	(CR32/42 in Gadurra, Rhodes)
Sezione Soccorso	(Z.506B in Rhodes)

On 25 May the 231° Squadriglia (95° Gruppo BT) departed Brindisi to Rhodes with six Z.1007bis and would operate against Crete until 1 June, when the aircraft were turned over to the 50° Gruppo.

German Assault Forces:

7th Flieger Division:

- Divisional Staff
- Transportation Staffel
- 7th Pioneer Battalion
- 7th Artillery Battalion
- 7th Machine Gun Battalion
- 7th Anti-tank Battalion
- Motorcycle Platoon
- 1/,2/,1/1st Fallschirm-jäger Regiment (4 companies per bn)
- 1/,2/,1/2nd Fallschirm-jäger Regiment (4 companies per bn)
- 1/,2/,1/3rd Fallschirm-jäger Regiment (4 companies per bn)
- 1st Lande-sturm-Regiment (1,850 glider born infantry)

5th Mountain Division:

- 1/,2/,3/85th Gebirgsjäger Regiment
- 1/,2/,3/95th Gebirgs (Mountain) Artillerie Regiment
- 95th Panzerjäger Battalion
- 95th Reconnaissance Battalion
- 95th Pioneer Battalion
- 95th Signals Battalion
- 95th Divisional Support Units

Total 15,750 airborne and 7,000 sea born troops.

22nd Air Landing Division¹f

Divisional Staff

1/,2/,3/16th Infantry Regiment (4 companies per bn, plus
13th & 14th Companies)

1/,2/,3/47th Infantry Regiment (4 companies per bn, plus
13th & 14th Companies)

1/,2/,3/63rd Infantry Regiment (4 companies per bn, plus
13th & 14th Companies)

1/,2/,3/,4/22nd Artillery Regiment (3 light & 1 heavy bn)

22nd Reconnaissance Battalion

22nd Signals Battalion

22nd Pioneer Battalion

22nd Panzerjäger Battalion

22nd Flak Battalion

22nd Divisional (Einheiten) Support Units

Shores, C. & Cull, B., Air War for Yugoslavia, Greece, and Crete 1940-1941, 1987,
Carrollton, Tx, Squadron Signal Publications.

Tessin, G., Verbänd und Truppen der deutschen Wehrmacht und Waffen-SS im Zweiten Weltkrieg 1939-1945, Biblio Verlag, Osnabruck, 1977.

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¹ The 22nd Air Landing Division was scheduled to take part in the invasion, but was delayed enroute on the roads in Greece. As a result the 5th Mountain Division replaced it. It was, however, available and could have been used had it been necessary some days after the initial landings.