

Axis Forces
Battle of Sidi Rezeg
November 1941

Supercomando Africa Settentrionale (Higher Command North Africa):
General Ettore Bastico

XX CAM Mobile Army Corps: General Gastone Gambara

Ariete Armored Division: Major General Balotta

132nd Armored Regiment

7th Battalion (M.13/40 tanks)

8th Battalion (M.13/40 tanks)

9th Battalion (M.13/40 tanks)

1 Battery (20/35 anti-tank guns)

8th Bersaglieri Regiment

12th Motorized Bersaglieri Battalion, with

1 Motorized Headquarters Company

2 Motorized Bersaglieri Companies

1 Motorized AT Company (8-47mm guns)

5th Motorized Bersaglieri Battalion, with

1 Motorized Headquarters Company

2 Motorized Bersaglieri Companies

1 Motorized AT Company (8-47mm guns)

1 Motorcycle Company

3rd Heavy Weapons Battalion, with

1 Motorized HQ Company

1 Motorized Machine Gun Company

1 Motorized AA Company (20mm Guns)

1 Motorized Mortar Company (81mm Mortars)

1 Motorized Anti-Tank Battalion, with

1 Motorized Headquarters Company

2 Motorized AT Companies (8-47mm/32 Guns)

132nd Artillery Regiment

1 Motorized AA Battalion, with

1 Motorized AA Company (20mm Guns)

1 Motorized AA Company (90mm/53 Guns)

1 Gruppo with 3 motorized batteries 75/18 guns

1 Gruppo with 2 motorized batteries 105/28 guns

1 Gruppo with 2 motorized batteries 90/53 guns

Trieste Division: Major General Piazzoni

65th Infantry Regiment

2 bns, each with 4 cos motorized infantry)

2 Motorized Infantry Battalions

Motorized Mortar Company (81mm mortars)

Motorized AT Artillery Company (8-47mm AT guns)

Support Battalion

1 co 20/35 anti-aircraft guns

1 co 47/32 anti-tank guns

1 co 81mm mortars

1 co heavy machineguns

66th Infantry Regiment

Motorized Hq Detachment

3 Motorized Infantry Battalions

Motorized Mortar Company (81mm mortars)

Motorized AT Artillery Company (8-47mm AT guns)

9th Bersaglieri Regiment
 Motorized Hq Detachment
 4 Motorized Bersaglieri Battalions (3 cos ea)
 Motorized AT Artillery Company (8-47mm AT guns)
 1 support battalion
 1 co 20/35 anti-aircraft guns
 1 co 47/32 anti-tank guns
 1 co 81mm mortars
 1 co heavy machineguns
 Divisional Troops
 Motorized Machinegun Battalion¹
 Motorized Engineer Battalion¹
 1 support battalion
 1 co 20/35 anti-aircraft guns
 1 co 47/32 anti-tank guns
 1 co 81mm mortars
 1 co heavy machineguns
 21st Artillery Rgiment
 1 Gruppo with 3 Batteries (100/17 guns)
 1 Gruppo with 3 Batteries (75/27 guns)
 1 Gruppo with 3 Batteries (75/27 guns)
 Raggruppamento Esploratorie di Corpo d'Armata de Manovra
 (RECAM) (reconnaissance group of the Mobile Army
 corps)

Panzer Group Afrika: General of Panzer Troops Erwin Rommel

Deutsches Afrikakorps (DAK): Generalleutnant Ludwig Cruewell

15th Panzer Division: Generalmajor Neumann-Silkow

1/,2/8th Panzer Regiment (135 tanks, including
 26 Mk III, 21 Mk IV, 38 Mk II)

15th Rifle Brigade: Colonel Menny

1/,2/115th Motorized Infantry Regiment
 2nd Machine Gun Battalion (became 3/115 on 4/1/42)
 1/,2/200th Motorized Infantry Regiment

33rd Reconnaissance Battalion

1/,2/,3/33rd Motorized Artillery Regiment

33rd Panzer Jäger (AT) Battalion

33rd Engineer Battalion

79th Signals Battalion

21st Panzer Division: Generalmajor von Ravenstein

1/,2/5th Panzer Regiment (120 tanks, including
 68 Mk III, 17 Mk IV, & 35 Mk II)

1/,2/,3/104th Motorized Infantry Regiment²

3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

605th Motorized Artillery Regiment

39th Panzer Jäger (AT) Battalion

Support Troops

¹ May not have been present, but was assigned to the division.

² Transferred from 15th Panzer Regiment on 1 September 1941.

90th Light Afrika Infantry Division:³ Generalmajor Suemmermann

- 1/,2/,3/155th Infantry Regiment
- 1/,2/361st Infantry Regiment
- 3/255th Infantry Regiment
- 3/347th Infantry Regiment
- 605th Panzerjäger Battalion
- 900th z.b.V. Engineer Battalion⁴
- Sonderverband 288
- 580th Reconnaissance Unit

XXI Corps: Generalleutnant Enea Navarrini

Dets. Sabratha Division:

Organization unknown

Bologna Division:

Pavia Division:

Brescia Division: (following is theoretical structure of an Italian infantry division)

Divisional Headquarters

2 Infantry Regiments⁵

- Regimental Headquarters Company

- Service Platoon

- Communications Platoon

- Command Platoon

- 3 Infantry Battalions

- Battalion Headquarters Company

- 1 Command Platoon

- 1 Communications Platoon

- 1 Reconnaissance Platoon

- 3 Reconnaissance Sections

- 3 Infantry Companies, each with

- 1 Company Headquarters Platoon

- 1 Pack Mule Section

- 1 Supply Section

- 1 Command Section

- 3 Platoons, each with

- 2 Sections, each with 2 LMG's

- 1 Heavy Weapons Company

- Company Headquarters Platoon

- 2 HMG Platoons, each with

- 2 HMG Sections

- (2 HMG's in each section)

- 2 Mortar Platoons, each with

- 3 45mm Mortar Sections

- (3 mortars in each section)

- 1 45mm Mortar Company

³ 90th Division had 76 officers and 1,603 men. The division had 28 guns and controlled 9 field guns, 14 50mm AT guns, 3 88mm and 14 20mm guns.

⁴ "z.b.V" means "zur besondern Verwendung or "for special employment".

⁵ Each regiment had 115 officers, 171 NVO's, 3,163 men, 572 horses, 108 LMG's, 25 HMG's, 54 - 45mm mortars, 4 65/17 guns, 10 motorcycles, 19 bicycles and 44 vehicles.

- 1 67mm/17 Field Gun Battery
 - 174 troops
 - 73 Horses
 - 1 MG
 - 8 Light Trucks
 - 4 67mm/17 guns
 - 4 Motorcycles
- 1 Engineering Company
- 1 CCNN (Black Shirt) Legion⁶
 - 2 CCNN Battalions, with a total of
 - 1,300 infantry
 - 48 LMG's
 - 1 HMG Company
 - 12 HMG's
 - 18 45mm Mortars
- 1 81mm Mortar Battalion
 - Battalion Headquarters Platoon
 - 3 81mm Mortar Companies, each with
 - 6 Mortar sections (with 1 mortar each)
- 1 47mm/32 AT Company⁷
- 1 Artillery Regiment
 - Regimental Headquarters Company
 - 1 AA Company
 - 8 20mm AA guns
 - 2 75mm/13 Artillery Battalions, each with
 - Battalion Headquarters Company
 - 12 75mm/13 Guns organized in 3 4 gun batteries
 - 1 100mm/17 Howitzer Battalion, with
 - Battalion Headquarters Company
 - 12 100mm/17 Howitzers organized in 3 4 gun batteries

Artillery Command 104: Majro General Boettcher

- 5 Artillery units with:
 - 9 210mm howitzers
 - 12 French 100mm guns
 - 45 French 150mm guns

XXI Italian Corps Artillery:

- 12 Batteries with
 - 36-105mm guns)
 - 84 French 149mm guns
 - 12 -120mm naval guns

Green, J., Mare Nostrum, The War in the Mediterranean

Agar-Hamilton, J.A.I. & Turner, L.C.F., The Sidi Rezeg Battles 1941, Oxford, University Press, London/New York, 1957. Copyright GFN1991

⁶ Not always present. Consisted of 52 officers, 76 NCO's, 1,130 men, 206 horses, 5 cars, 1 commander's car, 2 motorcycles, 13 bicycles, 18-45mm mortars, 48 LMG's and 12 HMG's.

⁷ The AT Company had 6 officers, 10 NCO's, 225 men, 76 horses, 10 trucks, and 1 bicycle.