Axis Forces Battle of Sidi Rezeg November 1941

<u>Supercomando Africa Settentrionale (Higher Command North Africa):</u> 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 Compaies (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 "Valtellina" 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)

66th "Valtellina" 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

28th Bersaglieri Battalion

30th Bersaglieri Battalion

32nd Bersaglieri Battalion

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Motorized AT Artillery Company (8-47mm AT guns)
               1 support battalion
                    1 co 20/35 anti-aircraft quns
                    1 co 47/32 anti-tank guns
                    1 co 81mm mortars
                    1 co heavy machineguns
          101st Anti-Tank 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 Battalion<sup>1</sup>
               Motorized Engineer Battalion
               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 Po (motorized) Artillery Regiment
               1 Gruppo with 3 Batteries (100/17 guns)
               1 Gruppo with 3 Batteries (75/27 guns)
               1 Gruppo with 3 Batteries (75/27 guns)
          Ragruppamento Esploratorie di Corpo d'Armata de Manovra
               (RECAM) (reconnaissance group of the Mobile Army
               corps)
            28th Engineer Company (Buastatori)
      90th Medical Section
           16th Surgical Unit
           65th Field Hospital
           214th Field Hospital
           242nd Field Hospital
      80th Heavy Motor Transport Section
      176th Supply Section
      22nd CCRR Section
Panzer Group Afrika: General of Panzer Troops Erwin Rommel
<u>Deutsches Afrikakorps (DAK)</u>: Generalleutnant Ludwing 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
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¹ May not have been present, but was assigned to the division.

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<u>21st Panzer Division</u>: 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 Regiment<sup>2</sup>
          3rd Reconnaissance Battalion
          605th Motorized Artillery Regiment
          39th Panzer Jäger (AT) Battalion
          Support Troops
     90th <u>Light Afrika Infantry Division</u>: 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: Generale di Divisione Gloria
     39th Bologna Infantry Regiment
     40th Bologna Infantry Regiment
     10th Volturno Artillery Regiment
     135th Mixed Motor Tranpsort Section
     66th Surgical Unit
     96th Field Hospital
     528th Field Hospital
     308th Field Ambulance Unit
     34th Field Bakery
     73rd CCRR Section
Pavia Division: Generale di divisione Franceschini
     57th Abruzzi Infantry Regiment
     58th Abruzzi Infantry Regiment
     20th Piave Artillery Regiment
     10th Mortar Battalion
     10th Anti-Tank Company
     10th Engineer Battalion
          10th Signal Company
          9th Pionieer Company
          42nd Pionieer Company
     108th Motorcyclke Bersaglieri Company
     Squadron L6 Tanks
     117th Medical Section
          816th Field Hospital
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² Transferred from 15th Panzer Regiment on 1 September 1941.

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".

817th Field Hospital 65th Surgical Unit

186th Heavy Motor Transport Section

236th Mixed Autoreparto

127th Bakery Section

31st CCRR Section

32nd CCRR Section

Brescia Division: Generale di divisione Zambon

19th Bresica Infantry Regiment

20th Bresica Infantry Regiment

55th Artillery Regiment

27th Mixed Engineer Battalion

34th Medical Section

35th Surgical Unit

95th Field Hospital

328th Motor Transport Section

34th Supply Section

127th CCRR Section

Artillery Command 104: Major General Boettcher

5 Artillery units with:

9 210mm howitzers

12 German 100mm guns

3 German 170mm guns

12 French 155mm guns

XXI Italian Corps Artillery:

12 Batteries with

36-105mm guns)

84 French 149mm guns

12 -120mm naval guns

Green, J., <u>Mare Nostrum, The War in the Mediterranean</u>

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

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