

**Italo-German Order of Battle**  
**North Africa**  
**24 May 1942**

Superior Command: General Ettore Bastico

Superior Artillery Command: General Ettore Manc di Mores

- 8th Raggruppamento Army Artillery (decentralized)
  - 152mm/37 Guns
  - 152mm/13 Howitzers
  - 149mm/40 Guns
  - 149mm/28 Howitzers
- 37th Raggruppamento (20mm AA Guns)
- 50th Positional AA Guns (20mm)
- 51st Positional AA Guns (20mm)

Superior Engineer Command: General Luigi Grosso

- 2nd Special Engineer Raggruppamento (Labor troops?)
- 7th Special Engineer Raggruppamento
- 31st Assault Engineerse (Guastatori)<sup>1</sup>

North Africa Intendancy: Colonel Vittorio Palma  
(Service and Administrative Corps)

Units Directly Assigned to Superior Command

- 133rd Littorio Armored Division
  - 133rd Medium Armored Regiment
    - 2 Battalions M Tanks
  - 12th Motorized Bersaglieri Regiment (3 Bns)
  - 133rd Motorized Artillery Regiment
    - 1 75mm/27 gun Battalion
  - 33rd Engineer Battalion
- 25th Bologna Infantry Division
  - 39th Infantry Regiment (2 Bns)
  - 40th Infantry Regiment (2 Bns)
  - 205th Artillery Regiment
    - 1 Battalion (100mm/17 Guns)
    - 3 Battalions (75mm/27 Guns)
- Support Units
  - Raggruppamento Giovani Fascisti
    - 2 Battalions
    - 4th Granatieri AT Battalion
  - Raggruppamento North Africa Celere<sup>2</sup>
    - 11th Infantry Battalion
    - 291st G.A.F. (Frontier) Artillery Battalion (77mm/27 Guns)
    - 332nd G.A.F. (Frontier) Artillery Battalion (100mm/17 Guns)
    - San Marco Marines (2 companies assigned to Hecker Group)

Tripolitanian Command:

Tripoli Proper

- 1 CCRR (Carabinier) Battalion
- 330th G.A.F. Machine Gun Battalion
- 340th G.A.F. Machine Gun Battalion

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<sup>1</sup> Assigned to 10th Corps.

<sup>2</sup> Horse cavalry stationed in Tripoli).

350th G.A.F. Machine Gun Battalion  
335th G.A.F. Artillery Battalion (149mm/12 Howitzers)  
345th G.A.F. Artillery Battalion (120mm/25 Guns)<sup>3</sup>  
353rd G.A.F. Artillery Battalion (120mm/25 Guns)  
34th Engineer Battalion  
1st CCNN Battalion  
5th CCNN Battalion  
5th Libyan Infantry Battalion  
Libyan Fortress Troops (2 cos)  
30th Raggruppamento Coastal & AA Artillery  
31st Raggruppamento AA Artillery  
34th Raggruppamento Coastal & AA Artillery

Garia Sector:

1st Libyan Infantry Battalion  
Libyan Fortress Troops (5 cos)  
290th Raggruppamento G.A.F. Artillery  
Savari (Light Horse Cavalry) (1 Squadron)  
1 Garrison Company  
Det/Engineers

Zuara Sector

27th Sector G.A.F.  
3rd Libyan Infantry Battalion  
2nd Savari Battalion (1st, 5th, 6th & 7th Sqns)  
Libyan Fortress Troops (4 cos)  
280th Raggruppamento G.A.F. Artillery  
1 Garrison Company  
Det/Engineers

Homs Sector:

1st Spahis (Irregular Cavalry) Battalion  
25th Machine Gun Battalion  
4th Libyan Infantry Battalion  
6th CCNN Battalion  
Libyan Fortress Troops (1 co)  
2 Garrison Companies  
34th Raggruppamento Coastal Artillery  
52nd Positional AA Battalion (20mm Guns)

Libyan Sahara Command: General Alberto Mannerini

Hon Sector:

55th Independent Infantry Battalion<sup>4</sup>  
4th Sahara Troop Company  
5th Sahara Troop Company  
Libyan Fortress Troops (3 Cos)  
1 AT Company (37mm/32 AT Guns)  
3 Artillery batteries (77mm/28 Guns)  
4 Sahara Batteries  
1 Engineer Company

Ghat Sector:

1 Meharisti del Fezzan Company  
Libyan Fortress Troops (1 Co)

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<sup>3</sup> Coastal defense forces.

<sup>4</sup> Remnants of the Savona Division.

Sebha Sector:

4 Sahara Companies  
3 Meharisti dello Sciati Companies  
Libyan Fortress Troops (3 Cos)  
2 G.A.F. Artillery Batteries (77mm/28 Guns)  
1 Sahara Battery

5th Squadron Area: General Vittorio Marchesi

East Sector:

1st Stormo  
    6th Fighter Group (Mc 202)  
    17th Fighter Group (Mc 202)  
2nd Stormo  
    3rd Fighter Group (Cr 42)  
    8th Fighter Group (Mc 200)  
    13th Fighter Group (Mc 200)  
    150th Fighter Group (Mc 200)  
4th Stormo  
    9th Fighter Group (Mc 200)  
    10th Fighter Group (Mc 200)  
35th Stormo  
    86th Bombing Group (Cant Z. 1007)  
    95th Bombing Group (Cant Z. 1007)  
50th Stormo  
    156th Ground Support Group (Cr 42)  
    159th Ground Support Group (Cr 42)  
131st Torpedo Group  
174th R.S.T. Group  
176th R.S.T. Group  
69th Group (Ca 311)  
196th R.M. Squadron (Cant Z. 501)

Sahara Aviation

26th Sahara Squadron (Ghibli)  
99th Sahara Squadron (Ghibli)  
103rd Sahara Squadron (Ghibli)

Superior Naval Command: Admiral Giuseppe Lombardi

Tripoli Naval Command:

Port Support Units  
10th Libyan Milmar Legion  
12th Antisubmarine Battalion

Bengasi Naval Command:

Port Support Units  
3rd Torpedo Squadron  
    Prestinari  
    Cantore  
    Cascino  
    Montanari  
13th Torpedo Squadron  
    Circe  
    Clio  
    Callipe  
    Perseo  
Gunboat Scilla  
6th (German) "S" Boat Squadron  
Miscellaneous Support Ships

Panzerarmee Afrika: General Erwin Rommel

10th Corps: General Benvenuto Gioda

Corps Troops:

9th Bersaglieri Regiment (2 Bns)

15th Artillery Raggruppamento

2 Artillery Battalions (100mm/17 Howitzers)

2 Artillery Battalions (75mm/27 Guns)

Service Troops

27th Brescia Infantry Division

19th Infantry Regiment (3 Bns)

20th Infantry Regiment (3 Bns)

1st Celere Artillery Regiment

2 Artillery Battalions (100mm/17 Howitzers)

2 Artillery Battalions (75mm/27 Guns)

1 Artillery Battalion (88mm/55 AT/AA Guns)

27th Engineer Battalion

17th Pavia Infantry Division

27th Infantry Regiment (3 Bns)

28th Infantry Regiment (3 Bns)

26th Artillery Regiment

2 Artillery Battalions (105mm/28 Guns)

18th Engineer Battalion

21st Corps: General Enea Nvarini

Corps Troops:

7th Bersaglieri Regiment (2 Bns)

33rd Assault Engineer Battalion

Service Troops

102nd Trento Motorized Infantry Division<sup>5</sup>

61st Motorized Infantry Regiment (3 Bns)

62nd Motorized Infantry Regiment (3 Bns)

46th Motorized Artillery Regiment

2 Artillery Battalions (100mm/17 Howitzers)

2 Artillery Battalions (75mm/27 Guns)

51st Engineer Battalion

60th Sabratha Infantry Division

85th Infantry Regiment (2 Bns)

86th Infantry Regiment (2 Bns)

3rd Celere Artillery Regiment

1 Artillery Battalion (100mm/17 Howitzers)

2 Artillery Battalions (75mm/27 Guns)

15th Schützen Brigade (German Infantry)

200th Infantry Regiment (2 Bns)

708th Heavy Gun Company<sup>6</sup>

361st Infantry Regiment (3 Bns)<sup>7</sup>

528th Artillery Battalion (one battery)

533rd Artillery Battalion

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<sup>5</sup> Division was short of motorized vehicles.

<sup>6</sup> May be attached, but not certain.

<sup>7</sup> Detached from 90th Infantry Division.

612th Light AA Battalion  
 4 Batteries with 12 20mm Guns)

20th Corps: General Ettore Baldassarre  
 34th Special Engineer Battalion

132nd Ariete Armored Division  
 132nd Medium Armored Regiment, with  
 3 Armored Battalions, each with  
 3 Armored Companies

8th Motorized Bersaglieri Regiment  
 3 Armored Battalions

1/,2/132nd Motorized Artillery Regiment, each with  
 3 Batteries of 75mm/27 Guns

3/132nd Motorized Artillery Regiment, with  
 3 Batteries of 105mm/28 Guns

4/132nd Motorized Artillery Regiment, with  
 3 Batteries of 90mm/53 AA/AT Guns

3/Lancieri di Novara Armored Regiment, with  
 2 Companies L6 Tanks

3/Nizza Cavalleria Armored Car Regiment  
 2 Companies

2/24th Artillery Regiment (105mm/28 Guns)

551st Semoventi SP 75mm/18 Howitzer Battalion  
 1 HQ (2 Guns)  
 2 Batteries (4 Guns each)

552nd Semoventi SP 75mm/18 Howitzer Battalion  
 1 HQ (2 Guns)  
 2 Batteries (4 Guns each)

101st Trieste Motorized Infantry Division:  
 65th Motorized Infantry Regiment (2 Bns)  
 66th Motorized Infantry Regiment (2 Bns)  
 21st Motorized Artillery Regiment  
 2 100mm/17 Howitzer Battalions  
 2 75mm/27 Gun Battalions  
 1 75mm/50 (AT?) Gun Battalion  
 1 47mm/32 AT Battery (may not have been attached)

8th Bersaglieri Armored Car Battalion  
 131st Artillery Battalion (German 149mm/28 Guns)  
 148th/8th Army Artillery (149mm/28 Guns)  
 52nd Motorized Engineer Battalion

German Afrika Korps  
 135th (Luftwaffe) Flak Regiment  
 HQ Company  
 1/18th Flak Regiment  
 3 Batteries, with  
 4 88mm Guns each  
 5 Batteries, with  
 12 20mm Guns each  
 1/35th Flak Regiment<sup>8</sup>  
 3 Batteries, with  
 4 88mm Guns each

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<sup>8</sup> May be 33rd Flak Regiment. Identity uncertain.

5 Batteries, with  
12 20mm Guns each  
Army 617th Light AA Battalion  
3 Batteries, with  
12 20mm SP Guns each

15th Panzer Division:

8th Panzer Regiment (2 Bns)  
115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (3 Bns)  
33rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
1/33rd Motorized Artillery Regiment  
1st - 3rd Batteries, 4 light 105mm Howitzers each  
2/33rd Motorized Artillery Regiment  
4th - 6th Batteries, 4 light 105mm Howitzers each  
3/33rd Motorized Artillery Regiment  
7th Battery, with 4 light 105mm Howitzers  
8th & 9th Batteries - 4 150mm Howitzers each  
33rd AT Battalion  
33rd Engineer Battalion  
Support Troops

21st Panzer Division:

5th Panzer Regiment (2 Bns, each with 4 companies)  
104th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (3 Bns)  
3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
1/155th Motorized Artillery Regiment  
1st - 3rd Batteries, 4 light 105mm Howitzers each  
1/155th Motorized Artillery Regiment  
4th - 6th Batteries, 4 light 105mm Howitzers each  
1/155th Motorized Artillery Regiment  
7th Battery, with 4 light 105mm Howitzers  
8th & 9th Batteries - 4 150mm Howitzers each  
39th AT Battalion  
Support Troops

90th Light Afrika Motorized Division:

288th Sonderverband Panzer Grenadier Regiment, with  
12 Companies of all arms  
155th Motorized Infantry Regiment  
580th Reconnaissance Company<sup>9</sup>  
606th Army Light AA Battalion  
361st Afrika Artillery Battalion, with  
3 Batteries, 4 - 105mm Howitzers each<sup>10</sup>  
1 AA Battery (12-20mm AA Guns)  
Fallschirmjäger (Parachute) Lehr Battalion  
(700-1,200 men in Martuba, 360 present on 1/6/42)

Army Artillery

221st Artillery Regiment  
1/3/408th Motorized Heavy Artillery Battalion, with  
2 Batteries (4 105mm Guns each)  
2/115th Motorized Heavy Artillery Regiment  
2 Batteries (3 210mm Howitzers)

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<sup>9</sup> Increased to battalion strength in July 1942.

<sup>10</sup> May be Russian 76.2mm and battery of British 25pdrs attached.

1 Battery (4 105mm Italian Guns)  
902nd Motorized Heavy Artillery Battalion  
3 170mm Guns mounted on Howitzer carriages

Non Motorized

362nd Coastal Artillery Battery (4-105mm Howitzers)  
363rd Mountain Artillery Battery (4-75mm Mountain Guns)  
364th Mountain Artillery Battery (4-75mm Mountain Guns)  
4th Battery/149th Coastal Artillery Battery  
(3-170mm Howitzers)  
4th Battery/772nd Coastal Artillery Battery  
(3-170mm Howitzers)  
523rd Coastal Artillery Battalion, with  
3 Batteries 4 French 155mm Guns  
528th Coastal Artillery Battalion, with  
3 Batteries 4 French 155mm Guns  
529th Coastal Artillery Battalion, with  
3 Batteries 4 French 155mm Guns  
532nd Coastal Artillery Battalion, with  
3 Batteries 4 French 155mm Guns

Italian Artillery Command

8th Raggruppamento of Army Artillery  
33rd Battalion  
3 Batteries of 149mm/40 Guns  
52nd/8th Artillery Regiment  
4 152mm/37 Guns (WWI vintage)  
Service Troops

Kampfgruppe Hecker

13th Brandenburger Company  
3 50mm AT Guns  
6 37mm AT Guns  
4 British 2pdr (40mm) AT Guns  
10 AT Rifles  
10 LMG's  
15 SMG's  
3 British Tanks (either Mk IV or VI)  
2 SP Guns  
1 Armored Car  
1 Truck  
San Marco Marine Battalion  
13 47mm AT Guns  
3 45mm Mortars  
13 HMG's  
9 LMG's  
50 SMG's  
1 Armored Car  
1 Truck  
778th Pioneer Landing Company (Amphibious Assault Engineers)  
18 SMG's  
3 LMG's  
1 Amphibious Tractor  
3 Trucks  
2 Armored Cars  
3 Assault Boats

4 Motor Landing Barges  
2 Landing Boats

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

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