German Kampfgruppe In North Africa 1941 through 1943

<u>Verband</u> <u>Ablöscher</u> (Formed 11/4/42 & assigned to 15th Panzer Division, under 3/33rd Artillery Regiment, fought at El Alamein)

2 Batteries of Captured British Guns

Afrikakorps Staff Kampfgruppe (Formed on or around 4/14/42)

2nd Co., 606th Flak Battalion (probably had (8-20mm self propelled guns and 2 quad 20mm self propelled guns) 39th Panzerjäger Battalion (1 platoon) (probably had 4 47mm SP guns) 1 Armored Platoon (5 Mk II tanks) 1 Platoon, 1st co., 33rd Pioneer Battalion 1 Armored Car Platoon, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion Artillery Group Biel (Formed on 13 June 1942 to protect an attack by the 21st Panzer Division against the Riegel position.) 1/155th Artillery Regiment 3 Motorized Batteries (each with 4 105mm 1FH & 2 LMGs) 2/155th Artillery Regiment 3 Motorized Batteries (each with 4 105mm lFH & 2 LMGs) 104th Artillery Commando: (Formed in early 1941 to consolidate all the miscellaneous artillery of the Panzer Army.) Staff/221st Artillery Regiment Staff/408th Heavy Artillery Battalion 2nd Btry, 408th Heavy Artillery Battalion (4-100mm K.18 guns) 3rd Btry, 408th Heavy Artillery Battalion (4-100mm K.18 guns) 364th Artillery Battery (4-76.2mm Russian Field Guns) 5th Btry, 115th Artillery Regiment (3-210mm Mrs.18 howitzers) Staff, 2nd Bn, 115th Artillery Regiment 4th Btry, 115th Artillery Regiment (3-210mm Mrs.18 howitzers) 4th Btry, 149th Army Coastal Artillery Battery 1st Btry, 408th Artillery (4-150mm sFH howitzers) 4th Btry, 408th Artillery 6th Btry, 115th Artillery Regiment (3-210mm Mrs.18 howitzers) 362nd Artillery Battery Staff/528th Heavy Artillery Battalion 2nd & 3rd Btrys, 528th Heavy Artillery Battalion (4-150mm K16 guns each) 533rd Artillery Battery (4-87.6mm English Field Guns) 902nd Artillery Battery (3-170mm guns on how.carriage) Audorff Kampfgruppe: (Formed on 22 February 1943 to, during the German 26 February - 15 March 1943 Tunisia offensive, launch holding attacks opposite Madjez. 754th Grenadier Regiment

Hermann Göring Panzer Division (1 unknown battalion)

Aufklärungsgruppe (Reconnaissance Group): (Formed on 22 August 1942 and assigned to the 15th Schützen Brigade.) 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion Motorized HQ Company Engineer Platoon (3 LMGs) Panzerjäger Platoon (3-50mm AT guns & 1 28mm AT qun) Signals Platoon Light Armored Car Platoon (3 LMGs) Armored Car Platoon (75mm gun & 6 LMGs) Armored Car Company (40 LMGs, 20 HMGs) Field Battery (4-87.6mm British guns & 2 LMGs) Armored Panzer Grenadier Company (half tracks) (18 LMGs, 2 HMGs, 3 28mm AT rifles & 4 50mm AT guns) 33rd Reconnaissance Battalion Motorized HQ Company Engineer Platoon (3 LMGs) Panzerjäger Platoon (3-50mm AT guns & 1 28mm AT oun) Signals Platoon Light Armored Car Platoon (3 LMGs) Armored Car Platoon (75mm guns & 6 LMGs) Armored Car Company (40 LMGs, 20 HMGs) Field Battery (4-87.6mm British guns & 2 LMGs) Armored Panzer Grenadier Company (half tracks) (18 LMGs, 2 HMGs, 3 28mm AT rifles & 4 50mm AT guns) 580th Reconnaissance Battalion Motorized HQ Company Engineer Platoon (21 LMGs, 2 HMGs, 1 81mm Mortar) Panzerjäger Platoon (8-50mm AT guns) Signals Platoon Light Armored Car Platoon (3 LMGs) Armored Car Company (40 LMGs, 20 HMGs) Field Battery (4-87.6mm British guns & 2 LMGs) Motorized Panzer Grenadier Company (18 LMGs, 2 HMGs, 3 28mm AT rifles & 4 50mm AT guns) 2nd & 3rd Cos., 612th Flak Battalion (12-20mm Self Propelled Flak guns each) Baade Gruppe: (Formed on 17 July 1942 for operations at El Alamein). Staff/115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (1 unknown battalion) 5th Panzer Regiment (1 platoon) 1 Artillery Battery Bach Gruppe: (Name given to Bach's the 1/104th Infantry Regiment. It was captured at Halfava Pass on 1/17/42.)

Ballerstedt Kampfgruppe: (Formed on 1/5/42).

Barenthin Group: (The name given to the Barenthin Parachute Regiment)

<u>Besde</u> <u>Group</u>: (Also known as the Abschnitte Mitte, was formed on 25 June 1942, from units of the 15th Panzer Division. It, the Warrelmann Gruppe and the Dedekin Gruppe, were under the command of Oberst Baade, with orders to hold positions near Sidi Mahmud.

<u>33rd Panzerjäger Battalion</u> 1 (mot) Signals Platoon 3 (mot) Companies (6-50mm AT & 6 LMGs) <u>33rd Panzer Pioneer Battalion</u> 3 (mot) Companies (9 LMGs ea) 1 Light (mot) Engineering Supply Column <u>3/33rd Artillery Regiment</u> 3 (mot) Batteries (4-150mm 1FH 18 & 2 LMGs ea)

<u>Böttcher</u> <u>Gruppe</u>: (Name given to the 104th Artillery Kommando while Generalleutnant Böttcher was its commander. Another Böttcher Gruppe was formed shortly before the British Crusader Offensive after Böttcher was relieved of that command. This new group consisted of:)

<u>Briel</u> <u>Gruppe</u>: (Name given to 606th Flak Battalion)

<u>Buhse Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed prior to the attacks on Sbeitla on 15-16 February, 1943, with the purpose of holding the allies near Sbeitla.)

47th Grenadier Regiment

¹ In addition, each battalion had 2 37mm AT guns, 10 cars & 15 trucks.

<u>Burk Gruppe</u>: (Formed as supporting group for the Weber Kampfgruppe on or about 18-28 January 1943.)

5th Co., 7th Panzer Regiment 7th Co., 7th Panzer Regiment 8th Co., 7th Panzer Regiment (1 platoon) 3rd Flak Platoon, 90th Panzerjäger Battalion 3rd Co., 49th Panzer Pioneer Battalion (1 platoon) Engaged at the battles of Dorsal Passes, Tunisia, January 18-25, 1943. Burckhardt Kampfgruppe: (Name given to the XI Fliegerkorps-Fallschrimjäger-Lehreinheit (demonstration unit). <u>Cröwell</u> <u>Gruppe</u>: (Formed for attack on Gazala positions in May 1942. X Italian Corps Pavia Division Brescia Division XXI Italian Corps Trento Division Sabratha Division 15th Schützen Brigade Army Artillery Dak Kampfgruppe (Formed on 10 February 1943. It was sent against Gafsa during the battle of Sidi bou Zid.) Staff Deutsches Afrika Korps 8th Panzer Regiment (1 battalion) Afrika Panzer Grenadier Regiment Panzerjäger Company 1st Luftwaffe Jäger Brigade Staff, 1st Bn/1st Afrika Artillery Regiment 1st Bn/1st Afrika Artillery Regiment 71st Nebelwerfer Regiment (3 btrys) Staff/135th Flak Regiment 33rd Reconnaissance Battalion 200th Pioneer Battalion (1 company) Italian Armored Battalion 2 Italian Infantry Battalions Bersaglieri (Italian) Battalion Italian Artillery Battalion

Italian Self Propelled Gun Battery

<u>Dedekin Group</u>: (Also known as Abschnitt West, it was formed on 24 June 1942, from units drawn from the 15th Panzer Division. It fought with the Warrelmann and Besde Groups under Colonel Baade to hold positions near Sidi Mahmud.)

1/115thInfantryRegiment(2 companies, eachwith:18LMGs, 2 HMGs, 3-81mmmortars, 3 28mmAT guns& 3-50mmAT guns3/115thInfantryRegiment(4 companies, eachwith:18LMGs, 2 HMGs, 3-81mmmortars, 3 28mmAT guns

& 3-50mm AT guns <u>1/33rd Artillery Regiment</u> 2 (mot) Batteries (4-105mm lFH 18 & 4 LMGs ea) <u>Light Flak Detachment</u>

<u>Djedeida</u> <u>Group</u>: (Formed after 1 December 1942 to pursue the allies if they pulled back from the battles north of Tebourba. It attacked the allies near Djedeida.)

3 Pz III Tanks 2 PZ VI Tiger Tanks 1 Panzerjäger Company 1 Parachute Company 1 Infantry Company 1 Flak Battery 18 20mm guns Motorcycle Company (1 platoon)

Eckardstein Group: (second designation for the 104th Infantry Regiment)

<u>Eder Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 8 December 1941 as the rearguard for the Afrikakorps as it withdrew from Bir Hatlet el Genadel. It remained organized through December 1941 and possibly longer.

- 1 Panzerjäger Company
- 1 Infantry Battalion
- 1 Artillery Battery
- 1 Radio truck

<u>Eder Group</u>: (Formed as a second support group for the Weber Korpsgruppe on 22 February 1943. It was to attack across Djebel el Ang and turn south, destroying the allied units near Chaouach and Toukaber.

755th Grenadier Regiment

Ewerg Group:

104th Infantry Regiment

<u>Fischer</u> <u>Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 3 November 1942 to cover the withdrawal of the 15th Panzer Division.)

605th Panzerjäger Battalion Motorized Panzerjäger Battalion HQ 1 Motorized Signals Platoon 3 Self Propelled Panzerjäger Companies (8 Czech 50mm guns & 6 LMGs) 1 Self Propelled Panzerjäger Company (8 Russian 50mm guns & 6 LMGs) 3/33rd Artillery Regiment 1 Motorized Battery (4-100mm K18 guns & 2 LMGs) 2 Motorized Batteries (4-150mm sFH 18 howitzers & 2 LMGs) 1/33rd Flak Regiment

2/33rd Flak Regiment

Fischer Korpsgruppe: (Formed on 4 January 1943). It consisted of:)

10th Panzer Division 190th Panzer Battalion (1 co) 2/190th Artillery Regiment A24 March Battalion

<u>Franz</u> <u>Group</u>: Formed in May 1943 to defend a section of cliff and beach at Hamman Lift. It repulsed attacks by superior allied forces for 2 days).

Panzerjäger unit Artillery unit

<u>Fullriede Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed around 26 February 1943 to replace the 47th Grenadier Regiment in the lines. It consisted of)

961st Infantry Regiment (plus several small German & Italian units)

Funk Kampfgruppe: (Formed on 22 April 1943 as part of the Schmidt Kampfgruppe.)

1/Hermann Göring Jäger Regiment

<u>Geissler Vorhut (Advanced Guard)</u>: (Formed on 2 December 1942 to lead the German on Valbia.

33rd Panzerjäger Battalion (1 1/2 companies) Staff/200th Infantry Regiment 33rd Artillery Battalion (1 1/2 batteries) 15th Motorcycle Battalion

<u>Gerhardt Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 8 February 1943 as one of three "sturm" groups of the 10th Panzer Division.)

2/7th Panzer Regiment 2/69th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 1/90th Panzerjäger Battalion (1 platoon) 3/90th Panzerjäger Battalion (1 platoon) 3/Panzer Pioneer Battalion (1 platoon) 90th Panzer Artillery Regiment (1 light field howitzer btry)

<u>Gräf Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 1 June 1942 as a pursuit group. It was given all the fuel remaining to the 21st Panzer Division and ordered to advance and capture as much fuel, etc., as possible.)

39th Panzerjäger Battalion (1 company) 104th Infantry Regiment (1 bn) 155th Artillery Regiment (1 btry) 1 88mm Flak Battery 200th Pioneer Battalion (1 company)

<u>Grön</u> <u>Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed shortly before the Faid-Maknessy battles of 30 January to 3 February 1943. It consisted of:)

1/5th Panzer Regiment

Hain Group: (Formed around 16 September 1942.)

33rd Feldersatz Battalion (replacement battalion) 200th Feldersatz Battalion (replacement battalion) 990th Light Division Administration Battalion 12th Coastal Artillery Battery (76mm guns)

<u>Haut Group</u>: (Formed on 25 February 1943 as a support group to the "Lang Group". It consisted of:)

1/86th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 190th Artillery Battalion

On 20 March 1943 the Haut Group was reinforced until it had:

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T3 Field Battalion

T4 Field Battalion

A30March Battalion

11th Parachute Pioneer Battalion

4/2nd Afrika Artillery Regiment

4th Battery, 2nd Afrika Artillery Regiment

12th Battery, 2nd Afrika Artillery Regiment

4th Battery, 2nd Afrika Artillery Regiment

(mot) Panzerjäger Battalion, Barenthin Luftwaffe Regiment (2 plts)

1st Btry, 1st Flak Battalion
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Holzinger Group: Alternative name for:

756th Gebirgsjäger (Mountain) Regiment

<u>Hudel Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 30 November 1942. Operated with the Lüder Group in an attack on Tebourba and was to block the Tebourba gap if the allies pulled back.)

2 Armored Companies 2 Panzerjäger Companies 10th Motorcycle Battalion (1 motorcycle company)

<u>104th</u> <u>Infantry Regimental</u> <u>Group</u>: (Formed around 1 June 1942, it contained most of the 21st Panzer Division. It was to occupy Eluet El Tamir and to prepare defenses for the area to prevent the British from breaking through to the west.)

39th Panzerjäger Battalion 1/,3/104th Infantry Regiment 1/155th Artillery Regiment - 3 (mot) Batteries (4-105mm lFH 18 ea) 3/155th Artillery Regiment 2 (mot) Batteries (4-150mm sFH & 2 LMGs ea) 1 (mot) Battery (4-100 K18 guns & 2 LMGs) 3rd Btry, 18th Flak Regiment (6-88mm guns) 2nd Btry, 617th Flak Regiment (12 Self Propelled 20mm Flak Guns) 200th Pioneer Battalion <u>Irkens Kampfgruppe</u>: (Also known as the Irkens Panzer brigade, was formed on 24 April 1943.)

5th Panzer Regiment 7th Panzer Regiment 8th Panzer Regiment 501th (Tiger) Panzer Battalion 47th Grenadier Regiment Artillery Battalion Italian Artillery Battalion 2 Flak Battalions Audorff Group Kaiser Kampfgruppe: (Formed on 17 June 1942 for operations against Belhamed and Sidi Rezeq.) 190th Panzerjäger Battalion (1 (mot) company with: (9-50mm AT guns & 6 LMGs) 1/155th Infantry Regiment 361st Artillery Regiment (1 btry with 4-105mm 1FH 18 & 2 LMGs) Kautenfeld Kampfgruppe: (Formed on 11 December 1941. It operated with the Eckardstein Kampfgruppe in operations in the El Cheina area.) 8th Machine Gun Battalion (2 cos) 408th Heavy Artillery Battalion (1 mot btry with 4-100mm K18 guns) 200th Pioneer Battalion (3 (mot) Pioneer Companies (9 LMGs ea)) Kirchheim Kampfgruppe: (Formed around 30 April 1941 for the May assault on Tobruck.) 5th Panzer Regiment Panzerjäger Detachment 2nd Machine Gun Battalion 8th Machine Gun Battalion Artillery Detachment Flak Detachment 2 Pioneer Companies Knabe Kampfgruppe: (Formed on 1 December 1941 and later redesignated the "Knabe Vorhut.") Armored Platoon

3 Tanks
<u>33rd Panzerjäger Battalion</u>
1 (mot) Signals Platoon
3 (mot) Companies (6-50mm AT & 6 LMGs)
<u>2/104th</u> Infantry Regiment
3 (mot) Infantry Companies, each with
(18 LMGs, 2 HMGs, 3-50mm mortars & 3 AT rifles)
1 (mot) Infantry Company, with
(8 HMGs & 6-81mm mortars)
1 (mot) Support Company, with
1 Engineering Platoon (3 IMGs)
1 AT Platoon (1 28mm AT gun, 2-50mm AT guns)
1 AT Platoon (3-37mm & 1 LMG)

Knabe Vorhut (See Knabe Kampfgruppe):

<u>Koch Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 1 December 1942, to counter attack near the Tunisian bridgehead. It was to attack El Bathan.)

5th (Koch) Parachute Regiment 2nd Btry, 90th Panzerjäger Battalion A24 Infantry Battalion 3rd Co., T1 Infantry Battalion 11th Btry, 90th Panzer Artillery Regiment 1 20mm Flak Battery

<u>Kost Kampfgruppe</u> (Formed on 17 June 1942 for operations against Belhamed and Sidi Rezeg.)

90th Panzerjäger Battalion (1 (mot) company with 9-50mm AT guns & 6 LMGs) 2/155th Infantry Regiment

Lang Kampfgruppe: (Formed shortly before 8 February 1943 as a reserve for "Unternehmen Frühlingswind" (Spring Wind).

1 Anti-tank platoon 10th Motorcycle Battalion 1 Pioneer Platoon 2 88mm guns.

(During the offensive in northern Tunisia (26 Feb to 15 Mar) this group was reinforced. It was attached to the Weber Corps Group and ordered to break through the Allied lines at Sidi Nsir and attack Bedja. By 22 March it was its full strength. It also fought at Maknassy from 27 March to 8 April and Faid-Sfax on 8-9 April).

Staff/,1/69th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 1/86th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 501st Panzer Battalion 26th Afrika Battalion Kampfstaffel O.B. (30 men) Kesselring-Stabswache (1 company) 9th Btry, 90th Artillery Regiment 2 Nebelwerfer Batteries (210mm launchers) 1 20mm Flak Platoon 2 88mm guns 1 Italian Battery

Latini Kampfgruppe: (Formed around 25 February 1943, for operations in February 1943.)

11th Parachute Pioneer Battalion (2 companies) 10th Co,/Barenthin Luftwaffe Regiment (1 anti-tank platoon) 4th Btry/90th Artillery Regiment 6th Btry, 53rd Battalion 10th Bersaglieri Regiment (LXII Battalion) T4 Field Battalion (staff & 3 cos)

von Liebenstien Kampfgruppe: (Formed around 27 March 1943, it operated with the

Italian XXI Corps covering the withdrawal of the Italian XX Corps to the Chott position shortly before the Mareth Line battles.)

Elements/164th Light Afrika Division

Lindeman Kampfgruppe (see Nord Kampfgruppe):

<u>Löven Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 27 May 1943 for operations against Tobruk. ON 14 June 1942 it was merged with the "Marcks" Kampfgruppe under the command of Oberst Löven.)

2/155th Infantry Regiment (1 company) 361st Artillery Regiment (2 btrys) 606th Flak Battalion (2 cos)

<u>Luck Reconnaissance Group (Aufklärungsgruppe)</u> (Formed on 5 March 1943 to drive into the Medenin-Mareth Line area and pin any allied forces threatening the 10th Panzer Division's flank.)

Rommel Kampfstaffel 1/53rd Flak Regiment (1 heavy battery) 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion 33rd Reconnaissance Battalion

Lüder Group: (Formed before 30 November 1942, it was to attack Tebourba from the west.)

501th Panzer Battalion (1 company) 2/69th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 1 Pioneer Platoon 1 Flak Platoon

<u>Marcks</u> <u>Group</u>: (This group had several forms. The first was formed in early 1941 and had:).

1/,2/,3/155th Infantry Regiment 2nd Machinegun Battalion Hecht Flak Group

(When reformed on 6 June 1942 as the Marcks Kampfgruppe it had:

<u>605th Panzerjäger Battalion</u> 1 (mot) Signals Platoon 3 Self Propelled Companies (9-50mm & 2 LMGs ea) <u>606th Flak Battalion</u> 3 Self Propelled Flak Batteries (12-20mm AA guns ea) <u>580th Reconnaissance Battalion</u> 1 Infantry Platoon (2-28mm AT, 9 LMGs & 3 HMGs) 1 Armored Car Platoon (8 LMGs & 6-37mm AT) 1 AT Platoon (3-50mm & 2 LMGs) 1 Self Propelled Flak Platoon (4-20mm & 1 LMG)

<u>Menny Kampfgruppe</u>: (Initially formed in early December 1941, it was reformed on 2 April 1943. At Tobruck it had:)

2nd Company, 8th Panzer Regiment (1 platoon of Mk IV tanks)

3rd Co., 33rd Panzerjäger Battalion 1 (mot) Signals Platoon 3 (mot) Companies (6-50mm AT & 6 LMGs) 33rd Panzer Reconnaissance Battalion 1 (mot) Signals Platoon (2 LMGs) 1 Light (mot) Armored Supply Column 1 Armored Car Company, with 10 37mm guns & 25 LMGs 1 Motorcycle Company (3 50mm mortars, 2 HMGs, 18 LMGs & 3 AT rifles) 1 (mot) Support Company, with 1 Engineer Platoon (3 LMGs) 1 AT Platoon (3-37mm AT & 1 LMG) 1 AT Platoon (2-50mm AT & 1 28mm AT gun) Det/76th Reconnaissance Battalion 2/115th Schützen Regiment 1/33rd Artillery Regiment - 3 (mot) Batteries (4-105mm lFH 18) 3/33rd Artillery Regiment - 3 (mot) Batteries (4-150mm lFH 18) 1st Co/, 18th Flak Battalion (4-88mm guns) 3rd Co/, 617th Flak Battalion (12-20mm AA guns) Italian Panzer Battalion from the Ariete Division 1 Italian Ambulance Platoon Italian Horch Platoon Menton Kampfgruppe: (Another name for the 288th Sonderverband, under the command of Oberst Menton. Even after becoming the Afrika Panzer Grenadier Regiment, it still retained that designation.) Afrika Panzer Grenadier Regiment (2 bns) Corps Artillery (in support only) Flak (in support only) Mickl Group: (The first Mickl Group was the 155th Infantry Regiment, under Oberst Micki. Later (30 November 1941), when Mickl was given command of the 104th Artillery Command, that became the Mickl Group.) Mildebrath Reserve Group (Formed on 27 June 1942.) 1/155th Infantry Regiment Light Flak Battalion (less 1 btry) Heavy Flak Battery Armored Platoon <u>Mitte Kampfgruppe (23 October 1942)</u>: Formed during the British 23 October 1942 offensive. The other two groups were the "Nord" and "Süd" Kampfgruppen. On 24 October 1942 the Mitte Kampfgruppe had:) 3/8th Panzer Regiment Staff/, 3/155th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 13th Co., 155th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (2 150mm & 4 75mm Infantry Sturmgeschutz) 15th Co., 155th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (captured artillery) 3/33rd Artillery Regiment 1 Motorized Battery (4-100mm K18 guns & 2 LMGs) 2 Motorized Batteries (4-150mm sFH 18 howitzers & 2 LMGs) 11

Staff/, 4/133rd (Italian) Panzer Regiment 23rd Company, 12th Bersaglieri Regiment 29th Btry, 3rd Artillery Regiment 556th (Italian) Assault Gun Battalion

<u>Mitte Kampfgruppe (11 January 1943)</u>: (A defensive Kampfgruppe, it was to defend the Faschia, Tunisia, area.)

115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (3 50mm PAK) Staff 1st Bn, 43rd Flak Battalion 1st & 5th Companies, 43rd Flak Battalion 617th Flak Battalion (1 20mm gun)

<u>Nord Kampfgruppe (23 October 1942</u>: (One of the three groups formed from the 15th Panzer Division, it served in defensive operations. It was broken up on 24 October 1942.)

1/115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment
Staff & Staff Battery, 33rd Artillery Regiment
3rd Co., 617th Flak Battalion (8-20mm guns & 2 quad 20mm guns)
51st Co., 133rd (Italian) Panzer Battalion

Nord Kampfgruppe (3 November 1942)

Remains of 8th Panzer Regiment 33rd Panzer Pioneer Battalion 1/33rd Artillery Regiment - 3 (mot) Btrys - 4 105mm lFH & 2 LMGs ea) 1st & 2nd Cos., 43rd Flak Battalion

<u>Nord Kampfgruppe (11 January 1943)</u> (ordered to block Wadi el Chief and keep the allies from infiltrating between the main German line and the Centauro (Italian) Division north of Garet Abd el Rahman.)

3/115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (less 10th Co & 3 50mm PAK guns) 2nd Co., 33rd Panzer Jäger Battalion 3/33rd Panzer Artillery Regiment 2nd Co., 33rd Flak Battalion 2nd Co., 43rd Flak Battalion Staff, 1st & 2nd Cos., 617th Flak Battalion

<u>Pfeiffer Kampfgruppe</u>: (It was initially formed on 31 October 1942, from units of the 21st Panzer Division and consisted of about half the division's tanks, half its self propelled anti-tank guns, half its self propelled 105mm howitzers, and half its 20mm Flak guns. It was placed under the command of Major Pfeiffer and ordered to attack north of the El Alamein railway to relieve the trapped 125th Panzer Grenadier Regiment.

2/5th Panzer Regiment
1 Panzerjäger Company
20mm Flak Battery
1 Light Artillery Battery (100mm guns or 105mm howitzers)
1 Heavy Artillery Battery (150mm)

The Kampfgruppe was reformed on 13 November 1942 and its organization was as follows:)

104th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (2 battalions)

200th Panzer Pioneer Battalion

(It was reformed a third time on 30 January 1943 and was divided into three sub groups, Nord, Mitte & Süd (North, Middle, and South). These groups took part in the Faid-Maknassy actions from 30 January to 3 February 1943. They consisted of:)

Nord: 2nd Tunis Battalion Mitte: 3/104th Panzer Grenadier Regiment Süd: 2/104th Panzer Grenadier Regiment

<u>Reimann Kampfgruppe</u> (Formed around 8 February 1943, as one of there Kampfgruppen formed by the 10th Panzer Division. It took part in Operation "Unternehmen Frühlingswind" and attacked Sidi Boud Zid from the northeast.)

1 Panzer Company (tiger tanks) 86th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (1 battalion) 1/90th Panzerjäger Battalion (1 platoon) 90th Panzer Pioneer Battalion (1 platoon) 90th Panzer Artillery Regiment (1 stug battery) 12th (Flak) Co., 90th Panzer Artillery Regiment (1 platoon)

<u>Schemmel Group</u>: (Formed in early April 1943, it contained:)

7th Panzer Regiment Hermann Göring Jäger Regiment unknown covering troops

<u>Schmid</u> <u>Group</u>: (Formed on 25 February 1943, had three sub groups. It was part of the Weber Korpsgruppe and participated in the Tunisian Offensive from 26 February to 15 March 1943.)

Kleeberg Group 3/7th Panzer Regiment (1 company) 1/69th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 1/90th Panzer Artillery Regiment 33rd (A33) Afrika Battalion 2nd Co., 334th Pioneer Battalion (1 platoon) Koch Group 2/Hermann Göring Jäger Regiment 2/190th Artillery Regiment Holzinger Group 756th Mountain Regiment Mickley Battalion 9th Btry, 90th Artillery Regiment 3rd Company, 334th Pioneer battalion 2/92nd Italian Infantry Regiment

<u>Schmidt Group</u>: (Formed in late April 1943 with: immobile units of 10th Panzer Division immobile units of 21st Panzer Division <u>Schneider-Eicke Kampfgruppe</u>: (See the Mitte Kampfgruppe, 11 January 1943.) <u>Schuette</u> <u>Group/Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed 3 September 1941 for Unternehmen Sommernachtstraum" (Operation Summer Night's Dream). It operated with the Stephan Kampfgruppe.)

605th Panzerjäger Battalion (less 1 company) 8th Machine Gun Battalion 606th Flak Battalion (less 1 company) 200th Pioneer Battalion (1 company) Truck convoys to salvage captured material & equipment.

(The Kampfgruppe was reformed on 14 or 15 February 1943 for the battle of Sidi bou Zid.)

5th Panzer Regiment (1 battalion) Staff/104th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 39th/609th (sfl) Panzerjäger Battalion 1/155th Artillery Regiment (1st & 3rd Btrys) Flak Battle Group (88mm guns)

<u>Schwerin</u> <u>Group</u>: (This is another designation given to the 8th Machine Gun Battalion while it was under Oberstleutnant Graf Schwerin.)

<u>Siemens</u> <u>Kampfgruppe</u>: (Formed on 3 November 1942 to cover the withdrawal of the 15th Panzer division.)

8th Panzer Regiment 33rd Panzer Pioneer Battalion 1/33rd Artillery Regiment - 3 (mot) btrys - (4 105mm lFH & 2 LMGs ea) 1/,2/43rd Flak Regiment an unknown small number of Italian tanks

<u>Stenkhoff</u> <u>Group</u>: (Formed before 14 February 1943, it was formed with elements of the 21st Panzer Division.)

Staff/5th Panzer Regiment
5th Panzer Regiment (1 battalion)
104th Panzer grenadier Regiment
Staff, 3rd Battalion,155th Artillery Regiment
 1 Light Field Howitzer Battery (105mm guns)
 7th Battery
 8th Battery
2 Flak Battle Groups (2 88mm guns)

<u>Stephan Kampfgruppe</u>: (Designation of 5th Panzer Regiment while under Oberstleutnant Stephan. During the battles near Sidi Rezegh in 1941, several artillery and Flak batteries were attached to it.)

<u>Stolz</u> <u>Group</u>: (Formed around 13 January 1943.)

Unknown portions of the 1st (Italian) Superga Division

Stotten Group: (Fought at Kasserine Pass.)

1/8th Panzer Regiment

Strempel Group/Kampfgruppe: (Formed on 2 February 1943, it was to defend positions

near Maknassy.) 29th Afrika Battalion 334th Reconnaissance Battalion 580th Reconnaissance Battalion 50th (Italian) Special Brigade (unknown elements) Süd Kampfgruppe (23 October 1942) (Formed as one of three kampfgruppe of the 15th Panzer Division for defensive operations. It fought with the Mitte and Nord Kampfgruppen.) 2/115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 2/3rd Artillery Regiment (3 mot btrys, 4 105mm 1FH ea) Staff/,2/33rd Artillery Regiment (3 mot btrys, 4 105mm lFH ea) Staff/12th Bersaglieri Regiment 554th (Italian) Assault Gun Battalion Süd Kampfgruppe (3 November 1942) (Formed to operate with Kampfgruppe Nord during the retreat from El Alamein.) 605th Panzerjäger Battalion Motorized Panzerjäger Battalion HQ 1 Motorized Signals Platoon 3 Self Propelled Panzerjäger Companies (8 Czech 50mm guns & 6 LMGs) 1 Self Propelled Panzerjäger Company (8 Russian 50mm guns & 6 LMGs) 3/33rd Artillery Regiment (3 (mot) btrys, 4-150mm sFH & 2 LMGs ea) 1st & 2nd Btrys, 43rd Flak Battery <u>Süd Kampfgruppe (11 January 1943)</u>: (Formed as one of the four defensive kampfgruppen, it fought on the heights south of Wadi el Chief.) Staff/,2/115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 3rd Btry, 33rd Panzer Artillery Regiment 5th Btry, 1st Afrika Artillery Regiment <u>Tobruk Flakgruppe</u>: (Formed shortly after the capture of Tobruk) 114th Flak Regiment 914th Flak Regiment Voss Group: (Formed in November 1942 during the German retreat from El Alamein. It was formed with units of the 21st Panzer Division.) Warrelmann Group: (Formed on 25 June 1942 from elements of the 15th Panzer Division, it also known as "Abschnitt Ost" It fought with the Garade and Dedekin Groups near Sidi Mahmud.) 2/33rd Artillery Regiment (less 1 battery) 3/115th Infantry Regiment Light Flak detachment Weber Assault Group (Angriffsgruppe): (Formed around 14 January 1943, it had three sub groups. Its designation was later changed to Kampfgruppe.)

- 2 Panzer Companies
 756th Mountain Regiment
 2 Pioneer Platoons
 Unknown artillery & flak units
- 2.) Lüder Panzer Group 1 Panzer Company 1 Panzer Grenadier Company 1 Pioneer Platoon Flak detachment
- 3.) 190th Panzer Battalion (1 company) German-Italian Infantry Regiment 4 Infantry battalions

<u>Weber Corps Group</u>: (Formed in late February 1943 to make a spoiling attack on Madjez el Bab. In late February was assigned to attack Bedja. It was divided into five sub-groups.)

- 1.) Lang Panzer Group (77 tanks, of which 14 were Tigers)
- 2.) Eder Group (755th Panzer Grenadier Regiment)
- 3.) Audorff Group (754th Grenadier Regiment)
- 4.) Schmid Group (1 bn of the 10th Panzer Division, Hermann Göring Jäger Regiment, & 756th Mountain Regiment.)
- 5.) Reserve Group (47th Grenadier Regiment & 2 other unidentified infantry battalions.)

<u>Wechmar Group</u>: (Formed on 15 November 1941. It was ordered to execute a reconnaissance past the Trigh el Abd and to the east. On 26 November 1941 a small detachment of tanks was attached to it for an attack.)

3rd Reconnaissance Battalion 33rd Reconnaissance Battalion

<u>Weichsel</u> <u>Group</u>: (Formed shortly before 10 January 1943.)

2/115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment Staff, 1st Battalion, 33rd Panzerjäger Battalion 39th Panzerjäger Battalion (1/2 company) Flak Battery (88mm guns)

<u>Werneyer</u> <u>Group</u>: (Formed on 25 June 1942 with elements of the 15th Panzer Division. It served as a reserve for the Warrelmann, Besde & Dedekin Groups.)

33rd Panzer Pioneer Battalion (1 platoon) 1/115th Infantry Regiment (2 cos) 33rd Artillery Regiment (1 (mot) light battery 4-105mm lFH)

<u>Wissman</u> <u>Kampfgruppe</u>: (See Nord Kampfgruppe - 11 January 1943. A second Wissman Kampfgruppe was formed on 21 January 1943 for offensive operations at Jefren, Tunisia.)

1 Panzer Battalion 115th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (1 company) 2 Artillery Batteries 1 Flak (88mm) Battery <u>Witzig Group</u>: (Formed around 16 November 1942.) 4th Co/, 190th Panzer Battalion 11th Parachute Pioneer Battalion (3 cos) 5th Btry/190th Artillery Regiment 1 Company, 47mm PAK-Sfl 1 20mm Flak Battery (Formed around 27 March 1943 and fought during the allied attacks on Wolf Group: Fondouk.) Staff/,1/,2/961st Afrika Schützen Regiment unknown Panzerjäger units unknown Artillery units Ziegler Kampfgruppe: (Formed around 14 February 1943, for the battles around Sidi bou Zid. It was to move past the Medenine crossroads and cover the east flak of the 10th Panzer division.) 165th Light Division (2 bns) 1 Italian Artillery Battery Kampfgruppe I: (Formed from elements of the 15th Panzer Division on 20 November 1941 for the attack on Sidi Aziz.) 8th Panzer Regiment 1/33rd Panzerjäger Battalion 1 (mot) Signals Platoon 3 (mot) Companies (6-50mm AT & 6 LMGs) 1/33rd Artillery Regiment 3 (mot) Batteries (4-105mm lFH 18 & 2 LMGs ea) 3rd Co./33rd Flak Battalion 3rd Co./33rd Pioneer Battalion (9 LMGs) Kampfgruppe II: (Formed from elements of the 15th Panzer division on 20 November 1941 for the attack on Sidi Aziz.) 3rd & 4th Cos./33rd Panzerjäger Battalion 1/,2/,3/115th Infantry Regiment 3/33rd Artillery Regiment (3 (mot) btrys, 4-150 sFH ea) Kampfgruppe III: (Formed from elements of the 15th Panzer division on 20 November 1941 for the attack on Sidi Aziz.) 2nd Co./33rd Panzerjäger Battalion 33rd Panzer Pioneer Battalion (less 1 company) 3/33rd Artillery Regiment (1 (mot) btry, 4-150mm sFH) Kampfgruppe 155: (Formed on 5 September 1942 for defensive operations at El Alamein.) 155th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (less 2 cos) Staff & 2nd Co., 190th Panzerjäger Battalion 190th Artillery Regiment (1 btry)

Kampfgruppe 200 (Formed 5 September 1942 for defensive operations at El Alamein.)

155th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (2 cos) Staff/200th Panzer Grenadier Regiment 1st Co./190th Panzerjäger Battalion (8-50mm AT & 6 LMGs, motorized) 7th Co./25th Flak Battalion

Kampfgruppe 361: (Formed on 5 September 1942 for defensive operations at El Alamein.)

1/200th Panzer Grenadier Regiment
361st Panzer Grenadier Regiment
1/190th Artillery Regiment (1 btry)
9th Co., 25th Flak Battalion

<u>Sonderverband</u> <u>288</u> (Formed on 7 December 1941. It was renamed the Afrika Panzer Grenadier Regiment on 31 October 1942. Prior to that redesignation, it had:)

288th Motorized Headquarters Company 1 Engineer Platoon (7 LMGs) 1 Armored Car Platoon (3 LMGs) 288th (mot) Signals Company (4 LMGs) 1/288 (mot) Brandenburg School Regiment 2/288th (mot) Mountain Infantry Company (12 LMGs, 3-50mm & 2-81mm mortars) 3/288th (mot) Infantry Company (12 LMGs, 3-50mm & 2-81mm mortars) 4/288th (mot) Infantry Company (12 HMGs & 6-81mm mortars) 5/288th (mot) Panzerjäger Company 1 Self Propelled Platoon (3 sturmgeschütz & 3 LMGs) 1 (mot) AT Company (2-50mm, 6-37mm & 4 LMGs) 6/288th (mot) Flak Battalion (12-20mm AA guns) 7/288th (mot) Pioneer Company (9 LMGs) 288th Light (mot) Supply Column 288th (mot) Medical Company 288th (mot) Maintenance Platoon 288th (mot) Fuel Laboratory Detachment

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Bender, R.J., & Law, R.D., <u>Uniforms, Organization and History of the Afrikakorps</u>, R.J.Bender, Publisher, USA, 1973.

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