

A WHOLE BLOODY ARMORED DIVISION

South-East of Bir Hakeim, Point 171, May 27, 1942

The 3rd Indian Motor Brigade was sent south-east of Bir Hakeim to Point 171, to form a pivot for British tanks to manoeuvre around. The move would defeat an Axis attempt to outflank the main Gazala defences. Three days later, air reconnaissance reported much Axis traffic heading for the south end of the Gazala line. On 26 May reports arrived that Axis columns behind an armoured car screen were to the south and south-east, and the Brigade dug in overnight. Reinforcements were requested, but promised Valentine tanks did not arrive. At 7 a.m. on 27 May, the 3rd Indian Brigade, alone, was facing the entire Ariete Armoured Division. The Ariete launched several attacks, wheeling and attacking again and again around the box Brigade, from south to the west, and after, to south-west of the defensive box, losing more and more tanks, but gradually weakening the enemy. Eventually, attacking from North and North-west, Ariete Division succeed to break through the box...



ORDER OF BATTLE

ITALIAN

Elements of the 132^a Divisione Corazzata Ariete;
enter on Turn 1 via the edge of SIDE A (see SSR 1)

- x 4 x M13/40
- x 1 x L6/40
- x 1 x SMC Tank Leader w/ Tank Ace Skill



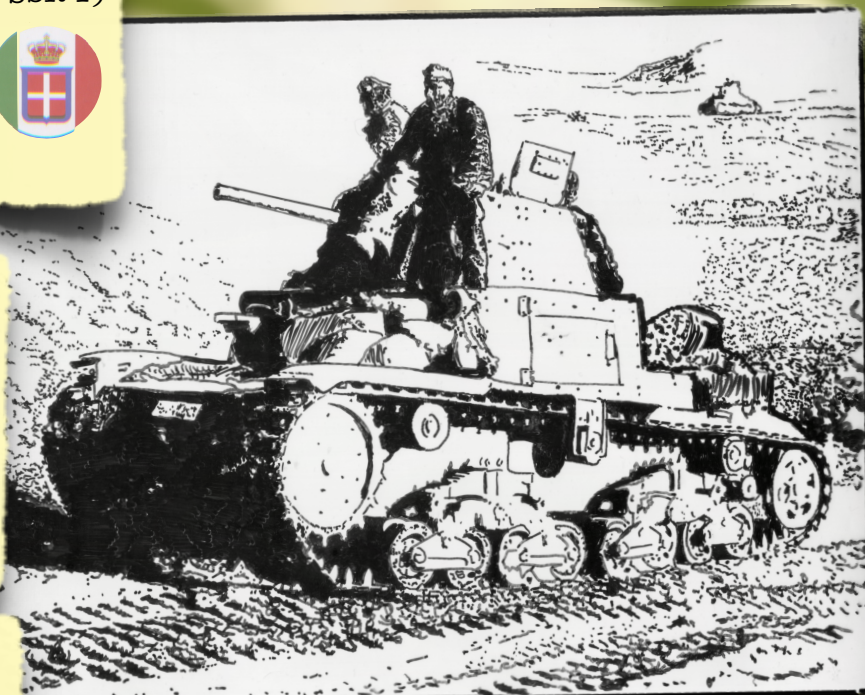
enter on Turn 2 via the edge of SIDE A
(see SSR 1)

- x 8 x MMC Squad 1^E-6-4-5
- x 2 x SW Breda 30
- x 1 x SMC Leader 6-0
- x 1 x SMC Leader 6-1
- x 1 x SMC Hero (Bulli)
- x 3 x Off-Board Artillery Mission (4 FP)



enter on Turn 4 via the edge of SIDE B
(see SSR 1)

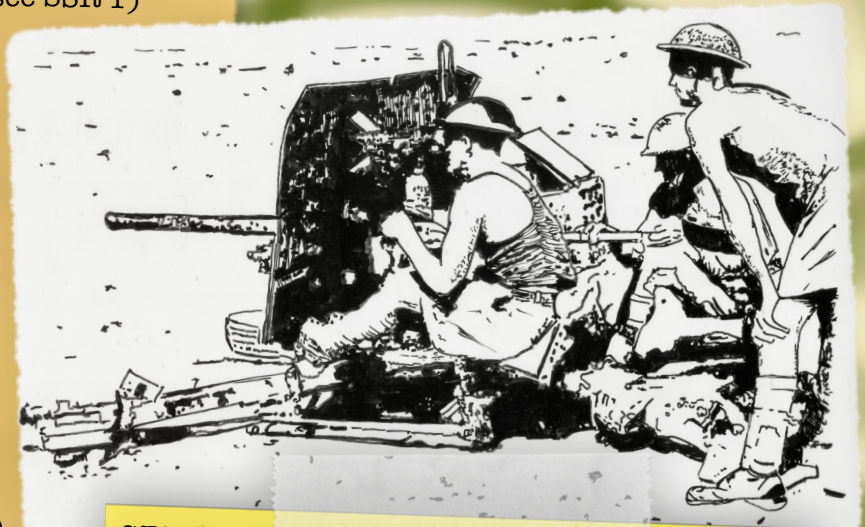
- x 3 x M13/40
- x 4 x MMC Squad 1^E-6-4-5
- x 1 x SMC Medic
- x 1 x SMC Leader 5-0



BRITISH-INDIAN

Elements of the 11th PAVO, 3rd Indian Motor Brigade;
set up first in any full hex, at least five hexes from the edge of SIDE A and the edge of SIDE B (see SSR 1)

- ✕ 8 x MMC Squad 1-7-4-5
- ✕ 1 x SW Boys ATR
- ✕ 2 x SW Bren
- ✕ 1 x SW 51 mm Mortar
- ✕ 4 x WT 2-pdr ATG
- ✕ 1 x WT Vickers MG
- ✕ 1 x SMC Hero (Avis)
- ✕ 1 x SMC Leader 6-0
- ✕ 1 x SMC Leader 6-1
- ✕ 1 x Bren Carrier
- ✕ 1 x MH Mk III
- ✕ 5 x Sangars
- ✕ 2 x Off-Board Artillery Mission (4 FP)



SPECIAL SCENARIO RULES

1) EDGES OF SIDE -A- AND -B-. After the British-Indian placement roll 1d6;

- if the result is one, two or three (1,2,3) the edge row 1 of the Map 33 became the SIDE A, and the opposite, the edge row 8 of the Map 34 became the SIDE B.
- if the result is four, five or six (4,5,6) the edge row 8 of the Map 34 became the SIDE A, and the opposite, the edge row 1 of the Map 33 became the SIDE B.

2) TERRAIN. Sand Rules are in effect. The geomorphic Road nubs are considered Sand hexes.

3) NO LOW AMMO. The Italian low-ammo rule (13.1.5) is not in effect in this scenario.

SCENARIO ESSENTIALS

PLAYABLE AREA

Use Map 33, 35 and 34;

SCENARIO LENGTH

Eight Turns. The Italian have the initiative on Turn 1.

VICTORY CONDITIONS

To win, the Italian must eliminate all British-Indian WT **and** control all five Sangars. Any other result is a British-Indian victory.



After the British-Indian placement Roll 1D6

Side **A** is the North (see SSR 1)

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PAGE -2-

AFTERMATH: Soon afterwards more Ariete tanks attacked the southern face of the Box, and knocked out the anti-tank guns. The Brigade was overrunned. Remnants disengaged and reached British positions in the evening. They claimed 52 tanks knocked out, but lost 211 KIA, many were wounded, 1,030 men were captured. On 28 May, Brigade remnants were sent back to Buq Buq.