

Kampfgruppe von Herff (everything on this page)

II/5th Panzer Regiment	2 A 2	8 A 3	8 A 3	5 H 8	severely under- strength after recent campaign	
	3	3	6	5		
	x 1	x 2	x 1	x 1		
Italian I/61st Motorized Infantry Battalion	2 I 2	2 I 2*	6 A 3	3 M 12	0 C 0	from the Trento division
	5	4	3	3	1	
	x 9	x 2	x 1	x 1	x 13	

These two battalions were stationed at Bardia and were the mobile reaction force for any trouble along the border.

15th Motorcycle Battalion (1 company)	2 I 2	8 A 5	5 A 2	0 C 0	This reinforced company held the top of Halfaya pass for the early part of the battle before finally being overrun.
	8	3	3	1	
	x 3	x 1	x 2	x 3	

3rd Recon Battalion	3 I 2	5 A 2	2 H 12	0 C 0	2 I 2*	2 H 4	2 I 2*	These two recon battalions from the two Panzer Divisions were stationed behind the border and ready to respond to any enemy threats as needed. 33rd Recon was ordered to counterattack late in the first day but called it off when 7 Matildas were spotted.
	10	3	2	1	2	2	2	
	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 3	x 3	x 1	x 2	

33rd Recon Battalion	3 I 2	5 A 2	2 H 12	0 C 0	2 I 2*	2 H 4	2 I 2*
	10	3	2	1	2	2	2
	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 3	x 3	x 2	x 4

15 A 20	0 C 0	Possibly stationed near the top of Halfaya Pass.
1	1	
x 1	x 1	
















4 H 10	0 C 0	represents two 105 howitzers
1	1	
x 2	x 2	

20 (H) 28	0 C 0
2	1
x 1	x 1

15th Motorcycle Battalion (-)	2 I 2	3 I 2	3 M 12	2 H 12	0 C 0	Stationed at Bir Hafid
	8	10	3	2	1	
	x 5	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 8	

























Kampfgruppe von Herff mainly acted as mobile reserve to back up the Italians who were defending the border. When the battle started, nearly all these forces were put on the move to respond to the British. The reaction group participated in the retaking of Ft. Capuzzo.

German Reinforcements sent immediately

I/8th Panzer Battalion	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2 A 2  3 PzKw II F 8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8 A 3  3 PzKw III G 8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8 A 3  6 PzKw III G 8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5 H 8  5 PzKw IV 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> </tr> </table>	2 A 2  3 PzKw II F 8	8 A 3  3 PzKw III G 8	8 A 3  6 PzKw III G 8	5 H 8  5 PzKw IV 8	x 2	x 1	x 2	x 1	shown at half strength to reflect losses since begin- ning of cam- paign	Flak Battery
2 A 2  3 PzKw II F 8	8 A 3  3 PzKw III G 8	8 A 3  6 PzKw III G 8	5 H 8  5 PzKw IV 8								
x 2	x 1	x 2	x 1								
				<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0 C 0  1 Truck 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x 3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 3</td> </tr> </table>	4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0	0 C 0  1 Truck 12	x 3	x 3			
4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0	0 C 0  1 Truck 12										
x 3	x 3										

This group was sent when the battle started immediately and arrived during the night of the first day, ready for a counterattack. The British pulled back to “Hellfire” Pass the next day and the Axis decided to wait for more reinforcements and additional preparation.

Further German Reinforcements sent on May 16

Kampfgruppe von Eisebeck																	
I/5th Panzer Battalion (1 company)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2 A 2  3 PzKw II F 8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8 A 3  3 PzKw III G 8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5 H 8  5 PzKw IV 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> </tr> </table>	2 A 2  3 PzKw II F 8	8 A 3  3 PzKw III G 8	5 H 8  5 PzKw IV 8	x 1	x 1	x 1	Panzer Jager Company (-)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">8 A 3  3 PzJg 47 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> </tr> </table>	8 A 3  3 PzJg 47 6	x 1						
2 A 2  3 PzKw II F 8	8 A 3  3 PzKw III G 8	5 H 8  5 PzKw IV 8															
x 1	x 1	x 1															
8 A 3  3 PzJg 47 6																	
x 1																	
Machine Gun Battalion	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4 I 4  4 HMG 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3 I 2  10 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3 M 12 81 mm 3 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5 A 2 37 mm 3 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2 H 12 75 mm 2 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0 C 0  1 Truck 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x 9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 18</td> </tr> </table>				4 I 4  4 HMG 1	3 I 2  10 1	3 M 12 81 mm 3 1	5 A 2 37 mm 3 0	2 H 12 75 mm 2 0	0 C 0  1 Truck 12	x 9	x 6	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 18	from 200th Infantry regi- ment of 5th Light Division
4 I 4  4 HMG 1	3 I 2  10 1	3 M 12 81 mm 3 1	5 A 2 37 mm 3 0	2 H 12 75 mm 2 0	0 C 0  1 Truck 12												
x 9	x 6	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 18												
Artillery Battalion (-)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">40 (H) 32 ↑ 105 mm 2 0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0 C 0  1 SdKfz 8 10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x 2</td> </tr> </table>					40 (H) 32 ↑ 105 mm 2 0	0 C 0  1 SdKfz 8 10	x 2	x 2								
40 (H) 32 ↑ 105 mm 2 0	0 C 0  1 SdKfz 8 10																
x 2	x 2																

Because of reports of large concentrations of Allied tanks, Rommel decided to send even more of his own tanks into the area. This Kampfgruppe was ordered to move on the morning of the second day of the battle (May 16) but arrived late in the day and low on fuel and did not see any action.