



British 1st Armored Division

October, 1942



2nd Armored Brigade

2nd Dragoon Guards (Queen's Bays)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>6 A 3</td> <td>5 H 8</td> <td>9 A 5</td> <td>9 A 8</td> <td>2 I 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 Crusader II 9</td> <td>4 Crusader CS 9</td> <td>5 Crusader III 9</td> <td>8 Sherman UKa 8</td> <td>3 Humber SC 15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>x 3</td> <td>x 1</td> <td>x 1</td> <td>x 7</td> <td>x 1</td> </tr> </table>	6 A 3	5 H 8	9 A 5	9 A 8	2 I 4	4 Crusader II 9	4 Crusader CS 9	5 Crusader III 9	8 Sherman UKa 8	3 Humber SC 15	x 3	x 1	x 1	x 7	x 1	<p>RNF Machine Gun Battalion (-)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>2 I 2*</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 M-G 1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>x 3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 C 0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Truck 14</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>x 3</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	2 I 2*		4 M-G 1		x 3		0 C 0		1 Truck 14		x 3	
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7th Motor Brigade

2nd Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>2 I 2*</td> <td>1 I 1</td> <td>3 M 8</td> <td>9 A 5</td> <td>0 C 0</td> <td>2 I 2*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 RIFLE 1</td> <td>6 1 1</td> <td>3 76 mm 1</td> <td>2 6 pdr 0</td> <td>1 Truck 14</td> <td>2 Bren 10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>x 12</td> <td>x 1</td> <td>x 1</td> <td>x 2</td> <td>x 16</td> <td>x 2</td> </tr> </table>	2 I 2*	1 I 1	3 M 8	9 A 5	0 C 0	2 I 2*	6 RIFLE 1	6 1 1	3 76 mm 1	2 6 pdr 0	1 Truck 14	2 Bren 10	x 12	x 1	x 1	x 2	x 16	x 2	<p>Contains elements of 2nd Battalion, Rifle Brigade and 2nd Armored Brigade. Their job was to clear a path through the minefield for the tanks of the 2nd Armored Brigade.</p>
2 I 2*	1 I 1	3 M 8	9 A 5	0 C 0	2 I 2*															
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2nd Field
Regiment,
Royal
Artillery

35 (H)	35	0	C	0
2		0		12
x 4		x 4		



4th Field
Regiment,
Royal
Artillery

35 (H)	35	0	C	0
2		0		12
x 4		x 4		



11th Field
Regiment,
Royal
Artillery

40 (H)	32	
7		8
x 4		






















76th
Anti-Tank
Regiment

9	A	5	0	C	0
2		0		14	
x 16		x 16			

42nd
Light
AA
Regiment


8	H	12	0	C	0
2		0		14	
x 12		x 12			

Hammer
Force



73rd Anti-Tank Regiment (-)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>A</td> <td>5</td> <td>0</td> <td>C</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">x 10</td> <td colspan="3">x 10</td> </tr> </table>	9	A	5	0	C	0	2		0		14	x 10		x 10			56th Light AA Regiment (-)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>H</td> <td>12</td> <td>0</td> <td>C</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">x 6</td> <td colspan="3">x 6</td> </tr> </table>	8	H	12	0	C	0	2		0		14	x 6		x 6		
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2	I	4																																	
3		15																																	
x 6																																			

Hammer Force consisted of left over parts from the 8th Armored Division placed into a battle-group and attached to the 1st Armored Division for this battle.


12th
Lancers
Recon
Regiment

2	I	4
3		15
x 8		

Royal
Engineer
Squadron

3	I	2	0	C	0
10		1		14	
x 8		x 8			

KingForce

9	A	5
10		5
x 1		

KingForce, named after its commander, Major Norris King, was an evaluation unit sent to North Africa for testing the new version of the Churchill tank. The six Churchill III's were attached to the 70th Motor Brigade and went into action during the Battle of El Alamein. In this fight, they destroyed five panzers and three anti-tank guns with the loss of one tank. The Churchill III performed well enough in this action that two brigades of them were equipped and shipped to North Africa to fight in the rugged terrain of Tunisia.

The role of the 1st Armored Division in this battle was to wait until the infantry of XXX Corps had cleared a lane through the minefields and then to penetrate into the enemy rear. The advance was slowed enough that the expected penetration did not occur in the first few days. The 1st Armored continued to attack however and fought an intense battle of attrition against elements of most of the Axis armored divisions. Though the division was not able to break through the Axis line, it did help exhaust the Axis forces so that Operation Supercharge could strike the fatal blow.