

70th Infantry Division (Tobruk Garrison)

November 17, 1941

14th
Infantry
Brigade

Company, 56th Anti-Tank Regiment	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>A</td> <td>3</td> <td>0</td> <td>C</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2 pdr</td> <td colspan="2">Truck</td> <td colspan="2">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">x 3</td> <td colspan="4">x 3</td> </tr> </table>	6	A	3	0	C	0	2 pdr		Truck		14		3		0	1			x 3		x 3				Australian 2/15 Infantry Battalion (-) (attached)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>2</td> <td> </td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td> </td> <td>2*</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">RIFLE</td> <td colspan="2">Bren</td> <td colspan="2">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">x 3</td> <td colspan="4">x 1</td> </tr> </table>	2		2	2		2*	RIFLE		Bren		10		5		1	2			x 3		x 1			
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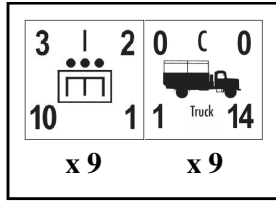
16th
Infantry
Brigade

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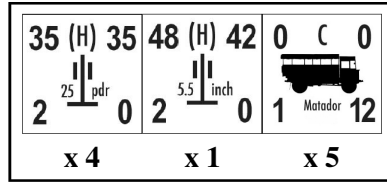
123rd
Infantry
Brigade

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Royal Engineer Battalion

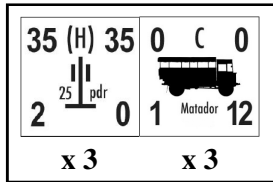


144th Field Artillery Regiment

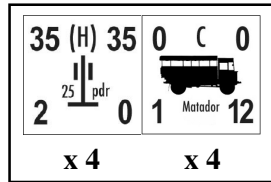


5.5 inch represents 60 pdr guns

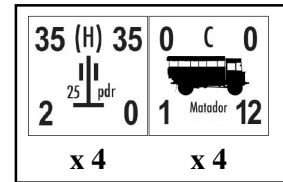
1st Royal Horse Artillery



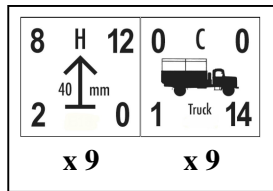
104th Royal Horse Artillery



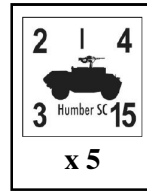
107th Royal Horse Artillery



69th Light AA Regiment



King's Dragoon Guards Recon Regiment



Tobruk had been under a state of siege since April with the Auzzies bearing the brunt of it. Due to the high casualties suffered so far and a desire to organize all the Australian troops in North Africa into a separate Australian Infantry Corps, the Australian Government requested the transfer of the 9th Australian Division out of the Tobruk garrison. This was accomplished over the late summer and early fall with a new division, the 70th, brought in to replace it, along with some Polish troops. The 70th Infantry Division had been assembled from various elements stationed in the Middle East and essentially just existed long enough to serve in the Tobruk garrison. When the breakout from Tobruk was finally ordered during Operation Crusader, it was the 70th Division that led the way and eventually linked up with the 2nd New Zealand to officially end the siege of Tobruk after 242 days. After Operation Crusader, the 70th was sent to India, where it was broken into pieces and scattered. The 2nd Chindit expedition against the Japanese consisted mostly of personnel from this division.