



British 7th Armored Division

November 17, 1941

4th Armored Brigade

8th Hussars Tank Regiment

5 A 5 4 Honey 12	2 I 4 3 Humber SC 15	2 I 2 5 RIFLE 1	8 H 12 40 mm 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	2 I 2* 2 Bren 10	35 (H) 35 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12
x 12	x 1	x 3	x 1	x 4	x 1	x 1	x 1

3rd Royal Tank Regiment

5 A 5 4 Honey 12	2 I 4 3 Humber SC 15	2 I 2 5 RIFLE 1	8 H 12 40 mm 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	2 I 2* 2 Bren 10	35 (H) 35 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12
x 12	x 1	x 3	x 1	x 4	x 1	x 1	x 1

5th Royal Tank Regiment

5 A 5 4 Honey 12	2 I 4 3 Humber SC 15	2 I 2 5 RIFLE 1	8 H 12 40 mm 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	2 I 2* 2 Bren 10	35 (H) 35 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12
x 12	x 1	x 3	x 1	x 4	x 1	x 1	x 1

1st Troop, 102nd N. Huss Anti-Tank Regiment

6 A 3 2 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14
x 1	x 1

2nd Scots Guards Infantry Battalion, 2nd Field Artillery and 122 Light AA attached directly to the three task regiments.

This brigade completely equipped with U.S. built M-3 light tanks, called "Honey" by the Brits.

7th Armored Brigade

7th Hussars Tank Regiment

6 A 3 3 A-10 5	6 A 3 3 A-13 10	6 A 3 4 Crusader II 9	5 H 8 4 Crusader CS 9	2 I 4 3 Humber SC 15
x 4	x 3	x 4	x 1	x 1

2nd Royal Tank Regiment

6 A 3 3 A-13 10	5 H 8 4 Crusader CS 9	2 I 4 3 Humber SC 15
x 10	x 2	x 1

6th Royal Tank Regiment

6 A 3 4 Crusader II 9	2 I 4 3 Humber SC 15
x 11	x 1

4th Royal Horse Artillery (-)

35 (H) 35 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12
x 3	x 3

3rd Troop, 102nd Northumberland Hussars Anti-Tank Regiment

6 A 3 3 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14
x 1	x 1

























4th Bty., 1st Light AA Battalion

8 H 12 40 mm 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14
x 3	x 3


"A" Company, 2nd Battalion, The Rifle Brigade

2 I 2 5 RIFLE 1	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	2 I 2* 2 Bren 10
x 3	x 3	x 1


Division Support Group

1st Battalion, Kings Royal Rifle Corps (-)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>2 2</td> <td>3 M 8</td> <td>0 C 0</td> <td>6 A 3</td> <td>0 C 0</td> <td>2 2*</td> </tr> <tr> <td> RIFLE</td> <td>76 mm</td> <td> Truck</td> <td>2 pdr</td> <td> Truck</td> <td> Bren</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 1</td> <td>3 1</td> <td>1 14</td> <td>3 0</td> <td>1 14</td> <td>2 10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>x 9</td> <td>x 1</td> <td>x 10</td> <td>x 3</td> <td>x 3</td> <td>x 2</td> </tr> </table>	2 2	3 M 8	0 C 0	6 A 3	0 C 0	2 2*	 RIFLE	76 mm	 Truck	2 pdr	 Truck	 Bren	5 1	3 1	1 14	3 0	1 14	2 10	x 9	x 1	x 10	x 3	x 3	x 2
2 2	3 M 8	0 C 0	6 A 3	0 C 0	2 2*																				
 RIFLE	76 mm	 Truck	2 pdr	 Truck	 Bren																				
5 1	3 1	1 14	3 0	1 14	2 10																				
x 9	x 1	x 10	x 3	x 3	x 2																				
2nd Battalion, The Rifle Brigade (-)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>2 2</td> <td>3 M 8</td> <td>0 C 0</td> <td>6 A 3</td> <td>0 C 0</td> <td>2 2*</td> </tr> <tr> <td> RIFLE</td> <td>76 mm</td> <td> Truck</td> <td>2 pdr</td> <td> Truck</td> <td> Bren</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 1</td> <td>3 1</td> <td>1 14</td> <td>3 0</td> <td>1 14</td> <td>2 10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>x 9</td> <td>x 1</td> <td>x 10</td> <td>x 3</td> <td>x 3</td> <td>x 2</td> </tr> </table>	2 2	3 M 8	0 C 0	6 A 3	0 C 0	2 2*	 RIFLE	76 mm	 Truck	2 pdr	 Truck	 Bren	5 1	3 1	1 14	3 0	1 14	2 10	x 9	x 1	x 10	x 3	x 3	x 2
2 2	3 M 8	0 C 0	6 A 3	0 C 0	2 2*																				
 RIFLE	76 mm	 Truck	2 pdr	 Truck	 Bren																				
5 1	3 1	1 14	3 0	1 14	2 10																				
x 9	x 1	x 10	x 3	x 3	x 2																				


60th Field
Regiment,
Royal
Artillery

35 (H) 35	0 C 0
25 pdr	 Matador
2 0	1 12
x 3	x 3


67th
Medium
Regiment
Artillery

48 (H) 42	0 C 0
5.5 inch	 Matador
2 0	1 12
x 3	x 3


3rd
Anti-Tank
Regiment
(-)

6 A 3	0 C 0
2 pdr	 Truck
3 0	1 14
x 9	x 9



102nd
Northumberland
Hussars
Anti-Tank
Regiment
(-)

6 A 3	0 C 0
2 pdr	 Truck
3 0	1 14
x 9	x 9


1st Light
AA
Regiment
(-)

8 H 12	0 C 0
40 mm	 Truck
2 0	1 14
x 6	x 6


Royal
Engineer
Squadron

3 2	0 C 0
 Truck	 Truck
10 1	1 14
x 1	x 1

11th
Hussars
Recon
Regiment


2 4
 Humber SC
3 15
x 24

1st Kings
Dragoon
Guards
Recon
Regiment

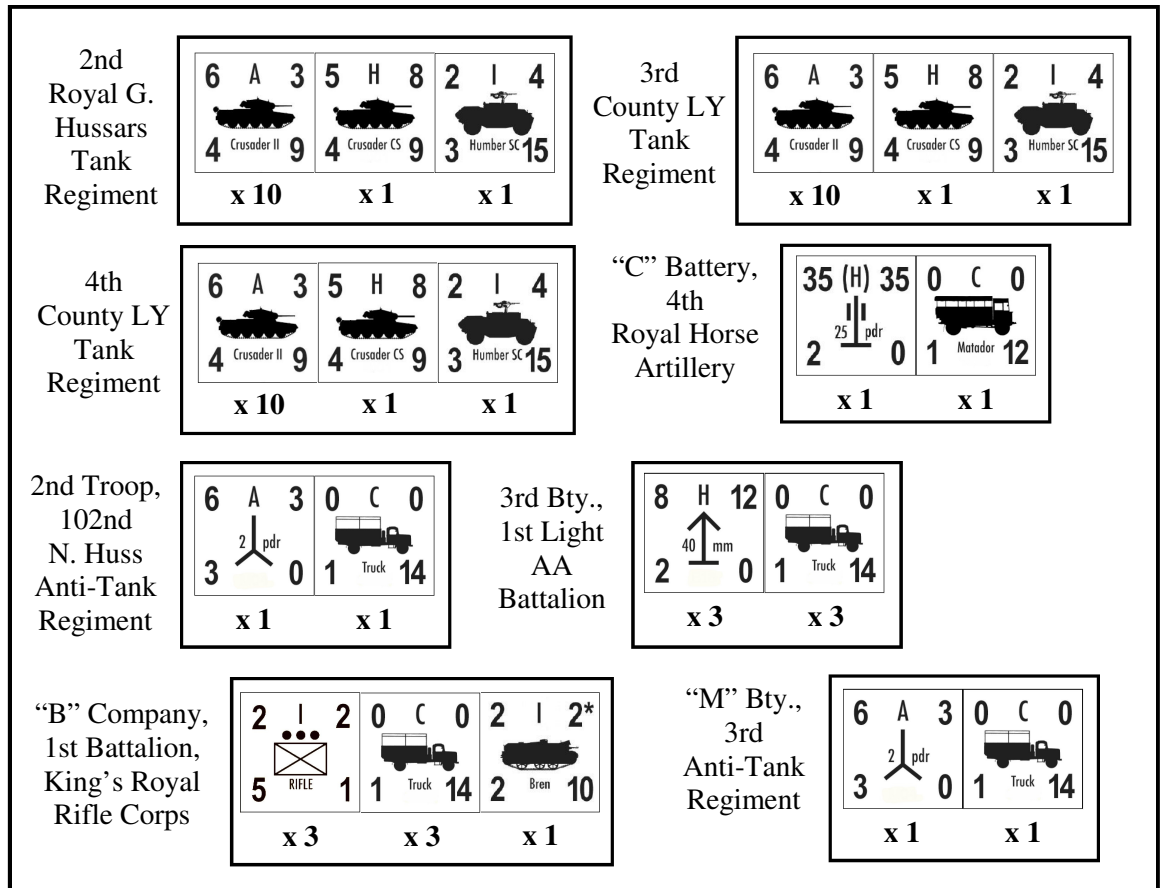
2 4
 Humber SC
3 15
x 18

Minus one
squadron
in Tobruk

6th
South African
Armored Car
Regiment
(attached)

2 4
 Humber SC
3 15
x 24

22nd
Armored
Brigade
(attached)



This brigade is attached from 6th Armored Division. Tank regiments are new and completely inexperienced in combat.

The 7th Armored Division had been refitted since Battleaxe and with the attached 22nd Brigade from the 6th Armored, they went into battle with 9 tank regiments. Though some of the old cruiser tanks were still in the ranks, the bulk of the armored strength consisted of the U.S. supplied Stuart tank and the Crusader. The job of the 7th in this operation was very much the same as in the last two attempts to relieve Tobruk. They were to cross the wire to the south and attempt to engage the German panzers in the open desert, destroying them with their superior numbers. The division was then supposed to swing to the north and help destroy the Axis forces on the frontier. They would then advance and link up with a breakout assault from Tobruk.

As the battle started, the 7th advanced into the Axis rear as planned but the division became scattered and vulnerable to counterattack. The German 21st Panzer and 90th Light Divisions were in place for a planned German operation of their own and in good position to attack the 7th. The Germans did attack and, after a major battle at Sidi Rezegh, the 7th Armored was left shattered and scattered.

After the Axis withdrawal began, the 7th engaged in the pursuit, although it consisted of little more than the 4th Brigade and a reduced support group. By the end of Operation Crusader, the division was only a shadow of its former self and was pulled back to spend 4 months refitting again.