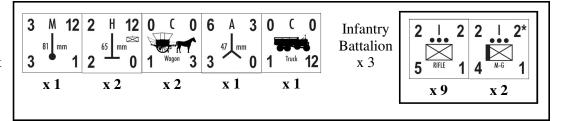


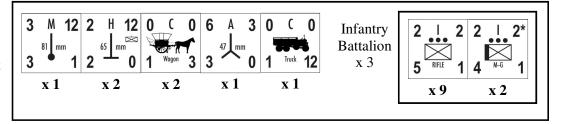
## Italian 17th Infantry Division (Pavia)

## **November 17, 1941**

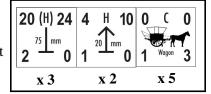
27th Infantry Regiment



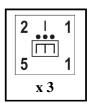
28th Infantry Regiment



26th Artillery Regiment



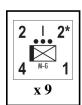
18th Mixed Engineer Battalion



5th Light Tank Battalion (attached)



6th Aosta Battalion (attached)



At the beginning of Operation Crusader, the Pavia Division was serving in the Axis lines surrounding Tobruk. When the 70th Division made their first breakout attempt, Pavia was sent in to counterattack the British tank and infantry forces. After heavy fighting, the Allied thrust was temporarily halted. The weak Pavia division could not hold forever and was finally forced aside and forced to retreat. During the general Axis withdrawal, Pavia fought a stubborn rear defense action at El Adem before being finally overwhelmed. Most of the division did, however, escape and live to fight another day.

By Greg Moore gregpanzerblitz.com June, 2010