



2nd New Zealand Infantry Division

September, 1941

5th
Infantry
Brigade

Infantry Battalion x 4	2 I 2* 8 RIFLE 1	1 I 1 6	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	3 M 8 3 76 mm 1	6 A 3 3 2 pdr 0	2 C(I) 2* 2 Bren 10	2 I 2* 2 Bren 10	21st Btn	
	x 12	x 1	x 13	x 1	x 2	x 3	x 2	22nd Btn	
Bty 32, 7th Anti-Tank Regiment	9 A 5 2 6 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14							23rd Btn
	x 4	x 4							28th Maori
Minefield Task Group	2 I 2* 8 RIFLE 1	3 I 2 10	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	6 A 3 4 Crusader II 9	0 - 0 8 Scorpion 5	28th Infantry Battalion & 7th Engineer			
	x 6	x 3	x 9	x 2	x 1				

6th
Infantry
Brigade

Infantry Battalion x 3	2 I 2* 8 RIFLE 1	1 I 1 6	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	3 M 8 3 76 mm 1	6 A 3 3 2 pdr 0	2 C(I) 2* 2 Bren 10	2 I 2* 2 Bren 10	24th Btn	
	x 12	x 1	x 13	x 1	x 2	x 3	x 2	25th Btn	
Bty 33, 7th Anti-Tank Regiment	9 A 5 2 6 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 14							26th Btn
	x 4	x 4							
Minefield Task Group	2 I 2* 8 RIFLE 1	3 I 2 10	0 C 0 1 Truck 14	6 A 3 4 Crusader II 9	0 - 0 8 Scorpion 5	28th Infantry Battalion & 6th Engineer			
	x 6	x 3	x 9	x 2	x 1				

4th
Field
Regiment
Artillery

35 (H) 35 2 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12	x 4	x 4
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5th
Field
Regiment
Artillery

35 (H) 35 2 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12	x 4	x 4
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6th
Field
Regiment
Artillery

35 (H) 35 2 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12	x 4	x 4
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78th
Field
Regiment
Artillery
(-)

35 (H) 35 2 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12	x 2	x 2
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98th
Field
Regiment
Artillery
(-)

35 (H) 35 2 25 pdr 0	0 C 0 1 Matador 12	x 2	x 2
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28th
Infantry
Battalion
(-)

1 I 6	1 C 1	0 C 1	3 M 14	8 76 mm	6 A 3	2 C(I) 10	2* I 10	2 I 10	2* I 10
x 1	x 1		x 1		x 2	x 3	x 2		

2nd
Division
Engineer
Battalion
(-)

3 I 10	2 I 1
x 6	

27th
Machine
Gun
Battalion

2 I 4	2* I 1	0 C 1	0 C 14
x 12	x 12		

7th
Anti-Tank
Regiment

9 A 2	5 C 0	0 C 1	0 C 14
x 14	x 14		

14th Light
AA
Regiment

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

2nd
Division
Reece
Regiment

2 I 8	2* I 1	0 C 1	0 C 14	3 M 3	8 76 mm	6 A 3	2 C(I) 10	2* I 10	2 I 10	2* I 10	2 I 3	4 Humber SC 15	5 A 4	5 A 12
x 3	x 3			x 1		x 3	x 4	x 9	x 9	x 9		x 6		

3rd
Hussars
Tank
Regiment

6 A 4	3 A 9	9 A 5	8 A 6	8 A 8	9 A 8
x 3	x 1	x 3	x 3		

Royal
Wiltshire
Yeomanry
Tank
Regiment

6 A 4	3 A 9	9 A 5	8 A 6	8 A 8	9 A 8
x 3	x 1	x 3	x 3		

9th
Armored
Brigade
(attached)

Warwickshire
Yeomanry
Tank
Regiment

6 A 4	3 A 9	9 A 5	8 A 6	8 A 8	9 A 8
x 3	x 1	x 3	x 3		

Bty 31,
7th
Anti-Tank
Regiment

9 A 2	5 C 0	0 C 1	0 C 14
x 4	x 4		

14th Btn,
Sherwood
Foresters
Motor
Battalion

2 I 6	2* I 1	9 A 2	5 C 0	0 C 1	0 C 14	3 M 3	8 76 mm	2 I 4	2* I 1	2 C(I) 10	2 I 10	2* I 10
x 6	x 4	x 10	x 1	x 3	x 4	x 2						

The New Zealanders were given the primary job of carving a 24 foot wide line five miles through the minefields so that the tanks of the 9th Armored Brigade and the other armored divisions could pass. A special minefield taskforce was attached to each brigade for this mission. After the battle stalled on October 26th, the division was pulled back into reserve and became the lead unit in Operation Supercharge on November 2nd. The New Zealanders successfully cleared a path for the 9th Armored Brigade, but as the 9th advanced, it ran into a screen of anti-tank guns and was counterattacked by German and Italian armor. Losing most of its tanks, the sacrifice of the brigade proved valuable as most of the Axis tanks were lost as well and they had no replacements for them. The 2nd New Zealand continued to have a key role in the pursuit of the defeated Axis forces.