



# British 44th Infantry Division

## September, 1942

132nd (Kent) Infantry Brigade

Infantry Battalion x 3	2	1	2	1	1	3	M	8	6	A	3	2	C(I)	2*	2	1	2*	
							76 mm											
	5	RIFLE	1	6	1	3	1	3	1	3	0	2	Bren	10	2	Bren	10	
	x 12		x 1		x 1		x 2		x 3		x 2							

4th Btn & 5th Btn, Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment  
2nd Btn., The Buffs (Royal East Kent)

Infantry Battalion x 2	2	1	2	1	1	3	M	12	6	A	3	2	C(I)	2*	2	1	2*	
							81 mm											
	8	Legion etrangere	1	6	Ingenieur	1	3	1	3	1	3	0	2	Bren	10	2	Bren	10
	x 9		x 1		x 1		x 2		x 3		x 2							

1st Foreign Legion  
2nd Foreign Legion

Pacific Marines	2	1	2	1	1	3	M	12	6	A	3	2	C(I)	2*	2	1	2*	
							81 mm											
	5	Tirailleurs	1	6	Ingenieur	1	3	1	3	1	3	0	2	Bren	10	2	Bren	10
	x 9		x 1		x 1		x 2		x 3		x 2							

1st Free French Brigade Group (attached)

1st Free French Artillery Regiment	35 (H)	35	0	C	0	3rd Field Regiment Artillery	35 (H)	35	0	C	0	This regiment of artillery is British crewed.
	2	0	1	12			2	0	1	12		
	x 3		x 1		x 4		x 4		x 4			

Free French Anti-Tank Regiment	6	A	3	9	A	5	0	C	0	Free French AA Battalion	8	H	12	0	C	0
	2	0	2	0	1	14		2	0	1	14					
	x 2		x 3		x 5		x 3		x 3							

Free French Pioneer Company	1	1	0	C	0	1st Free French Recon Battalion	2	1	4
	6	Ingenieur	1	1	14		3	15	
	x 3		x 3		x 2				

53rd Field Regiment Artillery

35 (H)	35	0	C	0
2	0	1	12	
x 4		x 4		

57th Field Regiment Artillery

35 (H)	35	0	C	0
2	0	1	12	
x 4		x 4		

58th Field Regiment Artillery

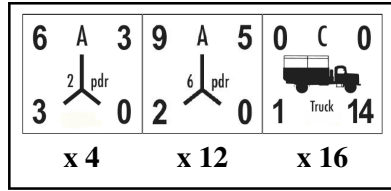
35 (H)	35	0	C	0
2	0	1	12	
x 4		x 4		

65th Field Regiment Artillery

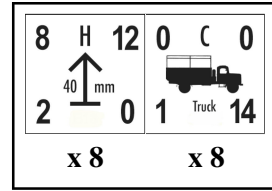
35 (H)	35	0	C	0
2	0	1	12	
x 4		x 4		

By Greg Moore  
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October, 2009

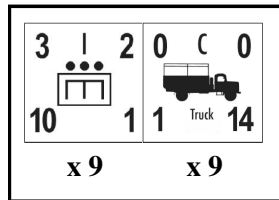
57th  
Anti-Tank  
Regiment



30th Light  
AA  
Regiment



Royal  
Engineers



The 44th “Home Counties” Infantry Division was a recent arrival in North Africa. After serving in the BEF in France and suffering the evacuation at Dunkirk, the 44th had largely been sitting out the war until now. The division had been broken up for this battle with one brigade serving with the 7th Armored Division and one serving with the 10th Armored Division. To help make up the difference, the 1st Free French Brigade was attached. The 44th was deployed at the southern end of the Allied line and was detailed to help launch a secondary attack along with the 7th Armored to help pin the 21st Panzer and Ariete Divisions and to threaten a back door sweep if the Axis weakened their line. The division made slow progress clearing a path through the minefields and the attack was largely a failure as the tough German and Italian paratroopers facing them stood firm.

Shortly after the battle was over, the 44th was disbanded with many battalions ending up in Indian Army Brigades.