



Italian 132nd Armored Division (*Ariete*)



October, 1942

32nd
Regiment
Carrista

IX	X	XIII	4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 12
6 A 3 5 Medio 14/41 8	6 A 3 5 Medio 14/41 8	6 A 3 5 Medio 14/41 8	x 6	x 6
x 6	x 6	x 6	x 1	x 1

8th
Bersaglieri
Regiment

6 A 3 3 Semovente 409	3 M 12 81 mm 3 1	6 A 3 47 mm 3 0	4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0	2 I 2* 4 M-G 1	0 C 0 1 Truck 12
x 2	x 1	x 3	x 1	x 3	x 8
2 I 2* 2 Motorcycle 12	5th Infantry Battalion	2 I 2* 6 BERSAGLIERI 1	4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0	6 A 3 47 mm 3 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 12
x 2		x 9	x 1	x 1	x 11
	12th Infantry Battalion	2 I 2* 6 BERSAGLIERI 1	4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0	6 A 3 47 mm 3 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 12
		x 9	x 1	x 1	x 11

132nd
Artillery
Regiment

20 (H) 24 75 mm 2 0	40 (H) 32 100 mm 2 0	0 C 0 1 TL 37 8	4 H 10 ↑ 20 mm 1 0	0 C 0 1 Truck 12	15 A 20 90 mm 1 0	0 C 0 1 TL 37 8	5 H 8 7 Semo 75/18 8
x 4	x 4	x 8	x 3	x 3	x 4	x 4	x 3

Engineer
Battalion
(-)

2 I 1 5 1	0 C 0 1 Truck 12
x 3	x 3

Recon
Battalion
(-)

2 H 4 2 AB-41 16
x 2

By October of 1942, the Ariete armored division had been fighting in North Africa for almost two years and had become a trusted veteran unit. At El Alamein, it was part of Rommel's armored reserve. Though having only about half of its normal complement of tanks, the division still had plenty of fight left. Ariete was heavily engaged during the later part of the battle and, as the Axis army was retreating, the division attempted to blunt the Allied push and act as a rear guard. The division was crushed by overwhelming numbers, fighting until the last tank was gone. The division ceased to exist and was officially disbanded in late November.