



# 2nd South African Infantry Division

May 26, 1942

4th South African Infantry Brigade

**Infantry Battalion x 3**

2 5 RIFLE	1 6	1 4 M-G	2 1 Truck	0 14	3 3 76 mm	8 1	6 3 2 pdr	A	3 0	2 2 C(l)	2 10 Bren	2 2 I	2 10 Bren	2*	2*
x 12	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 2	x 3	x 2	x 3	x 2	x 2	x 2	x 2		

3rd Royal Durban Light Infantry - Umvoti Mounted Rifles - Kaffrarian Rifles

**3rd Field Regiment Artillery**

35 (H)	35	0	C	0
2	25 pdr	0	1	Matador
x 4	x 4			x 4

**10th Field Company South African Engineers**

3	1	2
10		1
x 3		

6th South African Infantry Brigade

**1st South African Police**

2 5 RIFLE	1 6	1 4 M-G	2 1 Truck	0 14	3 3 76 mm	8 1	6 3 2 pdr	A	3 0	2 2 C(l)	2 10 Bren	2 2 I	2 10 Bren	2*	2*
x 12	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 2	x 3	x 2	x 3	x 2	x 2	x 2	x 2		

**2nd South African Police (-)**

2 5 RIFLE	1 6	1 4 M-G	2 1 Truck	0 14	3 3 76 mm	8 1	6 3 2 pdr	A	3 0	2 2 C(l)	2 10 Bren	2 2 I	2 10 Bren	2*	2*
x 9	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 2	x 3	x 2	x 3	x 2	x 2	x 2	x 2		

**2nd Transvaal Scottish (-)**

2 5 RIFLE	1 6	1 4	2 1	1 1
x 3	x 1			

**2nd Field Regiment Artillery (-)**

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

**4th Field Company South African Engineers**

3	1	2
10		1
x 3		

**Commonwealth Keep Strongpoint Garrison**

2 5 RIFLE	2 4 M-G	2 1 Truck	0 14	6 3 2 pdr	A	3 0	2 2 C(l)	2 10 Bren	2 2 I	2 10 Bren	2*	2*
x 3	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1	x 1		

**2nd Transvaal Scottish (-)**

**Acroma Keep Strongpoint Garrison**

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

**2nd Transvaal Scottish (-)**

9th  
Indian  
Infantry  
Brigade  
(attached)

Infantry Battalion x 2		2nd West Yorkshire 3rd Bat / 9th Jat Rgt.			
10th Indian Brigade Machine Gun Company		20th Bombay Field Company Engineers		4th Field Regiment Royal Artillery	
309th Anti-Tank Battery		9th Indian Brigade Anti-Tank Company		Assume captured Axis AT guns	

Die  
Middelanse  
Machine  
Gun  
Battalion  
(-)

2nd SA  
Light  
AA  
Regiment

7th SA  
Recon  
Battalion

The 2nd South African Division was deployed in the partially stripped defenses of Tobruk at the start of this battle. Their job was to defend Tobruk, if necessary, and act as a strategic reserve and rally point if some disaster occurred at the front. When the front was finally broken in the middle of June, a decision was made not to defend Tobruk. However, under pressure from Churchill, the Allies decided to once again leave a garrison trapped in the port city. This time, however, the defenses had been stripped for the Gazala line and the position was not strong enough to resist the strong Axis advance. On June 20, 30,000 Allied troops in Tobruk surrendered, including all of this division, except for the 3rd Infantry Brigade and 1st Field Regiment Artillery, which were both absent at the time. These surviving formations were attached to the 1st South African Division while the 2nd South African Infantry Division ceased to exist.