

Chapter 1 : WORLD WAR II | Afrika Korps | King & Country

The Afrika Korps formed on 11 January and one of Hitler's favorite generals, Erwin Rommel, was designated as commander on 11 February.

A German soldier waits while his companion makes repairs on his tunic. Members of the DAK all wearing pith helmets somewhere in Cyrenaica. Despite these modifications, the German high command did not differentiate between the two variants, and M35s would continue to be worn till the end of the war. Studio photo of a German soldier wearing a M35 helmet. His helmet was sprayed tan directly over the smooth factory paint Between and March of over 1. Near the middle of the North African campaign a third helmet variant began to be produced which is known to collectors today as the M The new design would feature a raw rim instead of a rolled rim as seen on M35s and 40s. This design would go into production in July of and would continue until the end of the war. An army memorandum, Heeresmitteilung Nr. This new shade would be authorized for use 25 March The problem with this theory is that there is no archival evidence of the development of such a paint. The explanation may simply be that the color was changed overtime. Whatever the truth is behind these pink hued helmets, they are just one of several shades of tan seen on original DAK helmets. An original color photo of a German helmet dump in North Africa. Two members of the DAK both wear helmets with what is likely a sand finish A few photos have surfaced of more elaborate hand rendered camouflage patterns. These patterns were likely seen as a method of breaking up the outline of the helmet. Photo taken near the end of the African campaign in Tunisia. German paratroopers taking a break in Tunisia. While no photos as of yet have surfaced with such a palm tree decal, a small number of helmets have been found with this painted insignia. A squad of German soldiers. One wears a hessian cloth helmet cover Other Camouflage Methods. A few German soldiers wore helmet covers. Australian Diggers guard members of the DAK. One man has put a rubber band around his helmet Covers were not the only method used to break up the outline of the helmet. The idea was that they could be used to secure foliage to the helmet for better concealment. Photo taken in April in Tunisia, weeks before the German collapse. Original examples sell for thousands. Yet it is still a unique thing in WWII history. Original vet captured DAK M The green over spray have been applied in Tunisia. The vet painted the names of several cities in North African he had likely passed though during the campaign.

Chapter 2 : The North African Campaign Of World War II

Afrika Korps Song Just got finished watching an episode of 'The World At War' on the History Channel this evening, and the segment was on the desert battle between the Desert Army (later the British 8th Army) and the German Afrika Korps.

Countless books have been written on this subject and the reader is directed to them. The reader should note that major manufacturers such as Dragon and Panzerstahl have also produced more than a dozen prebuilt Afrikakorps tanks, but information on these is readily available and not the subject of this post. Photographs are provided below. They range from the Airfix set released in , more than 40 years ago, to the Caesar set, released in Altaya Opel Blitz 3. Other than the lack of weathering and fake window flaps on the canvas cover, this is a neat little piece that would greatly improve with a simple umber wash. Zvezda German Medical Personnel set. This little truck is a beauty. Note the crispness of the DAK palm tree. The divisional and tactical markings on the fenders are an added plus. The Flak 38 anti-aircraft gun is metal and is detachable. About the only quibble with this piece is the lack of divisional markings on the fenders and rear. This vehicle came with a Flak 38 anti-aircraft gun worthy of comment in its own right. Regrettably, I did not photograph it. I failed to include the Flak 38 on this vehicle as well. Though War Master gets credit for including the swastika on the palm tree, they managed to place it facing left, which is incorrect. Revell Africa Corps. This hard-to-find Cyber Hobby exclusive aircraft model included this kubelwagen. Airfix Afrika Korps. There is absolutely no comparison in terms of detail, finish, and weathering. Given the existence of the vastly superior Dragon , this Altaya model is only for the hardcore collector. Atlantic 88 German Afrikakorps. Altaya Schwerer Panzerspahwagen 8 Rad , Sd. Dragon has produced an Sd. Unfortunately, Dragon has not released one in an Afrikakorps desert livery. As is Altaya practice, neither vehicle has swastikas on the palm trees. C Unidentified Unit, El Alamein Photographs exist of the actual vehicle upon which this model is based. Unfortunately, the actual vehicle was an Ausf. B, rather than an Ausf. C, which is immediately apparent by the location of the hull side lockers. C, Eastern Front To make it accurate, one need only remove the mortar from the back of the vehicle. This release is the most recent Afrikakorps set on the market. Hobby Master HG Sd. This vehicle carries an interesting but non-standard Afrikakorps palm tree. To my mind, this is not a bad effort by Altaya and the difference in quality between it and the HM piece is not that great. See comment in previous photo. While this is, in fact, an Afrikakorps vehicle, HM neglected to include the distinctive Afrikakorps palm tree. I pilfered the palm tree decals from the Airfix A Sd. As can be seen in the photo, the detail on this figure is superb. This model is not available as a prebuilt. However, the short runs and resulting high cost of resin sets often present an obstacle for collectors. I hope you enjoyed the photos. As always, comments, suggestions, and questions are always welcome.

Chapter 3 : Afrika Korps DAK Deutsches Afrikakorps German Africa Corps | World War Photos

Reposted in memory of the channel Deutsches Vaterland. Video verwendet (Video used in making): Erwin Rommel and his Afrika Korps Battle for North Africa (Rommel versus Montgomery) Valkrye.

I can dig up examples for you if you like but it follows this from WP: The administrator discretion is only for shorter periods. The requested moves do not usually run much over 5 days, it is just that administrators have not been keeping on top of WP: RM as much as Vilot used to. I note that someone has been closing out lots of outstanding requests recently, but this one seemed to have got lost in the wash. I have reinstated in on the WP: RM page so hopefully it will be closed out shortly. Should it be deleted? Germany was a leader, as was the US. Almost impossible to get in the UK. I have not read this claim anywhere before. Camp Clinton is the proper place for the project tag. I almost changed them to more standard capitalization, but I could imagine there being some military justification of which I am not aware. Blocking force was only used for the initial units: From my knowledge of other fronts, the S. If anyone is able to clarify for me that would be greatly appreciated. The sources for this section are highly questionable and there is not a single dependable source that confirms these claims. It seems that many of the statements in this section are also wrong and inaccurate. The SS never fought in North Africa!!! The German Army committed many atrocities in the second world war and its commander was executed at Nurenburg. If you have evidence for problems with the sources please show them. Also as posted above, even your "sources" cant agree with each other. The intended move target is completely off. I believe the opening paragraph in the article attempts to address this issue. When you save page, this is automatically converted into username or IP address and time and date. With very few exceptions, articles are always introduced with their actual title. I switched the names around to reflect this.

Veteran is very in keeping with Richard Clarkes of Two Fat Ladies view of the Afrika Korps at this time of war. Log In To Vote 0. 1 month 23 days ago. Member. xp.

Everything about the Desert Fox attracts usâ€”the manly poses, the out-of-central-casting good looks, even the goggles perched just so. Placing Rommel and his elite Afrika Korps at the fore allows us to view the desert war as a clean fight against a morally worthy opponent. Unfortunately, practically all of it is a fabrication. The desert was hardly a haven of beauty or romance. The fighting was a nightmare for both sides. Far from letting the respective tank fleets roam free, the desert chained them irresistibly to their supply lines, and a single failed convoy or a lost column of trucks could stop a whole offensive dead in its tracks. Contrary to the dreamed mobility of desert warfare, both sides would spend far more time in static defensive positions, often quite elaborate, than they would launching tank charges. That leaves us with Rommel. Here, too, we should challenge the mythology. He was not apolitical. He was also a media creation. Nazi propaganda painted him as a battlefield hero and a model National Socialist and Aryan, a man who could overcome stronger enemies through sheer force of will. And he was not a passive bystander to the hype; he was an active accomplice. He loved nothing more than having a camera crew along with him on campaign, and he would regularly order scenes to be re-shot if his posture was insufficiently heroic or the lighting had not shown him to best advantage. As is often the case with public figures, his relationship with the media was both self-serving and self-destructive. During the years of victory, the German propaganda machine used him as an example to the nation. When things went sour, he became a diversion from the increasingly bad news on other fronts. When he was no longer useful, the regime put him on the back burner for much of and then, after he was tenuously linked to the July assassination attempt on Hitler, forced him to kill himself. Yes, the reader might respond, but surely we are on firmer ground with regard to his military skill. His disinterest in the dreary science of logistics, his love of action, his tendency to fly off to wherever the fighting was hottestâ€”all of these qualities make for an exciting movie. Yet they are problems in a commander under modern conditions, and they all contributed materially to the disaster that ultimately befell him and his army in the desert. With these thoughts in mind, let us take a short operational tour of the Afrika Korps at war. The point is not to smash any particular idols but rather to restore some balance to a discussion sorely in need of it. In France, Rommel had behaved more like an 18th-century hussar cut loose on a raiding mission than a divisional commander. He led from the front, braved enemy fire, and turned off his radio from time to time rather than risk receiving orders to halt. Rommel instead got the Iron Cross, and it would be the same in Africa. His force was appropriately tiny: The rest of the division was still en route to Africa, and a second division, the 15th Panzer, would not arrive in full until the end of May. Rommel had his orders, but he had ignored orders in the past and been decorated for it. With British forces stripped away from Africa to fight an exceedingly ill-advised campaign in Greece, he carried out a quick personal reconnaissance in his trusty Fieseler Fi C Storch airplane, then launched an offensive with his Italian partners. The Ariete Armored Division and the infantry divisions of X Corps Bologna and Pavia lunged east from central Libya through Cyrenaica the eastern coastal region of Libya , attempting to reach the Egyptian border in one bound. He penetrated British defenses at El Agheila on March 24, then drove on to Mersa el Brega on March 31, pausing only to take and ignore a number of radio messages from Berlin and Rome warning him not to do anything rash. These three tiny encounters, none exceeding regimental strength, were enough to unhinge the entire British defensive position in Cyrenaica. Rommel now expanded his reconnaissance in force into a general offensive, although the forces involved were still minuscule. One column headed up the coast road toward Benghazi, while two more sliced across the Cyrenaican bulge, scooping up a mountain of British supplies at Msus and Mechili. The British rear was in chaos. By April 11, the Germans had surrounded the Libyan coastal fortress of Tobruk while smaller formations pressed on to the east, taking Bardia and reaching the Egyptian border at Sollum and Ft. This was top-speed maneuver, and the distances were vast, with the Afrika Korps covering more than miles in less than two weeks. An amazing feat, to be sure, but may we not legitimately ask, miles to where? For now Rommel

had an unconquered fortress sitting in his rear, a serious threat to his lines of communication and supply. Two hastily marshaled attempts to storm Tobruk went badly wrong. Minefields channeled the German attacks, while direct fire from artillery, antitank guns, and supporting tanks thoroughly shot up the assault forces and killed Major General Heinrich von Prittwitz, commander of 15th Panzer Division. The very presence of an unconquered Tobruk rendered the drive across the desert pointless. Indeed, for all the fame it had brought Rommel in the world press, this first campaign won him few friends among command echelons in Berlin. General Halder was especially unimpressed. There had been no battle of annihilation, no kesselschlacht battle of encirclement, nor could there have been. The Afrika Korps had come a long way, but now sat precariously on the edge of nowhere. Although Rommel and his command had shown a satisfying level of aggression, something everyone in the officer corps understood, most of them saw his drive to the Egyptian border as a misfire. Both sides spent the summer rebuilding, replacing, and reinforcing, but by and large, the British did it more rapidly. Crusader led to hard fighting with heavy losses on both sides. On November 24, he scrounged up every tank he could find and ordered a raid deep into the British rear. In the course of this wild ride, his panzers overran, in quick succession, the headquarters of the XXX Corps, 7th Armoured Division, 1st South African Division, and the 7th Armoured Brigade, unleashing panic as he went. Ultimately, however, the drive to the wire was yet another drive to nowhere, and had little impact on the operational situation. With his tank strength near zero and his largely Italian infantry decimated, he had no choice but to retreat to where he had started, El Agheila. By now, the dynamic of the desert war was well established. An iron logic was at work, and neither side could escape its grip. Long advances did not simply take you away from your railhead; they took you entire time zones from it. Supply became not just a problem but the problem. Rommel was far more dangerous at El Agheila, relatively close to his main base at Tripoli, than he was on the Egyptian wire, miles to the east. Likewise, the Allied forces were never more dangerous than when they were fighting with the resources of their bases in Egypt at their backs, and never more helpless than when they had just overrun Cyrenaica far to the west. It should not be surprising, then, that Rommel soon turned the tables on the Allies once again. In January, having spent a few short weeks regrouping his forces after their long retreat, Rommel was back on the offensive, this time in the Gazala-Tobruk operational sequence. For both sides, it seemed, there was always somewhere more important than Africa. Once again, a green unit, the 1st Armoured Division, was in his path. A regiment-size task force, Group Marcks, got around its right flank near the coast, while the mass of Afrika Korps looped around the left. Having German panzers prowling around in the rear was enough to send 1st Armoured staggering back. In the next two weeks Rommel reconquered Cyrenaica. It was even easier than the first time, perhaps the greatest hussar raid of all time. This was low-intensity fighting of the *kampfgruppe* variety, without a fully formed division in sight. It included few battles and generated minimal casualties, and by February 6, Rommel stood on the Gazala line, just east of the Cyrenaican bulge and 35 miles west of Tobruk. Here, the hypermovement of the desert war ground to a halt. Both sides had wasted themselves racing back and forth and were, for the moment, incapable of further action. For nearly four months, the opponents sat, dug in, and glowered at one another. The Gazala position came to bear all the hallmarks of *stellungskrieg*, or static warfare: With that, Rommel carried out the most audacious move of his career, launching his entire mechanized force—five divisions, thousands of vehicles, and virtually every Axis tank in the order of battle, comprising a solid block of armor nearly 15 miles on a side—on a deep end run around the British flank. It was an amazing scene. Sitting out in the sunshine of a lovely May morning, the defenders looked on with curiosity as a dust cloud appeared on the horizon. This one, however, suddenly clarified into something worse: To the east, near Bir Gubi, lay the 7th Motorised Brigade. Half the unit had been given some well-earned rest and recreation and the men were swimming in Tobruk harbor that fateful morning. West of Retma, 3rd Indian Brigade was caught equally unprepared. Its commander, Brigadier A. He was actually seeing Italian tanks of the Ariete Division, but it was early in the morning, so we can forgive Filose his imprecision. Both brigades, along with the Retma box, were overwhelmed in the opening minutes with very little fighting. Strwn all over the battle area, it rushed to the aid of 7th Motorised Brigade, and was engulfed by the onrushing 15th Panzer Division. Then, 22nd Armoured Brigade, attempting to ride to the relief of 4th Armoured, also went down in flames. By noon, the British left wing was in shreds. Once past the

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initial shock, however, Eighth Army dug in its heels and took advantage of an underappreciated piece of equipment. The M3 Grant tank courtesy of U. Sure, it was ungainly and clumsy, and yes, it really did present a monstrous footinch-tall target to German fire. It was also one of the most heavily armed tanks of the day, packing two forms of main armament: By the end of the first day, the panzers had formed up into a laager behind the British lines, and over the next few days, Rommel had them launching an attack backward, that is, toward their own starting positions, in order to open up a supply line. It was a marvelous improvisation, and enough to flummox the British, who far preferred to fight on one front at a time rather than three. Soon the panzers broke out, fighting a swirling action around the nondescript terrain feature known as Knightsbridge and driving on Tobruk. A few days earlier, 2nd South African had been holding a position in the rear area, but suddenly it was defending the front. The young divisional commander, Major General Hendrik B. Klopper, radioed back the understatement of the century: Winston Churchill heard the bad news while conferring with President Franklin D. Roosevelt in Washington, a humiliation that shook the prime minister to the core.

Chapter 5 : Afrika Korps: Decision in the Desert, | Wiki | BoardGameGeek

-à@œÚ© Ú@à@œ- Our Rommel is a military song dedicated to Rommel's Afrika Korps. Its writers are unknown, along with the.

Chapter 6 : Rommel's Afrika Korps | HistoryNet

Product Features Rommel's Afrika Korps is the best starting point for any German Desert army.

Chapter 7 : Nicks Aviation Art. Heia Safari - The Afrikakorps

Although ultimately defeated, the exploits of The Afrika Korps in the desert, especially under the command of Field Marshal Rommel, earned widespread respect and taught valuable lessons to the Allies for subsequent combat in mainland Europe.

Chapter 8 : 1/35 Afrika Korps | eBay

The most famous are "Heia Safari", "Panzer rollen in Afrika vor", and one of my favorite - "Unser Rommel". Gedas.

Chapter 9 : 1/6 Afrika Korps | eBay

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