

6. The question of W.D.F. coming under the the Matruh and Bagush Boxes), G.O.C. and command of B.T.E. is receiving further con- sideration at this H.Q.

7. Acknowledge.

ARTHUR SMITH,
Lieut.-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

3. The boundary between W.D.F. and B.T.E. remains unaltered, i.e. (all including W.D.F.) Daba-Bab el Qaud—Longitude 28° to Qaret Agnes-Sitra-Siwa-Jalo.

4. As a guiding principle, troops of W.D.F. will rally on the El Alamein position, whether the position is held by X Corps or not.

5. G.O.C.-in-C., B.T.E., and G.O.C., W.D.F., will make mutual arrangements to ensure that units are withdrawn in such a way as to fit in best with the B.T.E. Defence Plan. Such arrangements will include movement tables, traffic control and measures for rallying units

6. The fortresses of Matruh and Bagush will come under command of G.H.Q. when W.D.F. comes under B.T.E., or earlier, should G.O.C., W.D.F., consider such a course desirable.

7. Acknowledge.

ARTHUR SMITH,
Lieut.-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

APPENDIX " B " (see para. 24).
SUBJECT: Policy covering the defence of the Western Desert.
G.H.Q., M.E.F.
30 July, 1941.
G.O.C.-in-C., B.T.E.
G.O.C., W.D.F.

In continuation of Instruction dated 21st July, 1941.

1. In the event of the enemy launching an attack in the Western Desert, the X Corps, comprising 5 Ind. Division and 2 S.A. Division, under command of G.O.C.-in-C., B.T.E., will:

(a) Hold the El Alamein position, provided that a small Armoured Force can be made available.

(b) Hold a sector of the Delta Defences if no Armoured Force is available.

2. Should the enemy advance necessitate the withdrawal of the W.D.F. (less the garrisons of

APPENDIX " C " (see paras. 47-52)
TABLES SHOWING COMPARATIVE STATES OF EQUIPMENT
A. Armoured Vehicles.

| Formations | 26th June, 1941 | | 23rd October, 1941 | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| | No. of Units | A.F.V. | No. of Units | A.F.V. |
| 7 Armd. Div. | — | 50% | — | 100% |
| 7 Armd. Bde. | 3 | 50% | 3 | 82% |
| 4 Armd. Bde. | 3 | 30% | 3 | 100% |
| 10 Armd. Div. | — | Forming | — | — |
| 8 Armd. Bde. | 3 | | 3 | Training scale |
| 9 Armd. Bde. | 3 | | 3 | Nil |
| 1 Armd. Bde. | 4 | Nil | 1 | Nil |
| 22 Armd. Bde. | Not arrived | 30% | 3 | 100% |
| 1 Army Tank Bde. | Not arrived | | 3 | 85% |
| 32 Army Tank Bde. | 1 | | 2 | 67% |
| Armcd. Car Regts. | | | | |
| 11 Hussars | | 92% | | 67%* |
| K.D.G. | | 40% | | 100% |
| Royals | | 92% | | 100% |
| 4 S. African Armd. Car R. | | 50% | | 100% |
| 6 S. African Armd. Car R. | | 50% | | 100% |

* Remainder available, but being modified.

B. Other Equipment.

| Formations | 1st July, 1941 | | 31st October, 1941 | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | M.T. | S.A. and Equipment | M.T. | S.A. and Equipment |
| 7 Armd. Div. | 75% | 70% | 100% | 90% |
| 10 Armd. Div. | — | 20% | 10% | 20% |
| 1 Armd. Bde. | — | 20% | 10% | 20% |
| 22 Armd. Bde. | — | — | 100% | 100% |
| 1 Army Tank Bde. | 50% | 90% | 100% | 90% |
| 50 Div. | — | — | 60% | 90% |
| 70 Div. | 100% | 80% | — | 100% |
| 6 Aust. Div. | 10% | 75% | 60% | 80% |
| 7 Aust. Div. | 100% | 80% | 85% | 80% |
| 9 Aust. Div. | 30% | 100% | 10% | 50% |
| N.Z. Div. | 30% | 45% | 100% | 90% |
| 1 S. African Div. | 90%* | 90% | 100% | 90% |
| 2 S. African Div. | 50%* | 20% | 50% | 70% |
| 4 Ind. Div. | 30% | 90% | 90% | 100% |
| 5 Ind. Div. | 50% | 75% | 75% | 100% |
| 22 Gds. Bde. | 100% | 65% | 100% | 100% |
| 3 Ind. Motor Bde. | — | 45% | 100% | 100% |
| Polish Bde. Gp. | 10% | 100% | — | 100% |
| Greek Bde. Gp. | Training scale | | Training scale | |

* Non-desertworthy transport.