

ITALIAN GROUND FORCES ORDERS OF BATTLE, STRENGTHS AND PLANS IN THE INVASION OF GREECE, AUGUST 1939-APRIL 1941

Part C. Italian plans and Greek first-line units 1940-41

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A Greek 1940 poster by Kostas Grammatopoulos.

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Italian invasion of Greece October 28th, 1940 - Italian first wave plans and units - Greek first-line units and their dispositions

The Italian first wave attacking columns (task forces), their directions of attack and objectives and the Greek covering forces they would first meet as well as the first defensive line. Greek forces have been placed under the corresponding direction of attack - in order to have an idea of the exact composition of the opposing forces - but there is some overlapping on the Greek Sectors. **Finally the XXVI Italian Army Corps** did not take part in the October 28th invasion but it is mentioned for the sake of completeness of the front : from the sea opposite **Corfu to** Lake Prespa on the Greek-Albanian-Yugoslavian border.

DIRECTION OF ATTACK : KALPAKI

Italian forces

From the Vojussa - Dhrinos Sector in Albania the ' Ferrara ' and ' Centauro ' Divisions' forces concentrated in attacking like a fan on the main traffic center of Kalpaki (Kalibaki in the Italian documents and maps) in four columns; Kalpaki was their intermediate objective. Forces available would then move to the direction Ioannina - Arta.

a) Solinas Column (of the ' Centauro ' Division)

According to the Italian Army Official History :

Comando 5o Bersaglieri (Headquarters 5th Bersaglieri Regiment)
XIV Btg. Bersaglieri Autoportato (XIV Motorized Bersaglieri Battalion)
III/31o Carristi (III Battalion / 31st Tank Regiment)
II/1a Legione CC.NN. Albanesi (II Battalion / 1st Albanian CC.NN Legion)
One company / XXII Btg. Bersaglieri Motociclisti (XXII Bersaglieri Motorcyclists Battalion)
I/131o Artiglieria da 75/27 (I Battalion / 131st 75/27 Artillery Regiment)
One 20mm battery
XIX Gruppo da 149/35 del 26o Artiglieria (XIX 149/35 Group - of the **26th Corps Artillery** -)
268a Batteria da Pos. da 149/35 (268th Positional 149/35 Battery)

According to Visconti Prasca - the commander of Italian Forces in Albania during the invasion -:

II Battalion / 1st Albanian Volunteers Legion
XIV Motorized Bersaglieri Battalion
III Battalion / 31st Tank Regiment
One company / XXII Bersaglieri Motorcyclists Battalion
One 47mm AT company
One 20mm battery
One 75/27 artillery battery
Reinforcement artillery : XIX 149/35 Group & 268th Positional 149/35 Battery

Direction of attack : Vojusa Valley - Perati (Mertzani) Bridge - Kalpaki.

b) Trizio Column (of the ' Ferrara ' Division)

According to the Italian Army Official History :

Comando 47o Fanteria (Headquarters 47th Infantry Regiment)
47o Fanteria (47th Infantry Regiment - minus its III Battalion -)
One Divisional 81mm Mortar Company (or two companies) / XXXIII Mortar Battalion
III/14o Artigleria (III Battalion / 14th 75/13 Artillery Regiment)
One Mixed Engineer Platoon

According to Visconti Prasca :

47th Infantry Regiment - minus one battalion -
One two-company / XXXIII Mortar Battalion
III Battalion / 14th 75/13 Artillery Regiment (minus ' Drinos ' Battery)
One Mixed Engineer Platoon

Some sources mention that there were two mortar companies and one 65 battery in the Trisio Column, too.

Direction of attack : Drymades - Lahanokastron - Geroplatanos - Mesovouni.

c) The Central Column

According to the Italian Army Official History :

Comando D.F. ' Ferrara ' (Headquarters ' Ferrara ' Infantry Division)
III/47o Fanteria (III Battalion / 47th Infantry Regiment - the Divisional Reserve -)
III/48o Fanteria (III Battalion / 48th Infantry Regiment - the Divisional Reserve -)
1a Legione CC.NN. Albanesi (1st Albanian CC.NN Legion - the Divisional Reserve, of battalion strength -)
166o Btg. CC.NN. della ' Piemonte ' (166th CC.NN Battalion of the ' Piemonte ')
One Group (Battalion) from the Light Cavalry Regiment ' Guide ', reinforced with two machine-gun platoons
XXIII Btg. Mortai da 81 (XXIII 81mm Mortar Battalion - minus one company -)
One Company / XXII Btg. Bersaglieri Motociclisti (XXII Bersaglieri Motorcyclists Battalion)
14o Artigleria (14th Artillery Regiment - minus III Group -)
XVIII Gruppo da 105/28 del 26o Artigleria di C.A. (XVIII 105/28 Group - of the 26th Corps Artillery -)
CXV & CXVI Gr. da 149/13 del 26o Artigleria di C.A. (CXV & CXVI 149/13 Groups - of the 26th Corps Artillery -, eight batteries)
267a Btr. da Pos. da 149/35 (267th Positional 149/35 Battery)

According to Visconti Prasca :

I Albanian Volunteers Battalion

III Battalion / 47th Infantry Regiment

II Battalion / 48th Infantry Regiment

One battalion from the Light Cavalry Regiment ' Guide ', reinforced with two machine-gun platoons

One Company / XXII Bersaglieri Motorcyclists Battalion

XXIII 81mm Mortar Battalion - minus one company -

Direct Support Artillery : I Battalion 100/17, IV Battalion 75/27 & II Battalion 75/18.

General Support Artillery : XVIII 105/28 Battalion, CXV & CXVI 149/13 Battalions - of three batteries each -.

Direction of attack : Drinos Valley - Delvinaki - Kalpaki.

d) Sapienza Column (of the ' Ferrara ' Division)

Comando 48o Fanteria (Headquarters 48th Infantry Regiment)

48o Fanteria (48th Infantry Regiment - minus its III Battalion -)

' Drinos ' 75/13 Battery /14th Artillery Regiment

A 65/17 battery is mentioned in the Sapienza Column by some sources, too.

Direction of attack : Kakavia - Kryoneri - Paleokastro.

Greek forces

Covering forces : From Kastanani to Drymades (in the Kakavia -Delvinaki area) :

II/42 Battalion , Delvinaki Border Covering

(Screening) Battalion (1st, 2nd & 3rd Companies), 40th & 42nd Infantry Gun Troops (65mm), one 75mm Skoda artillery battery. From Drymades to Stratsani (in the Mertzani - Konitsa area) : I/15 Battalion, 15th Infantry Gun Troop (65mm), one 75mm Skoda artillery battery, Konitsa Covering Battalion (minus one company),

Then (from Konitsa in the north moving south) the following sectors were the first line of defence :

a) Negrades Sector. From the river Voidomatis to Vrontismeni :

Soudena Sub-sector - from river Voidomatis to Vourtopia - : 15th Infantry Regiment (minus I Battalion)

Kalpaki Sub-sector - from Vourtopia to Paliokastro - : I / 40 Infantry Regiment, one company / I Mobile Machine-gun Battalion, & VIII Anti-tank Battery (four 37mm guns) & one 13.2mm machine-gun.

Vrontismeni Sub-sector- from Paliokastro to Vrontismeni - : I Mobile Machine-gun Battalion (minus one company), one heavy machine-gun company (four 13.2mm machine-guns).

Reserves : I/15 Battalion, one field artillery squadron - battalion - (two batteries), one 105mm Skoda horse-drawn artillery battery, two 75mm Skoda artillery batteries, one 105/19 artillery battery, one 65mm infantry gun troop.

b) **Kalamas** Sector. From Vrontismeni to Dramesi :

Grimbiani Sub-sector - from Vrontismeni to Havos - : 42nd Evzones Regiment (minus I & II Battalions), 2nd Mobile Machine-gun Battalion (in the Phlippiada area south), one mixed mountain artillery squadron - battalion - (One Skoda 75mm and one 105/19 Batteries). II/42 Battalion as sub-sector reserves.

Granitsopoula Sub-sector - from Havos to Panagia - : 40th Evzones Regiment (minus I/40 & III/40 Battalions), one company and a machine-gun platoon of the Delvinaki Border Covering (Screening) Battalion, one 75mm Skoda artillery battery.

Vrosina Sub-sector - from Panagia to Ambelia - : VIIIth Reconnaissance Group, II / 42nd Infantry Regiment as reserves.

Kalamas & Negrades Sectors Artillery : VIII Heavy Artillery Squadron - Battalion - (the 85mm battery in Soudena and the 105mm in Kalpaki). Kalamas & Negrades Sectors anti-tank artillery : two field artillery batteries, one Skoda artillery battery, one 37mm anti-tank gun, two infantry gun troops, four 13.2mm heavy machine-guns, two mountain artillery batteries, one 65mm artillery troop.

DIRECTION OF ATTACK : MIDDLE & LOW KALAMAS RIVER

Italian forces

All columns of the ' Siena ' Infantry Division. Intermediate objective Igoumenitsa, then turn towards Ioannina.

a) Northern Column / Carloni Column :

31o Fanteria (31st Infantry Regiment)

III/51o Artigleria da 75/13 (III Battalion / 51st 75/13 Artillery Regiment)

One 81mm Mortar Company

Two 47/32 cannon Platoons

Two pioneer platoons

Transmissions Unit

Medical Unit

A 65/17 battery is mentioned too in some sources.

Direction of attack : Povla - Keramista - Vrosina.

b) Southern Column / Gianini Column:

32o Fanteria (32nd Infantry Regiment)

II/24o Artigleria da 75/13 (II Battalion / 24th 75/13 Artillery Regiment)

Two 47/32 cannon Platoons

One 81mm Mortar Company

Two pioneer platoons

Transmissions Unit

The Southern Column is mentioned as having Rgt. Cavalleggeri ' Guide ' (' Guide ' Light Cavalry Regiment - minus one group -), one 65/17 battery, a bridge-layers unit and a 300 to 400-men Albanian Battalion in some sources.

Direction of attack : Katsika - Filiates - Vrysela.

c) Forces available to the Divisional Command

According to the Italian Army Official History :

Rgt. Cavalleggeri ' Guide ' (' Guide ' Light Cavalry Regiment - minus one group -)
51o Artigleria (51st Artillery Regiment - minus one 75/13 Group -, six batteries)
XXXII/26o Artigleria da 105/28 (XXXII / 26th 105/28 Artillery, six batteries)
CLXI Btg. CC.NN. (CXLI Battalion CC.NN)

According to Visconti Prasca :

I & II / 51st Artillery Regiment of 75/27 (divisional artillery)
XXXII / 26th 75/27 Artillery (corps artillery)
' Guide ' Light Cavalry Regiment - minus one battalion -
CXLI Battalion CC.NN

' Siena ' Divisional Command is mentioned as having eight 20mm guns, too, by some sources.

Greek forces

Covering forces were :

Neohorion Sub-sector - from Ambelia to Dramesi - : II/24 Battalion, one mortar company of the 24th Infantry Regiment and one 75mm mountain artillery battery .
Parapotamos Sub-sector - from Dramesi to the sea - : Filiates Border Covering (Screening) Battalion - minus one company -, 5th & 11th Companies / 24th Infantry Regiment with two machine-gun platoons and one 75mm mountain artillery battery
Reserves : III / 24th Infantry Regiment (Reinforced)

DIRECTION OF ATTACK : METSOVO

Italian forces

Two attacking groups of the ' **Julia** ' Alpini Division.

a) 8o Alpini (8th Alpini Regiment) in three attacking columns :

Btg. Tolmezzo (Tolmezzo Battalion)
Btg. Gemona (Gemona Battalion) and Gr. Conegliano (Conegliano Artillery Group - minus one battery -)
Btg. Cividale (Cividale Battalion) and one Battery / Conegliano Artillery Group
Artillery total : three batteries

Direction of attack : Stavros - Fourka - Samarina - Vovousa - Metsovon. Final objective : Zygos Pass (1620m, today called Katara) on the way to Thessaly from Metsovon; to occupy a defensive position to the east of it. Intermediate objective : Fourka and Vovousa.

b) 9o Alpini (9th Alpini Regiment) in two attacking columns :

Btg. L' Aquila (L'Aquila Battalion) with one Battery / Udine Artillery Group
Btg. Vicenza (Vicenza Battalion) with one Battery

The order for ' Julia ' Division was : "*To attack from the area of Erseka-Leskoviki and capture the Metsovo and Driskos Passes, to prevent the enemy forces in Epirus to withdraw and to obstruct probable enemy reinforcements to Epirus from the areas of Macedonia and Thessaly*".

Direction of attack : Golio, Western Smolikas - Distraton. Final objectives : Plaka (1593m) and Peristeri/Lakmos (2294m); to occupy a defensive position to the west. Intermediate objective : east of Elatochori. It had to move towards Metsovo, passing by Smolikas mountain.

Greek forces

The Pindus Detachment as covering forces : 51st Infantry Regiment, 1st Border Covering (Screening) Company Vourbani / Konitsa Border Covering (Screening) Battalion with one machine-gun platoon, one 75mm mountain artillery battery / 1st Mountain Artillery Regiment, one cavalry troop / I Reconnaissance Group, one 65mm artillery troop, two mortars, signals platoon and B' Muleteers Company.

The area around ' Julia's ' attack before October 28th had two battalions of the 51st Infantry Regiment, one Border Covering (Screening) Company and a Cavalry Troop. Forces on October 28th were placed as follows : the 6th Company (reinforced) / 51st Infantry Regiment to the north, the II / 51st Infantry Regiment (Reinforced) without its 6th Company to the centre, the I / 51st Infantry Regiment (Reinforced) without its 2nd Company to the south and the III / 51st Infantry Regiment as reserves in the Eptahorion area - these were the covering forces -. Because of the Greek mobilization, however, there were also Vth Brigade units in the area (I & II / 2nd Infantry Regiment, I & II / 52nd Infantry Regiment) as well as 1st Division units (I / 4th Infantry Regiment, II / 5th Infantry Regiment and 57th Infantry Regiment's elements), which constituted the first line of defence.

ATTACKS ALONG THE COAST

a) Andreini Column :

3o Granatieri (3rd Grenadier Regiment)

One Albanian Volunteer Battalion

One 65mm battery

One battery / 29th Artillery Regiment of the ' Parma ' Division

Direction of attack : Igoumenitsa - Parga - Louros

b) Moritzi Column :

7o Lancieri ' Milano ' (7th ' Milano ' Lancer Regiment)

One 65/17 battery

Direction of attack : Mazarakia, Margariti, Arta

c) Imperiali Column :
6o Lancieri ' Aosta ' (6th ' Aosta ' Lancer Regiment)
One 65/17 battery

Direction of attack : Along the coast to Preveza.

Another Albanian Volunteer Battalion is mentioned in the forces attacking along the coast, but not specified in which column it was placed.

Greek forces

Neohorion and Parapotamos Sub-sectors are also detailed above in the Italian middle and low Kalamas direction of attack as covering forces.

Thesprotia Sector, from the Ionian Sea to Mesovouni Heights and Raveni village :
Parapotamos Sub-sector (Filiates Covering Battalion - minus one company -, 5th & 11th Companies / 24th Infantry Regiment with two machine-gun platoons and one 75mm mountain artillery battery).

Neohorion Sub-sector (II/24 Battalion, one mortar company of the 24th Infantry Regiment and one 75mm mountain artillery battery).

Artillery : 21st Mountain Artillery Regiment (75mm) : one battery to each of the two sub-sectors.

Reserves : Headquarters III/24 Battalion with its 10th Company, two machine-gun platoons, VIII Sappers Company and the VIIIb Mountain Operating Theatre.

Further south there was the Preveza-Philippiada Sector, from Preveza to Kastrosykia :
I/24 Battalion (minus one company), 24th & 39th Infantry Gun Companies (65mm), one field artillery battery and one machine-gun company / 2nd Mobile Machine-gun Battalion. These forces were sent to the Thesprotia sectors when the Italian attack commenced.

DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS OF THE XXVI ARMY CORPS

a) D.F. ' Parma ' (49th ' Parma ' Infantry Division)

49o Fanteria (49th Infantry Regiment)

50o Fanteria (50th Infantry Regiment)

CI Btg. Mitraglieri (CI Machine-gun Battalion)

IV/19o Artiglieria ' Venezia ' da 100/17 (IV / 19th 100/17 Artillery ' Venezia ')

I/26o Artiglieria di C.A. da 105/28 (I / 26th 105/28 Corps Artillery - three heavy batteries -)

269a & 270a Btr. da Posizione del 13o Artiglieria G.A.F. (269th & 270th Positional Batteries / 13th GAF Artillery)

IX Btg. Genio Minatori (IX Miners Engineer Battalion)

Btg. Mobile Carabinieri (Mobile Carabinieri Battalion)

31a Cp. Carri Leggeri (31st Light Tank Company - 10 tanks -)

8a Cp. Motociclisti del 5o Bersaglieri (8th Motorcyclists Company / 5th Bersaglieri Regiment)

26a Cp. Chimica (26th Chemical Company)

A 49th Mountain Artillery Regiment (minus one battery), two 65/17 batteries, four 47mm guns, 93rd, 109th & 166th Black-shirt Battalions, one Albanian Battalion, one cavalry troop / 6th Cavalry Regiment, one mortar battalion and eight 20mm guns are mentioned by some sources, too.

Objectives : ' ...to guarantee the safety of the left flank of the attack on Epirus and the area of Korce in Albania '.

b) 29 D.f. ' Piemonte ' Infantry Division (in reserve).

3rd & 4th Infantry Regiments, one Albanian Battalion, 24th Artillery Regiment (minus one battery), four 47mm guns, two 65/17 batteries, one mortar battalion and six 20mm guns.

Greek forces

From north to south.

a) IVth Infantry Brigade (IX Frontier Sector), from Laimos Prespon to Mali Madi : Prespes Sub-sector : II / 16th Infantry Regiment (-) & II / 65th Infantry Regiment (-), one infantry company and one machine-gun company / IX Frontier Sector, 33rd Infantry Gun Troop, one 75mm mountain artillery troop, one field artillery troop and machine-guns.

Varbos (Central) Sub-sector : 33rd Infantry Regiment (minus III Battalion) , II / 30th Infantry Regiment and two 75mm mountain artillery batteries.

Vatohorio- Mali Madi Sub-sector : 28th Infantry Regiment, one IX Frontier Sector company, two 75mm mountain artillery troops, one field artillery battery and machine-guns.

IVth Infantry Brigade Artillery : two 85mm heavy artillery batteries & one 155mm heavy artillery batteries / S1 Heavy Artillery Regiment.

Reserves : III / 33rd Infantry Regiment (with eight anti-tank rifles), II / 50th Infantry Regiment & I / 66th Infantry Regiment.

There also was a reinforced Covering Battalion and six batteries available in the area.

b) IXa Frontier Sector, from Fragovista Neck to Agios Zaharias as covering forces : 1st, 2nd & 3rd Companies.

c) IXth Infantry Division, from Kostonetsi & Kriopigi to Agios Zaharias :

Northern Sub-sector : 32nd Infantry Regiment (minus I/32 Battalion) and one battery / IXb Mountain Artillery Squadron - Battalion -.

Central Sub-sector : 53rd Infantry Regiment (minus III Battalion) and one battery / IXb Mountain Artillery Squadron - Battalion -.

Southern Sub-sector : 27th Infantry Regiment .

IXth Infantry Division Artillery : IXc Mountain Artillery Squadron - Battalion -, B1 Heavy Artillery Regiment (two 85mm batteries), B2 Heavy Artillery Regiment and B1 Field Artillery Squadron - Battalion -.

Reserves : I / 32nd Infantry Regiment, III / 53rd Infantry Regiment and the IX Reconnaissance Group - minus one troop - .

Italian operational plans for the occupation of mainland Greece and the Ionian Islands, March - April, 1941

Three dots (...) denote part of the text has not been translated.

Comando Superiore Forze Armate Albania - Ufficio Operazioni (Higher Command of Armed Forces in Albania - Operations Office) ' Promemoria Operativo N. 9 ' (Operational memorandum), March 8th, 1941

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II. Forces actually in Albania

a) Higher formations : 2 armies, 7 corps, 26 divisions (21 infantry, 4 Alpini and 1 armoured)

Non divisional troops : 3 Bersaglieri regiments; 3 cavalry regiments; Alpini battalions ' Valle ', ' Susa ' and ' Intra ' ; some blackshirts battalions, various other elements.

b) Distribution of the above forces :

- 9th Army : 2 corps, 8 divisions (6 infantry, 1 Alpini), 1 Bersaglieri regiment, 2 Alpini battalions

- 11th Army : all the rest in 4 corps.

- At the disposition of the Higher Command : XIV Corps.

III. Distribution of the forces (in directions of movement)

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Western direction (Ionian) : Epirus and Akarnania (one corps of 3 divisions), Corfu (one division), other islands (one division). Total : 1 corps, 5 divisions.

Eastern direction (Aegean) : Western Macedonia (one corps of 3 divisions), Thessaly (one corps of 3 divisions), Attica and the island of Euboea (one corps of 3 divisions). Total : 3 corps, 9 divisions.

The Peloponnese : 1 corps of 3 divisions.

Grand Total : 1 army, 5 corps, 17 divisions.

The number of higher formations may seem excessive, but in the beginning we have to strongly ensure security in Greece; later, according to the political and military situation (of that time), there can be a reduction of forces. There are 9 divisions left in Albania and some non divisional troops. Of these divisions :

- 4, with a corps command, for the security of Albania;

- 5, with a corps command, are available for other uses (in the Motherland or elsewhere).

IV. Organisation of the Occupying Forces.

a) It is evident from the positions of the two armies that :

- 11th Army will occupy Epirus, Akarnania and the Ionian Islands (Ionian direction);
- 9th Army reinforced, will occupy the other three regions : Eastern Macedonia (*typographical error ?, the document means Western*), Thessaly, Attica, Euvoia and, probably, the Peloponnese.

So :

- the 9th Army has to use all its higher formations (2 corps, 8 divisions) and receive reinforcements of 1 corps and 4 divisions from the 11th Army and one corps from the Higher Command.
- the 11th Army has to use one corps of 5 divisions, give one corps of 4 divisions to 9th Army, provide security for Albania with 1 corps of 4 divisions, relinquish command of its other 5 divisions with a corps command to the Higher Command.

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b) An essential characteristic of the occupation of the Greek territory has to be speed. So all motorised and mechanised (fast /*celeri*) troops available will be used :

- In the 9th Army : one Bersaglieri regiment (4th), one cavalry regiment (formed by squadrons given by the 11th Army), the Forestry Militia Self-transported Group (*raggruppamento autoportato milizia forestale*), 2 self-transported battalions / squadrons.

- In the 11th Army : ' Centauro ' Armoured Division, Bersaglieri regiments, cavalry regiments.

In addition, it is necessary for each army to form a manoeuvre group equipped with vehicles (*autoraggruppamento di manovra*) to ' accelerate ' to its maximum the columns advance.

Higher Command can follow the itineray : Korca - Florina - Kozani - Larissa - Athens (with successive Headquarters at Florina - Larissa - Athens).

V. Successive stages of the occupation.

a) Ionian direction :

1. Occupation of Epirus with fast (*celeri*) units from Philippias - Arta and Preveza. Operation supplied from a well-placed base in the old borders (with Albania) or in Argyrokastro (in Albania).
2. Organising a supply base in Epirus.
3. Occupation of Akarnania.
4. Occupation of Corfu, at the same time or after the above (with the Royal - Italian - Navy).

Estimated time : 15 days.

b) Aegean direction :

1. Occupation of Western Macedonia with fast (*celeri*) units to Ellassona - Deskati - Grevena. Operation supplied from a well-placed base in the Korca area.
2. Organising a supply base in Kozani.
3. Occupation of Thessaly, with fast (*celeri*) units in Lamia and Volos.
4. Organising a supply base in Larissa.
5. Occupation of Attica and Euvoia (also using the railway line Larissa - Athens).

Estimated time : 1 month.

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Comando Superiore Forze Armate Albania - Ufficio Operazioni (Higher Command of Armed Forces in Albania - Operations Office) ' Promemoria Operativo Nr. 16 ' (Operational memorandum), April 24th, 1941

Subject : General provisions for the use of the Army of Albania units. Occupation of Greece.

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I. Army of Albania, April 24th, 1941.

- One Armed Forces Higher Command
- Two Army Commands (9th and 11th)
- Eight Corps Commands (III, IV, VIII, XIV, XVII, XXV, Speciale)

- 29 divisions (24 infantry, 4 alpini, 1 armoured)
- non divisional troops (1 Grenadier regiment, 3 Bersaglieri regiments, 3 Cavalry regiments, Alpini Battalion ' Valle ', non-divisional Blackshirt battalions, various detachments and elements)

Probable use of Army of Albania units

- 9th Army

- Southern Dalmatia and Montenegro security : one Army Corps (XVII : two Infantry Divisions - ' Marche ' and ' Messina ')
- Kossovo and Dibrano security : one Army Corps (XIV : two Infantry Divisions - ' Puglie ' and ' Firenze ')
- Albania security : three Infantry Divisions - ' Ferrara ', ' Cacciatori delle Alpi ' and ' Siena ')
- At the disposition for other uses or gradual repatriation : six divisions (three Alpini - ' Cuneense ', ' Tridentina ' and ' Pusteria ' -, three Infantry - ' Lupi di Toscana ', Sforzesca - Legnano ' -)

- 11th Army

- Occupation of Greece : five Army Corps (XXV, VIII, Corpo Alpino Speciale, XXVI, III : 16 divisions - 14 Infantry, 1 Alpini, 1 Armoured -)

- Use of non divisional troops at a later time for newly occupied territories.

II.

A. Anticipated military territorial organisation in Greece.

Regions	Principal towns
a) Epirus - Akarnania	Ioannina, Philippias, Arta, Prevesa, Messolongi.
b) The area of Athens - Euvoia - Lamia	Athens, Piraeus, Euvoia, Lamia.
c) Thessaly	Larissa, Elassona, Trikala, Karditsa, Pharsala, Volos.
d) Macedonia	Florina, Kastoria, Cozani.
e) The Peloponnese	Patras, Korinthos, Kalamata, Tripolis, Nauplion.

Formations taking part in the occupation

a) Epirus - Akarnania : one Army Corps (three divisions). XXV corpo (' Julia ', ' Casale ' & ' Modena ').

b) The area of Athens - Euvoia - Lamia : one Army Corps (three divisions). VIII corpo (' Brennero', ' Bari ' & ' Cagliari ').

c) Thessaly : one Army Corps (three divisions). corpo armata speciale (' Centauro', ' Acqui ' & ' Cuneo ').

d) Macedonia : one Army Corps (three divisions). XXVI corpo (' Venezia ', ' Parma ' & ' Piemonte ').

e) The Peloponnese : one Army Corps (four divisions). III corpo (' Pinerolo ', ' Taro ', ' Forli ' & ' Arezzo ').

Totals : one Army, five Army Corps, sixteen Divisions.

B. Occupying formations (on the basis of a direct correspondence between the actual order of battle and the regions to be occupied)

a) Epirus - Akarnania

- XXV Army Corps : Ioannina (' Julia ' Alpini Division : Ioannina, ' Casale ' Infantry Division : Preveza - Arta, ' Modena ' Infantry Division : Messolongi).

b) The area of Athens - Euvoia - Lamia

- VIII Army Corps (Rome Army Corps) : Athens (' Brennero ' Infantry Division : Athens, ' Bari ' Infantry Division : Thiva, ' Cagliari ' Infantry Division : Levadeia)

c) Thessaly

- Corpo Armata Speciale : Larissa (' Centauro ' Armoured Division : Larissa, ' Acqui ' Infantry Division : Trikala, ' Cuneo ' Infantry Division : Lamia)

d) Macedonia

- XXVI Army Corps : Florina (' Venezia ' Infantry Division : Florina, ' Parma ' Infantry Division : Kastoria, ' Piemonte ' Infantry Division : Kozani)

e) The Peloponnese

- III Army Corps : Tripolis (' Pinerolo ' Infantry Division : Tripolis - Kalamata, ' Taro ' Infantry Division : Patras, ' Forli ' Infantry Division : Korinthos - Nauplio, ' Arezzo ' Infantry Division : Kiparissia - Pilina)

C. Routes of advance for formations in Greece.

There is a direct connection between the actual order of battle and the zones to be secured, in the sense that the formation with the easiest access to a region is actually destined for it.

So :

- XXV Army Corps, on its way to Ioannina, will be in Epirus;
- VIII Army Corps (Rome Army Corps), in the direction of Ioannina (Metsovo), will go to the area of Athens - Euvoia - Lamia;
- Corpo Armata Speciale, in columns behind VIII on the direction Ioannina - Metsovo, will be in Thessaly;
- XXVI Army Corps, in the area of Grammos Mountain, will be in Macedonia;
- III Army Corps, closer to the railway line Florina - Athens - Korinthos, will move by train to the Peloponnese.

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D. Succesive stages and routes of advance.

In accordance, also, with the evacuation of Greek territories by the Germans.

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I Part : occupation of Epirus by the XXV Army Corps; itinerary : Ioannina - Arta - Messolongi.

II Part : occupation of the area of Athens - Euvoia - Lamia, Thessaly, Macedonia (with the priority shown before , in parralel with the evacuation of the regions mentioned by the Germans); itinerary : Bliishti - Florina (for Macedonia), Ioannina - Metsovo - Kalambaka - Trikala - Larissa - Lamia - Thiva (for the area of Athens - Euvoia - Lamia and Thessaly)

III Part : occupation of the Peloponnese ; itinerary : Bilishti - Florina and thence by train (Athens - Korinthos).