

## 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Armored Division (1)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Tank Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Regiment  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tank Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Regiment  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tank Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Regiment

### 13<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Tank Bn. 13<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tank Bn. 13<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tank Bn. 13<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment

### 6<sup>th</sup> Armored Infantry Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Armored Infantry Bn. 6<sup>th</sup> Armored Infantry Regiment  
2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Infantry Bn. 6<sup>th</sup> Armored Infantry Regiment  
3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Infantry Bn. 6<sup>th</sup> Armored Infantry Regiment

### Divisional Troops

81<sup>st</sup> Armored Reconnaissance Troop

27<sup>th</sup> Armored Field Artillery Battalion  
68<sup>th</sup> Armored Field Artillery Battalion  
91<sup>st</sup> Armored Field Artillery Battalion

16<sup>th</sup> Armored Engineers Battalion

141<sup>st</sup> Armored Signals Battalion

47<sup>th</sup> Armored Medical Battalion

1<sup>st</sup> Armored Supply Battalion

## NOTES:

1. The origins of this division are found in the creation of a cadre of personnel at Fort Knox in February 1932 as a provisional armored car platoon. This grew to become the 7th Cavalry Brigade, which went active on 1 March 1932 at Fort Knox. At first, it was nothing more than a headquarters and the armored car platoon. On 3 January 1933, U.S. 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Regiment was relieved from assignment to the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, and was moved to Fort Knox. On 7 May 1940, the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade took part in maneuvers at Monroe, Louisiana that were instrumental in developing the armored division concept. On 15 July 1940, the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade was expanded, reorganized, and redesignated as the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division. After completing its organization and equipping, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division trained at Fort Knox. The 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division was ordered to Fort Dix on 11 April 1942 to await their deployment overseas. The division boarded the Queen Mary at the New York Port of Embarkation at the Brooklyn Army Terminal on 11 May 1942. They arrived at Northern Ireland on 16 May, and trained on the moors until they moved on to England on 29 October 1942. Elements of the division were part of the Northern Task Force and became the first American armored division to see combat in the Second World War. The Division landed at Oran on 8 November 1942 and liberated the city. It then participated in several actions in Tunisia, at Maknassy, El Guetter, Gafsa, and Kasserine Pass, until the final offensive when it occupied Mateur on 3 May 1943. The division was reorganized in French Morocco, and began arriving in Naples, Italy on 28 October 1943, although elements of the Division had landed at Salerno on 9 September. After resting, it entered its first combat in Italy at Monte Porchia in January 1944. Task Force Allen attacked and seized the mountain between 4 and 9 January 1944, and it suffered heavy casualties. The 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division was then involved in the landings at Anzio on 24 January 1944, after which there was much bitter fighting in the bridgehead. After four months, a stalemate had been reached, until the Allies broke out on 23 May 1944. The Division moved through Rome and covered 200 miles in five days. It crossed the River Arno on 1 September 1944 and became involve in the slow and bitter advance through the Apennine mountains. In the final offensive, the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division broke out into the Po valley and liberated Milan on 30 April. It had reached Cigliano at the time that the German forces agreed to an armistice on 2 May. The Division remained in Italy as part of the occupying forces until it sailed for the U.S.A. and home on 16 April 1946.

## SOURCES:

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