

The regiment mobilized as early as 1935 was initially made up of only motorized groups (2nd with 3rd and 4th batteries) and 3rd (with 5th and 6th batteries) while the 1st group was horse-drawn with batteries 1.a and 2.a. In January 1941 only the motorized groups (equipped with L-37 tractors with oversized tires) were detached from the 2nd rapid division of which they belonged together with the regiment command and the respective ammunition and food departments and were destined for the African chessboard . Departing from Ferrara on 7 January 1941, they were joined in Naples by a motorized group of 100/17 howitzers (Major Pardi) from the 1st Army Corps artillery regiment based in Casale Monferrato which became the 1st group of the regiment (on L-37 tractors with oversized tires). Consequently, the regiment changed the numbering of its batteries 3.a and 5.a which became respectively 5.a and 7.a leaving unchanged the 4.a and the 6.a. On January 11, personnel and material embarked in separate convoys in Naples. On the 14th the personnel landed in Tripoli and were sent to the Fatma farmhouse area to await the arrival of the material. On 28 January 1941 the 2nd rapid artillery regiment which depended directly on the Northern Africa High Command was urgently sent towards Benghazi to form a rapid column in the area between Ghemines and Soluch together with an M13 tank battalion with the task of aiming for Tobruk , which became impossible for the advancing British. On 31 January, therefore, the regiment was withdrawn towards Sirte where, together with the Santa Maria Group consisting of 15 L 3 tanks, a machine-gun company with 16 weapons, 2 75mm batteries and some elements of engineering arranged to organize the defense of the area. At the same time, by express order of the higher command, the regiment had to detach four columns of trucks (96 trucks in total) to send them towards Agheila and Agedabia for the shuttle transport westward to Misrata and Homs of troops who were retreating on foot. During this extended service for several days one of the sections was surrounded by the enemy between Ghemines and Agedabia and captured. The 2nd articelere thus lost 16 trucks, 2 officers and 28 gunners. On 12 February the Sirte garrison was ordered to protect the Gas Bu area Hadi up to En Nofilia . The garrison was assigned as reinforcement two 20mm anti-aircraft batteries which were none other than the 7th and 8th batteries of the 2nd artillery regiment that had arrived a few days earlier from Italy. The 7th Battery was redesignated the 9th Battery of the regiment. With the arrival of the DAK and the subsequent offensive on Tobruk the 2nd Regiment was placed directly under the DAK. The regiment arrived in Tobruk at 6.00 pm on the 12th. At 7.00 pm on the 12th April the regiment received orders for the attack on the Tobruk walls scheduled for the following day. On the morning of the 13th the regiment lined up with the 1st group of 100/17 and the two of 75/27 (2nd and 3rd) in the Cheralla area and at 17.30 of the same day the batteries covered with their fire the 5th Light Division attack. After this fight the regiment was moved to the Bir area Scerif-Gasr el Chleta where the Ariete division was deployed (that is, its remains being a total of 2 cannon companies, 1 L tank company and little else). On 24 May 1941 the regiment received the order to leave its 2nd Group with the Ariete division in Tobruk and move with the remainder to the Bardia-Sollum area where it arrived on the morning of 15th May being placed under the dependence of the 15th German armored division. The 1st Group was deployed at Musaid across the Egyptian border while the 3rd Group remained south of the Capuzzo Redoubt . At 15:00 on 26 May, Operation Skorpion began for the conquest of Halfaya Pass . After the offensive the two groups (1.o and 3.o) of the regiment remained garrisoned at Halfaya Pass . The 1st howitzer group of 100/17 was organized in two strongholds located directly on the pass with two batteries (2nd and 3rd) at an

altitude of 190m together with a company of the 62nd infantry regiment reinforced by an anti-tank platoon of 47 of the 8th Bersaglieri regiment and with the 1st battery in that of Bir Qualal together with a German company Oasis while 2 sections of 20mm were arranged to defend the group. The 3rd 75mm group was instead deployed southwest of the Capuzzo redoubt with the batteries detached one in front of the other by about two km each flanked by a German 105mm battery. Two 20mm sections were with the 6th battery and two with the 7th. On June 15 the British went on the offensive and after 3 days of incessant fighting the regiment had lost entirely the 6th battery and three pieces of the 7th as well as a total of 12 dead, 42 wounded and 15 prisoners and the command of the 3rd group. In the month of July the regiment reconstituted the 6th battery and the command of the 3rd group and on the 7th of July the 2nd group returned from the Tobruk front and assumed the following deployment:

- 1st Group at the Halfaya stronghold with three batteries near height 194
- 2nd Group at the Halfaya stronghold in the coastal plain
- 3rd Group at the Cirener stronghold near elevation 207, 9 km southwest of the Halfaya pass with a battalion of the Savona division.

On 1 November 1941 the 2nd Artillery Regiment with its three groups and its two 20mm batteries constituted all the artillery of the Afrika Division of the DAK. On 17 November 1941, the 1st group of 100/17 with only the 1st and 2nd batteries passed under the command of the CTA and in the investment forces of Tobruk Square. On the 2nd of November, the Regimental Headquarters, which was currently in command of all the artillery in place, including, in addition to the 2nd articolere (reduced), a 78mm group, one 75mm group from Piazza di Bardia, two training batteries from 105/28, a 120 mm navy battery and a German 155 mm battery were ordered to move to Wadi Gerfan near the command of Piazza di Bardia. The 3rd group of the regiment, the 3rd battery of 100/17 of the 1st group, a battery of 105/28 and a 20mm battery remained at Halfaya, while the 2nd group with another 20mm battery. On 18 November Operation Crusader began which overwhelmed the defenses of Halfaya and with it the entire regiment excluding the 1st Group with the 1st and 2nd batteries which were transferred in strength to the 1st Artillery Regiment of the Brescia division. Officially, the 2nd and 3rd groups of 75/27-911 of the 2nd articolere as well as the command and the 20mm batteries 402nd and 405th were dissolved starting from 17 January 1942.