

The Palembang Assault, 14th February 1942 – Japanese Order of Battle

BATTLEGROUP

2nd Raiding Regiment

Colonel Seiichi Kume (abg)

[Veteran]

Command

HQ x1 Commander (b)

JA-19

x1 Paratroops (b)

JA-18

x1 Type 11 37mm Infantry Gun (b)

JA-P11

MANEUVER ELEMENTS

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

1st Attack Group

Major Komura (c)

Command

HQ x1 Commander

JA-19

x3 Paratroops

JA-18

x2 Paratroops (d)

JA-18

x1 Type 89 50mm Grenade Discharger (d)

JA-25

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

(-) 2nd Company

Lieutenant Hirose (de)

Command

HQ x1 Commander

JA-19

x4 Paratroops

JA-18

x2 50mm Grenade Discharger

JA-25

x1 Type 92 Heavy Machine Gun

JA-21

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

4th Company

Lieutenant Mitsuya (c)

Command

HQ x1 Commander

JA-19

x6 Paratroops

JA-18

x2 50mm Grenade Discharger

JA-25

x1 Type 92 Heavy Machine Gun

JA-21

OPTIONAL REINFORCEMENTS

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

2nd Attack Group

(3rd Company)

Lieutenant Morisawa (f)

Command

HQ x1 Commander

JA-19

x6 Paratroops

JA-18

x1 Type 89 50mm Grenade Discharger

JA-25

x1 Type 92 Heavy Machine Gun

JA-21



(a) 2nd Raiding Regiment was not the first choice unit for the Palembang assault. 1st Raiding Regiment was originally allocated to the operation, but its transport ship, the *Meiko Maru*, caught fire and sank in transit to the theatre of operations, resulting in the loss of the regiment's equipment. The operation was therefore allocated to the brand-new 2nd Raiding Regiment at the last minute, even though the regiment had not finished forming. For this reason, 2nd Raiding Regiment in this scenario is classed as 'Veteran', whereas a Japanese airborne unit might normally expect to be classed as 'Élite'.

(b) Colonel Kume's group was crash-landed into the jungle by transport aircraft, along with the battalion's 37mm infantry gun section. In reality, this group did not arrive at P1 for a full 24 hours. However, I include it here as an optional reinforcement (see Optional Scenario Rules).

(c) Major Komura was the regimental 2IC and was in command of the assault on Air Landing Ground P1. He landed to the southeast of the airfield, along with the bulk of the regimental headquarters, Lt Mitsuya's 4th Company and a platoon from 2nd Company (d).

(d) Lt Mizumo's platoon from 2nd Company is reinforcing Major Kimura's headquarters group, but may be re-attached to Lt Hirose's 2nd Company whenever the Japanese player wishes (but note that starting strengths and percentage losses will need to be re-calculated).

(e) Lt Hirose's 2nd Company lands west of the airfield.

(f) The 2nd Attack Group, consisting of Lt Morisawa's 3rd Company, was dropped directly onto the airfield during the following day. I include it here as an optional scenario balancing force (see Optional Scenario Rules).

(g) The regiment's 1st Company was landed at the Palembang oil refineries, beyond the Musi River to the south, and is not included in this scenario.

The Palembang Assault, 14th February 1942 – Allied Order of Battle

BATTLEGROUP

RAF Air Landing Ground P1 – Ground Defence Forces

Wing Commander Harold G Maguire RAF

[Trained]

••	Command	
HQ	x1 Commander	14A-18
••	Transport	
	x1 Jeep (no MG)	14A-10



MANOEUVRE ELEMENTS

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

RAF Squadron Defence Sections

Flying Officer Taute RAF
[Raw] (c)

••	Command	
HQ	x1 Commander	14A-18
••	x4 Infantry	14A-17
••	x2 Lewis Antiaircraft Machine Gun	use BR-P13
••	x3 Infanterie (a)	KNIL-14

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

Elements, 6th Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery

[Trained] (fg)

••	Command	
HQ	x1 Commander	14A-18
••	Transport	
	x1 Jeep (no MG)	14A-10
••	x2 QF 3.7-inch Antiaircraft Gun	BR-P80
••	Transport	
	x2 AEC Matador Artillery Tractor	BR-P81
••	x2 Bofors 40mm Antiaircraft Gun	14A-14
••	Transport	
	x2 15cwt Gun Tractor	use 14A-11

ATTACHMENTS

••	Transport	
	x6 15cwt Truck (de)	use 14A-11
••	Transport	
	x1 Chevy Luchtdociafweergeschut (d)	KNIL-08



REINFORCEMENTS

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

Stadswacht Company, South Sumatra Garrison Battalion, KNIL

Lieutenant Colonel LNW Voegesang
[Trained]

••	Command	
HQ	x1 Commandant	KNIL-15
••	Transport	
	x1 Bantam Blitzbuggy	KNIL-09
••	x9 Infanterie	KNIL-14
••	x1 M20 Lichte Mitrailleur	KNIL-19
••	Transport	
	x5 Chevy Luchtdociafweergeschut	KNIL-08
••	Recce	
	x1 Marmon-Herrington Mk III (b)	KNIL-03

(a) These were native Indonesian troops in Dutch KNIL service and attached to the RAF defence forces for P1.

(b) The type of armoured car used by the South Sumatra Garrison Battalion is not recorded, though from Japanese descriptions (who captured one of them and used it against the Allies) it does seem to have been a turreted, enclosed vehicle, so was probably either a Marmon-Herrington or an Alvis-Straussler, which were the main turreted types used by the KNIL. The Marmon-Herrington Mk III armoured car may be replaced with:
Alvis-Straussler AC3D Armoured Car KNIL-04

(c) These RAF Defence Sections were formed from men drawn from 242, 258 & 605 Squadrons RAF, who were armed and given rudimentary infantry training.

(d) These trucks, in addition to being general transport elements, also represent the unarmed airfield personnel that are to be evacuated from P1.

(e) These RAF trucks were almost certainly not four-wheel drive, so do not apply the +1 Bog-Down modifier as shown on card 14A-11.

(f) While sources agree on the number of Bofors 40mm guns at P1 (six, in two groups of three each = x2 models total), they differ as to the number of 3.7-inch guns. A full battery would have eight guns (x4 models), but sources state variously four, six or eight guns at P1. What is certain, is that they were split into two troops (as were the Bofors guns), so I have opted for a conservative x2 models total. Feel free to add up to x2 more 3.7s if you wish.

(g) The 3.7-inch Heavy AA Battery at P1 was either 12th or 15th HAA Battery, Royal Artillery (the two batteries were split between P1 & P2), with the 3rd HAA Battery and the 6th HAA Regimental Headquarters being assigned to the defence of Singapore. However, it is not clear where the Bofors guns came from. They appear to have reported to the HAA Battery commander at P1, so I have grouped them under the same battery ME.