**Sidi Bou Zid Research Module**

**Definition**: American armor and infantry attempts to block a German armored offensive in Tunisia near the town of Sidi Bou Zid.

**NOTE**: The references below provide information relevant to this engagement. Use these references and supplement with your own research. ***The CMH staff ride guide and Armor in North Africa contain a wealth of information for your analysis.***

**HINT**: Focus on the fighting around Sidi Bou Zid on 14 February 1943. This day and action marks the start of a German offensive that culminated at Kasserine Pass. Do not confuse the fighting on 14 February with a subsequent counterattack by American armor to retake the town. Be sure to address the role of terrain and weather.

***Electronic References listed by file name:***

Armor in North Africa

* Extract from *Armor in Battle: Special Edition for the Armored Force 75th Anniversary* with an emphasis upon the operations of the 1st Armored Division in January and February 1943 that includes unit logs.

CMH Staff Ride Guide

* A collection of documents and articles compiled to support a formal staff ride focused upon Kasserine Pass. This file includes a table of contents (pdf p. 4) and a variety of American and German items that address the fighting around Sidi Bou Zid.

Kasserine Maps\_Sketches CMH

* A collection of maps and drawings depicting the Kasserine Pass battle area, including the initial combat around Sidi Bou Zid.

***Recommended Websites:***

<http://www.benning.army.mil/Library/>

* This is the website of the Donovan Research Library, which features an online catalogue and a host of different services, including JSTOR, through which to conduct research and access source material. Once you have established a library account, you can access their electronic items, including books.

***Suggested secondary sources:***

Barry, Steven Thomas, *Battalion Commanders at War: U.S. Army Tactical Leadership*

*in the Mediterranean Theater, 1942-1943* (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of

Kansas, 2013), pp. 116-130. Available in the Donovan Research Library.

D766.B36 2013

Howe, George F., *United States Army in World War II: The Mediterranean Theater of*

*Operations: Northwest Africa: Seizing the Initiative in the West* (Washington,

D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, 1957). Available in the Donovan

Research Library. D769.A533 1993 v.6, pt. 1. Also available in pdf format from

the U.S. Army Center of Military History website at:

<https://history.army.mil/index.html>. Either enter the title into the search engine or

find through the tab entitled “U.S. Army in World War II “The Green Books.”

Kelly, Orr, *Meeting the Fox: The Allied Invasion of Africa from Operation Torch to*

*Kasserine Pass to Victory in Tunisia* (New York: J.Wiley, 2002), pp. 174-200.

Available in the Donovan Research Library. D766.82.K45 2002.

***Related Search Subjects (online and library shelves):***

Sidi Bou Zid

1st Armored Division

Combat Command A, 1st Armored Division

3rd Battalion, 1st Armored Regiment

LTC Louis V. Hightower

LTC John K. Waters

10th Panzer Division

Group Gerhardt

Group Reimann

21st Panzer Division

Panzerkampfwagen III

Panzerkampfwagen IV