



Laran
Éditions



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The Laran Éditions presents

THE GRUPPO CORAZZATO "SAN GIUSTO" from the Regio Esercito to the RSI

1° Gruppo Carri L "San Giusto" (1934 - 1943) /
Gruppo Squadroni Corazzati "San Giusto" (1943 - 1945)

*A book written by
Stefano Di Giusto*

- 160 pages,
- around 140 photos,
- several maps and documents,
- 5 color profiles,
- soft cover, 21 x 29 cm,
- Italian text with English summary and photo captions.

This book writes the entire history of the Gruppo "San Giusto" armoured unit from 1934 to 1945.

The 1° Gruppo Carri L "San Giusto", created in 1934 and equipped with the then brand new L 3 tankettes, was one of the first armoured cavalry units of the Italian army.

As part of the 1^a Divisione Celere (first fast division) "Eugenio di Savoia" it participated in the entire Yugoslav campaign from April 1941 to the Italian armistice with the Allied powers of 8 September 1943.

On the date of the armistice the unit's various Squadrons were deployed in different locations along the Dalmatian coast, from Fiume to Zara (now respectively Rijeka and Zadar, in Croatia). Its 2nd Squadron, commanded by Captain Agostino Tonegutti, remained in arms and contributed to the defence of Fiume against the partisans, together with German troops. In early 1944 it was moved to the Friuli region in North-Eastern Italy, where it was re-equipped with new

armoured vehicles, among which M tanks and Semoventi (self-propelled guns), armoured cars and armoured trucks.

Following the acquisition of the new equipment and additional manpower, it changed its name in Gruppo Squadroni Corazzati "San Giusto" ("San Giusto" Armoured Squadron Group). Integrated into the army of Mussolini's Repubblica Sociale Italiana (RSI), as its only armoured cavalry unit, it fought in the region then known as Operationszone Adriatisches Küstenland ("Adriatic Coastal Area" Zone of Operation) until the end of the war.

After taking part to some fighting against the Yugoslav army east of Trieste in April 1945, the unit was disbanded on 28 April 1945.

This book is the first factually correct account of the unit history, written using unpublished sources and first-hand accounts from former unit soldiers. It contains around 140 photographs, most of them never seen before.

