## <u>1<sup>st</sup> Anti-Aircraft Division (1)</u>

## <u>26<sup>th</sup> (London) Anti-Aircraft Group</u> (2)

- 51<sup>st</sup> (London) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (3) (H.Q., 151<sup>st</sup> (London), 152<sup>nd</sup> (London) & 153<sup>rd</sup> (London) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 52<sup>nd</sup> (London) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (4) (H.Q., 154<sup>th</sup> (London), 155<sup>th</sup> (London) & 156<sup>th</sup> (Barking) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 53<sup>rd</sup> (City of London) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (5) (H.Q., 157<sup>th</sup> (City of London), 158<sup>th</sup> (City of London) & 159<sup>th</sup> (Lloyd's) (City of London) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 54<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (6) (H.Q., 160<sup>th</sup> (City of London), 161<sup>st</sup> (City of London) & 162<sup>nd</sup> (City of London) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 26<sup>th</sup> (London) Anti-Aircraft Battalion (London Electrical Engineers), Royal Engineers (7) (H.Q., 301<sup>st</sup>, 302<sup>nd</sup> & 303<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 27<sup>th</sup> (London) Anti-Aircraft Battalion (London Electrical Engineers), Royal Engineers (8) (H.Q., 304<sup>th</sup>, 305<sup>th</sup> & 306<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

## 27<sup>th</sup> (Home Counties) Anti-Aircraft Group (9)

- 60<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (10) (H.Q., 168<sup>th</sup>, 169<sup>th</sup> & 194<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 30<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (11) (H.Q., 315<sup>th</sup> (Surrey), 316<sup>th</sup> (Surrey), 318<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) & 323<sup>rd</sup> (Surrey) Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 31<sup>st</sup> (City of London Rifles) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (12) (H.Q., 324<sup>th</sup>, 325<sup>th</sup>, 326<sup>th</sup> & 327<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 34<sup>th</sup> (The Queen's Own Royal West Kent) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (13) (H.Q., 302<sup>nd</sup>, 336<sup>th</sup>, 337<sup>th</sup> & 338<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 35<sup>th</sup> (First Surrey Rifles) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (14) (H.Q., 340<sup>th</sup>, 341<sup>st</sup>, 342<sup>nd</sup> & 343<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

28<sup>th</sup> (Thames and Medway) Anti-Aircraft Group (15)

- 55<sup>th</sup> (Kent) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (16) (H.Q., 163<sup>rd</sup> (Kent), 166<sup>th</sup> (City of Rochester) & 205<sup>th</sup> (Chatham and Faverham) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 58<sup>th</sup> (Kent) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (17) (H.Q., 206<sup>th</sup> (Erith), 207<sup>th</sup> (Erith) & 208<sup>th</sup> (Bromley) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 61<sup>st</sup> (Finsbury Rifles) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (18) (H.Q., 170<sup>th</sup>, 171<sup>st</sup>, 195<sup>th</sup> & Anti-Aircraft Machine Gun Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 29<sup>th</sup> (Kent) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (19) (H.Q., 313<sup>th</sup> (Kent), 314<sup>th</sup> (Kent) & 347<sup>th</sup> (Kent) Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 32<sup>nd</sup> (7<sup>th</sup> City of London) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (20) (H.Q., 328<sup>th</sup>, 329<sup>th</sup>, 330<sup>th</sup> & 331<sup>st</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

29<sup>th</sup> (East Anglian) Anti-Aircraft Group (21)

- 59<sup>th</sup> (the Essex Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery (22) (H.Q., 164<sup>th</sup>, 167<sup>th</sup> & 193<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 28<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (23) (H.Q., 309<sup>th</sup> (Essex), 310<sup>th</sup> (Essex), 311<sup>th</sup> (Essex) & 312<sup>th</sup> (Essex) Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 33<sup>rd</sup> (St. Pancras) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (24) (H.Q., 332<sup>nd</sup>, 333<sup>rd</sup> & 334<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 36<sup>th</sup> (Middlesex) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (25) (H.Q., 317<sup>th</sup>, 345<sup>th</sup> & 346<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

**Divisional Troops** 

- 1<sup>st</sup> Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals
- 1<sup>st</sup> Anti-Aircraft Divisional Royal Army Service Corps

- 1. The division was raised on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 1935 in the London District. The headquarters of the division was located at Hillington House, Uxbridge. It is believed the headquarters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Division was used to form the new anti-aircraft division. At the outbreak of war, the commanding officer was Major General F. L. M. CROSSMAN, D.S.O., M.C.. The division was disbanded in October 1942, being replaced by one of seven anti-aircraft groups.
- 2. This brigade was raised on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 1935 at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London S.W.3.
- 3. The first T.A. anti-aircraft unit formed, this regiment has been raised in 1922. All four batteries were based in the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London S.W.3. The regiment was deployed to Norway in April and May 1940. Following its return to the U.K., it left again in January 1941, this time bound for Egypt. It moved to Palestine in December 1941, under 9<sup>th</sup> Army. It joined 8<sup>th</sup> Army in September 1942, and moved to Italy in September 1943, staying there until the end of the war.
- 4. This sister regiment was formed in 1923. The Headquarters, 154<sup>th</sup> and 155<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based in the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, but in 1938 moved to Artillery House, Horn Lane in Acton, London W.3. The 156<sup>th</sup> Battery was based in Empress Hall, Ripple Lane, Barking. The regiment left the U.K. in March 1942, bound for Ceylon. It moved from Ceylon to Burma in November 1944. It served with IV Corps, 24<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade and 3<sup>rd</sup> Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade until the end of the war. On the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1947, it was reformed as the 452<sup>nd</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, still based at Acton. It amalgamated with other Regiments in 1955.
- 5. Formed in 1922 as an anti-aircraft brigade within the Territorial Army. The headquarters and three batteries were based at the Drill Hall, Lytton Grove, Putney, London S.W. 15, but by the outreak of war, they had moved to the War Office Department at White City Road, London W.12. The regiment was deployed to France as part of the B.E.F. in November 1939. Following evacuation from Dunkirk, it remained in the U.K. until March 1942 when it sailed for India. It served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade until March 1943, then with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade until March 1944, and latterly with the 9<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade until July 1944, when it was converted into the 85<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Medium Regiment. It continued to serve in India for the rest of the duration of the war.
- 6. Raised in 1923 as an anti-aircraft brigade in the Territorial Army as one of the four units formed in the early 1920's. All five batteries were based at the Drill Hall, Lytton Grove, Putney, London S.W.15. In May 1943, the regiment moved to North Africa, where it came under command of Middle East Forces. It was placed in suspended animation in February 1945. On the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1947, it was reconstituted in the T.A. as the 454<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, still based at Putney..
- 7. Formed as one of the original five searchlight battalions formed in 1925, in 1936 the 26<sup>th</sup> (London) Searchlight Battalion was redesignated as the 26<sup>th</sup> (London) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers. The headquarters and three companies were based at the Duke of York's Barracks at Chelsea. In January 1940, the battalion was redesignated as the 26<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. It remained as a searchlight unit based in the U.K. until the end of the war.

- 8. A sister unit to the 26<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Battalion, this unit was again formed in 1925. The headquarters of the battalion was located in Mitcham Lane, but the four companies were all based in Rochester Row, London SW1. It was also redesignated in January 1940, becoming the 27<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. It left the U.K. in May 1941 to move to Egypt. It came under command of Middle East Forces in November 1941, remaining in North Africa until placed in suspended animation in June 1945.
- 9. This anti-aircraft group was formed on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 1935, being based at Kenley Aerodrome, Whyteleafe, Surrey.
- 10. This brigade was formed in 1932 by the conversion of the 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers). All four batteries were based at Artillery House, Bromley Road, Catford, London S.E.6. The regiment was deployed to France with the B.E.F. in November 1939. On its return to the U.K. it remained there until moving to Normandy in June 1944 with 2<sup>nd</sup> Army. It served throughout the campaign in N.W. Europe, being reformed on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1947 at Catford as the 460<sup>th</sup> H.A.A. Regiment, merging in 1955 with the 454<sup>th</sup> H.A.A. Regiment (see above), until disbanding in February 1961.
- 11. This battalion was formed in 1935 from the Headquarters, Surrey Group Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Companies. The Headquarters and 316<sup>th</sup> Companies were based in Kingston, Surrey, with the 315<sup>th</sup> Company based at Croydon, the 318<sup>th</sup> Company based at Guildford, and the 323<sup>rd</sup> Company at Ewell. It was redesignated as the 30<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery in January 1940.
- 12. In 1935, the 6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The London Regiment (City of London Rifles) was converted into a searchlight unit, designated as the 31<sup>st</sup> (City of London Rifles) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers. The headquarters and all companies were based at 57A, Farringdon Road, London E.C.1. In January 1940, it became titled as the 31<sup>st</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery.
- 13. The 20<sup>th</sup> Bn. The London Regiment was converted in 1935 into a searchlight unit of the Royal Engineers. The unit was affiliated to the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. The headquarters, 336<sup>th</sup>, 337<sup>th</sup> and 338<sup>th</sup> Companies were all based at Holly Hedge House, Blackheath, London S.E.10, with the 302<sup>nd</sup> Company based at Randall Place, Greenwich, London S.E.10.. In January 1940, it was redesignated as the 34<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery and continued to serve in the U.K.. In January 1945, it was converted into the 633<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, Royal Artillery.
- 14. The 21<sup>st</sup> Bn. The London Regiment was also converted into a searchlight unit of the Royal Engineers in 1935. It was affiliated to the East Surrey Regiment. The headquarters and all the companies were based at 4, Flodden Road, Camberwell, London S.E.5.. In January 1940 it was redesignated as the 35<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. In March 1942, it was converted into the 129<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery. The regiment served in the U.K. throughout the war.
- 15. In 1935, the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The London Regiment (Post Office Rifles) was also converted into a searchlight unit, being designated as the 32<sup>nd</sup> (City of London) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers. The headquarters and 328<sup>th</sup> Companies were based at 24, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, London. The 329<sup>th</sup> and 330<sup>th</sup> Companies were based at Grove Park, and the 331<sup>st</sup> Company was based at Bexley Heath.

- 16. In 1925, the raising of the fifth Territorial Army anti-aircraft brigade was authorised. This became the 55<sup>th</sup> (Kent) Anti-Aircraft Brigade. The headquarters and 166<sup>th</sup> Battery were based at Fort Clarence, Rochester; the 163<sup>rd</sup> Battery was based at Albion Road, Tunbridge Wells; with the 295<sup>th</sup> Battery based at the Drill Hall, Chatham. The regiment remained in the U.K. until leaving for Iraq in November 1942. It later served in North Africa, Sicily and Italy.
- 17. This brigade was formed in 1935 by the conversion of the 52<sup>nd</sup> (Kent) Medium Brigade, Royal Artillery. The headquarters, 206<sup>th</sup> and 207<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based at Bexley Road, Erith, with the 208<sup>th</sup> Battery based at the Drill Hal, Parish Lane, Penge. This regiment left the U.K. in November 1942 to serve with the 1<sup>st</sup> Army in Tunisia. It later served with the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in Italy until the end of the war.
- 18. In 1935, the 11<sup>th</sup> Bn. The London Regiment (Finsbury Rifles) was converted from an infantry battalion into an anti-aircraft brigade. The headquarters of the unit and four batteries were all based at 17, Penton Street, Pentonville, London N.1. The regiment remained in the U.K. until June 1942, when it moved to the Middle East. It later moved to Italy in November 1943 and was based there at the end of the war.
- 19. This battalion was formed in 1935 from the Kent and Middlesex Group Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Companies. The headquarters and 313<sup>th</sup> Company were based at the Marine School, Chatham; the 314<sup>th</sup> Company was based at the Drill Hall, Avebury Avenue, Tonbridge; and the 347<sup>th</sup> Company was based at Lamorbey House, Sidcup. In January 1940, it was redesignated as the 29<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. It served with Home Forces until being converted into the 631<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment, Royal Artillery in January 1945.
- 20. In 1935, the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The London Regiment (Post Office Rifles) was converted into an anti-aircraft battalion of the Royal Engineers. It was affiliated to the Middlesex Regiment. The headquarters and 328<sup>th</sup> Company were based at 24, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, London E.C.2; the 329<sup>th</sup> and 330<sup>th</sup> Companies were based at Grove Park; with the 331<sup>st</sup> Company based at Bexleyheath. In January 1940, the battalion was redesignated as the 32<sup>nd</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. It remained with Home Forces in the U.K. until May 1945 when it was placed in suspended animation.
- 21. This group was formed in January 1936, with its headquarters located at North Weald Aerodrome, North Weald, Epping, Essex.
- 22. This brigade was formed in 1935 by the conversion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Essex Regiment. The headquarters and 164<sup>th</sup> Battery were based at the Drill Hall, Church Hill, Walthamstow, London E.17; the 167<sup>th</sup> Battery was based at the Drill Hall, Church Road, Leyton, London, E.10; and the 193<sup>rd</sup> Battery was based at Leigh-on-Sea. The regiment stayed in the U.K. until November 1942 when it moved to Tunisia, later serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in Italy.
- 23. The 28<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Company was formed in 1935 from the Essex Group Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers. The headquarters and 311<sup>th</sup> Company were based at Brentwood, the 309<sup>th</sup> Company was based at Harlow, the 310<sup>th</sup> Company at Epping and the 312<sup>th</sup> Company at Upminster. In January 1940, the battalion was redesignated as the 28<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. The regiment was stationed in the U.K. until January 1945 when it was converted to become the 630<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Royal Artillery.

- 24. This battalion was formed in 1935 by the conversion of the 19<sup>th</sup> Bn. The London Regiment. The headquarters and all the companies were based at 76, High Street, Camden Town, London N.W.1.. In January 1940, it was redesignated as the 33<sup>rd</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. It served with Home Forces until January 1945 when it was converted into the 632<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, Royal Artillery.
- 25. This battalion was raised in 1936. The headquarters and all the companies were based at Hendon, London N.W.4. In January 1940, it was redesignated as the 36<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. It served with Home Forces until January 1945 when it was converted into the 634<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Royal Artillery.
- 26. The divisional signals were based at 56, Regency Street, London S.W.1.
- 27. The divisional R.A.S.C. was based at Crescent Road, Plumstead, London S.E.18.