

## 12<sup>th</sup> (Eastern) Infantry Division (1)

### 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade (2)

2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)

2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> (Bermondsey) Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)

2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> (Southwark) Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)

### 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade (3)

2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The East Surrey Regiment (4)

6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

### 37<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade (5)

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) (4)

6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment

7<sup>th</sup> (Cinque Ports) Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment

### Divisional Troops

113<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 227<sup>th</sup> (Hove) & 228<sup>th</sup> (Worthing) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

114<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (7)

(H.Q., 231<sup>st</sup> (Bexhill) & 232<sup>nd</sup> (Hailsham) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

118<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (8)

(H.Q., 259<sup>th</sup> (23<sup>rd</sup> London) & 260<sup>th</sup> (24<sup>th</sup> London) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

67<sup>th</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery (9)

(H.Q., 265<sup>th</sup>, 266<sup>th</sup>, 267<sup>th</sup> & 268<sup>th</sup> Anti-Tank Batteries, Royal Artillery)

262<sup>nd</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

263<sup>rd</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

264<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

265<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

12<sup>th</sup> (Eastern) Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

1. This formation was a second line Territorial Army division, formed as a mirror image duplicate of the 44<sup>th</sup> (Home Counties) Infantry Division. Between the 3<sup>rd</sup> September and the 7<sup>th</sup> October 1939, the units in this division were administered and embodied by their parent units in 44<sup>th</sup> Division. It was initially under the Eastern Command but, transferred to War Office control on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 1940. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1940, the division arrived in France to join the British Expeditionary Force for training and labour duties. The divisional artillery, most of the divisional signals and some administrative units remained behind in the United Kingdom. The division suffered heavy casualties in France, and following evacuation from Dunkirk, it disbanded on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 1940.
2. A second line brigade formed as the duplicate of the 131<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade. The 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Bn. Queen's Royal Regiment was based at Woking, with the 2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Battalions based alongside their parent units at Bermondsey and Walworth in South East London. The brigade later served with the 56<sup>th</sup> (London) Infantry Division.
3. This brigade was the duplicate of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Brigade. The 2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Bn. East Surreys was based at Richmond in Surrey, the 6<sup>th</sup> Bn. QORWK was based at St. Mary's Cray and the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. QORWK at Dartford. The brigade later joined the 78<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.
4. On the 25<sup>th</sup> October 1939, the 2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> East Surrey Regiment transferred from 36<sup>th</sup> Brigade to 37<sup>th</sup> Brigade, with the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn The Buffs transferring from the 37<sup>th</sup> Brigade to the 36<sup>th</sup> Brigade.
5. This was a second line Territorial Army Brigade, comprising three second line (or duplicate) Territorial battalions. The 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs was based at Canterbury, the 6<sup>th</sup> Bn. Sussex Regiment at Worthing and, the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. at Brighton. The brigade remained in the U.K. being redesignated as the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade.
6. This regiment was formed in May 1939 as the duplicate of the 57<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The H.Q. Battery was based at Shoreham, with the 227<sup>th</sup> Battery being based at Hove and the 228<sup>th</sup> Battery at Worthing. The regiment did not travel to France with the division as it was not adequately trained or equipped. In July 1940, it joined the 1<sup>st</sup> London Division, later becoming the 56<sup>th</sup> (London) Infantry Division, with which it served throughout the rest of war in the Middle East and Italy. It was entitled (Home Counties) in February 1942.
7. This regiment was formed in May 1939 as the duplicate of the 58<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The H.Q. and 231<sup>st</sup> Batteries were based at Bexhill, with the 232<sup>nd</sup> Battery being based at Hailsham. The regiment transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Division in July 1940, but in May 1942 it arrived in India, where it joined the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division. It was entitled (Sussex) in February 1942.
8. This regiment was formed in June 1939 as the duplicate of the 65<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The H.Q. and 259<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based at Plumstead, London SE 18, with the 260<sup>th</sup> Battery being based at Lee Green. In June 1940, it joined the 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, with which it went to Malaya where it was captured on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 1942. It was entitled (8<sup>th</sup> London) in February 1942 shortly before its capture.
9. Formed in 1939 as the duplicate of the 57<sup>th</sup> (East Surrey) Anti-Tank Regiment, the entire regiment was based at Sutton. On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1940, it transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> London Division (later to become the 56<sup>th</sup> (London) Division, and stayed with that Division throughout its campaign in Italy. It appears that the regiment was not entitled in line with its parent regiment.
10. The Headquarters Royal Engineers, plus the 263<sup>rd</sup> Field Company and 265<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company were based at Eastbourne. The 262<sup>nd</sup> Field Company was based in Hastings and the 264<sup>th</sup> Field Company in Lewes. All were second line duplicate units formed in 1939. After the division disbanded, they became Army Troops Companies, with the 262<sup>nd</sup> & 263<sup>rd</sup> Field Companies serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army in the invasion of Normandy.