

## 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division <sup>(1)</sup>

### 182<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade <sup>(2)</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment

9<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment <sup>(3)</sup>

9<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment

### 183<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade <sup>(4)</sup>

10<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment <sup>(5)</sup>

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment <sup>(5)</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment <sup>(6)</sup>

### 184<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade <sup>(7)</sup>

6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's)

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry <sup>(8)</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Buckinghamshire Regiment <sup>(9)</sup>

### Divisional Troops

61<sup>st</sup> Reconnaissance Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps <sup>(10)</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Cheshire Regiment <sup>(11)</sup>

119<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(12)</sup>

120<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(13)</sup>

145<sup>th</sup> (Berkshire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(14)</sup>

63<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(15)</sup>

103<sup>rd</sup> (Warwickshire) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(16)</sup>

266<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers

267<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers

268<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers

269<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company, Royal Engineers

61<sup>st</sup> Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

## NOTES:

1. Formed in 1939 as a second line formation, this division was a duplicate of the 48<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Infantry Division. It came under Southern Command (for 1939 formation see: <http://www.britishmilitaryhistory.co.uk/documents.php?aid=15&nid=2&start=5>)  
The division moved to Northern Ireland on the 20<sup>th</sup> June 1940. It stayed in the Province as part of British Troops in Northern Ireland until the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1943, when it returned to the mainland coming under command of the XI Corps District in East Anglia. It transferred to II Corps District on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 1943, and then on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1943, Home Forces. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1943, it transferred to the South Eastern Command, and when that formation disbanded in November 1944, it joined Eastern Command. Major General C. B. WAINWRIGHT commanded this division with effect from the 17<sup>th</sup> May 1943 until at least August 1945.
2. This was one of the original brigades in the division, remaining with this formation throughout the war. Brigadier J. S. NICHOLS commanded this brigade from the 27<sup>th</sup> November 1943 until the 27<sup>th</sup> March 1945, when he handed over to Brigadier T. B. L. CHURCHILL.
3. This battalion left the brigade on the 25<sup>th</sup> July 1944, to disband. It was replaced on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1944 by:  
1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The South Wales Borderers
4. This was one of the original brigades in the division. On the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1944, the brigade was detached from the division to form the H.Q. Residue Concentration Area for the forthcoming invasion of France. On the 18<sup>th</sup> July 1944, it reverted to the role of a standard infantry brigade. The brigade had a series of commanding officers. Brigadier Sir A. B. G. STANIER, Baronet, commanded the brigade from the 17<sup>th</sup> February 1943 until the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1944. Brigadier G. MURRAY then replaced him until he left on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 1944. Next was Brigadier J. VICARY, who was in command until the 4<sup>th</sup> February 1945. He handed over to Brigadier E. E. E. CASS but only four months later, Brigadier T. P. O'BRIEN-TWOHIG assumed command in anticipation of its deployment to the Far East.
5. These battalions left the brigade on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1944, to disband. They were replaced by:  
7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The North Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's)  
1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)  
The 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The North Staffordshire Regiment joined the brigade on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 1944, and remained with the brigade until the end of the war. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Sherwood Foresters joined on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1944, and left on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 1945 to transfer to 184<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade.
6. On the 28<sup>th</sup> August 1944, this battalion left the brigade. It was not replaced until July 1945.
7. This was another original brigade in the division. Brigadier J. VICARY assumed command on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1944, but swapped brigades with Brigadier G. MURRAY on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 1944. Ready for the anticipated deployment overseas, Brigadier P. N. WHITE assumed command on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1945.
8. This battalion left the brigade to disband. It was replaced by:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment  
which transferred in on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1944.
9. This battalion left the brigade and disbanded. It was replaced by:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The East Surrey Regiment  
which transferred in on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1944.

10. On the 14<sup>th</sup> September 1941, this formation raised the 61<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Reconnaissance Corps as the divisional reconnaissance unit. On the 6<sup>th</sup> June 1942, it was retitled as the 61<sup>st</sup> Regiment The Reconnaissance Corps. It left the command of this division on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 1943 and later served with the 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division during the invasion of Normandy.
11. The 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Cheshire Regiment was a pre-war Territorial Army unit, based in the City of Chester. In 1938, it re-equipped as a machine gun battalion, and served as such throughout the war in the United Kingdom. It joined this division on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 1943 and left on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 1944.
12. This regiment was raised in June 1939 as a duplicate of the 67<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Field Regiment. It came under command of this formation on being raised and with remained with it for the duration of the war.
13. Formed in July 1939 as a duplicate of the 68<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, this unit served with this formation until the 30<sup>th</sup> June 1944, when it transferred to the 48<sup>th</sup> Reserve Infantry Division. It was replaced by the 96<sup>th</sup> (Royal Devon Yeomanry) Field Regiment which transferred in from the 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 1944. In turn, the 96<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment left the command of this division on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 1945 to come under command of Home Forces.
14. Formed in June 1939 as a duplicate of the 99<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, this unit served with this division until 1945, apart from a period between the 26<sup>th</sup> January and 4<sup>th</sup> August 1944 when it was under command of Home Forces. On the 16<sup>th</sup> January 1945, it left this division to travel to India where it saw service with four different divisions in the run up to Operation 'Zipper'.
15. This regiment was formed in 1939 as the duplicate of the 53<sup>rd</sup> (Worcestershire and Oxfordshire Yeomanry) Anti-Tank Regiment under command of this formation. It was absent from this division for nearly a year in 1940 and 1941, but otherwise remained with this formation until the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1944 when it moved to France to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army. The 92nd (Gordon Highlanders) Anti-Tank Regiment replaced it on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 1944. As there was deemed to be no need for an anti-tank regiment in South East Asia, it left this division on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 1945 to come under Home Forces command.
16. The 103<sup>rd</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment was raised in December 1941 by the conversion of the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Lancashire Fusiliers. It joined this formation on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 1943, remaining with this division until the 1<sup>st</sup> March 1944. The next day, the 148<sup>th</sup> (Warwickshire) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment came under command of this division. It remained with this formation until it disbanded.

## 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division <sup>(1)</sup>

### 182<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade <sup>(2)</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment

9<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The South Wales Borderers

### 183<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade <sup>(3)</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Devonshire Regiment (The 1<sup>st</sup> Rifle Volunteers)

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's)

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The North Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's)

### 184<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade <sup>(4)</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The East Surrey Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)

6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's)

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment

### Divisional Troops

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The King's Royal Rifle Corps <sup>(5)</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Cheshire Regiment <sup>(6)</sup>

119<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

141<sup>st</sup> (Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(7)</sup>

168<sup>th</sup> Light Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(8)</sup>

148<sup>th</sup> (Warwickshire) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery

266<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers

267<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers

268<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers

269<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company, Royal Engineers

61<sup>st</sup> Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

## NOTES:

1. In July 1945, the division was ordered to prepare for deployment to the Far East. In consequence, it reorganised as a light division. There were many changes in the units under command, however Major General WAINWRIGHT remained in command. With the surrender of the Japanese on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945, the requirement for the deployment of the division to South East Asia lapsed. It disbanded in September 1945 and was not reformed when the Territorial Army was reconstituted in 1947.
2. This was one of the original brigades in the division, remaining with this formation throughout the war. Brigadier T. B. L. CHURCHILL commanded the brigade in this period.
3. Brigadier T. P. O'BRIEN-TWOHIG assumed command of this brigade on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 1945 in anticipation of its deployment to the Far East.
4. Brigadier P. N. WHITE commanded this brigade with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1945.
5. This infantry battalion joined this formation as the divisional reconnaissance unit on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 1945 in a similar organisation to Indian divisions serving in the South East Asia.
6. This unit was the divisional machine gun battalion, joining this formation on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1945.
7. This regiment was raised in 1939 as the duplicate of the 94<sup>th</sup> (Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry) Field Regiment. It served with the 43<sup>rd</sup> (Wessex) Infantry Division until June 1942, when it transferred to the 9<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division. In August 1944, it transferred to the 55<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, from which it transferred to this formation on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 1945.
8. Originally raised as the 168<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment in December 1941, November 1943 this regiment converted into the 168<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment. In June 1945, it converted again into a light regiment in anticipation of deployment to the Far East, coming under command of this formation on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1945.

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