





NOTES:

- In 1938, the British Army introduced Machine Gun Battalions, equipped with the 0.303 Vickers medium machine guns. These had seen service during the First World War, but still were seen as reliable and capable weapons. Each infantry division was allocated one machine gun battalion, which at first was one of the infantry battalions of that division converted to the new role. Then, due to the training and reinforcement implications, it was decided to concentrate the role of machine gun battalions in just four regiments of the British Army, namely:
 - The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers;
 - The Cheshire Regiment;
 - The Middlesex Regiment;
 - The Manchester Regiment.
- Each of the four regiments converted their two Regular Army battalions and most of their Territorial Army battalions to the role as machine gun units. As such, their first action was with the British Expeditionary Force in Belgium and France in May 1940. The appointments of the 2nd Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment during May 1940 is shown below.

LIST OF OFFICERS, 2nd Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment – 10th May 1940**Battalion Headquarters**

Officer Commanding	– Lieutenant Colonel REID;
Second-in-command	– Major C. C. MUSSELWHITE;
Adjutant	– Captain J. E. F. WILLOUGHBY;
Intelligence Officer	– Second Lieutenant I. F. CAMPBELL;
Signals Officer	– Second Lieutenant E. L. G. PASSY;
Regimental Serjeant Major	– Warrant Officer Class I PECK;

'A' Company.

Captain R. W. D. SWORD;
 Captain and Brevet Major C. W. KEMPSTER;
 Second-Lieutenant S. E. ILLINGWORTH;

'B' Company.

Captain J. W. A. STEPHENSON;
 Second-Lieutenant P. D. H. MARSHALL;
 Second-Lieutenant P. G. LACEY;
 Second-Lieutenant R. L. JOHNSON;
 Captain G. O. PORTER, Second-in-Command of the Company, was on leave.

'C' Company.

Captain E. BAZALGETTE;
Captain C. M. BEATH;
Second Lieutenant P. M. LYON;
Second-Lieutenant J. S. St. GEORGE;

'D' Company.

Captain R. W. PARLSER;
Second-Lieutenant N. V. DAVIES;
Second-Lieutenant R. N. F. BISHOP;

H.Q. Company.

Officer Commanding
Transport Officer
Quarter-Master

– Temp. Major W. M. FURGUSON;
– Lieutenant K. R. McK. BIGGS;
– Lieutenant P. F. NEWMAN.

Attached.

Technical Adjutant
Medical Officer
Chaplain

– Lieutenant P. F. KIDD, R.A.O.C.,
– Captain I. B. PINE, R.A.M.C.,
– Rev. F. H. WEST, C.F.

3. The Establishment of a Machine Gun Battalion remained the same until 1943. This was the Establishment of battalions that served in the Western Desert. Changes came in 1943 with the battalions deployed to Tunisia.