

## 49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Infantry Division <sup>(1)</sup>

Headquarters, 49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Infantry Division

### 146<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> West Riding) Infantry Brigade <sup>(2)</sup>

Headquarters, 146<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> West Riding) Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own)

6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) <sup>(3)</sup>

7<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) <sup>(4)</sup>

8<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) <sup>(5)</sup>

### 147<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> West Riding) Infantry Brigade <sup>(6)</sup>

Headquarters, 147<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> West Riding) Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) <sup>(7)</sup>

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) <sup>(8)</sup>

6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding)

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding)

### 148<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> West Riding) Infantry Brigade <sup>(9)</sup>

Headquarters, 148<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> West Riding) Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry <sup>(10)</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> (Hallamshire) Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment <sup>(11)</sup>

### Divisional Troops

Headquarters, 49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Divisional Royal Artillery <sup>(12)</sup>

69<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery <sup>(13)</sup>

(H.Q., 273<sup>rd</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> West Riding), 274<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> West Riding), 275<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> West Riding)  
& 276<sup>th</sup> (11<sup>th</sup> West Riding) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

70<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery <sup>(14)</sup>

(H.Q., 277<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> West Riding), 278<sup>th</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> West Riding), 279<sup>th</sup> (6<sup>th</sup> West Riding)  
& 280<sup>th</sup> (10<sup>th</sup> West Riding) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

71<sup>st</sup> (West Riding) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery <sup>(15)</sup>

(H.Q., 281<sup>st</sup> (7<sup>th</sup> West Riding), 282<sup>nd</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> West Riding), 283<sup>rd</sup> (9<sup>th</sup> West Riding)  
& 284<sup>th</sup> (12<sup>th</sup> West Riding) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

Headquarters, 49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Divisional Royal Engineers

228<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Field Company, Royal Engineers (15)

229<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Field Company, Royal Engineers (15)

230<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Field Company, Royal Engineers (15)

49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals (16)

Headquarters 49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Divisional Royal Army Service Corps (17)

519<sup>th</sup> Company, Royal Army Service Corps

520<sup>th</sup> Company, Royal Army Service Corps

521<sup>st</sup> Company, Royal Army Service Corps

146<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps (18)

49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Divisional Royal Army Ordnance Corps (19)

#### Army Troops in the 49<sup>th</sup> Divisional Area

54<sup>th</sup> (West Riding and Staffordshire) Medium Brigade, Royal Artillery (20)

(H.Q., 213<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> West Riding), 214<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> West Riding) (Howitzer), 215<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Staffordshire) (Howitzer) & 216<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Staffordshire) (Howitzer) Medium Batteries, Royal Artillery)

205<sup>th</sup> Medium Artillery Signal Section, Royal Corps of Signals

6<sup>th</sup> Hygiene Company, Royal Army Medical Corps

49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Ordnance Company, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

## NOTES:

1. This was a first line Territorial Army division. Its headquarters were based at 8, St. Leonards, York. The division had been formed in 1908, and was numbered in 1915. After service in The Great War on the Western Front in France, it reformed in the Territorial Army in 1920. In 1936, with the disbandment of the 46<sup>th</sup> (North Midland) Infantry Division, this formation absorbed elements from that division. In 1939, when the order was given for the Territorial Army to expand and duplicate, this division reformed the 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division as a mirror image of its parent division. The 49<sup>th</sup> Division remained in the U.K. until April 1940, when the divisional headquarters moved to Norway. It returned in June 1940 and was then sent to Iceland. The division reformed in the U.K. in June 1942 and trained as an assault division for the planned invasion of France. In the end, however, it was passed over as one of the assault divisions, and landed in Normandy on D-Day + 6 and serving in North West Europe. It reformed in the Territorial Army in 1947 as an armoured division.
2. A first line Territorial Army brigade, comprising four battalions of The Prince of Wales's Regiment (West Yorkshire Regiment). The headquarters of the brigade were located at 19, St. Mary's York. The 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Prince of Wales's Regiment was based at the Drill Hall, Colliergate, York, with the 6<sup>th</sup> Bn. at Belle Vue Barracks, Bradford, with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Battalions both based at Carlton Barracks, Leeds. The only battalion in the brigade which was not converted into another role, the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment transferred to the 147<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade and two battalions transferred in from the 148<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade and one from the disbanded 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.
3. In 1937, this battalion was converted into an anti-aircraft role, being redesignated as:  
49<sup>th</sup> (The West Yorkshire Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers  
In 1940, this battalion was transferred to the Royal Artillery as the 49<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment. In October 1944, it converted into the 49<sup>th</sup> Garrison Regiment and in February 1945, it became the 601<sup>st</sup> (West Yorkshire Regiment) Infantry Regiment, Royal Artillery. As such, it served in North West Europe.
4. In 1936, this battalion was converted into an anti-aircraft role, being redesignated as:  
66<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery  
The regiment remained in the U.K. until March 1942, when it left for India. It then served in India and Burma until placed in suspended animation in April 1945.
5. In 1937, this battalion was converted into an armoured role, being redesignated as:  
45<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Bn. Royal Tank Corps
6. A first line Territorial Army brigade, with its headquarters based at 3, Close Lea, Rastrick, Brighouse. It comprised four battalions of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. The 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. was based at the Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax, the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield, the 6<sup>th</sup> Bn. at the Drill Hall, Skipton-in-Craven and the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. at the Drill Hall, Milnsbridge. This brigade remained with the division, with the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment transferring in from 146<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade.
7. On the 28<sup>th</sup> November 1938, this battalion was converted into the anti-tank regiment for the division. It was redesignated as:  
58<sup>th</sup> (Duke of Wellington's) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery  
The regiment transferred to the 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in June 1940, serving with that division in Tunisia, Italy and Greece during the war.

8. On the 10<sup>th</sup> December 1936, this battalion converted to an anti-aircraft role as:  
43<sup>rd</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Wellington's Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers  
This battalion was redesignated as the 43<sup>rd</sup> Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery in August 1940. It served in the U.K. until October 1944 when it converted into the 43<sup>rd</sup> Garrison Regiment. It became the first infantry regiment, Royal Artillery when it converted into that role in November 1944, being titled the 600<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. It served in N.W. Europe but was placed in suspended animation in February 1945.
9. A first line Territorial Army brigade, with the headquarters based at 11, Bank Street, Sheffield. The 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The K.O.Y.L.I. was based at the Drill Hall, Bank Street, Wakefield, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. at Scarborough Barracks, Doncaster. The 4<sup>th</sup> Hallamshire Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment was based at Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield 10; and the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. at the Drill Hall, Rotherham. Sometime between 1936 and 1938, the two remaining battalions (the 4<sup>th</sup> KOYLI and 4<sup>th</sup> Y & L) transferred to the 146<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. Three battalions from the disbanded 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, 5<sup>th</sup> Foresters and 8<sup>th</sup> Foresters) transferred into the brigade. The brigade was sent to Norway in April 1940 where it suffered heavily during the German invasion of that country. On return to the U.K., it was posted to Northern Ireland. It became a training brigade in July 1942.
10. This battalion was converted into an anti-aircraft role in 1938, being re-designated as:  
53<sup>rd</sup> (King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery  
The regiment came under command of Home Forces and served with the B.E.F. in France in 1940. In July 1942, it sailed for North Africa, later serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in Italy.
11. In 1936, this battalion was converted into an anti-aircraft role, being redesignated as:  
67<sup>th</sup> (York and Lancaster) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Royal Artillery  
The regiment came under command of Home Forces, but was sent to India in December 1941. It served in India and Burma during 1944 and 1945.
12. This was a Territorial Army regiment, which had originally been formed in 1916 as the 1<sup>st</sup> West Riding Artillery Volunteers. The H.Q., 273<sup>rd</sup> and 275<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based in Fenton Street Barracks, Leeds, with the 274<sup>th</sup> Battery being based at Newcastle Place, Bramley and the 276<sup>th</sup> Battery at the Drill Hall, Ilkley. The regiment duplicated in April 1939 to form the 121<sup>st</sup> Field Regiment, the 275<sup>th</sup> and 276<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferring to the new regiment. The 69<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment remained with the division throughout the war, except when it was stationed in Iceland as the regiment remained in the United Kingdom. The 121<sup>st</sup> Field Regiment joined the reformed 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division but did not go to France with the division. It moved to Iraq in October 1941 and served in the Middle East and Italy, being converted into a medium regiment in January 1944.
13. Formed in 1916 as the 2<sup>nd</sup> West Riding Artillery Volunteers, this Territorial Army regiment had its headquarters, 277<sup>th</sup> and 279<sup>th</sup> Batteries based at the Drill Hall, Valley Parade, Bradford, with the 278<sup>th</sup> Battery based at the Drill Hall, Arden Road, Halifax and the 280<sup>th</sup> Battery based at Otley. In April 1939, the regiment duplicated to form the 122<sup>nd</sup> Field Regiment. The 278<sup>th</sup> and 280<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferred to the new regiment. The 70<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment transferred to the 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in July 1940, serving with that division for the duration of the war. The 122<sup>nd</sup> Field Regiment served with the 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division until July 1940, then moving to Malaya arriving in March 1941. The regiment was captured in February 1942 with the fall of Singapore.

14. A first line T.A. regiment formed in 1916. The headquarters and four batteries were based at Norfolk Barracks, Edmund Road, Sheffield. By June 1937, the fourth battery, the 284<sup>th</sup>, was based in Rotherham. In April 1939, the regiment duplicated to form the 123<sup>rd</sup> Field Regiment, the 283<sup>rd</sup> and 284<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferring across to the new unit. The 71<sup>st</sup> Field Regiment transferred to the 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in July 1940, serving with that Division for the rest of the war. The 123<sup>rd</sup> Field Regiment left the 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in July 1940 continuing to serve in the U.K. until moving to India in August 1942 where it joined the 32<sup>nd</sup> Indian Armoured Division. It became the 123<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Field Regiment in January 1945.
15. The three engineer companies under command of this division were first line T.A. companies that were based at Somme Barracks, Glossop Road, Sheffield 10. The Commander Royal Engineers was also based here. The origins of the companies can be traced back to 1860 and the formation of the West Riding Engineer Volunteers in Sheffield. On the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1908, the Volunteers became the divisional engineers for the newly formed West Riding Division of the Territorial Force. After service in The Great War, the three field companies reformed in 1920 as part of this division. In 1939, the 231<sup>st</sup> Field Park Company was formed in Sheffield. Following the war, the four engineer companies formed the 106<sup>th</sup> Field Engineer Regiment, 49<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division.
16. The divisional signals were based at Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.
17. The Headquarters, Divisional R.A.S.C. was based Harewood Barracks, Leeds 2. All three companies were also based at Harewood Barracks.
18. The field ambulance was based at Harewood Barracks, Leeds. The Hygiene Section was also based at Harewood Barracks.
19. The divisional R.A.O.C. was based at Norbury Hall, Barnsley Road, Sheffield.
20. This medium brigade had its headquarters based at Lumley Barracks, York, together with the 213<sup>th</sup> Battery. The 214<sup>th</sup> Battery was based at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield; the 215<sup>th</sup> Battery was based at the Drill Hall, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent; and the 216<sup>th</sup> Battery was based at the Drill Hall, Stoke-on-Trent. Circa 1935, the three Cornish batteries in the 51<sup>st</sup> Medium Brigade were converted into anti-aircraft units, so the 215<sup>th</sup> and 216<sup>th</sup> Staffordshire Batteries were transferred to the 51<sup>st</sup> Medium Brigade to join the 204<sup>th</sup> (Warwickshire) Battery. The 213<sup>th</sup> and 214<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Batteries were joined 186<sup>th</sup> and 219<sup>th</sup> (Durham) Batteries, the former from the Durham Heavy Regiment and the latter from the 55<sup>th</sup> (Northumbrian) Medium Brigade. Both of these batteries were based at The Armoury, West Hartlepool. By May 1938, the 204<sup>th</sup> Medium Battery had converted into an anti-aircraft battery to join the 73<sup>rd</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Brigade, so the 214<sup>th</sup> Medium Battery transferred to the 51<sup>st</sup> Medium Brigade. The 213<sup>th</sup> Medium Battery was converted into the 221<sup>st</sup> Anti-Aircraft Battery and joined the 62<sup>nd</sup> (Northumbrian) Anti-Aircraft Brigade. The 54<sup>th</sup> Medium Brigade then ceased to exist

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