

50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division

150th Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 150th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

4th Bn. The East Yorkshire Regiment (The Duke of York's Own)

4th Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

5th Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

151st Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 151st Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

6th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry

8th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry

9th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry

Divisional Troops

4th Bn. The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery

72nd (Northumbrian) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁵⁾

(H.Q., 285th (1st Northumbrian) & 286th (2nd Northumbrian) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

74th (Northumbrian) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁶⁾

(H.Q., 293rd (1st Durham) & 296th (4th Durham) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers

232nd (Northumbrian) Field Company, Royal Engineers ⁽⁷⁾

505th Field Company, Royal Engineers ⁽⁷⁾

235th (Northumbrian) Field Park Company, Royal Engineers ⁽⁷⁾

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals ⁽⁸⁾

NOTES:

1. This was a First Line Territorial division, with its headquarters based at Darlington, County Durham. It was organised as a motor division. When the division formed a second line formation in 1939, it created a mirror image duplicate division, the 23rd Infantry Division. The 50th Infantry Division remained in the U.K. until 19 January 1940, when it left for France. Whilst in France, it was reorganised as a standard establishment infantry division. Following evacuation from Dunkirk, the division reformed in the United Kingdom. The division was the first British infantry division to be sent overseas after the fall of France, serving on Cyprus, Iraq, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Sicily and Normandy.
2. A first line Territorial Army brigade with its headquarters based in Malton. The 4th Bn. East Yorkshire Regiment was based at Hull, with the 4th Bn. The Green Howards based in Guisborough, and the 5th Bn. The Green Howards based in Scarborough. The brigade served with the division until its capture in the Western Desert on 1 June 1942 during the battle of The Cauldron.
3. A first line Territorial Army brigade with its headquarters located in Durham, comprising three T.A. battalions of the Durham Light Infantry. The 6th Bn. was based at Bishop Auckland, the 8th Bn. at Durham, and the 9th Bn. at Gateshead. The brigade served with the division throughout the war.
4. A first line T.A. battalion that was based at Newburn. It was equipped for its reconnaissance role as the divisional motor cycle battalion. The battalion left the division on 23 June 1940. The battalion later served as the headquarters defence battalion of the 21st Army Group in North West Europe.
5. A first line Territorial Army regiment originally formed in 1916, with all three batteries based in Newcastle. It served with the division until it was captured together with the 150th Brigade on 1 June 1942.
6. A first line Territorial Army regiment originally formed in 1916, with the H.Q. and 296th Batteries based at South Shields, and the 293rd Battery based at Hebburn on Tyne. It served with the division until it was redesignated a reserve division in November 1944.
7. All three Royal Engineer companies were T.A. companies: the 232nd (a first line T.A. unit) and the 505th (a second line unit) were based in Newcastle-on-Tyne, with the 235th Company being located at Gateshead. The 232nd Field Company was later captured with the 150th Brigade in the Western Desert, but the other two units served with the division until November 1944.
8. The divisional signals were based at Darlington, County Durham.

SOURCES:

Primary Sources – Army Lists

The Monthly Army List January 1930

Available From: Your Old Books and Maps at: <http://youoldbooksandmaps.co.uk/british-army-lists-1901-1950.htm>

The Monthly Army List July 1937

Available From: Your Old Books and Maps at: <http://youoldbooksandmaps.co.uk/british-army-lists-1901-1950.htm>

The Half Yearly Army List for the period ending 31st December 1938

Available on-line at: <http://www.archive.org/details/armylisthalfjan1939grea>

The Monthly Army List April 1938

Available From: S & N Genealogy at: <http://www.genealogysupplies.com/>

The Half Yearly Army List for the period ending 31st December 1939

Available on-line at: <http://www.archive.org/details/armylisthalfjan1940grea>

The Monthly Army List April 1940

Available From: S & N Genealogy at: <http://www.genealogysupplies.com/>

Secondary Sources

- ARIS, George: DURTNELL (ed.) *The Fifth British Division 1939 to 1945* (U.K., The Fifth Division Benevolent Trust, n.d.)
- BAKER, A. H. R. and RUST, B. *A Short History of the 50th Northumbrian Division* (Berwick-on-Tweed, The Tweeddale Press Ltd., 1966)
- BELLIS Malcolm A. *Divisions of the British Army 1939 – 1945* (Published BELLIS 2nd Edition, 2000) [ISBN 0-9529693-1-9]
- BELLIS, Malcolm A. *British Tanks and Formations 1939 – 45* (England, BELLIS, Second Edition 1987) [ISBN 0 9512126 2 1]
- BELLIS, Malcolm A. *Brigades of the British Army 1939 – 45* (England, BELLIS, 1986) [ISBN 0 9512126 1 3]
- BEVIS, Mark *British and Commonwealth Armies 1939-43* (U.K. Helion and Company, 2001) [ISBN 1 874622 80 9]
- BEVIS, Mark *British and Commonwealth Armies 1944-45* (U.K., Helion and Company, 2001) [ISBN 1 874622 90 6]
- BEVIS, Mark *British and Commonwealth Armies 1939-45 Supplement Volume 1* (U.K., Helion and Company, 2005) [ISBN 1 874622 18 3]
- BEVIS, Mark *British and Commonwealth Armies 1939-45 Supplement Volume 2* (U.K., Helion and Company, 2005) [ISBN 1 874622 38 8]
- CONVERSE Allan *Armies of Empire. The 9th Australian and 50th British Divisions in battle 1939 – 1945* (Port Melbourne (Australia) Cambridge University Press, 2011) [ISBN 978-0-521-19480-8]
- DELAFORCE, Patrick *The Polar Bears from Normandy to the Relief of Holland with the 49th Division* (Stroud, Alan SUTTON Publishing Ltd, 1995) [ISBN 0 75370 265 7]
- DELAFORCE, Patrick *Monty's Northern Legions – 50th Northumbrian and 15th Scottish Divisions at War 1939-1945* (Stroud, Sutton Publishing, 2004) [ISBN 0-7509-3556-1]
- HUGHES, Major General B. P., *The History of the Royal Regiment of Artillery – Between the Wars 1919-39* (England, The Royal Artillery Institution 1992) [ISBN 0 08 040984 9]
- JOSLEN Lieut-Col H. F. (Ed.) *Orders of Battle Second World War 1939-1945* (London: H.M.S.O., 1960) (Reprinted London: The London Stamp Exchange Ltd, 1990) [ISBN 0 948130 03 2]
- U/K *The Story of 46 Division 1939 – 1945* (Austria, University Book Press, n.d. circa 1946)

Websites

Land Forces of Britain, the Empire and Commonwealth.

Author: T. F. MILLS

Available on-line at: <http://web.archive.org/web/20070622075214/http://www.regiments.org>

[Accessed 7 September 2018]