

2nd London Division (1)

Headquarters, 2nd London Division

4th London Infantry Brigade (2)

Headquarters, 4th London Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

11th Bn. The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)

12th Bn. The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)

2nd Bn. The London Irish Rifles

5th London Infantry Brigade (3)

Headquarters, 5th London Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The London Rifle Brigade

2nd Bn. The London Scottish

2nd Bn. The Queen's Westminsters

6th London Infantry Brigade (4)

Headquarters, 6th London Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

1st Bn. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment

2nd Bn. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment

Divisional Troops

2nd Bn. The Queen Victoria's Rifles (5)

Headquarters, 2nd London Divisional Royal Artillery

117th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 255th (20th London) & 256th (17th London) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

138th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (7)

(H.Q., 359th (3rd City of London) & 360th (4th City of London) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

Headquarters, 2nd London Divisional Royal Artillery

501st Field Company, Royal Engineers (8)

502nd Field Company, Royal Engineers (9)

503rd Field Company, Royal Engineers (9)

504th Field Park Company, Royal Engineers (9)

2nd London Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

NOTES:

1. The 2nd London Division was one of the original Territorial Force divisions formed in 1908. In 1916, it was designated as the 47th (2nd London) Division. The division was reformed in 1920 as part of the Territorial Army. However, in 1936, it was one of the two T.A. Divisions disbanded to provide enhanced anti-aircraft artillery formations. When the T.A. was doubled in establishment in April 1939, the 2nd London Division was reformed as the second line duplicate of the 1st London Division. It was organised as a Motor Division, but reorganised as a standard infantry division in June 1940. On 21 November 1940, the division was redesignated as the:
47th (London) Infantry Division.
In December 1941, the division was placed on Lower Establishment. The division dispersed and reformed in August and September 1944.
2. A second line T.A. brigade, duplicate of the 1st London Brigade. The 11th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, was based alongside the 8th Battalion at Fusilier Hall, in Handel Street, St. Pancras. The 12th Battalion was based alongside the 9th Battalion in Balham High Road, in South London. The 2nd Bn. London Irish Rifles, whose parent regiment was the Royal Ulster Rifles, was based at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea Barracks. The brigade was redesignated as the 140th (London) Infantry Brigade on 21 November 1940. It remained with the division, albeit with several changes in units, until the brigade disbanded on 31 August 1944.
3. This brigade was a second line Territorial Army formation, duplicate of the 2nd London Brigade. The 2nd Bn. London Rifle Brigade, whose parent regiment was The Rifle Brigade, was based at 130, Bunhill Row, London EC1 (Moorgate). The 2nd Bn. London Scottish were based at 101, Grosvenor Road, London SW1, their parent regiment being The Gordon Highlanders. The 2nd Bn. Queen's Westminsters were based at Pinner in Middlesex, their parent regiment being The King's Royal Rifle Corps. On 21 November 1940, this brigade was redesignated as the 141st (London) Infantry Brigade. It served with the division until just before the brigade disbanded on 27th October 1944.
4. This brigade was a second line T.A. formations. Both battalions were machine gun battalions belonging to the Kensington Regiment, whose parent regiment was the Middlesex Regiment. The 1st Battalion was a first line T.A. battalion, based at 190, Hammersmith Road, and the 2nd Battalion a duplicate battalion based at the Old Town Hall, Hammersmith. These two machine gun battalions were joined in the brigade by three machine gun battalions from Middlesex Regiment (the 2nd/7th, 1st/8th and 2nd/8th) on 7 October 1939. On 4 May 1940, the brigade was disbanded with the individual battalions being allocated to Corps or Divisions. The brigade was replaced in the division by the 25th Infantry Brigade.
5. This battalion was the divisional motor cycle battalion, intended for reconnaissance roles. The battalion was based at 39, Grosvenor Square, Mayfair. The battalion left the division on 13 June 1940 transferring to the 28th Armoured Brigade as Motorised Infantry.
6. This regiment had formed in May 1939 as a duplicate of the 65th Field Regiment. The Headquarters and 255th Batteries were based in Fulham, with the 256th Battery being based in Paddington. The regiment stayed with the division until the end of the war.
7. This regiment was formed in April 1939 as the duplicate of the 90th Field Regiment. All three batteries were based at Bloomsbury. The regiment left the division in July 1942, transferring to the then newly formed 78th Division, with which served in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. The regiment was entitled as 'City of London' in February 1942.

8. This Field Company was based at Chelsea. It left the Division on 7 September 1939, transferring to the 1st London Division.
9. These two Field Companies and the Field Park Company were all based at New Barnet, North London.

SOURCES:

The Monthly Army List April 1938

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

The Monthly Army List April 1940

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

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]

BELLIS Malcolm A.

Divisions of the British Army 1939 – 1945

(Published BELLIS 2nd Edition, 2000)

[ISBN 0-9529693-1-9]

BELLIS, Malcolm A.

The British Army Overseas 1945 – 1970

(England, BELLIS, 2001)

[ISBN 0-9529693-2-7]

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]

Websites & Internet

British Armed Forces 3 September 1939

Available on line at: <http://www.cgsc.edu/CARL/nafziger/939BIBA.PDF>