

55th (West Lancashire) Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 55th (West Lancashire) Infantry Division

164th Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 164th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

9th Bn. The King's Regiment (Liverpool)

1st/4th Bn. The South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers)

2nd/4th Bn. The South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers)

165th Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 165th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

5th Bn. The King's Regiment (Liverpool)

1st Bn. The Liverpool Scottish

2nd Bn. The Liverpool Scottish

Divisional Troops

5th Bn. The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 55th (West Lancashire) Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery

87th (1st West Lancashire) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁵⁾

(H.Q., 345th (1st West Lancashire) & 246th (2nd West Lancashire) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

136th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁶⁾

(H.Q., 347th (3rd West Lancashire) & 348th (25th West Lancashire) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

66th Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁷⁾

(H.Q., 261st, 262nd, 263rd & 264th Anti-Tank Batteries, Royal Artillery)

Headquarters, 55th (West Lancashire) Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers

509th Field Company, Royal Engineers ⁽⁸⁾

510th Field Company, Royal Engineers ⁽⁸⁾

511th Field Company, Royal Engineers ⁽⁸⁾

55th (West Lancashire) Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

NOTES:

1. This was a first-line Territorial Army division. It was a standard establishment division that was spilt on 4 September 1939 to form the 55th and 59th Divisions. Both of these new formations were organised as motor divisions with two brigades only. This is the establishment shown above. Major General Vivian Henry Bruce MAJENDIE, D.S.O., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.* commanded the formation, with the headquarters located in Liverpool. On 25 November 1939, the division transferred from Western Command to Northern Command. In April 1940, it again moved, this time to the Eastern Command. It reorganised as a standard establishment division with three brigades in June 1940. The division remained in the U.K. throughout the war. Major General MAJENDIE left this division on 31 May 1941 to take up a new appointment as District Commander of Northern Ireland. Major General W. D. MORGAN replaced him.
2. A first-line Territorial Army brigade, with its headquarters based at Warrington. Brigadier A. T. MILLER, commanded the brigade until 20 April 1941. The 9th Bn. The King's Regiment was a second-line battalion, duplicate of the 5th Battalion. The 4th Battalion was a first-line Territorial battalion based at Warrington. It duplicated to form the 1st/4th and 2nd/4th Battalions. The 2nd/4th Bn. later became the 13th Bn. The Parachute Regiment.
3. This formation was a first-line Territorial Army infantry brigade, which was command by Brigadier F. LATHAM. The 5th Bn. The King's Regiment and 1st Bn. The Liverpool Scottish were both first-line battalions based in Liverpool. The Liverpool Scottish (whose parent regiment was the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders) duplicated to form the second line 2nd Battalion, which joined this brigade. On 29 February 1940, Brigadier R. J. BRETT replaced Brigadier LATHAM.
4. This was a first-line T.A. unit, equipped and trained as a motor cycle battalion. It was based at Bolton, Lancashire. The battalion joined the 18th Division, and later converted into the divisional reconnaissance regiment. As such, it was captured with the division in Singapore in February 1942.
5. A first-line Territorial Army regiment, originally formed in 1916 as the 1st West Lancashire Brigade R.F.A. All three batteries were based at Edge Hill in Liverpool. The regiment left the division in November 1941 and was sent to Iraq, where it joined the 6th Indian Division. It remained in this theatre for the rest of the war.
6. This regiment was formed in May 1939 as a duplicate of the 87th Field Regiment. It was also based at Edge Hill, Liverpool. It left the division in August 1942, being sent to India in December of that year. The regiment served with the 5th and 7th Indian Divisions.
7. This regiment was formed in 1939 as a duplicate of the 56th (King's Own) Anti-Tank Regiment, which served in 42nd Division. All five batteries were based at Crosby. The regiment served in the U.K. throughout the war, mainly with the 55th Division.
8. All three Royal Engineer companies were second line companies, based in Liverpool.
9. The divisional signals were based in Liverpool.

SOURCES:

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