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# WESTERN COMMAND (HISTORY & PERSONNEL)

A short history of the Western Command, a static command in the United Kingdom. In addition, known details of the key appointments held between 1930 and 1950 are included.  
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## The History & Personnel of Western Command

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## Western Command

Western Command was one of the five home commands of the British Army, formed in February 1905, prior to the First World War. In addition, there was Irish Command, that was responsible for the whole of the island of Ireland. Headquarters, Western Command, were located in Chester. In 1907, they moved to Watergate House, Chester, where the headquarters remained until 1938, when a new purpose-built, headquarters opened at Queen's Park, Chester.

When formed in 1905, the command comprised four sub-formations:

- North-Western Coast Defences;
- Western Coast Defences;
- Lancashire Grouped Regimental District;
- Welsh Border Grouped Regimental District.

In 1907, the Lancashire Grouped Regimental District was redesignated as No. 3 District on 27 November, and it gained Cumberland and Westmorland from Northern Command. On the same date, the Welsh Border Regimental District became No. 4 District.

In 1920 following the First World War, Western Command was reconstituted, and reorganised, into three areas. These were:

- East Lancashire Area;
- Welsh Area;
- West Lancashire Area.

In 1930, Western Command covered Wales, and the English counties of Cheshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire (including Beachley, Gloucestershire), Lancashire, Cumberland and Westmorland. In addition, The Isle of Man, and the Coast Defence Garrisons of Berehaven, Queenstown, and (for purposes of technical training only) Lough Swilly in the Irish Free State (as the new country became Ireland or Eire in 1937) were part of this command. The Irish garrisons had joined Western Command when Irish Command was abolished in 1921.

In 1936, Staffordshire was transferred to West Lancashire Area from the disbanded North Midland Area. In 1940, the areas were reorganised. The Wales Area split into two new areas, and a new area formed in the midlands. The five new areas in existence from 1940 until 1943 were:

- Central Midland Area (Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Herefordshire);
- South Wales Area;
- North Wales Area (including Shropshire);
- East Lancashire Area (Cumberland, Westmorland, East Lancashire & part of Cheshire);
- West Lancashire Area (West Lancashire, Staffordshire, part of Cheshire & the Isle of Man).

On 14 August 1941, the Regimental Depots ceased to train recruits, and new Infantry Training Centres were opened at command level. These new Infantry Training Centres were:

- No. 18 I.T.C. at Carlisle for the King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster), the Border Regiment and the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire);
- No. 19 I.T.C. at Formby for the King's Regiment (Liverpool), East Lancashire Regiment and South Lancashire Regiment;
- No. 20 I.T.C. at Shrewsbury for the North Staffordshire Regiment and King's Shropshire Light Infantry;
- No. 21 I.T.C. at Brecon for the Royal Welch Fusiliers, South Wales Borderers and the Welch Regiment;
- No. 22 I.T.C. at Warwick for the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and the Leicestershire Regiment;
- No. 23 I.T.C. at Worcester for the Worcestershire Regiment and South Staffordshire Regiment;
- No. 24 I.T.C. at Chester for the Cheshire Regiment, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, Middlesex Regiment and Manchester Regiment.

In 1944, the command reduced from five to two districts; the two districts being:

- Mid-West District (H.Q. at Shrewsbury) responsible for Wales, Shropshire Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Herefordshire;
- North West District (H.Q. at Preston) responsible for Lancashire, Cheshire, and part of Derbyshire.

In 1961, a further reorganisation saw the creation of three combined divisions and districts:

- 42<sup>nd</sup> (Lancashire) Division/North West District (H.Q. at Preston);
- 48<sup>th</sup> Division/West Midland District (H.Q. at Shrewsbury);
- 53<sup>rd</sup> (Welsh) Division/Welsh District (H.Q. at Brecon).

In 1968, further reductions in the size of the British Army saw the end of the Territorial divisions in the U.K., with each of the three districts losing their joint divisional responsibility as they became in effective brigades. Throughout all these changes, the headquarters of the command remained at Chester. Western Command was abolished with the other commands on 1 April 1972 with the creation of United Kingdom Land Forces.

**General Officer Commanding-in-Chief**

1<sup>st</sup> April 1936 – 12<sup>th</sup> August 1939

Lieutenant General Sir Henry Cholmondeley JACKSON, K.C.B., C.M.G, D.S.O.<sup>1</sup>

12<sup>th</sup> August 1939 – 27<sup>th</sup> May 1940

Lieutenant General Robert Hadden HAINING, C.B., D.S.O., Col Comd't R.A., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.*<sup>2</sup>

28<sup>th</sup> May 1940 – 9<sup>th</sup> June 1940 (Temporary)

General Sir Henry Cholmondeley JACKSON, K.C.B, C.M.G., D.S.O.

10<sup>th</sup> June 1940 – 24<sup>th</sup> November 1941

General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Col Comd't R.A., *p.s.c.*, *A.D.C.*

25<sup>th</sup> November 1941 – 7<sup>th</sup> September 1942

General Sir James Handyside MARSHALL-CORNWALL, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Col Comd't R.A., *p.s.c.*

7<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 19<sup>th</sup> March 1944

[Lieutenant General \(Temporary\) Edmond Charles Acton SCHREIBER, C.B., D.S.O., \*p.s.c.\*](#)

19<sup>th</sup> March 1944 – 1<sup>st</sup> February 1946

Lieutenant General (Acting) Daril Gerald WATSON, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., *p.s.c.*<sup>3</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> February 1946 – 1948

Lieutenant General Sir Brian Gwynne HORROCKS, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*

15<sup>th</sup> March 1948 – 1949

Lieutenant General Sir Frank E. W. SIMPSON, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., *p.s.c.*

<sup>1</sup> Created K.C.B. and knighted on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1936 (H.M.'s Birthday Honours List); promoted General on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1939.

<sup>2</sup> Created K.C.B. in 1940 and knighted.

<sup>3</sup> Created K.C.B. in 1945 and knighted.

**Brigadier General Staff – (B.G.S.)**

2<sup>nd</sup> September 1939 – 18<sup>th</sup> August 1940

[Brigadier \(Acting\) Francis Greville DREW, O.B.E., p.s.c.](#)

19<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 8<sup>th</sup> March 1942

Brigadier (Temporary) John Albert Charles WHITAKER, p.s.c.

9<sup>th</sup> March 1942 – 21<sup>st</sup> June 1942

Colonel Charles George Cunningham BALFOUR-DAVEY, M.C., i.d.c., p.s.c.

22<sup>nd</sup> June 1942 – 16<sup>th</sup> May 1943

Brigadier (Temporary) Colin Bishop CALLANDER, M.C., Leicester R., p.s.c.

17<sup>th</sup> May 1943 – 1945

Brigadier (Temporary) H. E. RANCE, O.B.E., R. Signals, p.s.c.

16<sup>th</sup> April 1945 – 5<sup>th</sup> May 1946

Brigadier (Local) Bendyshe Brome WALTON, R. War. R., (s.c.)<sup>4</sup>

6<sup>th</sup> May 1946 – 1947

Brigadier (Temporary) C. P. JONES, C.B.E., M.C., R.E., p.s.c.

2<sup>nd</sup> January 1947 – 1948

Brigadier C. B. FAIRBANKS, C.B., C.B.E., (s.c.)

**Chief of Staff**

1<sup>st</sup> July 1947 – July 1948

[Major General John Charles Francis HOLLAND, C.B., D.F.C., p.s.c.](#)

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<sup>4</sup> Regranted rank of Acting Brigadier on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1945.

**Brigadier i/c Administration**

25<sup>th</sup> July 1938 – 5<sup>th</sup> June 1939

Brigadier (Temporary) Robert Francis Brydges NAYLOR, D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*

**Major General i/c Administration**

6<sup>th</sup> June 1939 – 6<sup>th</sup> January 1941

Major General (Acting) Robert Francis Brydges NAYLOR, D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*

7<sup>th</sup> January 1941 – 1944

Major General D. P. DICKINSON, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Col Welch R., *p.s.c.*

2<sup>nd</sup> October 1944 – 8<sup>th</sup> February 1946

Major General Arthur Roland SELBY, C.B., C.B.E., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.*

13<sup>th</sup> March 1946 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 1947

Major General (Temporary) John Charles Francis HOLLAND, C.B., D.F.C., *p.s.c.*

**Brigadier A/Q**

1<sup>st</sup> July 1947 – 1948

Brigadier (Temporary) N. V. WATSON, C.B., O.B.E., *p.s.c.*

**Assistant Adjutant-General**

September 1939 – 1944

Colonel G. E. WINGFIELD-STRATFORD, M.C., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

1<sup>st</sup> January 1945 – 1946/7

Lieutenant Colonel (War Substantive) C. H. GURNEY, K.R.R.C.

**Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General**

19<sup>th</sup> February 1940 – 1941

Brigadier (Acting) H. J. BROOKS, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Hampshire R., T.A.

**Assistant Quarter-Master-General**

September 1939 – 1944

Colonel P. B. FRASER, D.S.O., O.B.E., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

1940 – 1941

Colonel D. A. BUCHAN, D.S.O., R.A., *p.s.c.*

12<sup>th</sup> December 1941 – 1944

Lieutenant Colonel R. H. M. LEE, Worc R.

24<sup>th</sup> May 1943 – 1944

Lieutenant Colonel (Acting) H. ARBUTHNOT, Border R.

4<sup>th</sup> November 1944 – 1945

Lieutenant Colonel (Temporary) A. S. HEWSON, M.B.E., T.D.

28<sup>th</sup> December 1945 – 1947

Major P. S. WHITEHEAD, O.B.E., R.A., *p.s.c.*

**British Advisory Staff, Polish Resettlement Corps****Commander**

21<sup>st</sup> August 1946 – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1948

[Colonel George Herbert Norris TODD, M.C.](#)

23<sup>rd</sup> February 1948 – 1948/9

Brigadier (Temporary) J. JEFFERSON, *p.s.c.*

**Brigadier Royal Artillery – (B.R.A.)**

28<sup>th</sup> April 1939 – 20<sup>th</sup> March 1940

Brigadier (Temporary) Hector Murdoch Maxwell ROBERTSON, O.B.E., M.C.

21<sup>st</sup> March 1940 – 19<sup>th</sup> October 1941

[Brigadier \(Acting\) John PENROSE, M.C., \*g., y.\*](#)

20<sup>th</sup> October 1941 – 1942

Brigadier (Temporary) John Redmond BARRY, C.B.E., D.S.O., *p.s.c.*

1<sup>st</sup> December 1942 – 1944

Brigadier (Acting 26/10/42) George Noel Chadwick MARTIN, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*

1<sup>st</sup> January 1945 – 18<sup>th</sup> June 1945

Brigadier (Temporary) Edward Percy Noel JONES, M.C., R.A., *p.s.c.*

18<sup>th</sup> June 1945 – 13<sup>th</sup> April 1946

Brigadier (Temporary) C. H. M. BRUNKER, D.S.O., R.A., *p.s.c.*

14<sup>th</sup> April 1946 – 1948

Brigadier (Temporary) Godfrey de Vere WELCHMAN, C.B.E., D.S.O., *g.*

**General Staff Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

1939 – 1940

Colonel R. H. A. D. LOVE.

**Chief Engineer**

1938 – 21 February 1940

Brigadier H. B. W. HUGHES,

22<sup>nd</sup> February 1940 – 1941

Brigadier (Acting) E. F. W. LEES, D.S.O., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

26<sup>th</sup> February 1941 – 27<sup>th</sup> February 1945

Brigadier (Temporary) John Howard STAFFORD, O.B.E., M.C.

1<sup>st</sup> March 1945 – 1947

Brigadier (Temporary) H. G. F. GREENWOOD, C.B.E., M.C.

10<sup>th</sup> June 1947 – 1948

Brigadier (Temporary) B. E. C. DIXON, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.

**Deputy Chief Engineer**

193x – 1939

Colonel J. H. STAFFORD,

September 1939 – 1942

Colonel N. S. HENSHAW, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., T.A.

22<sup>nd</sup> February 1940 – 1943

Brigadier (Acting) E. H. CLARKE, retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

20<sup>th</sup> May 1941 – 1942

Colonel (Acting) R. SWIRE, M.C., A.M.I.E.E., R.E.

23<sup>rd</sup> June 1941 – 1942

Colonel L. C. REID, M.B.E., M.C., M.I.Mech.E.

23<sup>rd</sup> July 1943 – 1945

Colonel (Temporary) T. W. R. HAYCRAFT, R.E.

20<sup>th</sup> September 1946 – 1947

Colonel (Temporary) W. A. TURNER, M.C., R.E.

10<sup>th</sup> February 1947 – 1948

Colonel M. R. R. PRENTICE, C.B.E., *p.s.c.*

**Chief Signal Officer – (C.S.O.)**

193x – 1940

Lieutenant Colonel D. A. BROWN,

12<sup>th</sup> March 1940 – 1944

Colonel (Acting) H. G. HENDERSON.

(Promoted Acting Brigadier 25<sup>th</sup> February 1941)

9<sup>th</sup> April 1944 – 20<sup>th</sup> June 1945

Brigadier (Temporary) W. C. V. GALWEY, O.B.E., M.C.

21<sup>st</sup> June 1945 – 27<sup>th</sup> February 1946

Brigadier (Temporary) Guy Stuart O'Neill POWER, C.B.E., B.A.

23<sup>rd</sup> February 1946 – 1948

Brigadier (Temporary) W. O. BOWEN, C.B., C.B.E., M.I.E.E.

**Assistant Chaplain-General**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 1947 – 1948

Reverend V. J. PIKE, O.B.E., Chaplain to the Forces 1<sup>st</sup> Class

**Deputy Director of Supplies and Transport – (D.D.S.T.)**

6<sup>th</sup> December 1938 – 1<sup>st</sup> September 1939

Colonel Claud Lechmere St. John TUDOR, O.B.E., M.C.

2<sup>nd</sup> September 1939 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 1940

Colonel J. C. M. DORAN, C.B.E., D.S.O., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

1<sup>st</sup> July 1940 – 1943

Brigadier (Temporary) G. C. G. BLUNT, D.S.O., O.B.E., A.M.I.Mech.E., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

28<sup>th</sup> August 1944 – 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1945

Brigadier (Temporary) Hugh Ainsworth KELSALL, O.B.E., M.C., R.A.S.C.

17<sup>th</sup> August 1945 – 1947

Brigadier (Acting) H. C. De le BERE, O.B.E., R.A.S.C.

17<sup>th</sup> February 1947 – 1948

Brigadier (Acting) W. S. SEYMOUR, O.B.E.

**Deputy Director of Medical Services – (D.D.M.S.)**

1930x – 18 January 1940

Colonel H. H. BLAKE,

19<sup>th</sup> January 1940 – 1940

Major General (Acting) H. H. BLAKE, O.B.E., M.B.

1940 – 27<sup>th</sup> November 1941

Major General William Brooke PURDON, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., M.B., K.H.S.

28<sup>th</sup> November 1941 – 26<sup>th</sup> May 1946

Major General (Acting) Gilbert Alan BLAKE, M.B.

27<sup>th</sup> May 1946 – 1948

Major General (Acting) Rudolf William GALLOWAY, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.B.

**Consultant Surgeon**

12<sup>th</sup> March 1940 – 1942

Colonel (Temporary) Sir Charles G. GORDON-WATSON, K.B.E., C.M.G., F.R.C.S., R.A.M.C.

23<sup>rd</sup> September 1941 – 1942

Colonel (Acting) Sir James M. S. WALTON, M.S., F.R.C.S., R.A.M.C.

1<sup>st</sup> December 1942 – 1943

Colonel (Acting) F. A. R. STAMMERS, M.B., F.R.C.S., R.A.M.C. (T.A.)

15<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 1945

Brigadier (Local) D. FETTES, O.B.E., M.B., F.R.C.S.Edin, R.A.M.C.

**Consultant Physician**

8<sup>th</sup> March 1940 – 1941

Colonel (Temporary) H. L. TIDY, F.R.C.P., R.A.M.C.

1941 – 1942

Colonel R. C. PRIEST, C.B., M.D., F.R.C.P., R.A.M.C.

1<sup>st</sup> March 1942 – 1945

Brigadier (Local) R. C. PRIEST, C.B., M.D., F.R.C.P., retired pay.

**Assistant Director of Dental Services**

193x – 1939

Colonel R. M. KING,

8<sup>th</sup> December 1939 – 1941

Colonel (Acting) J. P. DUGUID, A.D. Corps

17<sup>th</sup> October 1941 – 1943

Colonel (Acting) B. E. GENTLEMAN, A.D. Corps

20<sup>th</sup> February 1944 – 1944

Colonel (Acting) G. ap G. JONES, A.D. Corps

1<sup>st</sup> December 1944 – 1945

Colonel (Temporary) W. R. WOTTON, A.D. Corps.

30<sup>th</sup> August 1946 – 1947

Colonel (Acting) J. L. GIBSON, A.D. Corps.

**Deputy Director of Dental Services**

19<sup>th</sup> May 1947 – 1948

Colonel B. E. GENTLEMAN

**Deputy Director of Ordnance Services – (D.D.O.S.)**

1<sup>st</sup> September 1939 – 1940

Colonel (Acting) H. A. SANSOM, R.A.O.C.

14<sup>th</sup> July 1940 – 1942

Brigadier (Acting) P. W. KIDD, retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

15 February 1942

Brigadier Frederick MORRIS Killed in plane crash en-route back from Middle East

26<sup>th</sup> August 1942 – 1943

Brigadier (Acting) L. H. ASTE, O.B.E., R.A.O.C.

26<sup>th</sup> June 1944 – 1947

Brigadier (Temporary) B. C. LESTER, C.B.E., R.A.O.C.

1<sup>st</sup> October 1947 – 1948

Brigadier (Temporary) G. O. CRAWFORD, C.B.E., R.A.O.C.

**Assistant Director of Ordnance Services**

21<sup>st</sup> July 1940 – 1943

Colonel (Temporary) H. A. SANSOM, R.A.O.C.

11<sup>th</sup> March 1943 – 1945

Lieutenant Colonel (Acting) J. C. HEWITT, R.A.O.C.

5<sup>th</sup> January 1946 – 1948

Lieutenant Colonel (War Substantive) D. J. RUSSELL, O.B.E., R.A.O.C.

**Chief Ordnance Mechanical Engineer**

13<sup>th</sup> September 1939 – 1940

Lieutenant Colonel (Acting) C. W. B. DAVEY, A.M.I.Mech.E., R.A.O.C.

12<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1941

Colonel C. L. GRANSDEN, M.I.Mech.E, R.A.O.C.

29<sup>th</sup> June 1941 – 1942

Colonel (Temporary) D. C. McPHERSON, M.B.E., M.I.Mech.E., Reserve of Officers

**Deputy Director of Mechanical Engineering – (D.D.M.E.)**

29<sup>th</sup> June 1941 – 1943

Brigadier (Acting 15/01/42) D. C. McPHERSON, M.B.E., M.I.Mech.E., Reserve of Officers

10<sup>th</sup> March 1944 – 1945

Brigadier (Temporary) C. CAMPBELL, A.M.I.Mech.E., R.E.M.E.

24<sup>th</sup> July 1945 – 1948

Brigadier (Temporary) C. G. STEWART, A.M.I.Mech.E, R.E.M.E.

**Command Paymaster**

1937 – 1941

Colonel A. B. CLIFF, R.A.P.C.

25<sup>th</sup> August 1941 – 1943

Brigadier (Acting 01/10/41) G. H. CHARLTON, M.C., R.A.P.C.

6<sup>th</sup> October 1943 – 10<sup>th</sup> December 1944

Brigadier (Temporary) Guy Allen Colpoys ORMSBY-JOHNSON, C.B.E., M.C., R.A.P.C.

11<sup>th</sup> December 1944 – 1945

Brigadier (Temporary) G. H. CHARLTON, M.C., R.A.P.C.

15<sup>th</sup> March 1946 – 1948

Brigadier (Temporary) I. P. BRICKMAN, C.B.E., R.A.P.C.

**Deputy Director of Labour**1<sup>st</sup> July 1940 – 1941

Colonel R. B. BUTLER, C.I.E., C.B.E., M.C., retired Indian Army

2<sup>nd</sup> May 1941 – 1942

Colonel (Temporary) B. W. W. GOSTLING, O.B.E., M.C., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

31<sup>st</sup> August 1942 – 1943

Colonel (Acting) F. J. SCOTT, M.C., retired pay.

8<sup>th</sup> October 1943 – 1944

Colonel (Temporary 30/10/43) G. R. PRENDERGAST, Reserve of Officers.

1944 – 1945

Colonel (Temporary) G. H. FANSHAWE, The Bays.

6<sup>th</sup> April 1946 – 1947

Brigadier (Temporary) H. H. BLANCHARD, O.B.E., P. Corps.

Post abolished by 1948

**Command Education Officer**6<sup>th</sup> November 1940 – 1942

Lieutenant Colonel S. G. SIMPSON, O.B.E., M.A., A.E.C.

(Promoted Acting Colonel 5<sup>th</sup> October 1941)11<sup>th</sup> March 1942 – 1943

Colonel (Acting) J. R. BIRCHALL, O.B.E., M.A., A.E.C.

16<sup>th</sup> August 1943 – 1945

Colonel (Acting) P. L. C. WEBSTER, B.A., A.E.C.

26<sup>th</sup> September 1945 – 1948

Colonel (Temporary) E. B. DEAKIN, D.S.O., M.C., A.E.C.

**Command Welfare Officer**11<sup>th</sup> March 1941 – 1945

Lieutenant Colonel W. H. M. MICHOLLS, M.C., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

**Assistant Director of Army Welfare Services**25<sup>th</sup> March 1946 – 1948

Colonel (Temporary) B. Y. HAYES-NEWINGTON, Cheshire R.

## Western Command – Staff in 1937

### **General Staff Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – (G.S.O. I)**

7<sup>th</sup> September 1936 – 1938

Colonel Sydney Rigby WASON, M.C.

### **General Staff Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – (G.S.O. III)**

Major C. TOPHAM, M.C., R.E.

### **General Staff Officer for Weapon Training (Class CC)**

Major H. F. R. ATTWATER, North'd Fus

### **General Staff Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade for Physical Training**

Captain F. F. S. BARLOW, S. Wales Bord

### **Brigadier in charge of Administration**

16<sup>th</sup> October 1934 – 1937

Temporary Brigadier F. E. SPENCER, D.S.O., M.C.

### **Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General – (D.A.A.G.)**

Brevet Major A. J. K. PIGOTT, R Berks R

### **Assistant Quartermaster General – (A.Q.M.G.)**

Colonel S. T. LACEY, M.C.

### **Staff Captains**

Captain R. A. CURTIS, The King's R

Captain P. G. BOON, Dorset R

### **Colonel Royal Artillery**

Colonel M. E. MASCALL, D.S.O., O.B.E.

### **Staff Officer, Royal Artillery (G.S.O. 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)**

Captain W. L. GIBSON, R.A.

### **Captains Instructor in Gunnery**

Captain H. A. HOUNSELL, R.A.

Captain F. A. L. COOPER, R.A.

**Chief Engineer**

Colonel C. La T. T. JONES, D.S.O., M.C.

**Staff Officer, Royal Engineers**

Major V. F. CRAIG, M.C., R.E.

**Staff Officer Royal Engineers (Electrical and Mechanical)**

Captain J. B. GURNHILL, R.E.

**Senior Surveyor of Works**

Major (Surveyor of Works) H. B. J. HOGG, R.E.

**Command Land Agent**

Captain F. G. BATEMAN, M.B.E., ret

**Chief Signal Officer – (C.S.O.)**

Lieutenant Colonel D. A. BROWN, M.C., R. Signals

**Assistant Chaplain-General**

Reverend P. M. BRUMWELL, M.C., Chaplain to the Forces 1<sup>st</sup> Class

**Assistant Director of Supplies and Transport**

Colonel J. C. M. DORAN, C.B.E., D.S.O.

**Deputy Assistant Director of Remounts**

Captain E. HILTON-GARDNER, ret

**Deputy Director of Medical Services – (D.D.M.S.)**

Colonel B. JOHNSON, D.S.O., M.B.

**Deputy Assistant Director of Medical Service**

Major J. B. MINCH, M.B.

**Assistant Director of Pathology and Hygiene**

Lieutenant Colonel T. B. NICHOLLS, M.B.

**Assistant Director of Ordnance Services – (D.D.O.S.)**

Lieutenant Colonel H. A. SANSOM, R.A.O.C.

**Deputy Assistant Director of Ordnance Services**

Captain L. H. JACKSON, R.A.O.C.

**Chief Ordnance Mechanical Engineer**

Major C. W. B. DAVEY, A.M.I.Mech.E., R.A.O.C.

**Deputy Assistant Director of Ordnance Services (Burscough)**

Lieutenant Colonel J. P. EARP, M.C., R.A.O.C.

**Deputy Assistant Director of Ordnance Services (Shrewsbury)**

Captain P. W. F. BROWN, R.A.O.C.

**Command Paymaster**

Colonel A. B. CLIFF

**Assistant Command Paymasters**

Lieutenant Colonel C.E. GRESHAM, R.A.P.C.

Major C. D. VINT, R.A.P.C.

**Assistant Director of Veterinary Services**

(Appointment held by A.D.V.S. Northern Command)

**Command Barrack Officer**

Lieutenant Colonel C. T. BOYD, ret (Reserve of Officers)

**Command Education Officer**

Captain P. L. C. WEBSTER, B.A., A.E.C.

## Welsh Area & General Officer Commanding 53<sup>rd</sup> (Welsh) Division

### **General Officer Commanding**

1<sup>st</sup> June 1936 – ??

Major General G. THORPE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

### **Deputy Assistant Adjutant & Quarter-Master-General**

Major H. E. CAREY, Beds & Herts R

## Mid-West District

### **General Officer Commanding**

1944 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 1946

Major General Christopher Geoffrey WOOLNER, C.B., M.C.\*\* , *p.s.c.*

## North Wales Area

### **Area Commander**

3<sup>rd</sup> July 1939 – 14<sup>th</sup> December 1941

Brigadier (Temporary) Alan Parry GARNIER, C.B., M.B.E, M.C., *p.s.c.*, *A.D.C.*

### **Cambrian Sub-Area**

### **Oswestry Sub-Area**

29<sup>th</sup> November 1940 – 1941

Colonel L. CHENEVIX-TRENCH, C.M.G., D.S.O., retired pay (Reserve of Officers), *p.s.c.*

### **Welsh Border Sub-Area**

**Headquarters, Donnington Garrison**

## North Wales District

### **Commanding Officer, North Wales District**

15<sup>th</sup> December 1941 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 1942

Major General (Acting) Lionel Howard COX, M.C., *p.s.c.*

### **Cambrian Sub-Area**

12<sup>th</sup> June 1941 – 1943/4

Honorary Brigadier F. LATHAM, D.S.O., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

### **Shropshire Sub-Area**

23<sup>rd</sup> June 1941 – 1942

Colonel (Acting) W. C. GREEN, M.C., S. Stafford R.

### **Welsh Border Sub-Area**

30<sup>th</sup> June 1941 – 1942

Colonel O. H. TIDBURY, M.C., *p.s.c.*

**Headquarters Donnington Garrison**

## South Wales Area

### **Area Commander**

5<sup>th</sup> October 1939 – 1941

Brigadier (Acting) M. E. MASCALL, D.S.O., O.B.E.

## South Wales District

### **District Commander**

5<sup>th</sup> December 1941 – 1942

Major General Robert Cotton MONEY, M.C., *p.s.c.*

1942 – 1944

16<sup>th</sup> January 1945 – 25<sup>th</sup> October 1945

Major General (Temporary) Charles Alexander Phipps MURISON, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., *p.s.c.*, *p.a.c.*

### **Carmarthen Sub-Area**

24<sup>th</sup> May 1940 – 1942

Colonel (Acting) F. A. MACARTNEY, O.B.E., M.C., late Indian Army

### **Headquarters, Pembroke Dock Garrison**

### **Severn Sub-Area**

28<sup>th</sup> July 1940 – 1941

Colonel Lord D. M. GRAHAM, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., retired pay (Reserve of Officers), *p.s.c.*

19<sup>th</sup> May 1941 – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1943

Colonel William ROBB, D.S.O., M.C.

### **Headquarters Barry Garrison**

### **Headquarters, Swansea Garrison**

## Central Midland Area

### **Area Commander**

24<sup>th</sup> May 1940 – 1941

Colonel J. BLAKISTON-HOUSTON, C.B., D.S.O. retired pay (Reserve of Officers), *p.s.c.*

15<sup>th</sup> December 1941 – January 1945

Major General George Guy WATERHOUSE, C.B., M.C., *p.s.c.*

### **Warwickshire Sub-Area**

29<sup>th</sup> November 1940 – 1942

Colonel (Temporary 01/01/41) N. V. BLACKER, D.S.O., M.C, Reserve of Officers

### **Worcestershire Sub-Area**

12<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1941

Colonel (Temporary 16/09/40) J. E. E. PACKARD, M.C., *p.s.c.*

23<sup>rd</sup> May 1941 – 1942

Colonel (Temporary) W. A. STIRLING, D.S.O., M.C., R.A., (T.A.)

1943 – 1944

Colonel Kevin John MARTIN, D.S.O., *p.s.c.*

## West Lancashire Area

### **West Lancashire Area**

6<sup>th</sup> July 1939 – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1940

Brigadier (Temporary) William Havelock Chaplin RAMSDEN, D.S.O., M.C.

24<sup>th</sup> September 1939 – 18<sup>th</sup> August 1940

Brigadier (Temporary) Thomas Thelwall WADDINGTON, M.C., T.A.

19<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 14<sup>th</sup> December 1941

Brigadier (Temporary) Alastair Ian MacDOUGALL, D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*, *A.D.C.*

### **Lichfield Sub-Area**

25<sup>th</sup> June 1940 – 1942

Colonel B. L. EVANS, T.D., T.A.

### **Chester Sub-Area**

7<sup>th</sup> July 1940 – 1942

Brigadier (Temporary) Vincent Tennyson Randle FORD, D.S.O.\*, retired pay

### **Headquarters Mersey Garrison**

19<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1942

Brigadier (Temporary) Thomas Thelwall WADDINGTON, M.C., T.A.

### **Liverpool Sector**

14<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1942

Colonel C. W. M. FORD, M.C., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

### **Birkenhead Sector**

25<sup>th</sup> November 1940 – 1942

Colonel (Acting) G. A. WADE, M.C., T.A. Reserve

### **Headquarters Isle of Man Garrison**

12<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1942

Brigadier G. N. FORD, D.S.O., retired Indian Army, *p.s.c.*

## West Lancashire District

### **General Officer Commanding**

15<sup>th</sup> December 1941 – 21<sup>st</sup> June 1944

Major General (Acting) Alastair Ian McDOUGALL, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*, *A.D.C.*

## East Lancashire Area

3<sup>rd</sup> July 1939 – 1940

Brigadier (Temporary) C. F. DREW, D.S.O., *p.s.c.*

25<sup>th</sup> November 1940 – 1941

Brigadier (Temporary) G. T. RAIKES, C.B., D.S.O., retired pay (Reserve of Officers), *p.s.c.*

### **General Staff Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

30<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1941

Brigadier (Acting) J. S. N. FITZGERALD, M.B.E., M.C.

### **Assistant Adjutant & Quarter-Master-General**

30<sup>th</sup> October 1939 – 1941

Colonel R. B. COUSENS, D.S.O., retired pay (Reserve of Officers), *p.s.c.*

### **Assistant Director of Medical Services**

1939 – 1941

Colonel N. LOW, D.S.O., O.B.E., retired pay.

### **Lancaster and Barrow Sub-Area**

7<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1942/3

Brigadier (Temporary) Henry Alistair Fergusson CREWDSON, T.D., T.A.

### **Carlisle Sub-Area**

11<sup>th</sup> July 1940 – 1942

Colonel (Acting) T. J. CARROLL-LEAHY, D.S.O. M.C., retired pay.

### **Preston Sub-Area**

25<sup>th</sup> May 1940 – 1942

Colonel (Acting) E. L. MUSSON, D.S.O., M.C., retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

### **Manchester Sub-Area**

30<sup>th</sup> August 1940 – 1942

Colonel E. P. LLOYD, D.S.O.

## East Lancashire District

### **District Commander**

15<sup>th</sup> December 1941 – May 1944

Major General (Acting) James Alexander CAMPBELL, D.S.O.\*, *p.s.c.*

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Prepared by Lieut-Col H. F. JOSLEN

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