

78th Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 78th Infantry Division
Divisional Defence & Employment Platoon
88th Field Security Section, Intelligence Corps

11th Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 11th Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

2nd Bn. The Lancashire Fusiliers
1st Bn. The East Surrey Regiment
5th (Huntingdon) Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment

36th Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 36th Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

5th (The Weald of Kent) Bn. The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)
6th Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment
8th (Argyllshire) Bn. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's)

38th (Irish) Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 38th (Irish) Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

6th Bn. The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers ⁽²⁾
2nd Bn. The London Irish Rifles
1st Bn. The Royal Irish Fusiliers

Divisional Troops

56th Reconnaissance Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps ⁽³⁾
1st Bn. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 78th Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery
17th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (5)
132nd (Welsh) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
138th (City of London) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
64th Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery
49th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery

Headquarters, 78th Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers
214th (North Midland) Field Company, Royal Engineers
237th (City of Dundee) Field Company, Royal Engineers
256th Field Company, Royal Engineers
281st Field Park Company, Royal Engineers
21st Bridging Platoon, Royal Engineers (7)

78th Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

Headquarters, 78th Infantry Divisional Royal Army Service Corps (8)
57th Company, Royal Army Service Corps
127th Company, Royal Army Service Corps
294th Company, Royal Army Service Corps
328th Company, Royal Army Service Corps

Headquarters, 78th Infantry Divisional Royal Army Medical Corps
11th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps
152nd Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps
217th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps
47th Field Hygiene Section, Royal Army Medical Corps

78th Infantry Divisional Ordnance Field Park, Royal Army Ordnance Corps
56th Mobile Laundry and Bath Unit, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

Headquarters, 78th Infantry Divisional Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers
11th Infantry Brigade Workshop, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers
36th Infantry Brigade Workshop, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers
38th (Irish) Infantry Brigade Workshop, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

14th Field Cash Office, Royal Army Pay Corps

78th Infantry Divisional Provost Company, Corps of Military Police

78th Infantry Divisional Postal Unit, Royal Engineers

NOTES:

1. The 78th Infantry Division had been deployed to North Africa in November 1942. It landed in Sicily on 26 July 1943, moving to Italy on 22 September 1943. It landed at Taranto and advanced up the Adriatic coast under the command of XXX Corps. The Division fought at the Battle for Adrano between 29 July and 3 August 1943 and then crossing of the River Sangro between 19 November and 3 December 1943, now under the command of V Corps. It transferred to XIII Corps and took part in the Second Battle for Cassino between 11 May and 18 May, and then the advance up the Liri Valley (Cassino III) between 18 and 30 May 1944. Between 20 and 30 June, the division fought at the Battle for the Trasimene Line. It left Italy on 18 July 1944 to transfer to Egypt for a period of rest and refitting. The division returned to Italy on 15 September 1944. It came under the command of XIII Corps to take part in the final offensive with the crossing of the River Senio between 9 and 12 April and then the forcing of the Argenta Gap between 13 and 21 April. The division entered Austria on 8 May 1945, following the cessation of hostilities. It remained in Austria on occupation duties until it was disbanded in August 1946.
2. The battalion was disbanded on 5 August 1944, as a result of heavy casualties. The survivors in the battalion were merged with the 2nd Battalion which transferred in from Middle East Forces. Therefore the 6th Battalion was replaced in the order of battle by:
2nd Bn. The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
3. This regiment did not form part of the Royal Armoured Corps until 1 January 1944.
4. The unit had the role of support battalion until 12 July 1944 when it assumed the role of machine gun battalion for the division.
5. This regiment left the division on 9 July 1945, transferring to the command of 8th Army. It was replaced by:
154th (Leicestershire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
This regiment transferred in from the 10th Indian Infantry Division.
6. The regiment left the division on 6 November 1944. It passed to 8th Army control until it was disbanded in January 1945.
7. This platoon did not join the division until 18 May 1944.
8. The four R.A.S.C. companies are shown with their numeric titles. Three of them performed the task of Infantry Brigade Transport Companies, and the fourth as a Divisional Troops Transport Company. It is not known which company performed which function.

SOURCES:

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