# 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Marine Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Marine Anti-Aircraft Brigade 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Marine Anti-Aircraft Brigade Signal Squadron

- 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Marine Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment (2) (H.Q., 'A', 'C' & 'D' Royal Marine Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries)
  3<sup>rd</sup> Royal Marine Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment (3) (H.Q., 'E', 'F' & 'G' Royal Marine Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries)
- 111<sup>th</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (4)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Royal Marine Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment (5) (H.Q. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 25 & 26<sup>th</sup> Royal Marine Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries)
- 114<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (6) 133<sup>rd</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (7)
- 54<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Battery, Royal Artillery

**Commander** Brigadier (Temporary) John Edmund LEECH-PORTER, O.B.E., R.M.

**Brigade Major** Temporary Major H. LINDSAY, R.M.

Staff Captain Temporary Captain W. H. McEWAN, R.M.

Intelligence Officer Acting Temporary Captain H. AITKEN, R.M.

**Instructor of Fire Control** Acting Temporary Captain J. G. ROWE, R.M.

**Brigade Electrical and Mechanical Engineer** Major H. J. S. SMITH, R.E.M.E.

**Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (Telecoms)** Captain (Temporary) W. BULLERWELL, R.E.M.E.

Medical Officer

Temporary Surgeon Lieutenant (Vacant), R.N.V.R.

### Chaplains

Reverend G. P. BEAUMONT, M.B.E., B.A., R.N.V.R. Reverend W. H. GEORGE, B.A., R.N.V.R.

### Free Churches

Reverend J. S. LEE, R.N.

Roman Catholic Reverend J. P. SMYTH, R.N.

**Brigade Signal Section** Acting Temporary Captain D. H. PANTLIN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant C. G. WALMSLEY, R.M.

**Brigade Maintenance Section** Acting Temporary Captain W. J. CLEARE, R.M.

#### **Anti-Aircraft Operations Room**

Acting Temporary Major F. A. MERRY, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain J. G. WOOD, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain D. H. STRAW, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. K. MORLAND, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant G. E. ECKERLEY, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. D. ABELL, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant H. M. DENNY, R.M.

### **Anti-Aircraft Operations Room Signal Section**

Temporary Lieutenant R. M. BROUNGER, R.M.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment

**Commanding Officer** Acting Lieutenant Colonel Ralph GARRETT, D.S.O., R.M.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> in Command

Acting Major C. E. J. EAGLES, R.M.

Adjutant

Acting Temporary Captain W. F. M. MADDAN, R.M.

Quarter-Master Acting Lieutenant W. E. WOOD, R.M.

# Medical Officer

Temporary Surgeon Lieutenant W. F. DUNHAM, B.M., B.Ch., R.N.V.R.

Attached

Temporary Lieutenant A. LAING, R.M.

**Sergeant-Major** Acting Sergeant Major J. R. WALKER, R.M.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Workshops

### **Officer Commanding** Acting Temporary Captain M. PICKARD, R.M.

**2<sup>nd</sup> in Command** Temporary Lieutenant P. H. ALLINGHAM, R.M.

**Radio** Temporary Lieutenant I. H. SLEE, R.M.

1<sup>st</sup> Reinforcements Temporary Lieutenant (VACANT)

# 'A' Battery

#### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Major T. M. LENHAM, R.M.

#### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain G. R. PICKETT, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain J. W. LENNARD, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain R. A. MORTIMORE, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant B. M. WOOSMAN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant A. N. SPEAKE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant T. HALL, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant H. D. MEAD, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant D. A. NURSE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant C. P. MASON, R.M.

### <u>'C' Battery</u>

#### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Temporary Major T. D. MYCROFT, R.M.

#### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain J. H. GRAHAM, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain E. A. TALBOT, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain R. A. POWYS-LYBBE, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant P. St. G. GLOVER, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant R. W. HOOLE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant D. THOMPSON, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant C. T. LAMBERT, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant W. T. HEATH, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant H. A. R. BOWLEY, R.M.

# 'D' Battery

### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Temporary Major W. A. KINNEAR, R.M.

#### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain M. S. BRADFORD, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain J. L. BACH, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain E. T. PATTERSON, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant T. W. PYE-JEARY, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant T. M. COWTAN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant W. M. GRAY, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant C. P. MASON, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant G. W. GRAY, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant R. A. GREENE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant R. H. JAMES, R.M.

## 3rd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment

**Commanding Officer** Acting Lieutenant Colonel K. L. M. COOPER, R.M.

2<sup>nd</sup> in Command (VACANT)

Adjutant Acting Temporary Captain A. B. ROSE, R.M.

Quarter-Master Captain S. W. ELDRIDGE, R.M.

Attached Temporary Lieutenant C. S. ROSEWELL, R.M.

Sergeant Major Acting Sergeant Major R. W. NIXON, R.M.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Reinforcements

Temporary Lieutenant J. I. A. FRASER, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant D. A. BURCH, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant M. W. KITCHING, R.M.

#### <u>'E' Battery</u>

**Officer Commanding** Acting Temporary Major J. S. POLLOCK, R.M.

#### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain J. LANGELIER, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain N. R. SLATER, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant C. H. BWYE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant E. L. DALZELL, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant B. H. EMMS, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant W. M. TRUELOVE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant B. F. G. LEVY, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant P. A. MILES, R.M.

### 'F' Battery

### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Major C. M. MUIR, R.M.

### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain D. SPITTLE, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain G. C. OGDEN, R.M.

### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant R. D. LITTLEWOOD, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant T. S. McLEOD, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant M. G. M. STEWART, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant E. P. STEELE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant H. T. PERKINS, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant P. J. HOGAN, R.M.

### 'G' Battery

#### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Temporary Major R. H. OGDEN, R.M.

### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain A. W. VANDER, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain G. H. DAVIES, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant P. J. WILLIAMS, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant C. F. BLAKE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant D. J. MacCUISH, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant R. G. WALKER, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant P. M. D. CRICK, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant G. C. HOWDEN, R.M.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment

**Commanding Officer** Acting Lieutenant Colonel A. J. WRIGHT, R.M.

2<sup>nd</sup> in Command (VACANT)

Adjutant Acting Captain S. E. SHAW, R.M.

Quarter-Master Temporary Lieutenant W. G. MILLARD, R.M.

Attached

Temporary Lieutenant C. E. WRIGHT, R.M.

Sergeant Major Acting Sergeant Major C. H. DAVIS, R.M.

#### Reinforcements

Temporary Lieutenant J. A. DAUNTON, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant P. C. BORRETT, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant E. W. P. NOALL, R.M.

22<sup>nd</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Battery

#### Officer Commanding

Acting Major A. E. EBSWORTH, B.E.M., R.M.

#### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain S. N. HACKWOOD, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain R. A. BENNETT, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant E. J. T. HARRIS, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant R. F. TEBBUTT, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant A. M. BROWN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant F. L. LUSCOMBE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant F. L. JONES, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. SWINDELL, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant S. R. THOMAS, R.M.

## 25<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Battery

### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Temporary Major P. G. HETHERINGTON, R.M.

### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain L. G. GREEN, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain J. R. FEARON, R.M.

### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant H. E. BROWN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant G. M. S. REDMAYNE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. L. H. THORN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. E. PEAK, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. B. GRISDALE, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant C. D. WILLOCK, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant T. T. BASTIN, R.M.

### 26<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Battery

#### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Temporary Major R. P. BURTON, R.M.

#### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain A. E. HOUCHEN, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain P. STANSFIELD, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant H. TABERN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant B. FOULGER, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant F. M. CLARK, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant A. A. WORLAND, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant D. L. JONES, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant E. S. SMITH, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. R. G. WHITE, R.M.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Marine Anti-Aircraft Brigade Reinforcement Depot

#### **Officer Commanding**

Acting Temporary Major B. C. CANAVAN, R.M.

#### Captains

Acting Temporary Captain J. D. W. JONES, R.M. Acting Temporary Captain K. W. HORNER, R.M.

#### Lieutenants

Temporary Lieutenant L. H. FRENCH, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant G. S. WILKINSON, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant G. W. THOMPSON, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant A. W. REDMAN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant J. J. BRIGHT, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant G. S. SMITH, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant W. L. IRWIN, R.M. Temporary Lieutenant D. D. JONES, R.M.

#### NOTES:

1. Early in the Second World War, the Royal Marines formed Mobile Naval Base Defence Organisations (MNBDO) to act as formations that could be deployed to locations where military operations were being conducted but there was no permanent naval base. The MNBDO comprised artillery, infantry, engineer, and landing control elements. The first Royal Marines Air Defence Group was raised on 29 January 1940, but the brigade headquarters was not formed until January 1941. The formation moved to the Mediterranean with an Advance Headquarters being sent to Crete in May 1941. In February 1944, the anti-aircraft regiments of MNBDO I and MNBDO II returned to the U.K.. It was expected that these units would be disbanded, but instead, the Air Defence Staff of the Army requested that some of these units be retained. The headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> R.M. Anti-Aircraft Brigade was formed on 22 March 1944 in Hamilton, Lanarkshire. Brigadier J. E. LEECH-PORTER, O.B.E., R.M., commanded the brigade. It came under command of G.H.Q. Anti-Aircraft Troops three days after it was formed.

During May and June 1944, the Brigade spent six weeks at the Anti-Aircraft Practice Camp at Clacton-on-Sea in Essex. Gunnery practice and full mobilisation took place in this period. In July and August 1944, the Brigade was deployed against 'Flying Bombs' on the south coast of England, claiming one-hundred and twenty-two V1's destroyed. The Brigade landed in France in early September 1944 and moved to the Scheldt Estuary in Belgium and took under command some Army regiments.

Accommodation was improvised and communications difficult, with the Signals Sections laying more than 2,000 miles of telephone lines to connect all sites occupied by the Brigade. The heavy anti-aircraft regiments occasionally fired in support of ground troops in the beginning of October. The Brigade's main function was to provide air defence against V1 flying bombs, which first arrived in Antwerp on 27 October 1944. Two belts were established around Antwerp and Brussels with a corridor in between. The Brigade's Operations Room at Antwerp recorded 483 V1 and 313 V2 rockets incidents between 1 and 12 December 1944. Units from the Brigade also formed rescue squads to help the civil authorities in responding to attacks. German air activity increased prior to the Ardennes offensive in December 1944, with the last air attack on Antwerp on 1 January 1945, when the Brigade managed to shoot down four enemy aircraft that attacked at low-level. V1 and V2 attacks, however, increased in early 1945.

On 5 March 1945, the Brigade was relieved and moved to Ostend. The Brigadier was appointed the Anti-Aircraft Defence Commander for Ostend and Calais on 11 March. The last plot recorded by the Operations Room was a friendly aircraft on 6 May. The Brigade returned to the U.K. on 28 May 1945 and was stationed at South Brent. Brigadier S. G. B. PAINE assumed command of the Brigade in the autumn of 1945. The H.Q., 5<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade was disbanded at Topsham in November 1945, and the units the following month.

- 2. The 1<sup>st</sup> R.M. Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment was formed on 21 December 1941, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel C. M. SERGEANT, R.M.. The new regiment comprised 'B', 'C' and 'D' Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries and the 'Devon' Light Anti-Aircraft Battery. On 1 February 1942, the regiment deployed in Columbo, but by April it was stationed at the main naval base at Trincomalee. Sickness was a major issue, with 'D' Battery at one time suffering a 92% sickness rate. In April 1943, the regiment moved to Poona in India to train with XXXIII Indian Corps. In January 1944, it returned to the United Kingdom (with the 'Devon' L.A.A. Battery now designated again as the 22<sup>nd</sup> R.M. L.A.A. Battery). In March 1944, and now under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Ralph GARRETT, D.S.O., R.M., the Regiment came under command of the 5<sup>th</sup> R.M. Anti-Aircraft Brigade. It moved to France in August 1944 and was initially deployed to Cherbourg, but on 19 October 1944, it moved to Antwerp with the Brigade. It supported Canadian formations in October and November 1944 but remained focused on anti-aircraft (and flying bomb) defence of the main port of Antwerp. It moved to Ostend in March 1945 and is credited with sinking a midget submarine on 18 April 1945. It was disbanded on 16 November 1945 at Topsham, Devon.
- 3. This regiment was formed at Hayling Island, Sussex in January 1941 as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Royal Marine Anti-Aircraft Regiment (the designation of 'Heavy' was added in December 1941). It comprised 'E' and 'F' Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries and the 24<sup>th</sup> R.M. Light Anti-Aircraft Battery. Lieutenant Colonel J. E. LEECH-PORTER commanded the regiment from 7 January 1941. In the winter of 1941, it was deployed on the south coast of England, and in March 1943, the regiment concentrated near Nottingham for embarkation. It travelled to Egypt, and served in Malta, before landing in Sicily. It was based at Augusta with M.N.B.D.O. II for the defence of the port. It returned to Scotland in February 1944 and was due to be disbanded, but it was retained. It joined the 5<sup>th</sup> R.M. Anti-Aircraft Brigade and went to Clacton-on-Sea to mobilise. It was based at Cherbourg in August 1944, before moving to Antwerp with the Brigade by October 1944. The Regiment moved to Ostend in March 1945 and was disbanded in England in November 1945.
- 4. This regiment was formed in the U.K. in October 1940. Once mobilised, it came under command of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade in the 12<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Division. It moved to France in June 1944, and then came under command of the 5<sup>th</sup> R.M. Anti-Aircraft Brigade.
- 5. This regiment was formed in January 1941 as part of the M.N.B.D.O. II Air Defence Brigade. It moved to Egypt in June 1943 and later served on Sicily. It returned to the U.K. in March 1944 and was stationed near Motherwell, Lanarkshire. In June 1944, it was deployed to Kent to help deal with the threat of the V1 Flying Bombs. In August 1944, it transferred to Cherbourg with the Brigade and then moved to Antwerp. The 54 Bofors 40 mm anti-aircraft guns of the Regiment had to defend the twenty-six miles of quayside at Antwerp. It moved to Ostend with the Brigade in March 1945, and then back to the U.K. to be stationed at Ivybridge for demobilisation. It was disbanded on 30 September 1945.
- 6. Formed in January 1942 from the 91<sup>st</sup> Searchlight Regiment, this regiment moved to France in June 1944 and joined the 5<sup>th</sup> R.M. Anti-Aircraft Brigade.
- 7. This Regiment was raised in March 1942 from the 89<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment.

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