

## 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division <sup>(1)</sup>

Headquarters, 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division

### 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade <sup>(2)</sup>

Headquarters, 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment <sup>(3)</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> (Duke of Connaught's Own) Bn. 10<sup>th</sup> Baluch Regiment

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 4<sup>th</sup> Prince of Wales's Own Gurkha Rifles

*The Jodhpur Sardar Infantry* <sup>(4)</sup>

### 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade <sup>(5)</sup>

Headquarters, 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

8<sup>th</sup> (Ardwick) Bn. The Manchester Regiment <sup>(6)</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 5<sup>th</sup> Mahratta Light Infantry

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 3<sup>rd</sup> Queen Alexandra's Own Gurkha Rifles

*The Nabha Akal Infantry* <sup>(7)</sup>

### 25<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade <sup>(8)</sup>

Headquarters, 25<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster) <sup>(9)</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment <sup>(10)</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 18<sup>th</sup> Royal Garhwal Rifles

*The Lovat Scouts* <sup>(11)</sup>

<sup>(12)</sup>

### Divisional Troops

Skinner's Horse, (1<sup>st</sup> Duke of York's Own) <sup>(13)</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers <sup>(14)</sup>

<sup>(15)</sup>

Headquarters, 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Royal Artillery (16)  
68<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery  
97<sup>th</sup> (Kent Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery  
154<sup>th</sup> (Leicestershire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery  
13<sup>th</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery  
30<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (17)

Headquarters, 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Sappers and Miners (18)  
5<sup>th</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners  
10<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners  
61<sup>st</sup> Field Company, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners  
41<sup>st</sup> Field Park Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Signals, Indian Signal Corps

Headquarters, 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Troops Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
10<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
20<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
25<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
27<sup>th</sup> Animal Transport Company (Mule), Royal Indian Army Service Corps

Headquarters, 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Indian Army Medical Corps  
14<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps  
21<sup>st</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps  
30<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps  
12<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Hygiene Section, Indian Army Medical Corps

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Ordnance Field Park, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Recovery Company, Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers  
125<sup>th</sup> Indian Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers  
126<sup>th</sup> Indian Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers  
127<sup>th</sup> Indian Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps  
53<sup>rd</sup> Indian Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Provost Unit, Corps of Military Police (India)

5<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Security Section, Intelligence Corps (India)

407<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Security Section, Intelligence Corps (India)

## NOTES:

1. This division was formed in Ahmednagar in India in May 1941. It was sent immediately to Iraq where it took part in the campaign to secure the oilfields in that country. Following the successful conclusion of that campaign, the division was split up across Iraq, Persia, and Syria. As the situation had deteriorated in Egypt and Libya, the Division was rushed to the desert. The 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division undertook the journey of about 1,500 miles by road in two weeks and concentrated at the Halfaya Pass from 4 June 1942. When the Axis forces attacked the Division sustained heavy losses and was sent back to the Delta to rest and refit. After reorganisation, the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division was sent to Cyprus, although the ship carrying the Divisional H.Q. and the 25<sup>th</sup> Brigade was hit by torpedoes in Alexandria harbour causing sixty casualties. By September 1943, two Brigades were in Palestine, Egypt, Lebanon and Syria on garrison duties and training in mountain warfare. In January 1944, Major General Wilfrid Lewis LLOYD, C.B.E., D.S.O.\*, M.C., Indian Army, assumed command of the formation, but he died as a result of a motor accident in Egypt on 22 January 1944. Major General Denys Whitehorn REID, C.B.E., D.S.O.\*, M.C., Indian Army, was appointed to command the Division. He had recently been released after a period of two years as a prisoner of war in Italy, and he assumed command on 14 February 1944. He was to command the Division throughout the Italian Campaign. The 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division arrived at Taranto between 27 and 28 March. It moved up to Ortona and came under command of V Corps. The division had a long front of seven miles to cover and took up active patrolling of the front-line. On 3 June, the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division was relieved by the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Division, and it moved to the centre of Italy and joined X Corps. It advanced up Italy, and in September 1944, it moved to the Adriatic front and relieved the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Division in V Corps. The 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division advanced across the River Fiumicino on 6 October 1944, and after a month's hard fighting, and having been relieved by the 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, it went for a period of rest and recuperation. The 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division was recalled after only two weeks rest until the bad weather brought a halt to operations. It was relieved on 9 February 1945 and took over from the 78<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in the San Clemente area under XIII Corps. The Division advanced on 17 April, but was squeezed out by other formation, so it concentrated at Minerbio where it was located when the Armistice came into effect. At the end of the campaign, it moved to Trieste in May 1945, and remained there until August, then moving to Milan before leaving Taranto bound for Italy on 22 November 1945. It was disbanded at Rawalpindi in January 1947.
2. This brigade joined the division in September 1943. It had previously served with the 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division, but it was largely destroyed in the battle of the Cauldron on 5/6 June 1942. It was reformed in July 1942, joining this division in September. Brigadier (Acting) Terence Nelson SMITH, O.B.E., 6<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles, replaced Brigadier (Temporary) John Alexander FINLAY, M.C., 8<sup>th</sup> Punjab Regiment, in February 1944.
3. On 19 May 1944, the brigade took under command:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Durham Light Infantry

This battalion transferred in from G.H.Q. Troops, having been reconstituted following heavy losses in the battle for the Aegean Islands in 1943. For the next three months, the brigade had four battalions under command, until the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment left on 29 August 1944. The Punjabis were then rested until September 1944, when they returned to this Brigade from 13 September until 3 October, before they joined the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Durham Light Infantry remained with this Brigade until the formation returned to India.

4. This battalion was an Indian States Forces (I.S.F.) unit, which in November 1940, was serving with the Nowshera Brigade on the North-West Frontier of India. It was deployed to Persia and then Egypt as garrison troops, as there was a reluctance to commit I.S.F. units on the front line. The battalion landed at Salerno as part of a Beach Group, and then in December 1944, it was called forward and came under command of the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade. It served with this Brigade until March 1945, so did not take part in the final offensive. From March until November 1945, the battalion performed duties as garrison troops until they returned to India.
5. During the period this Brigade was on active service in Italy, it was commanded by Brigadier (Acting) James Balfour MacDONALD, O.B.E., *p.s.c.*, 19<sup>th</sup> Hyderabad Regiment. He had assumed command of the Brigade in June 1943, and he relinquished command in November 1945. MacDONALD was awarded a D.S.O. for his leadership of this Brigade in Italy.
6. The battalion passed to the command of the brigade on 2 July 1943, on the battalion's arrival in Damascus, Syria. It left the brigade on 17 September 1944, passing to the command of X Corps. The battalion then returned to the United Kingdom, to join the 166<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 55<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. It was replaced by:  
**1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment**  
The 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab had spent a period on garrison and internal security duties, and in January 1944, it joined the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade. It was used as a 'floater battalion' (see below) and served with the 25<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade between 29 August and 13 September 1944. It returned to the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade from 13<sup>th</sup> September until 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1944, and then joined the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade. In May 1945, the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab passed to the command of divisional troops, and was replaced in this Brigade by the:  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire)**  
This battalion transferred in from Corps Troops.
7. The Nabha Akal Infantry was an I.S.F. battalion. Like the Jodhpur Sardar Infantry, it had been deployed to Persia on garrison duties, and then was based in Egypt from May 1942 until September 1944. In early September, it travelled to Italy and came under command of the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division, and on 23 October 1944, it came under command of the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade. It remained with this Brigade until mid-April 1945, when it was used as Garrison Troops in Bologna and Ferrara. It then joined the 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Division until it returned to India.
8. Brigadier (Acting) Eustace Aldford ARDERNE, D.S.O., O.B.E., was in command of this Brigade from 28 July 1942, until 15 July 1945. He was born in South Africa, but was an officer in the British Army, having been commissioned in the Durham Light Infantry. He was awarded a Bar to the D.S.O. for his leadership of the Brigade in Italy. It remained with the 25<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade until May 1945.
9. This Battalion was the result of a merger with the 8<sup>th</sup> Bn. The King's Own, which was serving with this formation, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The King's Own, which had suffered heavy casualties in the operations on the Aegean Islands. The merger took place on 30 January 1944, and the unit took the designation of the senior battalion in the Regiment, hence the 8<sup>th</sup> became the 1<sup>st</sup>.
10. This Battalion was detached to the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade between 14 December 1944 and 8 February 1945.

11. The Lovat Scouts were a British, yeomanry regiment, that were recruited in Invernesshire in Scotland. The unit spoke Gaelic and they became the British Army's mountain and arctic warfare specialist unit, and as such, it was logical that they be deployed to Italy. They came under command of the 25<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade on 10 August 1944 but left on 25 August to become divisional troops. They left the Division on 20 October 1944, and the unit returned to the 25<sup>th</sup> Brigade on 11 March 1945. They left on 16 April 1945 and moved to Greece, where they joined the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division.
12. The brigade took under command a fourth infantry battalion in January 1945. This battalion was the:  
**4<sup>th</sup> Bn. 11<sup>th</sup> Sikh Regiment**  
The 4<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> Sikhs had been reformed at Cairo on 12 August 1942, having been captured with the rest of the 18<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade on 1 July 1942. They served as the Demonstration Battalion at the Mountain Warfare School until February 1944. They moved to Haifa and Tripoli and arrived at Taranto on 17 July 1944. They were then used as a 'floater battalion', units that were used to reinforce formations or allow other units to have a period of rest. They joined the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade between 8 and 19 August 1944, and then served with the 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade between 19 August and 14 November 1944. It then spent a period in reserve with V Corps, before rejoining the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade from 17 December 1944 until January 1945. The Battalion then transferred to the 25<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade in January 1945. It then transferred to the 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Division, so it served with all three Indian Infantry Divisions in Italy.
13. This Regiment was the divisional reconnaissance unit for the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. It was equipped with armoured cars, but often Troops were dismounted and fought as infantry due to the nature of the terrain in this campaign. In addition, the Regiment was occasionally placed under the command of other formations, or it formed part of a Task Force or group. It was not under command of this Division from 17 September until 29 October 1944, and between 28 January and 12 March 1945. The Regiment was attached to the 43<sup>rd</sup> (Gurkha) Lorried Brigade between 27 November and 3 December 1944.
14. This Battalion was the divisional support battalion. It had joined this Division on 19 September 1943, as a machine gun battalion. On 30 March 1944, it became styled as a Support Battalion, as it was equipped with Vickers medium machine guns and 4.2" mortars. It was rarely, if ever, deployed as a complete battalion, as companies would be deployed to support a Brigade for a specific operation.
15. The 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Essex Regiment was detached from the 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade from 11 August 1944 to act as divisional troops for the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. They returned to their parent formation on 14 November 1944.
16. The Commander Royal Artillery for the formation was Brigadier (Acting) Walter Rutherford GOODMAN, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., *g., y.*, who held the appointment from 30 March 1943 until 5 March 1946.
17. This regiment left the division in November 1944 passing to the command of the 12<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade. It was not replaced in the division as the threat of German air raids was negligible by the end of 1944.
18. Lieutenant Colonel (Temporary) George Fowler HUTCHINSON, D.S.O., R.E., was the Commander Royal Engineers for the Division from February 1944 until October 1946.