

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

Main Headquarters 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Division

Rear Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Division

### 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Own)

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Jat Regiment (2)

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 14<sup>th</sup> Punjab Regiment (3)

### 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Suffolk Regiment (4)

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment (5)

1<sup>st</sup> (Prince of Wales's Own) Bn. 17<sup>th</sup> Dogra Regiment

### 161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade (6)

Headquarters 161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. 7<sup>th</sup> Rajput Regiment

### Divisional Troops

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment (7)

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Royal Artillery

4<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

(H.Q., Signal Section & L.A.D., 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>/66<sup>th</sup> & 522<sup>nd</sup> Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

28<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (8)

(H.Q., Signal Section & L.A.D., 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>/57<sup>th</sup> Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

56<sup>th</sup> (King's Own) Light Anti-Aircraft/Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery (9)

(H.Q., 163<sup>rd</sup> & 164<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft, and 221<sup>st</sup> & 222<sup>nd</sup> Anti-Tank Batteries, Royal Artillery)

24<sup>th</sup> Indian Mountain Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 2<sup>nd</sup> (Derajat), 11<sup>th</sup> (Dehra Dun), 12<sup>th</sup> (Poonch) & 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Mountain Batteries, Indian Artillery)

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Sappers and Miners  
2<sup>nd</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners (6)  
20<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners  
74<sup>th</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners  
44<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners (6)  
1<sup>st</sup> Bridging Section, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners

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

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
238<sup>th</sup> Indian General Purpose Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
239<sup>th</sup> Indian General Purpose Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
240<sup>th</sup> Indian General Purpose Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
23<sup>rd</sup> Indian Mule Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
60<sup>th</sup> Indian Mule Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
74<sup>th</sup> Indian Mule Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
(10)  
5<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance Troop, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
22<sup>nd</sup> Indian Field Ambulance Troop, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
23<sup>rd</sup> Indian Field Ambulance Troop, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
7<sup>th</sup> Indian Composite Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
60<sup>th</sup> Indian Composite Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
61<sup>st</sup> Indian Composite Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
62<sup>nd</sup> Indian Composite Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Indian Army Medical Corps  
10<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps  
45<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps  
75<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps  
7<sup>th</sup> Field Hygiene Section, Indian Army Medical Corps

2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Mobile Veterinary Section, Indian Army Veterinary Corps

112<sup>th</sup> Indian Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (11)  
113<sup>th</sup> Indian Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers  
5<sup>th</sup> Indian Recovery Company, Indian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

21<sup>st</sup> Indian Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps  
22<sup>nd</sup> Indian Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps  
23<sup>rd</sup> Indian Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps  
169<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

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

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

## NOTES:

1. The division arrived back in India from Middle East on 18 May 1943. It was initially based at Chas as part of the G.H.Q. India General Reserve. On 9 November 1943, the division was deployed to the Arakan region under command of XV Indian Corps in anticipation of a forthcoming offensive by the Allies. The Japanese, however, launched their offensive Ha-Go on the 4 February 1944. The division was heavily involved in this battle, fighting to relieve the 7<sup>th</sup> Indian Division which had been surrounded. In mid March 1944, news came through of the other Japanese offensive called U-Go in Assam. The 5<sup>th</sup> Division was extracted from the Arakan and flown to Imphal, arriving there on 27 March 1944. On arrival, it came under command of IV Corps. 161<sup>st</sup> Brigade, however, was sent to Dimapur and became involved in the significant battle for Kohima under XXXIII Indian Corps. The rest of the division fought at Imphal. Following the defeat of the Japanese, the division was involved in the initial pursuit of the Japanese until it was withdrawn from the line in late November 1944. This is the order of battle for this division throughout this period from November 1943 until November 1944.
2. In December 1944, this battalion was transferred to become the divisional reconnaissance battalion for the division. For a period of three months, the brigade remained short of one battalion, until in March 1945 the following battalion came under command, namely the:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment
3. This battalion suffered high number of casualties due to typhus and therefore left the brigade in October 1944, transferring to the Bannu Brigade on the North-West Frontier. It was replaced on 10 October 1944 by:  
4<sup>th</sup> Jammu and Kashmir (Fateh Shibji) Infantry, Indian State Forces
4. This battalion left the brigade on 17 September 1944 to transfer to 256 Sub-Area at Imphal. It was replaced in this brigade by the return of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment from its role as Divisional Reconnaissance Battalion.
5. In April 1944, this battalion exchanged roles with the Divisional Reconnaissance Battalion, then the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment. In March 1945, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment transferred to 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade to be replaced in this brigade on 1 March 1945 by:  
7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment
6. In April 1944, in response to the build-up of Japanese forces on the Indian-Burma border, this brigade was detached from the division and sent to Dimapur. From there it advance up the road to the key hill town of Kohima. The orders for the brigade changed one more than one occasion, but on the 5<sup>th</sup> April, the 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. Q.O.R.W.K. entered Kohima, with the rest of the brigade located at Jotsoma where it formed a defensive box. The Japanese surrounded Kohima and Jotsoma on 5 April, thus began the Siege of Kohima. This siege lasted until 20 April 1944, when units from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division forced their way into Kohima.

The units of the brigade group that fought at Kohima were:

161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade (6)

Headquarters 161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & L. A. D.

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. 7<sup>th</sup> Rajput Regiment

24<sup>th</sup> Indian Mountain Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 2<sup>nd</sup> (Derajat), 11<sup>th</sup> (Dehra Dun), 12<sup>th</sup> (Poonch) & 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Mountain Batteries, Indian Artillery)

2<sup>nd</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners (6)

44<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners (6)

Plus units of the Divisional Royal Indian Army Service Corps.

7. The battalion was the headquarters defence battalion for the division. H.Q. Company plus one rifle company was based at the divisional headquarters, with one rifle company based at each of the brigade headquarters. In April 1944, it exchanged roles with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment from 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade. On 7 September 1944, the 2<sup>nd</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> Punjab moved back to 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Brigade, and it was not until December 1944 that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Jat Regiment was designated the Divisional Reconnaissance Battalion on transfer from the 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade. This regular changing of roles of battalions was common, and was undertaken to allow units to rest and refit during deployments.
8. This unit was organised as a jungle field regiment. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>/57<sup>th</sup> Batteries were equipped with 3.7" howitzers, with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battery being equipped with 3" mortars.
9. The regiment formed in August 1943 by combining elements of the following two regiments:  
56<sup>th</sup> (Kings Own) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery  
55<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery  
In October 1944, the regiment dropped its L.A.A. role and became:  
56<sup>th</sup> (King's Own) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery  
The two light anti-aircraft batteries were disbanded, with a new 351<sup>st</sup> Anti-Tank Battery being formed within the regiment.
10. The following units joined the division at Imphal:  
66<sup>th</sup> Animal Transport Company (Mule), R. I. A. S. C.  
82<sup>nd</sup> Animal Transport Company (Mule), R. I. A. S. C.  
by which time the designation of these mule companies had changed to that above, so the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Mule Companies were now designated Animal Transport Companies (Mule).
11. This unit does not appear on the order of battle on 1 August 1944.

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

Main Headquarters 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Division

Rear Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Division

### 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Own)

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Jammu and Kashmir (Fateh Shibji) Infantry, Indian State Forces <sup>(2)</sup>

### 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment

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

1<sup>st</sup> (Prince of Wales's Own) Bn. 17<sup>th</sup> Dogra Regiment

### 161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters 161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Light Aid Detachment

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. 7<sup>th</sup> Rajput Regiment

### Divisional Troops

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Jat Regiment

Machine Gun Battalion, 17<sup>th</sup> Dogra Regiment <sup>(3)</sup>

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. 14<sup>th</sup> Punjab Regiment <sup>(4)</sup>

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Royal Artillery

4<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

28<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

56<sup>th</sup> (King's Own) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery

24<sup>th</sup> Indian Mountain Regiment, Indian Artillery

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Sappers and Miners

2<sup>nd</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

20<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners

74<sup>th</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

44<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners

1<sup>st</sup> Bridging Section, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners

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

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

45<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

75<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

## NOTES:

1. This is the abridged order of battle from March 1945. The first elements of the division, namely 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, were flown into Meiktila on 15 March 1945. The rest of the division drove from Jorhat to join 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade. It then assisted 17<sup>th</sup> Division in clearing the Toungoo area.
2. This battalion was replaced in this brigade on 13 May 1945 by:  
1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Burma Regiment  
the battalion transferring to become the divisional headquarters battalion.
3. This battalion joined the division during the period between November 1944 and March 1945 as the divisional machine gun battalion.
4. This battalion joined the division as the Divisional Headquarters Defence battalion during the period between November 1944 and March 1945. It was replaced by:  
4<sup>th</sup> Jammu and Kashmir (Fateh Shibji) Infantry, Indian State Forces  
which transferred from 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade.

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

### 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Own)

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Burma Regiment

### 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment <sup>(2)</sup>

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

1<sup>st</sup> (Prince of Wales's Own) Bn. 17<sup>th</sup> Dogra Regiment

### 161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment <sup>(3)</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. 7<sup>th</sup> Rajput Regiment

### Divisional Troops

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Jat Regiment

Machine Gun Battalion, 17<sup>th</sup> Dogra Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Jammu and Kashmir (Fateh Shibji) Infantry, Indian State Forces

4<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(4)</sup>

28<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(4)</sup>

56<sup>th</sup> (King's Own) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(5)</sup>

24<sup>th</sup> Indian Mountain Regiment, Indian Artillery

2<sup>nd</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

20<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners

74<sup>th</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

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1<sup>st</sup> Bridging Section, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners

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

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

45<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

75<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

NOTES:

1. This is the abbreviated divisional order of battle for the period from June 1945 until the end of the war in August 1945. The division was deployed under command of IV Corps in the area near Pegu to prevent the Japanese trapped in the Pegu Yomas from escaping. The division was withdrawn from the line at the end of June 1945 to train for Operation Zipper, the invasion of Malaya.
2. This battalion left the division on 24 June 1945, transferring to the 89<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. It was replaced by:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles
3. This battalion left the division on 25 June 1945, transferring to 114<sup>th</sup> Indian Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. It was replaced by:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 4<sup>th</sup> Prince of Wales's Own Gurkha Rifles
4. These two regiments left the division in June 1945 transferring to the 19<sup>th</sup> Indian Division, the 4<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment on 10 June and the 28<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment on 19 June. They were replaced by:  
4<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Regiment, Indian Artillery  
5<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Regiment, Indian Artillery  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Regiment transferred in from the 19<sup>th</sup> Indian Division with the 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Regiment transferring in from 14<sup>th</sup> Army Troops.
5. This regiment left the division on 4 May 1945, transferring to 14<sup>th</sup> Army Troops. By late June it was based at Ranchi in order to convert to a self propelled regiment. It was disbanded in December 1945. The regiment was replaced by:  
5<sup>th</sup> (Maharatta) Anti-Tank Regiment, Indian Artillery  
which transferred in from 14<sup>th</sup> Army Troops.

SOURCES:

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

### 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Own)

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Burma Regiment (2)

### 123<sup>rd</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

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

1<sup>st</sup> (Prince of Wales's Own) Bn. The Dogra Regiment (3)

3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles

### 161<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Punjab Regiment

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Rajput Regiment (3)

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

### Divisional Troops

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. The Jat Regiment (2) + (3)

Machine Gun Battalion, The Dogra Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Madras Regiment (3) + (5)

4<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Regiment, Royal Indian Artillery (4)

5<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Regiment, Royal Indian Artillery (4)

5<sup>th</sup> (Mahratta) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Indian Artillery (5)

24<sup>th</sup> Indian Mountain Regiment, Royal Indian Artillery

2<sup>nd</sup> Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

20<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners

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1<sup>st</sup> Bridging Section, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners

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

10<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

45<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

75<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

## NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle for the division during its deployment to Singapore and Java. It landed in Singapore on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1945 and later moved to Java in November 1945. The 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade landed at Sourabaya on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1945.
2. This battalion did travel with the division to Singapore, but did not go to Java. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. Burma Regiment moved to Sumatra to come under command of the 26<sup>th</sup> Indian Division in October 1945. It was replaced in 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade by the 3<sup>rd</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Jats, which transferred from the role as divisional reconnaissance battalion to 9<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade prior to the division's deployment to Java. It is possible the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. Burma Regiment swapped with the 3<sup>rd</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Jats prior to Singapore and spent a period as divisional battalion before leaving the Division.
3. All Indian Regiments, with the exception of the Punjab Regiments, lost their numerical designation in October 1945.