

50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division

69th Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 69th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

5th Bn. The East Yorkshire Regiment (The Duke of York's Own)

6th Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

7th Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

150th Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 150th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

4th Bn. The East Yorkshire Regiment (The Duke of York's Own)

4th Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

5th Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

151st Infantry Brigade ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 151st Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

6th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry

8th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry

9th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry

Divisional Troops

50th Bn. The Reconnaissance Corps ⁽⁵⁾

2nd Bn. The Cheshire Regiment ⁽⁶⁾

Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery

72nd (Northumbrian) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁷⁾

74th (Northumbrian) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁸⁾

124th (Northumbrian) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁹⁾

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Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers
232nd (Northumbrian) Field Company, Royal Engineers
233rd (Northumbrian) Field Company, Royal Engineers
505th Field Company, Royal Engineers
235th (Northumbrian) Field Park Company, Royal Engineers

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Royal Army Service Corps (12)
346th Company, Royal Army Service Corps
508th Company, Royal Army Service Corps
522nd Company, Royal Army Service Corps

Headquarters, 50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Royal Army Medical Corps (13)
149th (Northumbrian) Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps
150th (Northumbrian) Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps
186th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Field Park, Royal Army Ordnance Corps
50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Workshop, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Field Cash Office, Royal Army Pay Corps

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Provost Company, Corps of Military Police

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Field Post Office, Royal Engineers

NOTES:

1. A first line Territorial Army division, with its headquarters based at Darlington, County Durham. At the outbreak of war, it was organised as a motor division. The division remained in the U.K. until 19 January 1940, when it left for France. Whilst in France, in June 1940 it was reorganised as a standard establishment infantry division. It was evacuated from Dunkirk and re-equipped in the United Kingdom. This division became the first British infantry formation to be sent overseas to the Mediterranean or Middle East when it left the U.K. on 22 April 1941. It arrived in Egypt on 14 June 1941, but moved to Cyprus on 25 July to guard the island against possible Axis invasion. It left the island on 4 November 1941 to travel by sea and land to Iraq, where it arrived on 21 November, where it came under command of British Troops Iraq. It left Iraq on 13 January 1942 to move back to Syria. It travelled on to Egypt arriving on 12 February and then onto Libya where it joined XIII Corps on 21 February. The Axis Forces attacked the Gazala line on 26 May 1942 breaking through and behind XIII Corps, however, they were held and congregated in an area known as 'The Cauldron'. This was where 150th Brigade was located, with it surrendering eventually on 1 June 1942. On 26 June 1942, the division transferred to X Corps and fought at Mersa Matruh for four days with that corps. On 1 July 1942, the division came under direct command of the 8th Army, and was used in the defence of the El Alamein line throughout July. It then came under command of XIII Corps on 5 October 1942 for the main Battle of El Alamein. The division then had a period of rest in Egypt before moving up through Libya to join XXX Corps. The division entered Tunisia on 5 March 1943.
2. This brigade was a second-line Territorial Army formation, which was raised in 1939 as the duplicate of the 150th Infantry Brigade. The 5th Bn. The East Yorkshire Regiment was based at Hull; the 6th Bn. The Green Howards at Middlesbrough; and the 7th Bn. The Green Howards at Bridlington. It originally formed part of the 23rd Infantry Division (itself the duplicate of the 50th Infantry Division), and served with that formation in France in 1940. The 23rd Infantry Division was disbanded after evacuation from Dunkirk, and this brigade transferred to the 50th Infantry Division. It remained with this division throughout its service in the Middle East and Sicily.
3. A first line Territorial Army brigade with its headquarters based in Malton. The 4th Bn. East Yorkshire Regiment was based at Hull, with the 4th Bn. The Green Howards based in Guisborough, and the 5th Bn. The Green Howards based in Scarborough. The brigade served with the division until its capture in the Western Desert on 1 June 1942 at the Battle for the 'Cauldron'.
4. A first line Territorial Army brigade with its headquarters located in Durham, comprising three T.A. battalions of the Durham Light Infantry. The 6th Bn. was based at Bishop Auckland, the 8th Bn. at Durham, and the 9th Bn. at Gateshead. The brigade served with the division throughout the war.
5. The reconnaissance battalion for the division was formed on 6 March 1941 in the United Kingdom. It travelled out to the Middle East with the division only a month after formation. It left the command of this division on 26 November 1941.
6. This battalion was the machine gun unit for the division. It was a Regular Army battalion which prior to the war was serving with the 1st Infantry Division. It transferred to this division on 1 February 1941 after serving with this division in France and Belgium in 1940. It remained with this division throughout the rest of the war, only leaving on 30 June 1945.

7. A first line Territorial Army regiment originally formed in 1916, with all three batteries based in Newcastle. This regiment served with the division until it was captured together with the 150th Brigade on 1 June 1942.
8. A first line Territorial Army Regiment originally formed in 1916, with the H.Q. and 296th Batteries based at South Shields, and the 293rd Battery based at Hebburn-on-Tyne. This regiment served with the division until it was redesignated a reserve division in November 1944.
9. This was a second-line Territorial Army unit which had been formed under the command of the 23rd Infantry Division. It transferred to this division on 22 June 1940 when the 23rd Infantry Division was disbanded. It served with the division until it was downgraded to become a reserve division on 1 December 1944.
10. When the division arrived in the Middle East there was no anti-tank regiment under command of this formation. On 8 October 1942, the following regiment joined the division having served in Greece and Crete, namely:
102nd (Northumberland Hussars) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery
Originally a Territorial Army Yeomanry regiment, it was refitted as a Light Anti-Aircraft and Anti-Tank Regiment in February 1940 and joined the 1st Support Group in the 1st Armoured Division. In February 1941 it was reorganized as a pure anti-tank regiment and as such served in Greece. From February until October 1942, it had served as 8th Army Troops until joining the division, and remained until December 1944.
11. On 16 December 1942, the following light anti-aircraft regiment joined the division as it advanced through Libya, namely:
25th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery
This was a Territorial Army unit which had been formed in the United Kingdom in June 1939. It had moved to Egypt in March 1941 and joined from 8th Army Troops. It remained with this division until December 1944.
12. In June 1942, an additional company of the Royal Army Service Corps was authorised for infantry divisions. This gave three infantry brigade companies and a divisional troops company. The additional company allocated to this division was the 524th Company, but when it formally came under command of this division is not known.
13. The 186th Field Ambulance was usually attached to the 69th Infantry Brigade, the 150th Field Ambulance to the 150th Infantry Brigade, and the 149th Field Ambulance to the 151st Infantry Brigade. There was no field hygiene section attached in this period.
14. The Corps of the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers was formed in October 1942, so the divisional workshop company of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps became three infantry brigade workshops of the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers.

SOURCES:

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