

51st (Highland) Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 51st (Highland) Infantry Division

152nd Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 152nd Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The Seaforth Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's)

5th (Sutherland and Caithness) Bn. The Seaforth Highlanders

(Ross-shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's)

5th Bn. The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders

153rd Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 153rd Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

5th (Angus and Dundee) Bn. The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)

1st Bn. The Gordon Highlanders

5th/7th (Buchan, Mars and Mearns) Bn. The Gordon Highlanders

154th Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 154th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

1st Bn. The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)

7th (Fife) Bn. The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)

7th Bn. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's)

Divisional Troops

51st Regiment, The Reconnaissance Corps ⁽²⁾

1st/7th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 51st (Highland) Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery

126th (Highland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

127th (Highland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

128th (Highland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

61st Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery

40th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 51st (Highland) Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers

274th Field Company, Royal Engineers

275th Field Company, Royal Engineers

276th Field Company, Royal Engineers

239th (City of Aberdeen) Field Park Company, Royal Engineers

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

NOTES:

1. The division was a first line territorial formation. It went to France and Belgium as part of the B.E.F. The division was deployed in the French sector, and as a result became cut off from other British forces. 154th Brigade was given the task of defending Le Harve, from where it was evacuated, however, the rest of the division was captured at St. Valery. It was reformed in the U.K. by re-designating the second line Highland Infantry Division, (the 9th) as the reconstituted 51st Division. Two second line territorial brigades (the 26th and 27th) became the new 152nd and 153rd Brigades. The division was posted to Egypt, arriving on 12 August 1942. It concentrated in the Canal area, and commenced training and acclimatizing. The division played a key role in the battle of El Alamein between 23 October and 4 November 1942. It then continued under the command of 8th Army in pursuing the Axis forces out of Libya and into Tunisia. This is an abbreviated order of battle, as details of the services allocated to this division are not confirmed at this time.
2. In January 1941, the division formed a reconnaissance regiment from the division's anti-tank companies. 'A' Squadron was formed from Camerons and Seaforths from 152nd Brigade Anti-Tank Company, 'B' Squadron from Black Watch and Gordons from 153rd Brigade Anti-Tank Company, and 'C' Squadron from 154th Squadron from Black Watch and Argylls of 154th Brigade Anti-Tank Company. It formally joined the division on 8 January 1941. It was originally entitled the 51st Battalion, The Reconnaissance Corps, becoming a regiment on 6 June 1942. It left the division on the 26 November 1942, following the battle of El Alamein. The regiment was converted into a motorised infantry battalion, on 14 January 1943, being designated as: 14th Bn. The Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment)
However, the battalion did not exist for long, soon being disbanded in the Middle East.
3. This battalion was the machine gun battalion for the division. It joined on 20 November 1941.
4. This regiment was formed in September 1939 in northern Scotland. It was under the command of Home Forces from its date of formation until coming under the command of this division on 1 May 1942.

SOURCES:

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