

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

Headquarters, 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division and Employment Platoon

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

Headquarters, 26<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Employment Platoon

1<sup>st</sup> (Russell's) Bn. 19<sup>th</sup> Hyderabad Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> King George V's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Malaun Regiment)

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles

### 27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade (3)

Headquarters, 27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Employment Platoon

4<sup>th</sup> (Prince of Wales's Own) Bn. 8<sup>th</sup> Punjab Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> (Duchess of Connaught's Own) Bn. 10<sup>th</sup> Baluch Regiment

5<sup>th</sup> (Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides) Bn. 12<sup>th</sup> Frontier Force Regiment

### 28<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade (4)

Headquarters, 28<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Employment Platoon

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> King George V's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Malaun Regiment)

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles)

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles

### Divisional Troops

The Poona Horse (17<sup>th</sup> Queen Victoria's Own Cavalry) (5)

'B' Field Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 3<sup>rd</sup> Indian & 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Batteries, Indian Artillery)

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

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

48<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company, Sappers and Miners

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

6<sup>th</sup> Indian Division Headquarters Transport Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

6<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Troops Transport Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

26<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

28<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

25<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service

34<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service

35<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service

6<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Hygiene Section, Indian Medical Service

12<sup>th</sup> Indian Army Ordnance Corps Mobile Workshop Company

36<sup>th</sup> Indian Army Ordnance Corps Mobile Workshop Company

41<sup>st</sup> Indian Army Ordnance Corps Mobile Workshop Company

35<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

56<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

59<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

60<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

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

## NOTES:

1. The divisional headquarters was formed in Secunderabad, India on 1 March 1941. This is the order of battle for January 1941 as shows the planned formation of the division. The division was deployed to Iraq in September 1941.
2. This brigade was also formed in Secunderabad in March 1941 to come under command of this division. The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 19<sup>th</sup> Hyderabad Regiment came from the Razmak Brigade, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Gurkhas came from the Zhob Brigade, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Gurkhas Rifles had been engaged on internal security duties at Allahabad prior to joining this brigade. It sailed with the division to Iraq in September 1941.
3. Also formed in March 1941, this was the second brigade formed as part of this division. All units were pre-war Regular Indian Army battalions. The 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. 8<sup>th</sup> Punjab Regiment joined from the Bannu Brigade, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 10<sup>th</sup> Baluch Regiment joined from the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Jhelum) Infantry Brigade, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. 12<sup>th</sup> Frontier Force Rifles had been training at Secunderabad since arriving from the Landi Kotal Brigade in April that year.
4. This brigade was also formed to be part of the 6<sup>th</sup> Division. All three Gurkha battalions were pre-war Regular Indian Army battalions. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> Gurkhas transferred from the 16<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Gurkhas transferred in from the Razmak Brigade, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Gurkhas came from the Landi Kotal Brigade. The brigade was detached in August 1941 and sent to Malaya. It was largely destroyed at the Battle of Slim River in Malaya, with the remnants being captured at Singapore on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 1942.
5. This regiment joined the division from the Poona Brigade Area in March 1941. It was a Regular Indian Army unit.
6. Raised on 15 May 1940, this regiment joined the division on its formation. It travelled to Iraq with the division in November 1941 being redesignated as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Field Regiment. The 7<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Battery joined the regiment, which was deployed to the Western Desert with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Indian Motor Brigade in February 1942. It returned to the division in August 1944. When the division disbanded, the regiment returned to India.

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

Headquarters, 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division and Employment Platoon

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

Headquarters, 24<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Employment Platoon

5<sup>th</sup> (Royal) Bn. 5<sup>th</sup> Mahratta Light Infantry <sup>(3)</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> (Prince of Wales's Own) Bn. 6<sup>th</sup> Rajputana Rifles

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. Kumaon Rifles, 19<sup>th</sup> Hyderabad Regiment

### 26<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade <sup>(4)</sup>

Headquarters, 26<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Employment Platoon

1<sup>st</sup> (Russell's) Bn. 19<sup>th</sup> Hyderabad Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 1<sup>st</sup> King George V's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Malaun Regiment)

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles <sup>(5)</sup>

### 27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade <sup>(6)</sup>

Headquarters, 27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, Signal Section & Employment Platoon

4<sup>th</sup> (Prince of Wales's Own) Bn. 8<sup>th</sup> Punjab Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> (Duchess of Connaught's Own) Bn. 10<sup>th</sup> Baluch Regiment

5<sup>th</sup> (Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides) Bn. 12<sup>th</sup> Frontier Force Regiment <sup>(7)</sup>

### Divisional Troops

The Poona Horse (17<sup>th</sup> Queen Victoria's Own Cavalry) <sup>(8)</sup>

Headquarters, 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Royal Artillery <sup>(9)</sup>

87<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> West Lancashire) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(10)</sup>

(H.Q., 345<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> West Lancashire) & 346<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> West Lancashire) Field Batteries,  
Royal Artillery)

159<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(11)</sup>

<sup>(12)</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Field Regiment, Indian Artillery <sup>(13)</sup>

Headquarters, 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Sappers and Miners (14)  
27<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners  
57<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners  
58<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners  
302<sup>nd</sup> Field Park Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners

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

6<sup>th</sup> Indian Division Headquarters Transport Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
6<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Troops Transport Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
24<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
28<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
3<sup>rd</sup> Supply Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
64<sup>th</sup> Supply Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
12<sup>th</sup> Motor Ambulance Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps  
17<sup>th</sup> Motor Ambulance Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

6<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Indian Medical Service  
25<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service  
34<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service  
35<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service  
6<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Hygiene Section, Indian Medical Service

Headquarters, 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Divisional Indian Army Ordnance Corps (16)  
12<sup>th</sup> Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps (16)  
36<sup>th</sup> Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps (16)  
41<sup>st</sup> Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps (16)  
6<sup>th</sup> Divisional Recovery Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps (16)

35<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps (17)  
54<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps  
56<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps  
59<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

6<sup>th</sup> Indian Division Provost Unit, Corps of Military Police (India)  
405<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Security Section, Intelligence Corps (India)

## NOTES:

1. Following initial training, the division deployed to the Middle East under the command of Major General J. N. THOMSON, C.B., D.S.O., M.C, Indian Army. The divisional headquarters arrived in Basra on 11 September 1941. The division moved into Persia to be stationed in and around the Kermanshah area. The role of the division was guard duties, preparation of defensive positions and internal security. In February 1942, it moved to Sar-i-Pul Zuhab under command of 10<sup>th</sup> Army. In September that year, it moved to the Sultanabad area under command of XXI Indian Corps. Major General A. W. W. HOLWORTHY, M.C., Indian Army, assumed command of the division in February 1943, and left on 16 March 1944 to move to Italy to assume command of the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division. From April 1943 onwards, the division was employed on railway and pipeline protection duties in the area of Kermanshah, Hamadan and Qizil Rabat. Brigadier R. E. Le FLEMING and Brigadier S. K. FURNEY, O.B.E., M.C., Indian Army, officiated as divisional commanders until 9 June 1944, when Major General B. H. CHAPPEL, D.S.O., Indian Army was appointed. In early 1944, provisional plans were made for the division to be sent to Italy, and training commenced for that deployment, however, the move was cancelled, and with the threat to Iraq and Persia having declined, the division was broken up in September and October 1944. Major General CHAPPEL left the division on 18 August 1944, and it was left to Brigadier (Temporary) Charles John ATTFIELD, to oversee the dispersal of the formation. The divisional headquarters ceased to function on 15 October 1944 at Basra.
2. This brigade was raised in February 1941 under command of the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. It travelled with that division to Iraq. In June 1941, it transferred to the 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Division for the operation to occupy Persia. The brigade was tasked with securing the large oil refinery at Abadan, and moved by ship to land at Abadan. It landed on the 25<sup>th</sup> August and had secured the locality by the end of that day. The brigade transferred to this division at the end of August 1941. The brigade was not under the command of the division from September to December 1942. In March 1944, the brigade moved back to Iran from Iraq, and in June 1944 it served in Palestine. In August 1944, the brigade moved back to Iraq. In November 1944, it became an independent brigade group and continued to serve in Iraq. It moved to Persia in March 1945. In July 1945, the brigade was broken up.
3. This battalion left the division during January 1943, to convert to a machine gun role before joining the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division later. The battalion was replaced by:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment  
This battalion joined on 2 April 1943, having arrived in Iraq from Egypt.
4. The brigade returned to India in July 1944 arriving the following month. It then came under command of the 36<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division in Burma in December 1944.
5. The battalion left the brigade on 6 November 1942, transferring to 5<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. It was replaced on 4 December 1942 by:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)  
This battalion joined the brigade in Palestine having arrived from Egypt.
6. When the division was disbanded, the brigade became independent and continued to serve in the Middle East, in Persia, Iraq and Lebanon. It was deployed mainly on training roles and guarding the Trans-Persian railway. At the end of 1945, it returned to India, being disbanded in April and May 1946. Brigadier (Acting) Charles John ATTFIELD, 19<sup>th</sup> Hyderabad Regiment, commanded this brigade from 27 May 1943 until it was disbanded in India.

7. This battalion left the brigade in January 1943 to become an independent battalion in Persia and Iraq. It was replaced by:  
4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment  
This battalion joined the brigade on 1 February 1943 having transferred from Egypt. It had been formed with the merger of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Battalions of the regiment, which had suffered heavy casualties during the battle of El Alamein. It left the brigade in February 1944 and the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. 12<sup>th</sup> Frontier Force Regiment returned to the brigade.
8. The Poona Horse was a cavalry regiment in the British Indian Army, which joined this division with effect from March 1941 as the divisional cavalry unit. Between June and October 1942, it was attached to XXX Corps in North Africa, after which it returned to the command of this formation. In September 1944, it left this division on being posted to Cyprus for garrison duties.
9. The first Commander Royal Artillery for the formation was Brigadier M. E. DENNIS, D.S.O., M.C., who held the appointment from March 1941 until 17 April 1942. Brigadier (Acting) Thomas Saumarez DOBREE, D.S.O., was the Commander Royal Artillery for the division from 17 April 1942 until 20 February 1943, after which he transferred to command the 19<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade in the 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division.
10. The regiment joined the division in April 1942 transferring from 10<sup>th</sup> Army in Persia. Between July 1942 and October 1942, the regiment was under command of the 24<sup>th</sup> Brigade in Iraq. It returned to the division in October 1942 and served in Iraq and Persia. In March 1944, the regiment was allocated to the 27<sup>th</sup> Brigade serving in Persia, Syria and Iraq with the brigade. The regiment left the brigade in May 1945 moving to Palestine.
11. This regiment was a pre-war Territorial Army unit, based in Edge Hill in Liverpool. It was under command of the 55<sup>th</sup> (West Lancashire) Infantry Division until November 1941, when it left the U.K. to travel to Iraq. It joined this division on 3 April 1942. It served with the 24<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, when it was detached from the division between July and October 1942. When the division disbanded, the regiment remained with the 27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade in Persia, Syria and Iraq, ending the war in Palestine.
12. The regiment was formed in India in April 1941, and joined the division in India during September 1941. The regiment sailed to Iraq with the division in October 1941. The regiment served in Iraq until March 1943, when it went to Syria with the division. The regiment was attached to 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade from July 1944 until it returned to India in December 1944. In that month it was redesignated as:  
159<sup>th</sup> Parachute Light Regiment, Royal Artillery
13. The 165<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment was formed in the Middle East in May 1942 with the R.H.Q. of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment, and batteries from the 87<sup>th</sup> and 121<sup>st</sup> Field Regiments. It came under command of the 26<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade on formation. In August 1942, it transferred to Middle East Forces, and later saw service in Sicily and Italy. It was not formally under command of this division. On 14 January 1943, the 154<sup>th</sup> (Leicestershire Yeomanry) Field Regiment came under command of the division from Middle East Land Forces. It left the division on 5 April that year to join the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division.
14. Raised on 15 May 1940, this regiment joined the division on its formation. It travelled to Iraq with the division in November 1941 being redesignated as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Field Regiment. The 7<sup>th</sup> Indian Field Battery joined the regiment, which was deployed to the Western Desert with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Indian Motor Brigade in February 1942. It returned to the division in August 1944. When the division disbanded, the regiment returned to India.

15. The first Commander Royal Engineers (C.R.E.) was Lieutenant Colonel A. E. ARMSTRONG, R.E., who held the appointment from May 1941 until March 1943. He was replaced by Lieutenant Colonel L. A. B. PATEN, R.E. in April 1943, and he held this position until May 1944. The final C.R.E. was Lieutenant Colonel A. M. FIELD, R.E., who was in post from May until October 1944, when the division was disbanded.
16. These companies transferred to the Indian Mechanical & Electrical Engineers in 1943.
17. This Field Post Office was replaced by the 57<sup>th</sup> Field Post Office in March 1943.

**SOURCES:**

Please contact the webmaster, or see: <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/RobPALMER>