

61st Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 61st Infantry Division

61st Divisional Headquarters Defence & Employment Platoon

182nd Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 182nd Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd/7th Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment

9th Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment ⁽³⁾

9th Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment

183rd Infantry Brigade ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 183rd Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

10th Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment ⁽⁵⁾

7th Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment ⁽⁵⁾

4th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment ⁽⁶⁾

184th Infantry Brigade ⁽⁷⁾

Headquarters, 184th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

6th Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's)

5th Bn. The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry ⁽⁸⁾

2nd Bn. The Buckinghamshire Regiment ⁽⁹⁾

Divisional Troops

61st Reconnaissance Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps ⁽¹⁰⁾

4th Bn. The Cheshire Regiment ⁽¹¹⁾

Headquarters, 61st Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery

119th (South Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽¹²⁾

120th (South Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽¹³⁾

145th (Berkshire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽¹⁴⁾

63rd Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽¹⁵⁾

103rd (Warwickshire) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽¹⁶⁾

Headquarters, 61st Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers

266th Field Company, Royal Engineers

267th Field Company, Royal Engineers

268th Field Company, Royal Engineers

269th Field Park Company, Royal Engineers

61st Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

NOTES:

1. Formed in 1939 as a second line formation, this division was a duplicate of the 48th (South Midland) Infantry Division. It came under Southern Command (for 1939 formation see: <http://www.britishmilitaryhistory.co.uk/documents.php?aid=15&nid=2&start=5>)
The division moved to Northern Ireland on 20 June 1940. It stayed in the Province as part of British Troops in Northern Ireland until 2 February 1943, when it returned to the mainland coming under command of the XI Corps District in East Anglia. It transferred to II Corps District on 15 May 1943, and then on 2 September 1943, Home Forces. On 23 October 1943, it transferred to the South Eastern Command, and when that formation disbanded in November 1944, it joined Eastern Command. Major General C. B. WAINWRIGHT commanded this division with effect from 17 May 1943 until at least August 1945.
2. This was one of the original brigades in the division, remaining with this formation throughout the war. Brigadier (Temporary) John Sebastian NICHOLS, D.S.O.*, M.C.*, *p.s.c.*, commanded this brigade from 27 November 1943 until 27 March 1945, when he handed over to Brigadier (Temporary) Thomas Bell L. CHURCHILL, M.C.
3. This battalion left the brigade on 25 July 1944, to disband. It was replaced on 2 September 1944 by:
1st Bn. The South Wales Borderers
4. This was one of the original brigades in the division. On 9 April 1944, the brigade was detached from the division to form the H.Q. Residue Concentration Area for the forthcoming invasion of France. On 18 July 1944, it reverted to the role of a standard infantry brigade. The brigade had a series of commanding officers. Brigadier Sir A. B. G. STANIER, Baronet, commanded the brigade from 17 February 1943 until 23 February 1944. Brigadier (Temporary) George MURRAY, M.C., then replaced him until he left on 21 July 1944. Next was Brigadier J. VICARY, who was in command until 4 February 1945. He handed over to Brigadier E. E. E. CASS but only four months later, Brigadier T. P. O'BRIEN-TWOHIG assumed command in anticipation of its deployment to the Far East.
5. These battalions left the brigade on 8 April 1944, to disband. They were replaced by:
7th Bn. The North Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's)
1st Bn. The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)
The 7th Bn. The North Staffordshire Regiment joined the brigade on the 21st July 1944, and remained with the brigade until the end of the war. The 1st Bn. The Sherwood Foresters joined on 2 August 1944, and it left on 16 June 1945 to transfer to 184th Infantry Brigade.
6. On 28 August 1944, this battalion left the brigade. It was not replaced until July 1945.
7. This was another original brigade in the division. Brigadier J. VICARY assumed command on 22 June 1944, but swapped brigades with Brigadier (Temporary) George MURRAY, M.C., on 21 July 1944. Ready for the anticipated deployment overseas, Brigadier P. N. WHITE assumed command on 1 June 1945.
8. This battalion left the brigade to disband. It was replaced by:
2nd Bn. The Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment
This battalion transferred in on 23 July 1944.
9. This battalion left the brigade and disbanded. It was replaced by:
2nd Bn. The East Surrey Regiment
This battalion transferred in on 4 August 1944.

10. On 14 September 1941, this formation raised the 61st Bn. The Reconnaissance Corps as the divisional reconnaissance unit. On 6 June 1942, it was retitled as the 61st Regiment, The Reconnaissance Corps. It left the command of this division on 31 December 1943 and later served with the 50th Infantry Division during the invasion of Normandy.
11. The 4th Bn. The Cheshire Regiment was a pre-war Territorial Army unit, based in the City of Chester. In 1938, it re-equipped as a machine gun battalion, and served as such throughout the war in the United Kingdom. It joined this division on 24 January 1943 and left on 20 September 1944.
12. This regiment was raised in June 1939 as a duplicate of the 67th (South Midland) Field Regiment. It came under command of this formation on being raised and with remained with it for the duration of the war.
13. Formed in July 1939 as a duplicate of the 68th Field Regiment, this unit served with this formation until 30 June 1944, when it transferred to the 48th Reserve Infantry Division. It was replaced by the 96th (Royal Devon Yeomanry) Field Regiment which transferred in from the 45th Infantry Division on 26 June 1944. In turn, the 96th Field Regiment left the command of this division on 16 January 1945 to come under command of Home Forces.
14. Formed in June 1939 as a duplicate of the 99th Field Regiment, this unit served with this division until 1945, apart from a period between 26 January and 4 August 1944 when it was under command of Home Forces. On 16 January 1945, it left this division to travel to India where it saw service with four different divisions in the run up to Operation 'Zipper'.
15. This regiment was formed in 1939 as the duplicate of the 53rd (Worcestershire and Oxfordshire Yeomanry) Anti-Tank Regiment under command of this formation. It was absent from this division for nearly a year in 1940 and 1941, but otherwise remained with this formation until 22 August 1944 when it moved to France to join the 2nd Army. The 92nd (Gordon Highlanders) Anti-Tank Regiment replaced it on 20 October 1944. As there was deemed to be no need for an anti-tank regiment in South East Asia, it left this division on 15 June 1945 to come under Home Forces command.
16. The 103rd Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment was raised in December 1941 by the conversion of the 7th Bn. The Lancashire Fusiliers. It joined this formation on 24 February 1943, remaining with this division until 1 March 1944. The next day, the 148th (Warwickshire) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment came under command of this division. It remained with this formation until it disbanded.

61st Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 61st Infantry Division

182nd Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 182nd Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd/7th Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment

9th Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment

1st Bn. The South Wales Borderers

183rd Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 183rd Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

4th Bn. The Devonshire Regiment (The 1st Rifle Volunteers)

5th Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's)

1st Bn. The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

7th Bn. The North Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's)

184th Infantry Brigade ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 184th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The East Surrey Regiment

1st Bn. The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)

6th Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's)

2nd Bn. The Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment

Divisional Troops

2nd Bn. The King's Royal Rifle Corps ⁽⁵⁾

2nd Bn. The Cheshire Regiment ⁽⁶⁾

Headquarters, 61st Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery

119th (South Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

141st (Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁷⁾

168th Light Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁸⁾

148th (Warwickshire) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery

Headquarters, 61st Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers

266th Field Company, Royal Engineers

267th Field Company, Royal Engineers

268th Field Company, Royal Engineers

269th Field Park Company, Royal Engineers

61st Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

NOTES:

1. In July 1945, the division was ordered to prepare for deployment to the Far East. In consequence, it reorganised as a light division. There were many changes in the units under command, however Major General WAINWRIGHT remained in command. With the surrender of the Japanese on the 15th August 1945, the requirement for the deployment of the division to South East Asia lapsed. It disbanded in September 1945 and was not reformed when the Territorial Army was reconstituted in 1947.
2. This was one of the original brigades in the division, remaining with this formation throughout the war. Brigadier (Temporary) Thomas Bell Lindsay CHURCHILL, M.C., commanded the brigade in this period.
3. Brigadier T. P. O'BRIEN-TWOHIG assumed command of this brigade on the 5th June 1945 in anticipation of its deployment to the Far East.
4. Brigadier P. N. WHITE commanded this brigade with effect from 1 June 1945.
5. This infantry battalion joined this formation as the divisional reconnaissance unit on 29 July 1945 in a similar organisation to Indian divisions serving in the South East Asia.
6. This unit was the divisional machine gun battalion, joining this formation on 1 July 1945.
7. This regiment was raised in 1939 as the duplicate of the 94th (Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry) Field Regiment. It served with the 43rd (Wessex) Infantry Division until June 1942, when it transferred to the 9th Armoured Division. In August 1944, it transferred to the 55th Infantry Division, from which it transferred to this formation on 14 June 1945.
8. Originally raised as the 168th Field Regiment in December 1941, November 1943 this regiment converted into the 168th Medium Regiment. In June 1945, it converted again into a light regiment in anticipation of deployment to the Far East, coming under command of this formation on 28 June 1945.

SOURCES:

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