

Line of Communication Command ⁽¹⁾

Line of Communication Troops

2nd Bn. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (2)
3rd Bn. The Burma Rifles (3)
4th Bn. The Burma Rifles (4)
6th Bn. The Burma Rifles (5)
11th Bn. The Burma Rifles, Burma Territorial Force
12th Bn. The Burma Rifles, Burma Territorial Force
13th Bn. The Burma Rifles, Burma Territorial Force
14th Bn. The Burma Rifles, Burma Territorial Force
Tenasserim Bn. The Burma Auxiliary Force
Rangoon Bn. The Burma Auxiliary Force
The Burma Railways Bn. The Burma Auxiliary Force
Upper Burma Bn. Burma Auxiliary Force
Mandalay Bn. The Burma Frontier Force
1st F.F. Detachment, The Burma Frontier Force
3rd F.F. Detachment, The Burma Frontier Force
4th F.F. Detachment, The Burma Frontier Force
5th F.F. Detachment, The Burma Frontier Force
M.I. Detachment, The Burma Frontier Force
Headquarters, 1st Garrison Battalion
Headquarters, 2nd Garrison Battalion
1st Garrison Company
2nd Garrison Company
3rd Garrison Company
4th Garrison Company
5th Garrison Company
6th Garrison Company
7th Garrison Company
8th Garrison Company
9th Garrison Company

Artillery

2nd Indian Anti-Tank Regiment, Indian Artillery
8th (Indian) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery

Engineers

56th Field Company, Sappers and Miners
6th Pioneer Bn. Indian Engineers
18th Artizan Works Company, Indian Engineers
107th Corps Royal Engineers Works (Indian)
108th Corps Royal Engineers Works (Indian)
310th Workshop and Park Company,
1st Engineer Stores Base Depot
3rd Engineer Stores Base Depot
Engineer Stores Depot

Signals

213th Section, 'M' Line of Communication Signals
Detachment, Burma Frontier Force Signals
Burma Posts and Telegraphs Line of Communication Signals

Supply and Transport

1st Auxiliary Mechanical Transport Company, Burma Army Service Corps
2nd Auxiliary Mechanical Transport Company, Burma Army Service Corps
3rd Auxiliary Mechanical Transport Company, Burma Army Service Corps
7th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
3rd Mechanical Transport Company, Burma Army Service Corps
13th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
14th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
15th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
16th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
17th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
18th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
19th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
20th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
25th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
26th Mechanical Transport Section, Burma Army Service Corps
21st Motor Ambulance Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
3rd Field Ambulance Troop, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
43rd Mule Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
1st Animal Transport Company, Burma Army Service Corps
H.Q., 1st Supply Personnel Company, Burma Army Service Corps
H.Q., 3rd Supply Personnel Company, Burma Army Service Corps

H.Q., 4th Supply Personnel Company, Burma Army Service Corps
H.Q. 5th Supply Personnel Company, Burma Army Service Corps
2nd Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
3rd Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
5th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
6th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
7th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
8th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
10th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
11th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
13th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
17th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
19th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
20th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
21st Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
24th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
25th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
26th Supply Personnel Section, Burma Army Service Corps
114th Supply Personnel Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
115th Supply Personnel Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
116th Supply Personnel Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
167th Supply Personnel Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
209th Supply Personnel Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
210th Supply Personnel Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
4th Supply Issue Section, Burma Army Service Corps
3rd Rail Head Supply Detachment, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
4th Rail Head Supply Detachment, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
5th Rail Head Supply Detachment, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
17th Rail Head Supply Detachment, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
1st P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
4th P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
9th P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
10th P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
11th P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
12th P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
13th P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
14th P.O.L. Section, Burma Army Service Corps
68th P.O.L. Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
2nd Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
3rd Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps

4th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
5th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
6th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
7th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
8th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
9th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
112th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
205th Bakery Independent Sub-Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
2nd Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
4th Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
5th Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
6th Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
7th Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
8th Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
9th Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Burma Army Service Corps
5th Cattle Supply Section, Burma Army Service Corps
6th Cattle Supply Section, Burma Army Service Corps
7th Cattle Supply Section, Burma Army Service Corps

Medical

1st Burma General Hospital, Burma Hospital Corps
2nd Burma General Hospital, Burma Hospital Corps
3rd Burma General Hospital, Burma Hospital Corps
5th Burma General Hospital, Burma Hospital Corps
6th Burma General Hospital, Burma Hospital Corps
7th Burma General Hospital, Burma Hospital Corps
8th Burma General Hospital, Burma Hospital Corps
41st Indian General Hospital, Indian Hospital Corps
59th Indian General Hospital, Indian Hospital Corps
60th Indian General Hospital, Indian Hospital Corps
1st Field Laboratory (Burma), Burma Hospital Corps
2nd Field Laboratory (Burma), Burma Hospital Corps
3rd Field Laboratory (Burma), Burma Hospital Corps
2nd Burma Casualty Clearing Station, Burma Hospital Corps
4th Indian Casualty Clearing Station, Indian Hospital Corps
1st Ambulance Train, Burma Hospital Corps
2nd Ambulance Train, Burma Hospital Corps
39th Field Ambulance, Indian
3rd Field Hygiene Section, Indian

1st Burma Staging Section, Burma Hospital Corps
2nd British Staging Section,
16th Indian Staging Section,
British Convalescent Depot
10th Mobile X-Ray Unit, Indian
2nd Ear, Nose and Throat Surgical Unit, Indian
Base Depot Medical Stores, Burma Hospital Corps
13th Depot Medical Stores
District Laboratory, Burma Hospital Corps
Dental Centre, Burma Hospital Corps

Ordnance

Base Ordnance Depot (Burma)
Base Mechanical Transport Repair Depot (Burma)
1st Ordnance Field Depot (Burma)
2nd Ordnance Field Depot (Burma)
3rd Ordnance Field Depot (Burma)
4th Ordnance Field Depot (Burma)
5th Ordnance Field Depot (Burma)
7th Ordnance Field Depot (Burma)
16th Indian Infantry Brigade Workshops Section, Indian Army Ordnance Corps
1st Station Workshop (Burma)
2nd Station Workshop (Burma)
3rd Station Workshop (Burma)
4th Station Workshop (Burma)
5th Station Workshop (Burma)
6th Station Workshop (Burma)
1st Light Aid Detachment (Burma)
3rd Light Aid Detachment (Burma)
5th Light Aid Detachment (Burma)

Movement Control

2nd Movement Control Area

Veterinary

Burma Military Veterinary Hospital

Remounts

2nd Remount Detachment (Indian)

Provost

Provost Company (Burma)

Labour

18th Auxiliary Pioneer Battalion

1st Burmese Labour Company

Lahu Labour Company

Wa Labour Company

Shan Labour Company

Gurkha Labour Company

Postal

Base Post Office (Burma)

3rd Field Post Office (Burma)

5th Field Post Office (Burma)

6th Field Post Office (Burma)

9th Field Post Office (Burma)

Miscellaneous

Stationery Depot (Burma)

Independent Rest Camp Sections

9th Reinforcement Camp

10th Reinforcement Camp

12th Reinforcement Camp

18th Reinforcement Camp

Mess Units

NOTES:

1. The Line of Communication Area was established in Burma in February 1942. Major General Arthur Victor Trocke WAKELY, D.S.O., M.C., was moved from command of the 7th Indian Division in India to Burma to form the L.o.C. Area.

- Rangoon Area – Brigadier (Acting) Robert Burton LESLIE, M.C.
- Central Area – Brigadier (Temporary) Francis Arthur Guy ROUTLEDGE, C.B.E., *p.s.c.*
- Northern Area – Brigadier (Acting) Norman Royce UPTON, D.S.O., O.B.E., *p.s.c.*

Of the three above Area Commanders, only Brigadier LESLIE was to survive the retreat from Burma, the other two dying during this period.

2. This was a British Regular Army battalion, and one of the two British battalions stationed in Burma at the time of the Japanese invasion.

3. The 4th Battalion was raised at Meiktila on 23 April 1918 as the 5th Battalion, 70th Burma Rifles. In 1922, it was designated as the 10th Battalion, 20th Burma Rifles and became one of the regular battalions of the Burma Rifles when that regiment came into being on 1 April 1937. The battalion comprised two companies of Karens, and one each of Chins and Kachins. The battalion had formed part of the Tenasserim Brigade and then the 2nd Burma Infantry Brigade, and it was stationed in the Kawkareik area near the frontier with Thailand when the Japanese invaded. It lost many men to malaria in early 1942 and was understrength when the Japanese advanced into Burma. The 4th Battalion transferred to the 16th Indian Infantry Brigade when it arrived in the area as it was already in place on the Thai border. Under the command of Lieutenant Colonel P. P. ABERNETHY, the battalion performed well although operating over a wide area without radio communication. Following the disastrous withdrawal of the 17th Indian Infantry Division across the Sittang River, the battalion was sent to Mandalay to refit, now having a strength of only about 250 officers and men. The 4th Battalion came under command of the Line of Communication Troops and provided guards for trains as well as being prepared to deal with any Japanese airborne landings. It travelled up the Irrawaddy River to Katha on 1 May 1942, and the marched to the Indaw locality where it helped organise the evacuation of refugees and wounded personnel to North-East India. The battalion itself marched into India reaching Ukrul on 20 May and Imphal on 23 May. Altogether, around 345 men of the battalion reached India safely, a notably achievement. In June 1942, the battalion was disbanded, with about 75 men returning to their families and homes, while the remainder joined other units.

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SOURCES: