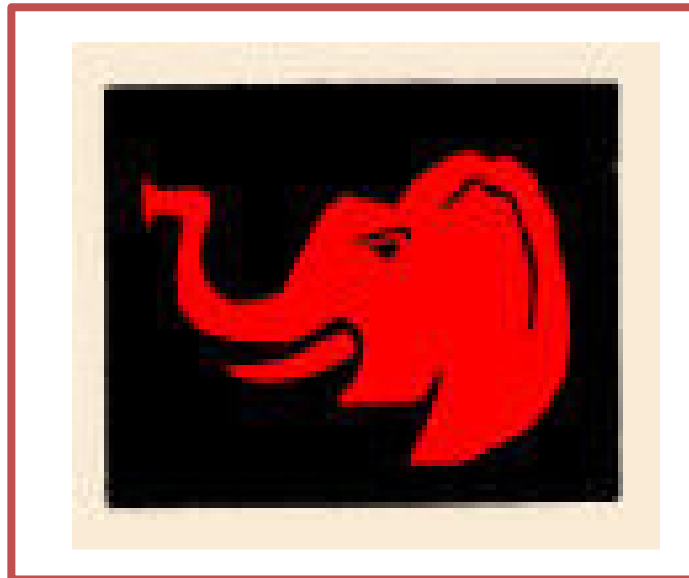


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# PERSIA & IRAQ COMMAND (HISTORY & PERSONNEL)

A short history of the Persia and Iraq Command (also known as 'PaiForce'), an operational command in the British Army between ???. In addition, known details of the key appointments held between 1930 and 1950 are included.

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## **A Concise History of Persia & Iraq Command**

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## Persia and Iraq Command

Modern Iraq is a country born out the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire following the defeat of Turkey at the end of the Great War. A government for the new state of Iraq was formed in November 1920, with Emir Feisal being proclaimed King of Iraq on 23 August 1921. The United Kingdom signed a treaty with Iraq in October 1922 defining the relationship between the two sovereign states. This treaty imposed limits on the sovereignty of Iraq and maintained British interests in the country. In 1925, the area around Mosul, which was rich in oil deposits, was ceded to Iraq from Turkey.

In 1939, Iraq had an area of 116,000 square miles. There are four distinct geographical divisions, the mountains to the north east, in the area known as Kurdistan; Upper Iraq, which extends from north of Baghdad to Kurdistan, comprises undulating plain with occasional ranges of low hills; the desert fringe on the borders of Syria and the Arabian Desert; and the vast plain of Lower Iraq. Lower Iraq is one flat area of alluvial clay, unrelieved by any hills or features of importance and where no location is more than one hundred feet above sea level.

The country is dissected by two large rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates. The River Tigris is about 1,150 miles long, rising in Armenia. The Euphrates is 1,600 miles long and flows in a wide sweep into Iraq. The rivers come close to each other at Baghdad, but do not join until Quaramat Ali, below Al Qurna. From this point southwards, the combined rivers are known as the Shatt al Arab waterway. Both rivers are at their lowest in September and October, but they begin to rise in December. They reach their highest level in April and May each year, when flooding is common across wide areas of the Lower Iraqi plain.

The population of Iraq in 1935 was recorded as 3,560,456 consisting mainly of Sunni and Shiah Muslims of Arab nationality. Iranians, Kurds and Turcomans are also represented. About 90% of the population lives along the lines of the rivers and canals. The most prominent towns are Baghdad, Mosul and Basra. Baghdad is the capital and sits on both banks of the Tigris. Basra is the port of southern Iraq, lying about fifty-six miles from the mouth of the Shatt al Arab waterway. Basra includes the port area of Maqil, through Makina and Ashar to the old City of Basra. Two roads and railway connect Basra and Baghdad.

The climate is sub-tropical, most of the year being dry, with appreciable rain falling in the winter months. The heat in the summer can be intense, reaching up to 130 degrees F. In the marsh areas, the moist heat can be very difficult to endure. Not surprisingly, diseases are prevalent, with plague, smallpox, malaria all being common amongst locals and visitors alike.

The British had a military presence in the area as a result of the campaign against the Turkish forces in Mesopotamia. On 31 October 1921, the R.A.F. Mesopotamia Group was raised to a Command status being entitled R.A.F. Iraq. On 1 October 1922, R.A.F. Iraq was redesignated as Iraq Command to recognise its status as a tri-service command. In 1930, the United Kingdom decided to surrender the Mandate, leaving Iraq nominally as an independent country.

A new Anglo-Iraqi treaty was signed in 1930, allowing the U.K. to maintain two airbases, one near Basra and the other to the west of Baghdad. The Royal Navy was allowed access to the Shatt al Arab waterway, but all land forces were withdrawn. The Command was redesignated as Headquarters, British Forces in Iraq under the command of an Air Vice-Marshal of the R.A.F..

The R.A.F. maintained two bases in Iraq. At Basra, there was an aerodrome at Shaibah, with a hospital nearby. West of Baghdad was the R.A.F. base at Habbaniya. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Assyrian Companies and the 8<sup>th</sup> Kurdish Company were based at Habbaniya. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Arab Companies were located at the airfield at Shaibah near Basra. R.A.F. Habbaniya was the home of No. 4 Flying Training School, where about one-thousand R.A.F. personnel were based. The problem was that there were only thirty-nine pilots, who had available a motley assortment of elderly training aircraft. These included twenty-seven Airspeed Oxford trainers (which could be fitted with bomb racks) and twenty-eight Hawker Hart biplane light bombers. At the outbreak of the Second World War, the command of British Forces in Iraq was the responsibility of Air Vice-Marshal Harry George SMART, who replaced his predecessor on 26 October 1939.

The British government determined that Iraq simply could not be allowed to come under German and/or Italian influence, as this would potentially affect the supply of oil from both Iraq and Iran, which were the main sources of fuel for the Royal Navy and merchant shipping. April 1941 was a period of significant and varied demands on the British war effort, with fighting in Libya and control of Egypt the main priority, followed by the safe withdrawal of troops from Greece. There were growing issues in Vichy French controlled Syria and the Lebanon, as well as demands for troops to defend Crete and for East Africa.

Fortunately, the Army in India (under the guidance of the Government of India) had prepared contingency plans for the deployment of troops to Basra in a similar manner to that undertaken in the First World War. These were known as Force Sabine and Sybil Force, and drew upon resources from the British Indian Army. On 8 April 1941, the British Prime Minister asked the Secretary of State for India (a Cabinet post in the U.K. Government) to confirm what forces could be sent to Iraq and when. The response was in effect, immediately, so this was accepted by the British Government and the plans put into effect. The Iraqi government was informed on 16 April that the U.K. was intending to invoke the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty and land troops at Basra with a view to moving them through Iraq to Palestine.

A Brigade Group originally intended to deploy to Malaya was ordered to prepare for landing at Basra, with elements of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster) being flown from Karachi to R.A.F. Shaibah on 17 April, one of the first ever strategic deployments of troops by air in history. They were accompanied by Colonel O. ROBERTS, the G.S.O. 1 of the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division, who assumed command of troops in Iraq upon his arrival. His divisional commander, Major General FRASER, was appointed the Commander 'IraqForce' with effect from 10 April 1941, and he sailed from from Karachi on 12 April in a convoy containing the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade and supporting arms and services. The Royal Navy reinforced its presence in the Persian Gulf with H.M.S. Hermes, an aircraft carrier, supported by two light cruisers.

The convoy sailed up the Shatt al-Arab waterway and arrived at Basra at 09.30 hours on 18 April 1941. The 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade disembarked without incident over the next two days and consolidated its position in and around Basra. The Iraqi Prime Minister, Rashid Ali, advised the British Ambassador, Sir Kinahan CORNWALLIS, that the British troops should move out of Iraq without delay. CORNWALLIS liaised with H.M. Government, and replied that it was the British intention to maintain the troops in Iraq, and as he had come to power in a coup d'etat, he would not be informed of British movements.

A further British convoy arrived at Basra on 29 April, and the next day, the Iraqi Prime Minister refused permission for these troops to land, and he began planning for a military operation against R.A.F. Habbaniya, in the assumption that support would be forthcoming from the German military, in particular, their air force. British civilians living in Iraq were conveyed to Habbaniya, and then flown to Shaibah for safety. Colonel ROBERTS and about three-hundred men of the 1<sup>st</sup> King's Own were flown to Habbaniya to bolster the garrison there.

In the early hours of 30 April, Iraqi forces began moving from their bases at Baghdad towards Habbaniya, and occupied a plateau overlooking the base with troops and artillery. Contact was made with A.V.M. SMART, accusing the British of breaching the Anglo-Iraqi treaty. This was rejected and tension increased. Meanwhile, Iraqi troops took control of the bridges over the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, and reinforced their presence in Ramadi. This effectively cut off R.A.F. Habbaniya by land, leaving the sole means of access by air.

The British Prime Minister gave A.V.M. SMART authority to act on his own initiative, and he decided to launch pre-emptive air attacks on the Iraqi troops located on the plateau. The first British sorties took place on 2 May, with thirty-three aircraft involved during the day. In addition, eight Wellington bombers flown into R.A.F. Shaibah a day or two earlier, also attacked Iraqi positions. The Iraqi Prime Minister was anticipating a negotiated settlement, and was surprised by the British aggression, particularly on a Friday when the Muslims were preparing for prayer. On 3 May, the Germans set up a diplomatic mission to assist the Iraqi government, and an agreement was made with the Vichy French authorities in Syria for use of airfields and other facilities.

The Grand Mufti declared a *'jihad'* against the British, and the flow of oil to Haifa was cut. On 5 May, A.V.M. SMART was injured in a road accident, with Colonel ROBERTS assuming command of all land forces at Habbaniya. A.V.M. John D'ALBIAC was designated as the replacement Air Officer Commanding Iraq. Colonel ROBERTS launched a ground attack by men of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. King's Own and Iraqi Levies against Iraqi positions on the plateau. The next day, 6 May, the British continued their offensive action, and unsettled the Iraqis to the extent that they began pulling out later on that date. By Wednesday, 7 May 1941, the plateau was empty of Iraqi troops, who had left a large quantity of equipment scattered around suggesting that it was not an orderly withdrawal.

The British took over five-hundred Iraqi soldiers as prisoners-of-war and had suffered only thirteen casualties themselves. The Iraqis had several soldiers killed and wounded and their morale had broken. This encouraged the British to press further against the Iraqi military, but to avoid hurting the civilian population. Further fighting took place on the road to Fallujah, when the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The King's Own and Iraqi Levies drove the Iraqis out of their position.

On 11 May, the first German aircraft arrived at an airfield near Mosul in northern Iraq from Syria. The German commander of Sonderstab F, a commando group, was killed when flying to Baghdad as his aircraft was shot down by Iraqi anti-aircraft fire. Two days later, the first trainload of German supplies for the Iraqi Army arrived at Mosul from Syria, via Turkey. The German aircraft deployed to Iraq were painted in the colours of the Royal Iraqi Air Force, but they were flown by German personnel. They suffered several losses and had difficulty with maintenance and fuel supply. On 27 May, some Italian aircraft were sent to Iraq as reinforcements. These had little effect, and shortly afterwards, the last remaining German aircraft was flown out of Iraq.

On the border with Trans-Jordan, Iraqi troops seized the British fort at Rutbah, so the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Essex Regiment was dispatched from Palestine to protect the oil pipeline to Haifa. On 8 May, men of the Arab Legion reached Rutbah, but they were unable to retake the fort. Over the next forty-eight hours, reinforcements in the form of R.A.F. armoured cars arrived, and the R.A.F. bombed the fort, leading to the Iraqi garrison withdrawing from the fort.

General WAVELL gave orders for the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, then stationed in Palestine, to send units into Iraq to reach Habbaniya and raise the siege. There was only enough transport to equip one brigade, so the 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade was designated *'Habforce'*, with *'Kingcol'* forming an advance column of a battalion group strength. *'Kingcol'* left Haifa on 11 May and reached Rutbah on 13 May. *'Kingcol'* reached Habbaniya on the evening of 17 May, and entered the R.A.F. base the next day, having only suffered a couple of insignificant bombing attacks.

The British then decided to move on Baghdad, via Fallujah. Reinforced by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 4<sup>th</sup> Gurkha Rifles, overnight 17/18 May, a force comprising the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 4<sup>th</sup> Gurkhas, Assyrian Levies, R.A.F. Armoured Cars and captured Iraqi howitzers crossed the Euphrates on improvised cable ferries. The bridge was attacked from both sides, and the bridge was captured after thirty minutes.

On 22 May, the Iraqi 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade counter-attacked, but by dawn they had been pushed out of Fallujah. There was a period of house-to-house fighting and the Luftwaffe made an appearance, but they caused little damage. Meanwhile, the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division had landed at Basra, and occupied the city. The formation was now under command of Major General 'Bill' SLIM, who had replaced Major General FRASER, who was taken ill on 15 May 1941. The 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade was occupying Basra, securing the docks and R.A.F. Shaibah against Iraqi military attack. On 6 May, the 21<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade began landing at Basra, allowing the British Indian forces to take control of Ashar, a suburb of Basra. There was some resistance from Iraqi soldiers and policemen, which continued until 17 May.

On 23 May, the two Brigades of the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division commenced their advance from Basra towards Baghdad. The 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade went up the line of the Rover Euphrates, and the 21<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Division up the River Tigris. The Division's third brigade, the 25<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, arrived at Basra on 30 May, followed by the 17<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade and 24<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade from the 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Division on 9 and 16 June respectively.

'Habforce' continued its advance on Baghdad, which was slowed down by numerous watercourses and destroyed bridges. Faced with a two-pronged advance, one from Habbaniya and the other from Basra, and without material German support, the government of Rashid Ali collapsed on 29 May. He fled to Iran and then onwards to Germany, allowing the Mayor of Baghdad and a delegation to meet the British forces at the Washash Bridge. Terms were agreed and an armistice signed, bringing hostilities to an end. On 1 June, Prince Abd al-Ilah returned to Baghdad as the Regent, and a pro-British government installed, with Jamil al-Midfai as the new Prime Minister.

There was looting in Baghdad before the Iraqi Police restored control and the British entered the city, with the Jewish population the main victims. British Indian forces pushed on and occupied Mosul in the north of the country, thereby securing the oil supply from the Kirkuk region. The 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division was then used to invade the northern regions of Syria, and 'Habforce' turned back and also participated in the invasion of Vichy French Syria, which commenced on 8 June and concluded on 14 July 1941.

On 18 June 1941, Lieutenant General QUINAN assumed command of all British forces in Iraq from Middle East Command. On 22 July 1941, QUINAN was ordered to prepare for an advance into Persia (Iran) to seize the oilfields in southern Persia and refinery at Abadan.

The Headquarters 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division arrived at Basra on 12 September 1941, together with the 27<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade, and it was ordered to move immediately into Iran and Khizistan to relieve the 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Division and 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. On 1 February 1942, British Troops in Iraq was redesignated as the 10<sup>th</sup> Army. It had under command the 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Division and 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Division. With the build-up of forces because of the threat of German invasion from Russia through the Caucasus mountains, a new command structure was required. Headquarters XXI Indian Corps was formed on 6 June 1942 under the command of Lieutenant General MAYNE to take command of the:

- 56<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division,
- 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division.

Headquarters III Corps opened in Kermanshah in August 1942 taking under command the:

- 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division,
- 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division.

With the increase in formations deployed in Persia and Iraq, during a visit by the British Prime Minister and Chief of the General Staff, it was decided to form a separate command reporting directly to the War Office. Headquarters Persia and Iraq Command was formed with effect from 21 August 1942 with the appointment of General Sir H. Maitland WILSON, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O.. The Main Headquarters opened in Baghdad on 15 September 1942. The Command had responsibility for the 10<sup>th</sup> Army (which had been formed on 1 February 1942), with other divisional formations as reserves and static garrison troops. The primary task for General WILSON was:

1. To secure at all costs from land and air attack the oil fields and oil installations in Persia and Iraq.

The secondary task was to ensure transport from the Persian Gulf ports of supplies to Russia to the maximum extent possible without prejudicing the primary task. In October 1942, the first American troops arrived in Persia and Iraq under the command of Major General Donald H. CONNOLLY, who was designated as the Commanding General United States Persian Gulf States Service Command. The Americans assumed responsibility for the operation of the ports and railway system in Persia, and a large motor transport fleet to provide military assistance to the U.S.S.R.. Headquarters III Corps moved to Egypt in late 1943 and XXI Indian Corps disbanded on 24 August 1943.

Headquarters Persia and Iraq Command was downgraded on 15 February 1945 from an independent command to come under G.H.Q. Middle East. The final British troops were withdrawn from Iraq in March 1946, and the command closed. Headquarters Persia and Iraq formally closed on 1 March 1946 and it reverted to the title British Forces in Iraq as an R.A.F. command.



In July 1946, public disturbances, and the threat to British oil interests in Iran (Persia) led to the deployment of an enhanced brigade group (known as Force 401) to Iran. The disturbances were quickly suppressed, but British Army units remained in Iran until June 1947. R.A.F. units remained in Iraq until they were withdrawn in 1955, with the final closure of H.Q. British Forces in Iraq taking place on 1 May 1955.

**General Officer Commanding-in-Chief**

21<sup>st</sup> August 1942 (15<sup>th</sup> September 1942) – 18<sup>th</sup> February 1943

General Sir Henry Maitland WILSON, G.C.B., G.B.E., D.S.O., *p.s.c.*

17<sup>th</sup> February 1943 – 15<sup>th</sup> September 1943

Lieutenant General Sir Henry Royds POWNALL, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O.\*, M.C., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.*

27<sup>th</sup> September 1943 – 25<sup>th</sup> February 1944 (Temporary)

Lieutenant General (Acting) Arthur Roland SELBY, C.B., C.B.E., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.*

February 1944 – 15<sup>th</sup> February 1945

Lieutenant General Sir Arthur Francis SMITH, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

**General Officer Commanding**

16<sup>th</sup> February 1945 – October 1945

Lieutenant General Sir Arthur Francis SMITH, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

October 1945 – March 1946

Major General Reginald Arthur SAVORY, C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

**General Officer Commanding Force 401**

July 1946 – August 1946

Major General Frederick Joseph LOFTUS-TOTTENHAM, C.B., D.S.O.

**General Officer Commanding Iran**

August 1946 – June 1947

Major General Frederick Joseph LOFTUS-TOTTENHAM, C.B., D.S.O.

**Chief of Staff**

3<sup>rd</sup> September 1942 – 24<sup>th</sup> November 1943

Major General (Acting) Joseph Aloysius BAILLON, O.B.E., M.C.<sup>1</sup>

5<sup>th</sup> November 1944 – 5<sup>th</sup> February 1945

Major General (Acting) Gerald Arthur PILLEAU, M.C., *p.s.c.*

**Brigadier General Staff – (B.G.S.)**

19<sup>th</sup> May 1941 – 29<sup>th</sup> March 1942

Brigadier (Acting) Charles Hamilton BOUCHER, D.S.O., 3.G.R., *p.s.c.*

13<sup>th</sup> June 1943 – 6<sup>th</sup> August 1944

Brigadier (Acting) James Wolfenden KENNY, O.B.E., R.A., *p.s.c.*

**Deputy Director of Military Training – (D.D.M.T.)**

12<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 12<sup>th</sup> June 1943

Colonel (Acting) James Wolfenden KENNY, R.A., *p.s.c.*

**Chief Administration Officer**

7<sup>th</sup> May 1941 – March 1942

Major General Wilmot Gordon Hilton VICKERS, O.B.E., Indian Army, *p.s.c.*

15<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 27<sup>th</sup> September 1943

Major General Arthur Roland SELBY, C.B., C.B.E., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.*

26<sup>th</sup> February 1944 – 1<sup>st</sup> October 1944

Major General Arthur Roland SELBY, C.B., C.B.E., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.*

**Deputy Adjutant-General**

30<sup>th</sup> April 1942 – 27<sup>th</sup> March 1944

Brigadier (Temporary) Lancelot Cecil Torbock GRAHAM, M.C., Indian Army, *p.s.c.*

**Colonel (A)**

28<sup>th</sup> March 1944 – 1945

Brigadier (Local) Lancelot Cecil Torbock GRAHAM, M.C., Indian Army, *p.s.c.*

**Brigadier (Q)**

15<sup>th</sup> August 1942 – 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1942

Brigadier (Local) Claude Frederick FORESTIER-WALKER, O.B.E., M.C.\*, 11<sup>th</sup> H., *p.s.c.*

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<sup>1</sup> Awarded the C.B.E. on 5 August 1943.

**Deputy Quarter-Master-General – (D.Q.M.G.)**

15<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 19<sup>th</sup> October 1943

Brigadier (Temporary) William Richard BEDDINGTON, C.B.E., *p.s.c.*

21<sup>st</sup> October 1943 – 11<sup>th</sup> August 1945

Brigadier (Acting) Alexander Cosby Fishburn JACKSON, O.B.E., R.Hampshire R., *p.s.c.*

**Assistant Quarter-Master-General – (A.Q.M.G.)**

June 1941 – March 1942

Colonel (Temporary) Francis Robert Roy BUCHER, M.C., 13<sup>th</sup> Lancers, *p.s.c.*

**Colonel (Q)**

24<sup>th</sup> May 1942 – 11<sup>th</sup> August 1942

Colonel (Temporary) Claude Frederick FORESTIER-WALKER, O.B.E., M.C.\*, 11<sup>th</sup> H., *p.s.c.*

4<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 17<sup>th</sup> January 1943

Colonel (Temporary) Claude Frederick FORESTIER-WALKER, O.B.E., M.C.\*, 11<sup>th</sup> H., *p.s.c.*

**Brigadier Royal Artillery – (B.R.A.)**

5<sup>th</sup> October 1942 – 27<sup>th</sup> June 1943

Brigadier (Temporary) Robert Peel WALLER, D.S.O., M.C., R.A., *g*.

**Major General, Royal Engineers** (September 1942 redesignated as Engineer-in-Chief)

February 1942 – July 1943

Major General Sir George Brian Ogilvie TAYLOR, K.B.E., C.B.

**Chief Engineer – (C.Eng.)**

20<sup>th</sup> April 1942 – 20<sup>th</sup> December 1942

Brigadier (Acting) Serald John ARMSTRONG, O.B.E., M.C.

12<sup>th</sup> June 1943 – May 1944

Brigadier (Temporary) Peter Alfred ULLMAN, O.B.E., R.E.

May 1944 – 1945

Brigadier A. E. WHITE,

**Brigadier Royal Engineer (Operations)**

Brigadier W. F. HASTED

**Director of Works**

9<sup>th</sup> January 1942 – 14<sup>th</sup> September 1942

Brigadier (Temporary) Arnold MINNIS, C.B.E.

**Deputy Director of Transportation (Construction)**

18<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 11<sup>th</sup> April 1943

Colonel (Temporary) Kenneth Nugent SIMNER, O.B.E., R.E.

**Transportation Directorate**

**Director of Transportation – Iraq**

Brigadier Sir C. F. CARSON

**Director of Transportation – Persia**

Brigadier Sir G. D. RHODES (in September 1942 became D.Q.M.G. Mov & Tn.

In October 1942, responsibility for movements and transportation transferred to U.S.A., so this appointment was closed in March 1943.

**Signal Officer-in-Chief**

19<sup>th</sup> April 1941 – 31<sup>st</sup> January 1942

Colonel (Acting) John Frankland CHARLESWORTH, R. Sigs.

4<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 8<sup>th</sup> February 1943

Brigadier (Temporary) Rupert Tristram Oliver CARY, D.S.O., M.B.E.

**Deputy Director of Supplies and Transport – (D.D.S.T.)**

September 1942 – March 1943

Brigadier (Temporary) George William Clement HICKIE, Indian Army.

23<sup>rd</sup> March 1943 – 31<sup>st</sup> May 1943

Brigadier (Acting) Philip Alexander ARDEN, R.A.S.C.

**Director of Medical Services**

August 1942 – 5<sup>th</sup> October 1942

Major General (Acting) John Simson Stuart MARTIN, M.B., Ch. B (Edin), M.R.C.P.

6<sup>th</sup> October 1942 – 4<sup>th</sup> January 1944

Major General (Acting) John Galbraith GILL, D.S.O., M.C., M.B.<sup>2</sup>

**Deputy Director of Medical Services – (D.D.M.S.)**

5<sup>th</sup> February 1942 – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1943

Brigadier (Acting) Francis Dighton ANNESLEY, M.C.

15<sup>th</sup> August 1942 – 17<sup>th</sup> September 1942

Colonel (Acting) Cuthbert SCALES, M.C., M.B., R.A.M.C.

5<sup>th</sup> January 1944 – 1946

Brigadier (Acting) William FOOT, M.C., M.B.

1945

Brigadier Kenneth Alexander Macdonald TOMORY, O.B.E.

**Deputy Director of Pathology**

18<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 11<sup>th</sup> May 1943

Colonel (Temporary) Cuthbert SCALES, M.C., M.B.

**Consultant Physician**

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<sup>2</sup> Awarded the C.B.E. on 23 December 1943.

**Director of Ordnance Services – (D.O.S.)**

22<sup>nd</sup> April 1944 – 14<sup>th</sup> May 1944

Brigadier (Acting) Charles Henry CARNE, R.A.O.C.

**Deputy Director of Ordnance Services – (D.D.O.S.)**

15<sup>th</sup> May 1944 – 20<sup>th</sup> October 1944

Colonel (Temporary) Charles Henry CARNE, R.A.O.C.

27<sup>th</sup> October 1944 – 24<sup>th</sup> June 1945

Colonel (Temporary) George Christopher Hamilton HERON, O.B.E., R.A.O.C.

**Chief Ordnance Mechanical Engineer**

15<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 1942

Brigadier (Temporary) William Joseph BIRKLE, B.Sc. (Eng), A.M.I.Mech.E.

**Director of Mechanical Engineering – (D.M.E.)**

1<sup>st</sup> October 1942 – 20<sup>th</sup> June 1944

Brigadier (Temporary) William Joseph BIRKLE, B.Sc. (Eng), A.M.I.Mech.E.

**Financial Adviser**

2<sup>nd</sup> April 1942 – 7<sup>th</sup> April 1943

Brigadier (Acting) John Edwin DOWTY, General List.

8<sup>th</sup> April 1943 – 1944

Brigadier (Acting) P. L. COSTELOE, General List

**Command Paymaster**

Colonel WILLIAMS

Colonel T. A. MEEK,

**Assistant Director of Dental Services**

**Deputy Director of Labour**

**Command Education Officer**

**Provost Marshal**

30<sup>th</sup> September 1942 – 20<sup>th</sup> July 1943

Colonel (Acting) Alexander Ronald FORBES, K.O.Y.L.I.

**Command Welfare Officer**



## Persia and Iraq Base (PaiBase)

### **General Officer Commanding Lines of Communication (PaiBase)**

June 1941 – September 1942

Major General George De La Poer BERESFORD, C.B., M.C.

### **Commanding Officer, South Iraq Area**

1944 – 1945

Brigadier J. W. HINCHLIFFE

### **Chief Engineer**

1941 – 1942

Brigadier G. B. GIFFORD-HULL

1942 – 1944

Colonel J. FARWELL

### **Chief Ordnance Officer**

1941 – 1942

Colonel ALLSOP

### **Chief Ordnance Mechanical Engineer**

Colonel BONALLECK

## British Advisory Military Mission to the Iraq Army

### **Inspector-General and Military Adviser, Ministry of Defence**

5<sup>th</sup> March 1937 – 1938

Major General H. W. M. WATSON, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., *p.s.c.*

10<sup>th</sup> August 1938 – 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1939

Major General George Guy WATERHOUSE, C.B., M.C., *p.s.c.*

### **Inspector-General and Head of the British Advisory Military Mission**

4<sup>th</sup> March 1939 – 1941

Major General George Guy WATERHOUSE, C.B., M.C., *p.s.c.*

### **Inspector Quarter-Master-General's Branch**

9<sup>th</sup> May 1937 – 1941

Colonel D. O. W. LAMB, C.B.E., Indian Army, *p.s.c.*

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