

Yorkshire County Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, Yorkshire County Division

201st Independent Infantry Brigade (Home) ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 201st Independent Infantry Brigade (Home) & Signal Section

13th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) ⁽³⁾

14th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) ⁽⁴⁾

9th Bn. The Hampshire Regiment ⁽⁵⁾

10th Bn. The Hampshire Regiment ⁽⁶⁾

218th Independent Infantry Brigade (Home) ⁽⁷⁾

Headquarters, 218th Independent Infantry Brigade (Home) & Signal Section

8th Bn. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

11th Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment

10th Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding)

6th Bn. The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster)

221st Independent Infantry Brigade ⁽⁸⁾

Headquarters, 184th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

11th Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment

10th Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment ⁽⁸⁾

7th Bn. The King's Shropshire Light Infantry

Divisional Troops

NOTES:

1. The divisional headquarters were formed on 24 February 1941, with the appointment of Major General The Honourable Edward Frederick LAWSON, as General Officer Commanding. The division became operational on 19 March 1941. The role of the division was to man coastal defences at likely locations where the Germany Army may invade the U.K.. They also undertook the training of newly conscripted personnel into the Army. It was a static formation, with no divisional troops allocated. The division had to rely on arms and services loaned from other formations, or on the Home Commands. With the German assault on the Soviet Union on 22 June 1941, the threat of invasion of the U.K. all but disappeared. Most of the County Divisions were disbanded in December 1941, but some were reorganised to undertake other training and draft finding roles. On 11 September, Brigadier G. H. GOTTO officiated as divisional commander with the departure of Major General LAWSON to the War Office. Major General E. C. HAYES assumed command on 23 September 1941, but he was posted away on 20 November 1941. Brigadier GOTTO then assumed command of the division as it was run down. On 1 December 1941, it was redesignated as the West Riding District, under the command of Major General (Acting) Philip James SHEARS.
2. This was the first of the independent infantry brigades for Home Service formed in the Second World War. It was raised on 4 October 1940 by No. 1 Infantry Training Group, and initially came under command of Aldershot Command. Brigadier (Acting) Alexander Erskine LAWRENCE. M.C., *p.s.c.*, retired pay (Reserve of Officers) commanded the brigade from its formation until it disbanded on 13 December 1941. The brigade was under command of XII Corps from 19 October until 8 November 1940, after which it was part of the West Sussex County Division. The brigade moved to Yorkshire in February 1941, coming under command of the Yorkshire Area from 21 February 1941 until coming under command of this division on 19 March. It passed to the control of the East Riding Coastal Area on 1 December, until it was disbanded.
3. The 13th Bn. the Queen's Own was formed on 4 June 1940 at Aldershot, with key personnel coming from the 50th Holding Battalion, and eight-hundred recruits. On 18 February 1941, the battalion moved to the Hull area, and was responsible for guarding the coastline from Spurn Point to Withersea. In November 1941, the battalion moved to Gravesend in Kent, and then to Plymouth in September 1942. It remained a draft finding unit for the rest of the war, and was disbanded in late 1945.
4. The 14th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment was raised on 6 July 1940 in Dorchester, and likewise was stationed in Hull in 1941. The battalion assisted when Hull was bombed during the year, but suffered no casualties. It moved to Gravesend in Kent in December 1941, and its role changed to guarding airfields as opposed to coastline. On 30 November 1941, it was converted into the 99th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery.
5. The 9th Bn. The Hampshire Regiment was converted into the 157th Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps in January 1942. It remained in the U.K. and was disbanded on 30 July 1943.
6. The 10th Bn. The Hampshire Regiment was converted into an armoured regiment on 1 December 1941, becoming the 147th Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps. As such, it saw action in Normandy and North-West Europe as part of the 34th Tank Brigade.

7. This brigade was formed on 21 October 1940 for service in the United Kingdom. Brigadier D. C. BUTTERWORTH commanded the brigade from its formation until 30 July 1941, when Brigadier (Acting) Thomas Frederick GIVEN, D.S.O., M.C. assumed command. It was formed in Yorkshire, so came under command of the Yorkshire Area until coming under control of this division on 19 March 1941. The 6th Bn. The King's Own left this brigade on 23 May 1941, to transfer to the 76th Infantry Division.
8. The 221st Independent Infantry Brigade (Home) was formed on 8 November 1940 for service in the United Kingdom. Brigadier (Temporary) Christopher Hugh GOTTO assumed command of the formation, and he was to remain in command throughout the existence of the brigade. Initially under command of the Chatham Area, on 26 February 1941 it came under control of the 2nd Infantry Division. On 19 March 1941, it passed to the command of this division. When this division disbanded, it passed to the East Riding Coastal Area, but the brigade disbanded on 22 December 1941.

SOURCES:

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