

10th Armoured Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 10th Armoured Division

8th Armoured Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 8th Armoured Brigade & Signal Section

3rd Royal Tank Regiment

The Nottinghamshire Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry

The Staffordshire Yeomanry (Queen's Own Royal Regiment)

1st Bn. The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment)

24th Armoured Brigade Group ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 24th Armoured Brigade & Signal Section

41st (Oldham) Royal Tank Regiment

45th (Leeds Rifles) Royal Tank Regiment

47th (Oldham) Royal Tank Regiment

11th (Queen Westminster's) Bn. The King's Royal Rifle Corps

5th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

'B' Battery, 73rd Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery

116th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery

1 Troop, 6th Field Squadron, Royal Engineers

332nd Company, Royal Army Service Corps

334th Company, Royal Army Service Corps

6th Light Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

133rd Lorried Infantry Brigade (4)

Headquarters, 133rd Lorried Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment

4th Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment

5th Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment

'W' Company, 1st Bn. The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers

Divisional Troops

The Royal Dragoons (1st Dragoons) (5)

1st Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

104th (Essex Yeomanry) Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

98th (Surrey and Sussex Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

5th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery (6)

84th Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery

53rd (King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery

2nd (Cheshire) Field Squadron, Royal Engineers

3rd Field Squadron, Royal Engineers

141st Field Park Squadron, Royal Engineers

6th Field Squadron, Royal Engineers (6)

571st Army Field Company, Royal Engineers (6)

573rd Army Field Company, Royal Engineers (6)

10th Armoured Divisional Signals (1st County of London Yeomanry (Middlesex,
Duke of Cambridge's Hussars)), Royal Corps of Signals

3rd Light Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

8th Light Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

168th Light Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

NOTES:

1. This division was formed in Palestine on 1 August 1941 by the reorganisation and redesignation of the 1st Cavalry Division. The General Officer Commanding the 1st Cavalry Division, Major General C. G. W. CLARK, continued in command of the new armoured division. No support group was formed, and the second armoured brigade was not available until 9 October 1941. The division remained in Palestine until 29 April 1942. The headquarters of the formation arrived in Egypt on 30 April 1942, i.e., a month before the Battle for Gazala. Even when it arrived in Egypt, the division was not up to strength, lacking equipment, and importantly, tanks. A Headquarters Divisional Royal Artillery was formed on 7 May 1942, but was then detached to form 'Reesforce' for the defence of Cairo. Elements from this division first saw action in the Battle of Alam Halfa commencing on 30 August 1942. During this confused period, the divisional headquarters formed Headquarters 'Gateforce' (so named after Major General Alex GATEHOUSE, who had assumed command of the division on 26 June 1942), and operated as Gateforce between 1 and 17 July 1942. Major General GATEHOUSE had to also command the 1st Armoured Division from 19 until 22 July 1942. Following the Battle of Alam Halfa, the division prepared for the forthcoming offensive. This is the Order of Battle for the division on 23 October 1942 and the opening of the Battle of El Alamein. With the Axis forces in retreat, the division was not required in the advance so remained in Egypt. It moved to Palestine on 1 January 1943, and it spent time in Syria before returning to Egypt on 27 September 1943. The division disbanded in Egypt on 18 June 1944.
2. Formed in Palestine by the conversion of the 6th Cavalry Brigade on 1 August 1941, this brigade was commanded by Brigadier L. S. LLOYD. He was replaced by Brigadier E. C. N. CUSTANCE on 21 October 1941. The brigade moved to Egypt on 19 February 1942 ahead of the main division. On 30 June 1942, one of the original three regiments, The Royal Scots Greys left this brigade to become an armoured car regiment. It was replaced by the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment. The brigade started the Battle of Alam Halfa and the Battle of El Alamein under command of this division. It transferred to the command of the 1st Armoured Division on 30 October, returning to the 10th Armoured Division on 4 November. The brigade later became an independent armoured formation and saw service in Tunisia and North West Europe.
3. This brigade had been formed on 1 November 1940 by the reorganisation and redesignation of the 24th Army Tank Brigade. This in turn had been formed at the outbreak of the Second World War with three Territorial Army units of the Royal Tank Regiment. The 41st Royal Tank Regiment was based in Oldham, Lancashire. Just prior to the outbreak of the Second World War, it formed a duplicate regiment, titled the 47th Royal Tank Regiment. It appears that neither regiment used the 'Oldham' designation during the war. The 45th Royal Tank Regiment on the other hand was formed from one of two battalions of the Leeds Rifles, and seems to have been proud to continue to use the designation Leeds Rifles whenever possible. The brigade came under command of the 8th Armoured Division when it was formed on 22 November 1940. It gained the 1st Bn. The Queen's Westminsters (later the 11th Bn. K.R.R.C.) as the brigade's motorised infantry battalion on 1 December 1940.

The brigade left the United Kingdom on 8 May 1942 and arrived in Egypt on 8 July. It was commanded by Brigadier A. G. KENCHINGTON. The brigade was redesignated and reorganised as a brigade group with effect from 30 August 1942. It fought in the Battle of El Alamein as a brigade group, starting under command of the 10th Armoured Division with effect from 11 October 1942. It switched back to the command of the 8th Armoured Division on 31 October 1942. Shortly after the Battle of El Alamein, the brigade disbanded on 1 March 1943.

4. A pre-war Territorial Army brigade, this formation was part of the 44th (Home Counties) Infantry Division. It served in France with this division in 1940, where the pre-war Regular Army 2nd Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment replaced the Territorial Army 4th Bn. The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) with effect from the 20th December 1939. The brigade and division left the United Kingdom on the 31st May 1942 bound for the Middle East. It arrived in Egypt on the 24th July 1942. The brigade came under command of the 10th Armoured Division on the 29th September 1942, as the decision was taken to provide greater infantry support to armoured divisions. Apart from a period of four days during the Second Battle of El Alamein when it came under command of the 51st (Highland) Infantry Division, this brigade remained with this division until 25 November 1942. With the battle won, and the Axis forces in retreat, this brigade disbanded on 16 January 1943 in Egypt.
5. This was the divisional reconnaissance unit and was equipped with armoured cars.
6. These units were attached for the opening phases of the Second Battle of El Alamein.

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