

2nd New Zealand Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 2nd New Zealand Infantry Division
2nd New Zealand Divisional Defence Platoon
2nd New Zealand Divisional Intelligence Section
2nd New Zealand Divisional Field Security Section

4th New Zealand Armoured Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 4th New Zealand Armoured Brigade
(4 Squadron, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals)

18th New Zealand Armoured Regiment
(38th Light Aid Detachment)

19th New Zealand Armoured Regiment
(39th Light Aid Detachment)

20th New Zealand Armoured Regiment
(40th Light Aid Detachment)

22nd New Zealand Motor Battalion ⁽³⁾

New Zealand Divisional Forward Delivery Squadron
4th Armoured Brigade Band

5th New Zealand Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 5th New Zealand Armoured Brigade
(‘K’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals)

21st New Zealand Infantry Battalion

23rd New Zealand Infantry Battalion

28th New Zealand (Maori) Infantry Battalion

5th Infantry Brigade Band

6th New Zealand Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 6th New Zealand Infantry Brigade
(‘L’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals)

24th New Zealand Infantry Battalion
25th New Zealand Infantry Battalion
26th New Zealand Infantry Battalion

6th Infantry Brigade Band

Divisional Troops

New Zealand Divisional Cavalry Regiment (4)
(‘C’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals & 13th Light Aid Detachment)

27th New Zealand Machine Gun Battalion (5)

Headquarters, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Artillery

4th Field Regiment, New Zealand Artillery

(H.Q. 25th, 26th & 46th Field Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, ‘E’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals & 9th Light Aid Detachment)

5th Field Regiment, New Zealand Artillery

(H.Q. 27th, 28th & 47th Field Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, ‘F’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals & 16th Light Aid Detachment)

6th Field Regiment, New Zealand Artillery

(H.Q. 29th, 30th & 48th Field Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, ‘G’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals & 18th Light Aid Detachment)

7th Anti-Tank Regiment, New Zealand Artillery

(H.Q. 31st, 32nd, 33rd & 34th Anti-Tank Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, ‘H’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals & 15th Light Aid Detachment)

14th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, New Zealand Artillery

(H.Q. 41st, 42nd & 43rd Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, New Zealand Artillery & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Workshop Section)

36th Survey Battery, New Zealand Artillery

Headquarters, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Engineers

6th Field Company, New Zealand Engineers

7th Field Company, New Zealand Engineers

8th Field Company, New Zealand Engineers

5th Field Park Company, New Zealand Engineers

2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals
(14th Light Aid Detachment)

Headquarters Command, New Zealand Army Service Corps
1st Ammunition Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
2nd Ammunition Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
1st Petrol Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
1st Supply Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
4th Reserve Mechanical Transport Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
6th Reserve Mechanical Transport Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
18th Tank Transporter Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
Water Issue Section, New Zealand Army Service Corps
New Zealand Section, Motor Ambulance Convoy,
New Zealand Army Service Corps

Headquarters Command, New Zealand Army Medical Corps
4th Field Ambulance, New Zealand Medical Corps
5th Field Ambulance, New Zealand Medical Corps
6th Field Ambulance, New Zealand Medical Corps
4th Field Hygiene Section, New Zealand Medical Corps
1st Mobile Casualty Clearing Station, New Zealand Medical Corps
2nd Field Transfusion Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
1st Field Surgical Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
2nd Anti-Malarial Control Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
3rd Anti-Malarial Control Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
102nd Mobile Venereal Disease Treatment Centre, New Zealand Medical Corps

1st Mobile Dental Unit

2nd New Zealand Divisional Ordnance Field Park
2nd New Zealand Divisional Mobile Laundry and Bath Unit

2nd New Zealand Divisional Workshops
4th Armoured Brigade Workshops
5th Infantry Brigade Workshop Section
6th Infantry Brigade Workshop Section
1st Armoured Troops Recovery Unit

2nd New Zealand Divisional Provost Company

1st Field Cash Office

2nd New Zealand Divisional Postal Unit

Reinforcement Transit Unit

Additional Units under command 14 March 1943 until 5 April 1943

8th Armoured Brigade (2)

Headquarters, 8th Armoured Brigade & Signal Section

The Royal Scots Greys (2nd Dragoons)

The Nottinghamshire Yeomanry (Sherwood Rangers)

The Staffordshire Yeomanry (Queen's Own Royal Regiment)

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

2nd New Zealand Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters Group

Headquarters, 2nd New Zealand Infantry Division

2nd New Zealand Divisional Defence Platoon

2nd New Zealand Divisional Intelligence Section

2nd New Zealand Divisional Field Security Section

Headquarters, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Artillery

Headquarters, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Engineers

2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals

(14th Light Aid Detachment)

New Zealand Divisional Cavalry Regiment (4)

('C' Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals & 13th Light Aid Detachment)

5th New Zealand Infantry Brigade Group

Headquarters, 5th New Zealand Armoured Brigade

('K' Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals)

21st New Zealand Infantry Battalion

23rd New Zealand Infantry Battalion

28th New Zealand (Maori) Infantry Battalion

5th Infantry Brigade Band

No. 1 Company, 27th New Zealand Machine Gun Battalion

5th Field Regiment, New Zealand Artillery

(H.Q. 27th, 28th & 47th Field Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, 'F' Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals & 16th Light Aid Detachment)

32nd Anti-Tank Battery, New Zealand Artillery

42nd Light Anti-Aircraft Company, New Zealand Artillery

7th Field Company, New Zealand Engineers

5th Field Ambulance, New Zealand Medical Corps

4th Reserve Mechanical Transport Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps

6th New Zealand Infantry Brigade Group

Headquarters, 6th New Zealand Infantry Brigade
(‘L’ Section, 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals)

24th New Zealand Infantry Battalion
25th New Zealand Infantry Battalion
26th New Zealand Infantry Battalion

6th Infantry Brigade Band
No. 2 Company, 27th New Zealand Machine Gun Battalion

6th Field Regiment, New Zealand Artillery
(H.Q. 29th, 30th & 48th Field Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, ‘G’ Section, 2nd New Zealand
Divisional Signals & 18th Light Aid Detachment)
33rd Anti-Tank Battery, New Zealand Artillery
43rd Light Anti-Aircraft Company, New Zealand Artillery
8th Field Company, New Zealand Engineers

6th Field Ambulance, New Zealand Medical Corps

6th Reserve Mechanical Transport Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps

Reserve Group

27th New Zealand Machine Gun Battalion (less two companies)

4th Field Regiment, New Zealand Artillery
(H.Q. 25th, 26th & 46th Field Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, ‘E’ Section, 2nd New Zealand
Divisional Signals & 9th Light Aid Detachment)

7th Anti-Tank Regiment, New Zealand Artillery
(H.Q. 31st & 34th Anti-Tank Batteries, New Zealand Artillery, ‘H’ Section, 2nd New Zealand
Divisional Signals & 15th Light Aid Detachment)

14th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, New Zealand Artillery
(H.Q. 41st Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, New Zealand Artillery & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft
Workshop Section)

36th Survey Battery, New Zealand Artillery

6th Field Company, New Zealand Engineers
5th Field Park Company, New Zealand Engineers

Administrative Group

Headquarters Command, New Zealand Army Service Corps
1st Ammunition Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
2nd Ammunition Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
1st Petrol Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
1st Supply Company, New Zealand Army Service Corps
Water Issue Section, New Zealand Army Service Corps
New Zealand Section, Motor Ambulance Convoy,
New Zealand Army Service Corps

Headquarters Command, New Zealand Army Medical Corps
4th Field Ambulance, New Zealand Medical Corps
4th Field Hygiene Section, New Zealand Medical Corps
1st Mobile Casualty Clearing Station, New Zealand Medical Corps
2nd Field Transfusion Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
1st Field Surgical Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
2nd Anti-Malarial Control Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
3rd Anti-Malarial Control Unit, New Zealand Medical Corps
102nd Mobile Venereal Disease Treatment Centre, New Zealand Medical Corps

1st Mobile Dental Unit

2nd New Zealand Divisional Ordnance Field Park
2nd New Zealand Divisional Mobile Laundry and Bath Unit

2nd New Zealand Divisional Workshops
4th Armoured Brigade Workshops
5th Infantry Brigade Workshop Section
6th Infantry Brigade Workshop Section
1st Armoured Troops Recovery Unit

2nd New Zealand Divisional Provost Company

1st Field Cash Office

2nd New Zealand Divisional Postal Unit

Reinforcement Transit Unit

NOTES:

1. The 2nd New Zealand Division had concentrated in Egypt in late 1940, but it was then sent to Greece. After evacuation from Greece, the majority of the division was sent to Crete. On Crete, it opposed the German airborne invasion of the island. The division was reconstituted back in Egypt after evacuation from Crete, and then fought with the 8th Army in Operation 'Crusader', and the battles of El Alamein. It continued to serve with the 8th Army during the advance through Libya and into Tunisia. The division entered Tripoli on 23 January 1943, allowing work on the port to commence on making it operational. As the 8th Army approached the Mareth Line, a former French defensive line along the border between French Tunisia and Italian Libya, the Axis forces launched a counter-attack, known as the Battle of Medenine. Ultra intelligence warned the British of the impending attack, which was successfully broken up and defeated by British artillery. Some of the artillery of this division participated in this action. The 8th Army drew up plans for assaulting the Mareth Line (Operation 'Pugilist') that involved XXX Corps assaulting the main defensive positions, while the New Zealand Division exploited a route through the Tebaga Gap to outflank the Mareth Line. For this operation, the N.Z. Division was upgraded to a corps formation on 19 March, with the 8th Armoured Brigade having come under command on 14 March. In addition, some Free French troops came under command. The N.Z. Corps commenced its advanced march to towards the Tebaga Gap overnight the 19/20 March, before the main attack commenced. The N.Z. Corps reached the pass late on 20 March, but found elements of 164 Light Afrika Division and 21st Panzer Division guarding the pass. In spite of fierce fighting, neither the N.Z. Corps, nor XXX Corps, made any significant advances, so a revised plan was devised by 8th Army staff. Called Operation Supercharge II (Supercharge I was part of the Battle of El Alamein), this involved bringing the 4th Indian Infantry Division up to assault the hills on the left-hand side of the main Mareth Line. This operation commenced on 26 March, with the Indians advancing into the hills, and a coordinated assault on the Tebaga Gap undertaken by the N.Z. Corps. As a result of the battle, Second Lieutenant Te Moananui-a-Kiwa NGARIMU was later awarded the Victoria Cross, posthumously. At 17.00 hours on 31 March, New Zealand Corps was disbanded, and the division reverted to command of XXX Corps. On 19 April 1943, the division was tasked with clearing the foothills near Enfidaville, with the 5th Brigade being engaged in some fierce fighting. The division was not involved in any further action in Tunisia, and on 15 May, the division drove back the 3,000 miles to Egypt. It occupied camps at Maadi and Helwan, and leave was granted, with some 6,000 long-serving personnel being granted a furlough back in New Zealand.

2nd New Zealand Division

These are the senior divisional appointments between 11 November 1942 and 13 May 1943.

Divisional Commander

1939 – 30 April 1943 (Became Corps Commander)

Lieutenant General Sir Bernard FREYBERG, V.C., K.C.B., K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O.

30 April 1943 – 14 May 1943

Major General Howard Karl KIPPENBERGER, D.S.O.*, E.D.

General Staff Officer (Grade I) – (G.S.O. I)

Colonel R. C. QUEREE

Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General – (A.A. & Q.M.G.)

1942 – 19 November 1942

Lieutenant Colonel A. P. HILLIER, N. Staffs. R.

19 November 1942 – 1943/44

Lieutenant Colonel B. BARRINGTON

Commanding Officer, Divisional Cavalry Regiment

1942 – 28 January 1943

Lieutenant Colonel J. H. SUTHERLAND

28 January 1943 – 1943/44

Lieutenant-Colonel I. L. BONIFANT

Commanding Officer, 27 (Machine Gun) Battalion

1942 – 31 January 1943

Lieutenant Colonel A. W. WHITE

31 January 1943 – 3 April 1943

Lieutenant Colonel R. L. McGAFFIN

3 April 1943 – 1943/44

Lieutenant-Colonel J. K. ROBBIE

Commanding Officer, 5 Infantry Brigade:

17 January 1942 – 30 April 1943

Brigadier Howard Karl KIPPENBERGER, D.S.O., E.D.*

30 April 1943 – 14 May 1943

Brigadier Ralph Warden HARDING

Commanding Officer, 21 Battalion

18 July 1942 – 30 April 1943

Lieutenant-Colonel Ralph Warden HARDING

30 April 1943 – 14 May 1943

Lieutenant Colonel M. C. FAIRBROTHER

Commanding Officer, 23 Battalion

1942 – 20 April 1943

Lieutenant-Colonel R. E. ROMANS

20 April 1943 – 1943/44

Lieutenant Colonel J. R. J. CONNOLLY

Commanding Officer, 28 (Maori) Battalion

1942 – 20 April 1943

Lieutenant-Colonel C. M. BENNETT

20 April 1943 – 1943/44

Lieutenant Colonel K. A. KEIHA

Commanding Officer, 6th Infantry Brigade:

1942 – 22 April 1943

Brigadier W. G. GENTRY

22 April 1943 – 1945

Brigadier G. B. PARKINSON, D.S.O.

Commanding Officer, 24 Battalion

1942 – 16 December 1942

Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. WEBB

16 December 1942 – 1943/44

Lieutenant Colonel J. CONOLLY

Commanding Officer, 25 Battalion

1942 – 28 January 1943

Lieutenant Colonel I. L. BONIFANT

28 January 1943 – 1943/44

Lieutenant-Colonel T. B. MORTEN

Commanding Officer, 26 Battalion

Lieutenant Colonel D. J. FOUNTAINE

Commander, Royal Artillery – (C.R.A.)

Brigadier Stephen Cyril Ettrick WEIR

Commanding Officer, 4 Field Regiment:1942 – 3 March 1943

Lieutenant-Colonel G. J. O. STEWART

3 March 1943 – 10 March 1943

Major H. E. GILBERT

10 March 1943 – 1943/44

Lieutenant Colonel W. D. PHILP

Commanding Officer, 5 Field Regiment:

Lieutenant-Colonel K. W. R. GLASGOW

Commanding Officer, 6 Field Regiment:

Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. WALTER

Commanding Officer, 7 Anti-Tank Regiment:

Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. MITCHELL

Commanding Officer, 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel J. F. R. SPROSEN

Commanding Officer, 36th Survey Battery

Major R. G. DRUMMOND

Commander, Royal Engineers – (C.R.E.)

Colonel F. M. H. HANSON, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.M.

Officer Commanding, 5 Field Park Company:

Major K. RIX-TROTT

Officer Commanding, 6 Field Company:

Major J. N. ANDERSON

Officer Commanding, 7 Field Company:1942 – 2 March 1943

Major C. F. SKINNER

2 March 1943 – 1943/44

Major H. C. PAGE

Officer Commanding, 8 Field Company:

Major R. C. PEMBERTON

Commander, New Zealand Signals – (C.N.Z.Sigs)

Lieutenant Colonel G. L. AGAR

Commander, New Zealand Army Service Corps – (C.N.Z.A.S.C.)

Colonel S. H. CRUMP, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Officer Commanding, Divisional Ammunition Company:

1942 – 26 January 1943

Major P. E. COUTTS, M.B.E.

26 January 1943 – 1943/44

Major S. A. SAMPSON

Officer Commanding, Divisional Petrol Company:

Major G. S. FORBES

Officer Commanding, Divisional Supply Company:

1942 – 5 December 1942

Major N. W. PRYDE

5 December 1942 – 1943/44

Major J. R. MORRIS

Officer Commanding, 4th Reserve Mechanical Transport Company:

Major I. E. STOCK

Officer Commanding, 6th Reserve Mechanical Transport Company:

1942 – 2 February 1943

Major A. G. HOOD

2 February 1943 – 1943/44

Major G. G. GOOD

Assistant Director of Medical Services – (A.D.M.S.)

1942 – 16 February 1943

Colonel P. A. ARDAGH

16 February 1943 – 1943/44

Colonel F. P. FURKERT

Officer Commanding, 4 Field Ambulance

Lieutenant-Colonel R. D. KING

Officer Commanding, 5 Field Ambulance

Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. McQUILKIN

Officer Commanding, 6 Field Ambulance

1942 – 16 February 1943

Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. FURKERT

16 February 1943 – 1943/44

Lieutenant Colonel W. B. FISHER

Assistant Director of Ordnance Services – (A.D.O.S.)

1942 – 1 December 1942

Lieutenant Colonel A. H. ANDREWS

1 December 1942 – 1945

Lieutenant Colonel J. O. KELSEY, M.B.E.

Assistant Director of Ordnance Services: Officer Commanding, Divisional Ordnance Field Park

Major H. B. WARD

Commander, New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers – (C.R.E.M.E.)

1 December 1942 – 1945

Lieutenant Colonel A. H. ANDREWS, O.B.E.

Officer Commanding, Divisional Workshops:

1942 – 22 December 1942

Major G. D. POLLOCK

22 December 1942 – 1943/44

Major P. C. M. CARLTON

Assistant Provost Marshal

1942 – 16 February 1943

Major E. W. HAYTON

16 February 1943 – 1943/44

Major H. M. BLACKLOCK