

3rd Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 3rd Infantry Division

7th Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 7th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment

1st Bn. The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire)

2nd Bn. The King's Shropshire Light Infantry

8th Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 8th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The King's Regiment (Liverpool)

1st Bn. The Suffolk Regiment

2nd Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment

9th Infantry Brigade ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 9th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)

1st Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own)

Divisional Troops

The Royal Horse Guards ⁽⁵⁾

1st Bn. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's) ⁽⁶⁾

2nd Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment ⁽⁶⁾

2nd Bn. The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) ⁽⁶⁾

Headquarters, 3rd Divisional Royal Artillery

VII Field Brigade, Royal Artillery ⁽⁷⁾

(H.Q., 9th, 16th, 17th & 43rd (Howitzer) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

XXIII Field Brigade, Royal Artillery ⁽⁸⁾

(H.Q., 60th, 89th, 90th & 100th (Howitzer) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

XXVI Field Brigade, Royal Artillery (9)

(H.Q., 15th, 40th (Howitzer), 48th & 71st Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

Headquarters, 3rd Divisional Royal Engineers (10)

15th (Field Park) Company, Royal Engineers

17th (Field) Company, Royal Engineers

54th (Field) Company, Royal Engineers

56th (Field) Company, Royal Engineers

3rd Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals (11)

Headquarters, 3rd Divisional Royal Army Service Corps (12)

11th Company, Royal Army Service Corps

47th Company, Royal Army Service Corps

48th Company, Royal Army Service Corps

No. 3 Company, Corps of Military Police (13)

NOTES:

1. In 1930, within Southern Command, there was one Regular Army divisional formation. This was the 3rd Division, with its headquarters at Bulford. The divisional commander was also Commander Salisbury Plain Area. The division was one of those originally formed in 1809 during the Peninsula War and remains a Regular Army formation today. It served at the Battle of Waterloo, and during the Crimea War and the Second Boer War. In the Great War, the 3rd Division served in France, where it gained the nickname 'Iron Division' or 'Ironsides'. During the Second World War, the division served in France in 1940, and then in North West Europe during 1944 and 1945. It was disbanded after the Second World War but reformed in April 1951 for the Suez Crisis. In 2009, it was based at Bulford as the 3rd (U.K.) Mechanised Division.
2. This brigade was based at Tidworth, with two battalions (the 2nd R. Warwicks and 1st Loyals) also at stationed at Tidworth. The 2nd Bn. K.S.L.I. were stationed at Pembroke Dock in West Wales. Over the next two years, the three constituent units of the brigade all left to be replaced by Guards battalions. This led to the brigade being re-designated as the 7th Infantry Brigade (Guards) by the outbreak of war.
3. By 1937, the headquarters for this brigade had moved from Devonport to Crownhill Fort, Plymouth, and the brigade reduced from four battalions to three. The 2nd King's and 2nd R. Sussex were both based in Devonport (Raglan Barracks), with the 1st Suffolks based in Plymouth at Seaton Barracks. Only the 1st Suffolks remained with the brigade by September 1939.
4. Spread across Dorset and Hampshire, the headquarters of this brigade were located at Portsmouth. The 2nd Queen's were based on the Isle of Wight at Parkhurst and the 1st Green Howards was stationed at Portland in Dorset. The 2nd Rifle Brigade was based at Gosport, Hampshire, and whilst administered by this brigade, it was formally under command of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade at Tidworth. The three battalions under command of the division all changed prior to the outbreak of the Second World War.
5. This regiment was allocated to the division as a reconnaissance cavalry unit. It was stationed at Windsor in the London District, but allocated to the command of this formation at times of mobilisation. The regiment was replaced as divisional reconnaissance regiment prior to September 1939.
6. Three battalions from the division were converted into machine gun units in early 1937 and came under divisional command. The 2nd Argylls were based at Tidworth, administered by the 7th Infantry Brigade. The 2nd Glosters were based at Plymouth and administered by the 8th Infantry Brigade. The 2nd Bn. Middlesex were stationed at Portsmouth and administered by the 9th Infantry Brigade. By September 1939, only the 2nd Bn. Middlesex remained a machine gun battalion, still under command of this division. At the outbreak of war, the 1st Argylls were an infantry unit stationed in Palestine and the 2nd Bn. Glosters were an infantry battalion with 8th Infantry Brigade.
7. The brigade was based at Bulford on Salisbury Plain. All the batteries were also stationed at Bulford. It had been originally formed in 1900 and was destined to serve with this division throughout the Second World War.
8. Topsham Barracks, Exeter, was the home of this brigade. The headquarters and three batteries (the 89th, 90th & 100th) were all based in Exeter. The 60th Battery was based in Bristol. Its origins also dated back to 1900. It was destined, however, to transfer to the 51st (Highland) Infantry Division in France, where it was captured at St. Valery with that division in June 1940.

9. This brigade was based at Larkhill under command of the Commandant, School of Artillery at that location. It appears this brigade was absorbed into the School of Artillery prior to the outbreak of war. It was replaced by the XXXIII Field Brigade, which was formed in 1936 at Bulford.
10. The headquarters divisional engineers and all three companies were based at Bulford. Only the 15th Company was to serve with the division throughout the forthcoming war, the field companies were replaced by Territorial Army units by 3 September 1939.
11. The divisional signals were stationed at Bulford.
12. The Commander, Royal Army Service Corps and the 47th and 48th Companies were all stationed at Bulford. The 11th Company was stationed at Larkhill. The 47th and 48th Companies were to serve with this division throughout the Second World War.
13. This company was stationed at Bulford.

SOURCES:

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