

The Armoured Division (Egypt) ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, The Armoured Division (Egypt)

The Light Armoured Brigade (Egypt) ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, The Light Armoured Brigade (Egypt) & Signal Section

7th Queen's Own Hussars

8th King's Royal Irish Hussars

11th Hussars (Prince Albert's Own)

The Heavy Armoured Brigade (Egypt) ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, The Heavy Armoured Brigade (Egypt) & Signal Section

1st Royal Tank Regiment

6th Royal Tank Regiment

Divisional Troops ⁽⁴⁾

1st Bn. The King's Royal Rifle Corps

'C' Battery, 4th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

'M' Battery, 3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

NOTES:

1. This formation was a regular army division stationed in Egypt. Post the Great War, a cavalry brigade had been stationed with British Troops Egypt. This comprised three regular army cavalry regiments, which were still horsed. It had been formed as The Mobile Division in September 1938, because of the raised tension caused by the Munich Crisis. Initially called the 'Matruh Mobile Force', it was founded by Major General HOBART. It was redesignated as the Armoured Division (Egypt) on the outbreak of war. Owing to the shortage of units in the Middle East, the division was not up to the establishment of a standard armoured division. On 16 February 1940, the division was redesignated as the 7th Armoured Division.
2. Formed in September 1938 as the Cavalry Brigade within the Mobile Force, it was retitled on the outbreak of war as the Light Armoured Brigade (Egypt). On 16 February 1940, it was redesignated the 7th Light Armoured Brigade, dropping the title 'Light' on 14 April 1940.
3. Formed in September 1938 as the Tank Group of the Matruh Mobile Force, it was redesignated as The Heavy Armoured Brigade on the outbreak of war. On 16 February 1940, it was redesignated again as the 4th Heavy Armoured Brigade, dropping the title 'Heavy' on 14 April 1940.
4. There were no divisional troops permanently under the command of the division. The 1st Bn. The K.R.R.C. had recently returned from Burma, and they were attached to the division from H.Q. British Troops Egypt. The two artillery batteries were both attached from Royal Artillery Group, Middle East. 'C' Battery 4 R.H.A. was a field battery, and 'M' Battery, 3 R.H.A. was an anti-tank battery. The support group was not formed until January 1940.

7th Armoured Division ⁽¹⁾

4th Armoured Brigade

Headquarters, 4th Armoured Brigade & Signal Section

7th Queen's Own Hussars

6th Royal Tank Regiment

7th Armoured Brigade

Headquarters, 7th Armoured Brigade & Signal Section

8th King's Royal Irish Hussars

1st Royal Tank Regiment

7th Support Group

1st Bn. The King's Royal Rifle Corps

2nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own)

'M' Battery, 3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

'C' Battery, 4th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

Divisional Troops

11th Hussars (Prince Albert's Own)

3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

4th Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery

2nd (Cheshire) Field Squadron, Royal Engineers

141st Field Park Troop, Royal Engineers

7th Armoured Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

NOTES:

1. This in the Order of Battle for the division during Operation Compass in December 1940. This was the offensive that started with limited objectives, but that ended up inflicting a comprehensive defeat on the Italian Army.

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