

32nd Indian Armoured Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 32nd Indian Armoured Division

254th Indian Armoured Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 254th Indian Armoured Brigade & Signal Section

7th Light Cavalry

46th Cavalry

25th Dragoons

3rd Bn. 4th Bombay Grenadiers

254th Indian Armoured Brigade Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

254th Indian Armoured Brigade Provost Unit, Corps of Military Police (India)

63rd Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

255th Indian Armoured Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 255th Indian Armoured Brigade & Signal Section

16th Light Cavalry

45th Cavalry

158th Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps

159th Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps

4th Bn. 4th Bombay Grenadiers

255th Indian Armoured Brigade Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

255th Indian Armoured Brigade Provost Unit, Corps of Military Police (India)

64th Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

73rd Indian Lorried Infantry Brigade (5)

Headquarters, 73rd Indian Lorried Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

15th Bn. 7th Rajput Regiment

15th Bn. 10th Baluch Regiment

14th Bn. 15th Punjab Regiment

Divisional Troops

43rd Cavalry

123rd Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

33rd Field Company, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

40th Field Park Squadron, King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners

32nd Indian Armoured Divisional Signals, Indian Signal Corps

32nd Armoured Divisional Troops Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

32nd Armoured Divisional Tank Transporter Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

7th Light Field Ambulance, Indian Army Medical Corps

2nd Light Field Hygiene Section, Indian Army Medical Corps

32nd Indian Armoured Divisional Ordnance Field Park, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

32nd Indian Armoured Divisional Workshops Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

2nd Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

35th Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

40th Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

32nd Indian Armoured Divisional Provost Unit, Corps of Military Police (India)

32nd Indian Armoured Divisional Field Security Section, Intelligence Corps (India)

61st Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

62nd Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

NOTES:

1. The division was raised at Risalpur in India as the 2nd Armoured Division on 15 September 1941, but it was renamed as the 32nd Indian Armoured Division in October 1941. On formation, it consisted of the 4th and 5th Armoured Brigades, with the brigades becoming the 254th and 255th Armoured Brigades in October 1941. A British cavalry officer, Major General Cecil Albert HEYDEMAN, C.B., M.C., *p.s.c.*, was transferred from being the Commander of the Presidency and Assam District to raise the new division. The initial establishment of the Division was two armoured brigades and a support group in line with British Army armoured divisions in the same period. In July 1942, the Support Group was disbanded, and an infantry brigade allocated to this Division. Equipment was difficult to obtain, with tanks in short supply, and also there was a lack of technical staff, the Division never reached operational readiness. In addition to which, there was no requirement for an armoured division in Burma or an additional one in the Middle East where the 31st Indian Armoured Division was now stationed. In March 1943, this division was merged with elements from the 43rd Indian Armoured Division to form the 44th Indian Armoured Division. Major General HEYDEMAN became redundant in effect, and later in 1943, he was posted to Italy to become a District Commander.
2. This brigade was formed at Risalpur on 1 April 1941, under the command of Brigadier (Acting) William Thomas GILL, M.C.*. Initially, it came under command of the 2nd, later the 32nd, Indian Armoured Division. It transferred to the 44th Indian Armoured Division in April 1943.
3. This brigade was formed at Sialkot on 15 June 1941 as the 5th Indian Armoured Brigade under the command of Brigadier (Acting) Hugh Huntingdon STABLE, C.I.E., Indian Army, *p.s.c.*, who was appointed on 20 June. The brigade was renamed as the 255th Indian Armoured Brigade in October 1941, and it came under the command of the 32nd Indian Armoured Division at Sialkot and then at Poona. The Brigade transferred to the 44th Indian Armoured Division in April 1943.
4. The infantry brigade was formed in April 1942 in Quetta, and it was allocated to this Division in July 1942 to replace the Support Group. The details of the Brigade Commander are not known. When the two armoured divisions merged, this Brigade became redundant and it was disbanded at Poona in March 1943.

SOURCES:

Please contact the webmaster, or see: <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/RobPALMER>