5th Indian Infantry Division (1)

Headquarters, 5th Indian Division, Employment Platoon & Signal Section.
5th Indian Divisional Anti-Tank Company

9th Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 9th Indian Infantry Brigade & Signal Section
2nd Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales’s Own)
3rd Bn. 5th Mahratta Light Infantry
3rd (Royal) (Sikhs) Bn. 12th Frontier Force Regiment

10th Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 10th Indian Infantry Brigade & Signal Section
1st Bn. The Essex Regiment (2)
4th (Duke of Connaught’s Own) Bn. 10th Baluch Regiment
3rd Bn. 18th Royal Garhwal Rifles

29th Indian Infantry Brigade

Headquarters, 29th Indian Infantry Brigade & Signal Section
1st Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment
3rd Bn. 2nd Punjab Regiment
6th (Royal Scinde) Bn. 13th Frontier Force Rifles

Divisional Troops

Skinner’s Horse (1st Duke of York’s Own Cavalry) (3)

4th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
(H.Q., 4th/14th & 7th/66th Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)
28th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
(H.Q., 1st/5th & 3rd/57th Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)
144th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
(H.Q., 389th (Sussex Yeomanry) & 390th (Sussex Yeomanry) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)
2nd Field Company, King George V’s Own Bengal Sappers and Miners
20th Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners
21st Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners
44th Field Park Company, Queen Victoria’s Own Sappers and Miners

5th Indian Divisional Signals, Indian Signal Corps

20th Supply Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
32nd Supply Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
33rd Supply Issue Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
52nd Divisional Headquarters Mechanical Transport Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
14th Indian Mechanical Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
15th Indian Mechanical Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps
29th Indian Mechanical Transport Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

3rd Indian Casualty Clearing Station, Indian Medical Service
10th Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service
20th Indian Field Ambulance, Indian Medical Service
7th Indian Field Hygiene Section, Indian Medical Service
12th Indian Field Hygiene Section, Indian Medical Service

22nd Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps
23rd Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps
24th Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps
25th Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps
26th Mobile Workshop Company, Indian Army Ordnance Corps

15th Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps
23rd Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps
24th Field Post Office, Indian General Service Corps

5th Indian Divisional Provost Unit, Corps of Military Police (India)
NOTES:

1. The division was raised in the Deccan District, India, in July 1940. It sailed for the Middle East in late 1940. At this stage, it consisted of two infantry brigades, the 9th and 10th. On arrival in the Sudan, three British battalions that formed the 21st Infantry Brigade in the Sudan were transferred to this division. A new third brigade was formed, the 29th Indian Brigade. One British battalion was posted to each of the three brigades, with the Indian battalions distributed amongst the three brigades. The division commenced offensive operations as soon as it arrived in The Sudan. The division advanced into Abyssinia and played a key part in the battle of Keren, where the main Italian defensive positions were forced after a fierce and sustained offensive. When the 4th Indian Division was withdrawn to Egypt, the 5th Indian Division remained in Abyssinia and advanced down to Addis Ababa leading to the surrender of the main Italian Army in East Africa. Elements of the division began to leave East Africa on 20 June 1941, moving to Suez. The last brigade to leave, the 29th Indian Infantry Brigade left in July 1941.

2. The battalion transferred to 29th Indian Infantry Brigade from 21st Infantry Brigade on 12 October 1940, and then came under command of 10th Indian Infantry Brigade on 30 October 1940. The battalion left the brigade on 22 December 1940 following the first battle at Gallabat to return to Egypt. It was replaced on the same date by:

- 2nd Bn. The Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment)

3. This regiment formed the basis of ‘Gazelle Force’, formed on 16 October 1940 under the command of Colonel F. W. MESSERVY. On 13 February 1941, as the two Indian divisions came up against the Italian fortifications at Keren, and the campaign became less mobile constrained by the mountains, Gazelle Force was disbanded.