

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

8th (Belfast) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (2)

(H.Q., 21st, 22nd & 23rd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

202nd (Cornwall) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery (3)

8th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery (4)

14th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, Indian Artillery (5)

77th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 269th, 270th & 286th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

8th (Sikh) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (7)

(H.Q., 25th, 26th & 27th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This brigade was raised in June 1941. Brigadier (Acting) Edward Myles Gisborne BRITTAN was promoted from the rank of Lieutenant Colonel to assume command of the new Brigade. The Brigade was deployed to provide anti-aircraft defences for Chittagong and eastern Bengal. Forty-six-year-old Brigadier BRITTAN was killed in an air crash on 24 July 1942, which also claimed the life of Brigadier Cecil Thomas BROWN, the Commanding Officer of the 1st Royal Marine Anti-Aircraft Brigade, and they are both buried in the Madras War Cemetery. With the death of Brigadier BRITTAN, Lieutenant Colonel (Temporary) Hugh Nugent LEVESON-GOWER, R.A., T.A., was promoted to the rank of Acting Brigadier to assume command of the Brigade. He remained in command for the rest of the campaign in Burma.
2. This regiment was raised in the Supplementary Reserve in January 1939, and as its names suggests, it was based in Belfast, County Antrim. In November 1939, the regiment was deployed to France as part of the British Expeditionary Force, and it was evacuated from Dunkirk in May 1940, although all its equipment was left behind in France. The regiment remained in the U.K. until May 1942, when it sailed for India. It arrived at Bombay on 28 July 1942, equipped with twenty-four 3.7" Mk. III anti-aircraft guns. It was sent to Calcutta to join the 1st Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade, and in January 1943, it was deployed to the Arakan with the 14th Indian Infantry Division. For two months, the regiment was under the command of the 88th Indian Infantry Brigade in the Arakan. In April 1943, it came under command of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, with which it remained until 13 November 1943 when it came under command of the XV Indian Corps in the Arakan. In February 1944, 'B' Troop was deployed in the Admin Box with the 7th Indian Infantry Division, and on 9 May 1944, the regiment was based at Ranchi. It took part in the Arakan Campaign of late 1944, and early 1945, and on 31 January 1945, it was based at Akyab. In April 1945, it left the Arakan for Calcutta, and then onwards to Madras, where it served under XXXIV Indian Corps and 164th Line of Communication Area. The regiment left India in August 1945 to sail back to the U.K.. The Commanding Officers of the regiment during its period in India and Burma were Lieutenant Colonel Frank DEARDEN (who was promoted to Brigadier on 19 March 1943 to assume command of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade), Lieutenant Colonel J. W. P. SAUNDERS, followed by Lieutenant Colonel J. G. CUNNINGHAM.
3. This Battery was detached from the 56th (Cornwall) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, to which it later returned.
4. This Battery was detached from the 2nd Indian Anti-Aircraft Regiment, and sent to Rangoon, equipped with 3" anti-aircraft guns. It destroyed its guns at Ye-U on 1 April 1942, and made its way back into India, coming under this Brigade on a temporary basis. The Battery then rejoined its parent regiment.
5. The 14th Indian H.A.A. Battery was detached from the 5th Indian H.A.A. Regiment for a period, and it was under command of this Brigade. It returned to its parent regiment and served in Assam.
6. Raised in April 1941, this regiment remained in the U.K. where it was formed until March 1942, when it sailed for India. It arrived at Bombay on 7 July 1942, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel J. C. LAWRENCE. The regiment moved to Barrackpore, and on 14 October 1942, it moved to Comilla. On 1 January 1943, it came under command of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade at Chittagong, and it remained here until it was disbanded on 12 November 1944. Lieutenant Colonel F. J. C. RYBOT had assumed command of the regiment prior to its disbandment.

7. This regiment was raised on 1 April 1942 by the conversion of the 9th Bn. 11th Sikh Regiment. It comprised the 25th, 26th & 27th L.A.A. Batteries. The details of the commanding officer(s) are not known. The regiment remained with this Brigade in the Arakan, and it was stationed at Chittagong in March 1945.

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

8th (Belfast) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (2)

(H.Q., 21st, 22nd & 23rd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

70th (3rd West Lancashire) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (3)

(H.Q., 211th (13th West Lancashire), 212th (27th West Lancashire) & 216th (14th West Lancashire) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

6th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (4)

(H.Q., 15th, 16th & 17th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

36th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (5)

(H.Q., 97th, 128th & 266th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

3rd Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

8th (Sikh) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (7)

(H.Q., 25th, 26th & 27th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in September 1943. For further explanatory notes, please see Page 2.
2. See Notes: Page 2.
3. This regiment was formed in 1937 by the conversion of the 89th (3rd West Lancashire) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery. The headquarters of the regiment was located in Igburth, Liverpool, together with 211th, 212th & 216th Batteries. The 309th Battery was based in Bootle, Liverpool. The regiment left the U.K. in May 1942 to serve in India. It arrived at Bombay on 11 May 1942, and it moved to Madras. Lieutenant Colonel E. F. CARNE commanded the Regiment, and on an unknown date, he was replaced by Lieutenant Colonel R. P. NAPPER. Later, Lieutenant Colonel H. W. HAWKINS assumed command, to be followed by Lieutenant Colonel R. J. KIRTON. In July 1942, the regiment came under command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade, but in December 1942, it transferred to the 2nd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. On 27 March 1943, the regiment was transferred again, this time to the 1st Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Calcutta. On 10 November 1943, the regiment moved to Chittagong where it came under command of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. In May 1944, it moved to Piska under command of the 101st Line of Communication Area, which covered Bihar and Bengal. In July 1944, the regiment joined the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, while remaining in Piska, and in August 1944, the regiment was disbanded. The remaining personnel formed the 70th Medium Battery, which then came under command of the 87th Medium Regiment. The regiment was reformed in the T.A. in 1947 as the 470th (3rd West Lancashire) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, R.A. based in Liverpool.
4. This regiment was raised on 1 September 1942, and it comprised the 15th, 16th and 17th H.A.A. Batteries. It joined this Brigade once its training was completed, and it served with this formation for the rest of the war, passing to command of the 61st Army Group, Royal Artillery in June 1945 while still stationed in Burma. The details of the commanding officer are not known.
5. This regiment was formed in the U.K. in August 1939. It left the U.K. in June 1942, and it arrived at Bombay on 12 August 1942, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel P. A. BROOKE. The regiment moved to Madras, but after only three months, it was transferred to XV Indian Corps. The regiment moved to Ranchi, and on 4 May 1943, it came under command of the 26th Indian Infantry Division in the Arakan. By June 1943, the regiment was stationed at Chittagong under the command of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. For the rest of the campaign, it was under the command of XV Indian Corps with self-propelled 40 mm Bofors guns. On 31 January 1945, the regiment was based at Akyab, after which it moved to Kyaukpyu. In June 1945, it transferred to Madras, and then sailed back home to the U.K. in August 1945. Following Lieutenant Colonel BROOKE, the Commanding Officers of the regiment were Lieutenant Colonel J. C. LAWRENCE, and then Lieutenant Colonel J. S. PEARSALL.
6. Raised In Karachi on 1 February 1942, this regiment was intended to be a static unit, with the 10th, 11th & 12th L.A.A. Batteries. A shortage of British non-commissioned officers led to a delay in the raising of the regiment, and the decision to train Madrassis as non-commissioned officers. The regiment was re-raised in August 1942 with the 12th, 13th & 14th L.A.A. Batteries, under the command of 21774 Lieutenant Colonel John Robinson Hamilton GLOVER, R.A.. Thirty-nine-year-old Lieutenant Colonel GLOVER was killed in an air crash on 3 October 1942 near Karachi. Lieutenant Colonel H. T. HOGAN replaced him, and he led the regiment for the rest of the war.
7. See Notes: Page 2

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

70th (3rd West Lancashire) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (2)
(H.Q., 211th (13th West Lancashire), 212th (27th West Lancashire) & 216th (14th West Lancashire) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

6th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (3)
(H.Q., 15th, 16th & 17th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

7th (Rajput) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (4)
(H.Q., 18th, 19th & 20th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3rd Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (5)
(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

6th (Punjab) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)
(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

8th (Sikh) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (7)
(H.Q., 25th, 26th & 27th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in March 1944. For further explanatory notes, please see Page 2.
2. See Notes: Page 5.
3. See Notes: Page 5.
4. This regiment was raised on 1 February 1942 by the conversion of the 8th Bn. 7th Rajput Regiment. It comprised the 18th, 19th & 20th H.A.A. Batteries. The details of the commanding officer(s) are not known. The regiment was initially under the command of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Assam, but it had joined this Brigade by March 1944. It served in the Arakan until March 1945, when it was based at Dohazari.
5. See Notes: Page 2.
6. This regiment was formed on 1 February 1942 by the conversion of the 8th Bn. 1st Punjab Regiment. It comprised the 19th, 20th & 21st L.A.A. Batteries. The first commanding officer was Lieutenant Colonel A. G. TRIBE, who in due course, was replaced by Lieutenant Colonel J. M. WOOD. The regiment came under the command of this Brigade by March 1944, and it remained under command until March 1945, when it transferred to the 24th Anti-Aircraft Brigade when stationed at Jorhat.
7. See Notes: Page 2.

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

15th (East African) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (2)

(H.Q., 153rd (East African), 154th (East African) & 155th (East African) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

6th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (3)

(H.Q., 15th, 16th & 17th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

7th (Rajput) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (4)

(H.Q., 18th, 19th & 20th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3rd Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (5)

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

6th (Punjab) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

8th (Sikh) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (7)

(H.Q., 25th, 26th & 27th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in December 1944. For further explanatory notes, please see Page 2. The Brigade was still responsible for the anti-aircraft defences in East Bengal, Chittagong and the Arakan, as the British advance made progress through the region.
2. This regiment was raised in East Africa, as its name suggests, and it was posted to India, where it came under command of this Brigade. Details of the commanding officer(s) are not known.
3. See Notes: Page 5.
4. See Notes: Page 7.
5. See Notes: Page 5.
6. See Notes: Page 7.
7. See Notes: Page 2.

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

4th (West African) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, West African Artillery (2)

(H.Q., 7th, 8th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, West African Artillery, and 313th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery)

15th (East African) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (3)

(H.Q., 153rd (East African), 154th (East African) & 155th (East African) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

6th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (4)

(H.Q., 15th, 16th & 17th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

25th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (5)

(H.Q., 72nd, 73rd & 74th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3rd Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

11th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (7)

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

15th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (8)

(H.Q., 25th, 26th & 27th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade for March 1945. For further explanatory notes, please see Page 2. The Brigade was still responsible for the anti-aircraft defences at Chittagong and in the Arakan, as the British advance made progress through the region.
2. This regiment was raised in October 1943, incorporating the 313th H.A.A. Battery from the 52nd (London) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment. On its arrival in India, it was allocated to the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, and it moved to the Arakan. Lieutenant Colonel R. A. O'CONNOR commanded the regiment throughout this period. It was based at Comilla, where it was apparently disbanded in March 1945, although it appears on the order of battle for the 14th (West African) Anti-Aircraft Brigade in May 1945.
3. See Notes: Page 9.
4. See Notes: Page 5.
5. This regiment was raised on 1 March 1943, and it comprised the 72nd, 73rd & 74th H.A.A. Batteries. It joined this Brigade by March 1945, and it was stationed at Cox's Bazaar. Details of the commanding officer(s) are not known.
6. See Notes: Page 5.
7. This regiment was raised on 1 April 1943, and once it was equipped and had completed its training, it was posted to join the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in the Arakan. Details of the commanding officer(s) are not known.
8. This regiment was formed on 1 June 1944 by the conversion of the 15th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery. Lieutenant Colonel C. H. WRIGHT commanded the regiment. It was located at Feni in March 1945, under command of this Brigade.

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

15th (East African) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery

(H.Q., 153rd (East African), 154th (East African) & 155th (East African) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

6th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery

(H.Q., 15th, 16th & 17th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

25th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery

(H.Q., 72nd, 73rd & 74th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3rd Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

4th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (2)

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

11th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery

(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

15th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery

(H.Q., 25th, 26th & 27th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade for May 1945. For further explanatory notes, please see Page 2. The Brigade was still responsible for the anti-aircraft defences at Chittagong and in the Arakan, but it was also now responsible for Ramree Island.
2. This regiment was raised on 1 September 1942, and it originally comprised the 13th, 14th and 15th L.A.A. Batteries. The 13th and 14th Batteries became part of the 3rd Indian L.A.A. Regiment, so the 4th comprised the 15th, 16th, and 17th L.A.A. Batteries. Lieutenant Colonel C. H. W. TAYLOR was the commanding officer of the regiment. It came under command of the 14th (West African) Anti-Aircraft Brigade by December 1944, and it was still serving under this Brigade in March 1945, when it was deployed to the Surma valley in eastern Bengal. It had transferred to the command of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade by May 1945, as the anti-aircraft defences in Burma were reduced as the Japanese air threat all but disappeared.

SOURCES:

The National Archives (TNA), Kew

WO 166/2239	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, War Diary (Home Forces) 1 September – 31 December 1941 (General Staff Branch)</i>
WO 166/2240	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, War Diary (Home Forces) 1 September – 31 December 1941 (Signals)</i>
WO 166/2241	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, R.A.S.C. Company War Diary (Home Forces) 1 September – 31 December 1941</i>
WO 166/7378	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, War Diary (Home Forces) January 1942</i>
WO 166/9422	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, R.A.S.C. Company, War Diary, January 1942</i>
WO 172/637	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade H.Q. R.A., S.E. Asia, 1 February – 31 December 1942</i>
WO 172/638	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Signals, S.E. Asia, 1 February – 31 December 1942</i>
WO 172/639	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, R.A.S.C. Company 1 February – 31 December 1942</i>
WO 172/640	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Rangoon Field Brigade, February 1942.</i>
WO 172/2143	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Headquarters, 1 March – 31 December 1943</i>
WO 172/2144	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Signals, 1943</i>
WO 172/3015	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Signals, June 1943</i>
WO 172/4471	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Headquarters, 1944</i>
WO 172/4472	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Signals, 1 January – 31 July 1944</i>
WO 172/7155	<i>13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, War Diary 1 January – 30 November 1945</i>

British Library, St. Pancras