

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

56th (Cornwall) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (2)

(H.Q., 165th (Cornwall), 201st (Cornwall) & 202nd (Cornwall) 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)

8th (*Rajput*) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (4)

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

33rd Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (5)

(H.Q., 179th, 183rd & 184th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

118th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 387th, 388th & 389th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

6th (Punjab) Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (7)

(H.Q., 19th, 20th & 21st Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

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

(H.Q., 23rd & 24th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Indian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This brigade was raised in August 1942 at Bombay. Brigadier (Acting) Kenneth HARGREAVES, M.B.E., T.D., was the command officer of the Brigade with effect from 19 August 1942. The Brigade moved to Madras in November 1942, covering Bombay, Madras and Vizagapatam in southern India. This is the order of battle for this Brigade in May 1943. By September 1943, the 56th and 70th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiments had been posted away, and the 8th (Rajput) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment had been posted in to the Brigade. In February and March 1944, it was exchanged for the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, and the Headquarters, 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade, moved to Assam to protect Digboi, Ledo and the Assam airfields, while the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade moved to Madras and Bombay to commence training for future amphibious operations, and later Operation 'Zipper'. The 3rd Indian Anti-aircraft Brigade was responsible for the defence of fifteen airfields, the town of Digboi with its airfield and oil installations, and the bases of Dimapur, Lumding and Tinsukia. By September 1944, it had gained the responsibility for important railhead and airfield at Ledo, from where the U.S. supplied Chinese forces. Brigadier (Acting) Nigel Grammar THOMPSON assumed command of the Brigade on 7 April 1945, which allowed Brigadier HARGREAVES to return to the U.K. and return to industry.
2. This regiment was formed in 1932 by the conversion of the 51st Medium Brigade. The headquarters based at Falmouth, having moved from St. Austell. The 201st Battery was based at Padstow, the 202nd Battery at Par, and the 203rd Battery at Penzance. These three batteries were the original medium batteries. The 165th Battery was based at Redruth, and it was formerly part of the Cornwall Heavy Regiment. In September 1939, the regiment was part of the 35th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, 5th Anti-Aircraft Division, and it was stationed in and around Plymouth. In September 1940, it was still stationed in Plymouth, but it was now under command of the 55th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, 8th Anti-Aircraft Division. The regiment remained in the U.K. until December 1941 when it sailed for India with the 165th, 201st and 202nd Batteries. The 203rd H.A.A. Battery had transferred to the 12th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment in December 1941. The regiment arrived at Bombay on 4 March 1942, and it was initially deployed to Madras, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel J. DANIEL. In May 1942, it came under command of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Madras, and in February 1943, it transferred to the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade, also stationed in Madras. In February 1944, the regiment came under command of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, but a month later, it was under command of XXIII Indian Corps in India. In July 1944, the Regiment was stationed in Poona, where it was converted to a medium regiment, becoming the 86th Medium Regiment. It continued to serve in India, with a period as a training regiment, until the end of the war. After the war, it was reformed as the 456th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery, based at Redruth.

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. Formed on 1 April 1942 by the conversion of the 7th Bn. 7th Rajput Regiment, this regiment came under command of this Brigade between May and September 1943. The commanding officer(s) are not known. By January 1945, the regiment was stationed in Madras, and it was disbanded on 4 June 1945.
5. This regiment was formed in August 1939. It arrived in Bombay on 20 May 1942, and it moved to Madras to join the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. In March 1943, it transferred to the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. On 6 August 1943, the regiment was reorganised as a joint Light Anti-Aircraft/Anti-Tank Regiment. On 1 September 1944, it converted into an anti-tank regiment, and it moved to Imphal to come under command of the 19th Indian Infantry Division. Lieutenant Colonel E. A. HOWARD commanded the regiment prior to its conversion.
6. The 11th Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment was converted to a light anti-aircraft regiment in February 1942, and it was titled the 118th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment. It was allocated to the 49th Infantry Division for a period, but then left the U.K. in February 1943 bound for India. It arrived at Bombay on 11 April 1943, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel T. HAIGHTON. It was established as a static unit, with fifty-four 40 mm Bofors guns allocated to it. The regiment was sent to Bangalore, and it was then allocated to this Brigade, but in June 1943, it was transferred to the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade and was stationed at Tezpur in Assam. By March 1944, this regiment had transferred to the 14th (West African) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, which also covered Assam, Nagaland, and Manipur. This regiment moved up to Dimapur, after which it moved forward to Imphal and Palel. With the Japanese now in retreat, the regiment began to lose drafts of men to other units from August 1944 onwards, including to infantry battalions, and it was formally disbanded on 28 February 1945.
7. 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, but by March 1944, it had transferred to the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in the Arakan, and it remained under command until March 1945, when it transferred to the 24th Anti-Aircraft Brigade when stationed at Jorhat.

8. Raised by the conversion of the 8th Bn. 11th Sikh Regiment on 1 April 1942, this regiment is shown as being under command of this Brigade in May 1943. It was disbanded on 15 August 1943, never having apparently reached operational readiness.

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

66th (Leeds Rifles) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (2)
(H.Q., 184th, 185th & 296th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

2nd Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (3)
(H.Q., 1st, 7th & 8th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

5th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (4)
(H.Q., 12th, 13th & 14th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

69th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (5)
(H.Q., 206th, 207 & 267th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

1st Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)
(H.Q., 2nd, 3rd & 6th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

5th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (7)
(H.Q., 18th, 31st & 32nd Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Indian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle for this Brigade in March 1944, by which time, the Brigade Headquarters had moved from Madras to Assam. It was responsible for the anti-aircraft defence of Digboi, Ledo and the Assam airfields, which included the defence of fifteen airfields, the town of Digboi with its airfield and oil installations, and the bases of Dimapur, Luming and Tinsukia. By September 1944, it had gained the responsibility for important railhead and airfield at Ledo, from where the U.S. supplied Chinese forces. Brigadier (Acting) Nigel Grammar THOMPSON assumed command of the Brigade on 7 April 1945, which allowed Brigadier HARGREAVES to return to the U.K. and return to industry.
2. This regiment was formed in 1936 by the conversion of the 7th (Leeds Rifles) Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment. It remained in the U.K. until March 1942, when it sailed for India. It arrived in India on the 11 May 1942, and it moved to Calcutta. On 24 June 1942, 184th Battery moved to Tezour in Assam, and it came under command of the 1st Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. On 14 September 1942, the regiment moved to Assansol and came under command of the 2nd Anti-Aircraft Brigade. On 6 December 1942, the regiment transferred to the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, and moved to the Manipur Road area. It served in this area throughout 1943. 296th Battery was detached in January 1944, with the regiment transferring to the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade based in India on 22 April 1944, still less the 296th Battery which remained in the Ledo area. On 17 January 1945, the regiment moved to Panitola, being placed in suspended animation on 1 April 1945.
3. The second Indian heavy anti-aircraft regiment was raised on 1 April 1941 as 'S' Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment with the 1st H.A.A. Battery transferring in from the 'R' Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, which had been raised some six months earlier. By October 1941, the regiment was based in Calcutta. In December 1941, 8th H.A.A. Battery was detached to Rangoon and took part in the retreat from Burma in early 1942 eventually destroying their guns at Ye-U. The regiment joined this Brigade in Assam, and moved with the Brigade to southern India, being stationed at Poona. It returned to Assam in October 1944 to come under the command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade.
4. This regiment was raised on 1 March 1942, and it comprised the 12th, 13th & 14th H.A.A. Batteries. Lieutenant Colonel R. C. ELLIOTT command the regiment. Following its training, it was deployed to Assam, where it came under command of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. When that brigade headquarters moved to Madras, this regiment came under command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. It remained in Assam and Burma for the rest of the war, and it came under command of the 61st Army Group Royal Artillery in June 1945. Lieutenant Colonel O. C. D. BERRY replaced Lieutenant Colonel ELLIOTT as the commanding officer on an unknown date.

5. This regiment was formed in December 1940. It served in the U.K. with Home Forces until March 1942, when it sailed for India. It arrived at Bombay on 10 May 1942 and moved to Delhi to come under command of the Delhi Brigade Area. Between June and August 1942, it was under command of IV Corps, and then joined the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. It was equipped with thirty-six 40 mm Bofors guns, and apparently was issued with elephants for trials purposes. Lieutenant Colonel T. H. Du BOULAY was the commanding officer of the regiment. In September 1943, it was given a new establishment of fifty-four 40 mm Bofors guns. In April 1944, it transferred to the command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade, but in July, it was under command of IV Corps at Imphal. In September 1944, it came under command of the 14th (West African) Anti-Aircraft Brigade, and on 27 April 1945, it was located at Monywa. The regiment was flown out to Ranchi, and on 21 August 1945, it embarked at Madras bound for the U.K. and Home. Other commanding officers were Lieutenant Colonel H. W. HUNTER and Lieutenant Colonel P. COX.
6. The 1st Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment was raised on 1 March 1941, with the 1st, 2nd & 3rd L.A.A. Batteries. Lieutenant Colonel G. C. FAWNS was the first commanding officer. The 1st L.A.A. Battery was sent to Singapore, where it was captured with the fall of the island on 15 February 1942. It was replaced by the 6th L.A.A. Battery, by which time, the regiment was based at Calcutta. The 3rd L.A.A. Battery was detached to Burma in later 1941 and early 1942. In February 1942, the regiment came under command of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Assam. In February 1944, it was transferred to the command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade while remaining located in Assam. In late 1944, it was re-equipped with self-propelled Bofors guns, and it was allocated to the 24th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in 1945.
7. This regiment was raised on 15 December 1942, and originally comprised the 16th, 17th & 18th L.A.A. Batteries. In 1943, it was deployed to Assam to join the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. Lieutenant Colonel J. H. R. EDLEMAN was the commanding officer. The 16th and 17th L.A.A. Batteries were moved to the 4th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, and this regiment received the 31st and 32nd L.A.A. Batteries as replacements. In February 1944, it was transferred to the command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade while remaining in Assam. On an unknown date, Lieutenant Colonel C. E. S. P. GAUSSEN assumed command of the regiment. In June 1945, with the rundown of anti-aircraft units in Burma, it came under command of the 61st Army Group, Royal Artillery.

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

66th (Leeds Rifles) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery
(H.Q., 184th, 185th & 296th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

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

1st Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery
(H.Q., 2nd, 3rd & 6th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

5th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery
(H.Q., 18th, 31st & 32nd Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Indian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle for this Brigade in December 1944, when it was responsible for the anti-aircraft defence of Digboi, Ledo and the Assam airfields, which included the defence of fifteen airfields, the town of Digboi with its airfield and oil installations, and the bases of Dimapur, Lumding and Tinsukia, and by this date, it had gained the responsibility for important railhead and airfield at Ledo, from where the U.S. supplied Chinese forces. In March 1945, the order of battle was similar, with just the departure of the 66th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment. In May 1945, the Brigade Headquarters had no units under command, as it was awaiting a move to Rangoon to take over from the 61st Army Group, Royal Artillery.