

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 9th 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)

67th (York and Lancaster) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (3)

(H.Q., 187th, 188th & 189th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

2nd Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (4)

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

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

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

69th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (6)

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

118th *Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery* (7)

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

1st Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (8)

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

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This Brigade appears to have been formed in India circa 1942 to initially cover the Dimapur area and the Assam airfields. Brigadier (Acting) Donald William BANNISTER was appointed to command the Brigade with effect from 18 May 1942. BANNISTER had arrived in India as a Lieutenant Colonel commanding the 28th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, which had arrived in India on 10 March 1942. On 7 February 1943, Brigadier BANNISTER was appointed the Brigadier, Air Defence, for the Eastern Army in India. On 19 March 1943, Lieutenant Colonel Frank DEARDEN, the commanding officer of the 8th (Belfast) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, was promoted to the rank of Acting Brigadier to assume command of the Brigade. This is the order of battle for the Brigade for May and September 1943, the only difference being the posting in of the 118th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment in June. Brigadier DEARDEN relinquished command of the Brigade on 24 February 1944, to be replaced by Brigadier (Temporary) George Pollard THOMAS, O.B.E., who remained in command until the end of hostilities.
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. This regiment was formed in 1936 from the 5th Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment. It served in the U.K. until September 1941, when it sailed for North Africa. It stayed in North Africa for only a month, before travelling on to India. It arrived in India on 1 February 1942, and it moved to Calcutta to join the 1st Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. On 1 May 1942, 187th Battery moved to Manipur Road, with the 188th Battery following on 18 May. On 4 September 1942, the Regimental Headquarters (and 189th Battery) moved to the Manipur Road, and resumed control of the 187th and 188th Batteries. On 13 October 1943, the regiment (less 189th Battery) moved to Imphal and came under command of IV Corps. 189th Battery rejoined on 27 November 1943. The regiment remained with IV Corps until 18 July 1944, when it transferred to XXXIII Indian Corps. On 6 October 1944, the regiment was relieved of its anti-aircraft duties, and it took on an infantry role under command of IV Corps. It resumed its anti-aircraft role on 1 January 1945, moving into Burma with IV Corps. On 5 May 1945, it transferred to 14th Army control, and then on 26 May to 24th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. The regiment was stationed in Rangoon at the cessation of hostilities.
4. 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.

5. 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.
6. This regiment was formed in December 1940. It served in the U.K. with Home Forces until March 1942, when it sailed for Indian. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 9th 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)

101st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (3)

(H.Q., 226th, 297th & 379th 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)

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle for the Brigade in March 1944, by which time, the Brigade Headquarters had moved to Madras, and the Brigade had assumed responsibility for the anti-aircraft defences for Bombay, Madras and Trichinopoly. The Brigade assumed command of units already stationed in southern India, that were formerly under the command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade.
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. Formed in the U.K. in August 1939 as a Territorial Army regiment, the Headquarters and 297th Batteries were based in Inverness, with the 226th Battery based at Kirkwall. The Regiment stayed with Home Forces until May 1943, when it moved to India. It arrived at Bombay on 1 July 1943, and it moved to Avadi to join the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. Lieutenant Colonel H. V. KERR commanded the regiment in this period. The 226th and 297th H.A.A. Batteries were mobile, while the 379th H.A.A. Battery was static. In October 1943, it transferred to the 1st R.M. Anti-Aircraft Brigade, which had moved to India from Ceylon, and then in January 1944, it came under command of 14th Army. In March 1944, it joined the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, but on 27 September 1944, it moved to Imphal and came under command of XXXIII Indian Corps. 'A' Troop, 226th H.A.A. Battery took over four 7.2" howitzers. On 31 December 1944, the regiment was stationed at Kalewa in a ground role, in which it fired 15,500 rounds of 3.7" ammunition, and 2,000 rounds of 7.2" ammunition. In June 1945, it came under command of the 24th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Burma, where it was stationed at the end of the war. The regiment was disbanded on 1 September 1945 at Rangoon. Other commanding officers were Lieutenant Colonel J. GREEN and Major H. E. RUDDOCK, the latter in the closing days of the regiment.
4. This regiment was converted from the 7th Bn. 7th Rajput Regiment on 1 April 1942. Details of the commanding officers are not known. The regiment came under command of this Brigade by March 1944, and in January 1945, it was stationed in Madras. The regiment remained with this Brigade until it was disbanded on 4 June 1945.

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (2)

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

7th (Rajput) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (3)

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

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

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

8th (Sikh) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (5)

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

9th (Rajput) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery (6)

(H.Q., 22nd, 28th & 30th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Workshops, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

NOTES:

1. This is the order of battle for the Brigade in December 1944, by which time, the Brigade Headquarters had moved to Madras, and the Brigade had assumed responsibility for the anti-aircraft defences for Bombay, Madras and Trichinopoly. The Brigade assumed command of units already stationed in southern India, that were formerly under the command of the 3rd Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. In May 1945, the Brigade was stationed in and around Bombay in preparation for Operation 'Zipper', the forthcoming invasion of Malaya. The re-occupation of Malaya took place after the cessation of hostilities with Japan, and it is not known whether the Brigade or any of its constituent units were actually deployed to Malaya.
2. 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.
3. This regiment was formed on 1 February 1942 by the conversion of the 8th Bn. 7th Rajput Regiment, and it comprised the 18th, 19th & 20th H.A.A. Batteries. The details of the commanding officer(s) are not known. The regiment was sent to Assam in 1943, where it came under command of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. By October 1944, it was serving in the Arakan under the command of the 13th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. In March 1945, the regiment was stationed in Dohazari, and two months later, it was part of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade again, stationed in and around Bombay.
4. See Notes: page 4.
5. 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. In May 1945, the regiment was stationed in and around Bombay as part of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in preparation for Operation 'Zipper'.
6. Raised on 1 May 1942 by the conversion of the 9th Bn. 6th Rajputana Rifles, this regiment comprised the 22nd, 28th and 30th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries. The commanding officer is unknown. It is presumed that the regiment joined this Brigade shortly after its formation. It had left this Brigade by March 1944, transferring to the 1st Indian Anti-Aircraft Brigade. By December 1944, the regiment had moved to southern India to come under command of the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, in preparation for Operation 'Zipper'.