

## Ceylon Command <sup>(1)</sup>

H.Q. Ceylon Command <sup>(2)</sup>

23<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade

Headquarters, 23<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

13<sup>th</sup> Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery

(H.Q., 36<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> & 38<sup>th</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

3<sup>rd</sup> Searchlight & Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Ceylon Garrison Artillery

24<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade <sup>(3)</sup>

Headquarters, 24<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

9<sup>th</sup> (Punjab) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Indian Artillery

(H.Q., 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 73<sup>rd</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Indian Artillery)

43<sup>rd</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery <sup>(4)</sup>

(H.Q., 147<sup>th</sup> & 148<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

1<sup>st</sup> Coast Regiment, Ceylon Garrison Artillery

2<sup>nd</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Ceylon Garrison Artillery

The Ceylon Signal Section, Royal Corps of Signals

Infantry

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The Ceylon Light Infantry (Kandy)

Trincomalee Fortress

4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Ceylon Light Infantry

Colombo Base Area

1<sup>st</sup> Bn. The Ceylon Light Infantry

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. The Ceylon Light Infantry

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Ceylon Light Infantry

The Ceylon Garrison Artillery (Volunteer)

(H.Q., 1<sup>st</sup> Heavy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Heavy, 3<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Aircraft & 4<sup>th</sup> Heavy Batteries, Ceylon Garrison Artillery)

The Ceylon Engineers

Ocean Bases (Addu Atoll)

26<sup>th</sup> Bn. 17<sup>th</sup> Dogra Regiment

NOTES:

1. The Ceylon Defence Force was the title of the British troops stationed on the island. On 22 November 1941, Ceylon came under Headquarters, The Army in India, as the threat of war with Japan increased. Ceylon Command was established on 7 March 1942, with the appointment of the first General Officer Commanding. This is the order of battle for 15 January 1945.
2. The Headquarters, Ceylon Command, were based in the capital of the British Colony at Colombo.
3. This Brigade left Ceylon for India in early 1945, after which it was deployed to Meiktila in March 1945. This left the 23<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Brigade as the only formation on the island.
4. The 264<sup>th</sup> L.A.A. Battery of this regiment was already deployed with XIV Army in Burma.

SOURCES:

[British Library, African and Asiatic Reading Room](#)

L/MIL/17/5/1475

Websites

*The British Army Overseas and the Colonies on 3 September 1939*

<http://www.patriotfiles.com/index.php?name=Sections&req=viewarticle&artid=6696>