

## The London Division <sup>(1)</sup>

Headquarters, The London Division

### 1<sup>st</sup> (London) Infantry Brigade <sup>(2)</sup>

Headquarters, 1<sup>st</sup> (London) Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

1<sup>st</sup> (City of London) Bn The London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers)

2<sup>nd</sup> (City of London) Bn. The London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers)

3<sup>rd</sup> (City of London) Bn. The London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) <sup>(3)</sup>

10<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn. The London Regiment (Hackney)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> (London) Infantry Brigade <sup>(4)</sup>

Headquarters, 2<sup>nd</sup> (London) Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

The Honourable Artillery Company Infantry Battalion

5<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Bn. The London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade) <sup>(5)</sup>

13<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn The London Regiment (Kensington) <sup>(6)</sup>

14<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn. The London Regiment (London Scottish) <sup>(7)</sup>

### 3<sup>rd</sup> (London) Infantry Brigade <sup>(8)</sup>

Headquarters, 3<sup>rd</sup> (London) Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

9<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn. The London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles) <sup>(9)</sup>

12<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn. The London Regiment (Rangers) <sup>(10)</sup>

17<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn. The London Regiment (Tower Hamlet Rifles) <sup>(11)</sup>

18<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn. The London Regiment (London Irish Rifles) <sup>(12)</sup>

### Divisional Troops

#### Headquarters, The London Divisional Royal Artillery

63<sup>rd</sup> (6<sup>th</sup> London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery (13)

(H.Q., 249<sup>th</sup> (13<sup>th</sup> London), 250<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> (London), 251<sup>st</sup> (15<sup>th</sup> London) & 252<sup>nd</sup> (16<sup>th</sup> (London) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

64<sup>th</sup> (7<sup>th</sup> London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery (14)

(H.Q., 253<sup>rd</sup> (18<sup>th</sup> London), 254<sup>th</sup> (19<sup>th</sup> London), 255<sup>th</sup> (20<sup>th</sup> London) & 256<sup>th</sup> (17<sup>th</sup> London) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

90<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery (15)

(H.Q., 357<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> City of London), 358<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> City of London), 359<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> City of London) & 360<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> City of London) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

#### The London Divisional Engineers, Royal Engineers

220<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Field Company, Royal Engineers (16)

221<sup>st</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Field Company, Royal Engineers (16)

222<sup>nd</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Field Company, Royal Engineers (16)

#### The London Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals (17)

#### The London Divisional Royal Army Service Corps (18)

513<sup>th</sup> Company, Royal Army Service Corps

514<sup>th</sup> Company, Royal Army Service Corps

515<sup>th</sup> Company, Royal Army Service Corps

167<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps (19)

#### The London Divisional Royal Army Ordnance Corps (20)

### Units Attached to The London Division

16<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Bn. The London Regiment (Queen's Westminster Rifles) (21)

56<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) Divisional Engineers, Royal Engineers

216<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) Field Company, Royal Engineers (22)

217<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) Field Company, Royal Engineers (22)

218<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) Field Company, Royal Engineers (22)

#### The London Corps Signals, Royal Corps of Signals (23)

140<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps (19)

3<sup>rd</sup> (London) Ordnance Field Park, Royal Army Ordnance Corps (20)

#### Officer Producing Group

Inns of Court Regiment (24)

3 (Officer Producing) Sections, 11<sup>th</sup> (Honourable Artillery Company)  
Royal Horse Artillery

1<sup>st</sup> (Officer Producing) Company, Honourable Artillery Company  
Infantry Battalion.

The Artists Rifles (25)

22<sup>nd</sup> (London) Armoured Car Company (Westminster Dragoons),  
Royal Tank Corps (26)

#### Army Troops in the London Divisional Area

91<sup>st</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery (27)

(H.Q., 361<sup>st</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> London), 362<sup>nd</sup> (6<sup>th</sup> London), 363<sup>rd</sup> (7<sup>th</sup> London) & 364<sup>th</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> London) Field  
Batteries, Royal Artillery)

92<sup>nd</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery (28)

(H.Q., 365<sup>th</sup> (9<sup>th</sup> London), 366<sup>th</sup> (10<sup>th</sup> London), 367<sup>th</sup> (11<sup>th</sup> London) & 368<sup>th</sup> (12<sup>th</sup> London) Field  
Batteries, Royal Artillery)

53<sup>rd</sup> (London) Medium Brigade, Royal Artillery (29)

(H.Q., 209<sup>th</sup> (London), 210<sup>th</sup> (London), 211<sup>th</sup> (London) & 212<sup>th</sup> (London) Medium Batteries,  
Royal Artillery)

#### Royal Corps of Signals

2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals (30)

204<sup>th</sup> Medium Artillery Signal Section, Royal Corps of Signals (23)

#### Royal Tank Corps

23<sup>rd</sup> (London) Armoured Car Company (Sharpshooters), Royal Tank Corps (31)

#### Royal Army Service Corps

549<sup>th</sup> (Non-Divisional) Company, Royal Army Service Corps (18)

#### Royal Army Medical Corps

13<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> London) General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps (24)

8<sup>th</sup> (London) Hygiene Company, Royal Army Medical Corps (24)

Royal Army Ordnance Corps

2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Divisional Royal Army Ordnance Corps (25)

Supplementary Reserve

No. 2 Company, Air Contingency Signals, Royal Corps of Signals (23)

No. 28 (London) Construction Section, Royal Corps of Signals (23)

No. 29 (London) Construction Section, Royal Corps of Signals (23)

No. 30 (London) Construction Section, Royal Corps of Signals (23)

## NOTES:

1. This formation was originally formed in 1908 as one of the Territorial Force divisions in the British Army. It was then designated as the 1<sup>st</sup> London Division. The division was mobilised but then broken up in early 1915. It was reformed in France in February 1916, which is when it was numbered, and probably why it was numbered the last in the Territorial Army series of divisional numbers. It was reconstituted in the Territorial Army in 1920. The headquarters of the division was based in Finsbury Barracks, City Road, London EC1. In the period from 1932 to 1938, many constituent units of this division and the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Division were converted into other roles, mainly anti-aircraft. This led to the disbanding of the 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Division in 1936 and a reorganisation of this division. In 1938, The London Division was reorganised as a motor division. In June 1940, it reverted to a standard infantry division establishment and on 18 November 1940 was again designated as the 56<sup>th</sup> (London) Infantry Division. The division left the United Kingdom on 25 August 1942 moving to Iraq. It later served in Palestine, Egypt, and Libya before seeing active service in Tunisia in April 1943. It then saw considerable active service throughout the Italian campaign. It was reformed in 1947 as an armoured division in the Territorial Army.
2. This brigade had its headquarters based in Birdcage Walk, London at the Regimental Headquarters, Grenadier Guards. Three battalions were part of the Royal Fusiliers, the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was based at Fusilier Hall, Handel Street, Bloomsbury, London W.C.1., the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was based at 213 Balham High Road, London S.W.17 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion was based at 207, Harrow Road, London W.2.. The 10<sup>th</sup> Bn. was affiliated to the Royal Berkshire Regiment. It was based at 1, Hillman Street, Hackney, London E.8. In 1938, with the disbandment of The London Regiment, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions became the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Battalions of the Royal Fusiliers, and the 10<sup>th</sup> Bn. became the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment. The brigade was redesignated as the 167<sup>th</sup> (London) Brigade in 1940 and remained with the division throughout the war.
3. In 1938, the battalion was converted into an artillery role, being redesignated as:  
**10<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> City of London) Bn. The Royal Fusiliers (69<sup>th</sup> Searchlight Regiment)**  
This regiment remained part of the Royal Fusiliers until becoming part of the Royal Artillery in July and August 1940. It remained in the U.K. for the duration of the war.
4. This brigade had its headquarters at Finsbury Barracks, City Road, London E.C.1. It had comprised of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Battalions of The London Regiment, but was reorganised in 1936. The H.A.C. Infantry Battalion was based at Armoury House, in Finsbury Barracks, London E.C.1.. The 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. was based in 130 Bunhill Row, London E.C.1., the 13<sup>th</sup> Bn. was based at Iverna Gardens, Kensington, London W.8.; with the 14<sup>th</sup> Bn. based at 59, Buckingham Gate, Westminster, London S.W.1.. The brigade was reduced to three battalions in 1938 with the transfer of the H.A.C. Infantry Battalion to the Officer Producing Group.
5. In 1938, this battalion became The London Rifle Brigade, with its parent regiment being The Rifle Brigade. It remained with this brigade until November 1940.
6. In 1938, this battalion moved to a new Territorial Army Centre at 190, Hammersmith Road, London W.6.. It was converted into a machine gun battalion with the Middlesex Regiment as its parent regiment, and it left this brigade to come under command of The London District. In September 1939, this battalion was under the command of the 6<sup>th</sup> London Infantry Brigade.
7. The 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion became part of The Gordon Highlanders in 1938 when the London Regiment was disbanded. The battalion transferred to the 168<sup>th</sup> (or 2<sup>nd</sup> London) Infantry Brigade in the 56<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) Infantry Division.

8. The headquarters of this brigade was based at the Regimental Headquarters, Scots Guards, at Birdcage Walk, London S.W.1. The 9<sup>th</sup> Bn. was based at 56, Davies Street, Berkeley Square, London W.1.; the 12<sup>th</sup> Bn. at Tottenham Court Road; the 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion was based at 66, Tredegar Road, Bow in East London; the 18<sup>th</sup> Bn. was based at the Duke of York's Headquarters in Chelsea. The brigade left this division on 6 October 1939, transferring to the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Division. On 28 November 1940, it was redesignated as the 71<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade. It later joined the 53<sup>rd</sup> (Welsh) Infantry Division, albeit with a complete change of units.
9. This battalion was based at Davies Street, Berkeley Square. On 10 August 1937, it was redesignated as:  
**The Queen's Victoria Rifles**  
Its parent regiment became The King's Royal Rifle Corps. In 1938, it was converted into the reconnaissance battalion for the division, equipped with motorcycles.
10. This battalion was based in Tottenham Court Road, London. On 10 August 1937, it was redesignated as:  
**The Rangers**  
Its parent regiment became The King's Royal Rifle Corps.
11. In August 1937, this battalion was redesignated as:  
**The Tower Hamlet Rifles**  
Its parent regiment was The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own).
12. In August 1937, this battalion was redesignated as:  
**The London Irish Rifles**  
With the disbanding of the London Regiment, the Royal Ulster Rifles became the parent regiment of the battalion.
13. This regiment was originally formed in 1908 as the 6<sup>th</sup> London Brigade, R.F.A., with its headquarters at 105, Holland Road (later renamed Minet Road), Brixton. The regiment was reformed in the Territorial Army in 1920 with all five batteries based at Brixton. In 1921, it was redesignated as the 63<sup>rd</sup> (London) Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. On 1 June 1924, with the creation of the Royal Artillery the regiment became the 63<sup>rd</sup> (6<sup>th</sup> London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery. On 28 November 1938, the regiment was converted to an anti-tank regiment, becoming the:  
**52<sup>nd</sup> (6<sup>th</sup> London) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery**  
Its batteries were renumbered as the 205<sup>th</sup> (13<sup>th</sup> London), 206<sup>th</sup> (14<sup>th</sup> London), 207<sup>th</sup> (15<sup>th</sup> London) & 208<sup>th</sup> (16<sup>th</sup> London) Anti-Tank Batteries. In September 1939, it came under the command of the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, with which it remained throughout the war. In 1939, the regiment formed a duplicate unit, the 62<sup>nd</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery. This regiment came under command of the reformed 2<sup>nd</sup> London Infantry Division, remaining with that division until February 1943. It later served in North-West Europe with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army.

14. Formed in 1916 as the 7<sup>th</sup> London Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, the Headquarters, 253<sup>rd</sup> and 255<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based at High Street, Fulham, with the 254<sup>th</sup> Battery based at Wood Lane, Shepherd's Bush and the 256<sup>th</sup> Battery based at Porteus Road, Paddington. When the division disbanded, the 64<sup>th</sup> Field Brigade transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> London Division. In May 1939, the regiment formed a duplicate unit, the 117<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The 255<sup>th</sup> and 256<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferred to the new regiment. The 64<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment served throughout the war with the 56<sup>th</sup> (London) Infantry Division in Iraq, North Africa, and Italy. The 117<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment remained in the United Kingdom under command of the 47<sup>th</sup> (London) Infantry Division, latterly in a training and draft finding role.
15. This regiment was based in Handel Street, Bloomsbury, London W.C.1.. All five batteries were also based at Handel Street. Its origin's date back to 1863 and the formation of the 1<sup>st</sup> London (City) Volunteer Artillery Corps. The regiment stayed with the division until March 1943, when it transferred to the 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, ending the war serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army in N.W. Europe. On 27 April 1939, the regiment formed a duplicate unit, the 138<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The 359<sup>th</sup> and 360<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferred across to the new regiment. Starting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Division, it later served with the 78<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy.
16. Formed originally in 1860 as the 1<sup>st</sup> Middlesex Engineer Volunteers, in 1908 this unit became the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Division Engineers, with its headquarters based at Fulham Road, London. In 1910, the headquarters and three companies moved to the Duke of York's Headquarters in Chelsea. The engineer companies were reconstituted in 1920, based at the same location. In 1935, with the merging of the two London divisions, this unit became The London Division Engineers. The companies retained the designation of the 220<sup>th</sup>, 221<sup>st</sup> and 222<sup>nd</sup> Field Companies. In 1939, the 223<sup>rd</sup> Field Park Company was formed. After the war, the engineers were reconstituted as the 101<sup>st</sup> Field Engineer Regiment, based at Chelsea, under command of the 56<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division.
17. The divisional signals were based at Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, London S.W.12.. The unit can trace its history back to 1861, with the formation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Tower Hamlet Militia. The unit became part of the Royal Engineers, which was then responsible for Army communications. It served in The Great War as a Telegraph Company. In 1921, the unit became part of the Royal Signals as, The 56<sup>th</sup> (London) Divisional Signals.
18. The divisional supply and transport units were all based at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea.
19. The City of London Field Ambulance was based at Finsbury Barracks, London E.C.1.. The County of London Field Ambulance was based at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London S.W.3., which is where the 13<sup>th</sup> General Hospital and 8<sup>th</sup> Hygiene Company were also based.
20. The London Divisional R.A.O.C., the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Divisional R.A.O.C. and the No. 3 (London) Ordnance Field Park, R.A.O.C. were all based at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London, S.W.3.
21. This battalion was unallocated. It was based at Queen's Hall, 58, Buckingham Gate, Westminster. In August 1937, it became titled as the Queen's Westminster's Rifles. It joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Infantry Brigade in 1939 when the London Division duplicated to reform the 56<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions. Its parent regiment was the King's Royal Rifle Corps.

22. In 1861, the 1<sup>st</sup> Tower Hamlet Engineer Volunteers were formed, which later became the East London (Tower Hamlets) Engineer Volunteers based at Bethnal Green. In 1908, the regiment transferred to the Territorial Force as the 1<sup>st</sup> London Division Engineers. The headquarters and three companies were based at 10, Victoria Square, Bethnal Green. In 1920, the regiment was reformed as the 56<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) Division Engineers. The 216<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London), 217<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London), and 218<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) companies were all based at Bethnal Green. In 1936 with the disbanding of the 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Infantry Division, these companies transferred to the London District, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> London Field Companies came under command of the London Division. The 219<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company was formed in 1938. In 1939, the four companies were grouped as the 1<sup>st</sup> London Corps Troops Engineers, becoming the 18<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) GHQ Troops Engineers in 1943. In April 1947, they were reformed as the 114<sup>th</sup> Army Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers, based at Bethnal Green.
23. The London Corps Signals were based at Fulham House, Putney Bridge, London S.W.6. The 204<sup>th</sup> Medium Artillery Signal Section was also based here. The other four signals units were also based at Fulham House.
24. In 1584, the first Inns of Court trained personnel were raised in November of that year. In 1859, the Inns of Court Volunteers was constituted as an officer producing unit. On 1 April 1908, it became part of the Territorial Force as the 27<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Battalion, The London Regiment, however, the new title was ignored by the regiment. The headquarters of the unit was based at Lincoln's Inn, London. In 1909, it became the Inns of Court Officer Training Corps. In April 1932, it was reorganised as a squadron of cavalry and two companies of infantry. In 1940, it transferred to the Royal Armoured Corps and became an armoured car regiment.
25. The Artist's Rifles were based at Duke's Road, Euston Road, London W.C.1.. It was under command of the 140<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade until that formation disbanded in 1936, when it became an officer producing unit.
26. The 2<sup>nd</sup> County of London Yeomanry (Westminster Dragoons) was converted into an armoured car company in 1920. It was based at 1, Elverton Street, Westminster, London. In 1938, it was converted into 102<sup>nd</sup> Officer Cadet Training Unit as part of the Officer Producing Group. In 1943, it was converted to an armoured regiment and joined the 30<sup>th</sup> Armoured Brigade, 79<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division. Equipped with flail tanks, the regiment landed in Normandy on D-Day.
27. The 9<sup>th</sup> Kent Artillery Volunteer Corps was formed on 13 February 1860 in Plumstead. In 1908, it became the 4<sup>th</sup> London (Howitzer) Brigade, Royal Field Artillery and in 1921 it was redesignated as the 91<sup>st</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> London) Brigade, R.F.A. All five batteries were based in Lewisham, London. In 1939, the regiment formed a duplicate unit, the 139<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery. The 362<sup>nd</sup> and 364<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferred across to the new regiment. The 91<sup>st</sup> Field Regiment joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in September 1939, serving with that division throughout the war. The 139<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment served in the U.K. until leaving in July 1942, sailing for India. There it joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division. In 1947, the regiments were reformed as the 291<sup>st</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> London) Airborne Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, still based at Lewisham. In 1956, it became a standard field regiment, amalgamating in 1961.



28. On 9 October 1861, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Middlesex Artillery Volunteer Corps was raised at Regent Street, London. In 1920, this Regiment was reformed as the 5<sup>th</sup> London Brigade, R.F.A., based at Kennington Lane, London SE. In 1921, it was redesignated as the 92<sup>nd</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery. The 365<sup>th</sup> and 366<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based at Kennington Lane, with the 367<sup>th</sup> and 368<sup>th</sup> Batteries being based at Woolwich. The Regiment left the Division between 1936 and 1938, transferring to the London District. In 1939, it formed a duplicate regiment, the 140<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, with the 366<sup>th</sup> and 367<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferring to the new Regiment. The 92<sup>nd</sup> Field Regiment joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in September 1939, serving with that Division throughout the war. The 140<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment left the U.K. in November 1942 when it moved to North Africa under command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army. It was re-designated as the 140<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment in September 1943. After the war, the Regiments were reformed as the 292<sup>nd</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> London) Airborne Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery. It was amalgamated in October 1956.
29. This medium brigade was formed as part of the Royal Garrison Artillery. The headquarters and all four batteries were based at the Drill Hall, Offord Road, Barnsbury, London. The regiment served in France with the B.E.F. in 1940, and then saw active service in North-West Europe in 1944 and 1945.
30. In 1920, the 1<sup>st</sup> County of London Yeomanry (Middlesex, Duke of Cambridge's Hussars) was converted into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Divisional Signals. The unit was based at the Duke of York's Headquarters in Chelsea, London.
31. The 3<sup>rd</sup> County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters) was based at 90, Henry Street, St. John's Wood, London. In 1938, the company was expanded into a regiment, and then in 1939 it duplicated to form the 4<sup>th</sup> County of London Yeomanry. Together, they formed the 22<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Brigade in 1939.

SOURCES:

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