

8th Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 8th Infantry Division

14th Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 14th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)

1st Bn. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's)

2nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own)

16th Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 16th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

2nd Bn. The Leicestershire Regiment

1st Bn. The South Staffordshire Regiment

1st Bn. The Welch Regiment

1st Bn. The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)

Divisional Troops

1st The Royal Dragoons ⁽⁴⁾

Detachment, 1st Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery ⁽⁵⁾

12th Field Company, Royal Engineers

NOTES:

1. This was a pre-war Regular Army division, which was stationed in Palestine enforcing the British mandate under the League of Nations authority. Up to 1936, the British military presence in Palestine had been provided by the R.A.F. In 1936 the Arab revolt began in response to the immigration of Jews into the country leading to the deployment of army units to maintain internal security. The two infantry brigades were brought under command of the newly formed 8th Infantry Division on 28 October 1938, when Major General Bernard Law MONTGOMERY, D.S.O., *p.s.c.*, arrived in Palestine. The division was disbanded in Palestine on 28 February 1940, and was not reformed during the war.
2. A pre-war Regular Army brigade, with its headquarters located at Nablus in Central Palestine. The 2nd Bn. Queen's Regiment was based at Tulkarm, the 2nd Bn. Rifle Brigade at Nablus Fort, and the 1st Bn. Argylls at Jenin. When the divisional headquarters was disbanded, the Brigade initially remained in Palestine. On 23 March 1940, it came under the command of the 6th Infantry Division, transferring to come under the command of the 4th Indian Division in Egypt on 1 June 1940 for Operation Compass. Later the brigade was sent to Crete, and then rejoined the 6th Infantry Division, which as the 70th Infantry Division later served in Burma and was converted into part of Special Force.
3. This was a pre-war Regular Army Brigade, stationed in North Palestine. The 1st Bn. South Staffordshires were based at Nazareth, the 1st Bn. Welch Regiment at Safad, the 2nd Bn. Leicestershire Regiment at Acre, and the 1st Bn. Sherwood Foresters at Haifa. When the division was disbanded, the brigade remained in Palestine, until moving to Egypt on the 9th September 1940 to come under the command of the 4th Indian Infantry Division for three months. Later, it joined the 6th Infantry Division, and served in Burma as part of Special Force.
4. This regiment was equipped with armoured cars.
5. The 1st R.H.A. was a regular Army Regiment stationed in the United Kingdom. It provided two detachments to serve in Palestine under divisional command.

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