12th Anti-Aircraft Division (1)

Headquarters, 12th Anti-Aircraft Division

42nd Anti-Aircraft Brigade (2)

Headquarters, 42nd Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

83rd (Blythswood) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (3)
100th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (4)
111th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (5)

18th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (6)
60th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (7)

63rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade (8)

Headquarters, 63rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

56th (Cameronians) Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery (9)
57th (Glasgow) Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery (10)

3rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade (11)

Headquarters, 3rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

102nd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (12)

66th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (13)

Divisional Troops

12th Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals
NOTES:

1. This division was raised on 1 November 1940 with the reorganisation of Anti-Aircraft Command. It formed part of III Anti-Aircraft Corps covering North-East England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The General Officer Commanding the formation throughout its existence was Major General Gerald Arthur RICKARDS, D.S.O., M.C.. The division disbanded with effect from 30 September 1942 with the reorganisation of Anti-Aircraft Command.

2. This brigade was raised on 1 October 1938 in Glasgow as part of the 3rd Anti-Aircraft Division. In November 1940, it transferred to the newly formed 12th Anti-Aircraft Division, with responsibility for the air defence of the Clyde estuary. Brigadier (Temporary) W. M. M. O’D. WELSH, D.S.O., M.C. commanded the brigade from 1 October 1938.

3. The 7th (Blythswood) Bn. The Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment) was converted to become an anti-aircraft regiment in 1938. The Headquarters and three batteries were all based in Bridgeton, in South East Glasgow. The regiment left the U.K. in April 1942 to move to Iraq, where it joined the 10th Army and then PailForce. In April 1943, it moved to Palestine, where it came under command of 9th Army. It was placed in suspended animation in September 1944 in North Africa.

4. The 100th Anti-Aircraft Regiment was formed in April 1939. All three batteries were based at Motherwell in Lanarkshire. The regiment left the United Kingdom in March 1943 to travel to the Middle East. It then served with the 8th Army in North Africa and Italy before being placed in suspended animation in August 1944.

5. Raised in October 1940, this regiment came under command of this brigade a month after formation. It served in the U.K. until June 1944, when it moved to France as part of the 2nd Army. It served in North West Europe throughout the rest of the war.

6. This regiment was formed in December 1938. The Headquarters, 54th, 99th and 139th Batteries were all based in Glasgow. The 56th Battery was based in Ardeer. The regiment left the United Kingdom in March 1942 to move to Persia and Iraq. It arrived in June 1942 to come under command of 10th Army. In February 1943, it came under command of the 5th Infantry Division, with which it was to serve for the rest of the war. As such, it travelled to Sicily, Italy, Palestine and North West Europe.

7. The 60th L.A.A. Regiment was raised in November 1940, joining this brigade on formation. It served in the U.K. until February 1942, when it sailed for India. It then served with various anti-aircraft formations in India until it was disbanded in September 1944.

8. This brigade was raised in August 1939, with its headquarters at Stirling.

9. This unit was formed in 1938 by the conversion of the 5th/8th Bn. The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), a Territorial Army battalion of the regiment. It did not become part of either the Royal Artillery or Royal Engineers at this time, in effect remaining part of its parent regiment. The headquarters and three companies were based at 261 West Prince’s Street, Glasgow. In August 1940, the regiment was absorbed into the Royal Artillery as the 56th (Cameronians) Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. In February 1942, it was converted into the 125th (Cameronians) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery. It came under command of 2nd Army in March 1944, and went on to serve in North West Europe for the rest of the war.
10. This sister unit of the 56th Searchlight Regiment, this unit was formed on the 1st November 1938 by the duplication of the 5th/8th Bn. The Cameronians when it converted into a searchlight unit. The headquarters and three companies were based in South Glasgow. In August 1940, it was absorbed into the Royal Artillery as the 57th (Cameronians) Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. In November 1940, the regiment transferred to the 63rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade based in West Scotland under command of the 12th Anti-Aircraft Division. In March 1943, it was converted into the 147th (Cameronians) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery. This regiment served with Home Forces in the U.K. for the duration of the war.

11. Northern Ireland had no Territorial Army units prior to the Second World War. There was the Supplementary Reserve cavalry unit, the North Irish Horse, but with the Munich Crisis, it was decided to raise additional anti-aircraft units in the Province. These were made part of the Supplementary Reserve, but were similar in all respects to Territorial Army units. This brigade was formed on 1 December 1938, with its headquarters based at Belfast. In November 1940, it transferred to the command of the newly formed 12th Anti-Aircraft Division.

12. Formed in August 1939, this regiment was still equipping and training when war broke out. The headquarters and all five batteries were based in Antrim. It remained with this brigade through 1940, but in March 1943, it was sent overseas. It served with 9th Army from June to December 1943 in Palestine, continuing to serve in the Middle East until January 1944 when it was placed in suspended animation.

13. This regiment was formed in December 1940 with 175th and 176th L.A.A. Batteries from the 102nd Anti-Aircraft Regiment, and probably the 5th and 6th L.A.A. Batteries from the 8th and 9th Anti-Aircraft Regiments. It left the Province in January 1943 to sail for the Middle East. It served with 8th Army in Italy from September 1943 until it was disbanded in April 1945.

SOURCES:

1. BELLIS, Malcolm A.  
   *Regiments of the British Army 1939 – 1945 (Artillery)*  
   [ISBN 0 85420 110 6]

2. CLARK, Wallace  
   *Five Years on Full Alert – WWII A.A. Gunner Memoirs*  
   (County Londonderry, Wallace Clark Booksales, n.d.)  
   [ISBN 978-0-9509042-8-3]

3. COLLIER, Basil  
   *History of the Second World War – The Defence of the United Kingdom*  
   (London, His Majesty’s Stationery Office, 1957)

4. DOBINSON, Colin  
   *AA Command – Britain’s Anti-Aircraft Defences of the Second World War*  
   (London, Methuen Publishing Ltd., 2001)  
   [ISBN 0 413 76540 7]

5. ERWOOD, Peter  
   *The War Diary of the 75th (Cinque Ports) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (Territorial Army), Dover 1939-40 (including the Battle of Britain)*  
   (Lincolnshire, Arcturus Press, 1999)  
   [ISBN 0 907322 72 7]

6. FARNDALE General Sir Martin, K.C.B.  
   *The History of the Royal Regiment of Artillery – The Forgotten Fronts and the Home Base 1914-18*  
   [ISBN 1 870114 05 1]
7. FARNDALE, General Sir Martin, K.C.B.
   [ISBN 1 85753 080 2]

8. FARNDALE, General Sir Martin, K.C.B.
   [ISBN 1 85753 331 3]

9. HUGHES, Major General B. P., C.B., C.B.E.
   [ISBN 0 08 040984 9]

10. HUGHES, Major General B. P.
    *Honour Titles of the Royal Artillery* (Dorchester, Henry Ling Ltd., 1988)
    [ISBN 1 870114 10 8]

11. PENNY, John
    *The Air Defence of the Bristol Area 1937-44* (Bristol, Bristol Branch of the Historical Association, 1997)
    [ISBN 0 901388 79 3]

12. PENNY, John
    *Luftwaffe Operations over Bristol 1940/44* (Bristol, Bristol Branch of the Historical Association, 1997)
    [ISBN 1362 7759]

13. PILE, General Sir Frederick
    *Ack – Ack Britain’s Defence Against Air-Attack during the Second World War* (London, George G. HARRAP, 1949)

14. PRICE, Dr. Alfred – Illustrated PAVLOVIC Darko
    *Britain’s Air Defences 1939-45* (London, Osprey Publishing Ltd., 2004)
    [ISBN 1 84176 710 7]

15. ROUTLEDGE, Brigadier N. W., O.B.E., T.D.
    *The History of the Royal Regiment of Artillery – Anti-Aircraft Artillery 1914 – 55* (London, Brassey's, 1994)
    [ISBN 1 85753 099 3]

16. SAINSBURY, J.D.

17. TYLER, Gerald (ed.)
    *Leeds to Rangoon and Back – With the 66th Leeds Rifles Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment (TA) and 5th Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment.* (North Yorkshire, TYLER, 2008)

18. Various Authors
    [ISBN 0 9000913 45 2]

19. Various Authors
    [ISBN 0 9000913 54 1]

20. Various Authors
    [ISBN 0 9000913 54 8]
21. WALKER, Patrick
6th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery – the extraordinary untold story of this unlucky regiment from the Midlands and Penn Common.

Internet & Websites

22. Anti-Aircraft Command, TA on 3 September 1939
At: http://www.patriotfiles.com/index.php?name=Sections&req=viewarticle&artid=6697&page=1
[Accessed 15 October 2018]

23. War Office
Available at: http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/UN/UK/LondonGazette/38149.pdf
[Accessed 2 October 2013]

24. British Artillery in World War Two
At: http://nigelef.tripod.com/regnsumm.htm
[Accessed 15 October 2018]