# 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division (1)

# 182<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade (2)

2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment 9<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment

9<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment

# 183<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade (3)

7<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment 10<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment (4)

# 184<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade (5)

5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry 2<sup>nd</sup> Buckinghamshire Bn. The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry 6<sup>th</sup> Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's)

### **Divisional Troops**

119<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (6) (H.Q., 267th (Worcester) & 268th (Worcester) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

120<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (7) (H.Q., 270th (Warwick) & 272nd (Warwick) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

145<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (8) (H.Q., 395th (Berkshire Yeomanry) & 396th (Berkshire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery)

63<sup>rd</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery (9) (H.Q., 249<sup>th</sup>, 250<sup>th</sup>, 251<sup>st</sup> & 252<sup>nd</sup> Anti-Tank Batteries, Royal Artillery)

266<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

267<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

268<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

269th Field Park Company, Royal Engineers (10)

61<sup>st</sup> Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals (11)

### NOTES:

- 1. A second line Territorial Army division, formed as the duplicate of the 48<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Division. The division remained in the U.K. throughout the war although in April 1940, the divisional commander and staff formed the Headquarters 'Maurice Force' which was sent to Norway. In June 1940, it was sent to Northern Ireland to come under of the Northern Ireland District. It left the province in February 1943 to return to the mainland, where it came under command of XI Corps District and then in May 1943, II Corps District. In October 1943, it came under South Eastern Command, and transferred to Eastern Command when the South Eastern Command was disbanded in November 1944. It was re-organised as a light division in August 1945, in preparation for deployment in the Far East, however, the Japanese surrender meant this was not necessary, and the division was disbanded. It was not reformed post-war.
- 2. A second line T.A. brigade, duplicate of 143<sup>rd</sup> Brigade. The 2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Bn. Warwicks based at Nuneaton and the 9<sup>th</sup> Bn. Warwicks based in Birmingham were both duplicate battalions. The 9th Bn. Worcesters, a second line T.A. battalion based at Oldbury, should have been under command of 183<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, but appears to have come under this brigade prior to September 1939 instead of a battalion from the Northamptonshire Regiment. This battalion remained with the brigade throughout the war, although with a change of units in 1944.
- 3. This brigade was a second line T.A. brigade. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939, the brigade comprised two duplicate battalions, the  $7^{th}$  Gloucesters based at Stroud and the  $10^{th}$ Worcesters at Evesham. The third battalion of this brigade, the 9<sup>th</sup> Worcesters, came under the command of 182<sup>nd</sup> Brigade. On the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1939, the 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. Northamptons (a first line T.A. battalion based at Northampton) joined the brigade. This brigade also remained with the division for the duration of the war, again with a significant change of units in 1944.
- 4. At the outbreak of the war, this first line T.A. battalion was under command of South Midland Area and was based at Northampton. It joined this brigade on 6<sup>th</sup> November 1939 (see above).
- 5. This was another second line T.A. brigade. The 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. Oxs and Bucks was based at The 2<sup>nd</sup> Buckinghamshire Bn. was based at Slough, with the 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Berkshires being based at Reading. It remained with the division throughout the war, again with a change of units in 1944.
- 6. This regiment was formed in June 1939 as a duplicate of the 67<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The H.Q. and 268<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based at Dudley, with the 267<sup>th</sup> Battery being based at Easemore, Redditch. The regiment served with the division throughout the war. It was entitled (South Midland) in February 1942.
- 7. This regiment was formed in July 1939 as a duplicate of the 68<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The H.Q. and 270<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based in Birmingham, with the 272<sup>nd</sup> Battery being based at Rugby. The regiment served with the division in the U.K. until June 1944, when it transferred to the 48<sup>th</sup> Reserve Division also in the U.K. It was entitled (South Midland) in February 1942.
- 8. This regiment was the third duplicate regiment in the division. Formed in June 1939, it was the second line regiment of the 99<sup>th</sup> (Buckinghamshire & Berkshire Yeomanry) Field Regiment. The H.Q. and 396<sup>th</sup> Batteries were based at Newbury, and the 395<sup>th</sup> Battery was based at Windsor. The regiment was entitled in the same way as its parent regiment in February 1942. The regiment stayed in the U.K. with the division until January 1945, when it sailed for India to see the end of the war in the Far East.

- 9. Formed in 1939, this regiment was the duplicate of the 53<sup>rd</sup> (Worcestershire and Oxfordshire Yeomanry) Anti-Tank Regiment. All the five batteries were based in Oxford. The regiment remained in the U.K. until September 1944 when it went to North West Europe with 2<sup>nd</sup> Army. This regiment took the designation of the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars Yeomanry in February 1942, with its parent regiment becoming the Worcestershire Hussars Yeomanry.
- 10. The H.Q. Royal Engineers was based at Olton, Birmingham with both field companies. In late 1939 and early 1940, the 268<sup>th</sup> Field Company and 269<sup>th</sup> Field Park Company (both also based at Olton) joined the division.
- 11. The divisional signals are believed to have been based alongside its parent unit in Birmingham.

### **SOURCES:**

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