

THE ROYAL TANK REGIMENT

1916 - 1998

06 / 1916

A Company Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | B Company Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | C Company Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | D Company Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | E Company Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | F Company Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps

12 / 1916

A Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | B Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | C Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | D Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | E Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | F Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | G Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | H Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps | I Battalion Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps

08 / 1917

A Battalion The Tank Corps | B Battalion The Tank Corps | C Battalion The Tank Corps | D Battalion The Tank Corps | E Battalion The Tank Corps | F Battalion The Tank Corps | G Battalion The Tank Corps | H Battalion The Tank Corps | I Battalion The Tank Corps | J Battalion The Tank Corps | K Battalion The Tank Corps | L Battalion The Tank Corps | M Battalion The Tank Corps

12 / 1917

N Battalion The Tank Corps | O Battalion The Tank Corps

In July 1918. The alphabetical titles were replaced with numbers. Direct lineage (A>1 Battalion etc...) was maintained.

THE TANKS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

03 / 1919

1 Battalion The Tank Corps | 2 Battalion The Tank Corps | 3 Battalion The Tank Corps | 4 Battalion The Tank Corps | 5 Battalion The Tank Corps | 6 Battalion The Tank Corps | 7 Battalion The Tank Corps | 8 Battalion The Tank Corps | 9 Battalion The Tank Corps | 10 Battalion The Tank Corps | 11 Battalion The Tank Corps | 12 Battalion The Tank Corps | 13 Battalion The Tank Corps | 14 Battalion The Tank Corps | 15 Battalion The Tank Corps | 16 Battalion The Tank Corps | 17 Armoured Car Battalion The Tank Corps | 18 Battalion The Tank Corps

At the end of the war, the Corps comprised 18 battalions. 20-25 Battalions, The Tank Corps were raised from November 1918 to March 1919 then disbanded.

1919 - 1939

Between the two World Wars The Tank Corps, (**The Royal Tank Corps in 1923**) disbanded, merged, raised, re-equipped and re-designated its units frequently. For example: 1st Battalion became the Depot The Tank Corps, and was not reconstituted as a tank battalion until 1934. In 1939 The Royal Tank Corps joined with the newly mechanised Cavalry to form the Royal Armoured Corps. The Corps' name was changed to Royal Tank Regiment to reflect Cavalry terminology. Snapshots of Orders of Battle during the inter-war period is shown.

1920
1, Depot The Tank Corps
2,3,4,5,7, 12 & 17 Tank Battalions
Workshop Training Battalion
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 Armoured Car Companies
Three Tank Dets in Russia (74 tanks)

1925
Depot The Royal Tank Corps (RTC)
2,3,4,5 Tank Battalions
1,2,6,7,8,9,10,11 Armd Car Companies (India)
5, 12 Armd Car Companies
3 Armd Car Company (Egypt)

1929
Depot RTC
2,3,4,5 Tank Battalions
1,2,6,7,8,9,10,11 Armoured Car Companies (India)
3 Armd Car Company (Egypt)
5 Armd Car Company (China)

1934
Depot RTC
1,2,3,4,5,6 Light Tank Battalions
1,6,8,9,10,11 Armd Car Companies (India)
2,7 Light Tank Companies (India)

1937
Depot RTC (England)
Depot RTC (India)
1,2,3,4,5,6,7 Light Tank Battalions
1,2,6,7,9,11 Light Tank Companies (India)

1939 Formation of the Royal Armoured Corps
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 RTR
9-12 RTR (Raised 1940-1942)
40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51 RTR

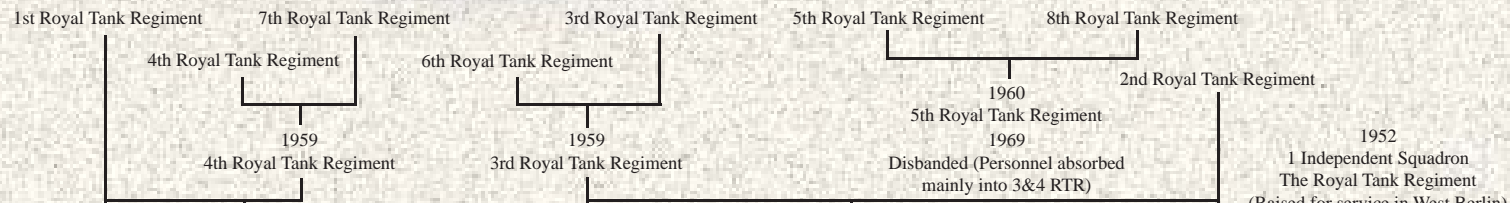
Unless specified, units are serving in Great Britain, Ireland, Europe or the Middle East. 3 Armd Car is specified (Egypt) as it was based there for nine years.

1939-1945

In the Second World War the RTR had as many as 25 battalions. 1-12 RTR were regular Army regiments. 40-51 RTR were raised as Territorial (reservist) regiments. All less 43 RTR* saw combat in Europe, the Middle East or in Burma. 9-12 RTR, and the Territorials were disbanded 1945-1947. During the war, units were referred to as "Battalions of The Royal Tank Regiment" In 1945 the designation "Battalion" was dropped.

* (43 RTR served as an armoured vehicle experimental unit in England. In 1945 it was prepared for amphibious operations against the Japanese. Japan surrendered before they deployed to the Pacific.)

AT THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR THE ROYAL TANK REGIMENT REDUCED TO EIGHT REGIMENTS



THE ROYAL TANK REGIMENT

1993	1992
1st Royal Tank Regiment	2nd Royal Tank Regiment
'A' Squadron 'D' Squadron 'G' Squadron 'H' (HQ) Squadron	'Ajax' 'Badger' 'Cyclops' 'Huntsman' 'Nero' (...92)
	'B' Sqn 'C' Sqn 'E' Sqn 'F' Sqn 'Nero' (HQ) Sqn (1992 - 96)
	'B' Sqn 'C' Sqn 'E' Sqn 'F' (HQ) Sqn (1996...)

SQUADRONS ARE NAMED AFTER THE FIRST EIGHT HEAVY BRANCH, MACHINE GUN CORPS COMPANIES
The non-alphabetical sequence (i.e...A,D,G,H and B,C,E,F) reflect the amalgamations since 1945.



1952
1 Independent Squadron
The Royal Tank Regiment
(Raised for service in West Berlin)
1957
Disbanded
1963
Reconstituted
1966
Disbanded