# **West Riding Area**

## Regular Depots in the Area

The West Yorkshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Own)

The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding)

The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

The York and Lancaster Regiment

The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Regiment)

The Leicestershire Regiment

The Lincolnshire Regiment

— Lincoln

## Regular Troops in the Area

### Militia in the Area

4th Infantry Training Group- Ripon1st Field Depot, Royal Artillery- HarrogateTraining Battalion, Royal Engineers- RiponRoyal Corps of Signals Anti-Aircraft Training Battalion- Harrogate

# Territorial Army Troops in the Area

# 5<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 5<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade & Signal Section

The Yorkshire Hussars Yeomanry (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own)

The Yorkshire Dragoons Yeomanry (Queen's Own)

The Nottinghamshire Yeomanry (Sherwood Rangers)

## Other Unbrigaded Units

The Leicestershire Yeomanry (Prince Albert's Own) (2)

1<sup>st</sup> Derbyshire Yeomanry (3)

2<sup>nd</sup> Derbyshire Yeomanry (3)

45<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Royal Tank Regiment (4)

51st (Leeds Rifles) Royal Tank Regiment (5)

- 107<sup>th</sup> Regiment (South Nottinghamshire Hussars Yeomanry), Royal Horse Artillery (6) (H.Q., 425<sup>th</sup> (South Nottinghamshire Hussars Yeomanry) & 426<sup>th</sup> (South Nottinghamshire Yeomanry) Batteries, Royal Horse Artillery)
- 150<sup>th</sup> Regiment (South Nottinghamshire Hussars Yeomanry), Royal Horse Artillery (7) (H.Q., 434<sup>th</sup> & 435<sup>th</sup> Batteries, Royal Horse Artillery)
- 60<sup>th</sup> (North Midland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (8) (H.Q., 237<sup>th</sup> (Lincoln) & 238<sup>th</sup> (Grimsby) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 115<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (9) (H.Q., 239<sup>th</sup> (Leicester) & 240<sup>th</sup> (Nottinghamshire Royal Horse Artillery) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 53<sup>rd</sup> (King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (10) (H.Q., 157<sup>th</sup>, 158<sup>th</sup> & 159<sup>th</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 57<sup>th</sup> (King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (11) (H.Q., 169<sup>th</sup>, 170<sup>th</sup> & 171<sup>st</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 106<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Army Troops Company, Royal Engineers (12)
- 107<sup>th</sup> (North Riding) Army Troops Company, Royal Engineers (13)
- 150<sup>th</sup> (London & North East) Railway Construction Company, Royal Engineers
- H.Q., Railway Operating Group, Royal Engineers

The North Midland Corps Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

#### **NOTES:**

- 1. This brigade was a Territorial Army formation with its headquarters based at 19, St. Mary's, Bootham, York. The Yorkshire Hussars was based in the City of York, with the Yorkshire Dragoons being based in Doncaster. The Nottinghamshire Yeomanry was based in Newark. In October 1939, the brigade became part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, and saw service in Palestine.
- 2. This regiment was a Territorial Army unit based in Leicester. In February 1940, the regiment was converted into an artillery role, being redesignated as:
  - 153<sup>rd</sup> (Leicestershire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery

The regiment initially came under the command of Home Forces, but joined the Guards Armoured Division in October 1941, with which it served for the rest of the war. In April 1940, the 153<sup>rd</sup> Field Regiment formed a duplicate regiment, the:

- 154<sup>th</sup> (Leicestershire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
- This regiment served in Home Forces until leaving for the Mediterranean in June 1942. It came under command of the 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division, later joining the 10<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division, with which it served in Italy.
- 3. In 1920, the Derbyshire Yeomanry was one of eight yeomanry regiments converted into armoured car companies as the Territorial Army component of the Royal Tank Corps. These were the first cavalry units in the British Army to be mechanized. The unit was based at 91, Siddals Road, Derby. When the division disbanded, the company transferred to the West Riding Area. In November 1938, the company was expanded into an armoured car battalion. In April 1939, the battalion duplicated to form two separate regiments. At the outbreak of war, both were unbrigaded under command of the West Riding Area. The 1<sup>st</sup> Derbyshire Yeomanry later became the armoured reconnaissance regiment of the 6<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division in Tunisia and Italy, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Derbyshire Yeomanry became the divisional reconnaissance regiment for the 51<sup>st</sup> (Highland) Infantry Division during the campaign in North West Europe.
- 4. The 8<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Battalion, The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) was a Territorial Army battalion which was reconstituted in 1920 following The Great War. It was under command of the 146<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, 49<sup>th</sup> (West Riding) Infantry Division and based at Carlton Barracks, Leeds. In November 1938, it was converted to armour and became the 45<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Bn. Royal Tank Corps. The regiment came under command of the 24<sup>th</sup> Army Tank Brigade together with the 41<sup>st</sup> Bn. R.T.C. and 47<sup>th</sup> Bn. Bn. R.T.C. In April 1939, the Royal Tank Corps became the Royal Tank Regiment, with the 'Battalion' designation being dropped in early 1940. On 1 November 1940, the brigade was redesignated as the 24<sup>th</sup> Armoured Brigade and on 22 November, it joined the newly formed 8<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division. The division left the United Kingdom on 8 May 1942, arriving in Egypt on 8 July. Equipped with Grants, Shermans and Crusader tanks, the brigade came under command of the 10<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division for the battle of El Alamein. It suffered heavy casualties in forcing the gaps through the minefields, and was withdrawn into reserve after the battle. The brigade was broken up in February 1943 and the regiment was disbanded.

- 5. This regiment was formed in 1939 by the duplication of the 45<sup>th</sup> (Leeds Rifles) Bn. Royal Tank Regiment also being based at Carlton barracks, Leeds. It came under command of the 25<sup>th</sup> Army Tank Brigade together with the 43<sup>rd</sup> Bn. R.T.R. and 49<sup>th</sup> R.T.R., both of which were based in Newcastle. The brigade remained in the United Kingdom until 23 January 1943, when it sailed for North Africa. On arrival it came under command of V Corps. It took part in the battle of the Medjez Plain and the final battle for Tunis. The brigade remained in North Africa following the defeat of the German Forces in Tunisia. On 18 April 1944, the brigade arrived in Italy to rejoin V Corps. It participated in the advance to Florence in July and August 1944, and then the Battle of the Gothic Line between25 August and 22 September 1944. On 5 January 1945, the brigade was reorganised in line with the 79<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division in North West Europe equipped with specialist armour. It was redesignated as the 25<sup>th</sup> Armoured Engineer Brigade, Royal Engineers. The regiment converted to operate two squadrons with Crocodiles and one with Crabs. In this formation, it took part in the final assault across the River Senio and Po in the Italian campaign. The regiment disbanded at the end of the war.
- 6. In 1920, the South Nottinghamshire Hussars Yeomanry was converted into an artillery regiment. It was based in the City of Nottingham. In 1938, the regiment transferred from the Royal Artillery to the Royal Horse Artillery. At the outbreak of war, the regiment was under the command of Home Forces. In November 1939, it came under command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. In April 1942, the regiment was redesignated as the 107<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. Two months later, the regiment was redesignated as the 107<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment. It later served in North West Europe with the 9<sup>th</sup> Army Group Royal Artillery.
- 7. In 1939, the 107<sup>th</sup> Regiment, R.H.A. duplicated to form the 150<sup>th</sup> Regiment, R.H.A.. All three batteries were based in the City of Nottingham. The regiment remained in the United Kingdom, being redesignated as the 150<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment in June 1940. The regiment came under command of the 148<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade in November 1940. In September 1942, it joined the 79<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division. In March 1943, it returned to the command of Home Forces. In March 1944, it joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army, and served in North West Europe with the 4<sup>th</sup> Army Group Royal Artillery. The regiment was placed into suspended animation in January 1945.
- 8. This regiment was formed in 1916 as the 1<sup>st</sup> North Midland Brigade, R.F.A.. In 1920, it was reconstituted in the Territorial Army as the 60<sup>th</sup> (North Midland) Field Brigade. The brigade came under the command of the 46<sup>th</sup> (North Midland) Infantry Division. The headquarters of the regiment was based in the City of Lincoln, which is where the 237<sup>th</sup> (Lincoln) Field Battery was based. The 238<sup>th</sup> (Lincoln) Field Battery was based in Grimsby. In 1939, the regiment duplicated to form the 115<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment.
- 9. In 1939, the 60<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment duplicated to form this unit. The 239<sup>th</sup> and 240<sup>th</sup> Batteries transferred from the 60<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment to form the new Regiment. A new H.Q. Battery was formed, based in Leicester together with the 239<sup>th</sup> Battery. The 240<sup>th</sup> Battery was based in Nottingham.

- 10. In 1939, the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry was converted into an artillery role. The regiment travelled to join the British Expeditionary Force in France. Following evacuation in June 1940, the regiment remained in the United Kingdom until joining the 10<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division in September 1942. Two months later it came under command of 8<sup>th</sup> Army. It later served in Italy with the 8th Army.
- 11. This regiment was formed in 1939 by the duplication of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment. All four batteries were based in Doncaster. In August 1941, the regiment arrived in Palestine. It moved to join the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in September 1942. In March 1943, it joined the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Infantry Division. Apart from a short period in early 1943, the regiment served with the division throughout the rest of the war.
- 12. This company was based in Doncaster.
- 13. This company was based in Middlesbrough.

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