

7th Armoured Brigade (1)

Headquarters, 7th Armoured Brigade

7th Armoured Brigade Headquarters Squadron Tank Troop

7th Queen's Own Hussars (2)

2nd Royal Tank Regiment (3)

(4)

1st Bn. The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) (5)

414th (Essex Yeomanry) Field Battery, Royal Horse Artillery (6)

'A' Battery, 95th Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery (7)

7th Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron, Royal Corps of Signals

65th Company, Royal Army Service Corps

114th Butchery Independent Sub-Section, Royal Indian Army Service Corps

15th Light Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

7th Armoured Brigade Ordnance Field Park, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

7th Armoured Brigade Light Repair Section, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

7th Armoured Brigade Recovery Section, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

2nd Royal Tank Regiment Light Aid Detachment, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

7th Queen's Own Hussars Light Aid Detachment, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

8th Field Post Office, Royal Engineers

NOTES:

1. The 7th Armoured Brigade was a pre-war formation of the British Army, which was stationed in Egypt as the Light Armoured Brigade (Egypt). The brigade saw active service in Egypt and Libya in early 1941 as part of the 7th Armoured Division. On 1 February 1942, the brigade was placed under War Office control and sailed from Egypt for the Far East. Brigadier (Acting) John Henry ANSTICE, D.S.O. commanded the brigade during this period, having assumed command on 9 December 1941. The brigade was originally intended to be landed at Singapore, for deployment in Malaya, but the withdrawal of British forces to the Island of Singapore meant that it was impractical to land the brigade there. The brigade reached Ceylon on 9 February 1942, and consideration was given to sending the brigade to Java, but the terrain was thought to be unsuitable for the operation of armoured vehicles. In the end, the brigade was ordered to Burma, and sailed from Ceylon on 15 February 1942. It reached Rangoon on 21 February, and in spite of the lack of local labour to assist in the unloading, the men, tanks and equipment were disembarked quickly. The brigade came under the command of H.Q. Burma Army, and was deployed straight away. On 24 February, it came under command of the 17th Indian Infantry Division to break the siege of Rangoon. On 19 March, it passed to command of H.Q. Burma Corps as the Strategic Reserve. It came under command of 38th Chinese Division from 19 April until 23 April, and then the H.Q. Chinese Expeditionary Force from 23 until 25 April, making it the only British formation to come under Chinese command during the Second World War. The brigade reverted to the command of H.Q. Burma Corps on 25 April, and remained so for the rest of the retreat until reaching the Indian border on 22 May 1942, when it passed to the command of IV Corps. The brigade entered India nine days later, with only one tank, and rested and refitted for a period. It left India on 9 October 1942 to sail for Basra and deployment in Iraq and Persia (Iran).
2. This was a cavalry regiment of the British Army, and was part of the brigade at the outbreak of the Second World War. It was equipped with the Stuart tanks during the Burma campaign, and was under the command of Lieutenant Colonel (Temporary) Frederick Robert Collinson FOSDICK throughout the campaign.
3. This regiment joined the brigade on 16 April 1941, but was absent between 10 July and 6 September 1941. It remained with this brigade until the end of the war. It was equipped with Stuart tanks during the Burma campaign. Lieutenant Colonel (Temporary) Rowland Fitzmaurice Eidingtoun CHUTE, D.S.O.*, commanded the regiment until March 1942, when ill-health forced him to stand down. Lieutenant Colonel (Acting) George Franklin YULE assumed command of the regiment on 11 March 1942 for the rest of the campaign.
4. The third armoured regiment of the brigade, the 6th Royal Tank Regiment, did not sail for Burma with the brigade, but rejoined it in Persia and Iraq on 30 December 1942.
5. This infantry battalion was already stationed in Burma when the brigade landed on 21 February 1942. As the brigade had no infantry component, this battalion was posted to the brigade to act as the motorised infantry unit for the formation. It came under command on 24 February 1942, but on 12 March 1942, it was replaced by:
2nd Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own)
This battalion remained with the brigade until 12 May 1942 towards the end of the campaign.
6. This field battery was detached from the 104th (Essex Yeomanry) Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery in Egypt to accompany the brigade to Burma.

7. The 95th Anti-Tank Regiment was formed in October 1941 by the conversion of the 73rd Medium Regiment in the U.K.. It moved to Egypt in December 1941, with 'A' Battery being detached shortly after its arrival in the Middle East. The regiment moved to Iraq and joined 9th Army in January 1943, which is presumably where 'A' Battery rejoined the regiment.

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