

45th Infantry Division ⁽¹⁾

Headquarters, 45th Infantry Division & Employment Platoon

134th Infantry Brigade ⁽²⁾

Headquarters, 134th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

4th Bn. The Devonshire Regiment (The 1st Rifle Volunteers)

6th Bn. The Devonshire Regiment

8th Bn. The Devonshire Regiment

135th Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 135th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

5th Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's)

6th Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's)

7th Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's)

136th Infantry Brigade ⁽⁴⁾

Headquarters, 136th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

9th Bn. The Devonshire Regiment

4th Bn. The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

5th Bn. The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

Divisional Troops

Headquarters, 45th Infantry Divisional Royal Artillery

55th (Wessex) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁵⁾

(H.Q., 373rd (West Somerset Yeomanry) & 374th (West Somerset Yeomanry) Field Batteries,
Royal Artillery)

96th (Royal Devonshire Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁶⁾

(H.Q., 381st (Thorverton) & 382nd (Totnes) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

142nd Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁷⁾

(H.Q., 383rd (Torrington) & 384th (South Molton) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)

69th Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁸⁾

(H.Q., 273, 274th, 275th & 276th Anti-Tank Batteries, Royal Artillery)

Headquarters, 45th Infantry Divisional Royal Engineers

205th (Wessex) Field Company, Royal Engineers (9)

259th Field Company, Royal Engineers (10)

562nd Field Company, Royal Engineers (11)

261st Field Park Company, Royal Engineers (10)

45th Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals

Headquarters, 45th Infantry Divisional Royal Army Service Corps

45th Infantry Divisional Ammunition Company, Royal Army Service Corps

45th Infantry Divisional Petrol Company, Royal Army Service Corps

45th Infantry Divisional Supply Company, Royal Army Service Corps

Headquarters, 45th Infantry Divisional Royal Army Medical Corps

xx Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

xx Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

xx Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

xx Field Hygiene Section, Royal Army Medical Corps

xx Mobile Bath Unit, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

45th Infantry Divisional Field Cash Office, Royal Army Pay Corps

45th Infantry Divisional Field Post Office, Royal Engineers

45th Infantry Divisional Provost Company, Corps of Military Police

NOTES:

1. The original 2nd Wessex Division was formed in September 1914 with the decision to raise an additional fourteen divisions of the Territorial Force. The division was sent to India in December 1914 and did not see action as a formation during The Great War. It returned to the United Kingdom in 1919 and was disbanded. In April 1939, with the decision to expand and duplicate the Territorial Army, the 45th Infantry Division was raised as the second line or duplicate of the 43rd (Wessex) Division. Unlike most Territorial Army divisions, which duplicated by replicating the order of battle of the First Line formation with Second Line units, the 43rd (Wessex) Division divided on a geographical basis. The county regiments from Wiltshire, Hampshire and Dorset remaining in the 43rd Division, while those from Somerset, Devon and Cornwall formed the 45th Division. The exception was the 4th Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry that remained in the 43rd Division. This meant that both formations contained First Line, and Second Line, Territorial Army units. Major General Frederick Vavasour Broome WITTS, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*, commanded the division from its raising until 4 February 1940, when Major General Desmond Francis ANDERSON, C.M.G., D.S.O., *p.s.c.*, assumed command. At the outbreak of war, the division was under Southern Command, but it moved to Eastern Command on 11 May 1940. The next day, Major General (Acting) Edmond Charles Acton SCHREIBER, D.S.O., *p.s.c.*, assumed command of the division as Major General ANDERSON was posted to the War Office. On 5 June 1940, the division came under command of XII Corps, and then on 5 November 1940, it moved to Yorkshire to join I Corps. On 22 February 1941, it came under command of G.H.Q. Home Forces, and on 21 July, it joined XI Corps. Brigadier (Temporary) Harold de Riemer MORGAN, D.S.O., assumed temporary command on 25 April 1941, and was made permanent on 8 May 1941 with promotion to the rank of Acting Major General. This became XI Corps District on 8 December 1941, and the division was placed on the Lower Establishment in that month. On 12 January 1943, Major General (Acting) John Keith EDWARDS, D.S.O., M.C., *p.s.c.*, assumed command. On 3 February 1943, the division moved to Northern Ireland to come under Headquarters, B.T.N.I. command. The division dispersed and was broken up in August 1944 following the invasion of Normandy, and Major General EDWARDS moved to a new appointment in September 1944 as Head of S.H.A.E.F. Mission to the Netherlands. A new 45th Division was created by the redesignation of the 77th (Holding) Division in September 1944.
2. This brigade was composed of T.A. battalions of the Devonshire Regiment. The two first line battalions were the 4th Bn. based in Exeter, and the 6th Bn. based at Barnstaple. The 8th Bn. (a newly formed second line battalion) was based at Exmouth and East Devon. The brigade served with the division until it was broken up in 1944. The 4th Bn. Devonshire Regiment went to Gibraltar in May 1940, and spent a spell as the demonstration battalion for the School of Infantry. The other battalions remained in the United Kingdom until they were disbanded late in the war.
3. This brigade was composed of T.A. battalions of the Somerset Light Infantry. The 5th Bn. (a first line battalion) was based at Taunton, whilst the two second line battalions, the 6th and 7th, were based at Wells and Bridgwater respectively. The brigade was disbanded in July 1944. The 7th Bn. Som L.I. transferred to 214th Brigade on 11 September 1942, and later served with that brigade in North West Europe as part of 43rd Division. The other two battalions remained with the brigade until disbandment.

4. This was a second line brigade. The 9th Bn. Devonshire Regiment was a second line battalion based in Barnstaple. The 4th Bn. D.C.L.I. was a first line battalion based in Truro, whilst the 5th Bn. was a second line battalion based in St. Austell. The brigade remained with the division until it was disbanded in August 1944. The 4th Bn. D.C.L.I. remained with the brigade, whilst the 9th Bn. Devonshire Regiment transferred to 134th Brigade on 17 November 1940 to replace the 4th Battalion. The 5th Bn. D.C.L.I. left the brigade in September 1942, transferring to 214th Brigade, with which it served in North West Europe during 1944 and 1945.
5. A pre-war Territorial Army regiment originally formed in 1916. The 373rd Battery was based at Taunton, with 374th Battery based at Shepton Mallet. The regiment remained with this division until June 1942, when it transferred to the newly formed Guards Armoured Division. The regiment fought with that formation throughout the campaign in North West Europe.
6. A Territorial Army regiment formed in 1920 by the conversion of the Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry. The Headquarters and 381st Batteries were based in Exeter, with the 382nd Battery being based in Totnes. The regiment remained in the U.K. with the division until it was disbanded, when it joined 61st Division. It left 61st Division in January 1945, coming under Home Forces until the end of the war.
7. A Territorial Army regiment formed in July 1939 by the duplication of 96th Field Regiment. The 383rd Battery was based at the Drill Hall, Fore Street, Great Torrington, with 384th Battery based at the Drill Hall, Ashleigh Road, Barnstaple. The regiment was similarly entitled as its parent unit in February 1942. It left the division in November 1941, later serving with 79th Armoured Division. In April 1943, the regiment left the U.K. moving to North Africa. It later served in Italy under Eighth Army until the end of the war.
8. This regiment was formed by the duplication of the 59th (Duke of Connaught's – Hampshire) Anti-Tank Regiment. All five batteries were based in Gosport. The regiment remained with the division until February 1942, when it transferred to Home Forces Command. In July 1943, it was re-designated as a light anti-aircraft/anti-tank regiment. It then sailed for India where it came under the command of 70th Infantry Division, later to become Special Force.
9. A first line Territorial Army field company based at the Drill Hall, Churchill Road, Weston-super-Mare. In 1939, when the division mobilized and duplicated, this company moved to Roborough in Plymouth to come under command of this formation. This field company remained with the division until it was disbanded.
10. These two second line companies were both based at the Drill Hall, Ashley Road, Uffculme in Devon. The field company stayed with the division until it was disbanded, but the field park company left the establishment of the division when it was placed on the lower establishment.
11. This war raised field company joined the division on 1 January 1940. It left this division on 8 December 1941.

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