

Sickle Force ⁽¹⁾

Force Headquarters ⁽²⁾

15th Infantry Brigade ⁽³⁾

Headquarters, 15th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

1st Bn. The Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment)

1st Bn. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

1st Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment

15th Infantry Brigade Anti-Tank Company ⁽⁴⁾

148th Infantry Brigade ⁽⁵⁾

Headquarters, 148th Infantry Brigade & Signal Section

1st/5th Bn. The Leicestershire Regiment

8th Bn. The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)

Force Troops

51st (Westmorland & Cumberland) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁶⁾

71st (West Riding) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽⁷⁾

260th (London Transport) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery ⁽⁸⁾

168th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery ⁽⁹⁾

231st Battery, 58th (Duke of Wellington's) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery ⁽¹⁰⁾

55th Field Company, Royal Engineers ⁽¹¹⁾

687th Artizan Works Company, Royal Engineers ⁽¹²⁾

189th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps ⁽¹³⁾

'A' Company, 146th (West Riding) Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps ⁽¹⁴⁾

'A' Company, 158th (Welsh) Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps ⁽¹⁴⁾

36th Field Hygiene Section, Royal Army Medical Corps ⁽¹⁴⁾

15th British General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps ⁽¹⁵⁾

34th Field Hygiene Section, Royal Army Medical Corps ⁽¹⁵⁾

21st Mobile Bath Unit, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

NOTES:

1. 'Sickle Force' was formed from elements from the 5th Infantry Division and 49th (West Riding) Infantry Division. The General Commanding Officer (G.O.C.) was Major General Bernard Charles Tolver PAGET, D.S.O., M.C., *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.*, who was appointed on 20 April, from his position as G.O.C. 18th Infantry Division. Before that date, the force commander was Brigadier (Acting) Harold de Riemer MORGAN, D.S.O., the commanding officer of 148th Infantry Brigade.
2. The force headquarters was formed by Headquarters, 18th Infantry Division.
3. The 15th Infantry Brigade was a pre-war Regular Army formation, which was part of the 5th Infantry Division stationed at Catterick in Yorkshire. The brigade was deployed to France with the division, arriving on 6 October 1939. On arrival, however, it came under command of G.H.Q. B.E.F. and I Corps until returning to divisional control on 30 December 1939. It was detached from the division on 16 April 1940 and placed under War Office control. The Commanding Officer of the Brigade, Brigadier BERNEY-FICKLIN, was injured in an aircraft crash whilst preparing to sail to Norway. The command of the Brigade fell, therefore on the senior battalion commander within the Brigade, namely the commanding officer of the 1st Bn. The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Edward Fitzroy SMYTH, M.C., *p.s.c.*. Major E. E. E. CASS, M.C. assumed command of the battalion in SMYTH's absence.¹ SMYTH was fifty-three years' of age, one of three brothers who had all joined the Army. He had commissioned in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry and had served in Mesopotamia and Russia during the First World War. The Brigade arrived at Andalsnes in Norway on 23 April 1940 and immediately came under command of 'Sickle Force'. It withdrew from Norway on 1 May 1940, returning to the United Kingdom where it rejoined the 5th Infantry Division after it had been evacuated from Dunkirk.
4. When each Regular Army mobilized in September 1939, each brigade was required to form an anti-tank company. The 1st Infantry Brigade (Guards) did so with effect from 1 September 1939. Most appear to have done so by requiring each of the three battalions in that brigade to provide one platoon. A Major usually commanded the company, with a second-in-command. The company consisted of three platoons, each commanded by a subaltern. Each platoon had two-gun detachments, equipped with Hotchkiss 25 mm anti-tank guns. Having served in France, this brigade had formed a brigade anti-tank company prior to landing in Norway. The company fought at most actions during the campaign and is mentioned during the fighting at Kvam.
5. This brigade was a pre-war Territorial Army formation that was part of the 49th (West Riding) Infantry Division. The headquarters of the brigade was based in Nottingham. Brigadier (Temporary) Dennis Mavesyn Anslow SOLE, D.S.O.*, *p.s.c.*, commanded the Brigade until 22 February 1940, when Brigadier (Acting) Harold de Riemer MORGAN, D.S.O., assumed command. The 1st/5th Leicestershire Regiment was based at Loughborough, the 1st/5th Sherwood Foresters at Derby, and the 8th Bn. at Newark. The 1st/5th Bn. The Sherwood Foresters left the brigade on 29 October 1939, transferring to the 18th Infantry Division. It was replaced by the 2nd Bn. The South Wales Borderers, which transferred in from Londonderry. The brigade was earmarked for service in Norway, with the 2nd S.W.B. being detached and deployed to Narvik with the 24th Infantry Brigade (Guards), whilst the other two battalions formed 'Sickleforce'.

¹ Accounts of the Norway campaign refer to Lieutenant Colonel SMYTH as holding the rank of Brigadier, but the Army List shows him remaining in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

The brigade had come under War Office control on 5 April 1940. It landed at Andalsnes on 18 April, and it came under command of the Norwegian Army the following day. With the arrival of the Headquarters, 'Stickle Force', the brigade came under command on 26 April 1940. Ill trained and under equipped for this type of warfare and the conditions experienced in Norway, the brigade suffered badly. The remnants were evacuated back to the U.K. on 30 April. The brigade never rejoined its parent division, remaining in the U.K. while the rest of the division went to Iceland. In 1942, it reorganised as a training brigade in the U.K. responsible for the pre O.C.T.U. training of all officer candidates. Brigadier MORGAN was promoted to the rank of Major General (Acting) on 8 May 1941 to assume command of the 45th Infantry Division.

6. This regiment was formed in 1920 by the conversion of the Westmorland and Cumberland Yeomanry. It was based at Carlisle where the H.Q. and 370th Batteries were located, with the 203rd Battery being based at Whitehaven. This regiment did not go to France as it was earmarked for service in Norway so remained in the U.K.. The 203rd Battery was deployed at Narvik. The Regimental Headquarters and 370th Battery were due to arrive in Norway on the 28 or 29 April 1940, but it appears they did not arrive before the evacuation was ordered. After Norway, the regiment joined the 46th Infantry Division in July 1940, but left the U.K. in November 1940, to sail for Egypt. On arrival, it came under command of the 6th Australian Division for Operation Compass. Later it served with the 70th Infantry Division and transferred to the Far East, where it served as a Chindit Column.
7. This regiment was designated for service with Sickle Force, but on 27 April, it was shown as 'Not yet embarked' and it is believed it never reached Norway.
8. This battery was detached from the 84th (Middlesex, London Transport) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery. Raised in 1938, this regiment had its Headquarters, 260th and 261st Batteries based in Willesden, London NW10. 262nd and 263rd Batteries were based at Arnos Grove. In April 1940, the 260th H.A.A. Battery was deployed to Norway to land at Aandalnes in Norway. Six of their 3" guns were lost at sea, as was all the battery's transport. The other two 3" guns were damaged in unloading and did not see action. The battery was evacuated from Aandalnes on 30 April to return to Scapa Flow and then rejoin the regiment. The regiment left the U.K. in November 1942 for North Africa. Later, it served with 8th Army in Italy, until placed in suspended animation in November 1944.
9. This battery was detached from the 56th (East Lancashire) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment. Another battery was landed at Namsos with the Regimental Headquarters and the third battery being deployed to Narvik. This battery arrived at Aandalnes on 19 April and 21 April. Although all the guns were landed, only half the predictors were landed. One troop of this battery travelled seventy miles up the valley to join the front line.
10. A battery from of the 82nd Anti-Tank Regiment, which was under command of the 49th (West Riding) Infantry Division, was earmarked for service with Sickle Force. The 231st Anti-Tank Battery was ordered to mobilize and proceed to Glasgow, where it embarked on ships bound for Norway. The ships sailed on 18 April but were turned around when close to Norway to return to the United Kingdom. No elements of this regiment landed in Norway.
11. This field company was part of the 5th Infantry Division but attached to the 15th Infantry Brigade. It left France with that brigade and travelled with it to Norway.
12. Although earmarked for service in Norway, this unit did not arrive there before operations ceased and the evacuation took place.

13. This field ambulance landed on 19 April 1940 and opened a Main Dressing Station at Aandalnes shortly after landing. It was the only field ambulance to land complete at Aandalnes, but it was short of equipment and medical supplies.
14. The 146th Field Ambulance was part of the 49th (West Riding) Infantry Division. 'A' Company arrived at Aandalnes by 27 April as part of Sickie Force, while 'B' Company was deployed with Mauriceforce. It remained in the Aandalnes area until evacuated. 'A' Company, 158th Field Ambulance advanced with the 15th Infantry Brigade to Dombass, and it withdrew with that brigade to Aandalnes for evacuation. The 36th Field Hygiene Section landed and was located at Aandalnes until evacuated.
15. These units were designated at Line of Communication troops, but were not landed in Norway and returned to the U.K..

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