

**British Colonial Divisions**  
**(Divisional Elemental Assignments by Division)**  
**1939-1945**

**1st (African) Division**

7/24/40 - Division formed in East Africa.  
 11/24/40 - Redesignated 11th (African) Division  
 7/41 - On 26 July Divisional HQ closed in Abyssinia and  
 opened on 20 August in Nairobi taking command of new  
 formations.  
 11/23/41 - Divisional HQ ceased to exist.

Light Artillery Batteries

1st Nigerian 7/24/40-10/17/40  
 52nd Nigerian 10/18/40-7/20/41  
 53rd East African 2/6/41-2/23/41

Mountain Batteries:

22nd Indian 12/3/40-1/8/41  
 3/23/41-3/1/41  
 3/12/41-7/26/41  
 18th Indian 4/3/41-7/26/41

Royal Engineer Field Companies

1st Nigerian 7/24/40-10/17/40  
 3rd Gold Coast 7/24/40-10/17/40  
 51st Nigerian 10/18/40-7/20/41  
 53rd Gold Coast 10/18/40-2/23/41  
 8/20/41-11/22/41  
 3/12/41-7/26/41  
 54th East African 3/12/41-7/26/41

Signals

1st (African) Division 7/24/40-11/23/40  
 11th (African) Division 11/24/40-11/22/41

Brigades:

1st East African Brigade 7/24/40-10/17/40  
 3rd Nigerian Brigade 7/24/40-10/17/40  
 21st East African Brigade 10/18/40-2/27/41  
 8/20/41-11/22/41  
 23rd Nigerian Brigade 10/18/40-7/20/41  
 22nd East African Brigade 12/3/40-1/8/41  
 2/23/41-3/1/41  
 3/12/41-7/26/41  
 28th East African Brigade 8/20/41-10/2/41

**2nd (African) Division**

7/19/40 - Divisional HQ formed in East Africa.  
 11/24/40 - Redesignated 12th (African) Division.  
 4/18/43 - Divisional HQ disbanded in East Africa.

Light Artillery Batteries

1st Gold Coast 7/19/40-10/17/40  
 51st Gold Coast 10/18/40-12/6/41  
 53rd East Africa 2/23/41-2/27/41  
 4/7/41-7/13/41  
 8/13/41-12/7/41

<u>Field Battery</u>	
54th Nyasaland	10/30/41-12/16/41
<u>Mountain Batteries</u>	
22nd Indian	7/19/40-12/2/40 1/8/41-2/22/41 7/27/41-12/5/41
18th Indian	7/27/41-8/11/41 10/9/41-12/5/41
<u>Engineering Field Companies</u>	
1st East African	7/19/40-10/17/40
2nd Gold Coast	7/19/40-10/17/40
54th East African	10/18/40-12/2/40 1/8/41-2/23/41 7/27/41-4/17/43
52nd Gold Coast	10/18/40-10/11/41
53rd Gold Coast	2/23/41-2/27/41 4/7/41-12/6/41
<u>Signals</u>	
2nd (African) Division	7/23/40-11/23/40
12th (African) Division	11/24/40-2/21/40
<u>Brigades:</u>	
2nd East African Infantry Brigade	7/19/40-10/17/40
4th Gold Coast Infantry Brigade	7/19/40-10/17/40
22nd East African Infantry Brigade	10/18/40-12/2/40 1/8/41-2/32/41 3/2/41-3/11/41 7/27/41-12/22/41
24th Gold Coast Infantry Brigade	10/18/40-10/11/41
25th East African Infantry Brigade	4/7/41-7/13-41 9/19/41-3/12/42
26th East African Infantry Brigade	10/20/41-12/18/42
28th East African Infantry Brigade	3/8/42-4/17/42
29th East African Infantry Brigade	1/21/43-4/17/42
<b>11th (East African) Division</b>	
2/15/43	- Divisional HQ formed in East Africa.
5/17/43	- Divisional HQ assumed full control of the formations and units allotted to the division, except one infantry brigade group stationed in Ceylon.
8/44	- Division reorganized on standard division establishment.
<u>East African Armored Cars</u>	
11th East African Division Regiment	5/17/43-6/15/44
<u>East African Engineering Field Companies</u>	
63rd	5/17/43-7/2/43 8/17/43-5/4/44
64th	5/17/43-8/31/45
54th	7/4/43-8/28/43 1/10/44-8/31/45
58th	7/4/43-8/31/45
<u>East African Field Park Company</u>	
62nd	5/7/43-8/31-45
<u>East African Bridging Platoon</u>	
93rd	10/8/44-8/31/45

Signals:

11th (East African) Division	4/1/43-8/31/45
<u>East African Artillery Field Regiments</u>	
303rd	7/4/43-12/31/44
	7/18/45-8/31/45
302nd	10/13/43-8/31/45
306th	10/7/44-8/31/45
<u>East African Light Artillery Regiment</u>	
303rd	1/1/45-7/17/45
<u>East African Anti-Tank Batteries</u>	
101st	10/20/43-3/5/44
102nd	10/20/43-3/5/44
<u>East African Anti-Tank Regiment:</u>	
304th	8/26/44-8/31/45
<u>East African Light AA/AT Regiment</u>	
304th	3/6/44-8/25/44

Infantry

11th (East African) Division Scouts	5/17/43-1/6/44
5th (Kenyan) King's African Rifles	8/25/44-8/31/45
13th (Nyasaland) King's African Rifle Bn	11/12/44-8/31/45
36th (Tanganyika Territory) King's African Rifle Battalion	11/12/44-8/31/45

Machine Gun Battalions

11th East African Division Independent Co	1/2/45-7/8/45
31st (Nyasaland) King's African Rifles	6/26/45-8/31/45

Brigades

25th (East African) Infantry Brigade	5/17/43-8/31/45
26th (East African) Infantry Brigade	5/17/43-8/31/45
21st (East African) Infantry Brigade	7/4/43-8/31/45

**11th (African) Division**

See 1st (African) Division

**12th (African) Division**

See 2nd (African) Division

**81st (West Africa) Division**

3/1/43 - Division HQ formed in Nigeria, West Africa, with the title 1st (West Africa) Division and changed to present title on 3/4/43.

9/44 - Reorganized on standard division establishment.

West Africa Armored Cars

81st (West Africa) Division Regiment	1/1/44-7/31/44
81st (West Africa) Reconnaissance Bn	8/1/44-8/26/45

West Africa Engineer Field Companies

3rd	5/25/44-8/31/45
5th	1/9/44-8/31/45
6th	1/9/44-8/31/45

West Africa Field Park Company

8th	3/31/43-8/31/45
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Signals

81st (West Africa) Division	4/1/43-8/31/45
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West Africa Light Artillery Regiment

101st	5/24/44-8/31/45
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West Africa Anti-Tank Regiment

1st	10/1/44-10/22-44
21st	10/23/44-8/31/45
<u>West Africa Light AA/AT Regiment</u>	
1st	5/6/43-9/30/44
<u>West African Mortar Regiments</u>	
103rd	9/25/44-10/5/44
41st	10/6/44-8/31/45
<u>Infantry</u>	
81st (West Africa) Division Regiment	3/31/43-12/31/43
11th (East African) Division Scouts	1/20/44-8/31/45
1st (West Africa) Auxiliary Group	1/17/44-8/31/45
<u>Brigades:</u>	
3rd (West Africa) Infantry Brigade Group	3/31/43-11/8/43
5th (West Africa) Infantry Brigade Group	3/31/43-8/31/44
5th (West Africa) Infantry Brigade	9/1/44-8/31/45
6th (West Africa) Infantry Brigade Group	3/31/43-8/31/44
6th (West Africa) Infantry Brigade	9/1/44-8/31/45
<b>82nd (West Africa) Division</b>	
8/1/43	- Division HQ formed in Nigeria West Africa.
11/1/43	- HQ assumed full responsibility for all formations and units allotted and situated in Nigeria.
10/44	- Reorganized on standard division establishment.
<u>West Africa Armored Cars</u>	
82nd (West Africa) Division Regiment	8/1/44-8/31/45
<u>West Africa Engineer Field Companies</u>	
1st	8/22/44-8/31/45
2nd	8/1/44-8/31/45
4th	8/1/44-8/31/45
<u>West Africa Field Park Company</u>	
9th	11/1/43-8/31/45
<u>Signals</u>	
82nd (West Africa) Division	10/19/43-8/31/45
<u>West Africa Light Artillery Regiment</u>	
102nd	7/1/44-8/31/45
<u>West Africa Anti-tank Regiment</u>	
2nd	8/1/44-10/11/44
22nd	10/12/44-8/31/45
<u>West Africa Light AA/AT Regiment</u>	
2nd	12/9/43-7/31/44
<u>West Africa Mortar Regiment</u>	
42nd	8/1/44-8/31/45
<u>Infantry</u>	
82nd (West Africa) Division Regiment	11/1/43-12/19/43
7th (West Africa) Auxiliary Group	11/15/44-8/31/45
<u>Brigades</u>	
1st (West Africa) Infantry Brigade Group	11/1/43-8/19/44
1st (West Africa) Infantry Brigade	8/20/44-8/31/45
2nd (West Africa) Infantry Brigade Group	11/1/43-7/31/44
2nd (West Africa) Infantry Brigade	8/1/44-8/31/45
4th (West Africa) Infantry Brigade Group	11/1/43-7/31/44
4th (West Africa) Infantry Brigade	8/1/44-8/31/45

Joslen, Lt. Col. H.F., Orders of Battle, Second World War, 1939-1945, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1960.

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