

**British Forces
Indian Ocean Theater
September 1944- May 1945**

14th Army Headquarters & Army Troops: Lt. Gen. Sir W.Slim
Armor:

- 8th King George V's Own Light Cavalry
- 11th Cavalry (P.A.V.O.) (armored cars)
- 6th Armored Fighting Vehicles Maintenance Troop
- 2nd Indian Tank Delivery Squadron

Artillery: Brigadier G.de V. Welchman¹

- 18th (Self Propelled) Field Regiment, RA
- 134th Medium Regiment, RA
- 52nd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RA
- 69th Light Anti-Aircraft/Anti-Tank Regiment, RA
- 2nd Indian Field Regiment, RA
- 2nd Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RA
- 5th Mahratta Anti-Tank Field Regiment
- 656th Air O.P. Squadron, RAF

Engineers: Brigadier W.F.Hasted²

- 4 Artisan Works Companies, IE
- 2 Bridging Companies, IE
- 3 Bridging Platoons, IE
- 3 Engineer Battalions, IE
- 4 Field Companies, IE
- HQ 459th Forward Airfield Engineers
 - 1 Engineer Battalion, IE
 - 2 Field Companies, IE
 - 1 Mechanical Equipment Platoon, IE
- 2 Mechanical Equipment Companies, IE
- 3 Works Sections, IE
- 1 Quarrying Company, IE

Infantry:

- 1/3rd Madras Regiment
- 1st Assam Rifles
- 3rd Assam Rifles
- 4th Assam Rifles
- Chin Hills Battalion
- 25th Gurkha Rifles
- Western Levies
- Lushai Scouts

RASC/RIASC:

- 590th Company, RASC (tank transporters)
- Elephant Company, RIASC
- 387th Divisional Troops Company, RASC (DUKW's)
- 127th GPT Company, RIASC
- 4 Animal Transport Companies, RIASC
- 5th Indian Field Ambulance

¹ Detachments were made to the corps as necessary.

² Detachments were made to the corps as necessary.

IV Corps Headquarters & Corps Troops: Lt. General Sir G.Scoones³

Corps Troops:

Armor: Brigadier C.E.pert

225th Indian Tank Brigade:

116th Regiment, RAC (Gordon Highlanders)
5th (Probyn's) Horse
9th (Royal Deccan) Horse
16th Light Cavalry (armored cars)
4/4th Bombay Grenadiers
36th Field Squadron, IE
3rd Independent Bridging Troop, RAC

Artillery: Brigadier C. Goulder

8th Medium Regiment, RA
1st Indian Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment
67th Indian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment
1st Survey Regiment, RA

Engineers: Brigadier W.W.Boggs

HQ 471st Army Group Engineers
HQ Corps Troops Engineers
12th Engineer Battalion, IE
75th Field Company, IE
424th Field Company, IE
94th (Farikot) Field Company, ISF
305th Field Park Company, IE
1 Mechanical Equipment Platoon, IE

Signals: Brigadier E.V.McCormack

IV Corps Signals

Infantry:

78th Indian Infantry Company

Miscellaneous Forward Troops:

41st Indian Company, "D" Division (Deception)
No. 1 Control Center Forward Maintenance Area
No. 2 Control Center Forward Maintenance Area
B Group "V" Force Operations HQ

XXXIII Corps: Lt.General Sir Montague Stopford

254th Indian Tank Brigade: Brigadier R.L.Scoones

Carabiniers (33rd Dragoon guards)
150th Regiment, RAC
7th Light Cavalry
3/4th Bombay Grenadiers
401st Field Squadron, IE
2nd Independent Bridging Troop
400th Scorpion Squadron (flamethrowers) (1 troop)

Artillery: Brigadier D.J.Stevens

1st Medium Regiment, RA
44th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RA
101st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RA
1st Indian Survey Regiment
8th Mahratta Anti-Tank Regiment

Engineers: Brigadier J.F.D.Steedman

HQ 474th Army Group Engineers

³ Lt. General F.W.Messervy from 12/8/44.

HQ Corps Troop Engineers
10th Engineer Battalion, IE
67th Field Company, IE
76th Field Company, IE
361st Field Company, IE
322nd Field Park Company, IE
1 Mechanical Equipment Platoon, IE

Signals: Brigadier C.N.Stafford
XXXVIII Corps Signals

Infantry:

2nd Suffolk Regiment (from March 1945)

2nd Division: Major General C.G.G.Nicholson

Divisional Reconnaissance

2nd Reconnaissance Regiment, RAC

Artillery: Brigadier H.S.J.Bourke

10th Field Regiment, RA

16th Field Regiment, RA

99th Field Regiment, RA

100th Anti-Tank Regiment (Gordon Highlanders)

Engineers:

5th Field Company, RE

208th Field Company, RE

506th Field Company, RE

21st Field Park Company, RE

Signals:

2nd Divisional Signals

Divisional Machinegun Battalion

2nd Manchester Machinegun Battalion

4th Infantry Brigade: Brigadier R.S.McNaught

1st Royal Scots

2nd Royal Norfolk Regiment

1/8th Lancashire Fusiliers

5th Infantry Brigade: Brigadier M.M.Alston-Roberts-West

7th Worcestershire Regiment

2nd Dorsetshire Regiment

1st Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders

6th Infantry Brigade: Brigadier W.G.Smith

1st Royal Welch Fusiliers

1st Royal Berkshire Regiment

2nd Durham Light Infantry

5th Indian Infantry Division: Major General G.C.Evans⁴

Artillery: Brigadier G.B.J.Kellie

4th Field Artillery, RA

28th Field Artillery, RA

56th Anti-Tank Artillery, RA

24th Indian Mountain Regiment

Engineers:

2nd Field Company, IE

20th Field Company, IE

74th Field Company, IE

⁴ Major General D.F.W.Warren from 9/23/44 (killed in flying accident), Major General E.C.R.Mansergh from 2/22/45.

44th Field Park Company, IE

Signals:

5th Indian Divisional Signals

Divisional Infantry:

3/9th Jat Regiment (reconnaissance battalion)

47/14th Punjab Regiment (HQ battalion)

(replaced in March 1945 by 4th Jammu & Kashmir
Infantry ISF)

17th Dogra Machinegun Battalion

9th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier J.A.Salomons⁵

2nd West Yorkshire Regiment

3/2nd Punjab Regiment

4th Jammu and Kashmir Infantry, ISF (replaced in March
1945 by 1st Burma Regiment)

123rd Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier E.J.Denholm Young

2nd Suffolk Regiment (replaced March 1945 by 7th York
Lancaster Regiment)

2/1st Punjab Regiment

1/17th Dogra Regiment

161st Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier E.G.C.Poole⁶

4th Royal West Kent Regiment

1/1st Punjab Regiment

4/7th Rajput Regiment

7th Indian Infantry Division: Major General F.W.Messervy⁷

Artillery: Brigadier A.F.Hely

136th Field Regiment, RA

139th Field Regiment, RA

24th Anti-Tank Regiment, RA

25th Indian Mountain Regiment

Engineers:

62nd Field Company, IE

77th Field Company, IE

421st Field Company, IE

331st Field Park Company, IE

Signals:

7th Indian Divisional Signals

Divisional Infantry:

7/2nd Punjab Regiment (reconnaissance battalion)

13th Frontier Force Rifles Machinegun Battalion

2nd Baroda Infantry, ISF (HQ battalion)

33rd Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier R.G.Collingwood⁸

4/15th Punjab Regiment

4/1st Gurkha Rifles

1st Burma Regiment (until return of 1st Queen's Royal

⁵ Brigadier H.G.L.Brain from 3/26/45.

⁶ Brigadier E.H.W.Grimshaw from 3/3/45.

⁷ Major General G.C.Evans from 12/29/44.

⁸ Brigadier L.H.O. Pugh (acting) from 3/28/45.

Regiment (West Surry) in April 1945)

89th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier W.A.Crowther
2nd King's Own Scottish Borderers
1/11th Sikh Regiment
4/8th Gurkha Rifles

114th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier H.W.Dinwiddie
2nd south Lancashire Regiment
4/14th Punjab Regiment
4/5th Royal Gurkha Rifles

11th East African Division: Major General C.C. Fowkes
Artillery: Brigadier J.V.D.Radford
203rd (EA) Field Regiment
303rd (EA) Field Regiment
304th (EA) Anti-Aircraft/Anti-Tank Regiment

Engineer:
54th (EA) Field Company
58th (EA) Field Company
64th (EA) Field Company
62nd (EA) Field Park Company

Signals:
11th (EA) Divisional Signals

Divisional Artillery:
5th King's African Rifles (reconnaissance battalion)
13th King's African Rifles (HQ battalion)

21st (EA) Infantry Brigade: Brigadier J.F.MacNab
2nd King's African Rifles
4th King's African Rifles
1st Northern Rhodesia Regiment

25th (EA) Infantry Brigade: Brigadier N.C.Hendricks
11th King's African Rifles
26th King's African Rifles
34th King's African Rifles

26th (EA) Infantry Brigade: Brigadier V.K.H.Channer⁹
22nd King's African Rifles
36th King's African Rifles
44th King's African Rifles

17th Indian Infantry Division: Major General D.T.Cowan
Artillery: Brigadier the Baron de Robek¹⁰
129th Field Regiment, RA
1st Indian Field Regiment
21st Indian Mountain Regiment
82nd Anti-Tank Regiment, RA

Engineers:
414th Field Park Company, IE
60th Field Company, IE
70th Field Company, IE
Tehri Garhwal Company, ISF

Signals:
17th Indian Divisional Signals

⁹ Brigadier A.P.Walsh from 11/18/44.

¹⁰ Brigadier H.K.Dimoline from 10/25/44.

Divisional Infantry:

6/7th Rajput Regiment (HQ Battalion) (replaced April 1945
by 6/15th Punjab Regiment)

6/9th Jat Regiment (reconnaissance battalion) (replaced
April 1945 by 6/7th Punjab Regiment)

9/13th Frontier Force Rifles (Machineguns)

48th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier R.C.O.Hedley

1st West Yorkshire Regiment

4/12th Frontier Force Regiment

1/7th Gurkha Rifles

63rd Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier G.W.s.Burton

9th Border Regiment

7/10th Baluch Regiment

1/10th Gurkha Rifles

99th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier G.L.Tarver¹¹

6/15th Punjab Regiment (replaced by 1st East Yorkshire
Regiment in April 1945)

1st Sikh Light Infantry

1/3rd Gurkha Rifles

Artillery: Brigadier J.A.MacDonald

115th Field Regiment, RA

33rd Anti-Tank Regiment, RA

4th Indian Field Regiment

20th Indian Mountain Regiment

Engineers:

29th Field Company, IE

64th Field Company, IE

65th Field Company, IE

327th Field Park Company, IE

Signals:

19th Indian Divisional Signals

Divisional Infantry:

1/15th Punjab Regiment (HQ battalion)

11th Sikh Machinegun Battalion

1st Assam Regiment (reconnaissance battalion)

62nd Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier J.R.Morris¹²

2nd Welch Regiment

3/6th Rajputana Rifles

4/6th Gurkha Rifles

64th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier G.A.Bain¹³

2nd Royal Berkshire Regiment

8/12th Frontier Force Regiment

4/4th Gurkha Rifles

20th Indian Infantry Division: Major General D.D.Gracey

Artillery: Brigadier J.A.E.Hirst

9th Field Regiment, RA

¹¹ Brigadier M.V.Wright from 3/25/45.

¹² Brigadier G.H.B.Beyts from 4/3/45.

¹³ Brigadier J.G. Flewett from 2/8/45.

114th Field Regiment, RA
111th Anti-Tank Regiment, RA
23rd Indian Mountain Regiment

Engineers:

92nd Field Company, IE
422nd Field Company, IE
481st Field Company, IE
332nd Field Park Company, IE

Divisional Infantry

4/2nd Gurkha Rifles (reconnaissance battalion)
(from March 1945)

4/17th Dogra Regiment (HQ battalion)
9th Jat Machinegun Battalion

32nd Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier D.A.L.Mackenzie¹⁴

1st Northamptonshire Regiment¹⁵
9/14th Punjab Regiment
3/8th Gurkha Rifles

80th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier S.Greeves¹⁶

9/12th Frontier Force Regiment
3/1st Gurkha Rifles

100th Indian Infantry Regiment: Brigadier C.H.B.Rodham

2nd Border Regiment
14/13th Frontier Force Rifles
4/10th Gurkha Rifles

36th Division: Major General F.W.Festing
under the 14th Army from 1 April 1945.

Independent Brigades:

268th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier G.M.Dyer

4/3rd Madras Regiment
1st Chamar Regiment
Mahindra Dal Regiment (Nepalese)

Lushai brigade: Brigadier P.C.Marindin

Brigade Signals Section
1st Royal Battalion, 9th Jat Regiment
1st Bihar Regiment
Chin Hills Battalion (replaced in December 1944 by
the 7/14th Punjab Regiment)
1st Assam Rifles (less 2 cos)

28th East African Infantry Brigade: Brigadier W.A.Dimoline¹⁷

7th King's African Rifles

¹⁴ Brigadier E.C.J.Woodford from 3/25/45.

¹⁵ Between 12 and 18 April 1945 the three British battalions of the 20th Division exchanged with Indian Army battalions from the 36th Division: 1st Northamptonshire with the 1/1st Gurkha Rifles, 1st Devonshire Regiment with the 1/19th Hyderabad Regiment and the 2nd Border Regiment with the 2/8th Punjab Regiment.

¹⁶ Brigadier D.E.Taunton from 3/18/45.

¹⁷ Brigadier T.H.S.Galletly from 2/21/45.

46th King's African Rifles
71st King's African Rifles
63rd (East African) Field Company
28th (East African) Infantry Brigade Defense Platoon

XV Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops: Lt.General Sir P.Christison

Armor: Brigadier G.H.N.Todd

50th Indian Tank Brigade
146th Regiment, RAC
19th Lancers
45th Cavalry
2/4th Bombay Grenadiers
37th Field Squadron, IE
1st Independent Bridging Troop, RAC
3rd Independent Tank Delivery Squadron, IAC

Artillery: Brigadier L.A.Harris

6th Medium Regiment, RA
8th (Belfast) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RA
36th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RA
2nd Survey Regiment, RA
"C" Flight, 656th Air OP Squadron, RAF

Engineers Brigadier L.I.Jacques¹⁸

HQ Corps Troops Engineers
HQ 472nd Army Group Engineers
16th Engineer Battalion, IE
17th Engineer Battalion, IE
20th Engineer Battalion, IE
73rd Field Company, IE
483rd Field Company, IE
Malerkotla Field Company, ISF
403rd Field Park Company, IE
855th Bridging Company, IE

Signals: Brigadier D.W.R.Burr ridge

XV Indian Signal Corps

Infantry:

79th Indian Infantry Company
22nd East African Brigade: Brigadier R.F.Johnstone
1st King's African Rifles
3rd North Rhodesian Regiment
1st Royal African Regiment
59th (East African) Field Company
22nd (East African) Brigade Signal Section

Commandos:

3 Commando Brigade: Brigadier C.R.Hardy
1 Commando
5 Commando
42 Royal Marine Commando
44 Royal Marine Commando

25th Indian Infantry Division: Major General G.N.Wood

Artillery: Brigadier A.J.Daniell¹⁹

¹⁸ Brigadier D.C.T.Swan from 4/9/45.

¹⁹ Brigadier N.P.H.Tapp from 4/7/45.

8th Field Regiment, RA
27th Field Regiment, RA
33rd Indian Mountain Regiment
7th Indian Anti-Tank Regiment

Engineers:

63rd Field Company, IE
93rd Field Company, IE
425th Field Company, IE
325th Field Park Company, IE
16th Bridging Section, IE

Signals:

25th Indian Divisional Signals

Divisional Infantry:

9th York and Lancaster Regiment (HQ battalion)
12th Frontier Force Regiment Machinegun Battalion

51st Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier T.H.Angus²⁰

16/10th Baluch Regiment
8/19th Hyderabad Regiment
2/2nd Punjab Regiment

53rd Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier A.G.O'C. Scott²¹

17/5th Mahratta Regiment
7/16th Punjab Regiment
4/18th Royal Garhwal Rifles

74th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier J.E.Hirst

6th Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry
14/10th Baluch Regiment
3/2nd King Edward's Own Gurkha Rifles

26th Indian Infantry Division: Major General C.E.N.Lomax²²

Artillery: Brigadier General C.J.G.Dalton²³

160th Field Regiment, RA
7th Indian Field Regiment
30th Indian Mountain Regiment
1st Indian Anti-Tank Regiment

Engineers:

28th Field Company, IE
72nd Field Company, IE
98th Field Company, IE
328th Field Park Company, IE
7th Bridging Platoon, IE

Signals:

26th Indian Divisional Signals

Divisional HQ Infantry:

5/9th Jat Regiment

4th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier A.W.Lowther²⁴

²⁰ Brigadier R.A.Hutton from 11/6/44.

²¹ Brigadier B.C.H.Gerty from 12/29/44.

²² Major General H.M.Chambers from 4/1/45.

²³ Brigadier the Baron de Robeck from 10/10/44, then Brigadier T.E.D.Kelly from 4/7/45.

2nd Green Howards
 2/13th Frontier Force Rifles
 2/7th Rajput Regiment
36th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier L.G.Thomas²⁵
 8/13th Frontier Force Rifles
 1/8th Gurkha Rifles
 2nd Ajmer Regiment, ISF
71st Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier R.C.Cottrell-Hill²⁶
 1st Lincolnshire Regiment
 5/1st Punjab Regiment
 1/18th Royal Garhwal Rifles
81st West African Division: Major General F.J.Loftus-Tottenham
Artillery:
 21st (West African) Anti-Tank Regiment
 41st (West African) Mortar Regiment
 101st (West African) Light Regiment
Engineers:
 3rd (West African) Field Company
 5th (West African) Field Company
 6th (West African) Field Company
 8th (West African) Field Park Company
Signals:
 81st (West African) Divisional Signals
5th West African Infantry Brigade: Brigadier P.J.Jeffreys
 5th Gold Coast Regiment
 7th Gold Coast Regiment
 8th Gold Coast Regiment
6th West African Infantry Brigade: Brigadier A.A.Crook
 1st Gambia Regiment
 4th Nigerian Regiment
 1st Sierra Leone Regiment
82nd West African Division: Major General G.McI. I.S.Bruce²⁷
Artillery:
 22nd (West African) Anti-Tank Regiment
 42nd (West African) Mortar Regiment
 102nd (West African) Light Regiment
Engineers:
 1st (West African) Field Company
 2nd (West African) Field Company
 4th (West African) Field Company
 9th (West African) Field Park Company
Signals:
 82nd (West African) Divisional Signals
Divisional Reconnaissance Battalion:

²⁴ Brigadier J.F.R.Forman from 1/19/45.

²⁵ Brigadier K.S.Thimayya from 4/1/45.

²⁶ Brigadier H.M.Chambers from 3/1/45 and Brigadier H.P.L.Hutchinson from 3/22/45.

²⁷ Major General H.C.Stockwell from 2/9/45.

82nd (West African) Reconnaissance Battalion

1st (West African) Infantry Brigade: Brigadier C.R.A.Swynnerton

1st Nigerian Regiment

2nd Nigerian Regiment

3rd Nigerian Regiment

2nd (West African) Infantry Brigade: Brigadier E.W.D.Western²⁸

1st Gold Coast Regiment

2nd Gold Coast Regiment

3rd Gold Coast Regiment

4th (West African) Infantry Brigade: Brigadier A.H.G.Ricketts

5th Nigerian Regiment

9th Nigerian Regiment

10th Nigerian Regiment

Northern Combat Area Command: Lt.General D.I.Sultan

Mars Task Force: Brigadier General J.P.Willey

612th (American) Field Artillery Battalion (Pack)

475th (American) Infantry Regiment

124th (American) Cavalry Regiment

1st Chinese Regiment

New Chinese First Army: General Sun Li-Jen

30th Division

88th Infantry Regiment

89th Infantry Regiment

90th Infantry Regiment

38th Division

112th Infantry Regiment

113th Infantry Regiment

114th Infantry Regiment

New Chinese Sixth Army: General Liao Yueh-shang

14th Division

40th Infantry Regiment

41st Infantry Regiment

42nd Infantry Regiment

22nd Division

64th Infantry Regiment

65th Infantry Regiment

66th Infantry Regiment

50th Division

148th Infantry Regiment

149th Infantry Regiment

150th Infantry Regiment

36th (British) Infantry Division: Major General F.W.Festing

Artillery:

122nd Anti-Tank Regiment, RA

130th Field Regiment, RA

178th Field Regiment, RA

3rd Meteorological Detachment, RA

32nd Indian Mountain Regiment

Engineers:

10th Bridging Platoon, IE

12th Bridging Platoon, IE

²⁸ Brigadier A.T.Wilson-Brand from 3/23/45.

15th Engineer Platoon, IE
30th Field Company, IE
58th Field Company, IE
236th Field Company, IE
324th Field Park Company, IE

Signals:

36th Divisional Signals

Divisional Infantry:

"D" Company, 2nd Manchester Machinegun Battalion

88th Indian Infantry Company (HQ Company)

26th Indian Infantry Brigade: Brigadier M.B.Jennson(?)

2nd Buffs

1/9th Hyderabad Regiment²⁹

2/8th Punjab Regiment (replaced in march by 1/1st Gurkha Rifles)

29th Infantry Brigade: Brigadier General H.C.Stockwell³⁰

2nd East Lancashire Regiment

1st Royal Scots Fusiliers

1st Royal Welch Fusiliers

72nd Indian Infantry Brigade:

10th Gloucestershire Regiment

9th Royal Sussex Regiment

6th South Wales Borders

Line of Communication Command: (Formed 11/15/44) Major General G.W.Symes

202 Line of Command (Gauhati): Major General R.P.L.Ranking

251st Line of Communication Sub-Area

252nd Line of Communication Sub-Area

253rd Line of Communication Sub-Area

256th Line of Communication Sub-Area

257th Line of Communication Sub-Area

404 Line of Communication Area (Chittagong) Brigadier R.T.Henry³¹

451st Line of Communication Sub-Area

452nd Line of Communication Sub-Area

453rd Line of Communication Sub-Area

454th Line of Communication Sub-Area

455th Line of Communication Sub-Area

505 District (Shwebo, to Meiktila in May): formed (3/9/45)

Major General A.H.Snelling

25th Gurkha Rifles

2nd Burma Regiment

253rd Line of Communication Sub-Area (Shwebo to Mandalay in April 1945)

256th Line of Communication Sub-Area (Imphal)

²⁹ The three Indian Army battalions of this division were transferred to the 20th Indian Division in April 1945.

³⁰ Brigadier G.E.R.Bistrom from 1/9/45.

³¹ Brigadier M.L.Hayne from 1/7/45.

455th Line of Communication Sub-Area (Magwe)
1st Jammu and Kashmir Infantry, ISF
551st Line of Communication Sub-Area (Kalewa)
1st Chin Rifles
2nd Chin Rifles
552nd Line of Communication Sub-Area (Alon to Myingyan in
April)
553rd Line of Communication Sub-Area (Myitkyina)
1st Kachin Rifles
2nd Kachin Rifles

Kirby, Stanley, Woodburn, The War Against Japan, London, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1961.

