



# British 52nd Infantry Division

September, 1944

155th  
Infantry  
Brigade

Infantry Battalion x 3

2 6	! 2* RIFLE	0 C 0 Truck	3 M 8 76 mm	9 A 5 6 pdr	2 C(l) 2* Bren
x 12	x 12	x 12	x 1	x 2	x 3
1 6	! 1	2 C(l) 2 M-3	2   2*		
x 1	x 1	x 1	x 2		

Infantry Battalions are 7th/9th Royal Scots, 4th & 5th King's Own Scottish Borderers.

156th  
Infantry  
Brigade

Infantry Battalion x 3

2 6	! 2* RIFLE	0 C 0 Truck	3 M 8 76 mm	9 A 5 6 pdr	2 C(l) 2* Bren
x 12	x 12	x 12	x 1	x 2	x 3
1 6	! 1	2 C(l) 2 M-3	2   2*		
x 1	x 1	x 1	x 2		

Infantry Battalions are 4th/5th Scots Fusiliers, 6th & 7th Cameronians.

157th  
Infantry  
Brigade

Infantry Battalion x 3

2 6	! 2* RIFLE	0 C 0 Truck	3 M 8 76 mm	9 A 5 6 pdr	2 C(l) 2* Bren
x 12	x 12	x 12	x 1	x 2	x 3
1 6	! 1	2 C(l) 2 M-3	2   2*		
x 1	x 1	x 1	x 2		

Infantry Battalions are 5th & 6th Highland Light Infantry, 1st Glasgow Highlanders.

Part of Sea Trail. Attached to XXX corps and not to be airlifted.

79th  
Field  
Regiment  
Royal  
Artillery

35 (H) 35 25 pdr	0 C 0 Matador
2 0	1 12
x 4	x 4

80th  
Field  
Regiment  
Royal  
Artillery

35 (H) 35 25 pdr	0 C 0 Matador
2 0	1 12
x 4	x 4

186th  
Field  
Regiment  
Royal  
Artillery

35 (H) 35 25 pdr	0 C 0 Matador
2 0	1 12
x 4	x 4

1st  
Mountain  
Artillery  
Regiment

20 (H) 25 75 mm	0 C 0 Matador
2 0	1 12
x 4	x 4

Guns represent 3.7" pack howitzer

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1st  
Machine Gun  
Battalion  
7th  
Middlesex  
Regiment

2 I 2*	10 M 17	2 I 2*
	107 mm	
4 M-G 1	2 0	2 Bren 10
x 9	x 4	x 13

54th  
Anti-Tank  
Regiment  
Royal  
Artillery

9 A 5	0 C 0
6 pdr	
2 0	1 Truck 14
x 12	x 12

52nd  
Recce  
Regiment

2 I 2*	3 M 8	9 A 5	2 I 2*	2 I 4	3 A 5
	76 mm	6 pdr			
6 RIFLE 1	3 1	2 0	2 Bren 10	3 Humber SC 15	3 Daimler 16
x 3	x 1	x 2	x 6	x 6	x 4

This regiment advanced behind XXX Corps and was put under the command of the 101st Airborne.

108th  
Light  
Anti-Aircraft  
Regiment

8 H 12	0 C 0	8 H 12
40 mm		
2 0	1 Truck 14	1 Morris C9/B AA 12
x 6	x 6	x 3

202, 241, 554  
Field  
Companies  
Royal  
Engineers

3 I 2	0 - 0	0 C 0
		
10 1	32 Tank Bridge 0	1 Truck 14
x 9	x 1	x 10

The 52nd was originally trained as a mountain division but was retrained in 1944 to be an Airlanding division instead. Officially a part of the British 1st Airborne Corps, this division was not trained for either parachute or glider deployment. Rather, it was trained to be flown in and landed by airplane at airfields captured by the airlanding forces (exactly as the Germans had done on Crete). In this operation, they would have been flown into the airfield north of Arnhem at Deelen after its capture by the 1st Airborne. As that operation failed, the division was not deployed as part of this campaign. If the division had been flown in, many elements would have been left behind, including the 157th Brigade and most of the artillery.

Though the 52nd Infantry saw action in the rest of the war, it was never deployed as either a mountain division or as an airlanding division.