

POLISH 2nd CORPS UNITS ASSIGNED TO RESETTLEMENT CAMPS IN THE UK

War Office Plan for the dispersal of 2 Polcorps upon their arrival in Britain from Italy

They were to be distributed across the various Commands in Britain... the exception being Scotland. Most of 1st Corps were based there and it was felt that a further influx of Poles would antagonize the local population. Even so, 4,640 were sent there regardless.

Where the Poles ended up and eventually settled largely depended on luck and to which unit they belonged. Initially they were housed in vacated barracks (often US or Canadian) before being demobilized into the Polish Resettlement Corps.

There was only marginal migration from these first settlement areas and most of that happened when sufficient accommodation and work became available. Certainly, the big cities drew many and they became visible communities, but there remained a huge, widely dispersed Polish community in rural Britain.

SCOTTISH COMMAND...4,640

HQ Artillery Group
Base Troops

Berwickshire 1,930
Roxburghshire 1,880
Wigtownshire 830

NORTHERN COMMAND...16,170

HQ 2nd Armd Div.
2nd Armoured Div.

Derbyshire 580
Lincolnshire 5,730
Northumberland 5,080
Yorkshire 4,780

SOUTHERN COMMAND...15,990

HQ 5th Inf Div. (5KDP)
5th Infantry Div.

Wiltshire 6,540
Gloucestershire 4,720
Berkshire 1,200
Oxfordshire 3,530

EASTERN COMMAND...23,290

HQ 14th Armd Bde. 14th Armoured Bde
HQ 3rd Inf Div. 3rd Infantry Div.

Buckinghamshire 4, 970
Hertfordshire 860
Norfolk 12,850
Suffolk 650
Huntingdonshire 200
Sussex 3,760

WESTERN COMMAND...60,720

HQ 2 Polcorps & Base Troops

Cumberland 26,850
Lancashire 6,790
Yorkshire 170
Cheshire 1,330
Anglesey 3,560
Derby 840
Merioneth 490
Shropshire 1,240
Stafford 5,100
Montgomeryshire 1,730
Brecon 1,450
Hereford 7,260
Pembroke 2,060
Glamorgan 1,850

TOTAL TROOPS: 120,810

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