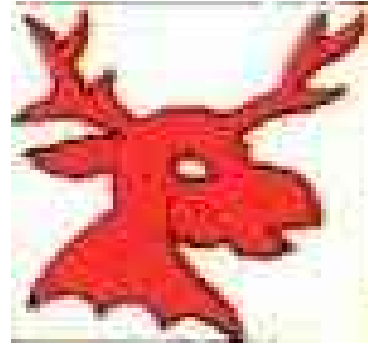


The 22nd Armoured Brigade

History

The 22nd Armoured Brigade is one of the three brigades of the 1st (UK) Armoured Division. Despite the name the brigade is actually infantry heavy although the infantry are what is referred to in British military terms as armoured infantry (i.e. equipped with Warrior MICV). Pre-war it was based at Hohn in Germany.



In early 1995 the brigade was composed of the following:

- ⤴ (B)28 Squadron of 1 Close Support Medical Regimentⁱ
- ⤴ 77 Armoured Squadron, 32 Armoured Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers
- ⤴ 267 Signal Squadron
- ⤴ 10 (Close Support) Battalion, REME
- ⤴ 22 Logistic Support Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps
- ⤴ The Queen's Own Hussars a Type 57 Armoured Regiment in Challenger I tanksⁱⁱ
- ⤴ 1st Bn Scots Guards in FV432 APCsⁱⁱⁱ
- ⤴ 2nd Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment ("The Poachers") in FV510 Warriors
- ⤴ 19 Field Regiment Royal Artillery with FV4333 Abbott self-propelled guns^{iv}

With the tension caused by the Sino-Soviet fighting the brigade was put onto a high level of readiness and as Territorial Army units started to arrive in Germany gained the 5th/8th (V) Bn King's Regiment initially in Saxon APCs. In addition large numbers of reservists were recalled and shipped to the brigade to bring it up to wartime strength. As the fighting in China started to drag on, in November the brigade was stood down from high readiness but continued training to bring the recalled reservists back to their previous standards. The 5th/8th Kings were upgraded at this point, transitioning from the AT105 Saxon to the FV432 using wartime reserve stocks. The AT105 Saxons released were then passed to 8th (V) Bn Queen's Fusiliers who were tasked with rear area security for BAOR^v



Illustration 1: AT105 Saxon leaving workshops to be issued to the 8th Queen's Fusiliers, September 1996. REME Museum

With the outbreak of German-Polish fighting, the brigade again went onto high alert and deployed from barracks to the positions on the old Inner-German border (as the UK government did not want to inflame the situation by moving into eastern Germany). Brigadier Anthony Sharman, the 22nd's commanding officer had

previously been a staff officer with 1st Armoured Division prior to German Reunification as part of the cell responsible for planning border defence. As a result he was able to provide much help and advice to the deploying units.

"When the Germans of the 7th Panzer Grenadiers reached us we started to realise this wasn't going to be anything like an exercise, some of the Leopards were really badly battered, one made a noise like a banshee as part of the track guard was grating against the tracks as it went past. Kit was strewn everywhere on the outsides of the vehicle. One of the Marders pulled over at our aid station and the driver shouted for help. We went over and he motioned to the back. We opened the back and ...well..it was like something out of a video nasty, there were infantrymen in the back that desperately needed help, well some of them did... We started to get them out and I went to help lift one young guy who was badly burned and his leg came off in my hands, the blackened flesh on it started to fall off all over me. I just threw up, all over him, I just kept hurling and hurling until Cpl Little just gently pulled me aside. He tried to make me feel better by saying the guy was already dead and wouldn't have known I threw up on him. Well, he didn't know but I did. I can still remember the smell of cooked flesh, just like cooked pork with a hint of burnt toast where the hair had burned off. I still can't stand the smell of pork today, it makes me want to vomit straight away."

Private Andrew Whitehead (B) 28 Squadron, 1 Close Support Medical Regiment quoted in "First Fight" Carter Press 2022

Overnight the position started to deteriorate again however as the 7th Armoured Brigade was being slowly pushed back and the 12th Armoured Brigade was now in danger of being flanked. The 22nd Armoured Brigade was tasked with forming a second line for its sister brigades to fall back through. As they did this the brigade suffered its first combat loses as it conducted a series of ambushes against the advancing Soviets.

"The effectiveness of the delaying actions conducted by the 22nd Armoured Brigade is best summed up by the words of a Soviet prisoner – 'as we advanced, we came to fear every wood, every village, every cottage, everything that could hide your ambushing troops. Troops assigned to reconnaissance felt that it was a death sentence.'"

War diary of the 22nd Armoured Brigade 21st December 1996

Over the next four days the 1st Armoured Division conducted numerous small actions as it withdrew to the vicinity of Bozenburg. These actions were usually fought at company or at most battle group level.

When the brigade reached Bozenburg, the 12th Armoured Brigade was the most battered unit in the 1st (UK) Armoured Division and had acted as the final rear guard so the 7th and 22nd

On 10th December 1st (UK) Armoured Division was ordered to move into eastern Germany to support the Bunderswehr. The 22nd Armoured Brigade lead the division through Germany until it reached Buckwitz. Here it deployed as the divisional reserve as the 7th and 12th Armoured Brigades moved through them to form the front line. As the 22nd assisted the battered German 7th Panzer Grenadier Division as it passed through the lines, the 7th and 12th Armoured Brigades started to engage the Soviet 5th Guards Tank Army in the dawn light of the 12th.

Throughout the day the 22nd Armoured Brigade listened to the progress of the battle to their front as the fighting intensified. At 09:30 they were put on stand by to relieve the 12th Armoured Brigade that had been involved in the heaviest fighting. At 14:45 the orders were changed to prepare to support the 7th Armoured Brigade that was now facing the brunt of a Soviet deliberate assault. At 16:30 the orders were cancelled as the front line had stabilised.



Illustration 2: Bandsmen acting as stretcher bearers and attached to 1st Bn Scots Guards evacuate a casualty during the withdrawal to Bozenburg. BBC

Armoured Brigades formed the front line as the 12th withdrew through them. In the early afternoon of the 20th, Soviet reconnaissance elements were again engaged by the division. After these were repulsed, the Soviets realised that the retreat had stopped. Soon the 9th Tank Division of the 1st Soviet Guards Tank Army conducted a deliberate attack on the positions held by the 22nd Armoured Division. Supporting fire from the divisional 40 Field Rgt, Royal Artillery using M109s helped to break up the Soviet assault but the attack was relentless and losses quickly mounted. Despite this 1st Scots Guards Battle Group were pushed back into the interior of the village they were holding. Only after reorganising and counter attacking was the village retaken after six hours of intensive house to house fighting. 2nd Royal Anglian Battle Group were luckier, a hidden stream in front of their position caused large difficulties for the Soviets, becoming a graveyard for armoured vehicles, infantry however managed to find shelter in the stream, only a mortar barrage from the support company managed to reduce the fire from there (it was not until evening that the last of the Soviet units withdrew from the stream bed although organised defence had stopped by 17:30). After this first assault on the brigade as casualties were evacuated the positions held by the brigade were hit by air strikes from Soviet fighter-bombers causing numerous casualties and making B Squadron Queen's Own Hussars ineffective as a unit.^{vi}

The 21st December saw further Soviet attacks heavily supported by artillery fire but these were held and by mid-day on the 22nd the high-water mark of the Soviet advance had been reached. Now NATO was ready to counter attack, the 1st (UK) Armoured Division was tasked with attacking towards Lowerburg to help protect the flank of the

"I remember Christmas Day 1996, we were stood to at dawn in our positions when as we were being stood down, the OC (Officer Commanding the Company) and CSM (Company Sergeant Major) came round wearing santa hats over their helmets with a tot of rum for us all. It was a great start to the day. Most of the day we spent bouncing around in the back of a 432 with Johnny trying to get us to sing carols over the sounds of the engine, we did all join in. When we stopped for the night to dig in, I couldn't believe it, the QM (quartermaster) had managed to somehow cook roast turkeys and at least some of the trimmings for evening meal. That was the best meal I ever had in the war. I could suddenly understand what my great-granddad had said about the Christmas Truce of 1914 he had experienced. The padre even came round the front line positions and we fixed the duty rosters to let any sentry who wanted to go to communion go. I still think of it every Christmas and remember the guys I shared it with."

Private John Silver quoted in "Poachers at War" by Brigadier (Rtd) Harry Thornley, Anglia Press 2012

German IV Corps as it moved to retake Berlin. Here the 22nd Armoured Brigade saw little action following behind the 12th Armoured Brigade as the divisional reserve.



Illustration 3: 2 Royal Anglian (probably B Company) taken on the 23rd December 1996. Sky News

From here the division was pulled from the line to rest and refit and absorb the many replacements needed. Despite replacements the Queen's Own Hussars were reorganised into a Type 43 regiment (with one less squadron) as both tanks and crews were in short supply. 1st Battalion Scots Guards received a composite company of replacements from 2nd Battalion Scots Guards who were still part of 56th (London) Brigade.

On 19th March, 1997 the 22nd Armoured Brigade received orders to prepare to take part in Operation Munro as part of the NATO Operation Advent Crown aimed at pushing into central Poland. On the 2nd April the lead elements of

the 1st (UK) Armoured Division crossed the border with the 22nd Armoured Brigade crossing the following day. By the 21st, the division had reached the Oder River. On the 24th, the 7th Armoured Brigade made a successful crossing south of Schredt. At this point the 22nd Armoured Brigade took the lead attacking north-east against the now outflanked Polish 6th Border Guards Brigade.^{vii} While this was occurring the 7th Armoured Brigade handed the bridge security over to the next wave of troops and pushed towards Chojna where it engaged ORMO troops in dug in positions.



Illustration 4: Queen's Own Hussars Challenger I Mk3s or Mk 2(ACB)s attacking positions of the 12th Border Guards Brigade. Unusually very little unit detail is visible. MoD

By the 4th May the division had reached Poznan where the 22nd Armoured Brigade brushed aside the Polish 12th Border Guards Brigade before the 12th Armoured Brigade took the lead attacking the Soviet 25th Tank Division and driving it back into Warsaw. By 29th May the 1st (UK) and 2nd (UK) Armoured Divisions had linked up with the remainder of I Corps and the Siege of Warsaw had begun.

was given the task of pushing along the east bank of the Wisla to take the dockyard in the south of Praga. Meeting less resistance than the 7th Armoured Brigade to its left tasked with taking the Wielenska Railway Station, the brigade managed to take the

During the Battle of Warsaw, the 22nd Armoured Brigade

docks relatively intact^{viii}. Next the brigade was tasked with pushing towards the Dziesieciolecia Stadium in Kamionek and the Skaryszewski Park. With one battlegroup following the river line and another moving along the main Zleleniecka Avenue. Despite heavy fighting only a foothold at the northern end of the park was achieved. As the 1st Scots Guards Battle Group



Illustration 5: Members of 2 Royal Anglian Battle Group with a Chieftain Mk 10 of 15th/19th Kings Royal Hussars (identifiable by the prepare to attack into the dockyard, 7th July 1997. Interestingly the soldier third from the left appears to be armed with an Uzi which was not British Army issue. The Times

neared the railway bridge, Soviet engineers fearing incorrectly that this was the target detonated the charges they had placed. While not completely destroying the bridge, it did drop substantial sections of the bridge into the river rendering it impassible for vehicles and dangerous for infantry (it has also caused major problems for river traffic).

As the Siege continued, the Soviets counter attacked and by 12th August the 2nd (UK) Armoured Division had been forced back to Warsaw and by the 15th the 3rd Guards Tank Division had broken through to the defenders.^{ix}

Withdrawing across Poland in the face of the Soviet offensive the 22nd Armoured Brigade was badly handled by the 8th Guards Tank Division before it managed to break contact aided by the use of battlefield nuclear weapons and demolition charges. The 1st Battalion Devon and Dorset Regiment was attached to the brigade when it was cut off and rescued by a counter attack by 2nd Battalion Royal Anglians.

Now back in Germany the 22nd Armoured Brigade was reorganised and reformed. The Queens Own Hussars reformed reducing their strength further to a Type 20 regiment (although excess troops were used to form a light recce squadron in Land Rovers). 1st Battalion Scots Guards was transferred to 2nd (UK) Armoured Division as part of 54th (Guards) Infantry Brigade.^x In return the 22nd Armoured Brigade gained (permanently) the 1st Battalion Devon and Dorset Regiment.

As this reorganisation was occurring, the Italians and Czechoslovakians launched an attack into southern Germany. NATO launched Operation Southern Redoubt that was to bring almost every uncommitted unit to bear. The UK code name for this operation was Operation Violinist. Somehow the 22nd Brigade completed the march and was in position where it found itself engaged by T72s belonging to the Czechoslovakian 4th Tank Division.^{xi}



Illustration 6: Rearguard of 2nd Bn Royal Anglian with a Land Rover with GPMG team preparing to withdraw across a Medium Girder Bridge after acting as a rear guard for 1st Bn Devon and Dorsets. The bridge was blown ten minutes after this photo was taken. MoD

"I remember the brigadier coming back from the urgent briefing at division and telling me we had to prepare to make a road and rail move to south Germany. I looked at him like he was mad, a move of this type in peace time would take weeks or months of planning and now we had to do it in days and there was an enemy trying to actively interfere with it! He saw my look and sympathised but when he said, 'Robert, if we get this wrong we could lose the war I realised we had to just get on and do, just like the British Army seems to always manage when dropped in it.'"

Colonel (Rtd) Robert Sharman, 22nd Armoured Brigade Headquarters in the forward to "Operation Violinist: Fiddling while Rome burned" Helena Press 2018



Illustration 7: Lt Peter Koenig of G Squadron, Queen's Own Hussars. Note the German parka and combat trousers but British beret and badge worn "tankie" style. Queen's Own Hussars Museum

Slowing the Pact advance the 22nd Armoured Brigade temporarily acquired a German panzer company in Leopard 1s. This temporarily formed an extra squadron of the Queen's Own Hussars (known as G Squadron) until the Brigade withdrew in November. As the 7th Armoured Brigade started the counter offensive and took Finsterwald, the 22nd Armoured Brigade pushed on towards Ebersbach as part of a two pronged attack with the 12th Armoured Brigade forming the right flank. Taking Ebersbach in the face of tough opposition from the Czechoslovakian 14th Motor Rifle Division, the brigade was unable to make much further headway but the south German front was secure and by late November the 1st (UK) Armoured Brigade withdrew to northern Germany.



Illustration 8: Troops from 2nd Bn Royal Anglian pose on top of a T34/85 belonging to the Czechoslovakian 14th Motor Rifle Division knocked out in Ebersbach. MoD

Here the whole of I Corps was reorganised. 22nd Armoured Brigade gained an organic reconnaissance unit in the 17/21st Lancers^{xii}. 19 Field Regiment Royal Artillery reorganised too, centralising the Abbots into one squadron and equipping the other squadrons with mortars (mainly 81mm but also including at least two Soviet Vasilek 82mm automatic mortars).

The newly reorganised I Corps again took the offensive in the south of Germany in August 1998 in Operation Vista. Here the 22nd

Armoured Brigade supported the 12th Armoured Brigade in acting as the hammer which smashed the Soviet 51st Tank Division against the anvil of the 7th Armoured Brigade. As the NATO offensive continued, the 1st (UK) Armoured Division was assigned to Army Group Cromwell (including Dutch, German and American units).

As part of Army Group Cromwell, the 22nd Armoured Brigade took part in Operation Mornington Crescent. Here as 7th Armoured Division pushed to relieve 44th Airborne Brigade, the 22nd acted as the divisional reserve and rear area security. Once the paratroops had been relieved, a counter attack by the Soviet 18th Motor Rifle Division delayed Army Group Cromwell long enough



Illustration 9: Challenger II allegedly of the Queen's Own Hussars in January 1999. This is however probably incorrect as the unit was equipped with Challenger 1s. MoD

for the 1st Czechoslovak Army to dig in. The remainder of the year saw the 1st (UK) Armoured Division engaged in static warfare with two of the three brigades being on the front line at any time.

In February 1999, the 1st (UK) Armoured Division was relieved by the German Army and withdrew to Grifhorn in Germany where it conducted anti-marauder operations.



Illustration 10: 5th/8th Kings moving up into a front line position in November 1998. Note that other than the guide to the left they are all carrying L1A1 SLRs and wearing the older OG Mark 3 NBC suits. King's Regiment Museum

In October the final large batch of replacements arrived from the UK in preparation for Operation Atlantis. In March, I Corps remained in place while II Corps moved ready to support the final offensive of the war with I Corps to follow. At this point with units closer to strength than they had been for some time, 2nd Battalion Royal Anglian transferred to 8th Infantry Brigade. The Soviet attack however changed all the plans and the planned move by I Corps never occurred.

As a result the 22nd Armoured Brigade had fought its last battle of the war. Supporting American troops moving through as part of Operation Omega, the Brigade was careful to ensure that American troops remained organised and there are a number of

unsubstantiated reports that a number of fire-fights occurred between US units and British troops. After this the brigade prepared to return to the UK although this did not occur until late 2003 due to logistics difficulties (the UK unlike the Americans did not abandon the heavy equipment in Germany).

Current Organisation

As of 1st July 2001 the 7th Armoured Brigade consists of the following:

22nd Armoured Brigade

77 Armoured Squadron, 32 Armoured Engineer Regiment, Royal

Engineers

267 Signal Squadron

10 (Close Support) Battalion, REME

The Queen's Own Hussars (A) – Challenger I with some Chieftains
(D Squadron destroyed and not rebuilt)

HQ Squadron

A/B Squadron – amalgamated

C (Light) Squadron - recce in Land Rover

D Company, 5th/8th (V) Battalion The King's Regiment

17th/21st Lancers (Armoured recce)

HQ Squadron

A Squadron

B Squadron

C (Light) Squadron in Land Rover

1/Devonshire and Dorset Regiment
 HQ Coy
 A Company
 B Company
 C Company
 5th/8th (V) Battalion The King's Regiment – D Coy to Queen's Own Hussars
 HQ Coy
 A Company
 B Company
 C Company
 19 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
 HQ Battery
 13 Battery - mortars
 25/28 Battery – amalgamated - Abbott

Equipment

The brigade still has a number of operating Challenger Is, although many are battered. A number of Chieftains were issued as replacement vehicles in early 1999 and some of these are also in service with the brigade.

Personalities

Private Kevin “Legs” Peacock, formerly of 17/21st Lancers lost his legs in an RPG strike on the Scimitar he was driving in late 1998. Despite medical treatment the legs were amputated after infection set in. Evacuated back to the UK in early 1999 he worked in the Land Rover Recovery Programme as a mechanic, often joking that he had it easy with his “below knee scratches” as he could get into

smaller spaces than his able bodied colleagues. In 2005 he took up wheelchair athletics and in 2007 won a silver medal in the British Paralympic Athletics Championships in the 1500 metres. In 2008 he was a volunteer for the “Limbs for Heroes” Charity who subsidised artificial limbs for ex-servicemen. In 2011 he took part in the Reading Half Marathon coming in third on his new artificial limbs. After the 2012 general election he was asked to become a special advisor on disability matters which he accepted.



Illustration 12:
"Portrait of the Artist
as a Young Soldier" -
National Portrait
Gallery

Another disabled former member of the brigade was Lt Robin Thomas-Fells of the 2nd Scots Guards who was badly injured by Soviet artillery of 21st December 1996. Badly burned by phosphorous he lost his right arm and suffered partial and full thickness burns over 40% of the remainder of his body. Not



Illustration 11: "Legs" Lane on a
dismounted foot patrol in mid
1997. Personal collection

expected to live he was given morphine and only treated by the medics once those who were more likely to live had all been treated. Evacuated back to the UK he was treated at Selly Oak in Birmingham. By May he had improved enough to be allowed home with his girl-friend Fiona Mott where he took up art as a therapy. Surviving the nuclear attack he suffered further misfortune when Fiona died of an unknown disease in March 1998. By 2001 he was making a living as a teacher. In 2005 a colleague saw some of his art and suggested that he should sell it. Robin took him up on the idea and placed some in a local pub. Fortunately a member of the Recovery and Salvage Agency was home on leave and saw the paintings. As a former art historian he recognised the talent and put Robin in touch with friends who were keen to buy good art. By 2009 his talent was widely recognised and he was asked to paint an official portrait of Princes William and Harry for the Household Cavalry Mess. A friendship quickly developed and he was introduced to King Charles who also asked for an official portrait that has become a definitive portrayal.

Sarah Felton, the future government minister for education served with the 22nd Armoured Brigade headquarters as a member of the Adjutant Generals Corps from October 1999 to January 2006. At planning sessions she was often seen as the voice of reason although she was the first to admit that she could have a strong temper if pushed too hard. Leaving the army, she stood as the Conservative candidate for Dover in 2008 where she narrowly won to the surprise of many commentators. By 2011 she was a junior minister in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office before becoming Education Secretary in 2014 as a reward for her hard work behind the scenes during the Saudi War.



Illustration 13: Sarah Felton whilst undergoing officer training at the Cadet Training Centre Frimley Park

"I joined the army as I was bored, I requested going to Poland as I was bored, I got to Warsaw – I realised boring could actually be good!"

Introduction to "My Life as a History" Craig Wilson, Oxford University Press 2064

The historian Craig Wilson served as a member of 19 Field Regiment Royal Artillery for much of the war. When Soviet troops entered Germany, Craig walked out of what he thought was a boring sociology lecture at Birmingham University and took a bus into the city centre and walked into the Armed Forces Careers Office. Once his application was processed he undertook his basic training before initially being posted to Larkhill. Finding life there boring he kept requesting a posting to Germany which was granted in time for him to join 19 Field Regiment just in time for the Battle for Warsaw. This changed the young man and as he put it he grew up fast. During the battle he was promoted Lance-Corporal and during the following retreat to Corporal. By the time he was demobilised in 2004 he was a Staff Sergeant. Now he returned to university studying history. Completing his degree he continued to study gaining a doctorate specialising in twentieth century history. Realising how much oral history of that period had been lost he was determined that there



Illustration 14: Craig Wilson as a Corporal pictured in late 2001 on a foot patrol reacting to reports of a marauder band that had attacked a local village. Royal Artillery Museum

should be good records for the Twilight War and he established a programme to interview as many people both military and civilian about their experiences as possible. The archive now housed at The New Birmingham Combined University^{xiii} in the Wilson Collection.^{xiv}

Commanders

March 1994 – December 1996: Brigadier Anthony Sharman (late Royal Artillery) – killed in action

December 1996 – July 1997: Brigadier Harry Bolton-Fry (late Royal Logistic Corps) – requested relief – psychiatric casualty

July 1997 – August 1997: Colonel Ron Holt (late Royal Regiment of Fusiliers) – killed in action

August 1997 – November 1997: Colonel (later Brigadier) Adam Kelvin (late Royal Military Police) – transfer to 3rd (UK) Armoured Division

November 1997 – February 1998: Brigadier Alistair Weir (late Royal Signals) – died of disease

February 1998 – October 1999: Brigadier Oscar Blake (late Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters) – transfer to II Corps staff

October 1999 – December 2003: Brigadier Robert Quest - retired

December 2003 - : Brigadier Paul Taylor (late 9th/12th Lancers)

See also

- ⚭ 7th Armoured Brigade for details of the sister brigade
- ⚭ 12th Armoured Brigade for details of the sister brigade
- ⚭ British Army Vehicle Guide Vol 1: Main Battle Tanks

- i This unit had previously been thought to have been part of 7th Armoured Brigade but evidence found by the 22nd's official historian Major Thomas Wood has shown that the squadron moved to support the 22nd Armoured Brigade on 8th September 1995.
- ii Prior to September 1995 this was a Type 43 regiment.
- iii The 1st Scots Guards were due to transition to FV510 Warriors in mid 1996. This change never occurred due to the outbreak of the war.
- iv The regiment had been due to upgrade to AS90 self-propelled guns in mid 1996 but this never occurred due to the disruption of the war.
- v Once the Lance missile launchers were reissued to the Royal Artillery, the battalion was returned to the task of protecting the launchers of 50th Missile Regiment, Royal Artillery (as had been it's role prior to their being placed into storage).
- vi Guardsman Lee Noble of the 1st Scots Guards won the military medal when he rescued crew members of a burning Challenger from B Squadron Queen's Own Hussars, returning to it despite the risk to himself. Readers wanting more information regarding this can see a good reconstruction in the ITV documentary "Heroes" in episode 2 of series 2 entitled "Saving Others."
- vii It had been planned that the 12th Armoured Brigade would take the lead but this was currently stuck in a log jam and was not able to cross the bridges built by the 32rd Armoured Regiment, Royal Engineers' bridges until the morning of the 24th.
- viii During the fighting the only two flame-throwing Centurion Crocodile tanks created by the British Army were detached from 77 Armoured Squadron and used by 7th Armoured Brigade during the fighting for the Wielenska Railway Station.
- ix The 3rd Guards Tank Division was awarded the unofficial title "Liberators of Warsaw" by the Polish Government but this was not recognised by the Soviet Army and was ignored by many Poles as they had suffered badly during the siege as Soviet troops had hoarded food and other essential supplies leading many Poles to starve. Interestingly a study conducted after the war concluded that during the siege the civilian groups most likely to survive were the ones under NATO control. The term "Liberators of Warsaw" is best known from the musical score created by Junior Lieutenant Dawid Pawl who wrote it to commemorate the event (and also created an orchestra from the troops of the Polish 11th Tank Division – his diary shows the difficulty of rehearsing as each day different troops could be released and some would have been killed, including sadly the internationally known concert pianist Andre Maliszewski).
- x There is much controversy over this as many felt at the time that this was a case of the Guards looking after themselves. Post-war research however has suggested that the decision was more likely to be a result of the need to ensure that all brigades had a reasonable strength.
- xi One T72 was captured and used against its former owners by the Queen's Own Hussars. Known as "Tolstoy" it accounted for at least 8 Pact vehicles before it broke down and was abandoned during Operation Mornington Crescent.
- xii Despite the 22nd Armoured Brigade having a strength of 5 front line combat elements, it was quite weak as other than the 5/8th Kings Regiment they were all well below strength.
- xiii This new university established in 2008 in Edgebaston on the site of the old Birmingham University comprised elements of Birmingham University, Aston University and Birmingham Polytechnic.
- xiv After his death in 2043 in a car accident, the University petitioned King William to grant the collection a royal title in recognition of his work. This was granted and the king personally opened the renamed collection in front of a crowd of invited veterans and civilians disabled during the war on 11th November 2044.