



## HISTORY OF SIGNALLING IN 100 OBJECTS THE BADGE OF 2 SIGNAL REGIMENT



The Cross Keys became the emblem of the 2nd Division in 1939, when Maj Gen H C Lloyd, the then GOC, like other Div commanders, followed instructions from the War Office to select a badge or shoulder flash for their respective Divisional soldiers.

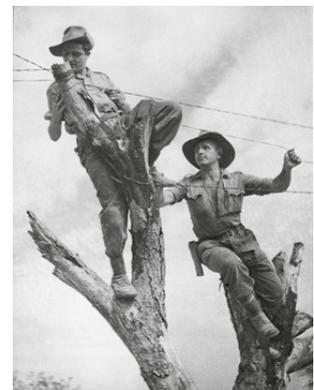
2 Signal Regiment had been associated with 2 Div from 1907 through all of WW1, first as the 2nd Division Telegraph Company RE and then as the 2 Div Signal Com-

pany RE formed in 1911. It fought in most of the major battles on the Western Front with line work featuring in its communications, as shown in the right picture.

2 Signal Regiment continued with 2 Division during the interwar years and into WW2, when both were deployed to India and Burma. The key battle was in



Burma when the Division successfully held and then forced the retreat of the Japanese army at Kohima from 4 April to 22 June 1944. Following the surrender of the Japanese in Aug 1945 2 Div was disbanded, but both it and 2 Signal Regt were re-constituted in West Germany. The Division HQ was based in the town of Luebecke with 2 Div Sig Regt stationed in Bunde. Strangely Luebecke also has a cross



keys insignia on its city shield. Following the re-structuring of BAOR in 1981, 2 Div with its units returned to UK with the Div HQ in Imphal Bar-



racks in York and 2 Div HQ & Sig Regt co-located with it. The Regt remains in Imphal Barracks to this day, even though 2 Div HQ was disbanded in 1992.

It is now called 2nd Signal Regiment with the same Cross Keys shoulder flash. This emblem also has a link to York through its Archbishop, whose see is based at York Minster. Originally in Norman times the army of the North of England was raised by the Archbishop of York and this "second army" carried on its banners and shields the emblem of the Cross Keys, taken from the Archbishop's coat of arms.

2 Signal Regt is part of 11th Signal Brigade, supporting contingency operations, which have included operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Regiment is now equipped with the Falcon Communications systems, seen deployed in the picture to the left.