Norwegians in the Highlands: Timeline

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| Date | Where located & Divisions  | Highlands | Comments | Source |
| June 1940 | Dumfries |  | Report on visit to Norwegian troops at their camp in Dumfries | WO 193/45 |
| July – Nov 1940 | Hamilton, Dumfries |  | Provides background to how Norwegian forces were formed, and initial problems. First at Hamilton, then to Dumfries where local issues. | WO 166/5983 |
| Mar 1941 | Norwegian Battery moved to INSCH |  | But later diary entries still from Dumfries | WO 166/5983 |
| May 1941 | Diary entry on training area for new camp at Carronbridge [near Dumfries] |  | Camp already in use by 19 May 1941 | WO 166/5983 |
| May 1941  | Useful list of Norwegian troops. Mainly Dumfries area, but also some at Dunacht in Aberdeen area (Batty. Att. 127 Fd. Regt. R.A.), Hamilton area, Coatdyke Prison |  | Lists numbers of officers and enlisted men in each | WO 166/5983 |
| June 1941 |  | To be located Tain, Nigg, Alness, with sites at Edderton and Tain viewed | To be responsible for mobile defence at Evanton, Fearn & Tain aerodromes | WO 166/128WO 166/1322 |
| June – Sept 1941 |  | 1st , 2nd, 3rd Mountain Companies based at Edderton | Norwegian Field Post office moved too, to Edderton | Fjærli, 1982 p, 159-161, 268 |
| July 1941 |  | Edderton | Arrived 11/7/41. Troop Commander gave demo to Norwegians 18-7-41 | WO 166/1322 |
| 1941 |  | Indep. Co. no. 1 (Kompani Linge) for training in Arisaig (Moeble Lodge) | Unclear how long Norwegians were sent here for training | Rønneberg 1995; Allan 2007, 198 |
| Before Sept 1941 | A Norwegian has been attached to RAF no. 42 Squadron | Wick? | According to The Wartimememoriesproject.com website, no. 42 squadron was in Wick June 1940-March 1941, and March 1941-June 1942 at Leauchers | AIR 20/1043 |
| July 1941 |  |  | K. Haakon, Crown Prince, Army Commander Gen. Fleischer Norwegian Army Commander at meeting at Sub Area HQ on 22/7/41 [probably Alness, possibly Strathpeffer]. On 23rd K. Haakon at demo at Bonar Bridge | WO 166/1322 |
| July 1941 |  | Norwegian Brigade due to move to Tain-Edderton on 10 & 11 July. Infantry at disused whisky distillery at Edderton, with staff at nearby farm. Battery and machine gun company in Barracks at Nigg Camp. | Brought 4th rifle company, Machine gun company, Pioneer troop. Commanders placed at Mansfield House. Helped with defences in the area.  | Fjærli 1982 p. 44-5 |
| Aug 1941 |  | Norwegian Forces said to be in Tain |  | WO 166/129 |
| Aug 1941 |  | E of Tain | Field Firing exercise by Norwe. Brigade. Casualty of one horse | WO 166/1322 |
| Sept 1941 | prison staff at Coatdyke and also in detention at Coatdyke, | Brigade H.A. [sic]: TainInfantry Bn: EddertonM.G. Coy: GlastullichBattery R.A.: Glasstullich | With numbers of officers and enlisted men at each. Plus men in Hospital, on leave, on courses. [Glastullich likely to be farm near Tain] | WO 199/2893 |
| Sept 1941 – June 1942 | Indep. Mountain Company no. 1 moved from Edderton to Fraserburgh; no. 2 to Peterhead; no. 3 to Peterhead |  |  | Fjærli 1982 p.159-161 |
| Oct 1941 |  |  | ‘The Norwegian Contingent are in two main portions, 250 miles apart, Brigade under N. Highland Area, Depot and stationary Units in Glasgow area’. [This is administrative areas, so not much help in pinpointing locations] | WO 199/2893 |
| Oct 1941 | R.A. Fd. Bty: Turriff HQ and FyvieInf. Bns. HQ and HQ Coy: Cruden Bay2 Rifle Coys: Fraserburgh2 Rifle Coys. PeterheadM.G.Coy. Strichen |  | Norwegian Bde is under Aberdeen Sub-Area HQ. Roles are: Counter-attack Fraserburgh & Peterhead aerodrones; and secondarily, defence of beachesAccording to Fjærli 1982 p47 they moved to Aberdeen area because staying in Ross & Cromarty not suitable for winter. See Fjærli 1982 p47 for deployments | WO 199/2893 |
| Oct 1941 | Norwegian Bde HQ now in Banff, and has under it an Inf. Bn (Bn. H.Q. and H.Q Coy. Cruden Bay – 2 rifle Coys Peterhead – 2 rifle Coys Fraserburgh), a Fd. Bty at Turriff and FyvieA M.C. Coy. at Strichen. |  | Roles listed as this Bde less 2 Coys and one M.G. pl. to concentrate in Blackhills area for counterattack of Fraserburgh aerodrone. As secondary role defences of beaches with exceptions. | WO 199/2893 |
| Oct 1941 | No. 1 Liaison and Bde. HQ at Banff. Inf. Bn: Cruden Bay, M.G. Coy. Strichen Hydro; Arty. Bty. At Turriff |  | Is this not updated, or were main forces still in Aberdeenshire? | WO 166/129 |
| Nov 1941 | Banff, Turriff, Fyvie, Strichen, Fraserburgh, Peterhead, Cruden Bay |  |  | WO 199/2893 |
| Late 1941, early 1942 | Squadron 331 with detachments at Sunburgh Head, Dyce and Peterhead | Squadron 331 moved to Castletown from Catterick, and then to Skeabrae, Orkney | 331 (N) flew Hawker Hurricane Mark I and then Mark II B. Operational at Castletown Sept [?1942] with primary duty to defend Scapa Flow | Mohr 1995, p. 89 |
| Early 1942 |  | Group 26. Glenmore Lodge Aviemore training especially sabotage / demolition | Need to find dates earlier and later.Accommodation & training. In 1943 further log barracks created by Newfoundand Forestry Unit who were at Abernethy. | Rønneberg 1995; Ruggieri 2017; Allan 2007 |
| Early 1942 |  | Group 26. Drumintoul Lodge – SOE training | This was the HQ and admin | Ruggieri 2017; Allan 2007 |
| Early 1942 |  | Group 26. Forest Lodge – SOE training | Accommodation & training. Once new barracks in 1943 at Glenmore, Norwegians left Forest Lodge. | Ruggieri 2017; Allan 2007 |
| Jan 1942 |  |  | Memo stating Norwegian force will probably move out of Aberdeen Sub-area in the Spring | WO 199/2893 |
| Feb 1942 | Battery of Norwegian Artillery affiliated to 127 Field Reg. R.A., 51 Div for training |  | Probably Aberdeenshire. The letter is in folder for Norwegian Bde 3 | WO 199/2893 |
| Apr 1942 |  | Dingwall | Moving from Buchan to Dingwall on 9 Apr. Moved by Pl 15 Motor Coach Coy. | WO 166/6035 |
| Apr 1942 |  | Norwegian Brigade moved back to Ross & Cromarty from Aberdeenshire:Command HQ – Brahan Castle and in DingwallBattalion command and 1 rifle co. in and near Mansfield House, TainMitraljøsekompaniet at Coul HouseRifle companies in Nigg capBattery at Balconie HouseParachute Company near DornochTraining Dept at Dornoch and Rosemarkie | Joined 52nd Lowland DivisionField Post Office moved to Dingwall, where remained until Nov 1943. | Fjærli 1982 p.60-61Fjærli 1982 p. 268 |
| April 1942 |  | Joint exercise with 52nd Lowland Division, beginning at Brora and Dornoch, then back to Brora and Dornoch |  | Fjærli 1982 p. 61 |
| May 1942 |  | Celebration of Norwegian Independence Day 17 May in Dingwall | Service, parades, sport competitions, dinners, dancing | Fjærli 1982 p. 61 |
| 22-27 June 1942 |  | King Haakon, Prince Olav, [Col. Oswald Norlie], Lt. Col. [Ryftgaard], Maj. General –O Strugstad staying at Brahan Castle | Handwriting of names difficult to make out. Needs further research. Also with [? ] Smith, Lt. Commander R.N.V.R. and A Coats, Scotland Yard.According to Fjærli 1982 p. 62 they came to brief about the reorganisation, and stayed a week in the area | Brahan Castle visitor bookFjærli 1982 p. 62 |
| June 1942 – Nov 1943 |  | Indep. Mountain Co. no. 1 first at Tain, then later Nigg Camp |  | Fjærli 1982 p. 159 |
| Aug 1942-? |  | Indep. Mountain Co. no. 2 at Nigg Camp | Note British docs suggest in Contin later in 1943 | Fjærli 1982 p. 161 |
| June 1942 – Nov 1943 |  | Indep. Mountain Co. no. 3 at Nigg Camp | Note: British docs suggest in Dingwall in 1943 | Fjærli 1982 p. 160 |
| July 1942 |  | Norwegian Liaison School, Golspie | ‘Brigade Major and B.III attended T.E.W.T. with Norwegian Liaison School at Golspie’ [unclear if school located at Golspie] TEWT – Tactical Exercise Without Trrops | WO 166/6778 |
| 8 Aug 1942 |  |  | Reorganisation of forces officially began | Fjærli 1982 p. 62 |
| 12 Aug 1942 |  | Kjøre and Kløvstall (riding & ‘cloven foot’ stable) set up at Coul with 253 horses and c. 100 officers & men |  | Fjærli 1982 p. 154, 174 |
| Aug 1942 |  | River Bank, Conon Bridge HQ for No. 1 British Liaison. Bde. HQ at Brahan Castle.Infantry Bn. at Glastullich Camp, Nigg and Manfield House TainArty. Bty at Balconie House, EvantonM.G Coy. at Coul HouseTraining Unit at L.M.S. Hotel, Dornoch | Officers associated with these locations named Fjærli 1982 p. 161 notes that 2nd Independent Mountain Co. based in Nigg Camp. | WO 166/6778 |
| ? Aug – Dec 1942 | Dall camp in Perthshire (near Kinnloch Rannoch) established |  | One company stationed at a time to practice orienteering, patrolling, troop and company operations in forest, heath and mountains. | Fjærli 1982 p. 62 |
| ? Aug 1942 – Aug 1943 |  | Norwegian Police force in Dingwall (14 men) and Rosemarkie (6 men) | Dingwall under command: Lieut. John Slåtter; Rosemarkie under Ensign Svendsen | Fjærli 1982 p.176-177 |
| Autumn 1942 |  | Formation of Coastal Artillery Units, based first at Fort Nigg until autumn 1943 when they moved up to S. Sutor |  | Fjærli 1982 p.199-201 |
| Oct 1942 |  | Prince Olav at Brahan Castle |  | Brahan Castle visitor book |
| Nov & Dec 1942 |  | HQ at Brahan Castle, Tain, Evanton |  | WO 166/6035 |
| Jan & Feb 1943 |  | H.Q. Brahan Castle1 Indep. Coy: Tain2 Indep Coy: Nigg3 Indep Coy: NiggIndep. Para Coy: FortroseFd Bty: Evanton |  | WO 166/10362 |
| Jan - July 1943  |  | 330 squadron in Oban, before moving to Shetland | In first month converted from Catalina MkIII to Sunderland aircraft. Owen’s work with photos, including royal visit | Mohr 1995, 87-9; Neil Owen’s account p. 142ff |
| Early 1943 | Commandos training at Loch Fyne for operation Grouse |  | Successful sabotage at heavy water plant at Vemork in Feb 1943 | Allan 2007, p. 211-2 |
| Mar 1943 | 1 Indep. Coy: Kinloch Rannoch | H.Q. at Brahan Castle2 Indep Coy: Contin3 Indep. Coy: DingwallIndep Para Coy: FortroseFd Bty: Evanton | This month shows some troop movements.  | WO 166/10362 |
| Mar 1943 |  | 2 women sign Brahan Castle visitor book: Maria Postan, Cynthia [Koppel] | Visiting Norwegians or other visitors? Maria Postan returns in Sept too. | Brahan Castle Visitor Book |
| Mar 1943 |  | Indep. Parachute Company at Grantown temporarily | Ski training in near Glenmore. Norwegians remembered at local tea room | Allan 2007, 202. |
| Apr 1943 | 1 Indep. Coy: Kinloch Rannoch | 2 Indep Coy: Contin3 Indep. Coy: DingwallIndep Para Coy: AvochFd Bty: Evanton | Unclear if moved from Fortrose to Avoch or this is simply more accurate. Fjærli 1982 p 159 notes that 1 Indep Co. was in Tain Aug 1942 -Nov 1943, after which it was in Callendar | WO 166/10362 |
| May 1943 | 1 Indep Coy: BanchoryFd Bty RA: Forres | HQ: Brahan Castle2 Indep Coy: Contin3 Indep Coy: Grantown on SpeyIndep Para Coy: Avoch |  | WO 166/10362 |
| June 1943 |  |  | Photo blurry, but all seem same as May except possibly no. 2 Coy | WO 166/10362 |
| July 1943 | 1 Indep Mtn Coy: Kinloch Rannoch [this is Dall Camp] | HQ: Conon Bridge2 Indep Mtn Coy: Dingwall3 Indep Mtn Coy: ContinFd Bty RA: Evanton | Conon Bridge is probably Brahan | WO 166/10362 |
| July 1943 |  | Rosemarkie areaDornoch‘Fort Nigg’Norwegian Hospital – Achindunie House, ArdrossParade in Contin | K Haakon visits at these ‘Norwegian Training units’At Nigg, guarding coastal areaSee photo. Should be possible to identifyPhotos | KHahS |
| July 1943 |  | Horse depot disbanded? | According to Fjærli, thoughts that Norwegian Brigade could be served by nearby British horse depots. However, pictures show horses moving south later. | Fjærli 1982 p. 75 |
| Aug 1943 | 3 Indep Mtn Coy: Kinloch Rannoch | HQ: Conon Bridge1 Indep Mtn Coy: Contin2 Indep Mtn Coy: DingwallFd Bty RA: Evanton |  | WO 166/10362 |
| Aug 1943 |  | Norwegian women at Brahan? | List of winners at sporting event in Dingwall, Aug 1943. 3rd place for women’s relay race is ‘Brahan’. Not listed as Norwegians but hard to think what else this might be. | RSJ 13 Aug 1943 |
| Aug – Oct 1943t |  | Norwegian Battery, Evanton joined 79 Field Regt at Forres for 2 months |  | WO 166/11009 |
| Sept 1943 |  | Lecture to Norwegian officers at Fortrose on ‘Umpiring’ |  | WO 166/10969 |
| Sept 1943 |  | Two visitors, probably Norwegians at Brahan Castle. First one difficult to make out, 2nd is Nils H. R. Petersen |  | Brahan Castle Visitors Book |
| Sept & Oct 1943 | Fd Bty RA: Forres3 Indep Mtn Coy: Kinloch Rannoch | HQ: Conon Bridge1 Indep Mtn Coy: Contin2 Indep Mtn Coy: Dingwall | Diary 20-8-43: ‘Norwegian Bty, Evanton, joined 79 Field Regt at Forres for period of two months’ | WO 166/10362WO 166/11009 (for the diary) |
| Oct 1943 |  | Linge company vacated Forest Lodge, and then used for Norwegian-Americans from U.S. from Dec 1943 |  | Allan 2007, 214-5 |
| Oct 1943 |  |  | Crown Prince Olav present during a major spots event. Does not state where this is. Still in the Highlands? | Fjærli 1982 p. 75 |
| Autumn 1943 |  | Coastal Artillery Units move from Fort Nigg to South Sutor |  | Fjærli 1982 p.199-200 |
| Late 1943 |  | Linge Company training Loch Linnhe to Loch Eil |  | Allan 2007, 203 |
| Nov 1943 | HQ: Callander1 Indep Mtn Coy: Callendar2 Indep Mtn Coy: Kinloch Rannoch3 Indep Mtn Coy: Callender |  | This seems to be end of Norwegian Indep. Mt. Companies in Highlands. According to Fjærli 1982 p. 76 they moved in November distributed between towns of Callander and St Andrews – see pp. 76-7 for details | WO 166/10362Fjærli 1982 p. 76-77 |
| Late 1943-1944 | Selected men of Linge Company went from Group 26 in Cairngorms to train at Tarbert and Swordland camps |  |  | Allan 2007 |
| Dec 1943 |  | 244 Coast Battery at South Sutor | Capt. H.P. Volckmar, Royal Norwegian Navy listed as O.C. | Wo 166/11009 |
| Late 143 – Jan 1944 |  | Independent Parachute Company moves from St Andrews |  | Fjærli 1982 p. 150 |
| Early 1944 |  | Group 26 complex began to wind down |  | Allan 2007, p. 214 |
| Early 1944 |  | Norwegian- American Operational Gp moves from Forest Lodge to new built premises between Stronelairg Lodge and Killin Lodge in Monadhliath mountains. Admin at Whitebridge. Training also on old railway line | Reached by track form Strath Errick | Allan 2007, p. 215 |
| Feb 1945 |  | Visit to 3 Coy, Norwegian Mtn, Regt, at Glenfeshie |  | WO 166/16558 |

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KHahS: King Haakon among his soldiers. Impressions from an inspection trip to the Norwegian land forces in Great Britain, by a soldier. Norsk Tidend, 21 July 1943, with addition comments by Kjell Georg Johansen et al.

Dates not known:

Linge Company in Cairngorms training further afield, including near Fort George; sabotage exercises at British Aluminium plant at Foyers and near Fort William – Allan 2007, p. 203