

**HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN DRILL: ENGAGING A  
TARGET by 71st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment  
Royal Artillery.**

---

**71st HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT REGIMENT ROYAL ARTILLERY**

71st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment was raised as 4th Brigade Royal Field Artillery at NEWBRIDGE, IRELAND, in 1871, which after 78 years of changes of title and equipment has now become 71st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment Royal Artillery.

M Battery of 4th Brigade (now 187 HAA Battery) took part in the Zulu War in 1879, and in 1899 the whole Brigade fought in the South African War.

In the first World War the Regiment was on active service in Mesopotamia and Palestine.

Between the two World Wars the Regiment changed its role and title and became 51st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Brigade Territorial Army, and later 51st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment Territorial Army.

On mobilisation in 1939 the Regiment covered the embarkation of the BEF from Southampton, and subsequently one Battery was held in readiness to go to FINLAND.

In May 1940 the Regiment went to NORWAY and was evacuated from there after two months.

Towards the end of 1940 the Regiment was sent to the Middle East where it fought at CRETE, BARDIA, TOBRUK, BENGHAZI, and then was withdrawn to ALEXANDRIA.

In the subsequent advance after ALAMEIN the Regiment moved via BENGHAZI, TRIPOLI and SFAX to QUASSASSIN where it re-equipped.

After the SICILY landing the Regiment fought through the whole Italian campaign ending up in AUSTRIA.

After various moves in ITALY the Regiment moved to TRIPO-LITANIA where in 1947 it was re-numbered 71st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment. In 1948 the Regiment moved to FAYID.