BATTLE HONOURS AWARDED TO RAF REGIMENT SQUADRONS & ANTECEDENT RAF ARMOURED CAR COMPANIES

Battle Honours are awarded to RAF operational flying and Regiment squadrons as a result of their participation in operations conducted against an enemy.

Battle Honour	Conditions of Eligibility
Kurdistan, 1922 – 1924[1]	Operations to counter Turkish threats and Kurdish separatism by Nos 3, 4 and 5 Armoured Car Companies.
Iraq, 1923-1925	Operations to secure the new Iraq – Saudi border and internal security in Southern Iraq by No 3 Armoured Car Company based .
Transjordan, 1924	Operations to protect Amman from Ikhwan raiders in August 1924 by No 2 Armoured Car Company.
Kurdistan, 1930-1931	Operations during unrest led by Sheikh Mahmud in Southern Kurdistan by No 1 Armoured Car Company.
Palestine, 1936-1939	Operations during the Arab Revolt from April 1939 to August 1939 by No 2 Armoured Car Company.
Home Defence, 1940 – 1945	For interception operations after the Battle of Britain, in defence of Great Britain and Northern Ireland against enemy aircraft and flying bombs (November 1940 to 1945).
Egypt and Libya, 1940-1943	For operations in the defence of Egypt and the conquest of Libya from the outbreak of war against Italy to the retreat of the Axis Forces into Tunisia (10 June 1940 to 6 February 1943).
Iraq, 1941	For operations in the defeat of Rashid Ali's rebellion (2 to 31 May 1941).
Habbaniya, 1941	For units engaged in the defence of Habbaniya (30 April to 6 May 1941).
Syria, 1941	For operations over Syria during the campaign against the Vichy French (8 June to 12 July 1941).
El Alamein, 1942	For operations during the retreat of El Alamein and subsequent actions (June to November 1942).
North Africa, 1942-1943	For operations in the defence of Egypt and the conquest of Libya from the outbreak of war against Italy to the retreat of the Axis Forces into Tunisia (10 June 1940 to 6 February 1943).
Arakan, 1942-1944	For operations by fighter, bomber and transport squadrons in support of the first and second Arakan Campaigns (November 1942 to February 1942 and November 1943 to March 1944).
Italy, 1943-1945	For operations over Italy.
Burma, 1944-1945	For operations during the 14 Army's advance from Imphal to Rangoon, the coastal amphibious assaults, and the Battle of Pegu Yomas (August 1944 to August 1945).
Manipur, 1944	For operations in support of the besieged forces at Imphal (March to July 1944).

[1] Interwar battle honours are not emblazoned on squadron standards. Furthermore, as AP3327 Colours and Standards of the Royal Air Force does not list the conditions for eligibility for the actions listed, these are drawn from Ritchie, Sebastian, The RAF, Small Wars and Insurgencies in the Middle East, 1919-1939 (Air Historical Branch, 2011) <https://www.raf.mod.uk/what-we-do/our-history/air-historical-branch/regional-studies-post-coldwar-narratives/raf-small-wars-and-insurgencies-vol-1-middle-east-1919-1939/> (accessed 1 October 2026) and Warwick, Nigel W. M., In Every Place: The RAF Armoured Cars in the Middle East 1921-1953 (Forces & Corporate Publishing Ltd, 2014).

Battle Honour	Conditions of Eligibility
Normandy, 1944	For operations supporting the Allied landings in Normandy, the establishment of the lodgement area, and the subsequent break-through (June to August 1944).
Gustav Line, 1944	For squadrons participating in the operations against the Gustav Line (May 1944).
France and Germany, 1944-1945	For operations over France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, during the liberation of North-West Europe and the advance into the enemy's homeland, from the initiation of air action preparatory to the invasion of France to VE day (April 1944 to 8 May 1945).
South Atlantic, 1982	For operations by squadrons between 2 April and 14 June 1982 south of 35 Degrees South and North of 60 Degrees South or participation in an operational sortie south of Ascension Island. The Sovereign approved the right to emblazon this battle honour on the standard of No 63 Squadron RAF Regiment.
Gulf, 1991	For operations in support of the United Nations action to restore the independence of Kuwait. The Sovereign approved the right to emblazon this battle honour on the standard of No 1 Squadron RAF Regiment.
Iraq, 2003	For operations in support of "Operation TELIC" during the period 19 March to 28 April 2003. The Sovereign approved the right to emblazon this Battle Honour on the standard of No 51 Squadron RAF Regiment and without the right to emblazon to Nos 1, 16, 27 and 34 Squadrons RAF Regiment.[2]
Iraq, 2003-2011	For operations in support of Operation TELIC post-war consolidation and reconstruction phase post-war consolidation and reconstruction phase during the period 1 May 2003 and 22 May 2011. The Sovereign approved the right to emblazon this Battle Honour on the standards of Nos 1, 26 and 34 Squadron RAF Regiment.[3]
Afghanistan, 2001-2014	For participation in operations in Afghanistan during the period 7 October 2001 to 31 December 2014. The Sovereign approved the right to emblazon this Battle Honour on the standards of Nos 1, II, 3, 15, 27, 34, 51, 58 and 63 Squadrons RAF Regiment. [4]

VERSION 2026-1

Authentication:

Corps Historian
1 October 2026

[2] From AP3227. Squadrons added from *Hansard*, HL Written. Vol 672. Pt 13. Battle and Theatre Honours.', Written, 9 June 2005 <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200506/ldhansrd/vo050609/text/50609-25.htm> [accessed 2 October 2026]
[3] Not in AP3227. Added from RAF IBN 40/17 dated 10 Oct 17.
[4] Not in AP3227. Added from RAF IBN 12/20 dated 20 Mar 20.