

d. Independent "Infantry Groups"

This was a series of Bde-level units, which existed mostly in 1941-42; each Group had three Inf Regts, but the Regts had just 2 bns apiece.¹⁰

- 61st Independent Group - Formed in early 1941; had 101, 149, 157 IR (behind 1st ID's 1, 49, 57 IR). It combined the functions of an ordinary infantry unit and a depot at Tokyo. Stayed in Japan through June 1943 when it became 61 ID
- 62nd Independent Group - Formed in early 1941; had 129, 130, 158 IR; the depot was at Sendai. Stayed in Japan through June 1943, then became 42 ID
- 63rd Independent Group - Formed in early 1941; had 118, 135, 136 IR; depot was at Nagoya; in Japan until June 1943, then became 43 ID
- 64th Independent Group - Formed in early 1941; had 106, 155, 168 IR; depot was at Osaka; in Japan until Jan 1944, then became 49 ID (whose depot was located in Korea!)
- 65th Independent Group - Formed in early 1941; had 122, 141, 142 IR; depot at Hiroshima; soon re-designated 65th Bde (*q.v.* for history)
- 66th Independent Group - Formed in early 1941; had 123, 145, 147 IR; depot was at Kumamoto; in Japan until June 1943, then became 46 ID
- 67th Independent Group - Formed in early 1941; had 105, 125, 131 IR; depot was at Hirosaki¹¹; in Japan until June 1943, then became 47 ID (minus 125 IR, which went to the Karafuto Mixed Bde)
- 68th Independent Group (?) - A hypothetical unit, perhaps ancestral to 68 Inf Bde (?), *q.v.*

e. Independent Mixed Brigades

(Besides the World War II era IMB's shown here, there were three Independent Mixed Bdes (numbered 1-3) formed in the Taiwan garrison during the Russo-Japanese War, 1904-05.) The units were called "mixed" because they had an artillery component in addition to their infantry; the Bde's Arty "Units" were equivalent to Bns.

- Guard IMB - Formed in June 1941 from 1st Gd Inf Bde; had 1 & 2 Gd IR plus the Gd Cav Regt; stayed in Japan, depot at Tokyo; led by Prince Kaya, 6/41 into 1942; in June 1943 reorganized as 1st Gd ID (*q.v.*)

¹⁰ Group # 61 is identified in the section on depot divisions (see above) as taking over the functions of 1 Depot Div. Logically therefore Groups # 62 through 66 would have been formed to replace the 2-6 Depot Divs; however, there is no documentation in Madej to support this conclusion.

¹¹ As noted above, groups # 61-66 were all apparently created by # 1-6 Depot Divs. However, group 68 used depot div # 8 (at Hirosaki), which is another strange development.