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Probyn's Horse was a regular cavalry regiment of the British Indian Army. It was formed in 1921 by the amalgamation of the 11th King Edward's Lancers (Probyn's Horse) and the 12th Cavalry.[1] The regiment known as 11th King Edward's Lancers (Probyn's Horse) was originally raised on 1 August 1887 by Captain Frederick Wale Es Warde's Horse during the Indian Rebellion of 1857 and served at Lucknow. Captain Wale was killed in action on 1 March in 1858, while leading the regiment in the pursuit of rebels, and was replaced by Major Dighton Probyn, VC. In 1860 the regiment was dispatched to China to take part in the Second Opium War. It participated in the advance on Peking and returned to India in 1861 with a good reputation. The regiment saw service in the Second Afghan War of 1878–80 and then took part in the Black Mountain Expedition; it went to Chitral and formed part of the Malakand Field Force. During the First World War, the regiment served in Mesopotamia.[1][2] 1857 Wale's Horse 1857 1st Sikh Irregular Cavalry 1858 1st Sikh Irregular Cavalry (Probyn's Horse) 1861 11th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry 1864 11th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry (Lancers) 1874 11th Regiment of Bengal Lancers 1876 11th (Prince of Wales's Own) Regiment of Bengal Lancers 1901 11th (Prince of Wales's Own) Bengal Lancers 1903 11th Prince of Wales's Own Lancers 1904 11th Prince of Wales's Own Lancers (Probyn's Horse) 1906 11th King Edward's Own Lancers (Probyn's Horse) 1906 11th King Edward's Own Lancers (Probyn's Horse) 1906 11th King Edward's Own Lancers (Probyn's Horse), Watercolour by AC Lovett, 1910 The Lancer's uniform of Probyn's Horse was topped by cap-line worn unattached. Shoulder epaulettes were covered with gilt curb-chains, and plus the Mameluke scimitar. Mussullmen were unique in wearing a kulla, a pointed cap under the puggaree. Made of heavy khaki cloth it gave good protection against the sun, and became popular, even with British officers, who's adopted the puggaree as part of their dress. The 12th Cavalry was also raised during the Indian Rebellion of 1857, by Captain PR Hockin in October 1857. It formed part of the 1868 Expedition to Abyssinia (Ethiopia) and served in the Second Afghan War of 1878–80. During the First World War, the regiment fought in the Mesopotamian Campaign.[1][2] 1857 2nd Sikh Irregular Cavalry 1861 12th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry 1901 12th Bengal Cavalry 1903 12th Cavalry After the First World War, the number of Indian cavalry regiments was reduced from thirty-nine to twenty-one. However, instead of disbanding the surplus units, it was decided to amalgamate them in pairs. This resulted in renumbering and renaming the entire cavalry line. The 11th King Edward's Own Lancers (Probyn's Horse) and the 12th Cavalry were amalgamated at Meerut on 28 August 1921 to form 5th King Edward's Own Probyn's Horse. The uniform of Probyn's Horse was blue with scarlet facings. The new regiment's badge consisted of the Prince of Wales's plumes. Its class composed of Punjabi Muslims, Sikhs and Dogras. The regiment was converted to a mechanised unit in 1940 while based at Risalpur. Initially this simply involved the substitution of trucks for horses but by mid-1942 re-equipment with three squadrons of Stuart tanks and Leo tanks had been concluded. In 1944 Probyn's was assigned to 225 Indian Tank Brigade, to serve with distinction in the Burma Campaign using M4 Sherman tanks. On the Partition of India in 1947, Probyn's Horse was allotted to Pakistan.[1] In 1956, Pakistan became a republic and all titles pertaining to British royalty were dropped. The regiment's new designation was 5 Horse, although informally, it continues to be known as the Probyn's Horse. During the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965, 5 Horse fought in the Battle of Khem Karan.[3] 1921 11th/12th Probyn's Horse (amalgamation) 1922 5th King Edward's Own Probyn's Horse 1927 Probyn's Horse (5th King Edward's Own Lancers) 1937 Probyn's Horse (5th King Edward VII's Own Lancers) 1956 5 Horse Major Dighton Probyn, VC, 1867 Lucknow, Taku Forts, Pekin 1860, Abyssinia, Ali Masjid, Peiwar Kotal, Charasiah, Kabul 1879, Afghanistan 1878–80, Chitral, Malakand, Punjab Frontier, Mesopotamia 1915–18, Meiktila, Captures of Meiktila, Defence of Meiktila, Taungtha, Rangoon Road, Pyawbwe, Pymmana, Toungoo, Pegu 1945, Burma 1942–45, Khem Karan 1965.[4], Sialkot 1971 ~ a b c d Gaylor, John (1991), Sons of John Company: The Indian and Pakistan Armies 1903–91, Stroud: Spellmount.{{cite book}}: CS1 maint: publisher location (link) ~ a b Boyle, Maj CA. (1929). 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Probyn's Horse (5th King Edward VII's Own Lancers) by John Gaylor at The Defence Journal 11th Bengal Lancers (Probyn's Horse) at The British Empire Retrieved from "4Military unit in the British Indian Army and Pakistan Army 6th Lancers(Watson's Horse)Active1857–presentCountry British India PakistanBranch British Indian ArmyPakistan ArmyTypeArmoured RegimentSizeRegimentEngagementsIndian Mutiny of 1857Bhutan War 1864–65Second Afghan War 1878–80Anglo-Egyptian War 1882The Boxer Rebellion 1900First World War 1914–18Third Afghan War 1919Second World War 1939–45Indo-Pakistani War of 1965CommandersColonel-in-ChiefPrince Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn (Son of Her Majesty Queen Victoria)Senior Most CommandantLt. Gen Mian Muhammad Afzaal HI(M) SI(M) OA(M) SBI (Shaheed) (CGS)NotablecommandersGeneral Sir John Watson VC GCBBrigadier Francis Ingaill DSO OBEMilitary unit The 6th Lancers is an armoured regiment of the Pakistan Army. Previously, it was known as the 6th Duke of Connaught's Own Lancers (Watson's Horse), and was a regular cavalry regiment in the British Indian Army. It was formed in 1921 by amalgamation of the 13th Duke of Connaught's Lancers (Probyn's Horse) and the 16th Cavalry. The regiment and its predecessors have seen active service on the North West Frontier, in Egypt during 1882, in China during the Boxer Rebellion, the two World Wars and the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965. 6 Lancers spearheaded the Indian Mutiny of 1857, the 16th Cavalry served in the Mesopotamian Campaign. After the war, it served in the Third Afghan War of 1919.[1] Risaldar-Major of 13th (Duke of Connaught's) Bengal Lancers, 1897. Painting by CP Chatter 1857 Rohilcund Horse 1861 16th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry 1864 16th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry (Lancers) 1874 16th Regiment of Bengal Lancers 1882 Disbanded 1885 16th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry (re-raised) 1901 16th Bengal Lancers 1903 16th Cavalry After the First World War, the number of Indian cavalry regiments was reduced from thirty-nine to twenty-one. However, instead of disbanding the surplus units, it was decided to amalgamate them in pairs. This resulted in renumbering and renaming of the entire cavalry line. The 13th Duke of Connaught's Lancers (Watson's Horse) and 16th Cavalry were amalgamated at Meerut on 1 June 1921 as the 13th/16th Cavalry; becoming the 6th Duke of Connaught's Own Lancers a year later. Their uniform was blue with scarlet facings, while the new badge was to be crossed lances with the figure '6' on the intersection and a scroll below, reading 'The Duke of Connaught's Own'. Their composition was one squadron each of Punjabi Muslims, Sikhs and Dogras.[1] Indian troops, including those of the 16th Bengal Lancers at the Temple of Heaven, Peking; 3rd China War (Boxer Rebellion), 1900 During the Second World War, the 6th Duke of Connaught's Own Lancers, now mounted on armoured cars, served as the Reconnaissance Regiment of the 10th Indian Infantry Division and later with the 8th Indian Infantry Division in the Italian Campaign. The regiment was engaged in a number of actions, most notably the Second Battle of Cassino, Monte Moro, crossing of the Rivers Po and Adige and the race to Venice. In August 1947, on the Partition of India, the 6th DCO Lancers was allotted to Pakistan. The regiment's Jai Squadron went to the 7th Light Cavalry in exchange for their Punjabi Mussalman Squadron, while the Sikh Squadron was exchanged with the Punjabi Mussalmins of the 6th King George V's Own Light Cavalry.[1] The 6th Duke of Connaught's Own Lancers at The Defence Journal Retrieved from "5Pakistan Army unit 15th Lancers (Baloch)Active1922–1937; 1953–PresentCountry British India PakistanBranch British Indian ArmyPakistan ArmyTypeArmoured RegimentUniformDark blue, faced buffEngagementsBhutan War 1864–65Second Afghan War 1878–80First World War 1914–18Third Afghan War 1919Indo-Pakistani War of 1965Battle honoursAfghanistan 1879–80, Afghanistan 1919, Khem Karan 1965.Military unit The 15th Lancers (Baloch) is an armoured regiment of the Pakistan Army. It was formed in 1922 by the amalgamation of the 17th Cavalry and the 37th Lancers (Baluch Horse).[1] The 17th Cavalry was raised in 1857 at Muttra by Colonel CJ Roberts and was composed entirely of Afghans. Throughout its existence, the regiment remained an exclusively Muslim unit. In 1861, after several changes in nomenclature, it was designated the 17th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry. In 1865, it saw action as part of the Bhutan Field Force, while in 1879–80, the regiment operated on lines of communication during the Second Afghan War as part of the Kabul Field Force. During the First World War, it dispatched a squadron to Africa where it took part in the East African Campaign. In 1919, the regiment fought in the Third Afghan War. The regiment maintained a mounted pie band from 1895 to 1902. The uniform of the 17th Cavalry was blue with white facings. The regimental badge consisted of a silver star and crescent over "XVII" with a title scroll below.[2][3] 1857 Muttra Horse 1857 Muttra Police Corps37th Lancers (Baluch Horse) (left). Watercolour by Maj AC Lovett, 1910. 1858 Rohilkhand Auxiliary Police Levy 1859 Roberts' Horse 1861 17th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry 1882 Disbanded 1885 Re-raised 1900 17th Regiment of Bengal Lancers 1901 17th Bengal Lancers 1903 17th Cavalry The 37th Lancers (Baluch Horse) was raised in 1885 as the 7th Bombay Cavalry (Jacob-ka-Risallah) from the manpower of the 3rd Scinde Horse (Belooch Horse), which had been disbanded in 1882. This regiment was also an all-Muslim unit made up of Pathans and Baluchis. The regiment and its predecessors have seen active service on the North West Frontier, in Egypt during 1882, in China during the Boxer Rebellion, the two World Wars and the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965. 6 Lancers spearheaded the Indian Mutiny of 1857, the 16th Cavalry served in the Mesopotamian Campaign. After the war, it served in the Third Afghan War of 1919.[1] Risaldar-Major of 13th (Duke of Connaught's) Bengal Lancers, 1897. Painting by CP Chatter 1857 Rohilcund Horse 1861 16th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry 1864 16th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry (Lancers) 1874 16th Regiment of Bengal Lancers 1882 Disbanded 1885 16th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry (re-raised) 1901 16th Bengal Lancers 1903 16th Cavalry After the First World War, the number of Indian cavalry regiments was reduced from thirty-nine to twenty-one. However, instead of disbanding the surplus units, it was decided to amalgamate them in pairs. This resulted in renumbering and renaming of the entire cavalry line. The 17th Cavalry and 37th Lancers (Baluch Horse) were amalgamated at Lucknow in 1922 to form the 15th Lancers. Meanwhile, an existing 15th Lancers (Cureton's Multanis) joined the 14th Murray's Jai Lancers to form the 20th Lancers.[1][3][5][6] The uniform of the new 15th Lancers was dark blue with buff facings, while the badge consisted of crossed silver lances bearing pennons with "XV" at the crossing and a scroll below. The same uniform and badges are still in use by the regiment.[2] In 1937, the 15th Lancers became the training regiment of the 1st Indian Cavalry Group. It was converted into a training centre in 1940 by amalgamating it with the 12th Cavalry (Frontier Force). However, the next year, the centre was disbanded.[1] In 1955, the 15th Lancers was re-raised by the Pakistani Army as a Reconnaissance Regiment of the Pakistan Armoured Corps and equipped with M24 Chaffee light tanks. During the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965, the regiment served with distinction in the Kasur Sector and was awarded the Battle Honour 'Khem Karan 1965'. In 1969, the 15th Lancers was affiliated with the Baluch Regiment (now called the Baloch Regiment) due to the old link with the 37th Lancers (Baluch Horse). It added the title of 'Baluch' to its designation in 1989.[2] 1922 17th/37th Cavalry (amalgamation of 17th Cavalry and 37th Lancers) 1922 15th Lancers 1940 1st Indian Armoured Corps Centre (amalgamation of 15th Lancers and 12th Cavalry 1941 Disbanded 1955 15th Lancers (re-raised) 1989 15th Lancers (Baluch) 1991 15th Lancers (Baluch)[7] The Baloch Regiment The Royal Dragon Guards ~ a b c Ahmad, Lt Col RN. (2010). Battle Honours of the Baloch Regiment. Abbottabad: The Baloch Regimental Centre. ~ a b c d 15th Lancers (Baloch) Through the Ages 1858–1998. (1998). Lahore: 15th Lancers. ~ a b c Gaylor, John (1991). Sons of John Company: The Indian and Pakistan Armies 1903–91, Stroud: Spellmount.{{cite book}}: CS1 maint: publisher location (link) ~ Cadell, Sir Patrick. (1938). History of the Bombay Army. London: Longmans & Green. Sandhu, Maj Gen GS. (1981). The Indian Cavalry: History of the Indian Armoured Corps till 1940. New Delhi: Vision Books. ~ Harris, RG, and Warner, C. (1979). 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Harris, RG, and Warner, C. (1979). Bengal Cavalry Regiments 1857–1914. London: Osprey Publishing. ISBN 978-0-85045-308-9. Sandhu, Maj Gen GS. (1981). The Indian Cavalry: History of the Indian Armoured Corps till 1940. New Delhi: Vision Books. Kempton, C. (1996). A Register of Titles of the Units of the H.E.I.C. & Indian Armies 1666–1947. Bristol: British Empire & Commonwealth Museum. ISBN 978-0-9530174-0-9 Uniforms of the late 19th Century Retrieved from "7The following pages link to 15th Lancers External tools (link count transclusion count sorted list) ~ See help page for translating these entries Showing 50 items. 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But around one third of its horses were used as riding animals. Soldiers who fought on horseback were known as cavalry. They often dominated the battlefield and performed a variety of important roles. 8 minute read The Charge of the Heavy Brigade at Balaklava, 1854 Cavalry soldiers on large, heavy and strong horses were used to break enemy formations. Some cavalry, and later mounted infantry, also gave commanders mobile firepower on the battlefield.Small, light, fast horses were used to scout, patrol and pursue. Scouts were trained to spot signs of the enemy and track their movements while staying hidden. They also became specialist marksmen who could shoot very accurately from long distances.Soldiers on swift horses carried important orders and news (despatches) between commanders and officers. In the event of defeat, horses could also provide a quick getaway.A horse gave extra height. This allowed generals and their staff to move around a battlefield encouraging and directing their soldiers. They could be seen more clearly by their troops but also by their enemy, making them prime targets for sharpshooters. 'Cavalry is useful before, during, and after the battle'. Napoleon Bonaparte The first cavalrymen to be armed with firearms were known as harquebussiers. The name derived from the word 'harquebus', which was their main weapon. This had a shorter barrel than an infantryman's musket, making it easier to fire from horseback, but giving it a shorter range.A shortened musket or rifle later became known as a carbine, and was wielded by carabiniers. Britain first raised a carabinier regiment in 1691. They were often armoured like cuirassiers and in some ways functioned like dragoons.However, carabiniers were used as conventional mounted cavalry from their very inception, unlike dragoons who took hundreds of years to evolve into that role. They were also a Europe-wide phenomenon at the time - the 'carabinier' in the Italian police force have the same origin. Buff coat worn by harquebuiser Major Thomas Sanders during the English Civil War, 1640s The King's Regiment of Carabiniers, 1709 Dragoons were originally mounted soldiers primarily intended to fight on foot. They were named after their main weapon, 'the dragon', which was a type of firelock musket common in the 16th century.In these early years, dragon horses tended to be cheap beasts of burden rather than fine cavalry chargers. However, by the late 18th century, most dragon regiments had evolved into conventional cavalry, able to charge and fight on horseback.They were armed with short rifles, known as carbines, and heavy swords. The British Army had light dragoons, used for scouting and reconnaissance duties, and dragon guards, who fulfilled a heavy cavalry role by delivering shock action on the battlefield. The heavy cavalry were trained to smash enemy units on the battlefield. They rode big heavy horses, were armed with large swords, and wore a back and breastplate known as a cuirass. The latter gave them their French name of 'cuirassiers'.In the British Army, the cuirassier role was performed by the Life Guards and the Royal Horse Guards. Helmet worn at Waterloo by Captain William Tyrwhitt-Drake, Royal Horse Guards, 1815 During the late 19th century, the use of heavy cavalry gradually declined as the firepower and accuracy of infantry weapons increased.Although equipped with armoured vehicles, soldiers of today's Household Cavalry still parade on horseback and wear their 18th-century-style uniforms - complete with cuirass and helmet - when guarding the monarch during ceremonial occasions in London. Hussars were light cavalry mounted on fast horses. They were used to fight skirmish battles and for reconnoitring. Originally Hungarian, by the mid-18th century most European armies had recruited hussar regiments. The British Army first encountered them during the War of the Austrian Succession (1740–48), but did not start transforming certain of its own light dragon regiments into hussars until 1806. A corporal of the 10th (Prince of Wales's Own) Royal Hussars, 1812 Pelisse worn by Lieutenant Walter Brinkley, 11th (Prince Albert's Own) Hussars, c1848 The most expensively dressed and flamboyant of all cavalry, hussars wore pelisses. These were short fur-edged jackets that were worn slung over the shoulder in the style of a cape, and fastened with a cord. Their uniforms reached a peak of magnificence by the time of the Crimean War (1854–56). During this conflict, two hussar regiments - the 8th and 11th - took part in the famous Charge of the Light Brigade in 1854. Today's hussar regiments drive armoured vehicles. 'My friend, any hussar who does not die by thirty is a blackguard.' General Antoine-Charles-Louis de Lasselae, French hussar commander ~ 1804 The main task of the lancers was to charge enemy infantry and cavalry formations. They were also used for typical light cavalry tasks such as skirmishing and scouting.Although they wielded a fearsome lance as their chief weapon, lancers were normally equipped with sabres and pistols or carbines. These weapons were for close combat, whereas the lance had its greatest impact in the charge. Pattern 1846 Lance fitted with a red and white pennon The British established lance regiments in 1816 after confronting French dragoon during the Napoleonic Wars (1803–15). Improvements in the range and accuracy of rifles in the late 19th century, alongside the appearance of the machine gun, made the lancer's role largely obsolete.Today, lancer units are mechanised. 'I had never before realised the great superiority of the lance over the sword.' French commander General Durutte at Waterloo ~ 1815 The 17th Lancers at Balaklava, 1854 The volunteer yeomanry cavalry units were originally formed in the 1790s as a response to the invasion threat from Revolutionary France. However, they were also used to support the civil authority to put down political and social disturbances. This continued until the mid-19th century, when police forces took over this role. The yeomanry then concentrated on local defence.Members of the yeomanry were usually armed with swords and pistols or carbines. They were not obliged to serve overseas, but most did when asked to do so - as in 1914 at the outbreak of the First World War. By then, the yeomanry had become the cavalry wing of the Territorial Force (today's Army Reserve).The last mounted regiment of yeomanry was the Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons, which was converted to an armoured role in March 1942. 2/1st Hertfordshire Yeomanry on the march to war stations, August 1914 British mounted infantry units emerged during the colonial conflicts of the late 19th century.Foot regiments formed mounted platoons for scouting and skirmishing when serving overseas in Australia, South Africa, Egypt and Sudan. Many of these eventually formed the Imperial Mounted Division.The troops travelled great distances on horses, but fought on foot with rifles. Likewise, several colonial units - such as the Cape Mounted Rifles, Natal Carbineers and Victorian Mounted Rifles - fought as mounted infantry.Many colonial soldiers were experienced horsemen and hunters, used to an outdoor life in their homelands. They made expert mounted infantrymen. An Australian Scout in South Africa, 1901 The distinction between traditional cavalry and mounted infantry was often blurred. During the Second Afghan War (1878–80), the 9th Lancers always went into action with their carbines on their backs so they could fight on foot if required.The real difference was that while the cavalry could perform mounted infantry duties, the mounted infantry could not charge effectively, having neither sword or lance. Mounted infantry watering their horses, South Africa, 1901 Even though the smaller and often harder ponies used by mounted infantry were generally easier to maintain than the larger cavalry horses, the mounted infantry concept was regarded as less useful in Europe than in colonial warfare. By 1914 most units had been disbanded. A Royal Horse Artillery troop at the Battle of Fuentes d'Onoro, 1811 The Royal Horse Artillery (RHA) was raised in 1793 and had the task of giving artillery support to the cavalry. With its soldiers all riding into battle on horses, wagons or limbers, the RHA was able to keep up with the fast-moving mounted units. Six-horse teams were normally used to haul the RHA's guns into action. The East India Company's Bengal and Bombay Armies also formed their own horse artillery units on similar lines. Bengal Horse Artillery in action, 1857 Once in position, horse artillery crews were trained to quickly dismount, unlimber their guns, then rapidly fire at the enemy. They could then just as rapidly limber up, remount and be ready to move to a new position.A classic use of horse artillery was against an enemy infantry square that had formed up to resist a cavalry charge. Firing grade shot into the massed ranks could break up the square and allow the cavalry to destroy it.Another common role for the RHA was as cover during the retreat of slower-moving units. Their speed of deployment meant they could also act as a rapid response force, repulsing attacks in a threatened sector of the battlefield. Story Cavalry charges might win a battle, but with poor leadership they could end in disaster. Many are remembered and celebrated because of the risk involved, whether successful or not. story The Battle of Blenheim in 1704 saw a decisive defeat for a Franco-Bavarian force by the allied English, Dutch and Austrian armies commanded by the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy. Story The Battle of Waterloo was fought on 18 June 1815 between Napoleon's French Army and a coalition led by the Duke of Wellington and Marshal Blücher. It was the decisive battle of its age. Story The Battle of Balaklava in 1854 witnessed one of the most famous acts of battlefield bravery and one of the most infamous blunders in military history. Story During the First World War, the Army relied on its horses to perform a wide range of jobs. The requisition, transportation and care of these animals was therefore of huge importance. Story Horses have played a vital role in supporting soldiers on and off the battlefield. Explore the stories of some of the most incredible horses in British military history.