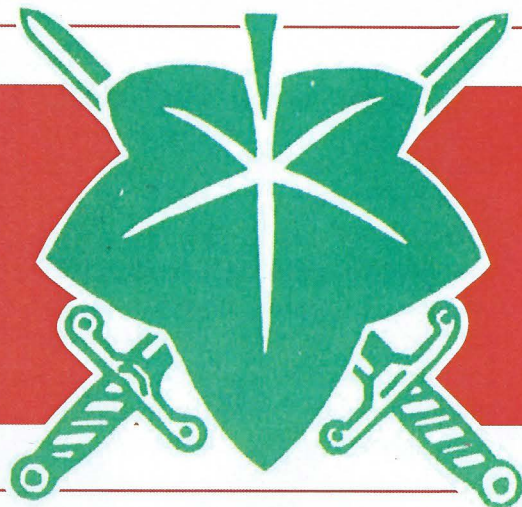


# THE FORMATION SIGN

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## PEGASUS IN INDIA

The skeleton 9th Indian Airborne Division first formed in November 1943 became 44th Indian Airborne Division in April 1944, its formation sign Pegasus with 'India' underneath. A schedule of Indian formation signs contained in National Archives file WO203/1103 which was compiled in early 1945 lists 44th Indian Airborne Division but does not describe its sign, suggesting that it may not have been in use by that date.

Recorded examples of locally-made, unofficial cloth arm titles in Airborne colours worn by units of the division in the latter days of the Second World War include those for 2nd Battalion, The Black Watch which served with the division's 14th Air Landing Brigade and 159th Parachute Light Regiment formed in India in January 1945 from 149th Field Regiment for which both "159. Para. Lt. Regt." and "Parachute Regiment RA" are recorded. A recent sale at Eastbourne Auctions, who have kindly allowed us to use the picture shown here, uncovered this "Parachute Provost" title on a battle dress worn with a locally-made divisional sign. Has anyone come across other examples of such titles?

