

246. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

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DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1939/02/02	Darmstadt, Wehrkreis XII	Activation of 246.ID (3.Welle) by conversion of 246.LdwD, training	
1939/08/29	Darmstadt, Bad Duerkheim, Worms, Landau, Speyer, Neustadt, Woerth am Rhein	Operational readiness, movement, training	Subordinate to: Stellv.Gen.Kdo. XII, 1939/08/29-1940/01/19 C.O.: Gen.Lt. Erich Denecke, 1939/09/01-1941/12/13
1940/01/21	Rastatt, Bruchsal, Karlsruhe Lauter River	Movement, training, border security	
1940/05/13	Lauterbourg, Niederlauterbach, Salmbach, Wissembourg	Invasion of France, advance, offensive engagements	Subordinate to: AK 37 Hoeh.Kdo.zbV, 1940/03/01-1940/07/02
1940/06/03	Hunspach	Attack on the Maginot Line	
1940/06/21	Soultz-sous-Forets (Sulz), Haguenau, Reichshoffen, Brumath, Bischwiller	Advance, offensive engagements, occupation of the Maginot Line	
1940/07/03	Germersheim, Darmstadt, Weinheim, Mannheim, Worms, Speyer, Bitche	Transfer, training, reorganization, regrouping	Stellv.Gen.Kdo. XII, 1940/07/03-1941/02/28
1941/02/14	Tours, France, Chinon, Chatellerault, Poitiers, Civray, Ruffec	Transfer, security and occupation duty, regrouping, training	AK 59 Hoeh.Kdo.zbV, 1941/03/01-1941/12/31 C.O.: Gen.Lt. Maximilian Siry, 1941/12/13-1943/05/15
1942/01/01	Liozno, Smolensk, Russia Dukhovshchina, Bely	Transfer, movement, defensive operations	Subordinate to: Gruppe Frhr. v. Esebeck, 1942/05/09-1942/07/07 Panzerkorps Harpe, 1942/07/08-1942/07/14 AK 23, 1942/07/15-1942/11/20
1942/07/01	Bely, Nelidovo, Pushkari	Offensive, defensive, and assault operations	AK 41 Pz, 1942/11/20-1943/03/17 AK 23, 1943/03/17-1943/03/21 AK 27, 1943/03/21-1943/06/30
1942/11/24	Bely, Obsha River, Lomonosovo, Repino, Dukhovshchina, Yartsevo	Defensive and assault operations	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Konrad von Alberti, 1943/05/16-1943/09/12 Obst. Heinz Fiebig, 1943/09/12-1943/10/05 Subordinate to: AK 39 Pz, 1943/07/01-1943/08/01
1943/04/01	Troitskoye, Vorotyshino, Fomina	Position defense, defensive operations	AK 27, 1943/08/01-1943/08/30 AK 9, 1943/08/31-1943/09/06
1943/09/16	Rudnya, Liozno, Bol'shoi Rutavech' Lake	Disengagement movement, defensive operations	AK 27, 1943/09/07-1943/09/16 AK 39 Pz, 1943/09/16-1943/09/24 AK 27, 1943/09/24-1943/09/25 AK 6, 1943/09/26-1943/10/09

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1943/10/11	Shelokhovo and Zelenskoye Lakes, Vysochany, Pogostishche, Babinovichi	Disengagement movement, defensive operations	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Wilhelm Falley, 1943/10/05-1944/04/20 Subordinate to: AK 53, 1943/10/10-1943/11/13 AK 6, 1943/11/14-1944/01/31
1944/01/01	Vysochany, Starobobyl'ye	Defensive operations	
1944/01/20	Vitebsk	Withdrawal, defensive operations	

Records of the 246.ID are reproduced on rolls 1718-1725 of Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Although no records of this division dated later than 1944/01/31 were available in the National Archives, records of OKH/GenStdH/Org.Abt., H1/38 (T78, roll 398), and OKH/AHA/Abwicklungsstab, H41/7 (T78, roll 139), H41/24 (T78, roll 141), and H41/57 (T78, roll 142), the general officer personnel files, and situation maps of Lage Ost and West contain references to the 246.ID as follows:

1944/06/24 1944/06/26	Vitebsk	Encirclement, breakthrough by remnants, mass of the 246.ID captured	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Klaus Mueller-Buelow, 1944/04/20-1944/07/00 (captured)
1944/08/13 1944/09/01 1944/09/09 1944/09/15 1944/09/20	Milowitz (Milovice) Czechoslovakia	Disbandment (source: Potsdam catalog) Formation of the 565.VGrD, arrival of remnants of the 246.ID, redesignation as 246.VGrD, operational readiness	Obst. Harald Hirschfeld, 1944/09/01-1944/09/15
1944/09/26 1944/10/02 1944/10/22 1944/11/23 1944/11/30 1944/12/20	Wuerselen, Germany Aachen, Barmen, Juelich, Stolberg Northeast of Juelich South of Juelich Monschau, Malmedy and Saint-Vith, Belgium	Transfer, relief of the 116.PzD Defensive engagements, incorporation of elements of 49.ID Withdrawal for rehabilitation Movement, relief of 3.PzGrD Offensive and defensive operations	Subordinate to: AK 81, 1944/09/27-1944/11/30 C.O.: Obst. Erich Neumann, 1944/10/09-1944/10/23 Obst. Gerhard Wilck, 1944/10/23-1944/11/01 (missing in action) Gen.Maj. Peter Koerte, 1944/11/07-1945/04/01
1945/02/01 1945/03/12	Kronenburg, Pruem, Germany Bernkastel-Kues, Traben-Trarbach	Defensive operations Withdrawal, defensive operations	Gen.Maj. Walter Kuehn, 1945/04/01-?

Manuscripts in the Foreign Military Studies series, prepared by former German officers for the Historical Division, Headquarters U.S. Army, Europe, between 1945 and 1959, contain references to the 246.ID(VGr) as follows:

Aachen, Juelich: MS A-988 (Order of Battle of the LXXXI Corps from Sep 1944 to Apr 1945), and MSS A-991, A-993, A-996-A-998 (Combat operations in the Aachen sector, Sep-Dec 1944), by Gen.d.Inf. Friedrich Koechling;
MS P-174 (Die 246.Volks-Grenadier-Division in der Zeit von September bis November 1944), by Obst. Gerhard Wilck.

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Ia, Anlagenband A zum KTB 1, Operationsbefehle. Orders pertaining to the reorganization, regrouping, and training in the Bad Duerkheim, Worms, Landau, Speyer, Frankenthal, and Neustadt areas and the relief of the 33.ID in the Landau and Woerth am Rhein areas, 23-26 Oct 1939; daily OKW communiques; special supply directives; an afteraction report regarding an enemy reconnaissance patrol in the Hagebach area, 16 Oct 1939.	1939/09/01-1939/10/25	246.ID W607/b	1718	1
Ia, Anlagenband B zum KTB 1. Orders, maps, and overlays pertaining to movement of the advance echelon from Darmstadt to Bad Duerkheim via Mannheim, 30 Aug; movement to, formation, and training in the Worms, Landau, Bad Kreuznach, Neustadt, and Frankenthal areas, 3 Sep-23 Oct; relief of the 33.ID, border security; and laying minefields in the Speyer, Woerth am Rhein, Kandel, and Neuburg am Rhein areas and in the Lauter River sector, 26 Oct-31 Dec 1939. Order-of-battle charts, strength reports, afteraction critiques relating to the mobilization and formation of the division and the action and conditions in the former 33.ID sector, and reports on the enemy military situation (damaged by fire).	1939/08/29-1939/12/31	246.ID W607/c	1718	231
Ic, Fernsprechbuch. Recorded telephone conversations.	1939/10/27-1939/12/23	246.ID W607/d	1718	651
Ia, KTB 3. War journal concerning regrouping, reorganization, and training in the Bruchsal, Karlsruhe, Kandel, and Bergzabern areas; border security along the Lauter River, 1 Feb-12 May; invasion of France; crossing the Lauter River at Lauterbourg; advance and offensive engagements in the Niederlauterbach, Salmbach, Wissembourg, and Altenstadt areas, 13 May-2 Jun; preparations for and attack on the Maginot Line in the Hunsbach area, 3-20 Jun; advance and offensive engagements in the Soultz-sous-Forêts, Haguenau, and Reichshoffen areas, 21-24 Jun; occupation	1940/02/01-1940/07/03	246.ID 6838/1	1719	1

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of the Maginot Line in the Brumath, Haguenau, and Bischwiller areas; and movement to Germersheim, Germany, 3 Jul 1940 (damaged by fire).

Ia, IB mit Anlagen. Activity report, orders, directives, and maps pertaining to movement from Haguenau, France, to Germersheim and Darmstadt; reorganization; regrouping; training; military leave to support the war economy; and air raid protection in the Darmstadt, Weinheim, Mannheim, Worms, and Speyer areas and at Truppenuebungsplatz Bitsch (Bitche), 3 Jul 1940-8 Feb 1941; and preparations for the transfer to France, 9-13 Feb 1941. Order-of-battle charts, march and training surveys, a register of officers, strength reports, and an activity report of the intelligence branch, 3 Jul 1940-13 Feb 1941.

1940/07/02-1941/02/13

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Ia, IB mit Anlagen. Activity report, orders, and maps pertaining to preparations for and movement to Tours, France, to relieve the 46.ID, 14 Feb-11 Mar 1941; regrouping; securing the demarkation and railroad lines; occupation duty; and training in the Tours, Chinon, Châtellerault, Poitiers, Civray, and Ruffec areas; and relief of Wachregiment/6.ID in Paris by the 404.Gren.Rgt./246. ID, 9-10 Mar, and its release on 18 Apr to relieve the 223.ID in the area south of Poitiers. Entraining and detraining schedules and strength reports.

1941/02/14-1941/05/31

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Ic, IB mit Anlagen. Activity reports concerning enemy acts of sabotage; the attitude, morale, and support of the civilian population; counterintelligence activity; and troop indoctrination and entertainment. Maps showing the location of the division north of the demarkation line and French army units in unoccupied France.

1941/02/13-1941/05/30

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Ia, IB mit Anlagen. Activity reports, orders, directives, and messages pertaining to regrouping,

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securing the demarkation and railroad lines, air raid protection, safeguarding against parachutists, occupation duty, and training in the Tours, Chinon, Loudun, Chatellerault, Poitiers, and Civray areas; and preparations for the transfer to Germany. Afteraction critiques relating to the eastern campaign.				
Ia, Anlagen zum TB. Training schedules and directives, orders, and reports regarding training exercises and artillery activity, notes on command conferences, combat and ration strength reports, lists of officers duty assignments, and maps showing the location of division units.	1941/06/01-1941/12/31	246.ID 13735/2	1720	532
Ic, TB mit Anlagen. Activity reports concerning Communist acts of sabotage and sedition; attitude, morale, and support of the civilian population; counterintelligence activity; military security; and troop indoctrination, training, and entertainment.	1941/06/01-1941/12/31	246.ID 13735/3	1721	1
Ia, KTB 5. War journal including orders, messages, and maps pertaining to offensive, defensive, and assault operations and training in the Bely area; afteraction reports concerning Unternehmen Seydlitz (attack on, encirclement, and destruction of the Soviet 39th Army in the Bely area, 2-12 Jul 1942); Unternehmen Ziethen (advance westward to stop the enemy from withdrawing along the Bely-Melidovo road, 31 Jul); the battle around Pushkari, 1-18 Aug 1942; and operations against partisans, 6-12 Sep. An afteraction critique on the 1941-42 winter campaign of AK 23; order-of-battle charts; status, strength, and casualty reports; interrogation summaries; and reports on the enemy military situation and German and enemy artillery activity.	1942/07/01-1942/09/15	246.ID 26085/1	1721	249
Ia, KTB 6. War journal including orders, messages, and maps pertaining to defensive and assault operations in the Bely area and in the Obsha River sector;	1942/11/24-1942/12/31	246.ID 26085/2	1721	904

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afteraction reports regarding combat action, 25 Nov-25 Dec 1942; casualty and strength reports; registers of officers; and reports on the enemy situation.				
Ia, Anlage zum KTB. Transcript of daily radio messages.	1942/11/27-1942/12/09	246.ID 26085/3	1722	1
Ia, Anlage zum KTB. Transcript of daily messages.	1942/11/27-1942/12/09	246.ID 26085/4	1722	107
Ia, Anlage zum KTB. Orders concerning defensive and offensive operations in the Bely area including strength and status reports.	1942/11/25-1942/12/25	246.ID 26085/5	1722	191
Ia, Unternehmen Erbschaftsausgleich (Puschkari). Orders, messages, and maps pertaining to the execution of Unternehmen Erbschaftsausgleich (an attack to regain territory in the Pushkari area to straighten the main line of resistance).	1942/09/16-1942/09/21	246.ID 26085/6	1722	214
Ic, Gefangenenernehmungen. Interrogation summaries and a list of Russian Army units facing AK 41 Pz.	1942/10/06-1942/12/31	246.TD 29384	1722	247
Ic, TB. Activity report including orders, messages, and reports pertaining to enemy operations, losses, unit identification and strength, reaction to Unternehmen Bueffel (disengagement), partisan and agent activity, propaganda, and acts of sabotage; morale, supply situation, and control of the civilian population; military security; German propaganda; and troop indoctrination and entertainment. Intelligence bulletins, interrogation summaries, and maps showing the location of Russian Army units facing the 246.ID.	1943/01/01-1943/06/30	246.ID 33505/1	1722	412
Ic, Anlagenband 1 zum TB. Daily reports on the operations of the division addressed to Ic/AK 27.	1943/03/21-1943/06/30	246.ID 33505/2	1722	757
Ic, Anlagenband 2 zum TB. Interrogation summaries.	1943/03/01-1943/06/30	246.ID 33505/3	1722	940
Ia, KTB 1. War journal including orders, reports, and maps pertaining to defensive operations, training, and construction of positions and roads in the Bely area; preparations for and execution of Unternehmen Bueffel (disengagement movements from Bely to the Dukhovshchina and Yartsevo area via Lomonosovo and Repino, 14 Feb-22	1943/01/01-1943/03/31	246.ID 33815/1	1723	1

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Mar 1943); and the defense of those areas. Strength reports.				
Ia, KTB 2. War journal including orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to defensive operations, construction of positions, and training in the Yartsevo and Troitskoye areas; strength and casualty reports; and a register of officers.	1943/04/01-1943/06/30	246.ID 33815/2	1723	470
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB, Band 1. Orders relating to disengagement movements, regrouping, and reorganization of the division.	1943/02/13-1943/06/09	246.ID 33815/3	1723	332
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 1. Orders, directives, and reports pertaining to assault operations, training, construction of positions, and disengagement from Bely to the Bueffel positions; order-of-battle charts; strength and status reports; special supply directives.	1943/01/01-1943/03/31	246.ID 33315/4	1723	906
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 2. Orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to defensive operations, construction of positions, and training; order-of-battle charts; and strength and status reports.	1943/04/01-1943/06/30	246.ID 33815/5	1724	1
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 3. Orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to defensive operations, regrouping, construction of positions, training, disengagement movements, and evaluation of the supply situation. Order-of-battle charts and status and strength reports.	1943/07/01-1943/09/30	246.ID 43323/2	1724	152
Ia, KTB 3. War journal including orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to defensive operations, regrouping, construction of positions, and training in the Yartsevo and Troitskoye areas, relief by the 113.ID, 26-30 Jul; movement to and defense of the Vorotyshino and Fomina areas west of Yartsevo; disengagement to and defense of the Hubertus and Klara positions in the Rudnya and Liozno areas, 16-27 Sep 1943; and defense of the Bol'shoy Rutavech' Lake area.	1943/07/01-1943/09/30	246.ID 43323/1	1724	324

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Ia, KTB 4. War journal including orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to disengagements from the Bol'shoy Rutavech' Lake area to defend the Liozno area, 1-10 Oct 1943; and disengagement movements and defense of the Panther and Baeren positions in the Lakes Shelokhovo and Zelenskoye area and the Vysochany, Pogostishche, and Babinovichi areas southeast of Vitebsk. A register of officers, casualty and strength reports, and an afteraction report regarding the combat action of the division, 26 Sep-9 Oct 1943.	1943/10/01-1943/12/31	246.ID 43323/3	1724	873
Ia, Anlage IV zum KTB. Orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to disengagement movements, defensive operations, counterattacks, construction of positions, rail security, operations against partisans, reorganization, regrouping, and German and enemy artillery activity. Order-of-battle charts, strength and status reports, and lists of officers duty assignments.	1943/10/01-1943/12/31	246.ID 43323/4	1725	1
Ia, Gefechtsbericht ueber die Absetzbewegung auf die Pantherstellung. Afteraction report including maps and overlays relating to disengagement movements to the Panther positions.	1943/09/26-1943/10/09	246.ID 43323/5	1725	270
Ia, KTB 1. War journal including orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to defensive operations in the Vysochany and Starobobyl'ye areas, 1-19 Jan 1944, and withdrawal to and defense of the Vitebsk area; and strength reports.	1944/01/01-1944/01/31	246.ID 43323/6	1725	236
Ia, Anlage 1 zum KTB 1. Orders, reports, maps, and overlays pertaining to defensive operations, securing rear areas, regrouping, construction of positions, road maintenance, and withdrawal to the Vitebsk area. Order-of-battle charts and status and strength reports.	1944/01/01-1944/01/31	246.ID 43323/7	1725	538
Ic, TB mit Anlagen. Daily intelligence reports regarding enemy operations, losses, unit	1943/07/01-1944/01/31	246.ID 43536	1725	656

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