

331. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

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DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1941/12/15	Chemnitz, Wehrkreis IV	Assignment of Walkuere units (Ersatz-einheiten) of the 174.ID for the formation of the 331.ID (17.Welle)	Subordinate to: Stellv.Gen.Kdo. IV, 1941/12/15-1942/01/03 C.O.: Gen.Lt. Fritz Hengen, 1941/12/16-1942/01/12
1941/12/25	Chemnitz	Activation, formation	Gen.Lt. Franz Beyer, mFb, 1941/12/30-1942/01/31, Kdr. 1942/02/01-1943/02/22
1942/01/04	Miedzyrzec, Lukow, Biala Podlaska, Poland	Movement, training	Subordinate to: Mil Bfh im Generalgouvernement, 1942/01/04-1942/01/22
1942/01/16	Roslavl, Russia	Transfer	
1942/01/24	Fomina, Milyatino, Degonka, Lepekhi, Staroye Shopotovo, Utrikovo, Neruch' River sector	Defensive operations	AK 40 Pz, 1942/01/23-1942/05/01
1942/05/19	Usokhi, Annovka, Dubrovo, Verkhnyaya Pesochnya, Dubrovka, Bolva River sector	Defensive operations	AK 56 Pz, 1942/05/02-1942/12/27
1942/12/29	Spas-Demensk to Nevel, Pechishche, Chuprovo	Transfer, offensive engagements	Gruppe Woehler, 1943/01/01-1943/01/19
1943/01/12	Izosimovo, Ploskovo	Defensive and assault operations	AK 59, 1943/01/20-1943/02/08
1943/02/11	Kiselevichi, Manokovo, Korolevo, Nasva, Smerdel and Puzna Rivers sector	Movement, defensive and reconnaissance operations, security, training	AK 43, 1943/02/09-1943/04/24 C.O.: Gen.Lt. Karl Rhein, 1943/02/22-1943/11/14 Subordinate to: AK 2, 1943/04/25-1943/12/31
1943/07/01	Zagor'ye, Fetinino, Korolevo, Kharaylovo	Defensive, assault, and reconnaissance operations	
1943/11/27	Valuyevskoye, Ovsishche, Zabolot'ye, Rovni, Lipshane	Defensive, assault, and reconnaissance operations	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Heinz Furbach, 1943/11/06-1944/07/25

Records of the 331.ID are reproduced on rolls 2068-2073 of NARS Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Although no records of this division dated later than 1943/12/31 were available in the National Archives, situation maps of Lage Ost up to 1944/04/04, and West, manuscripts in the Foreign Military Studies series, and the general officer personnel files show:

1944/01/01	Valuyevskoye, Ovsishche, Rovni, Semenovka, Borodino, Zhadrity,	Defensive operations	
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DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1944/03/00	Tr.Ueb.Pl. Wahn near Koeln, Wehrkreis VI	Transfer of remnants of the 331.ID	
1944/03/28	Calais, Boulogne, France	Transfer	
1944/04/02	Ardres, Fiennes, Marquise, Guines, Licques	Formation, training, defensive preparations	
1944/07/28	Thevray, Evreux, Louviers, Andelys, Elbeuf	Movement	Gen.Maj. Walter Steinmueller, 1944/07/12-1944/10/16
1944/08/05	Gace, Laigle, Verneuil, Alos, Bois de la Lyre, Conches	Defensive operations, withdrawal movements	
1944/08/21	Ajou, Brionne, Montfort, Rouen, Seine and Somme Rivers sector	Defensive operations, withdrawal movements	
1944/09/01	Amiens, Hesdin, Saint-Pol, Aire, Hazebrouck, France; Ypres, Menen, Gent, Scheldt River, Breskens, Belgium	Defensive operations, withdrawal movements	
1944/09/22	Moerdijk, Schouwen, Goeree, Voorne Island, Netherlands	Rear area and coastal defense	
1944/10/12	Moerdijk	Disbandment (source: records of OKH/AHA/Abw.Stab, H 41/57 (T78, roll 142))	
1944/11/18	Alkmaar, North Sea coast from Ijmuiden to Helder, Texel Island	Reconstitution as Div.Stab zbV 331, coastal defense	Gen.Lt. Erich Diestel, 1944/11/18-1945/04/10
1945/03/01	Geldermalsen, Waal River, Zaltbommel to Dordrecht	redesignation as Korpsgruppe Diestel, defense	
1945/04/01- 1945/05/08	Ridderkerk, Hollandschdiep Dordrecht to Voorne Island	(source: records of OKH/GenStdH/Org.Abt., II 1/38 (T78, roll 398, p. 134))	

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 331.ID as follows:

France: Channel Coast, MS B-496 (Defense preparations, 1 Apr-26 Jun 1944), by Gen.Maj. Heinz Furbach

Normandy, MS B-542 (The 331.ID, 15 Jul-5 Sep 1944), by Gen.Lt. Walter Steinmueller

Rouen: MS P-149/24 (Delaying battle by a threatened open flank, August 1944), and

MS P-149/42 (Rear guards in river crossing, August 1944), by Obst. Hermann Rehm

MS P-180 (Battles between the Somme and Scheldt Rivers, 1-21 Sep 1944, and commitment in the Netherlands, 21 Sep 1944-3 May 1945), by Gen.Lt. Walter Steinmueller.

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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, KTB 1. War journal concerning a telegram from the Stellv.Gen.Kdo. IV, Dresden to the 174.ID in Chemnitz relating to the assignment of its Walkuere units (Ersatzeinheiten) for the formation of the 331.ID, 15 Dec 1941, and its activation on 25 Dec in Chemnitz; movement and training in Miedzyrzec and Biala Podlaska, Poland, 4-15 Jan; transfer to Roslavl, Russia, by moving via Brest, Slutsk, Bobruisk, Rogachev, Cherikov, and Krichev, 16 Jan-7 Mar; defensive operations in the Fomina and Milyatino areas, 24 Jan-6 Feb, the Degonka, Baryatino, Staroye Shopotovo, Gaydukovo, and Utrikovo areas of the Neruch' River sector, 7 Feb-19 May, and in the Usokhi, Annovka, Verkhnyaya Pesochnya, and Dubrovka areas in the Bolva River sector, 19 May-29 Dec; and planned transfer of the division for a new assignment, 29 Dec 1942-3 Jan 1943.	1941/12/15-1942/12/29	331.ID 31476/1	2068	1
Ia, Anlagenband 1 zum KTB 1, Anlagen 1-200. Daily reports, orders, surveys, schedules, and maps pertaining to the transfer to Miedzyrzec, Lukow, and Biala Podlaska, Poland, for training, 4-10 Jan; transfer to Roslavl, Russia, by moving via Brest, Kobrin, Slutsk, Bobruisk, Rogachev, Cherikov, and Krichev, 16 Jan-7 Mar; commitment for defense in the Fomina and Milyatino areas, 24 Jan-6 Feb, the Degonka, Baryatino, Lepekhi, and Utrikovo areas of the Neruch' River sector, 7 Feb-10 Mar, and the Usokhi, Bol'shiye Zheltoukhi, and Podpisnaya areas, 23 Jun-26 Jul; and execution of Unternehmen Mars (offensive engagements to capture Salovo, Filipkovo, and Anisovc, 8-10 Mar 1942). Reports concerning rehabilitation, reorganization, operations against partisans, and disposition and training of Feld-Ers.Btle./331.ID in June and July 1942; a list of assault operations to be executed in July; a register of officers; order-of-battle charts; and maps showing the second line of	1942/01/01-1942/07/26	331.ID 31476/2	2068	531

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
defense south of Calais, manned by Inf.Rgt. 559, April 1944. (Table of contents for record item 31476/3 and some of its appendixes (272-300) covering the period 23 Jun-26 Jul 1942, were filmed with this record item.)				
Ia, Anlagenband 3 zum KTB 1, Anlagen 201-271. Orders, reports, and maps pertaining to defensive operations, regrouping, reorganization, and rehabilitation in the Utrikovo, Verkhnyaya Pesochnya, Staroye Shopotovo, Usokhi, Gaydukovc, Bol'shiye Savki, and Pokrov areas; execution of Unternehmen Westwind (offensive engagements to capture Golosilovka and Petrovka, 29-31 Mar); Unternehmen Suedwind (capture of Malye Savki, 5-6 Jun); and Unternehmen Below (operations against partisan group "Below," 15-23 Jun 1942). Directives regarding battle conduct, construction of positions, defense against a major enemy attack after the thaw period, and antitank defense; an afteraction critique relating to the winter campaign of the 331.ID, 30 Jan-6 Apr 1942; an afteraction report concerning the battle for the Roslavl-Yukhnov railroad line, 23 Mar-25 Apr; reports on the German and enemy military situation and the division's supply situation; order-of-battle charts; and intelligence bulletins.	1942/03/09-1942/06/23	331.ID 31476/3	2069	1
Ia, Anlagenband 3 zum KTB 1, Anlagen 301-421. Orders, reports, and overlays pertaining to defensive operations, construction of positions, securing rear areas, formation and disposition of new units, winter mobility, training, and regrouping in the Golosilovka, Dubrovka, Annovka, Usokhi, Dubrovo, and Verkhnyaya Pesochnya areas of the Bolva River sector; Umgruppierung Sylvesterfeier (relief by the 321.ID so that the 331.ID could relieve the 339.ID, 24-27 Dec);	1942/07/26-1942/12/29	331.ID 31476/4	2069	309

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and Abtransport Sonnewend (planned transfer of the division from Betlitsa and Spas-Demensk for a special assignment, 29 Dec 1942-3 Jan 1943).				
Notes on command conferences; war journal of Kampfgruppe Hellwig, 27 Aug-18 Sep 1942;				
translation of an order of the Peoples Commissariat for the Defense of the USSR, 28 Jul 1942; reports concerning the German and enemy military situation and the division's supply situation; and order-of-battle charts.				
Ia, Tagesmeldungen zum KTB 1.	1942/02/05-1942/07/31	331.ID 31476/5	2069	653
Ia, Tagesmeldungen zum KTB 1.	1942/08/01-1942/12/28	331.ID 31476/6	2070	1
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 1. Weekly and monthly status reports and 10-day strength and casualty reports.	1942/03/29-1942/12/26	331.ID 31476/7	2070	437
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 1. Situation maps.	1942/02/20-1942/07/14	331.ID 31476/8	2070	522
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 1. Situation maps.	1942/08/08-1942/12/24	331.ID 31476/9	2070	548
Ic, TB mit Tagesmeldungen als Anlage zum KTB 1 Ia. Activity report concerning the activation of the 331.ID as a Walkuere division in Chemnitz, 15 Dec 1941; formation in Truppenuebungsplatz Koenigsbrueck, Wehrkreis IV, 18 Dec 1941-3 Jan 1942; movement to Miedzyrzec, Poland, 4-10 Jan; transfer to Roslavl, Russia, 16 Jan; commitment in Milyatino, 28 Jan; and enemy operations, losses, unit identification, and tactical situation, 1 Feb-22 Dec 1942. Daily intelligence reports, 6 Feb-20 Mar and 21-29 Dec 1942; reports regarding enemy intelligence, partisan activity, and counterintelligence; and an intelligence bulletin.	1941/12/15-1942/12/29	331.ID 31476/10	2070	568
Ic, Anlage zum TP. Interrogation summaries; translation of diaries of Russian partisans; map showing the location of Russian units facing the 331.ID; and monthly reports regarding counterintelligence activity, German and enemy propaganda, and troop entertainment and indoctrination.	1942/02/05-1942/12/28	331.ID 31476/11	2070	784

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, KTB 2. War journal concerning transfer of the division from Spas-Demensk to Nevel, 29 Dec 1942-6 Jan 1943; offensive engagements in the Pechishche and Chuprovo areas, 6-11 Jan; defensive and assault operations in the Izosimovo and Ploskovo areas, 12 Jan-10 Feb; movement to Kiselevichi, 11-18 Feb; and defensive and reconnaissance operations, construction of positions, securing railroad lines and the rear area, training, and regrouping in the Kiselevichi, Manokovo, Korclevo, Nasva, and Zaluzh'ye areas of the Smerdel and Puzna Rivers sector, 18 Feb-30 Jun 1943.	1943/01/01-1943/06/30	331.ID 37645/1	2070	927
Ia, Anlagenband 1 zum KTB 2. Orders, messages, reports, and overlays pertaining to the transfer from Spas-Demensk to Nevel, Opukhliki, and Novosokolniki, 29 Dec 1942-6 Jan 1943; offensive engagements in the Pechishche and Chuprovo areas; defensive and assault operations in the Izosimovo, Chernozem, and Ploskovo areas, 12 Jan-10 Feb; movement to Kiselevichi, 11-18 Feb; and defensive operations in the Kiselevichi, Nasva, and Nevelekha area, 19-26 Feb 1943. Notes on command conferences, reports concerning the incorporation and training of replacement units, and afteraction critiques relating to the battles around Velikiye Luki.	1942/12/29-1943/02/26	331.ID 37645/2	2071	1
Ia, Anlagenband 2 zum KTB 2. Orders, directives, messages, and overlays pertaining to defensive and reconnaissance operations, construction of positions, securing railroad lines and the rear area, formation and activities of alert units, regrouping, and training in the Kiselevichi, Nasva, Manokovo, Korclevo, Samolukovo, and Zaluzh'ye areas of the Smerdel and Puzna Rivers sector and the execution of Unternehmen Fruhlingsgewitter (attack on enemy strongpoint Kharaylovo, 16 May), and Unternehmen Fruhjhrsbestellung (operations against partisans,	1943/02/27-1943/06/25	331.ID 37645/3	2071	419

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18-24 Apr). Order-of-battle charts, Fuehrungsanordnungen, and an intelligence bulletin.				
Ia, Anlagenband 3 zum KTB 2, Tagesmeldungen.	1943/01/05-1943/06/30	331.ID 37645/4	2071	885
Ia, Anlagenband 4 zum KTB 2. Weekly status reports, 16 Jan-25 Apr; pericdic reports regarding the fighting qualities of the division, 21 Apr-27 Jun; defense surveys of the 331.ID, 6 May-28 Jun; daily strength reports, 13 Jan-20 Jun; monthly crder-of-battle charts; and reports on casualties, the supply situation, progress of construction, and commanders evaluation, 1 Mar-1 Jul 1943.	1943/01/01-1943/06/30	331.ID 37645/5	2072	1
Ia, Anlagenband 5 zum KTB 2. Situation maps.	1943/01/01-1943/06/30	331.ID 37645/6	2072	116
Ia, Anlagenband 6 zum KTB 2. Situaticn maps.	1943/01/01-1943/06/30	331.ID 37645/7	2072	140
Ic, TB (sic) als Anlage zum KTB 2 Ia. Daily intelligence reports, intelligence bulletins, with maps showing the location of Russian units facing the 331.ID, lists of Russian Army commanders, surveys of enemy attacks repulsed, and interrogation summaries.	1943/01/01-1943/06/06	331.ID 37645/8	2072	172
Ic, Anlagen zum TB. Reports concerning partisan activity, operations against partisans, and troop indoctrination and entertainment; Gerran and enemy propaqanda; maps showing the locaticn of partisan activity; interrogation summaries; a list of partisans executed; and an afteraction critique relating to Unternehmen Fruehjehrsbestellung.	1943/01/15-1943/06/29	331.ID 37645/9	2072	432
IIa, TB mit Anlagen (sic) als Anlagen zum KTB 2 Ia. Periodic division orders of the day relating to personnel matters, a register of officers, lists of division casualties and strength, reports on splitting up Genesenen-Marsch-Kompanien XVII/331/7, 8, and 9 (convalescent companies) amongst the 331.ID units, and an activity report of the Musikkorps, 24 May-10 Jun 1943.	1943/01/01-1943/06/30	331.ID 37645/10	2072	568
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 2. Combat plan to gain the heights southeast of the Smerdel River sector, 10 May; and	1942/12/11-1943/05/12	331.ID 44151/1	2072	604

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
orders concerning the execution of Unternehmen Fruehjahrenbestellung; reorganization of the division, 19 Mar 1943; the taking over of the Nasva and Kiselevichi sector, 18-20 Feb; movement from Proskovo to Kiselevichi, 11-18 Feb; and replenishment of the Ostheer through Hilfswillige (auxiliary volunteers).				
Ia, KTB 3. War journal concerning defensive, assault, and reconnaissance operations in the Nasva, Zagor'ye, Fetinino, Kharaylovo, and Korolevo areas, 1 Jul-26 Nov, and in the Valuyevskoye, Ovsishche, Zabolot'ye, Rovni, and Lipshane areas, 27 Nov-31 Dec 1943.	1943/07/01-1943/12/31	331.ID 44151/2	2072	655
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 3. Orders, directives, messages, and overlays pertaining to defensive, assault, and reconnaissance operations, construction of positions, winter mobility, reorganization, training, and regrouping in the Nasva, Golubova, Zagor'ye, Korolevo, Fetinino, and Kharaylovo areas, 2 Jul-26 Nov, and movement to and defensive and reconnaissance operations, strengthening of the combat front, battle conduct, and winter road maintenance in the Valuyevskoye, Rovni, Ovsishche, Zabolot'ye, and Lipshane areas, 27 Nov 1943-2 Jan 1944. Notes on command conferences, an order-of-battle chart, and an afteraction critique relating to defense against Russian attacks in the Gorushka area in June 1943.	1943/07/02-1944/01/02	331.ID 44151/3	2072	773
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 3. A register of officers; combat, and ration and actual strength reports; defense surveys; reports concerning heated shelters and patrols in the rear area; construction regulations; status reports, including commanders evaluation of the fighting quality of the division; and Fuehrungsanordnungen.	1943/07/04-1943/12/28	331.ID 44151/4	2073	1
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 3, Tagesmeldungen.	1943/07/01-1943/10/31	331.ID 44151/5	2073	312
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 3, Tagesmeldungen.	1943/11/01-1943/12/31	331.ID 44151/6	2073	574
Ia, Kartenanlagen zum KTB 3.	1943/08/28-1943/10/30	331.ID 44151/7	2073	779

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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ic, TB. Reports concerning enemy replacement, unit identification, losses, propaganda, and partisan activity; German propaganda; reports on troop entertainment and indoctrination; surveys of enemy attack and assault operations repulsed by the 331.ID; interrogation summaries; maps showing the tactical disposition of enemy forces facing the division; and intelligence bulletins.	1943/07/01-1943/12/31	331.ID 45658/1	2073	795
Ia, Anlagen zum KTF 3 (sic). Misplaced document of Art.Rgt. 21/21.LwFld-Division, comprising reports and orders pertaining to operations, activities, reorganization, status, weapons, equipment, and coordinated fire plan; a list of officers duty assignments; maps showing the tactical disposition of Russian forces facing the 21.LwFldD; and order-of-battle charts.	1943/11/01-1944/01/19	331.ID 45658/2	2073	917