

## 389. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1942/01/01	Bitche, Wehrkreis XII Truppenuebungsplatz Milowitz (Milovice), Czechoslovakia	Activation of the 389.ID (18.Welle), under code name "Rheingold" formation, training	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Erwin Jaenecke, 1942/02/01-1942/11/01
1942/04/21	Nikitovka, Soviet Union via Crimea, Mariupol	Transfer	
1942/05/02		Assembly	Subordinate to: AK 44, 1942/05/00 ca.
1942/05/10	Kramatorskaya, Kharkov	Advance, encirclement of Russian forces, mopping-up action, position defense	AK 3 Pz, 1942/05/22 ca.
1942/06/15	Shebekino, Chernyanka, Svoboda, Verkhne-Chirskiy, Kalmykov, Stalingrad	Advance, offensive operations	
1942/09/05	Stalingrad	Position defense	
1943/02/07	Stalingrad	Virtually destroyed, remnants returned to Bitche	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Paul Herbert Forster, 1942/11/01-1943/03/31?
1943/02/28	Villers-Bocage, Caumont, Balleroy, Saint-Martin-des-Besaces, Aunay-sur-Odon, France	Assembly under Rgt.Stab zbV "Pauli" (Aufstellungsstab) for reconstitution of the 389.ID as a Kampfgruppe	Subordinate to: AK 84, 1943/02/28-1943/09/29
1943/04/28	Vire	Arrival of division staff, formation, training	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Erwin Gerlach, 1943/04/01-1943/11/11
1943/05/18	Canisy, Saint-Lo	Formation, training, coastal defense	
1943/08/09	Canisy, Saint-Lo	Attainment of full strength status, preparations for transfer, training	

Records of the 389.ID are reproduced on roll 2202 of NARS Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Although no records of this division dated before or after 1943/02/28-1943/09/26, except for the short report on the encirclement battle in Kharkov, 1942/05/17-1942/05/28, were available in the National Archives, situation maps of Lage Ost, records of OKH/GenStdH/Org.Abt., H 1/131 (T78, roll 412), and the general officer personnel files were used for the above entries.

The following sources give additional information pertaining to the 389.ID:

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
Manuscript in the Foreign Military Studies series, MS T-12 German: (Das Zurueckkaempfen eingekesselter Verbaende zur eigenen Front, Die Kesselschlacht von Tscherkassy) by Gen.Lt. Oldwig von Natzmer and others, English: see DA Pamphlet No. 20-234; and situation maps of Lage Ost:			
1943/09/20	Kazatin, Kiev, Soviet Union via Lvov	Transfer	
1943/10/01	Chigirin	Encirclement, defensive operations	
1943/10/20	Kozharki, Novogeorgiyevsk	Movement, relief of the 320.ID	
1943/11/06	Kremenchug	Movement, relief of the 198.ID	
1943/11/28	Novogeorgiyevsk, Kolontayev, Chigirin, Telepino	Withdrawal, defensive operations, position defense	Gen.Maj. Kurt Kruse, 1943/11/12-1944/03/15
1944/01/24	Kutsovka, Lebedin	Withdrawal, defensive operations	
1944/01/31	Burty, Cherkassy	Encirclement by the Soviet 5th Guard Army, defensive operations	Subordinate to: AK 11
1944/02/09	Gorodishche, Cherepin, Drobovka, Steblev	Encirclement, defensive operations (Although the 389.ID had been disbanded because of insufficient combat strength, the division staff continued to function in directing traffic for Gruppe Stemmermann, Feb 8-16)	
Records of OKH/GenStdH/Org.Abt., H 1/38 (T78, roll 398, p. 177-179) and situation maps of Lage Ost:			
1944/03/16	Truppenuebungplatz Milowitz (Milovice), Czechoslovakia	Reconstitution and formation of the 389.ID by utilizing Inf.Div. Milowitz (24.Welle, Schatten-Division)	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Walther Hahm, 1944/04/01-1944/09/30
1944/04/20		Operational readiness	
1944/04/21	Polotsk, Vetrino, Soviet Union	Transfer, assembly	
1944/05/21	Tofili	Withdrawal, position defense	
1944/07/05	Al'brekhtovo, Dagda, Rundeni, Andrupene, Lazareva, Latvia	Withdrawal, defensive operations	

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1944/07/26	Livani (Lievenhof), Gostini (Trentelberg), Odziena, Koknese (Stantsiya)	Withdrawal, position defense	
1944/09/23	Krape, Ogre, Rumbas, Sirmele	Withdrawal, defensive operations	Gen.Lt. Fritz Becker, 1944/09/30-1945/03/25
1945/01/26	Zvarde, Sturi, Liepaja	Withdrawal, position defense (Kampfgruppe 389.ID)	
1945/02/06	Gotenhafen (Gdynia), Poland	Transfer by ship for brief rehabilitation with Gneisenau units, subsequently disbanded	

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, "Kurzer Bericht ueber den Einsatz meiner Division in der Kesselschlacht suedlich Charkow", von Gen.Lt. Erwin Jaenecke, Kommandeur 389.ID. Participation of the 389.ID in the encirclement battle of Timcschenko's forces by AOK 6 in the area northwest of Izyum and advance to Kharkov via Novodmitrovka, <del>Novo-Nikolayevka</del> , and Volvenkovo. Mention is made of the division's training at Truppenuebungsplatz Milowitz (Milovice), Czechoslovakia, arrival in the Kharkov area via the Crimea, subordination to AK 44 and AK 3 Fz, and position defense on the left flank of the 384.ID (also a "Rheingold" division). Includes situation map sketches.	1942/05/17-1942/05/28	389.ID 18841	2202	1
Ia, KTB 2. War journal concerning the formation, by order of AK 84, of Regiments- Stab z.B.V. "Pauli" (Aufstellungsstab) with units of the 319., 709., and 716.ID for the reconstitution of the 389.ID as a Kampfgruppe, with replacements from Wehrkreis XII and remnants returning from the eastern front, in the Villers-Bocage, Caumont, Balleroy, Saint-Martin-des-Besaces, and Aunay-sur-Odon areas of France, 28 Feb-17 May 1943; arrival of the 298.ID division staff in Vire and its conversion as the 389.ID division staff, 20 Apr; regrouping, formation, alert and map exercises, defense against air landing troops, and training toward becoming a full strength division with combat capabilities by August; and movement of the division headquarters to Canisy. Takeover of the coastal defense sector of the 716.ID in the Saint-Lo area, 18 May; transfer of units for the reconstitution of the 334.ID, 14 Jun; and transition from Kampfgruppe status to a full strength division, 9 Aug. Map exercises and antitank training courses in the Carentan area, 25 Aug, and preparations for transfer to the eastern	1943/02/28-1943/09/26	389.ID 44407/1	2202	32

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	RCLL	1ST FRAME
front moving via Lvov, U.S.S.R., 20-26 Sep. Ia, Anlagenheft 1 zum KTB 2. Orders, reports, messages, and maps concerning the reconstitution of the 389.ID by Rgt.Stab z.b.V. "Oberst Pauli" (319.ID), formation as a Kampfgruppe, training, and preparations to become a full strength division in the Calvados Department of France; formation of Jagdkommandos (raiding detachments); arrival of the division staff in Vire, 20 Apr 1943; patrol duty and alert exercises; training the officers corps; assignment of areas of responsibility in the Feldkommandantur 723 Caen coastal sector; movement to Canisy and takeover of the 716.ID's coastal defense sector, 18 May; and preparations for defense against invasion. An evaluation of military training in the Hitler Youth and reports on status of formation and on combat and ration strength.	1943/02/19-1943/05/15	389.ID 44407/2	2202	135
Ia, Anlagenheft 2 zum KTB 2. Orders, reports, messages, and maps concerning formation of Kampfgruppe 389.ID, preparations for and reorganization to a full strength division; training courses and alert exercises, defense against air landing troops, security, coastal defense, and troop inspections; and assignment of personnel for the reconstitution of the 334.ID in the Vire, Canisy, and Saint-Lo areas of the Calvados Department of France. Reports on status of formation and on combat and ration strength; afteraction critiques on the reconstitution of the division; order-of-battle charts; directives regarding antitank close-combat training courses and on training for commitment on the eastern front; and an evaluation pertaining to military training of the Hitler Youth.	1943/05/08-1943/07/03	389.ID 44407/3	2202	423
Ia, Anlagenheft 3 zum KTB 2. Orders, reports, messages, and maps concerning local defense and combat training, map exercises, highway patrol, formation of reserve personnel, and completion of organization and	1943/05/14-1943/08/19	389.ID 44407/4	2202	770

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
formation as a full strength division, 9 Aug 1943, in the Canisy and Saint-Lo areas. Reports on status of formation and combat and ration strength.				
Ia, Anlagenheft 4 zum KTB 2. Orders, reports, messages, and maps concerning combat training, map exercises, highway patrol, and training courses in antitank close combat in the Canisy and Saint-Lo areas and preparations for transfer to the eastern front to the Kazatin and Kiev area, with the advance echelon leaving 19 Sep 1943 to report to Transportkommandantur Kiev. Contingency plans for defense by the division in the event of an Anglo-American attack via Caen "Einsatzfall 1," Bayeux "Einsatzfall 2," or Cherbourg "Einsatzfall 3"; evaluation of military training in the Hitler Youth; order-of-battle charts; status and combat and ration strength reports; and entraining and transport schedules for transfer to the eastern front.	1943/08/20-1943/09/24	389.ID 44407/5	2202	1063
Ic, TB. Intelligence activity, troop indoctrination and discipline, Allied air activity over France, and security during the reconstitution and formation of the division in the Calvados Department of France. An order for the removal of the division's insignia (Sonnenrad), 7 May 1943, and movement of the division's headquarters to Canisy, 18 May.	1943/05/03-1943/09/22	389.ID 44407/6	2202	1377