

## 403. SICHERUNGS-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

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DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1939/10/25	Strausberg, Berlin, Wehrkreis III	Activation of Div.Kdo. z.b.V. 403 with Ldsch.Ersatz-Btl. 3	
1941/03/15	Breslau, Wehrkreis VIII	Reorganization as 403.SichD with Inf.Ersatz-Rgt. 406	Subordinate to: Bfh.rueckw.HGeb. 102, 1941/03/15-1941/05/20
1941/03/17	Rennes, France to Neusalz/Oder, Wehrkreis VIII	Transfer	
1941/03/28	Gruenberg, Neidenburg, Glogau	Formation, training	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Wolfgang von Dittfurth, 1941/04/04-1942/05/15
1941/05/21	East Prussia; Suwalki, Poland	Movement, assembly, preparations for defense	Subordinate to: AOK 9, 1941/05/21-1941/07/11
1941/06/22	Augustow, Debowo, Pasejanka, Grodno, Poland; Lida, Russia; Seirijai, Varena, Vilna, Lithuania	Advance, mopping-up action, securing rear areas	
1941/07/16	Berezina and Zeimena River sectors, Soviet Union	Movement, mopping-up action, securing rear areas	Bfh.HGeb. Mitte, 1941/07/12-1942/03/11
1941/08/11	Grodno, Lida, Vilna, Surazh, Vitebsk, Polotsk, Velizh, Nevel, Gorodok, Lepel, Vetrino, Demidov, Toropa, Rudnya, Orsha, Velikiye Luki, Novosokol'niki	Securing supply routes and depots, movement, mopping-up action, securing rear areas, operations against partisans	
1942/03/11	Kursk	Movement, assignment Stab/403.SichD and administration of Kommandantur Kursk, reconnaissance for and construction of rear positions	AK 48 Pz, 1942/03/11-1942/07/26
1942/07/01	Tomarovka, Korocha	Movement, mopping-up and security	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Wilhelm Russwurm, 1942/05/15-1943/04/10
1942/08/05	Kupyansk, Ol'khovatka, Novopskov, Millerovo, Starobelsk, Izyum, Svatovo, Shevchenkovo, Rubezhnoye, Volchino, Voroshilovgrad	Movement, securing and administration of rear areas, operations against partisans	Subordinate to: AOK 6, 1942/07/27-1942/08/20  Bfh.HGeb. B, 1942/08/21-1942/09/30 Bereich d.Stabes HGr. Don, 1942/10/01-1942/10/15 KomGen d SichTr u Bfh HGeb Don, 1942/10/15-1943/01/29

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1942/10/30	Proletarskaya, Salsk, Elista, Zimovniki, Dubovskoye	Movement, air raid protection, security, defense	
1942/12/23	Don and Donets River sectors, Likhaya, Shakhty, Kamensk, Novocherkassk	Defensive and offensive operations against penetrating enemy forces	
1943/01/29	Rasdorskaya, Krymskiy	Relief by the 79. and 384.ID	AK 29, 1943/01/30-1943/03/20
1943/02/03	Zaporozhe, Dnepropetrovsk, Dnieper River	Movement, defense of Maulwurfstellung Nord	Obfh. HGr. Sued, 1943/03/21-1943/05/20
1943/04/19	Dnepropetrovsk	Disbandment	
1943/05/10	Zaporozhe, Dnepropetrovsk	Assignment of units to the 79.ID and Bfh.HGeb. Sued	
1943/05/20	Bergen, Wehrkreis XI	Transfer of Stab/403.SichD	
1943/06/05	Fallingbostel	Stab 403.SichD redesignated and used for the reconstitution of the 265.ID	

Records of the 403.SichD are reproduced on roll 2206 of NARS Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Manuscript in the Foreign Military Studies series, MS D-282 (Employment of Kampfgruppe (replacement units composed of troops returning from furlough) as security detachment of rear positions and for defensive missions, Don - Donets, Winter 42-43), by Gen.Lt. Wilhelm Russwurm contains reference to this division.

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning the arrival of the advance detachment in Gruenberg, Wehrkreis VIII, 15 Mar 1941; preparations for and transfer of the division from Rennes, France to Neusalz/Oder, Wehrkreis VIII, 17-28 Mar; training in the Neidenturg, Rothenburg, and Glogau areas, 28 Mar-20 May; movement to East Prussia for assembly and preparations for defense in case of a Russian attack, 21 May-21 Jun; and advance, mopping-up action, and securing rear areas in Augustow, Debowo, Pasejanka, and Grodno, Poland; Lida, Russia; and Seirijai, Varena, and Vilna, Lithuania, 22 Jun-15 Jul, and in the Berezina and Zeimena river sectors of Russia, 16 Jul-10 Aug. Securing supply routes and depots in the Grodno, Lida, and Vilna areas; and mopping-up action, securing rear areas, and operations against partisans in the Surazh, Vitebsk, Velizh, Nevel, Lepel, Vetrino, Polotsk, Demidov, Toropa, Rudnya, and Velikiye Luki areas, 11 Aug-20 Nov 1941. A register of officers; casualty lists, 11 May 1941-10 May 1942; and combat and ration strength reports, 1 Apr-31 Dec 1941.	1941/03/15-1941/11/20	403.SichD 15701/1	2206	1
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning operations against partisans and securing rear areas and railroad lines in the Orsha, Vitebsk, Rudnya, Toropets, Polotsk, Surazh, Nevel, Velizh, Toropa, Novosokol'niki, Velikiye Luki, Dretun', Bazary, and Volkovo areas, 19 Nov-20 Dec 1941; assignment of new units; and expanding to include the Baravukha, Demidov, Lepel, Polota, Il'ino, Vetrino, Senno, Belitsa, Chereya, and Chashniki areas, 21 Dec 1941-1 Jan 1942.	1941/11/19-1942/01/01	403.SichD 15701/2	2206	108
Ia, Anlagen zum KTE; Ic, IIa/b, IVd, TB. Orders and reports pertaining to transfer of the advance detachment of Div.Stab z.b.V. 403, 12 Mar 1941, and the redesignated 403.Sich.Div. from Rennes, France, to	1941/03/12-1941/12/31	403.SichD 15701/3	2206	120

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Neusalz/Oder, Wehrkreis VIII, 17-28 Mar; training in the Gruenberg, Rothenburg, Neidenturg, and Glogau areas, 28 Mar-20 May; movement to, assembly, and preparations for defense in case of a Russian attack in East Prussia and Suwalki, Poland, 21 May-21 Jun; and advance, mopping-up action, securing rear areas, and operations against partisans in the Augustow and Grodno areas of Poland, the Varena and Vilna areas of Lithuania, and the Nevel, Polotsk, Velikiye Luki, Gorodok, Velizh, Rudnya, Sennoc, and Crsha areas of the Soviet Union, 22 Jun-30 Dec.				
Administrative procedures of the division staff, a directive concerning commitment in the Reichskommissariat Ostland, an evaluation of the situation by Bfh.rueckw.HGeb. Mitte, monthly afteraction reports, and directives for control of civilians and prisoners of war and road security and maintenance.				
Training schedules; a report regarding the activity of the division staff in Vilna; an afteraction critique on commitment on the eastern front; intelligence bulletins; data on enemy operations; overlays showing location of division units; order-of-battle charts; and activity reports of the intelligence branch, 1 Apr-30 Nov 1941, and the personnel branch and Protestant and Catholic chaplains, 1 Apr-31 Dec.				
Ia, Urlauberausfassung und Versprengte 6. Armee. Orders, reports, messages, and instructions pertaining to control, handling, and equipment of military personnel returning from furlough; seizure of stragglers; and assignment of replacements to AOK 6 in the Stalingrad area.	1942/11/22-1943/01/11	403.SichD 27191	2206	539
Ia, KTB mit Anlagen. War journal concerning transfer of Inf.Rgt. 693 to the front due to Russian penetration	1942/01/01-1942/01/22	403.SichD 29531	2206	647

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between Heeresgebiet Nord and Mitte; defensive operations; securing rear areas; operations against partisans; and regrouping in the Toropets, Nevel, Demidov, Vitebsk, Lepel, Velizh, Surazh, Velikiye Luki, Il'ino, Polotsk, Dubno, Gorodok, Novosokol'niki, and Bazary areas. Orders relating to contact with Russian combat forces north and northeast of Dubno; assignment of Eingreifgruppe von Roedern with attached units in the Dubno, Toropets, and Velikiye Luki areas, 15 Jan 1942; and the defense of Velikiye Luki, 21 Jan.

Ia, KTB. War journal concerning operations of higher commands, 1-22 Jan 1942; securing rear areas, operations against partisans, and regrouping in the Vitebsk, Toropets, Novosokol'niki, Gorodok, Velikiye Luki, Nevel, Lepel, Polotsk, Drissa, and Orsha areas, 23 Jan-10 Mar; relief of Stab/403.Sich.Div. by Stab/Sich.Brig. 201, 1-14 Mar; and movement to Kursk and takeover of Kommandantur Kursk and administration, reconnaissance for and construction of rear positions north of Kursk, securing the railroad line from Kursk to Orel, Liqov, and Oboyan, 28 Mar-23 Jun, relief of command by Feldkommandantur 668, 27 Jun-1 Jul, and movement to Tomarovka 1-3 Jul. Mopping-up action and security in the Tomarovka and Korocho areas, 5 Jul-4 Aug 1942; movement to, security, administration of, and operations against partisans, and regrouping in the Kupyansk, Ol'khovatka, Novopskov, Millerovo, Svatovo, Shevchenkovo, Starobelsk, Novaya Astrakhan, Volchino, Izyum, Volochansk, and Rubezhnoye areas north of Voroshilovgrad, 5 Aug-25 Oct; relief by the Italian 156th Division "Vicenza" and the 213.Sich.Div., 26-29 Oct, and movement to, air raid protection, and securing rear areas in the Proletarskaya and Salsk area of the Manych River

1942/01/01-1943/06/05

403.SichD 32103/1

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sector, 30 Oct-20 Nov, and the Zimovniki, Dubovskoye, Kuteinikovo, and Elista areas, 21 Nov-22 Dec; defense of the Don and Dcnets River sectors in the Likhaya, Shakhty, Novocherkassk, Kamensk, and Rasdorskaya areas, 13 Dec 1942-21 Jan 1943; and relief by the 79. and 384.ID, and movement to and defense of the Maulwurf Stellung "Nord" along the Dnieper River, 29 Jan-23 Feb. Seizure and impressment of expendible personnel for AOK 6 in the Zaporozhe and Dnepropetrovsk areas, 2-27 Mar 1943; disbandment of the 403.Sich.Div., 19 Apr, and takeover of its sector by Sich.Brig. Seidel and Inf.Pi.Zug, 21 Apr; assignment of division units to the 79.ID and Bfh.HGeb. Sued, 10 May; and transfer of Stab/403.Sich.Div. to Bergen, Wehrkreis XI, 20-25 May, to be used for the reconstitution of the 265.ID and redesignation as Stab 265.ID in Fallingbostel, Wehrkreis XI, 5 Jun.				
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB; Ic, IIa/b, IVd, TB. Stammtafel concerning activation of Div.Kdo. z.b.V. 403 in Strausberg/Berlin, Wehrkreis III, 25 Oct 1939, with replacements of Idsch.Btl. 3 and reorganization as the 403.Sich.Div. in Breslau, Wehrkreis VIII, 15 Mar 1941, with replacements of Inf.Ers.Rgt. 406. Orders relating to securing rear areas, mopping-up action, operations against partisans, and regrouping in the Velikiye Luki, Vitebsk, Nevel, and Orsha areas to north of Voroshilovgrad and the defense of the Don, Donets, and Dnieper River sectors. Orders, reports, and tables pertaining to the division's defense of Toropets, 10-16 Jan 1942; formation of Eingreifgruppe von Kcedern and commitment in the Dubno, Toropets, Troopa, and Velikiye Luki areas, 15 Jan; relief of the	1941/12/06-1943/05/10	403.SichD 32103/2	2206	789

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division staff and assignment to Kommandantur Kursk, 10 Mar; movement of the division to the Oboyan area, 23-30 Jun; and securing roads and railroad lines in the Millerovo, Starobelsk, Voroshilovgrad, and Lzyum areas, 1-27 Sep. Activities of the civilian administration branch; air raid protection and defense in the Don River sector with the use of Rumanian units, 15 Nov-12 Dec; assembly, control, and impressment of personnel returning from leave, stragglers, and expendable men and assignment to AOK 6 in the Zaporozhe and Dnepropetrovsk area, 26 Nov 1942-27 Mar 1943; and disbandment of the 403.Sich.Div., 19 Apr, takeover of the sector by Sich.Brig. Seidel and Int.Pi.Zug, and assignment of division units to the 79.ID and Bth.HGeb. Sued, 10 May. Data relating to enemy operations; combat and ration strength reports; order-of-battle charts, 1 Jan 1942-19 Apr 1943; afteraction reports on the commitment of Btl. 591 in the Toropets area, 1 Feb-31 Mar 1942; casualty lists; activity reports of the intelligence branch concerning the enemy situation, morale of the civilian population, propaganda, counterintelligence, and troop indoctrination and entertainment; and activity reports of the personnel branch and of the Catholic and Protestant chaplains. (The date span for this record item does not include the period 11 Mar-22 Jun 1942.)