

DIVISIONSGRUPPE ROSSI - UNIT HISTORY

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
Sources: the following information was obtained from the records of AK 19 Geb (Gebirgskorps Norwegen until 6 Nov 1942) (T314, rolls 627-636) Guide No. 59 and situation maps of Lage Finnland:			
1942/08/24	Oslo, Norway	Activation of Gruppe Rossi (Stab Geb.Art.Rgt. 127) by AOK Norwegen	
1942/08/25	Petsamo (Pechenga), Finland Linakhamari, Parkkina, Luostari, Petsamo Fjord	Formation from Kampfgruppe Nord and Verteidigungsgruppe "Liinahamari" reconnaissance, assault, and defensive operations; coastal defense	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Franz Rossi, 1942/08/25-1944/06/20 (killed in a plane crash) Subordinate to: Gebirgskorps Norwegen, 1942/08/25-1942/11/05 AK 19 Geb, 1942/11/06-1944/10/03
1943/02/15	Petsamo Petsamo, Linakhamari, Parkkina, Luostari, Petsamo Fjord	Redesignation as Divisionsgruppe Rossi "Festungskommandantur Petsamo" Reconnaissance, assault, and defensive operations; coastal defense	
Records of Divisionsgruppe Rossi:			
1943/07/01- 1943/12/31	Petsamo, Kutovaya, Luostari, Titovka, Parkkina, Linakhamari sector, Rybach Peninsula, Petsamo Fjord, Peura-Vuono Bay	Reconnaissance, assault, and defensive operations; coastal defense	
Only three record items of Divisionsgruppe Rossi were available in the National Archives, covering the period 1943/07/01-1943/12/31, they are reproduced on roll 2280 of NARS Microfilm Publication T315 and described following the unit history. The following sources give additional information pertaining to this division:			
Situation maps of Lage Finnland:			
1944/01/01	Petsamo, Kutovaya, Parkkina, Luostari, Linakhamari, Petsamo Fjord	Reconnaissance, assault, and defensive operations; coastal defense	
1944/10/11	Petsamo	Probable withdrawal (no trace on situation maps after 11 Oct 1944)	

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
KTB 5 of AOK 20, item nos. 65635/1-2 (T312, roll 1061, 1st frame 9262933) Guide No. 48 and situation maps of Lage Finnland:			
1944/10/05	Norway via Rovaniemi and Ivalo, Finland	Planned evacuation of Gruppe Rossi by AOK 20	
1944/10/14	Lokka, Finland	1.Komp.II./Geb.Jg.Rgt. 139 (part of Gruppe Rossi)	
1944/10/16	Mikkola	I., II., III./Geb.Jg.Brigrade 139	

Gruppe Rossi, which once consisted of Stab, I., II., and III./Geb.Jg.Rgt. 139 was probably reorganized as Gebirgs-Jaeger-Brigrade 139 on or about 16 Oct 1944.

Manuscript in the Foreign Military Studies series, prepared by former German officers for the Historical Division, Headquarters U.S. Army, Europe, between 1945 and 1959, contains reference to Divisionsgruppe Rossi as follows:
Finland, MS C-073 (The Last Finnish War 1941-44), by Gen.d.Inf. Dr. Waldemar Erfurth.

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, KTB 6 der Divisionsgruppe Rossi (Festungskommandantur Petsamo). War journal concerning reconnaissance, assault, and defensive operations in the Petsamo (Pechenga), Kutovaya, Luostari, Titovka, and Parkkina areas, the Linakhamari sector, and the Fischerfront on the Rybachi Peninsula, Finland, and coastal defense along the Petsamo Fjord and the shores of the Peura-Vuono Bay; data relating to German and enemy losses; and a register of officers.	1943/07/01-1943/12/31	DivGr Rossi 43430/1	2280	1
Ia, Ic, Anlagenband 1 zum KTB 6 der Divisionsgruppe Rossi (Festungskommandantur Petsamo). Orders, directives, reports, and sketches pertaining to various types of training; the construction of obstacles, road blocks, strong points along the coast, and rear defense positions; strengthening of the combat front; the training and commitment of alert units in the Petsamo, Kutovaya, Luostari, Titovka, and Parkkina areas, in the Linakhamari sector, and on the Rybachi Peninsula; and coastal defense and inspections along the Petsamo Fjord and the shores of the Peura-Vuono Bay. Reports regarding the status of defense readiness and an alert exercise on 28 Dec 1943; a billeting survey; monthly combat and ration strength reports and inventories of operational weapons; and periodic reports concerning enemy assault operations, the military situation, artillery activity, and troop entertainment and indoctrination.	1943/07/01-1943/12/29	DivGr Rossi 43430/2	2280	143
Ia, Anlagenband 2 zum KTB 6, Lagekarten. Situation maps showing the tactical disposition of Divisionsgruppe Rossi for Jul-Oct and Dec 1943 and of enemy forces as of 1 Jul and 31 Dec, and sketches of radio and telephone communications networks as of 10 Jul and the activity of enemy artillery for June and Sep-Nov.	1943/06/01-1943/12/31	DivGr Rossi 43430/3	2280	475