

181. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

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DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1939/12/01	Hannover, Wehrkreis XI, Lager Fallingbostel	Activation, formation, training	Subordinate to: Stellv.Gen.Kdo. XI, 1939/12/01-1940/04/08
1940/04/08	Oslo, Norway	Transfer	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Kurt Woytasch, 1940/01/12-1942/03/23
1940/04/21	Trondheim, Molde, Kristiansund	Movement, billeting, combat engagements	
1940/06/11	Trondheim, Grong, Kristiansund, Molde, Rennebu, Sunndalsora, Dombas	Completion of combat engagements, regrouping, security of rear areas, coastal defense, training	Subordinate to: Gruppe 21 (AK 21), 1940/06/11-1940/07/14 AK Norwegen Geb (AK 19), 1940/07/15-1940/08/15 AK 33 Hoeh.Kdo., 1940/08/16-1943/09/22
1941/09/01	Alesund, Kristiansund, Trondheim, Vagsoy, Molde, Dombas, Opdal, Tingvoll	Security of rear areas, regrouping, coastal defense, training	
1943/07/01	Trondheim, Molde, Kristiansund, Hardanger Fjord, Dovre, Dombas	Regrouping, coastal and air defense, construction of defensive positions	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Hermann Fischer, 1942/03/24-1944/10/01
1943/09/16	Oslo	Movement	
1943/09/23	Stettin via Aalborg, Aarhus, Copenhagen	Transfer	Subordinate to: OKH, 1943/09/23-1943/10/09
1943/10/10	Urosevac and Pristina, Yugoslavia via Warnemuende, Dresden, Bratislava, Vinkovci, Belgrade	Movement	AK 21 Geb, 1943/10/10-1943/10/25
1943/10/15	Kotor, Cetinje, Bar, Montenegro, Scutari (Shkoder), Albania	Movement, coastal defense, antipartisan warfare	SSAK 5 Geb, 1943/10/26-1943/12/31

Records of the 181.ID are reproduced on rolls 1540-1544 of Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
Although no records of this division dated later than 1943/12/31 were available in the National Archives, situation maps of Lage Suedost and Balkan show:			
1944/11/20	Scutari, Podgorica (Titograd), Montenegro	Movement, antipartisan warfare	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Eugen Bleyer, 1944/10/01-1945/04/26
1944/12/09	Titovo Uzice, Serbia	Withdrawal, antipartisan warfare	
1945/01/02	Rogatica, Gorazde, Sarajevo	Movement, antipartisan warfare	
1945/04/10	Zenica, Derventa, Bosnia	Withdrawal	
1945/04/26	Daruvar, northern Croatia	Withdrawal	

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Ib, KTB mit Anlagen, Feldzug in Norwegen. Transfer from Lager Fallingbostel, Wehrkreis XI, to Oslo, Norway, 8-20 Apr 1940, by sea via Harburg-Wilhelmsburg and Frederikshavn, Denmark, and by air via Kiel and Fliegerhorst Stade; movement to, occupation of, and supply activities in the Trondheim area. (There is no indication that Ia, KTB 1 and Anlagen for the period 1 Dec 1939-10 Jun 1940, record items W776h-1 as listed in the Potsdam catalog, were ever in the custody of the National Archives.)	1940/04/08-1940/06/10	181.ID W776a	1540	1
Ic, TB mit Anlagen, Feldzug in Norwegen. Arrival of the division at Trondheim, resistance of Norwegian forces and their eventual capitulation, and the attitude of the civilian population. Interrogation summaries.	1940/04/20-1940/06/10	181.ID W776/o	1540	17
Ic, Anlagen zum TB, Deutsche Presse. Bulletins from Fuehrer headquarters, OKW, OKH, and Deutscher Nachrichtendienst concerning the military situation in Europe and worldwide events.	1940/05/14-1940/07/01	181.ID W776/p	1540	78
Ia, KTB 2 Norwegen. Completion of combat engagements in Norway with the expulsion of British forces from Narvik, 12 Jun 1940; coastal, road, railroad, and rear area security; regrouping, reorganization, and training in the Trondheim, Grong, Kristiansund, Rennebu, Sunndalsora, Dombas, and Molde areas. A register of officers and a combat and ration strength report.	1940/06/11-1940/10/31	181.ID 12129/1	1540	178
Ia, Anlagenband 1 zum KTB 2 Norwegen. Daily reports, messages, and orders pertaining to coastal, road, railroad, and rear area security, air raid protection, occupation duty, training, regrouping, and enemy bombings in the Trondheim, Grong, Otta, Steinkjer, Dombas, Kristiansund, Opdal, and Rennebu areas. A status report.	1940/06/11-1940/09/03	181.ID 12129/2	1540	313

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Ia, Anlagenband 2 zum KTB 2 Norwegen. Daily reports, messages, orders, and directives pertaining to coastal, road, and rear area security; disbandment of the Norwegian armed forces; reorganization, regrouping, and training in the Trondheim, Hovin, Telemark, Vinstra, Sunndalsora, Dombas, and Molde areas; release of division units to form a new division in the Oslo area; and replacements for the 181.ID. Status reports and an order-of-battle chart.	1940/09/01-1940/10/31	181.ID 12129/3	1540	558
Ic, TB. Release of Norwegian officers held as prisoners, surveillance of broadcasting activities, conferences on economic and political developments in Norway, and troop entertainment.	1940/06/11-1940/10/31	181.ID 12162	1540	756
Ia, TB 1. Coastal and rear area security; release of units to the 199.ID; regrouping, and training in the Tingvoll, Sunndalsora, Opdal, Dombas, Molde, Alesund, Forde, and Dovre areas. Monthly status reports.	1940/11/01-1941/04/30	181.ID 12418/1	1540	762
Ia, Anlagenband 1 zum TB 1. Orders and messages concerning organization, combat readiness, security, assignments, troop transfers, and training.	1940/11/01-1941/04/30	181.ID 12418/2	1540	788
Ia, TB 3 Norwegen. Coastal and air defense; security of industrial and power plants; alerts against anticipated enemy landings; release of units for assignment to Finland; regrouping, reorganization, and training in the Alesund, Kristiansund, Trondheim, Vagsoy, Molde, Dombas, Opdal, and Tingvoll areas; monthly status of 181.ID units; counterintelligence activity; enemy air attacks and raids.	1941/09/01-1942/12/31	181.ID 27230/1	1540	1199
Ia, Anlagenband 1 zum TB 3. Orders and reports concerning winter training and mobility of troops, assignments, security measures, and inspections; a Merkblatt on landing operations based on British and Japanese principles; a diagram illustrating the naval and army chains of command in Norway.	1941/09/11-1942/07/28	181.ID 27230/2	1541	1

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Ia, Anlagenband 2 zum TB 3. Orders and reports concerning coastal defense, troop and officer training courses, chemical warfare training, formation of an organization for surveillance of the civilian population, security measures, and alerts; status reports; notes on command conferences and inspection trips; afteraction critiques relating to division maneuvers on Gossen Island on 14 Oct 1942.	1942/08/27-1942/12/10	181.ID 27230/3	1541	471
Ia/Art., TB, Norwegen. Activity report of Heereskuestenartillerie-Regiment 853.	1941/08/01-1942/03/31	181.ID 27230/4	1541	947
Ia/Art., Anlagen zum TB, Norwegen. Orders, reports, and instructions concerning artillery preparedness.	1941/08/01-1942/03/31	181.ID 27230/5	1541	960
Ia/Pi., TB 1, Norwegen. Construction of fortifications, artillery strong points, obstacles, defensive positions, railway stations, and bridges; training in mine laying and demolition.	1941/04/01-1942/12/31	181.ID 27230/6	1542	1
Ia/Pi., Anlagen zum TB 1, Norwegen. Orders and reports on the construction of defense installations, highway maintenance, training in the use of explosives and flamethrowers, and allocation of construction materials.	1941/04/07-1942/12/08	181.ID 27230/7	1542	36
Ia, Anlagenband zum TB 2, Norwegen. Daily reports, orders, directives, and notes pertaining to coastal defense, training, command conferences, and inspection trips in the Dombas, Trondheim, Molde, Alesund, Kristiansund, and Vagsoy areas. Special directives concerning supply activities in the division sector and status, casualty, and strength reports. (There is no indication that TB 2 for the period 1 May-31 Aug 1941, record item E84/7 as listed in the Potsdam catalog, was ever in the custody of the National Archives.)	1941/05/01-1941/08/28	181.ID 29039	1542	377
Ia, Anlagenband, Kampf- und Erlebnisberichte Norwegen. Reports on experiences of Wehrmacht personnel during	1940/07/00-1940/11/00	181.ID 36406	1542	742

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the initial part of the invasion of Norway and afteraction reports.				
Ia, TB 4 Norwegen. Monthly activity reports concerning coastal defense, security of industrial installations, formation of alert units, alerts, artillery activity, air raid protection, regrouping, training, the release of units to form the 274.ID, and enemy raids in the Trondheim, Molde, Kristiansund, Hardanger Fjord, Dovre, Dombas, and Alesund areas.	1943/01/01-1943/06/30	181.ID 37929/1	1542	1113
Ia, Anlagenband 1 zum TB 4 Norwegen. Reports and maps pertaining to coastal defense, security of industrial plants, air raid protection, formation and organization of alert units, alerts, artillery activity, regrouping, reassignment and status of units, organization of the 181.ID Heereskuestenartillerie and Marineartillerie-Abteilung, occupation of defensive positions, training, and enemy raids.	1943/01/01-1943/04/30	181.ID 37929/2	1543	1
Ia, Anlagenband 2 zum TB 4 Norwegen. Reports and directives pertaining to coastal defense, air raid protection, artillery activity, regrouping and release of units, construction of defensive positions, command inspection tours, and training; status reports; order-of-battle charts.	1943/05/10-1943/06/28	181.ID 37929/3	1543	417
Ia/Pi., TB 2 Norwegen. Monthly activity reports concerning the construction of coastal fortifications, defensive positions, strong points, barriers, and roads; mine laying; and preparations for demolition missions.	1943/01/01-1943/05/31	181.ID 37929/4	1543	642
Ia/Pi., Anlagenband zum TB 2 Norwegen. Orders and reports concerning construction of fortifications, coastal gun emplacements, mine laying, and preparations for the demolition of certain harbor facilities.	1943/01/01-1943/05/31	181.ID 37929/5	1543	658
Ia, TB 5 vom 1.7. bis 31.10.1943 und KTB 3 vom 1.11. bis 31.12.1943. Activity report concerning coastal	1943/07/01-1943/12/31	181.ID 45373/1	1543	835

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<p>defense, construction of defensive positions, training, and relief in the Trondheim, Dombas, Kristiansund, and Molde areas; movement to Oslo, 16-23 Sep; transfer by ship from Oslo to Stettin via Aalborg, Copenhagen, and Aarhus, 23 Sep-12 Oct, and by train to Urosevac near Pristina in Yugoslavia via Warnemuende, Dresden, Bratislava (Pressburg), Vinkovci, and Belgrade, 12-26 Oct 1943; and movement to Kotor, Cetinje, and Bar in Montenegro and to Scutari (Shkoder) in Albania, 26-30 Oct 1943. War journal pertaining to coastal defense and combat against partisans in the Kotor, Cetinje, Bar, and Scutari areas.</p>	1943/07/01-1943/10/31	181.ID 45373/2	1544	1
<p>Ia, Anlagenband zum TB 5. Daily reports, notes, orders, and maps pertaining to defense against enemy air landings and bombing attacks, alerts, command conferences and inspection trips, training, relief, movement to Oslo, and transfer to Montenegro and Albania via Denmark, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia. Status reports; directives concerning supply, the military situation, and troop conduct in Albania.</p>	1943/11/01-1943/12/31	181.ID 45373/3	1544	837
<p>Ia, Ic, Anlagenband zum TB 5 und KTB 3. Reports, messages, orders, directives, and maps pertaining to coastal defense, road, rail, and rear area security, construction of positions and obstacle zones, combat against partisan units, evaluation of the military and political situation in Albania and Yugoslavia, and training; order-of-battle charts; status reports; billeting surveys; lists of volunteer units in the division sector; afteraction critiques relating to partisan warfare. Intelligence bulletins and reports concerning the political and military situation in southeastern Europe, enemy operations, and organization of Tito's forces and other partisan groups in Albania and Yugoslavia.</p>				