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215. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1939/02/02	Wehrkreis V, Heilbronn	Activation of 215.ID (3. Welle) by conversion of 215.LdwD	Subordinate to: Stellv.Gen.Kdo. V, 1939/02/02-1939/08/24
1939/08/30	Bruchsal, Eppingen, Graben	Movement, training	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Baptist Kniess, 1939/08/26-1942/11/12 Subordinate to: AOK 7, 1939/08/25-1939/10/07
1939/10/16	Ettlingen, Rastatt, Bruchsal, Eppingen, Graben	German-French border security, movement, training	AK 25, 1939/10/08-1939/11/15 HGr C, 1939/11/16-1939/12/30
1940/01/04	Zweibruecken, Hornbach	Border security	AOK 1, 1939/12/31-1940/01/12 AK 24, 1940/01/12-1940/01/27
1940/02/10	Mannheim	Training	AOK 1, 1940/01/27-1940/03/22
1940/03/18	Landau, Pirmasens, Bergzabern	Border security	AK 37, 1940/03/23-1940/05/02
1940/05/14	Weissenburg (Wissembourg), Rott, Wingen, Reichshoffen	Invasion of France, offensive engagements	
1940/06/10	Lembach, Woerth, Brumath, Saverne, Vosges, Strasbourg, Saarburg (Sarrebouurg)	Breakthrough of Maginot Line, occupation duty	
1940/09/07	Epinal, Colmar, Belfort, Saint-Die, Gerardmer, Luneville	Occupation duty, training, regrouping	AK 18, 1940/09/09-1940/11/25
1940/11/10	Vesoul, Remiremont, Belfort, Plombieres-les-Bains, Bains-les-Bains	Occupation duty, training	AK 45, 1940/11/26-1941/10/15
1940/12/04	Nevers, Apremont, Digoin, Moulins	Security of demarkation line	
1941/01/01	Cosne, Nevers, Chateau-Chinon, Decize, Moulins, Autun, Montceau-les-Mines, Le Creusot, Digoin	Occupation duty, training, regrouping	

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND	131
1941/11/15	Moulins, France Chudovo, Soviet Union	Transfer	AK 8, 1941/10/16-1941/11/09 AOK 1, 1941/11/09-1941/11/14 AOK 16, 1941/11/15-1941/11/26	
1941/11/25	Chudovo, Budogoshch, Tikhvin, Oskuya River, Grusino, Novgorod	Defensive and offensive operations	AK 39 Pz, 1941/11/26-1942/01/21	
1942/01/01	Chudovo, Volkhovo-Stantsiya, Dymno, Volkhov River sector	Regrouping, assault operations	AK 1, 1942/01/22-1942/05/10 AK 28, 1942/05/10-1942/06/02 AK 1, 1942/06/02-1942/07/18	
1942/07/19	Tosno, Oranienbaum, Leningrad, Petrodvorets (Peterhof)	Transfer, defensive operations, position defense	AK 28, 1942/07/19-1942/07/23 AK 50, 1942/07/23-1943/08/30	
1943/08/26	Oranienbaum, Leningrad	Position defense	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Bruno Frankewitz, 1942/11/12-1945/03/24 Subordinate to: AK 26, 1943/08/31-1943/10/14 AK 50, 1943/10/15-1943/12/31	

Records of the 215.ID are reproduced on rolls 1637-1638 and 1753 of Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Although no records of this division dated later than 1943/08/26 were available at the National Archives, situation maps of Lage Ost and manuscripts in the Foreign Military Studies series, MS D-129 (Fighting During Retreat of XXVI Corps to Pskov, Feb 1944), by Gen. Anton Grasser, show:

1943/09/01	Verkhnyaya-Kipen, Mga	Movement, defensive operations
1943/10/15	Pushkin	Defensive operations
1944/01/20	Krasnoye Selo, Krasnogvardeisk, Luga, Seredka	Disengagement movements
1944/02/23	Pskov	Position defense
1944/06/20	Ostrov, Drywiaty Lake, Zarasai	Withdrawal, defensive operations
1944/09/15	Baldone	Defensive operations
1944/10/16	Saldus, Auce, Dobele	Withdrawal
1945/02/18	Liepaja (Libau), Danzig, Bytow, Strzecz, Sopot	Withdrawal, defensive operations
1945/04/03	Gdynia (Gotenhafen)	Last trace on situation maps

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning preparation for operational readiness in Heilbron, Wehrkreis V, 25-29 Aug 1939, movement to and training in the Bruchsal, Eppingen, and Graben areas and on the Rhine River, 30 Aug-15 Oct 1939, relief by the 35.ID and movement to the Ettlingen and Rastatt areas to secure the German-French border, 16 Oct-17 Nov 1939, relief by the 96.ID and movement to and training in the Bruchsal, Eppingen, and Graben areas, 18 Nov-31 Dec 1939. Officer register and casualty and strength reports.	1939/08/25-1939/12/31	215.ID W483/a	1537	1
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB. Orders, directives, reports, and maps pertaining to movements, training, security of German-French border, and planned movement to the Kaiserslautern, Landstuhl, and Homburg areas, 3 Jan 1940.	1939/08/27-1939/12/31	215.ID W483/c	1537	40
Ic, Anlagen zum KTB. Daily reports on enemy activities along the German-French border.	1939/10/11-1939/11/07	215.ID W483/b-1	1537	173
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning movement to the Zweibruecken and Hornbach areas, via Kaiserslautern, Landstuhl, and Homburg, for security along the German-French border, 4 Jan-9 Feb 1940; movement to Mannheim for training, 10 Feb-17 Mar 1940; movement to Landau, Pirmasens, and Bergzabern area to secure the French border across from Weissenburg (Wissembourg), Lembach, Rott, and Wingen, 18 Mar-13 May 1940; and offensive engagements in France, 14-15 May 1940. An officer register and a casualty report. (Item No. 77269/2 pertains to the breakthrough of the Maginot Line, 10 Jun-2 Jul 1940.)	1940/01/01-1940/05/15	215.ID W483/c	1537	195
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB. Daily situation reports on German and enemy activities on the western front.	1940/01/01-1940/05/15	215.ID W483/a	1537	247
Ic, Anlagen zum KTB. Intelligence reports concerning troop entertainment and indoctrination.	1940/01/13-1940/05/05	215.ID W483/L	1537	417
Ic, Anlagen zum KTB. Daily enemy situation and activity reports and interrogation summaries.	1940/05/15-1940/06/14	215.ID W4891	1537	457

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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB. Orders and reports pertaining to movement to and regrouping, occupation duty, and training in the Epinal, Colmar, Belfort, Saint-Die, Gerardmer, and Luneville areas, 7 Sep-9 Nov 1940, and the Vesoul, Remiremont, Plombieres-les-Bains, Belfort, and Bains-les-Bains areas, 10 Nov-3 Dec 1940; and movement to and relief of 198.ID in the Nevers, Apremont, Digoin, and Moulins areas for training and security duty along the demarkation line.	1940/09/07-1940/12/31	215.ID #7220/2	1537	535
Ia, TB. Activity report concerning security of the demarkation line, occupation duty, training, and regrouping in the Cosne, Nevers, Chateau-Chinon, Decize, Moulins, Montceau-les-Mines, Autun, Le Creusot, and Digoin areas, and planned transfer to northern Russia.	1941/01/01-1941/11/14	215.ID 13134	1637	519
Ia, KTB des Stabes der 215.ID. War journal concerning the transfer from Moulins, France, to Chudovo, Russia, via Tilsit, Cesis, Pskov, and Dno, 15-24 Nov 1941, and defensive operations in the Chudovo and Budogoshch areas. Includes a register of officers.	1941/11/15-1941/12/17	215.ID 17312/1	1637	555
Ia, KTB, Ostfeldzug. War journal concerning defensive operations in the Chudovo area and Oskuya River sector.	1941/12/17-1941/12/31	215.ID 17312/2	1537	585
Ia, KTB. War journals concerning defensive and assault operations in the Chudovo, Dymno, and Volkhovo-Stantsiya areas.	1942/01/01-1942/02/22	215.ID 17312/3-5	1637	715
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB, Ostfeldzug. Orders, directives, and messages pertaining to defensive and assault operations in the Chudovo and Budogoshch areas and in late December in the Volkhov River positions, construction of defensive positions, and battle conduct. Interrogation summaries and maps concerning the enemy tactical dispositions east of Chudovo.	1941/11/15-1942/02/22	215.ID 17312/7	1537	813
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning defensive and assault operations in the Dymno, Volkhovo-Stantsiya, and Chudovo areas. Includes a register of officers.	1942/02/23-1942/06/01	215.ID 21075/1-2	1637	887

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ic, TB. Activity report concerning enemy operations, losses, and unit identification; military police and counterintelligence activities; German propaganda; troop entertainment; and the transfer of the division from France to Russia, movements, and combat actions, 15 Nov 1941-31 May 1942. Intelligence bulletins, interrogation summaries, and maps showing the tactical disposition of enemy forces.	1941/11/15-1942/05/31	215.ID 21075/5	1638	1
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning defensive and assault operations in the Dymno, Volkhovo-Stantsiya, and Chudovo areas.	1942/06/02-1942/06/14	215.ID 22906/1	1638	55
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning defensive operations and regrouping in the Volkhov River sector, relief of the division by 1.ID, 15-18 Jul 1942, and preparations for movement to the Tosno area.	1942/06/15-1942/07/18	215.ID 22906/2	1638	75
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB. Orders, messages, and maps pertaining to defensive operations in the Dymno and Chudovo areas, training and regrouping in the Volkhov River sector, and the planned transfer to Tosno, 19 July 1942.	1942/06/02-1942/07/18	215.ID 22906/3	1638	104
Ic, TB. Activity report concerning enemy operations and losses, German propaganda, counterintelligence activity, and troop entertainment and indoctrination; intelligence bulletins; interrogation summaries; and maps showing enemy tactical disposition.	1942/06/01-1942/07/18	215.ID 22906/4	1638	157
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB, Gefechtsbericht ueber den Einsatz bei Tichwin und am Wolchow. Afteraction reports concerning the capture of Tikhvin by AK 39 in order to cut the railroad line leading to Leningrad, 8 Nov 1941, arrival of the division in the Chudovo area from France, 24-30 Nov, relief of Gruppe Vahl by elements of the division at the bridgehead in the Grusino area, 29-30 Nov, and relief of the 20.ID (mot) by the division in the Budogoshch area, 1-5 Dec 1941. The Tikhvin front was manned from left to right by the	1941/11/15-1942/07/18	215.ID 23219	1638	201

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20.ID (mot), 215.ID, 126.ID, and the 250.ID (spanisch). The division repulsed all enemy attacks, 7-14 Dec, and further enemy attacks forced a withdrawal movement to the Volkhov River sector, 15-18 Dec 1941, and defensive operations in the Chudovo and Novgorod areas, 18 Dec 1941-14 Jul 1942.				
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning movement to Tosno and to the Oranienbaum and Leningrad fronts, and position defense in the Petrodvorets area.	1942/07/19-1942/10/22	215.ID 28790/1	1638	256
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning position defense on the Oranienbaum and Leningrad fronts and in the Petrodvorets area. Casualty and strength reports.	1942/10/23-1943/01/20	215.ID 28790/2	1638	335
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB; Ic, IIa/IIb, TB. Orders and reports pertaining to tactical operations and maps showing the tactical disposition of the division; order-of-battle charts. Activity report of the intelligence branch concerning enemy operations, losses, and unit identification, control of the civilian population, military police and counterintelligence activities, German propaganda, troop indoctrination and entertainment, and combat action and regrouping of the division on the encirclement front west of Leningrad; interrogation summaries; intelligence bulletins; and an activity report of the personnel branch.	1942/07/20-1943/01/21	215.ID 28790/3	1638	424
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB. Gefechtsbericht ueber den Einsatz an der Einschliessungsfront von Leningrad. Afteraction report concerning the assignment of the division on the encirclement front west of Leningrad.	1942/07/13-1942/11/03	215.ID 28790/4	1638	557
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning position defense on the Oranienbaum and Leningrad fronts and in the Petrodvorets area.	1943/01/21-1943/04/02	215.ID 37715/1	1638	689
Ic, TB, Vernehmungen und Erfolgsberichte. Activity report concerning enemy operations, losses, and unit identification along the encirclement fronts around	1943/01/21-1943/09/18	215.ID 37715/5	1638	772

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Oranienbaum and Leningrad, control of the civilian population, troop entertainment and indoctrination; interrogation summary; and afteraction critique relating to the assignment of the division on the encirclement front west of Leningrad, 22 Jul 1942-26 Aug 1943. Activity report covers the period 21 Jan-18 Sep 1943, however, there are no reports after 26 Aug 1943.				
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB. Orders, messages, maps, and overlays pertaining to defensive and assault operations, tactical dispositions, rehabilitation, and regrouping in the Dymno, Volkhovo-Stantsiya, and Chudovo areas; order-of-battle charts; strength reports; and interrogation summaries. Includes special directives on supply, 22 Nov 1940, and daily combat operation reports of AK 38 and its subordinate units in the Ostrov area, 4-15 Jul 1944.	1942/01/08-1942/05/31	215.ID 77831	1638	307
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 3, Gefechtsberichte, 11.6.-24.6.40. Orders, messages, and afteraction reports pertaining to preparations for and execution of the breakthrough of the Maginot Line from the Lembach and Woerth areas to Reichshoffen, 10-20 Jun 1940, pursuit to Brumath and then westward to Saverne with offensive engagements in the central Vosges, 21-24 June, and movement to and occupation duty in the Strasbourg and Sarrebourg areas, 25 Jun-2 Jul 1940. (This record item was partially burned and was filmed with the records of the 252.ID, roll 1753, frames 33-295.)	1940/06/10-1940/07/02	215.ID 77259/2	1753	33