

The 65. Infanterie-Division was formed as a two-regiment division (Grenadier-Regimente 145 and 146) in July 1942 at Bitche, France. In the latter part of July it was transferred to the Antwerp-Vlissingen area for the defense of Antwerp, the Scheldt River estuary, and the islands in the estuary. On June 8, 1943, it became an army reserve division and was transferred to the Lille, Bethune, and St. Omer areas where it was reorganized and trained for service on the eastern front, but was transferred instead on

August 1, 1943, via Villach, Austria, to Italy. Although there are no records of the division available dated later than August 1, 1943, the situation maps of Lage Sidwest and Italien show that the division participated in position defense in the Pescara area from October to December 1943. It was moved to the south of Rome in January 1944 and took part in the defense of Rome until May 1944, when it withdrew northward and defended the Florence, Pisa, Lucca, and Pistoia areas from June to October 1944 and the Bologna area from November 1944 to April 1945.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 1. Formation of the division at Bitche, France, in July 1942; its transfer to the Antwerp-Vlissingen area in the latter part of July for the defense of Antwerp, the Scheldt River estuary, and the islands in the estuary; its transfer on Jun 8, 1943, as an army reserve division to the Lille, Bethune, and St. Omer areas for training; and its transfer on Aug 1, 1943, from the St.Omer-Cassel area, via Villach, Austria, to Italy. The division was subordinate to AOK 15, Gen.Kdo. Schelde (LXXXIX. A.K.), and the LXXXII. A.K., under the command of Gen.Maj. Hans Bömers from Jan 1, 1943; of Gen.Lt. Wilhelm Rupprecht from May 20, 1943; and of Gen.Maj. Gustav Heistermann von Ziehlberg from Oct 1943.	Jul 15, 1942 - Aug 2, 1943	34025/1	1037	1
Ia, Anlagen z. KTB 1; Ic, IIa, Tätigkeitsberichte. Weekly reports, orders, directives, tables, charts, and maps pertaining to the formation of the division; transfer of the division to Antwerp for defense and security of the Scheldt River estuary and its islands; training and alert exercises; formation of alert units; location of billeting and defense areas; order of battle, fighting strength, and status of the division; and data on landings at Dieppe. Activity reports of the Intelligence Branch, Jul 15, 1942 - Feb 28, 1943, concerning the control and attitude of the civilian population, counterintelligence, military security, and troop entertainment; and activity reports of the Personnel Branch, Jul 8, 1942 - Feb 28, 1943.	Jul 15, 1942 - Mar 20, 1943	34025/2	1037	47
Ia, Anlagen z. KTB 1; Ic, IIa, Tätigkeitsberichte. Weekly reports, orders, directives, and charts pertaining to the division's operations, including training,				

65. Infanterie-Division

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
<p>alert exercises, construction of fortifications, coastal defense, security of rear areas, order of battle, and strength; its relief by the 19. Luftwaffen-Felddivision, Jun 8, 1943, and transfer as an army reserve division to the Lille, Bethune, and St.Omer areas; reorganization, improvement, and training for service on the eastern front; and movement on Aug 1, 1943, to Italy. Activity reports of the Intelligence and Personnel Branches, Mar 1 - Jun 30, 1943, concerning counterintelligence, military security, and troop indoctrination and entertainment, and German propaganda.</p>	Mar 21 - Aug 1, 1943	34.025/3	1037	609