

72. Infanterie-Division (72d Infantry Division)

This division was activated in 1938 as Grenzkommando Trier (Trier Frontier Command) in Wehrkreis XII. In the summer of 1939 it was reorganized as the 72. Infanterie-Division by incorporating two active infantry regiments and one reserve regiment. The division participated in the western campaign in May 1940 and was temporarily charged with the occupation and control of the central district of Paris. After the Balkan campaign in April 1941, the division was employed in the southern sector of the Russian front in the summer of 1941, taking part in battles for the Crimea. It was transferred to the central sector of the eastern front in August 1942 for defen-

sive action in the Sychevka-Zubtsov area. Although there are no records of the division available dated later than January 7, 1943, the situation maps of Heeresgruppen Mitte, Süd, and Süd-ukraine show that the division participated in the Kursk offensive in the summer of 1943, transferring to the southern sector in October 1943. It took part in defensive action in the Smela-Shpola area from November 1943 to February 1944, withdrawing to defend the area south of Kovel from March to June 1944. The division withdrew to southern Poland via Zamosc and Opatow between July 1944 and January 1945.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 2. Training and border security in the Trier area, transfer to the maneuver area at Ohrdruf for training in the spring, march movements to Mayen and Bitburg on May 15, the crossing of Luxembourg and Belgium via Wiltz and Bastogne, offensives to Bourges, France, via Montherme, Charleville, Origny, St. Quentin, Chauny, Attichy, Crépy-en-Valois, Montereau, Montargis, and Gien, the armistice on Jun 25, 1940, and the securing of the demarcation line in the Cher River sector. The division was subordinate to the XXIII., XXXVIII., and XLIV. A.K. and AOK 6, successively, under the command of Gen.Lt. Franz Mattenkloft, Sep 1, 1939 - Jul 24, 1940. Included is a partial second copy (erroneously titled as Kriegstagebuch 3) covering the period May 10 - Jun 12, 1940.	Jan 1 - Jul 13, 1940	W 5782*	1048	1
Ia, Ic, Anlagen z. KTB, Tagesmeldungen an das XXIII. A.K.	Sep 25, 1939 - Mar 12, 1940	W 5782/A	1048	120
Ia, Anlagenheft 1 z. KTB 2. Corps and division orders.	Jan 3 - Jul 13, 1940	W 5782/a	1048	303
Ia, Anlagenheft 2 z. KTB 2, Kriegsgliederungen.	Dec 1, 1939 - Jul 10, 1940	W 5782/b	1048	684
Ia, Anlagenheft 3 z. KTB 2, Gefechts- und Erfahrungsberichte, besondere Vorkommnisse.	Jan 27 - Aug 8, 1940	W 5782/c	1048	700
Ia, Anlagenheft 4 z. KTB 2. Daily casualty lists, status reports, and list of officers' duty assignments.	Jan 1 - Sep 16, 1940	W 5782/d	1048	1080

* Item damaged by fire.

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ia, Anlagenheft 6 z. KTB 2. Division orders and afteraction reports.	Jan 3 - Jul 11, 1940	W 5782/f	1048	1107
Ic, Anlagen z. KTB 2. Intelligence bulletins, order of battle charts, and maps pertaining to enemy operations, unit identification, and tactical disposition. German translations of French Army and Air Force orders.	May 29 - Jun 13, 1940	W 5782/k	1048	1180
Ia, Ic, Anlagen z. KTB 2, Morgenmeldungen an das XXIII. A.K.	Sep 26, 1939 - Mar 12, 1940	W 5782/K-1	1048	1215
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 3. Division transfer from the Cher River sector to the Nantes area via Angers and Cholet for training and coastal defense, transfer to Paris for occupation and security in the latter part of September, and transfer to the Belfort area via Troyes in November. Data relating to a students' demonstration in Paris against the Pétain government. The division was subordinate to the II. and XI. A.K., Kdt. Paris, XXV. A.K., and Höh.Kdo. LX, successively, from Jul 14 to Dec 15, 1940, under the command of Gen.Lt. Franz Mattenklott, and from Jul 25 to Sep 4, 1940, under Gen.Maj. Helge Auleb, during which period Gen.Lt. Mattenklott was commander of Festung Metz.	Jul 14 - Nov 30, 1940	W 5869/1	1048	1383
Ia, Anlagenband 1 z. KTB 3, Kriegsgliederungen.	Jun 1 - Sep 15, 1940	W 5869/2	1048	1425
Ia, Anlagenband 3 z. KTB 3, Operationsakten. Corps and division orders and an instruction pamphlet concerning coastal engagements.	Jun 30 - Nov 29, 1940	W 5869/4*	1049	1
Ia, Anlagenband 4 z. KTB 3, Gefechts- und Erfahrungsberichte, besondere Vorkommnisse, Zustandsberichte.	Jun 21 - Nov 15, 1940	W 5869/5	1049	276
Ia, Anlagenbände 6 u. 7 z. KTB 3, Kriegsrangliste des Stabes und Verlustlisten.	Jun 5 - Nov 30, 1940	W 5869/7-8	1049	372
Ia, Anlagenband 8 z. KTB 3, Gefechts- und Verpflegungsstärken.	Aug 1 - Nov 20, 1940	W 5869/9	1049	384
Ia, Anlagenband 9 z. KTB 3, Ausbildung, Organisation.	Jul 5 - Oct 4, 1940	W 5869/10	1049	542
Ia, Anlagenband 10 z. KTB 3, Tagesbefehle: Einsatz Paris.	Jul 27 - Dec 6, 1940	W 5869/11*	1049	769

* Item damaged by fire.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ic, Tätigkeitsberichte mit Anlagen. Occupation and coastal security duty in France, British air raids over France, information on a French internment camp for Jews and other so-called undesirable persons, and troop ideological indoctrination.	Jul 14 - Sep 30, 1940	W 5869/13	2348	1
Ic, Tätigkeitsbericht mit Anlagen. Intelligence reports concerning the control of the population of Paris and attitude of the French population, German propaganda, counterintelligence, and troop entertainment.	Oct 1 - Nov 30, 1940	W 5869/14	1049	841
Ia, Anlagen z. KTB 3. Afteraction reports, training directives, and instruction pamphlets relating to Operation "Seelöwe" (planned invasion of England).	Aug 14 - Sep 16, 1940	W 5967/1	1049	876
Ia, Anlagen z. KTB 3. Directives and orders concerning amphibious landings.	Jul 13 - Sep 16, 1940	W 5967/3	1049	1114
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 4. Transfer of the division from Belfort, France, to Dragasani, Rumania, via Kolmar, Freiburg, Ulm, Munich, Salzburg, Graz, Budapest, Arad, and Hermanstadt (Sibiu) for the protection of Antonescu's government; march movements across Bulgaria from Turnu Magurele, Rumania, via Nikopol, Gorna Dzhumaya, and Nevrokop to the Greek border near Petrich in February and March; offensives in the Kato Neurokopian, Drama (Drabescus), and Kavalla areas; and transfer from Elevationopolis and Kavalla across Bulgaria to central Rumania in the latter part of May. The division was subordinate to the XXX. A.K., XVIII. Geb.K., and AOK 12, successively.	Jan 14 - May 20, 1941	12110/1	1049	1194
Ia, Anlagenband 1 z. KTB 4, Kriegsgliederungen.	Jan 1 - May 8, 1941	12110/2	1049	1337
Ia, Anlagenband 3 z. KTB 4, Operationsakten. Corps and division orders concerning the Balkan campaign.	Jan 21 - May 19, 1941	12110/4	1050	1
Ia, Anlagenband 3a z. KTB 4, Eingegangene Funk- und Fernsprüche.	Apr 5 - May 6, 1941	12110/5	1050	380
Ia, Anlagenband 3b z. KTB 4, Abgegangene Funk- und Fernsprüche.	Apr 6 - 28, 1941	12110/6	1050	583
Ia, Anlagenband 4 z. KTB 4, Gefechts- und Erfahrungsberichte, Zustandsberichte, Karten.	Mar - May 1941	12110/7	1050	696
Ia, Anlagenband 6 z. KTB 4, Kriegsranngliste.	Dec 1, 1940 - May 20, 1941	12110/9	1050	782

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Ia, Anlagenband 7 z. KTB 4, Verlustlisten.	Jan 14 - May 4, 1941	12110/10	1050	806
Ia, Anlagenband 8 z. KTB 4, Gefechts- und Verpflegungsstärken.	Feb 1 - May 11, 1941	12110/11	1050	813
Ia, Anlagenband 9 z. KTB 4; Tätigkeitsbericht v.P. (vorausbefördertes Personal) 22.12.40-21.1.41, Beilagen Rumänien, Verkehrsregelung.	Dec 22, 1940 - Jan 25, 1941	12110/12	1050	838
Ia, Anlagenband 10 z. KTB 4, Tagesbefehle.	Feb 24 - May 25, 1941	12110/13	1050	889
Ic, Tätigkeitsbericht mit Anlagen. The enemy military situation and the attitude of the Rumanian population; intelligence bulletins, directives concerning troop conduct in Rumania, propaganda matters, and security regulations.	Jan 14 - Feb 15, 1941	12110/14	1050	922
Ic, Anlagen z. TB, Feindaufklärung, Berichte des Drahtaufklärungstrupps und Funkaufklärungstrupps und Berichte über Strassen u. Brücken im Feindgebiet und Bodenaufklärung.	Mar 15 - Apr 6, 1941	12110/17	1050	967
Ia, Anlagenband 1 z. KTB 5. Afteraction, situation, status, and strength reports, order of battle charts, information about Russia and the attitude of the troops toward the Russians, and miscellaneous correspondence.	May 21, 1941 - Feb 15, 1942	16305/1	1050	1120
Ia, Anlagenband 2a z. KTB 5, Operationsakten. Corps and division orders and intelligence bulletins concerning enemy military situation and unit identification.	May 21 - Sep 28, 1941	16305/2	1051	1
Ia, Anlagenband 2b z. KTB 5, Operationsakten. Tactical orders, artillery fire plans, target charts, telegraphic messages, and plans for defensive operations.	Oct 1, 1941 - Feb 15, 1942	16305/3	1051	585
Ia, Anlagenbände 4a-b z. KTB 5, Eingehende Meldungen.	Jul 15, 1941 - Feb 15, 1942	16305/4-5	1052	1
Ia, Anlagenband 5a, Hefte 1-3 z. KTB 5, Eingehende Fern- und Funksprüche.	Jul 10 - Dec 31, 1941	16305/6- 16305/8	1052- 1053	968, 566
Ia, Anlagenband 5b, Hefte 1-2 z. KTB 5, Abgehende Fern- und Funksprüche.	Jul 12 - Dec 31, 1941	16305/9-10	1054	1

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Ia, Ic, Anlagenband 6 z. KTB 5, Ic Meldungen, Feindnachrichtenblätter und Ia Anlage: Kampf unserer Division in Griechenland.	Jul 12, 1941 - Feb 15, 1942	16305/11	1054	1004
Ic, Anlagenband 8 z. KTB 5, Abwehr, Geistige Betreuung d. Truppe, Feindpropaganda.	May 3, 1941 - Feb 15, 1942	16305/12	1054	1782
Ia, Ic, Anlagenband 9 z. KTB 5, Partisanen. Reports and radio messages, with overlays, relating to partisan activities and antipartisan warfare in the southern sector of the eastern front; partisan propaganda leaflets, and summaries of interrogations of captured partisans.	Aug 19, 1941 - Feb 15, 1942	16305/13	2348	56
Ic, Anlagenband 10 z. KTB 5, Propagandaberichte der unterstellten Wortberichter der Propagandakompanie 649.	Jul 17 - Nov 17, 1941	16305/14	1055	1
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 5. Transfer of the division from Kavalla via Komotina, Khaskovo, Türnevo, Ruse, Giurgiu, Ploesti, and Jassy to Kishinev; crossing of the Dniester River into Russia near Grigoriopol in July; advance via Nikolayev, Kherson, and Melitopol to the Mariupol area; withdrawal in October to Armyansk; move southward into the Crimea, capture of Simferopol on November 2; advance to the southern coast near Alupka; and the battle for Sevastopol in the Balaklava area at the end of November. The division was subordinate to AOK 12 and 11 and the LIV. and XXX. A.K. at various times during this period under the command of Gen.Lt. Franz Mattenklott until Dec 6, 1941, and of Gen.Lt. Philip Müller-Gebhard, Dec 6, 1941 - Feb 16, 1943, and May 5 - Nov 1, 1943. For the period from Feb 17 to May 4, 1943 he was OKH Führer Reserve.	May 21, 1941 - Feb 15, 1942	16604/1	1055	227
Ia, Ic, Anlagenband 7 z. KTB 5. A short narrative account, with overlays, covering the capture of fortified positions in the Stalin Line in the Dniester River area. Translations of captured enemy orders, summaries of interrogations of Russian prisoners of war, a fragment of a diary by a Russian officer, and maps showing tactical disposition of enemy forces in the Crimea.	Jul 12 - Nov 11, 1941	16604/3	2348	225
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 6. The battle for Sevastopol in the Balaklava area, its capture Jul 1, 1942, and the subsequent seizure of Cape Kherson. Information relating to Operation "Störfang" (the attack on Sevastopol). The division was subordinate to AOK 11 and the XXX. A.K.	Feb 16 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/1	1056	1

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Ia, Anlagenband 1 z. KTB 6, Kriegsgliederungen, Gefechts-, Zustands- u. Erfahrungsberichte, Gefangenen- u. Verpflegungsstärken, Erkundungen.	Feb 21 - Jul 1, 1942	21721/2	1056	343
Ia, Anlagenband 2a z. KTB 6, Operationsakten. Tactical orders, operations maps and charts, order of battle charts, enemy information, artillery fire plan, and telegraphic messages. Reports and orders concerning Operation "Störfang."	Feb 17 - Jul 3, 1942	21721/3a	1056	510
Ia, Anlagenband 2b z. KTB 6, Korps- und Divisionsbefehle.	Jan 28 - Jul 5, 1942	21721/3b	1057	1
Ia, Anlagenbände 4a-b, Hefte 1-3 z. KTB 6, Eingehende und ausgehende Tagesmeldungen.	Feb 16 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/5-7	1057	279
Ia, Anlagenband 4c, Heft 4 z. KTB 6, "Einsatz Sewastopol". Daily reports.	Jun 16 - Jul 6, 1942	21721/8	1058	1
Ia, Anlagenband 5a z. KTB 6, Eingehende Fern- und Funksprüche.	Jun 15 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/9	1058	153
Ia, Anlagenband 5b z. KTB 6, Abgehende Fern- und Funksprüche.	Feb 25 - Jul 7, 1942	21721/10	1058	304
Ic, Tätigkeitsbericht z. KTB 6. Activity report, interrogation summaries, and reconnaissance reports concerning enemy operations, propaganda, partisan warfare, and tactical situation in the Sevastopol area; counterintelligence and troop entertainment.	Feb 15 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/11	2348	418
Ic, Anlagenband 6 z. TB, a) Tägliche Meldungen.	Feb 16 - Jul 4, 1942	21721/12a	1058	419
Ic, Anlagenband 6 z. TB, b) Feindnachrichtenblätter, Völkerrechtsverletzungen.	Aug 6, 1941 - Jun 26, 1942	21721/12b	1058	663
Ic, Anlagenband 7 z. TB, b) Beute-Papiere. Captured enemy papers with German translations.	Apr 19 - May 23, 1942	21721/13b	1058	771
Ic, Anlagenband 7 z. TB, c) Nahaufklärungszug-Meldungen, Auswertberichte der Drahtaufklärung, Funkaufklärung während des Angriffes auf Sewastopol.	Feb 19 - Jul 1, 1942	21721/13c	1058	821
Ic, Anlagenband 7 z. TB, d) Gefangenenvernehmung.	Feb 17 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/13d	1059	1
Ic, Anlagenband 8 z. TB, a) Feindpropaganda.	Feb - Jun 1942	21721/14	1059	96

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Ic, Anlagenband 8 z. TB, Abwehr. Summaries of interrogation of suspected Russian agents and saboteurs.	Mar 24 - May 23, 1942	21721/15	2348	429
Ic, Anlagenband 9 z. TB, Partisanen. Reports and orders concerning antipartisan warfare.	Dec 24, 1941 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/17	1059	198
Ic, Anlagenband 10 z. TB, Propagandaberichte.	Feb 7 - Jun 21, 1942	21721/18	1059	369
Ic, Anlagenbände 10a-b z. TB, Erlebnisberichte.	Jul 12, 1941 - Feb 26, 1942	21721/19- 21721/20	1059	452
Ic, Anlagen z. TB, Zustandsberichte der 72. Inf.Div. und Einheiten.	Mar - Jul 1942	21721/21	1060	1
Ic, Anlagen z. TB, Zustandsberichte über tatarische Freiwillige.	Jan 9 - May 31, 1942	21721/22	1060	72
Ib, Kriegstagebuch 6; Feldgend.-Trupp 172, IVb, IVc, Feldpostamt 172, Tätigkeitsberichte. Supply operations, administration, and situation. Activity reports of the Military Police, the Medical, Veterinary, and Postal Officers.	Feb 16 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/24	2373*	1
Kdt.d.St.Qu., Tätigkeitsbericht. Administrative matters relating to division operations along the southern Crimean coast and in the Sychevka-Zubtsov area in the latter part of August.	Feb 15 - Jul 2, 1942	21721/28	2373*	2
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 7. Operations during coastal defense in the Balaklava-Yalta area; transfer to Sychevka in the central sector via Zaporozhe, Poltava, Romodan, Gomel, Mogilev, Orsha, Smolensk, and Vyazma during the second half of August, and defensives in the Sychevka-Zubtsov area. The division was subordinate to the XXX. and LIV. A.K., AOK 11 and 9, and the XXVIII. A.K., successively.	Jul 3 - Dec 31, 1942	31307/1	1060	152
Ia, Anlagenband 1a z. KTB 7, Kriegsgliederungen, Zustandsberichte, Ausbildung, Erkundungen, Gefangenen- und Verpflegungsstärken, Gefechtsberichte.	Jul 3 - Dec 31, 1942	31307/2	1060	439
Ia, Anlagenband 1a z. KTB 7, Erfahrungsberichte.	Jul 9 - Dec 31, 1942	31307/3	1060	714

* The record items reproduced on this roll (filmed originally on MR 1534 without frame numbers) have been assigned consecutive simulated initial frame numbers and a new roll number in this microcopy.

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Ia, Anlagenband 2 z. KTB 7, Korps- und Divisionsbefehle.	Jul 6 - Dec 30, 1942	31307/4	1060	1038
Ia, Anlagenband 2a z. KTB 7, Operationsakten. Tactical orders and directives, requests for relief and replacement of units, and reports concerning reconnaissance, enemy intelligence, and security measures.	Jan 18 - Sep 30, 1942	31307/5	1061	1
Ia, Anlagenband 2b z. KTB 7, Operationsakten. Status and strength reports; reports on organization, formation of new units, and antitank defense.	Oct 1 - Nov 1, 1942	31307/6	1061	321
Ia, Anlagenband 2c z. KTB 7, Operationsakten. Situation reports; orders and reports concerning the formation of reserve units, communications, preparation for defense against an expected Russian offensive, and reconnaissance; and artillery target charts.	Nov 2 - Dec 30, 1942	31307/7	1061	626
Ia, Anlagenband 4a z. KTB 7, Meldungen - Ausgänge. Daily reports to the XXVII.A.K.	Jul 3 - Dec 31, 1942	31307/10	1061	924
Ia, Anlagenband 4b z. KTB 7, Meldungen - Eingänge. Daily reports from subordinate units.	Sep 10 - Dec 31, 1942	31307/11	1062	1
Ic, Tätigkeitsbericht mit Anlagen als Anlagenband 6 z. KTB 7, Meldungen, Feindnachrichtenblätter. Intelligence and reconnaissance reports and bulletins and summaries of interrogations concerning enemy operations, movements, unit identification, losses of men, probable intentions, partisan warfare, propaganda, and tactical situation; counterintelligence and troop entertainment.	Jul 7, 1942 - Jan 1, 1943	31307/13	1062	411
Ic, Anlagenband 1 z. TB als Anlagenband 7 z. KTB 7, Feindlageskizzen, Beutepapiere (fehlen), N.A.Z. (Nachrichtenzug) Meldungen, Gefangenenerkenntnisse.	Sep 10 - Dec 26, 1942	31307/14	1062	648
Ic, Anlagenband 2 z. TB als Anlagenband 8, Feindpropaganda, Abwehr, Geistige Betreuung d. Truppe; Anlagenband 9, Partisanen; Anlagenband 10, Propagandaberichte; Anlagenband 10a, Erlebnisberichte, z. KTB 7.	Jul 12, 1942 - Jan 7, 1943	31307/15	1062	845