

The 86. Infanterie-Division (5. Welle) was formed from reservists on August 28, 1939, in Wehrkreis VI. It was transferred in September to the French border between the Saar and Moselle Rivers for border security duties and in January 1940 to the Truppenübungsplatz Grafenwöhr for training. The division entrained in April 1940 in Nürnberg for movement to the Luxembourg border south of Trier, and after May 10, 1940, it marched through Luxembourg and southeastern Belgium to Sedan, France, participating in offensive operations along the Aisne River from Rethel to the Besancon area. After cessation of hostilities it moved to the Blois and Bourges areas for occupation duties. Between June 20 and 27, 1941, the division was ordered to the Gumbinnen (Gusev) area in East Prussia and fought in the Russian campaign

in the central sector, advancing east to Kaunas, Polotsk, Gorodok, Vitebsk, Smolensk, and Kalinin on the Volga River. It withdrew to the Rzhev area during the winter of 1941-42 and was continuously engaged in defensive battles southwest of Rzhev and north-east of Bely between the Obsha and Luchesa Rivers until the end of 1942. Although no records of the division dated later than December 31, 1942, are available, situation maps of Lage Ost show that it participated in defensive actions in the Bely area from January to March 1943, in the Ponyri area from April to July, and in the Sevsk area in August. The division was reformed as a Kampfgruppe and defended the Starodub area in September, the Chernigov area in October, and the Mozyr area in November 1943, when it was probably destroyed.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ia, Anlagen z. KTB 1. Corps and division orders, afteraction reports of subordinate units about activities along the French border between the Saar and Moselle Rivers, lists of casualties, and order of battle charts. The division was subordinate to the XXIII. A.K. during this period under the command of Gen.Maj. Joachim Hans Herbert Witthöft from Aug 28, 1939, until Jan 11, 1942. /The National Archives did not have Kriegstagebuch 1, Item No. W 487a.7	Sep 16 - Oct 17, 1939	W 487f	1132	1
Ia, Anlagenband 1 z. KTB 2, Operationsakten. Corps and division orders and reports concerning the march to Mainz in Jan 1940 and entraining for Regensburg for training at Grafenwöhr, maps, overlays, and aerial photographs. The division was subordinate to the XLII. A.K. during this period. /The National Archives did not have Kriegstagebuch 2, Item No. W 3654a.7	Jan 7 - May 3, 1940	W 3654b	1132	129
Ia, Anlagenband 2 z. KTB 2, Operationsakten. Army directives, division orders, reports, and messages concerning entraining in Nürnberg in Apr 1940 for movement to Türkismühle near the French border; and reports and messages of subordinate units on march through Luxembourg and on offensive operations in Velosnes, France; order of battle charts; and maps and overlays. The division was subordinate to the XVII. A.K. during this period.	Mar 20 - Jul 7, 1940	W 3654c	1132	328

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ia, Anlagenband 4 z. KTB 2, Divisionsbefehle. Division orders concerning the march from Trier through Luxembourg and the southeastern tip of Belgium to Sedan, France, and offensive operations north of Rethel on the Aisne River to the Besancon area. The division was subordinate to the XIII., XVII., and XXIII. A.K. during this period.	May 9 - Jun 23, 1940	W 3654e	1132	487
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 3. Entraining in the Départements Loir-et-Cher and Cher for movement to East Prussia on Jun 20-27, 1941, to participate in the Russian campaign, in the central sector on the Lithuanian border, and offensive operations east through Kaunas, Polotsk, and Gorodok to the Smolensk area. The division was subordinate to the L. and XXIII. A.K., AOK 9, VIII. and XXVII. A.K., AOK 9, and XXVII. A.K., successively during this period.	Jun 20 - Nov 22, 1941	15964/1	2353	1
Ia, Anlagenband 1 z. KTB 3, Tagesmeldungen, Kriegsgliederungen.	Jun 23 - Nov 20, 1941	15964/2	1133	1
Ia, Anlagenbände 4-5 z. KTB 3, Divisionsbefehle. Division orders and overlays of march route.	Jun 24 - Nov 18, 1941	15964/5-6	1133	180
Ia, Anlagenband 6 z. KTB 3, Durchbruch durch die Stalinlinie und die Einnahme von Polozk. Afteraction reports concerning the breakthrough northeast of Polotsk and capture of the city.	Jul 13 - 15, 1941	15964/7	1133	563
Ia, Anlagenband 7 z. KTB 3, Kämpfe bei Welikiye-Luki. Afteraction reports concerning the battles in the vicinity of Velikiye Luki.	Jul 26 - Aug 15, 1941	15964/8	1133	667
Ia, Anlagenband 8 z. KTB 3. Reports and messages of subordinate units pertaining to combat engagements in the Velikiye Luki area.	Aug 16 - 31, 1941	15964/9	2353	64
Ia, Anlagenband 9 z. KTB 3, Unternehmen "Wintersturm". Corps directives and orders, and division orders, reports, and messages concerning "Unternehmen Wintersturm" (offensives between Kalinin and Klin on the Volga River).	Nov 15 - 17, 1941	15964/10	1134	1
Ic, Tätigkeitsbericht als Anlagenband 10 z. KTB 3. Advance from East Prussia to Disna, Polotsk, Velikiye Luki, Dnieper River, and south of Kalinin; partisan activities; enemy situation maps and overlays; and aerial photographs.	Jun 28 - Nov 20, 1941	15964/11	1134	153

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ib, Anlagenband 1 als Anlagenband 12 z. KTB 3. Reports of the Supply Branch concerning the transfer of the division to Gumbinnen (Gusev), Vilna, Polotsk, and Velikiye Luki; the supply situation; and prisoner-of-war statistics. (The record items reproduced on this roll, filmed originally on MR 1416 without frame numbers, have been assigned consecutive simulated initial frame numbers and a new roll number in this microfilm publication.)	Jun 19 - Aug 31, 1941	15964/13	2374	1
Ib, Anlagenband 1 als Anlagenband 14 z. KTB 3, Befehle, Meldungen. Special orders and reports of the Supply Branch. (The record items reproduced on this roll, filmed originally on MR 1416 and MR 1441 without frame numbers, have been assigned consecutive simulated initial frame numbers and a new roll number in this microfilm publication.)	Jun 15 - Aug 17, 1941	15964/15	2374	2
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 4. Offensive operations southeast of Kalinin along the lake formed by the Volga Dam, retreat to Rzhev, and defensive actions between Rzhev and Sychevka. The division was subordinate to the XXVII., VI., XLVI., and XXVII. A.K., successively, under the commands of Gen.Lt. Witthöft and Gen.Maj. Helmuth Weidling from Jan 3, 1942, to Oct 15, 1943.	Nov 21, 1941 - Apr 15, 1942	22182/1	1134	214
Ia, Anlagenband 1 z. KTB 4, Divisionsbefehle. Division orders, reports, and messages.	Nov 19, 1941 - Apr 13, 1942	22182/2	1134	325
Ia, Anlagenband 3 z. KTB 4, Tagesmeldungen. Daily reports and messages of subordinate units, and maps.	Nov 21, 1941 - Apr 15, 1942	22182/4	1134	647
Ia, Anlagenbände 4-7 z. KTB 4, Arme- und Korpsbefehle 1. u. 2. Teil. Army, corps, and division orders, reports, and messages.	Nov 16, 1941 - Apr 15, 1942	22182/5-8	1135	1
Ia, Anlagenband 8 z. KTB 4. Reports on ammunition used and on hand, combat and ration strength reports, and afteraction reports and critiques.	Nov 18, 1941 - Apr 15, 1942	22182/9	1136	1
Ic, Tätigkeitsbericht als Anlagenband 9 z. KTB 4. Weekly activity reports relating to combat along the Volga River, intercepted enemy radio messages, interrogation summaries of Russian agents, and situation maps showing positions of enemy units.	Nov 20, 1941 - Apr 15, 1942	22182/10	2353	293

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Roll</u>	<u>1st Frame</u>
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 5. Various small-scale defensive operations by subordinate units in the area southwest and northwest of Rzhev, lists of officers' duty assignments and casualties, and combat and ration strength reports. The division was subordinate to the XXVII. A.K., XLVI. Pz.K., and the XXIII. A.K. during this period.	Apr 16 - Sep 30, 1942	25122/1	1136	313
Ia, Anlagenbände 3-4 z. KTB 5, Tagesmeldungen I u. II. Daily reports and messages of subordinate units.	Apr 16 - Sep 30, 1942	25122/4-5	1136	419
Ia, Anlagenband 5 z. KTB 5, Gefechtsstärken, Zustandsberichte.	Apr 30 - Sep 26, 1942	25122/6	1136	1139
Ia, Anlagenband 6 z. KTB 5, Erfahrungs- und Gefechtsberichte. Afteraction reports and critiques of subordinate units, and overlays.	Apr 22 - Sep 28, 1942	25122/7	1137	1
Ia, Anlagenbände 7-11 z. KTB 5, Divisionsbefehle. Corps and division orders and reports and messages concerning various small-scale defensive operations by subordinate units; including overlays and order of battle charts.	Apr 17 - Sep 30, 1942	25122/8-12	1137	177
Ic, Tätigkeitsbericht als Anlagenband 12 z. KTB 5. Activity reports concerning the enemy situation on the frontline, amount of captured enemy equipment and number of prisoners of war, enemy propaganda, interrogation summaries of prisoners of war and deserters, division orders, and maps and overlays.	Apr 16 - Sep 30, 1942	25122/13	1137	919
Ic, Anlagenband z. TB als Anlagenband 13 z. KTB 5, Ergebnisse des N.A.Z. (Nahaufklärungszug) und des Peilzuges. Reports and messages of division signal communications, and intercepted enemy radio messages.	Apr 17 - Sep 30, 1942	25122/14	1137	1105
IIa, Anlagen z. TB als Anlagenband 15 z. KTB 5, Befehle der Division. Division orders pertaining to promotions, awards and decorations, assignments, transfers, training, leave, courts-martial, and other personnel matters.	Apr 16 - Sep 30, 1942	25122/16	1138	1
Ia, Kriegstagebuch 6. Defensive actions in the area northeast of Bely between the Obscha and Luchesa Rivers. The division was subordinate to the XXIII. A.K., XLI. Pz.K., and the XXIII. A.K., successively, during this period.	Oct 1 - Dec 31, 1942	37612/1	1138	180
Ia, Anlagenbände 2-6 z. KTB 6, Divisionsbefehle. Army, corps, and division orders and directives concerning training for winter warfare and antitank defense, reports and messages, order of battle charts, and overlays.	Mar 6 - Dec 30, 1942	37612/3-7	1138	580