

## 17. SS PANZER-GRENADIER-DIVISION "GOETZ von BERLICHINGEN" - UNIT HISTORY

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1943/11/15	Saumur, Bressuire, Parthenay, Poitiers, Chatellerault, France	Activation of 17. SS PzGrD "Goetz von Berlichingen" (source: T175, roll 108, frame 2631358)	C.O.: SS Oberfuehrer Werner Ostendorff, 1943/11/15-1944/12/00 Subordinate to: SS-FHA
1944/02/01	Stechowice, Davle, Vlatava (Moldau) River, Czechoslovakia Saumur, France	Transfer of Pi.Btl. 15 and 17/SS PzGr Rgt. 37 and 38 Formation, training	AOK 1; AK 84
1944/04/02	Thouars, Candes-Saint-Martin, Sables, Saint-Jean-de-Monts, Notre-Dame-de-Monts	Training, equipping, construction of coastal defense	
1944/06/06	Thouars	Alert, Normandy Invasion, assembly, movement, defensive operations	C.O.: SS Standartenfuehrer Otto Baum (m.d.F.b.), 1944/06/18
1944/07/06	Foret de Saint-Sever, Tribehou, Lozon, Saint-Lo, Le Mesnil-Vigot, Gournay	Defensive operations, destruction of bridges	
1944/07/19	La Chaussee, Cerisy-la-Salle, Saint-Denis-le-Gast, Savigny	Demolition activities, retreat, combat operations	
1944/08/01	Saint-Germain, Saint-Sauveur, Mortain, Viere, Dreux, La Fay, Saint-Leu-la-Foret	Retreat, defensive operations	Subordinate to: AK 47 Pz AK 80
1944/08/18	Metz Brissard, Eure River, Montreuil, Tilloy-et-Bellay, Orne River, Gravelotte	Rehabilitation of part of units, defensive operations, formation of Kampfgruppen	
1944/08/20	Chambois, Argentan, Falaise	Breakthrough of encirclement	
1944/08/29	Rouen, Verdun, Metz, Dillingen	Rehabilitation, reorganization, training, construction of defensive positions	C.O.: SS Standartenfuehrer Eduard Deisenhofer (m.d.F.b.), 1944/08/30

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1944/11/25	Saint-Avold, Ars-Laquenexy, Sarreguemines (Saargemuend), Farebersviller, Seinghouse, Assweiler, Grossbliedersdorf	Reconnaissance and combat operations, retreat	SS Standartenfuehrer Hans Lingner, 1944/12/00
1945/01/16	Saarbruecken, Zweibruecken, Hornbach, Reifenberg, Herschberg	Transfer	SS Standartenfuehrer Fritz Klingenberg, 1944/01/00 Subordinate to: AOK 1 AK 13
1945/02/17	Dollenbach, Urbach, Buchenbusch, Saarpfalz, Bliesdalheim	Retreat	
1945/03/15	Saarbruecken, Pirmasens, Reinheim	Source: Situation maps Lage Reich	C.O.: SS Oberfuehrer Georg Bochmann, 1945/03/30
1945/04/30	Bichl, Starnberger See (Wuerm See), Bad Toelz, south of Munich		
1945/05/04	Haag, Muehldorf/Inn, east of Munich (Muenchen)	Last trace on situation map	

Records of the 17. SS Panzer-Grenadier-Division "Goetz von Berlichingen" are reproduced on rolls 156-160 of NARS Microfilm Publication T354, listed in guide No. 27, p. 7-8, and described following the unit history.

Manuscripts in the Foreign Military Studies series, prepared by former German officers for the Historical Division, Headquarters U.S. Army, Europe, between 1945 and 1959, contain references to the 17. SS Panzer-Grenadier-Division "Goetz von Berlichingen" as follows:

- MS A-999 (Army Group G, 20 Sep-3 Dec 1944, Chapter 1: Preparations for a Defensive Stand in Lorraine and Vosges; Chapter 2: Strengthening the Defensive Front; Chapter 3 (MS A-1000): Combat for Metz and the Saverne Gap; Chapter 4 (MS B-078): Large-scale Attacks in Lorraine and The Vosges; Annex (MS B-018): FFI Operations - Southern France and Lorraine) by Generalmajor Friedrich von Mellenthin and others
- MS C-010 (347. Infanterie-Division, Lorraine and the Palatinate, 15 Nov 1944-24 Mar 1945) by Gen.Lt. Wolf Trierenberg
- MS C-023 (Report on the Rheinland and Southern Germany Campaigns; XIII. SS Corps in Lorraine between Metz and Saarbruecken, 16 Nov-27 Dec 1944) by Gen.Lt. Max Simon
- MS C-039 (Comment on the Report of 20 November 1947 on Operation "Nordwind" ("Sylvester-Offensive")) by Gen.Lt. Max Simon
- MS B-751 (Engagements of AOK 1, A Critical Survey of Events, 7 Nov-4 Dec 1944) by Oberst Willy Manthey
- MS B-780 (Bericht ueber die Kaempfe des XIII. SS AK in Lothringen in der Zeit vom 8. November 1944 bis 12. Januar 1945, Beteiligung des Korps an Operation "Nordwind") by Oberst Kurt von Einem
- MS P-165 (17. SS Panzer-Grenadier-Division "Goetz von Berlichingen", Juni bis September 1944) by Kurt Hallwachs.

## 17. SS PANZER-GRENADIER-DIVISION "GOETZ VON BERLICHINGEN"

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, Ic, III, Dienstweisungen, Meldungen, Beurteilungen, Vernehmungen. Guard duty and patrol assignments, intelligence service, interrogations, and disciplinary matters.	1943/12/17-1944/05/30	17.S3 PzGrD GvB 78019/1	156	3800548
Ia, KTB Nr. 1 mit Anlagen des SS Pionier-Bataillon 17 "Goetz von Berlichingen." War journal, 1 Feb-31 Aug 1944, concerning the change of command and the formation and training of the SS Pi.Btl. 17 and 15/SS Pz.Gr.Rgt. 37 and 38 in the Stechowice (Stiechowitz) and Davle areas on the Vltava (Moldau) River, Bohemia, Czechoslovakia, 1 Feb-25 Mar 1944; transfer to Saumur, France, 26 Mar-1 Apr; training, alert exercises, and movement to and construction of coastal defense in the Candes-Saint-Martin, Saint-Jean-de-Monts, Sables, Notre-Dame-de-Monts, and Thouars areas, 2 Apr-5 Jun; alert, Allied invasion, assembly, movements, heavy enemy air attacks, construction and destruction of bridges, and defensive operations in the Thouars, Loire River, Foret de Saint-Sever, Tribehou, Le Mesnil-Angot, Gournay, Le Hommet-d'Arthenay, Lozon, Saint-Lo, Le Mesnil-Vigot areas, 6 Jun-17 Jul; regrouping, 18-19 Jul; combat operations, retreat and demolition activities in the Marchesieux, Champeaux, La Chaussee, Savigny, Cerisy-la-Salle, Ouille, Saint-Denis-le-Gast areas, 20-31 Jul, and in the Dreux, Saint-Germain, Dompierre, Brissard, Saint-Sauveur, La Fay, Saint-Leu-la-Forêt areas, 1-18 Aug; rehabilitation for part of units in the Metz area, 18 Aug; continued heavy combat operations of Kampfgruppe 17, Fick, Braune, Ullrich, and others in the Viere, Mortain, Putanges, Tilloy-et-Bellay, Montreuil, and Orne River areas; and breakthrough from enemy encirclement in Chambois between Argentan and Falaise, 20 Aug, movement to the	1944/02/01-1945/03/18	17.S3 PzGrD GvB 78019/2	156	3800635

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Verdun, Metz, and Dillingen areas for reorganization and rehabilitation, 23-30 Aug. Also includes a register of officers, status and strength reports, afteraction reports, casualty lists, Aug 1944; and AK 13 orders on the assignment of L.S. Polizisten and seizure of dispersed elements of the division, 13-18 Mar 1945.				
Ia, KTB Nr. 1 mit Anlagen des SS Pionier-Bataillon 17 "Goetz von Berlichingen." This war journal (and its appendixes) is a copy of record item 78019/2.	1944/02/01-1944/08/31	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/3	156	3800885
Ia, Tagesmeldungen und Skizzen des SS Pionier-Bataillon 17/SS Pz.Gr.Rgt. 38. Daily construction reports, tables, and sketches pertaining to the various types of fortifications, the laying of mine fields, and training in the Metz area. (These documents are damaged.)	1944/10/17-1944/11/05	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/4	156	3801117
Ia, IIa/b, III, IVb, Meldungen, Befehle, Anordnungen. Orders, reports, and directives pertaining to training, the formation of new units, disciplinary matters, decorations for SS personnel, medical service, and assignments and transfers of SS personnel, including the transfer of Division Commander Ostendorff. Also casualty and strength reports.	1944/08/13-1945/01/15	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/5	157	3801305
Ic, VI, Weltanschauliche Schulung, Mitteilung fuer das Offizierkorps, Nachrichten des Oberkommandos der Wehrmacht. Publications, reports, and instructions pertaining to troop indoctrination.	1944/01/28-1944/10/14	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/6	157	3802013
Ia, III, Befehle ueber Aufstellung und Ausbildung eines Strafvollstreckungszuges. Orders relating to the formation and training of SS penal units and the activities of a military provost court.	1944/10/22-1944/11/01	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/7	157	3802281
Ia, Ib, IIa/b, III, IVa, IVb, VI, Befehle, Meldungen, Anordnungen. Orders, reports, directives, and teletype messages pertaining to training, alert against parachutists, assignments and promotions, troop	1944/02/02-1944/12/01	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/8	157	3802289

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
indoctrination, military security, medical service; disciplinary, administrative, supply, and motor transport matters, 2 Feb-19 Jul; and defensive operations in the Saint-Avold and Sarreguemines (Saargemuend) areas, 25 Nov-1 Dec 1944.				
Ia, IIa/b, Ausbildungsrichtlinien und Bemerkungen. Training directives and reports relating to personnel matters for the period 22 Dec 1943-20 May 1944 and 9 Nov 1944.	1943/12/22-1944/11/09	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/9	157	3802582
V, Kraftfahrzeug (KFZ) Bestandsmeldungen. Formation of a motor vehicle section and inventories of vehicles.	1944/02/24-1944/04/24	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/10	158	3802612
III, Strafbuch. Penal records of SS personnel and directives of RFSS concerning the military penal system.	1944/02/21-1944/02/24	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/11	158	3802636
Ia, IIa/b, Tagesmeldungen und Staerkemeldungen. Daily reports concerning reconnaissance and combat operations in the Ars-Laquenexy, Saint-Avold, and Sarreguemines (Saargemuend) areas and strength reports, Nov 1944; also certificates of acceptance into the Waffen-SS.	1944/04/03-1944/12/04	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/12	158	3802658
Ia, Ib, IIa/b, Befehle, Anordnungen. Orders and directives pertaining to training, personnel matters, the formation of a combat group, methods of reporting the status of personnel strength, weapons and ammunition, and supply operations.	1944/03/06-1944/12/03	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/13	158	3802752
Ia, III, IVa, Meldungen. Reports pertaining to enemy booty taken (American rations); an investigation of destroyed American tanks in the Vaucremont area, Nov 1944; medical and disciplinary matters; and a pamphlet on training exercises.	1944/03/10-1944/12/01	17.SSPz3rD GvB 78019/14	158	3802799
V, Kraftfahrzeug (KFZ) Meldungen. Inventories of available motor vehicles and reports on various motor vehicle matters.	1944/01/28-1944/08/08	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/15	158	3802815
IVb, Meldungen und Anordnungen. Reports and directives concerning medical service.	1944/01/07-1944/02/06	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/16	158	3802902
Ia, IIa/b, III, Gefechtsberichte, Meldungen und	1944/01/17-1944/11/06	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/17	158	3802924

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Vernehmungen. Orders and reports pertaining to the movement to and combat operations in the Retonfey, Ars-Laquenexy, Pange, Metz, Corningen, Gaudach, and Mosel River areas, 5 Sep-6 Nov 1944; also correspondence and interrogations on personnel and disciplinary matters, 17 Jan-22 Jun 1944.				
Ia, V, Divisions- und Tagesbefehle, Fernsprueche, Skizzen. Orders, reports, radio messages, and sketches pertaining to the movement to the area east of Metz, 21-22 Nov; defensive operations, artillery activity, counterattacks, construction of defensive positions, and regrouping in the Vahl-Ebersing, La Valette, Saint-Avold, Farebersviller, Seingbouse, Assweiler, and Grossbliedersdorf areas, 25 Nov-2 Dec 1944. Also a report on the status of motor vehicles and a list of code names.	1944/11/21-1944/12/02	17. SSPzGrD GvB 78019/18	158	3802983
IVa, Befehle, Meldungen und Geldabrechnungsnachweise. Orders, reports, and tables pertaining to administrative operations in the Ayrion, La Ferriere, and Chalandray areas.	1944/01/30-1944/07/13	17. SSPzGrD GvB 78019/19	158	3803083
Ib, V, Kriegsgliederung, Kraftfahrzeug Bestandsmeldungen. Reports on the status of motor vehicles and the expenditure of motor fuel, an order-of-battle chart, and tables showing army postal numbers (Feldpostnummern).	1944/06/06-1944/07/14	17. SSPzGrD GvB 78019/20	158	3803129
Ia, IIa/b, III, Strafsachen, Meldungen. Excerpts of penal records, evaluations, and interrogations concerning disciplinary matters; also reports relating to troop entertainment and the construction of fortified positions. The period 31 May-14 Sep 1944 is not included in this document.	1943/11/26-1944/09/16	17. SSPzGrD GvB 78019/21	158	3803239
Ia, Ib, IIa/b, Regiments- und Tagesbefehle. Orders pertaining to training, administrative operations, personnel, and supply matters.	1943/12/29-1944/06/24	17. SSPzGrD GvB 78019/22	158	3803390
IVa, III, Kriegsbesoldung, Stellenbesetzung der	1943/12/18-1944/07/20	17. SSPzGrD GvB 78019/23	158	3803505

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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Verwaltungen, Strafverfuegungen. Reports concerning military pay and allowances, administrative job assignments, and indictments of SS personnel relating to pay.				
Ia, Ic, IIa/b, IVa, Regimentsbefehle, Anweisungen, Kriegsurlaubsscheine. Orders and directives pertaining to training, military discipline and security, and the destruction of classified material; also administrative, postal, and intelligence matters. Includes SS personnel leave papers.	1943/12/30-1944/05/31	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/24	158	3803529
VI, Befehl fuer die weltanschauliche und politische Schulung. Order relating to political indoctrination.	1944/01/24-1944/03/19	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/25	158	3803695
Ia, IIa/b, III, Dienstplan, Strafsachen, Beurteilungen. Unit duty schedule, reports on court-martial cases, disciplinary actions, and personnel matters.	1944/01/06-1944/11/05	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/26	158	3803706
IIa/b, III, IVa, IVb, Meldungen und Anordnungen. Orders and reports concerning personnel, disciplinary and administrative matters, and medical service.	1944/01/12-1944/05/29	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/27	158	3803762
IIa/b, III, Strafpruefheft, Divisionsbefehl, Mitteilungen. Penal record review book, 28 Mar 1944; communication of the provost court (Feldgericht) on various judiciary matters, 25 Jan 1945; and division order concerning collections for the needy and heroic actions of various SS personnel during the encirclement by the 44th U.S. Div., 20 Feb 1945.	1944/03/28-1945/02/20	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/28	159	3803986
Ia, Ib, Ic, III, IIa/b, Divisions- und Tagesbefehle und Meldungen. Orders and reports pertaining to the donation of 1,300,000 RM for German citizens from the East, 20 Feb 1945; special supply directives, 6 Apr; communications of the provost court on the death sentences and executions of SS personnel on grounds of cowardice before the enemy and of deserters to the enemy, 23 Jan-23 Feb; lists of officer duty assignments (Kommandeurstellenbesetzungen), 14 Apr 1945; and a table of organization.	1945/01/05-1945/04/08	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/29	159	3804008

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, IIa/b, Ib, IVa, V, VI, Befehle. Orders relating to the transfer of units to Oberhausen, Reifenberg, and Herschberg, 16 Jan 1945; the relief of III/SS PzGr Rgt. 37 to the Dollenbach area; also supply, administrative, personnel, and grave registration matters.	1944/12/29-1945/03/02	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/30	159	3804075
Ia, IIa/b, IVa, IVb, V, Befehle und Meldungen. Orders and reports concerning the transfer of III. Btl. to the Zweibruecken area, 30 Dec 1944; rations, training, and medical service; and administrative, personnel, and motor transport matters.	1944/11/30-1945/02/21	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/31	159	3804119
Ia, Ic, IIa/b, III, IVb, V, VI, Befehle und Meldungen. Orders and reports pertaining to reformation of the SS PzGr Rgt. 38 from the SS PzGr Lehr Rgt., 30 Dec 1944; control of the civilian population; troop indoctrination; medical service; personnel, disciplinary, and motor transport matters; also communications of the provost court on AWOL and deserted SS personnel.	1944/09/07-1945/03/01	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/32	159	3804152
Ia, IIa/b, Personalverfuegung, Staerkemeldung, Kriegsgliederung. Personnel transfer papers of SS Sturmabfuhrer Hans Lingner from the 10. SS PzD "Frundsberg" to the division, 1 Jun 1944; order-of-battle charts and strength report to AK 13, 31 Mar 1945; also a short evaluation on the status of the division by SS Oberfuhrer Bochmann and a commentary by AK 13, 4 Apr 1945.	1944/06/01-1945/04/04	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/33	159	3804244
IIa/b, Regiments- und Sonderbefehle. Orders concerning personnel matters.	1944/11/22-1945/04/11	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/34	159	3804251
IIa/b, Namentliche Kompanie Liste. Company roster of the 5./SS Pionier Btl. of the 17. SS PzGrD "Goetz von Berlichingen."	1944/11/17-1944/11/17	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/35	159	3804436
IIa/b, Kriegsstammrollen, Personalakten. Lists and personal data of SS personnel.	1943/02/00-1944/11/00	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/36	159	3804446
IIa/b, III, Beurteilungen, Strafverfuegungen.	1943/11/00-1944/06/00	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/37	159	3805026



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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Evaluations and reports pertaining to disciplinary and personnel matters.				
Ia, Staerke- und Verlustmeldungen. Strength and casualty reports.	1945/02/10-1945/02/16	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/38	159	3805236
Ia, IIA/b, III, V, Befehle, Merkblatt. Orders relating to tactical operations and the activation of a penal unit. Also a list of motor transport technical personnel.	1944/01/28-1944/08/23	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/39	159	3805248
Ia, IIA/b, Dienstanweisungen, Personalakten. Regulations for guard duty, reports, and list on the granting of decorations, assignments, and the transfer of personnel.	1944/11/22-1945/01/30	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/40	159	3805269
Ia, Divisionssonderbefehl Nr. 37. Division order pertaining to supply matters for detached subordinated (Splittereinheiten) units.	1944/11/30-1944/11/30	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/41	159	3805289
Ia, IVA, V, Versorgungs- und Abrechnungsnachweis, Bewirtschaftung der Besatzungskosten in Frankreich, Meldungen. Inventories and reports pertaining to administrative and motor transport matters and counterintelligence activity.	1943/11/27-1944/06/30	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/42	159	3805293
Ia, Richtlinien ueber Gliederung und Kampfweise der Gruppe mit le. MG. Instructions concerning the organization and combat methods of a light machinegun section.	1943/12/20-1943/12/20	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/43	160	3805355
V, Einsatzbefehl Nr. 186. Order relating to the use of vehicles for the transportation of POW's from Kriechingen to Forbach.	1944/10/05-1944/10/05	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/44	160	3805372
IVb, Truppenkrankennachweis der III/SS Pz.Gr.Rgt. 37. Strength, sickness, and casualty statistics for the period 21-31 May and 1-10 Jul 1944.	1944/05/21-1944/07/10	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/45	160	3805375
VI, Befehle ueber weltanschauliche und politische Schulung. Orders and instructions relating to troop indoctrination.	1944/01/20-1944/04/26	17.SSPzGrD GvB 78019/46	160	3805386