

## 263. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

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DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1939/03/00	Mainz, Wehrkreis XII	Activation of 263.ID (4.Welle) by conversion of 263.LdwD, formation, training	
1939/08/24	Mainz, Montabaur, Koblenz, Darmstadt, Heidelberg, Wiesbaden	Operational readiness, formation, training	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Franz Karl, 1939/08/26-1940/11/14 Subordinate to: Wehrkreis XII, 1939/08/24-1939/08/31 OKH (Reserve), 1939/09/01-1939/09/05
1939/09/08	Euskirchen, Schmidheim, Schleiden	Transfer, border security, construction of fortifications	AOK 5, 1939/09/06-1939/09/07 Armee-Abt. A (Armee Reserve), 1939/09/08-1939/09/13 AK 5, 1939/09/14-1939/12/18 AK 2, 1939/12/19-1939/12/31
1939/12/15	Bonn, Bad Godesberg, Koenigswinter, Rhoendorf, Honnef, Oberkassel	Movement, regrouping, training	
1940/05/08	Mutscheid, Habscheid, Germany Bocholt, Rochefort, Beauraing, Laroche, Belgium, Fourmies, Saint-Simon, Chauny, Noyon, Crepy-en-Valois, Mennetou-sur-Cher, France	Movement, advance, offensive operations	
1940/06/25	Romorantin, Onzain, Blois	Movement, occupation duty	
1940/07/09	Bordeaux, Arcachon, Libourne, Pons, Royan, Jonzac, Blaye-et-Sainte-Luce	Occupation and security duty, coastal defense	
1941/04/28	Skierniewice, Poland Mszczonow, Zyrardow, Malkinia Gorna, Sterdyn	Transfer, training, preparations for invasion of Russia	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Ernst Haeckel, 1940/11/16-1942/03/07
1941/06/22	Zareby, Bransk, Bielsk, Poland Volkovysk, Slonim, Gorodishche, Minsk, Borisov, Gorki, Khislavichi, Orsha, Pochinok, Russia	Advance, offensive operations	
1941/09/01	Peresna, Dorogobuzh, Yukhnov, Yermolino, Kamenka, Komarovo,	Advance, offensive operations,	
1941/12/16	Dubrovka, Maloyaroslavets	withdrawal (source: situation maps of Lage Ost)	
1942/01/01	Adamovskoye, Myatlevo, Yukhnov, Yelnya, Roslavl, Spas-Demensk	Withdrawal, defensive and assault operations	Gen.Lt. Hans Traut, 1942/04/25-1943/03/31

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1942/07/01	Glagol'nya, Pochepok, Zhupanovo	Position defense, security of rear areas, regrouping	
1943/01/24	Krasnyy Poselok, Nevel, Kobylyno	Transfer, defensive and assault operations, position defense	Subordinate to: AK 43, 1943/01/01-1943/01/17 AK 12, 1943/01/18-1943/01/26 PzAOK 3, 1943/01/27-1943/02/06 AK 59, 1943/02/07-1943/08/31
1943/05/06	Krasnyy Poselok, Opukhliki, Lake Ushcho, Vaulino	Withdrawal, defensive and assault operations	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Werner Richter, 1943/04/01-1944/05/23

Records of the 263.ID are reproduced on rolls 1835-1838 of Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Although no records of this division dated later than 1943/08/31 were available in the National Archives, situation maps of Lage Ost and the general officer personnel files show:

1943/09/01	Opukhliki, Nevel, Krasnyy Poselok, Bogdanovo	Defensive and assault operations	
1944/01/01	Novosokolniki, Pustoshka, Yukhovichi, Nishcha, Idritsa	Movement, defensive operations, withdrawal	
1944/07/14	Zilupe, Sebezh, Rezekne, Varaklani, Madona, Vestiena, Liezere, Latvia	Disengagement movements, defensive operations	
1944/09/18	Tekava south of Riga	Withdrawal, defensive operations	Gen.Maj. Alfred Hemmann, 1944/08/15-1944/10/01
1944/10/15	Pienava, Grivaisi, Mazdrogas	Disengagement movements	
1944/11/01- 1945/04/25	Mazdrogas	Defensive operations	

Situation maps of Lage West and Ost were used for determining locations of the division for the period 1940-42, as there were no Ia records available for those years.

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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, KTB 1. War journal concerning operational readiness, formation, and training in Mainz, Montabaur, Koblenz, Darmstadt, Heidelberg, and Wiesbaden, Wehrkreis XII, 25 Aug-7 Sep; movement to Euskirchen, 8-13 Sep; quartering, securing the German-Belgian border, construction of fortifications, and training in the Euskirchen, Schmidtheim, and Schleiden areas, 14 Sep-14 Dec; movement to Bonn, 15-19 Dec; and quartering in the area south of Bonn, 20-31 Dec 1939. A register of officers. Damaged by fire.	1939/08/24-1939/12/31	263.ID W103a	1835	1
Ia, Anlagen zum KTB 1. Orders, directives, reports, and maps pertaining to operational readiness, formation, training, movements, regrouping, border security, construction of fortifications, release of Landwehr personnel, relief of the 22.ID, 14-15 Sep, and relief by the 28. and 62.ID, 13-14 Dec. Order-of-battle charts, status reports, tables showing the organization of the Divisionsstab, and an intelligence bulletin concerning the terrain and roads of Belgium.	1939/08/25-1939/12/15	263.ID W103b	1835	103
Ib, Anlagen zum KTB 1. Orders, directives, and reports pertaining to supply matters, problems, and situation; training of supply troops; release of Landwehr personnel to rear services; transfer of replacement troops to Posen; closing of the frontier; and administration of occupied territory. Strength reports of the veterinary units relating to horses. Orders of the operations and supply branches regarding regrouping in the Bad Godesberg, Koenigswinter, Rhoendorf, and Honnet areas south of Bonn, 19-21 Mar; movement to the German-Belgian border in the Mutscheid and Habscheid areas, 8-12 May; and advance and offensive operations in the Bocholt, Rochefort, Beauraing, and Laroche areas of Belgium, 14-18 May, and in the Fourmies, Saint-Quentin Canal, Saint-Simon, La Fere, Chauny, Noyon, Crepy-en-Valois, Lizy-sur-Ourcq,	1940/02/07-1940/06/24	263.ID W8563/3	1835	402

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ouzouer-sur-Loire, Salbris, Menetou-sur-Cher areas of France, 19 May-24 Jun 1940. An intelligence bulletin concerning terrain and roads of Belgium.				
Ib, Anlagen zum KTB 2. Orders, directives, and messages of the operations and supply branches and activity reports of the supply branch pertaining to movement to and rear services in the Romorantin, Blois, and Onzain areas, 25 Jun-8 Jul; movement to Bordeaux, 9-11 Jul; supply matters, problems, and situation; rail and bridge security; guarding the demarkation line; coastal defense; entraining and map exercises; supply economy; mission of horse-drawn columns; training; and regrouping in the Bordeaux, Arcachon, Libourne, Blaye-et-Sainte-Luce, and Royan areas, 12 Jul 1940-1 May 1941. Special supply directives.	1940/06/25-1941/05/01	263.ID 26075/2	1835	614
Ib, Anlagen zum KTB 3. Orders, reports, and maps pertaining to supply branch activities and situation, bridge construction, traffic control, status of horses, and establishing, administering, and securing supply and salvage depots and prisoner-of-war collection points in Skierniewice, Miedzyrzecz, and Bielsk, Poland, and in Volkovysk, Baranovichi, Slonim, Gorodishche, Minsk, Borisov, Krupki, Tolochin, Orsha, Gorki, Stodolishche, Roslavl, Pochinok, and Smolensk, Russia. Special directives concerning supply for Operation Barbarossa (invasion of Russia) and general directives regarding supply.	1941/05/11-1941/08/31	263.ID 26200/1	1835	746
Ib, Anlagen zum KTB 3. Orders, reports, messages, and maps pertaining to supply activities and situation, medical and veterinary services, quartering and training of supply troops, administration and security of supply depots and distribution points and motor vehicle collection points, road maintenance, preparations for the thaw period, and local defense in Kondrovo, Yukhnov, Myatlevo, Adamovskoye, Stodolishche,	1942/01/01-1942/06/30	263.ID 26200/3	1835	960

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Yelnya, Roslavl, Znamenskoye, Rylyaki, Sukhinichi, and Spas-Demensk; an inventory of horses; and periodic activity reports of Grosser Tross (supply train) d. 263.ID and Pi.Kdo. 263. An order of the operations branch concerning movement from the Rylyaki to the Gorokhovka area to relieve the 52.ID, 30 Mar-3 Apr 1942.				
Ib, Anlagen zum KTB 3. Reports by the chief of supply service regarding ammunition received, exchanged, and assigned for Operation Barbarossa (invasion of Russia), 3-18 Jun 1941, and orders and reports concerning supply activities and situation, 10 Feb-18 Dec 1942.	1941/06/03-1942/12/19	263.ID 34770/4	1836	1
Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders, messages, and maps pertaining to defensive and assault operations, security of rear areas, regrouping and training in the Glagol'nya, Pochepok, and Zhupanovo areas, 1-23 Jan, Taeuschungsaktion Muenchhausen (a feint attack, 8 Jan), and release from the front and transfer to Krasnyy Poselok north of Nevel via Spas-Demensk, Yelnya, Smolensk, Vitebsk, and Gorodok, 24-31 Jan. An order-of-battle chart, status and casualty reports, list of officers duty assignments, and reports and maps regarding the enemy military situation and tactical disposition of enemy units.	1943/01/01-1943/01/31	263.ID 35639/1	1836	130
Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders, messages, and maps pertaining to movement from Spas-Demensk to Nevel, Krasnyy Poselok, and Kobylino southwest of Velikiye Luki via Yelnya, Smolensk, Vitebsk, and Gorodok, 1-10 Feb, defensive and assault operations, road maintenance, construction of switch positions, and training in the Kobylino area, 11-28 Feb, civil administration, and securing the rear area around Nevel. Order-of-battle chart, status and casualty reports, lists of officers duty assignments, and an intelligence bulletin.	1943/02/01-1943/02/28	263.ID 35639/2	1836	405

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Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders and reports pertaining to defensive, assault, and reconnaissance operations, construction of positions, reorganization, and training in the Kobylino area southwest of Velikiye Luki, and road security in the Nevel-Opochka area; order-of-battle charts; status and casualty reports; and lists of officers duty assignments.	1943/03/01-1943/03/31	263.ID 35639/3	1836	670
Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders, messages, and maps pertaining to defensive, assault, and reconnaissance operations, construction of switch positions, and training in the Kobylino area and planned withdrawal to the switch position in the Krasnyy Poselok area northeast of Nevel; an order-of-battle chart; status, strength, and casualty reports; and lists of officers duty assignments.	1943/04/01-1943/04/30	263.ID 35639/4	1837	1
Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders, directives, messages, and maps pertaining to demolition activity in the Kobylino area, 1-5 May, withdrawal to Krasnyy Poselok and Opukhliki and relief of the 6.LWFD, 6-10 May, and defensive and assault operations, construction of positions, operations against partisans, assignment of alert units, and training in the Opukhliki area east of Nevel, 11-31 May. An order-of-battle chart, status and strength reports, lists of officers duty assignments, and an intelligence bulletin with a map showing the location of enemy units facing the 263.ID.	1943/05/01-1943/05/31	263.ID 35639/5	1837	274
Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders, messages, and maps pertaining to defensive operations, artillery activity, construction of positions, regrouping, and training in the Opukhliki area; an order-of-battle chart; status and strength reports; a list of passwords for June; and lists of officers duty assignments.	1943/06/01-1943/06/30	263.ID 35639/6	1837	482

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Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders, messages, and maps pertaining to defensive and assault operations, construction of second positions, training, and the mission, organization, assignment, and training of Feldersatz-Btl. 263 in the Opukhliki and Lake <u>Ushcho</u> areas. An order-of-battle chart, status and strength reports, lists of officers duty assignments, and notes on command conferences.	1943/07/01-1943/07/31	263.ID 35639/7	1837	626
Ia, KTB 4 mit Anlagen. War journal with orders, messages, and maps pertaining to defensive and assault operations, artillery activity, assignment of alert units, and training in the Opukhliki and Vaulino areas and the transfer of Gren.Rgt. 463 to Krasny Bor near Smolensk for assignment to AOK 4, 31 Aug 1943. An order-of-battle chart, status and strength reports, lists of officers duty assignments, and notes on command conferences.	1943/08/01-1943/08/31	263.ID 35639/8	1837	773
Ia, Anlagenband 1 zum KTB 4, Morgen-, Zwischen- und Tagesmeldungen.	1943/03/01-1943/03/31	263.ID 35639/9	1837	935
Ia, Anlagenband 2 zum KTB 4, Morgen-, Zwischen- und Tagesmeldungen.	1943/05/01-1943/05/31	263.ID 35639/10	1837	1066
Ia, Anlagenband 3 zum KTB 4, Morgen-, Zwischen- und Tagesmeldungen.	1943/06/01-1943/06/30	263.ID 35639/11	1838	1
Ia, Anlagenband 4 zum KTB 4, Morgen-, Zwischen- und Tagesmeldungen.	1943/07/01-1943/07/31	263.ID 35639/12	1838	128
Ia, Anlagenband 5 zum KTB 4, Morgen-, Zwischen- und Tagesmeldungen.	1943/08/01-1943/08/31	263.ID 35639/13	1838	278
Ic, TB zum KTB 4. Activity report concerning enemy operations, losses, unit identification and strength, partisan activity, and propaganda; counterintelligence; German propaganda; and troop entertainment and indoctrination.	1942/10/10-1943/08/31	263.ID 35639/15	1838	452
Ic, Anlagenband 1 zum TB. Daily reports concerning enemy operations, movements, and entrenchments.	1942/08/16-1943/08/31	263.ID 35639/16	1838	492
Ic, Anlagenband zum TB. Periodic intelligence reports	1942/03/17-1943/08/31	263.ID 35639/17	1838	728

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and bulletins concerning security of rear areas, control of the civilian population, Russian treatment of prisoners of war, military security, German and enemy propaganda, and troop indoctrination; and interrogation summaries.