

265. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1943/06/02	Bergen, Hannover, Wehrkreis XI	Activation of the 265.ID (ho.) from Stab 403.SichD, formation, training	C.O.: Gen.Lt. Walther Duevert, 1943/06/01-1944/07/28 Subordinate to: Stellv.Gen.Kdo. XI, 1943/06/10-1943/07/24
1943/07/13	Quimperle, France, Lorient, Quimper, Pont-l'Abbe, Hennebont	Transfer, coastal defense, construction of fortifications	AK 25, 1943/07/25-1943/05/07

Only two record items of the 265.ID were available in the National Archives; they are reproduced on roll 1840 of Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Situation maps of Lage West, the general officer personnel files, records of OKH/AHA/Abw.Stab, H 41/61a & b (T78, roll 672, an afteraction report of Gren.Rgt. 895) and H 41/57 (T78, roll 142), and of OKH/GenStdH/Org.Abt., H 1/38 (T78, roll 398), and a manuscript in the Foreign Military Studies series, MS A-980 ("St. Nazaire Fortress 1944") by Gen.Maj. Maximilian Huenten, contain references to the 265.ID as follows:

1944/01/01	Quimperle, Lorient, Quimper, Pont-l'Abbe, Hennebont	Coastal defense, training	
1944/06/07	Quimperle, Lorient, Quimper Saint-Lo, Saint-Jores, Carentan	Coastal defense (without Gren.Rgt. 895) transfer of Gren.Rgt. 895 (also designated KpfGr. 265), defensive operations	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Karl Sievers, 1944/07/30-1944/08/03
1944/07/28	Coutances, Granville, Avranches, Reffuveille, Saint-Malo	Withdrawal, defense by remnants of KpfGr. 265	
1944/08/02	Quimperle, Lorient, Quimper, Saint-Nazaire	Assignment of elements of the 265.ID (without Gren.Rgt. 895), defense of fortresses	Gen.Maj. Hans Junck, 1944/08/03-1944/09/26
1944/10/23	Germany Lorient, Saint-Nazaire	Formal disbandment of 265.ID Occupation of fortress by remnants of 265.ID	
1945/05/07	Lorient, Saint-Nazaire	Surrender (source: Die Hoeheren Dienststellen der deutschen Wehrmacht, 1933-45, Munich, 1953)	

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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
Ia, KTB 1. War journal concerning movement of Stab d. 403.SichD from Nikopol, Russia, to Bergen near Hannover, Wehrkreis XI, 20-26 May 1943, for activation of the 265.ID (bodenstaendig), 2 Jun; formation and training in the Hannover area; transfer to Quimperle, France, 13-24 Jul; and quartering, coastal defense, construction of the Atlantic wall, and training in the Quimperle, Lorient, Quimper, Pont-l'Abbe, and Hennebont areas, 25 Jul-31 Dec 1943. A register of officers and a strength report.	1943/05/26-1943/12/31	265.ID 41365/1	1840	1
Ia, Anlagenband zum KTB 1. Orders, directives, messages, and maps pertaining to formation and training in the Hannover area; transfer to Quimperle, France, and coastal defense, construction of the Atlantic wall and other fortifications, air raid protection, alert and command post exercises, and training in the Quimperle, Lorient, Quimper, Pont-l'Abbe, and Hennebont areas. Activity report of the intelligence branch regarding counterintelligence, control and morale of the civilian population, propaganda, and troop entertainment and indoctrination; activity reports of the personnel branch, the chaplain, the judge advocate, and the military police; order-of-battle charts; and special directives concerning supply and signal communications.	1943/06/02-1943/12/31	265.ID 41365/2	1840	69