

355. INFANTERIE-DIVISION - UNIT HISTORY

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1943/02/17	Epinal, France	Preparations for the activation of the 355.ID as a "Brunhilde" division with Div.Stab 165.ResD	Subordinate to: AK 64 Res, 1943/02/17-1943/04/30
1943/05/01	Arles, Narbonne, Carcassonne	Transfer, formation (19.Welle)	Armeegruppe Felber, 1943/05/01-1943/05/24 C.O.: Gen.Lt. Dietrich Kraiss, 1943/05/01-1943/11/20
1943/05/18		Activation completed	
1943/05/20	Feodosiya, Soviet Union, Kirovskoye, Vladislavovka, Islam-Tyerek, Sarigol	Transfer to the Crimea, coastal defense, reorganization to a mobile and battle-ready division	Subordinate to: Befehlshaber Krim, 1943/05/25-1943/08/06
1943/06/19	Feodosiya	Establishing Festungskommandantur Feodosia	
1943/07/22	Feodosiya, Seitler (Nizhnegorskiy), Sofiyevka	Defense, security, arrival of units from OB West and Wehrkreis V (full strength div)	
1943/08/07	Poltava, Kharkov, Merefa	Transfer, security and defense, defensive operations	AK 24 Pz, 1943/08/07-1943/08/16 AK 42, 1943/08/17-1943/09/10
1943/08/27	Pervomayskiy, Taranovka, Borki	Withdrawal, defensive operations	
1943/09/06	Ryabukhino, Melikhovka, Krasnograd	Reorganization, withdrawal	AK 52, 1943/09/11-1943/12/01
1943/09/23	Dnieper River, Glinsko, Peski, Pushkarevka, Domotkan'	Movement, defensive operations	
1943/10/21	Zhovtnevoye, Verkhovtsevo, Alferovo	Withdrawal, defensive operations	
1943/11/05	South of Krivoi Rog, Kazanka, Nikolayevka, Troitsko-Safonovo, Shirokoye, Rovnoye	Withdrawal, reorganization, consolidation of units, movement of div.staff, assignment of units to the 161.ID	
1943/11/10	Marinskoye, Kamenka, Apostolovo	Assignment of units to PzAOK 1	

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1943/11/23	Kazanka, Nikolayevka, Voznesensk to Kirovograd, Novo-Ukrainka	Movement of remnants of the 355. and 161.ID	C.O.: Maj. Heinrich Reimers, 1943/11/21-1943/12/21
1943/12/17	Radom, Poland via Deba	Transfer of remnants for reactivation of the 364.ID	Subordinate to: PzAOK 1, 1943/12/01-1943/12/27
1943/12/21		Disbandment	

Records of the 355.ID are reproduced on roll 2150 of NARS Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

The following sources give additional information pertaining to the 355.ID:

Records of OKH/GenStdH/Org.Abt., H 1/131 (T78, roll 412) "355.ID (Brunhilde) Neuaufgestellt am 18.5.1943 von OB West, Aufgelöst im Herbst 1943 mit Div.Gruppe 355 zur Bildung der Korpsabteilung A und Div.Rahmen zur Verfügung Bfh.d. Ersatzheeres fuer Neuaufstellung in das Generalgouvernement zugeführt"; and H 1/38 (T78, roll 398, p. 202) "Zusammenlegung von Inf.Div. im Bereich der Heeresgruppe Sued, zur Korpsabteilung A sind Div.Gruppen 355, 293 und 161.ID zusammenzulegen," dated 11 Oct 1943 and Korpsabteilung A became the 161.ID on 20 Jul 1944, p. 187.

Records of OKH/AHA/Chef d. Heeresruestung u. Bfh. d. Ersatzheeres, H 37/85 (T78, MR 1303) Organization of "Brunhilde" divisions, 5 Oct 1942, including the 355.ID with personnel furnished by Wehrkreis IV, V, and VII.

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
<p>Ia, KTB 1. A prefatory note stating formation of a reserve battalior on 9 Nov 1942 in Dijon, France from units of the 165.ResD under code name "Brunhilde" for the purpose of protection and security (training replacements for special use; i.e., to activate new divisions or to replenish units). War journal concerning preparations by AK 64 Res to activate a "Brunhilde" division designated the 355.ID with the division staff of the 165.ResD in Epinal, France, 17 Feb 1943; formation and training; and transfer of the division staff to Arles, 1 May, and the division to Narbonne and Carcassonne, 11 May, for further formation to be completed 18 May; transfer to Feodosiya, Crimea, 20 May, and preparations to counter an expected Russian landing attempt to cut off Kerch and the Kuban bridgehead in the Kirovskoye, Vladislavovka, and Sariqol areas.</p> <p>Establishment of Festungskommandantur Feodosia, 19 Jun and subordination to the 355.ID; arrival of newly organized units from OB West and Wehrkreis V bringing the division to full combat strength, 22 Jul; relief by the 13.PZD and transfer to the Poltava area, 7 Aug; security and defense of the Vorskla River bridgehead and defensive operations near Kharkov and Merefa, 17-26 Aug; withdrawal to and defensive operations in the Pervcmayskiy, Taranovka, and Borki areas, 27 Aug-5 Sep; reorganization and defensive operations in the Ryabukhino, Krasnoye Znamya, Melikhovka, and Krasnograd areas, 6-17 Sep; and withdrawal to the Dnieper River and defensive operations in the Glinsko, Peski, Pushkarevka, and Domotkan' areas and to the Zhovtnevoye, Verkhovtsevo, Alferovo areas to the south of Krivoi Rog and to the Kazanka and Nikolayevka areas, 18 Sep-25 Nov 1943.</p>	1943/02/14-1943/12/28	355.ID 42379/1	2150	1

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CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
<p>Consolidation of divisions and transfer of the division staff to the Shirokoye and Troitsko-Safonovo areas, 5 Nov; assignment of units to the 161.ID for probable formation of Korpsabteilung A together with units of the 293.ID in Rovnoye, and to PzAOK 1 to Kamenka and Apostolovo, 10 Nov; transfer of remnants of the 355.ID to Radom, Poland, via Deba for the reactivation of the 364.ID, 17 Dec; and disbandment of the 355.ID, 21 Dec 1943. A summary of units of the 355.ID incorporated into the 161. and 364.ID, 5 Sep-28 Dec 1943.</p>	1943/05/07-1943/12/09	355.ID 42379/2	2150	73
<p>Ia, Anlagen zum KTE 1. Orders, reports, instructions, messages, maps, and overlays concerning activation, organization, and training of the 355.ID in Narbonne and Carcassonne, France; transfer to Feodosiya in the Crimea for coastal defense; movement to, security, and defensive operations in the Poltava, Kharkov, Boriki, Taranovka, and Krasnograd areas; defense of the Poltava bridgehead; reorganization; withdrawal and defensive operations to the Dnieper River in the Domotkan', Pushkarevka, Peski, and Glinsko areas, and on to Alferovo, Nikolayevka, Kazanka, and Shirokoye; release of units to the 161. and 364.ID and to PzAOK 1 in the Kamenka, Apostolovo, and Marinskoye areas; and transfer of division remnants to Radom, Poland via Deba for reactivation of the 364.ID, 17 Dec, and disbandment of the division, 21 Dec 1943.</p> <p>Order-of-battle charts; transport and organization charts and orders; an activity report of the intelligence branch for the period 19 Aug-23 Oct 1943; intelligence bulletins; interrogation summaries; and maps showing the enemy tactical situation.</p>				