

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1941/04/00 ca.	Wehrkreis XII	Activation (15. Welle)	
1941/05/01	Alsace-Lorraine	Formation by Wehrkreis XII with the aid of Wehrkreis VI and VIII, training	Subordinate to: Stellv.Gen.Kdo. XII, 1941/05/01-1941/05/28
1941/05/28	Metz	Operational readiness	C.O.: Gen.Maj. Walter Drobniq, 1941/05/03-1942/02/28
1941/05/29	Labouheyre, France, Mimizan, Saint-Julien-en-Born, Pontenx-les-Forges, Leon, Biscarrosse, Lit-et-Mixe, Moustey	Movement, coastal defense, occupation duty, securing rear areas, training	Subordinate to: AK 31 Hoeh.Kdo. (Biarritz), 1941/05/29-1942/03/31
1941/10/27	Bordeaux, Arcachon, Lacanau	Expansion of the division sector	
1941/12/26	Royan, Saintes, Lacanau, Pauillac, Pointe de la Coubre, Saujon, Le Verdon-sur-Mer, Lesparre-Medoc, Bordeaux, La Tremblade, Soulac-sur-Mer, Gironde estuary	Movement, coastal defense, occupation duty, securing rear areas, regrouping, training	AK 31 Hoeh.Kdo. (Poitiers), 1942/04/01-1942/05/27 AK 80 (Poitiers), 1942/05/28-1944/07/28
1943/01/01	Gironde estuary, Soulac-sur-Mer, Pointe de la Coubre, La Tremblade, Le Verdon-sur-Mer, Royan, Saintes	Coastal defense, construction of coastal fortifications, air raid protection, reorganization as a bodenstaendige division, regrouping	C.O.: Gen.Lt.z.V. Hermann Wilck, 1942/03/01-1944/08/15  Gen.Maj. Edgar Arndt, mFb, 1943/06/01-1943/07/30
1944/07/28	Mayenne, Laval	Movement to the combat front (Fall Siegfried I)	

Records of the 708.ID are reproduced on rolls 2250-2252 of NARS Microfilm Publication T315 and are described following the unit history.

Although no records of this division dated later than 1944/08/06 were available in the National Archives, records of OKH/GenStdH/Org.Abt., H 1/38 (T78, roll 398, p. 24 and 34 and as 708.VGrD, p. 101, 103, 136, and 145) and H 1/131 (T78, roll 412); OKH/AHA/Abwicklungsstab, H 41/57, (T78, roll 142) and H 41/61b (T78, roll 672); and EAP 1-r-01/18e, 708.VGrD/Abt. VI (NSFO) (T78, roll 161, Guide No. 36, p. 8); situation maps of Lage West; the general officer personnel files; and manuscripts in the Foreign Military Studies series give additional pertinent information and show:

1944/08/07	Mayenne, Domfront, Cigne, Pre-en-Pail, La Ferte-Mace, Dompierre, Varenne River sector, Le Menil de Briouze, Trun	Defensive operations, counterattacks, disengagement movements	Obst. Bruno Gerloch, mFb, 1944/08/09-1944/09/14
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DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	CHAIN OF COMMAND
1944/08/19	Magny	Withdrawal, captured or destroyed	
1944/09/15	Breslau, Wehrkreis VIII, Vah River sector (Waagtal), Slovakia	Reconstitution as the 708.Volks.Gren.Div. (32. Welle)	Gen.Maj. Josef Krieger, 1944/09/15-1944/11/15
1944/11/01	Colroy-la-Grande, France	Transfer	
1944/11/11	Baccarat, Raon-l'Etape, Celles-sur-Plaine, Grendelbruch, Badonviller	Offensive and defensive operations	Gen.Maj. Wilhelm Bleckwenn, 1944/11/15-1945/02/20
1944/11/25	Andlau-au-Val, Dambach-la-Ville	Movement, defensive operations	
1944/12/01	Wittisheim, Ohnenheim, Heiligkreuz, Marckolsheim, Fessenheim	Movement, defensive operations	
1945/02/06	Burkheim, Neuenburg, Germany	Withdrawal, defensive operations	
1945/02/14	Offenburg, Achern, Oberkirch, Buehl	Withdrawal, defensive operations	
1945/03/09	Buehl	Redesignation as the 106.ID, reconstitution as a division 33. Welle	

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 reference to the 708.ID as follows:

Alsace, Vosges: MS B-100 (Campaign Rhineland, 20 Nov 1944-14 Feb 1945), by Gen.Maj. Wilhelm Bleckwenn

Gironde: MS C-011 (Brief review covering the 708th Infantry Division and its area of commitment, 1941-Aug 1944), by Gen.d.Art. Curt Gallenkamp

Lorraine: MS A-999 (Army Group G Report, combat operations in the Lorraine and Vosges areas, 20 Sep-3 Dec 1944), by Gen.Maj. Friedrich-Wilhelm von Mellenthin

Normandy: MS B-230 (Operations in Normandy, 10-19 Aug 1944), by Obst. Bruno Gerloch

Vosges: MS B-451 (Commitment of the 708th Volks Grenadier Division at the Vosges front, 15 Sep-17 Nov 1944), by Gen.Maj. Josef Krieger.

CONTENTS	DATES	ITEM NO.	ROLL	1ST FRAME
<p>Ia, KTB 1 mit Anlagen; Ic, TB. War journal, including orders, reports, messages, and maps pertaining to the formation and training of the 708.ID in Alsace-Lorraine by Wehrkreis XII and with the aid of Wehrkreis VI and VIII, 1-28 May 1941; operational readiness, 28 May; movement from Metz to Labouheyre to relieve the 88.ID of its northern sector, 29-31 May; coastal defense, occupation duty, securing rear areas, and training in the Mimizan, Saint-Julien-en-Born, Pontenx-les-Forges, Biscarrosse, Lit-et-Mixe, Leon, and Mcustey areas, 1 Jun-26 Oct; relief of the 223.ID; and extending the division sector to include the Bordeaux, Arcachon, and Lacanau areas, 27 Oct-22 Dec.</p> <p>Movement to Royan to relieve the 305.ID, 23-25 Dec; coastal defense, occupation duty, securing rear areas, regrouping, and training in the Saintes, Lacanau, Pauillac, Pointe de la Coubre, Le Verdon-sur-Mer, Saujon, Lesparre-Medoc, Bordeaux, La Tremblade, and Souillac-sur-Mer areas, 26 Dec 1941-31 Dec 1942; and reorganization of divisions 15. Welle to bodenstaendige (stationary) divisions, 26 Oct 1942.</p> <p>Activity reports of the intelligence branch concerning enemy air activity, acts of sabotage and espionage, and propaganda; counterintelligence; military security; and troop indoctrination and entertainment. Coastal defense plans for the Gironde sector, order-of-battle charts, reports regarding artillery organization, lists of code names and officers duty assignments, registers of officers, notes on command inspections, and combat and ration strength reports.</p>	1941/05/01-1942/12/31	708.ID 27959/1	2250	1
<p>Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Kuestenschutz". Orders, combat directives, reports, instruction pamphlets,</p>	1940/08/04-1941/12/27	708.ID 27959/10	2250	306

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maps, sketches, and overlays of Obfh. des Heeres, AOK 7, Hoeh.Kdo. 31 and 59 zbV, the 223. 263., and 305.ID, Marinebfh. Westfrankreich, and Kdo. Marine-Art.Abt. 206 pertaining to securing of and training in coastal defense in the Biarritz, Gironde estuary, Pertuis de Maumusson, Royan, Arcachon, Le Verdon-sur-Mer, and Lacanau coastal sector and the role of signal communications, artillery, and mobility in coastal defense. Includes an afteraction critique on coastal defense. (The 223.ID relieved the 263.ID at the end of Apr 1941, the 708.ID relieved the 223.ID, 27 Cct and the 305.ID, 26 Dec, thus the 708.ID inherited the records of the 223., 263., and the 305.ID; according to the Potsdam catalog record items 27959/10-23 are of the 708.ID.)				
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Ver- und Ausladeuebungen". Orders, directives, and instruction pamphlets of AOK 7, Hoeh.Kdo. 31, and the 263.ID pertaining to training in embarkation, loading and unloading ships, and landing operations by the 263.ID in preparation for the anticipated invasion of Great Britain in the Gironde estuary, the Island of Guernsey, and the coastal sector of Cazaux and Arcachon and artillery, signal communications, and engineering training. Includes afteraction critiques concerning loading ships and landing maneuvers.	1940/07/15-1941/05/17	708.ID 27959/11	2250	764
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Bekaempfung feindlicher Fallschirmjaeger". Orders and directives of AOK 7, Hoeh.Kdo. 31, and the 223. and 305.ID pertaining to training in defense against enemy airborne and air landing troops.	1941/01/01-1941/08/12	708.ID 27959/12	2250	914
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Allgemein". Orders, directives, instruction pamphlets, maps, and overlays of AOK 7, Hoeh.Kdo. 31, Marinebfh. Westfrankreich, and	1940/07/23-1941/05/30	708.ID 27959/13	2250	965

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the 223. and 263.ID pertaining to occupation duty, administrative matters, security activity, coastal defense, traffic control, air raid protection, military-geographical experience in the field, and commitment of border guards along the demarkation line and of a naval unit at Royan. Notes on command conferences and special directives concerning signal communications.				
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Stellungsbauten". Orders, reports, requisitions for construction materiel, radio messages, and maps of Hoeh.Kdo. 59 zbV, A.Pi.Fue., and the 305.ID pertaining to engineer training and construction and technical completion of coastal defense installations by Pi.Btl. 305 in the Biarritz, Arcachon, Gironde estuary, Royan, Pertuis de Maumusson, Marais Poitevin, and La Rochelle coastal areas.	1941/08/04-1941/12/24	708.ID 27959/14	2251	1
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Beute-Geraet Batterien". Orders, reports, a study, and an afteraction critique of Hoeh.Kdo. 59 zbV, 305.ID, and Art.Bgt. 305 concerning the mission and commitment of batteries equipped with captured French weapons and ammunition for coastal defense and training.	1941/09/29-1941/12/29	708.ID 27959/15	2251	168
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "militaer-geographische Erkundung". Military-geographical studies of the Departments of Landes, Gironde, Lot-et-Garonne, and Charente-Maritime and a pamphlet concerning military-geographical experience gained in the field by AOK 7, Hoeh.Kdo. 31, and the 263.ID.	1940/11/19-1940/12/10	708.ID 27959/16	2251	189
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Truppenuebungsplaetze Barbezieux und Boisbreteau". Directives, reports, tables, overlays, and maps pertaining to movement to, securing of, and training at Truppenuebungsplatz (troop training camp) Barbezieux and Boisbreteau by the 305.ID and accomodation possibilities at these training areas.	1941/04/09-1941/04/30	708.ID 27959/17	2251	338
Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Taktischer Einsatz im	1941/05/20-1941/08/18	708.ID 27959/18	2251	375

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<p>Divisions-Abschnitt I". Orders, directives, reports, maps, and overlays of Militaerbefehlshaber Frankreich, AOK 7, Hoeh.Kdo. 31 and 59 zbV, Kuestenverteidigungsgruppe Royan, Kommandant der Seeverteidigung Loire-Gironde, Marinebefehlshaber Westfrankreich, Marineverwaltungsbezirk B, Kdo. Marine-Art.Abt. 206, Feldkommandantur 540, and the 305.ID pertaining to coastal defense, construction of coastal fortifications and obstacle zones, alert exercises, occupation duty, and training by the 305.ID and its units in the Loire, Gironde estuary, Gascoque, Royan, Saint-Nazaire, Rochefort, La Rochelle, Les Sables-d'Olonne, La Tremblade, Bordeaux, and Saint-Georges areas and on the Islands of Ile de Re and Ile d'Oleron. Circuit diagrams of the 305.ID, notes on command inspections, and an afteraction critique relating to securing the coast. (For additional pertinent information see Records of the German Navy, 1850-1945, Kommandant der Seeverteidigung (Seeko), KTB, 1 Apr-31 Dec 1941, PG 37179 (T1022, roll 2355.))</p>				
<p>Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Jagdflug". Orders, directives, and overlays pertaining to defense against enemy airborne troops and acts of sabotage and training by Jagdflug/Radfahrschwadron 305 of Panzerjaeger-Abt. 305 in the Angouleme, Saujon, and Royan areas and a list of documents transferred to the 708.ID.</p>	1941/05/21-1941/08/14	708.ID 27959/22	2251	703
<p>Ia, Bodenstaendige Akte "Fallschirm". Orders, directives, and an overlay of ACK 7 and the 305.ID pertaining to the mission, commitment, activities, alert exercises, and training of Fallschirmsuchkommandos (search commands for parachutists of Panzerjaeger-Abt. 305 in search for and defense against enemy airborne troops and parachutists in the Saujon and Royan areas. A list of documents of</p>	1941/05/12-1941/09/22*	708.ID 27959/23	2251	727

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Panzerjaeger-Abt. 305 transferred to the 708.ID as of 1 Jan 1942.				
Ia, Kuestenverteidigungsplan fuer den Kuestenverteidigungsabschnitt (K.V.A.) Gironde. Coastal defense plans, with maps, for securing the coastal defense sector Gironde; tables of attached units of the 708.ID giving names, location, personnel strength, weapons, and vehicles, and their mission; special directives concerning signal communications and supply; and an order-of-battle chart.	1943/01/01-1943/12/31	708.ID 43450/2	2251	778
Ia, Anlagenband zum Kuestenverteidigungsplan fuer den Kuestenverteidigungsabschnitt (K.V.A.) Gironde. Situation maps; order-of-battle charts; a list of attached units; and surveys of stationary weapons, naval, air force, and military administration units committed to coastal defense and of weapons and equipment for coastal defense installations in the Gironde, Soulac-sur-Mer, Pointe de la Coubre, La Tremblade, Le Verdon-sur-Mer, Royan, and Saintes coastal areas as appendixes to coastal defense plans.	1942/06/01-1942/12/02	708.ID 43450/3	2251	851
Ia, Ib, Ic, Iib, VI (NSFO), Berichte. Orders relating to air raid protection, construction of the Seudre River (Riegel) position, loading exercises, and execution of Fall Siegfried I (release from coastal defense and movement to the combat front in the Mayenne and Laval areas, 28-29 Jul 1944); special directives concerning supply; remarks of the division commander concerning tactics, training, discipline, activities of Organisation Todt (construction organization), and general matters. Combat and ration strength reports, status reports for 26 May-25 Jul, monthly plans for troop indoctrination, and intelligence reports regarding control of nonfraternization with the French civilian population.	1943/05/01-1944/08/06	708.ID 77654/2	2252	1
Ia, KTB. War journal concerning securing the coastal	1943/01/01-1943/12/31	708.ID 77780	2252	174

## 708. INFANTERIE-DIVISION (VOLKSGRENADIER)

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<p>defense sector Gironde estuary north and south.  Ia, Ic, Anlagen zum KTB. Orders and reports pertaining to coastal defense, air raid protection, securing railroads, constructing fortifications and defenses, map and alert exercises, defense against acts of sabotage and the landing of enemy airborne troops, maneuvers, formation of new units, reorganization, regrouping, and training in the Gironde estuary north and south, Royan, Saintes, Soulac-sur-Mer, and Le Verdon-sur-Mer areas and south of Lacanau-Ocean and north of Hourtin taken over from the 344.ID, 16 Feb 1943. Activity reports of the intelligence branch concerning enemy air activity and acts of sabotage, counterintelligence, and troop indoctrination and entertainment, 1 Dec 1942-31 Dec 1943. Monthly order-of-battle charts; situation maps; status reports; and tables showing the strength of personnel and weapons at coastal defense installations; periodic reports regarding the activities of Fest.Pi. Abschnittsgruppe III/13; evaluation by OB West on coastal defense capabilities, OKdo. HGr. D, and ACK 1; combat and training and engineering technical directives; and notes on command inspections.</p>	1942/12/01-1943/12/31	708.ID 77781	2252	245