



77th Rifle Division (I Formation)

File Number: 51110077A

Last Updated: 1 November 2005

1st Formation:

Formed 26 May 1942 by the reorganization of the 77th Mountain Rifle Division, which at the time was in the Kerch peninsula in the Crimea. It withdrew along the Black Sea coast to the Caucasus Mountain range during the summer of '42, but against constant German attacks, by September there was very little left of the Division and it was withdrawn into the reserves of the Black Sea Group of Forces. Early in October 1942, it was decided to break-up the Division. Usually this is because there was very little left of the Division to rebuild or the high command was not satisfied with its performance up to that date, probably the later since a new 77th Rifle Division was starting to form by 19 October. In any case, on 29 October 1942 it was officially disbanded and the remnants were utilized to re-build the 216th Rifle Division.

Active Dates for the Great Patriotic War:

25 May 1942 – 3 October 1942

Division Commanders:

25 May 1942 – 1 June 1942	Unknown
2 June 1942 – 10 September 1942	Colonel Ivan Grogor'evich TOROPTSEV
11 September 1942 – 29 October 1942	Colonel Yefim Yefremovich KABANOV

Honors and Awards:

(Carried over from the 77th Mountain Rifle Division)

29 October 1930	Awarded the honorific "in the name of Sergo Ordzhonikidze"
?? December 1935	Awarded the Order of the Red Banner

Division Honorific Title:

77th Red Banner Rifle Division in the name of Sergo Ordzhonikidze

Divisional Units:

105th Rifle Regiment (I Formation) (formerly the 105th Mountain Rifle Regiment)
276th Rifle Regiment (I Formation) (formerly the 276th Mountain Rifle Regiment)
324th Rifle Regiment (I Formation) (formerly the 324th Mountain Rifle Regiment)
239th Artillery Regiment (renamed the 796th Artillery Regiment on 20 September 1942)
197th Independent Anti-Tank Artillery Battalion
502nd Independent Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion
351st Mortar Battalion
458th Reconnaissance Company

41st Sapper Battalion
136th Independent Signals Battalion
73rd Medical-Sanitation Battalion
140th Auto-Transport Company
7th Mobile Field Bakery
77th Divisional Artillery Repair Workshop
207th Field Postal Station
235th Field Cash Office of the State Bank

Operations:

Tikhoretsk-Stavropol' Front Defensive Operation
Novorossiysk Front Defensive Operation

Assignments during the Great Patriotic War:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Front</i>	<i>Army</i>	<i>Corps</i>
1942			
1 June 1942	North Caucasus Front	47th Army	-
1 July 1942	North Caucasus Front	47th Army	-
1 August 1942	North Caucasus Front	47th Army	-
1 September 1942	North Caucasus Front	47th Army	-
1 October 1942	Black Sea Group of Forces	-	-



77th Rifle Division (II Formation)

File Number: 51110077B

Last Updated: 1 November 2005

2nd Formation:

The Division was formed on 19 October 1942 in Nakhichevan' located in the rear area of the Transcaucasus Front. As noted above, this was before the previous 77th Rifle Division had officially disbanded on 29 October 1942. It took part in defending the Caucasus Mountains range, then in the counter-offensives to liberate the northern Caucasus. In the fall of 1943, it was transferred north to the Southern Front to help in the liberation of the southern Ukraine and later in 1944 the Crimea. After this, it was transferred north to help in the liberation of northwestern part of the USSR by pinning the German Army Group North into the Courland peninsula. It remained there on this now secondary front until the end of the war. After the war ended, the Division, along with most of the 51st Army, was transferred to the Urals Military District where it remained. When in 1953 the 51st Army headquarters was transferred to Sakhalin Island in the Far East, the Division remained behind where in 1957 it was reorganized into the 126th Motorized Rifle Division.

Active Dates for the Great Patriotic War:

19 October 1942 – 24 January 1944

25 February 1944 – 20 May 1944

1 July 1944 – 9 May 1945

Division Commanders:

19 October 1942 – 20 November 1942

Colonel Sergei Mikhailovich BUSHEV

21 November 1942 – 18 January 1943

Lieutenant Colonel Petr Mikhailovich TATARCHEVSKII

19 January 1943 – 19 February 1943

Colonel Anatolii Mikhailovich KASHKIN

20 February 1943 – 21 February 1943

Unknown

22 February 1943 – 28 March 1943

Colonel Stepan Makarovich CHERNYI

29 March 1943 – 19 June 1943

Colonel Serafim Pavlovich KUDINOV

20 June 1943 – 28 November 1943

Colonel Pavel Nikolaevich GORPISCHENKO

29 November 1943 – 12 February 1944

Colonel Aleksei Ivanovich SIVANKOV

13 February 1944 – 9 May 1945

Colonel Aleksei Pavlovich RODIONOV

(promoted to General-Major 17 May 1944)

Honors and Awards:

(Carried over from the previous 77th Rifle Division)

29 October 1930

Awarded the honorific "in the name of Sergo Ordzhonikidze"

24 April 1944

Awarded the honorific "Simferopol'skaya"

24 May 1944

Awarded the Order of Suvorov II Class

Division Honoric Title:*77th Simferopol'skaya Red Banner Order of Suvorov Rifle Division in the name of Sergo Ordzhonikidze***Divisional Units:**

105th Rifle Regiment (II Formation)
 276th Rifle Regiment (II Formation)
 324th Rifle Regiment (II Formation)
 239th Artillery Regiment
 197th Independent Anti-Tank Artillery Battalion
 3rd Reconnaissance Company
 41st Sapper Battalion
 612th Independent Signals Company (reorganized to the 136th Independent Signals Battalion in 1944)
 73rd Medical-Sanitation Battalion
 134th Independent Chemical Defense Company
 140th Auto-Transport Company
 154th Divisional Veterinary Clinic
 207th Field Postal Station
 235th Field Cash Office of the State Bank

Operations:

Mozdok-Stavropol' Front Offensive Operation
 Tikhoretsk-Yeisk Front Ofensive Operation
 Krasnodar Front Offensive Operation
 Taman Front Offensive Operation (I)
 Taman Front Offensive Operation (II)
 Taman Front Offensive Operation (III)
 Melitopol' Front Offensive Operation
 Nikopol' Front Offensive Operation
 Perekop-Sevastopol Front Offensive Operation
 Riga Front Offensive Operation
 Memel Front Offensive Operation

Assignments during the Great Patriotic War:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Front</i>	<i>Army</i>	<i>Corps</i>
1942			
1 November 1942	Transcaucasus Front	-	12th Rifle Corps
1 December 1942	Northern Group of Forces	58th Army	-
1943			
1 January 1943	Northern Group of Forces	-	-
1 February 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 March 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 April 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 May 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 June 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 July 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 August 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 September 1943	North Caucasus Front	58th Army	-
1 October 1943	Southern Front	44th Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 November 1943	4th Ukrainian Front	44th Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 December 1943	4th Ukrainian Front	28th Army	10th Guards Rifle Corps

<i>Date</i>	<i>Front</i>	<i>Army</i>	<i>Corps</i>
1944			
1 January 1944	4th Ukrainian Front	28th Army	10th Guards Rifle Corps
1 February 1944	Stavka Reserves	69th Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 March 1944	4th Ukrainian Front	51st Army	-
1 April 1944	4th Ukrainian Front	51st Army	-
1 May 1944	4th Ukrainian Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 June 1944	Stavka Reserves	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 July 1944	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 August 1944	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 September 1944	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 October 1944	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 November 1944	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 December 1944	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1945			
1 January 1945	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 February 1945	1st Baltic Front	51st Army	10th Rifle Corps
1 March 1945	2nd Baltic Front	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 April 1945	Courland Group of Forces	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps
1 May 1945	Courland Group of Forces	51st Army	63rd Rifle Corps