



73rd Rifle Division (I Formation)

File Number: 51110073A

Last Updated: 1 November 2005

1st Formation:

The Division was formed in 1930 in Omsk in the Siberian Military District. It remained there throughout the 1930s. In August/September of 1939, as part of the partial mobilization conducted by the USSR, it was ordered to form two new Divisions, the 109th Rifle Division and the 194th Rifle Division, both in Tatarsk and based around two of the Divisions Rifle Regiments. What remained formed a new 73rd Rifle Division.

Active Dates for the Great Patriotic War:

None

Division Commanders:

Unknown

Honors and Awards:

None

Division Honoric Title:

73rd Rifle Division

Divisional Units:

217th Rifle Regiment (renamed to 392nd Rifle Regiment)
218th Rifle Regiment (renamed to 413th Rifle Regiment)
219th Rifle Regiment (renamed to 471st Rifle Regiment)
73rd Artillery Regiment (renamed to the 11th Artillery Regiment)

Operations:

None

Assignments during the Great Patriotic War:

Not Applicable



73rd Rifle Division (II Formation)

File Number: 51110073B

Last Updated: 1 November 2005

2nd Formation:

The Division was formed in September 1939 from what remained of the original 73rd Rifle Division probably based around the 392nd Rifle Regiment. The Division was disbanded in October 1939, although for what reason still remains unclear.

Active Dates for the Great Patriotic War:

None

Division Commanders:

Unknown

Honors and Awards:

None

Division Honoric Title:

73rd Rifle Division

Divisional Units:

392nd Rifle Regiment (II Formation)
413th Rifle Regiment (II Formation)
471st Rifle Regiment (II Formation)
11th Artillery Regiment (II Formation)

Operations:

None

Assignments during the Great Patriotic War:

Not Applicable



73rd Rifle Division (III Formation)

File Number: 51110073C

Last Updated: 1 November 2005

3rd Formation:

The Division was formed in July 1940 in Kalinin in the Moscow Military District. On 22 June 1941 the Division was in 20th Army in STAVKA Reserves at the peacetime 6,000 man strength. The Army was sent to the Western Front to form a new defensive line along the main route to Moscow, between Vitebsk and Orsha. Caught up in the battles around Smolensk, the Division was decimated. In October, still with 20th Army, it was encircled near Vyazma during Operation Typhoon and destroyed. It was not officially disbanded until 27 December 1941.

Active Dates for the Great Patriotic War:

2 July 1941 – 27 December 1941

Division Commanders:

16 July 1940 – 27 December 1941 Colonel Aleksandr Ivanovich AKIMOV

Honors and Awards:

None

Division Honorific Title:

73rd Rifle Division

Divisional Units:

392nd Rifle Regiment (III Formation)
413th Rifle Regiment (III Formation)
471st Rifle Regiment (III Formation)
11th Artillery Regiment (III Formation)
148th Independent Antitank Artillery Battalion
469th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion
51st Reconnaissance Battalion
25th Sapper Battalion
78th Independent Signals Battalion
68th Medical-Sanitation Battalion
186th Auto-Transport Battalion
522nd Field Postal Station
440th Field Cash Office of the State Bank

Operations:

The Battle of Smolensk
Moscow Strategic Defensive Operation

Assignments during the Great Patriotic War:

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Front</i> | <i>Army</i> | <i>Corps</i> |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1941 | | | |
| 22 June 1941 | STAVKA Reserves | 20th Army | 69th Rifle Corps |
| 1 July 1941 | STAVKA Reserves | 20th Army | 69th Rifle Corps |
| 10 July 1941 | Western Front | 20th Army | - |
| 1 August 1941 | Western Front | 20th Army | 69th Rifle Corps |
| 1 September 1941 | Western Front | 20th Army | - |
| 1 October 1941 | Western Front | 20th Army | - |
| 1 November 1941 | INACTIVE | | |
| 1 December 1941 | INACTIVE | | |



73rd Rifle Division (IV Formation)

File Number: 51110073D

Last Updated: 1 November 2005

4th Formation:

The Division was formed on 3 January 1942 in the North Caucasian Military District by renaming the 470th Rifle Division. In late May 1942, the Division was sent to the Southern Front to shore up the front line after the massive losses at Khar'kov. During the German drive on Stalingrad in the summer of 1942, the Division was forced to retreat and was destroyed by July. It was officially disbanded on 27 September 1942.

Active Dates for the Great Patriotic War:

25 April 1942 – 27 September 1942

Division Commanders:

3 January 1942 – 8 February 1942

Colonel Grigorii Matveevich KOCHENOV

9 February 1942 – 3 October 1942

Colonel Vasilii Vasil'evich GLAGOLEV

Honors and Awards:

None

Division Honoric Title:

73rd Rifle Division

Divisional Units:

392nd Rifle Regiment (IV Formation)

413th Rifle Regiment (IV Formation)

471st Rifle Regiment (IV Formation)

11th Artillery Regiment (IV Formation)

148th Independent Antitank Artillery Battalion

74th Antiaircraft Artillery Battery

165th Mortar Battalion

51st Reconnaissance Company

25th Sapper Battalion

78th Independent Signals Battalion

68th Medical-Sanitation Battalion

457th Independent Chemical Defense Company

186th Auto-Transport Company

464th Field Bakery

929th Veterinary Field Clinic
1659th Field Postal Station
1106th Field Cash Office of the State Bank

Operations:

Stalingrad Strategic Defensive Operation

Assignments during the Great Patriotic War:

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Front</i> | <i>Army</i> | <i>Corps</i> |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1942 | | | |
| 1 January 1942 | North Caucasus MD | - | - |
| 1 February 1942 | North Caucasus MD | - | - |
| 1 March 1942 | North Caucasus MD | - | - |
| 1 April 1942 | North Caucasus MD | - | - |
| 1 May 1942 | South Front | Front Reserves | - |
| 1 June 1942 | South Front | 24th Army | - |
| 1 July 1942 | South Front | 24th Army | - |
| 1 August 1942 | INACTIVE | | |
| 1 September 1942 | INACTIVE | | |



73rd Rifle Division (V Formation)

File Number: 51110073E

Last Updated: 1 November 2005

5th Formation:

The Division was formed on 15 October 1942 in the 48th Army in Briansk Front, from the cadre of the 122nd Separate Rifle Brigade and remained with 48th Army for the rest of the war. In March 1943, it was transferred to the Central Front. The Division was defending just north of the Kursk salient during the Battle of Kursk. In July, the Division participated in the Orel Offensive. In October 1943, it participated in the Byelorussian Strategic Offensive Operation, pushing the Germans back to the Dnepr in the area just south of Gomel. By this time (20.10.43) the Central Front had been renamed the Byelorussian Front. The Division also won its honorific during this action. In January 1944, it participated in the Kalinkovichi-Mozyr Army Group Operation, establishing a bridgehead over the Dnepr for future offensives. In June 1944, the Division participated in the Byelorussian Strategic Offensive Operation and the Lublin-Brest Offensive, advancing to the outskirts of Warsaw, and was awarded the Order of the Red Banner and the Order of Suvorov II class for its actions during these battles. In September of 1944, the 48th Army was transferred to 2nd Byelorussian Front. On 3 January 1945, the Division participated in the East Prussian Offensive which was its last offensive of the war. For its actions during this offensive the Division won the Order of Lenin. After the war, the Division was transferred the northern Caucasus and assigned to the 29th Rifle Corps in the Don Military District. There it remain until the late 1940s when it was reorganized into the 73rd Mountain Rifle Division.

Active Dates for the Great Patriotic War:

15 October 1942 – 9 May 1945

Division Commanders:

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 15 October 1942 – 5 December 1943 (promoted to General-Major on 18 May 1943) | Colonel Dmitrii Ivanovich SMIRNOV |
| 6 December 1943 – 20 July 1944 | Colonel Stepan Fedorovich PETROVSKII |
| 21 July 1944 – 2 November 1944 | Colonel Vasilii Ivanovich MATRONIN |
| 3 November 1944 – 9 May 1945 (promoted to General-Major 5 May 1945) | Colonel Il'ya Mikhailovich PASHKOV |

Honors and Awards:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 2 October 1943 | Awarded the Honorific designation "Novozybkovskaia" |
| 2 July 1944 | Awarded the Order of the Red Banner |
| 25 July 1944 | Awarded the Order of Suvorov II class |
| 5 April 1945 | Awarded the Order of Lenin |

Division Honorable Title:*73rd Novozybkovskaia Red Banner Order of Suvorov and Lenin Rifle Division***Divisional Units:**

392nd Rifle Regiment (V Formation)
 413th Rifle Regiment (V Formation)
 471st Rifle Regiment (V Formation)
 11th Artillery Regiment (V Formation)
 148th Independent Antitank Artillery Battalion
 154th Reconnaissance Company (renamed 51st Reconnaissance Company sometime later)
 196th Sapper Battalion (renamed 25th Sapper Battalion sometime later)
 613th Independent Signals Company
 625th Independent Signals Company (both companies consolidated into 358th Separate Signals Battalion in 1944)
 68th Medical-Sanitation Battalion
 15th Independent Chemical Defense Company (renamed 54th Independent Chemical Defense Company later)
 185th Auto-Transport Battalion (reorganized to 186th Auto-Transport Company later)
 464th Field Bakery
 929th Veterinary Field Clinic
 1767th Field Postal Station
 1724th Field Cash Office of the State Bank

Operations:

Orel Strategic Offensive Operation
 Byelorussian Strategic Offensive Operation
 Gomel'sko-Rechitskaya Front Offensive
 Kalinkovichi-Mozyr Front Operation
 Byelorussian Strategic Offensive Operation
 (Lublin-Brest Front Operation)
 East Prussian Strategic Offensive Operation

Assignments during the Great Patriotic War:

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Front</i> | <i>Army</i> | <i>Corps</i> |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1942 | | | |
| 1 November 1942 | Briansk Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 December 1942 | Briansk Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1943 | | | |
| 1 January 1943 | Briansk Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 February 1943 | Briansk Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 March 1943 | Briansk Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 April 1943 | Central Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 May 1943 | Central Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 June 1943 | Central Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 July 1943 | Central Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 August 1943 | Central Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 September 1943 | Central Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 October 1943 | Central Front | 48th Army | 42nd Rifle Corps |
| 1 November 1943 | Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 42nd Rifle Corps |
| 1 December 1943 | Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Front</i> | <i>Army</i> | <i>Corps</i> |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1944 | | | |
| 1 January 1944 | Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | - |
| 1 February 1944 | Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 March 1944 | Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 April 1944 | 1st Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 May 1944 | 1st Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 June 1944 | 1st Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 July 1944 | 1st Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 53rd Rifle Corps |
| 1 August 1944 | 1st Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 September 1944 | 1st Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 October 1944 | 2nd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 November 1944 | 2nd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 December 1944 | 2nd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1945 | | | |
| 1 January 1945 | 2nd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 February 1945 | 2nd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 March 1945 | 3rd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 April 1945 | 3rd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |
| 1 May 1945 | 3rd Byelorussian Front | 48th Army | 29th Rifle Corps |