

- 708 Anti-Tank Comp - Joined 11/42
- 708 Flak Comp - Joined 2/44
- 708 Fusilier Bn - Formed 7/44, ex II Bn/748 IR

Commanders - Unknown, 1941; Hermann Wilck, 1942-44

#### Campaign History

**1941-43** - Coast defense on Bay of Biscay (at Bordeaux until early 1943, then at Royan near La Rochelle)

**1944** - Still by Royan into July; then went north to reinforce the crumbling Normandy front. Entered the line on 7 Aug to oppose the US breakout in west Normandy, but soon proved to be a poor unit; was overrun at Falaise on 9 Aug by 2nd French Armor Div; remnants retreated and fought in area around Laval and Orleans (15-21 Aug), then vanished; a few men escaped back to Germany by early Sept and were dissolved (the 360 Cossack IR did survive)

#### **708 Volksgrenadier Division** [1944-45]

Formed in Slovakia on 4-15 Sept 1944 by redesignating 573 VG Div (raised in 32 Wave, Aug 1944); complete on 5 Nov 1944

Recruited in VIII Wehrkreis

Smashed at Colmar on 3 Feb 1945; remnants then dissolved

#### Assignments

- Sept-Nov 1944 - Forming in Slovakia
- Dec 1944-Jan 1945 - Alsace; LXIV Corps/19 Army

#### Units

- Three IR of 2 bns - # 728, 748, 760 (ex # 1177-1179)
- 658 Arty Regt (ex # 1573) - Of 3 bns
- 708 Anti-Tank Bn - Formed 10/44
- 708 Fusilier Comp - Expanded 1/45 as 708 Bn (4 comps plus a granat-werfer comp)

Commander - Wilhelm Bleckwenn, 1944-45

#### Campaign History

**1944** - Left Slovakia on 5 Nov and by end of Nov was in line in Alsace: arrived during establishment of the final German line in the province, the Colmar bridgehead; Div was on north side of the bridgehead through year's end

**1945** - In the Battle of Colmar (20 Jan-9 Feb) the US and French troops reduced the bridgehead and drove 19 Army over the Rhine; the Div was smashed in action on