

## 78<sup>th</sup> Sturm Division History

The Sturm division started out as Hitler's personal body guards when he went to political meetings. Most of these went to the Freikorps. One huge player in the Sturm Division is Feldwebel Dietrich Uthoff. He had series of unsuccessful careers when he found his calling in the military. He was a corporal, then got an iron cross and was promoted to sergeant. He then formed the 78<sup>th</sup> Sturm Division with a Sturmgewehr 44 and a pile of panzerfaust launchers for his men. On June-July 1944 the 78<sup>th</sup> Sturm Division tried to invade the main road: Minsk, they also fought to take over the Russian town Orsha. There were few men but they were extremely heavily armed. During the fighting the Sturm Division was destroyed when they couldn't escape an encirclement east of Minsk. They fought during Operation Bagration.

