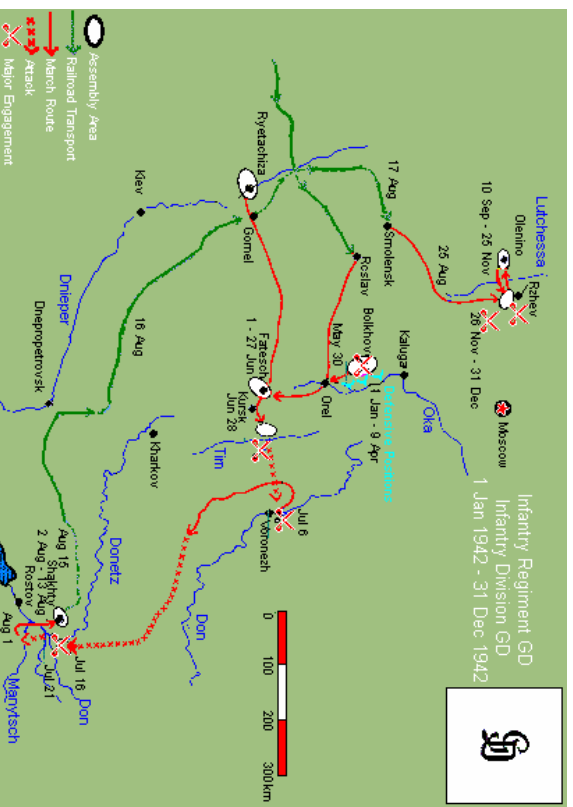


# Kampfgruppe Remer 4te Kompanie, I Bataillon, Infantry Regiment Grossdeutschland



On 1 Apr 1942, While resting and refitting near Orel, the Regiment reorganized and expanded to become Infantry-Division *Grossdeutschland* (mot). The existing Regiment was renamed *Infanterie-Regiment Grossdeutschland 1*, and was joined in the Division by *Infanterie-Regiment Grossdeutschland 2*, which had been formed in Berlin. Supporting units in the form of a Panzer battalion, an assault gun battalion and increased flak, artillery and engineers were added with the upgrade to divisional status. The veterans of "GD 1" had a very poor relationship with the new infantry regiment from the outset, as no cadre personnel of the existing Infantry Regiment GD were used to form the new organization. Little contact took place between the two units, and they were known to each other by derogatory nicknames. When Oberst Lorenz left GD 1 to command the division, this rocky relationship deteriorated even more as he apparently paid little attention to the second GD regiment and favoured his old unit. After the reorganization, the *Grossdeutschland* Division was assigned to XLVIII. Panzerkorps during the opening phases of Fall Blau, the assault on Stalingrad. The division took part in the successful attacks to cross the upper Don river and to capture Voronezh. In August, the division was pulled back to the north bank of the Donets and held as a mobile reserve and *fire-brigade* counterattack force.

On 1 Oct 1942, the Regiment was renamed "Grenadier Regiment *Grossdeutschland*". Their counterparts became Fusilier Regiment GD. After the Soviet Operation Uranus, the Regiment was involved in heavy winter fighting with the rest of the Division near Rzhev. The exhausted division then took part in *Generaloberst Erich von Manstein's* abortive Operation Wintergewitter, the operation to relieve Stalingrad.



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Foto: Feldschak, Orel 1 1942

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