

dissolved.

## Named Cavalry Groups

These corps-level HQ were created to command cavalry in 1941 (all but one were named after commanders).

- Batskelevich's** [or Batzkalevich's] Group - Formed on West Front on 18 July 1941 (commanders were A.I. Batskelevich and then O.I. Gorodovikov of 32 Cav Div); had 32, 43, 47 CD. (Soon re-assigned to Central Front, 7-8/41; to 21 Army, 8-9/41; to Southwest Front, 9-10/41). Raised on the Dnieper by Bobruisk and fought in Battle of Smolensk [\*], 18 July-10 Sept 1941; as of 1 Oct 1941 was assigned farther south to 21 Army (of SW Front), but apparently was dissolved soon thereafter
- Donbas** ("Don Basin") Group - Formed in Sept 1941 in 6 Army of Southwest Front; commander was A.F. Bychkovsky. Had 26, 28 and 49 Cav Divs. Fought in east Ukraine, and in Nov was at Rostov; in Dec went to reserve where it became VI Cav Corps (which Bychkovsky led until Feb 1942). [However, the OB does not reflect this history; there is no entry for the corps or group on 1 Oct; on 1 Nov it appears in SW Front; in the OB 1 Dec 1941 and 1 Jan 1942 it is already listed as VI Cav Corps!]
- Dovator's** Group - Formed in late July 1941 at Yartsevo (under West Front). Had 50 and 53 Cav Divs; (also 45 CD in OB for 1 Sept); led by L.M. Dovator. Assigned to 29 Army, 7-8/41; West Front, 8-11/41. Fought in Battle of Smolensk [\*], July to 10 Sept: Raided 9 German Army NE of Smolensk in Aug; retreated toward Moscow in Oct (by Volokalamsk); Defense of Moscow [\*], 1 Oct-19 Nov. As of 20 Oct was in 16 Army with 17, 24, 44, 50, 53 Cav Divs plus 58 Tank Div and 126 Rifle Div (but all these units totaled just 10,000 men). Continued to fight on approaches to Moscow and on 19 Nov (with just 50 and 53 CD once more) became the III Guard Cavalry Corps (which Dovator led until his death in Dec).
- Gorodovikov's** Group - See Batskelevich's Group (above)
- Kuliev's** Group - Formed in mid July 1941 near Smolensk; commander was Yu.K. Kuliev of 21 Cav Div. Had 21 and 52 CD (both of these divs appear on 1 Aug 1941 in 13 Army). At Battle of Smolensk [\*], 10 July-10 Sept - raided near Roslavl in July and Aug; was driven east in Sept, then dissolved
- Mishulin's** Group<sup>40</sup> - Formed in early Dec 1941 by West Front. Had 41, 57 and 75 Cav Divs (all of which appear directly under West Front on 1 Jan 1942. Was in sector S of Tula but saw few actions (although 57 CD, at least, had heavy losses); pulled into

<sup>40</sup> The identity of the commander of the Mishulin Cav Group is uncertain. The only officer of that name in Mehner was V.A. Mishulin, who normally commanded armored units. He was otherwise unemployed in winter 1941-42, and thus could have led this Group.