

-1st Odessa Cavalry Division

Formed on 31 July 1941 at Odessa from militia volunteers plus some mounted border guards; served in defense of the city under the Coastal Group; on 29 Aug 1941 was re-designated as 2nd CD, *q.v.*

- * **ASSIGNED:** Coastal Army (on the Black Sea flank), 7-8/41
- * **UNITS:** 7, 15, 16, 20 Cav Regts (# 7 was a duplicate number)
- * **COMMANDER:** I.Ye. Petrov

-1st Don Cossack Cavalry Division

Formed on 19 Jan 1942 at Stalingrad from the Stalingrad Don Coss Militia CD; on 26 Jan 1942 became 15 Cav Div (*q.v.*)

- * **UNITS:** 1, 2, 3 Don Coss Cav Regts

-2nd Cavalry Division

Formed on 29 Aug 1941 at Odessa by redesignating 1st Odessa CD; on 25 Nov 1941 to infantry and became 2nd Rifle Div

- * **ASSIGNED:** Always in Coastal Army, 8-11/41
- * **UNITS:** 7, 16, 20 Cav Regts (i.e. 3 of the 4 regts from the original Odessa Div)
- * **COMMANDERS:** I.Ye. Petrov, 8/41; P.G. Novikov, 8-11/41 (stayed with 2 RD)
- * **CAREER:** Due to lack of horses, served almost entirely on foot. Was at defense of Odessa until city was evacuated in Oct 1941, then shipped by sea to Crimea where converted to infantry at end of November

3rd Cavalry Division ("Bessarabia Div") ("G.I. Kotovsky's Div")

Formed in 1923 (ex 4 Cav Div, raised in 1919). Pre-war HQ at Berdichev (Kiev District); on 25 Dec 1941 became 5 Guard Cav Div

- * **COMPOSITION:** The troops were from Bessarabia and were descendants of Cossacks of the Caucasian and Don Hosts, as well as from the Kinburn area.
- * **ASSIGNED:** V Cav Corps of 6 Army, 6-12/41 (V Cav Corps became III Gd Cav Corps in 12/41)
- * **UNITS:** 34, 60, 99, 158 Cav Regts; 27 Horse Arty Bn. (In 6/41 also had 44 Tank Regt attached but it was soon badly damaged, and dissolved in 7/41.)
- * **COMMANDER:** M.F. Maleiev, 6-12/41
- * **CAREER:** Invaded Poland in Sept 1939. Mobilized in June 1941 at Lemberg; Defensive Battles in west Ukraine (Lemberg-Czernowitz) [*], 22 June-6 July (smashed at Rawa Ruska and left line briefly to rebuild; back at front from early July); Battle of Kiev [*], 7 July-26 Sept - escaped the Kiev pocket and went to the Kharkov area; moved to Moscow sector in Nov, and fought well near Orel during the counterattack in front of Moscow [*], from 5 Dec - promoted at year's end

-4th Cavalry Division ("Don Cossacks") [1939-41]

Formed in mid-1920's from 14 Cav Div. Pre-war HQ at Szlutsk (West District); invaded