

pocket, although with heavy losses); retreated to Tula where it fought well in Oct and Nov, holding the routes to the city from the north; fought in the counterattack in front of Moscow [*], 5 Dec 1941 to 7 Jan 1942, including the recapture of Kaluga; was promoted on 5 Jan 1942.

-258 Rifle Division [1942-43]

Formed on 25 April 1942 at Mozhaisk (Moscow District) by expanding 43 Rifle Bde; on 4 May 1943 became 96 Guard Rifle Div.

* **COMPOSITION:** When formed in spring 1942, about half the Division's personnel were Russians and half were Turkmen; the ration was roughly the same in spring 1943.

* **ASSIGNED:** Moscow District, 4-7/42; Voronezh Front, 7-9/42; 1 Guard Army, 9-10/42; 24 Army, 10-11/42; 5 Tank Army, 11-12/42; 5 Shock Army, 12/42-5/43

* **UNITS:** 405, 991, 999 RR; 782 AR

* **COMMANDERS:** G.N. Tsitaishvili, 4-5/42; P.S. Khaustovich, 5-9/42; S.S. Levin, 9-10/42; I.Ya. Fursin, 10/42-2/43; S.I. Levin again, 2-4/43 (and stayed with 96 Gd Div)

* **CAREER:**

1942: Spent several months forming in the rear; entered the line north of Stalingrad on 13 Sept; Defensive actions in front of Stalingrad [*], 13-30 Sept; defensive actions north of the city [*], 30 Sept-18 Nov; Offensive at Stalingrad [*], 8-31 Dec - advanced from the Don to the Mius River.

1943: Was in the offensive north of the Caucasus [*], through 4 Feb - thrust through Rostov to the Mius River, where the Germans built a new line; in May the Div was promoted for the lower Don campaign.

-258 Rifle Division [1943-45]

Formed on 28 July 1943 in the Far East.

* **ASSIGNED:**

- 25 Army, 7-12/43; Far East Coastal Group, 12/43-12/44; 25 Army, 12/44-6/45; (Pacific) Maritime Region, 6-7/45; 1st Far East Front (ex Maritime Region), 7-8/45; 25 Army, 8-9/45
- LXXXVIII [88] Corps, 8/43-12/44; not in a corps, 12/44-6/45; back in LXXXVIII Corps, 6-9/45

* **UNITS:** 405, 991, 999 RR; 782 AR

* **COMMANDERS:** Unknown for 1943-44; led by P.V. Dmitriev in 1945 campaign

* **CAREER:** Stayed in the Far East (by Vladivostok); Manchuria campaign [*], 9 Aug-2 Sept 1945 - advanced from Vladivostok through a corner of Manchuria into North Korea.

-259 Rifle Division

Formed on 5 July 1941 at Serpukhov, Moscow District.