



Considered to be one of the elite units of the German Army, the GD division was usually first in line for new equipment upgrades. The GD had invaded Russia as just a regiment and was nearly destroyed in the fighting the first year. The regiment was rebuilt in 1942 and then increased in size to a motorized division in time for the summer offensives. The division advanced to the area of Stalingrad and sustained heavy losses there. The GD division survived the disaster in the south and continued to be heavily engaged on the Russian front until the end of the war, finishing up as a Panzer Division, always receiving the newest tanks and other equipment.