

APPENDIX 1. STRUCTURE OF 7TH AND 249TH ESTONIAN RIFLE DIVISIONS AND 8TH ESTONIAN RIFLE CORPS AND COMMANDERS OF UNITS IN 1942

1. Structure and command of the Estonian divisions in the Red Army after formation in 1942

	7th Estonian Rifle Division¹²⁰	249th Estonian Rifle Division¹²¹
Commander	Lieutenant Colonel Karl Kanger	Lieutenant Colonel August Vassil (later Major General Lembit Pärn)
Deputy Commander		After the arrival of Pärn, Lieutenant Colonel August Vassil
Commissar	August Sipsakas	Battalion Commissar Nikolai Puusep
Staff Officers		
Chief of Staff	Major August Feldman	Colonel Artur Simson
Deputy Chief of Staff	...	Major Oskar Reemet
Head, Political Department	Arnold Raud	Battalion Commissar Algu Raadik
Deputy Head, Political Department		Eduard Konsa
Chief, Operational Department (I)	Lieutenant Colonel Karl Allikas	Major Edmund Püss
Deputy Chief, Operational Department	Captain David Kiljako, later 1st Lieutenant Harri Lessel	
Chief, Reconnaissance Department (II)		Captain Oskar Truuse
Chief, Signals Department		Colonel Friedrich Olbrei
Chief, Administrative-Supply Department		Captain Oskar Villemson
Chief, Rank and File Department	Major A. Saar	
Commander, Rear	Major Kaarel Parisalu, later Colonel Artur Lombak and Major Jaan Luks	
Chief, Personnel Department	1st Lieutenant O. Michelson	Captain Shpoor
Artillery commander	Lieutenant Colonel Johann Mäe	Major Reskov
Chief of Staff, Artillery	Major Valter Jaek	Captain Erich Loorits
Chief, Engineering Service	Captain A. Tiganik	Major Eduard Purro
Chief, Chemical Service	Captain Ruudu Martma	Major Pavel Solovev
Chief, Ciphering Department	2nd Rank Intendant P. Salamatin	S. Törnask
Chief, Medical Service		2nd Rank Military Doctor Robert Karin
Chief, Veterinary Service		Hugo Reiman
Chief, Automobile Transport		2nd Rank Intendant August Rebanes
Division Prosecutor		Heinar Grabe
Tribunal Chairman		Theodor Unt

¹²⁰ Directive no. opr /542 452 by USSR Deputy People's Commissar for Defence, Shchadenko, to the Military Council of the Urals Military District, 19 December 1941; War diary of the 300th Rifle Regiment from 13 January 1942 to 30 January 1943, ERAF 78-1-125, pp. 1–3; *Ajaloolisi märkmeid 7. eesti laskurdiviisi formeerimisajast kuni 10. detsembrini 1942* (Historical notes from the time of the formation of the 7th Estonian Rifle Division to 10 December 1942), ERAF 78-1-126, pp. 2–3; K. Allikas, H. Lessel, pp. 32–33, 55–56, 61; Karl Aru, *Suurtükiväelasena sõjatandril* (Artillery Soldier in War), Tallinn, 1967, p. 115; Peeter Larin, "Kolm episoodi" (Three episodes) in collection *Karastustules* (Ordeal by Fire), Tallinn, 1962, p. 111.

¹²¹ 917. polgu ajalugu, pp. 4–6; Command of the 249th Estonian Rifle Division as of 19 May 1942, ERAF 1-1-383; *Eesti rahvas Nõukogude Liidu Suures Isamaasõjas 1941–1945*, vol. 1, *Eesti rahvas võitluses Nõukogudemaa vabaduse ja sõltumatuse eest aastail 1941–1943*, p. 276; Oskar Reemet, "Nii sündis 249. laskurdiviis" (Thus was born the 249th Rifle Division) in *Karastustules*, pp. 81–82; K. Aru, pp. 102, 104–105; Olav Mullas, Paul Liitoja, *Polguga Suures Isamaasõjas* (With My Regiment in the Great Patriotic War), Tallinn, 1970, p. 16; A. Timberg, "Staabipatareis" (In the Staff Battery) in *Karastustules*, p. 102; Arved Kalvo, "Võitlejad, kes kandsid valget kitlit" (Fighters in white coats) in *Karastustules*, p. 126; E. Millert, "Mõnda 917. laskurpolgust" (Moments from the 917th Rifle Regiment) in *Karastustules*, pp. 104–105; A. Lutus, "Maailmavaatelse kasvatus kool" (School for Learning Worldviews) in *Karastustules*, p. 96; Paul Liitoja, "Õppisid kõik" (Everyone Learnt) in *Karastustules*, p. 85; H. Toom, "Kilde 249. diviisi sidepataljonist" (Moments from the 249th Signals Battalion) in *Karastustules*, pp. 108–109.

1.1. Divisional units

	7th Rifle Division	249th Rifle Division
	27th Rifle Regiment	917th Rifle Regiment
Commander	K. Grossmann	Lieutenant Colonel Hans Virit, later Major Peeter Lepp and Colonel Johan Lombak
Commissar	Senior Battalion Commissar August Pusta	Bernhard Tinnuri, later Eduard Avald
Deputy Commander Chief of Staff Rear Commander		Lieutenant Colonel H. Virit Captain Voldemar Oja 3rd Rank Intendant Johannes Napp
	300th Rifle Regiment	921st Rifle Regiment
Commander	Colonel Jaan Lukas	Lieutenant Colonel Olav Mullas
Commissar	Battalion Commissar N. Kangro	Major Jaan Arno
Chief of Staff		Lieutenant Paul Liitoja
Deputy Commander		Lieutenant Colonel Ferdinand Tõnso
Rear Commander		3rd Rank Intendant Georg Kruut
	354th Rifle Regiment	925th Rifle Regiment
Commander	Colonel Artur Saueselg	Lieutenant Colonel Ferdinand Tõnso, later Lieutenant Colonel Heinrich Neggo
Commissar	Senior Battalion Commissar Oskar Rüütli	Senior Political Chief Vladimir Kin
Deputy Commander		Major Jaan Rooma
	23rd Artillery Regiment	779th Artillery Regiment
Commander	Captain Aleksander Pais	Lieutenant Colonel Karl Aru
Commissar	Battalion Commissar A. Tetsov	Colonel Artur Lombak
Deputy Commander		Major Pavel Titer
Chief of Staff	1st Lieutenant Harri Lessel	Captain Avo Laido
Battalion commanders	Valdur Hannula, Arnold Poolus, A. Lenk	Olaf Randmer, Ants Lumiste, R. Linnas
	283rd Single Anti-Tank Battalion	307th Single Anti-Tank Battalion
Commander	Captain Enn Soodre	
Commissar	Senior Political Chief N. Velman	669th Single Signals Battalion
	118th Single Signals Battalion	Captain Eduard Alt
Commander	Captain Aleksander Viiret	Captain A. Tuberg
Commissar	Senior Political Chief P. Volt	161st Single Machine Gun Battalion
	312th Single Machine Gun Battalion	417th Single Sapper Battalion
Commander	36th Single Sapper Battalion	
Commissar	Captain Arthur Väkräm	
	183rd Single Mortar Battalion	469th Single Mortar Battalion
Commander	Captain Kaarel Uibo	
Commissar	Senior Political Chief Eduard Säremat	328th Single Motorised Rifle Reconnaissance Company
	482nd Single Motorised Rifle Reconnaissance Company	
Commander	Lieutenant V. Chelkov	243rd Single Chemical Protection Company
Commissar	Political Chief R. Meijel	
	70th Single Chemical Protection Company	326th Single Anti-Aircraft Battery Training Battalion
Commander	Captain A. Zimmermann	Lieutenant Colonel Hans Virit
	149th Single Anti-Aircraft Battery	65th Single Auto Company
Commander		267th Medical Battalion
	39th Single Auto Company	
Commander	Captain O. Boot	
	86th Medical Battalion	
Commander	Major Nordberg	

Commissar	Political Chief Arved Kalvo	
	323rd Field Bakery	312th Field Bakery
Commander	3rd Rank Intendant Nigul	
	966th Veterinary Field Hospital	
Commander	Captain Evald Nõmm	
	806th Field Post	1883rd Field Post
	1610th State Bank Field Branch	1194th State Bank Field Branch

2. Structure and command of 8th Estonian Rifle Corps after formation in 1942¹²²

Headquarters

Commander	Major General Lembit Pärn
Commissar	Regimental Commissar August Pusta
Deputy Commander	Colonel Karl Kanger
Chief of Staff	Colonel Jaan Lukas
Head, Political Department	Lieutenant Colonel Hendrik Allik
Deputy Chief of Political Department, Komsomol Activities	Political Chief Arnold Meri
Chief, Operational Department (I)	Colonel Vassili Külaots
Artillery Commander	Colonel Nikolai Yefremenko
Chief of Staff, Artillery	Fyodor Paulman
Chief, Reconnaissance Department (II)	Major Ilmar Paul
Rear Commander	Lieutenant Colonel Jaan Luks
Intendant	M. Susi
Chief, Medical Service	1st Rank Army Doctor Oskar Palu
Chief, Veterinary Service	1st Rank Veterinary Doctor Elmar Nõmm
Chief, Building Department	Captain Pyotr Zakharov

Units subordinate to Corps Headquarters

85th Corps Artillery Regiment	Commander Major Y. Mikhailenko
36th Sapper Battalion	Commander Captain A. Väkräm
86th Single Medical Battalion	Commander Captain Y. Gaganski
	Deputy Commander in Political Matters, Arved Kalvo
482nd Reconnaissance Company	Commander 1st Lieutenant V. Chelkov
162nd Machine Gun Battalion	Commander Major V. Zukker

2.1. Headquarters of the Divisions

	7th Estonian Rifle Division	249th Estonian Rifle Division
Commander	Colonel August Vassil	Colonel Artur Saueselg
Deputy Commander	Colonel August Feldman	Colonel Johan Lombak
Commissar	Senior Battalion Commissar Arnold Raud	Regimental Commissar Nikolai Puusep
Chief of Staff	Colonel Karl Allikas (at the start of 1943, he became Commander of the 7th Division)	
Deputy Commander in Political Matters	Major Otto Shtein	
Head, Political Department	Leonhard Illison	Algus Raadik
Chief, Operational Department	Captain Harri Lessel, as of the start of 1943	Major Edmund Püss
		Major David Kiljako

¹²² Major General Pärn, Directive to 8th Estonian Rifle Corps on staff matters no. 1, 1 October 1942; Kalinin Front directive to the formations no. 0475, 26 November 1942; excerpts from the 3rd Shock Army directives to the formations no. 0826 and 0828, 25 and 30 December 1942, all in ERAF 63-1-4, pp. 2–10; Excerpt from the lists of members of the commanding staff of the units of 8th Estonian Rifle Corps, compiled by Major Dylev, 1 October 1942, ERAF 63-1-16, p. 35; ERAF 63-1-4, pp. 5–7; *Ajaloolisi märkmeid 7. eesti laskurdiviisi formeerimisajast kuni 10. detsembrini 1942*, p. 6; *917. polgu ajalugu*, p. 78; K. Allikas, H. Lessel, pp. 63, 64, 72, 76, 79, 80, 85, 92, 103; K. Aru, F. Paulman, p. 49; K. Aru, p. 140; *Eesti rahvas Nõukogude Liiduüres Isamaasõjas 1941–1945*, vol. 1, *Eesti rahvas võitluses Nõukogudemaa vabaduse ja sõltumatuse eest aastail 1941–1943*, p. 281; Vassili Külaots, *Uuralitest Kuramaani* (From the Urals to Courland), Tallinn, 1969, pp. 15, 150; Vassili Külaots, “*Luurajad lahingus*” (Reconnaissance in Battle) in *Karastustules*, pp. 316–317, 319; M. Susi, “*Episood tagalateenistusest*” (Episodes from Service in the Rear) in *Karastustules*, pp. 342, 345, 347; O. Mullas, P. Liitoja, p. 47; A. Palm, *Nad võitlesid nagu kaardiväelased* (They fought like guardsmen), Tallinn, 1966, p. 21 et al. The table has been compiled on the basis of memoirs, historic literature and documents, which means that it is not a snapshot of personnel on a certain date.

Chief, Signals
 Chief, Reconnaissance
 Rear Commander
 Artillery Commander
 Chief of Staff, Artillery
 Chief, Engineering Service
 Chief, Special Department
 Deputy Chief,
 Special Department
 Chief, Physical Education

Major Aleksander Viiret
 Captain Paul Piirisild
 Lieutenant Colonel Rudolf Paavel
 Lieutenant Colonel Johann Mäe
 Major Valter Jaek
 Captain A. Tiganik

 State Security Senior Sergeant
 August Kliment
 Fred Kudu

Captain Eduard Alt
 Major Oskar Truuse
 Major Ots

2.2. Divisional Units

Commander
 Deputy Commander in
 Political Matters
 Battalion Commanders

7th Division

27th Rifle Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Gustav Kund

Major M. Kukli
 Captain Aleksander Konno,
 1st Lieutenant Oskar Rajang,
 Captain Evald Laasi

300th Rifle Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Vassili Võrk

Commander

Deputy Commander in
 Political Matters
 Chief of Staff
 Battalion Commanders

1st Lieutenant I. Chernov
 Captain Eduard Seer
 Captain Herman Pappel,
 Captain F. Veltmänder,
 1st Lieutenant Eduard Pulver

354th Rifle Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Albert Pehk

Commander
 Deputy Commander in
 Political Matters
 Battalion Commanders

A. Velman
 Commander of the 2nd Battalion,
 Captain Arnold Ulm

23rd Artillery Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Karl Aru
 Valter Jaek

Commander
 Chief of Staff
 Commanders of Battalions

Major Eduard Mürk, Captain Arnold
 Poolus, Captain Valdur Hannula,
 Captain Aleksander Lenk

283rd Single Anti-Tank Battalion

Commander

118th Single Signals Battalion
312th Single Machine Gun Battalion

Captain Eduard Ilgekita
Single Sapper Battalion

183rd Single Mortar Battalion

Single Motorised Rifle

Reconnaissance Company

**70th Single Chemical Protection
 Company**

149th Single Anti-Aircraft Battery

Commander

Training Battalion

Major A. Ermel

Commander

249th Division

917th Rifle Regiment

Major Peeter Lepp

Captain Eduard Avald
 Captain Valentin Andrusov

921st Rifle Regiment

Colonel Olav Mullas
 (later Major A. Strohmänn)

Major Jaan Arno

Captain Paul Liitoja

Lieutenant Barmin,

Major A. Lepik,

Major E. Sume

925th Rifle Regiment

Lieutenant Colonel Heinrich Neggo

...

...

779th Artillery Regiment

Major Aleksander Pais

...

Captain Richard Linnas

307th Single Anti-Tank Battalion

Major Nikolai Trankmann

669th Single Signals Battalion

161st Single Machine Gun Battalion

Captain V. Zukker

417th Single Sapper Battalion

469th Single Mortar Battalion

328th Single Motorised Rifle

Reconnaissance Company

243rd Chemical Protection Company

326th Single Anti-Aircraft Battery

Single Rifle Reconnaissance Cavalry Squadron

Training Battalion

Lieutenant Colonel Hans Virit

3. Personnel in the 8th Estonian Rifle Corps, 1 November 1942¹²³

	Officers and rank and file	Non-commissioned officers	Total
Corps Headquarters and Corps Units	327	2,222	2,599
7th Rifle Division	1,106	10,727	11,833
249th Rifle Division	1,065	11,019	12,019
Total	2,498	23,968	26,466

4. Nationalities in the Estonian Divisions¹²⁴

Nationality	7th Division	%	249th Division	%	Total	%
Estonians	8,626	85.8	9,323	91.1	17,949	88.5
Russians	1,342	13.4	737	7.2	2,079	10.2
Other	84	0.8	175	1.7	259	1.3
Total	10,052	10,235	20,287			

¹²³ Amendment by NKVD Lieutenant Colonel Johannes Tipner, chief of the NKVD special department of the 8th Estonian Rifle Corps on the work of the special department, from 1 November 1942 to 1 March 1943, ERAF 1-1-495.

¹²⁴ P. Larin, *Eesti Laskurkorpus Suures Isamaasõjas*, pp. 43–44 (7th Division); Political report of the instructor of the Political Department of 249th Rifle Division Laura to the head of Department Algus Raadik, 31 August 1942, ERAF 79-1-16, p. 188.