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Heinrich Seitz

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Heinrich Seitz (22 March 1915 – 13 March 1944) was a German fighter ace and Staffelkapitän of 6./JG 52 during World War II. He is credited with 102 enemy aircraft shot down in 234 combat missions. Seitz was shot down by Soviet fighter aircraft and crashed behind German lines near Kirovograd, Ukraine.

Born in Sonnenland, Saar, he volunteered for military service in the Luftwaffe in Saarbrücken in 1936. Following flight training and a period as a pilot instructor, he was assigned to the 6./JG 52 fighter group in the Luftwaffe. During the Battle of Britain he was credited with 10 victories. Promoted to Staffelkapitän (squadron leader) of the 6./JG 52 fighter group in 1941, he was credited with 40 victories in 250 missions. Following this period, he was assigned to a staff position in the Luftwaffe. During the Battle of Kursk, he was credited with 22 victories in 234 missions. Seitz was shot down by Soviet fighter aircraft and crashed behind German lines near Kirovograd, Ukraine, on 13 September 1943 and was first reported missing in action. Seitz was rescued by a German unit and returned to the 6./JG 52 fighter group. He