21. Panzer-Division adopted combined-arms battlegroups immediately following the Allied invasion of 6th June. The three battlegroups were formed using the Panzer and Panzer-Grenadier regiments as the nuclei. Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155 was split equally, with a battalion of artillery being attached to each group. Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220 was split between KGr Oppeln and KGr Rauch (though a company was allocated to KGr Luck after D-Day), while StuG-Abteilung 200 was allocated in its entirety to KGr Luck. Luck and Oppeln meanwhile swapped infantry for panzers, to give each other a limited combined-arms capability.

The divisional reconnaissance, flak and antitank elements, as well as the 10. (Werfer) Batterie of Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155, remained under the personal command of the divisional commander as a divisional reserve, though Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 21 was allocated to KGr Luck for some weeks following D-Day.

So, following this re-organisation, the three regimental battlegroups had very distinct flavours and roles – Oppeln retained the bulk of his panzer regiment and was thus the main armoured fist of the division. However, he had gained some armoured and motorised infantry from Luck. Rauch meanwhile, remained an entirely infantry formation (albeit with some armoured support elements and personnel carriers), and was thus intended to operate in close support of Oppeln. Luck on the other hand, had a well-balanced force of infantry, panzers and assault guns and was therefore quite capable of reasonably independent action. Whether by accident or design, their dispositions on 6th June reflected these divisions in role – Rauch performed a classic infantry/antitank holding action north of Caen while Oppeln prepared to support him and launch his own armoured counter-attack against the bridgehead. Luck meanwhile, operated east of the Orne against British and Canadian paratroopers, divorced from the rest of the division by the nature of the terrain.

The aspect that tends to interest wargamers most about 21. Panzer-Division is the inclusion of large quantities of ex-French vehicles – many of which had been armoured and converted by German engineers – most notably Major Becker. There is still debate as to whether or not the ex-French tanks were involved in the Battle of Normandy, but this argument has still not been resolved. I have included a brief article on German conversions of French vehicles at the end of this order of battle.
Kampfgruppe Rauch (Panzergrenadier-Regiment 192)

Kampfgruppe Rauch (d)
Oberst Rauch

HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT
Stab/ Panzergrenadier-Regiment 192
** Command
  x1 Commander
GE-46
** Transport
  x1 leSPW U304(f)
GE-P25
** Recce
  x1 Infantry
GE-44
** Transport/Recce
  x1 Motorcycle
GE-94
** Pioniere
  x1
GE-47
** Transport
  x1 mSPW S303(f) (Pionier)
GE-P29
** 5cm Pak 38 (c)
GE-40
** Transport
  x1 leSPW U304(f) (c)
GE-P25

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT/FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT
9. (SIG) Kompanie/ PzGren-Regt 192
Oberleutnant Skubowius
** Command/Direct Fire Support
  x1 15cm sFH 13 auf Lorraine
GE-P35
** Direct Fire Support
  x2 15cm sFH 13 auf Lorraine
GE-P35

MANOEUVRE/FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT
10. (Werfer) Kompanie/ PzGren-Regt 192
Hauptmann, Dr Lehmann
** Command/Direct Fire Support
  x1 mSPW S307(f) (8cm Reihenwerfer)
GE-P65
** Direct Fire Support
  x1 mSPW S307(f) (8cm Reihenwerfer)
GE-P65

** On-Table Attachment
  x3 Forward Observer
GE-48
** Transport
  x3 Panzerbeobachtungswagen Lorraine
GE-P69

(a) Company Commanders in I./192 were as follows:
1. Kompanie – Oberleutnant Braun
2. Kompanie – Hauptmann Gilbert
3. Kompanie – Hauptmann Dönitz
4. Kompanie – Hauptmann Rusche (until 8th June)

(b) Company Commanders in II./192 were as follows:
5. Kompanie – Hauptmann Kerber
6. Kompanie – Oberleutnant Kuhbier
7. Kompanie – Oberleutnant Walter
8. Kompanie – Oberleutnant Braatz

(c) The platoon of PaK 38s does not appear in this regiment in some sources.

(d) Oberst Rauch was formed from Panzer-Grenadier-Regiment 192 on D-Day. The Kampfgruppe was stationed in the northern suburbs of Caen and was tasked with forming a stop-line to prevent the Allies driving into the city from the sea. Elements of the Kampfgruppe (mainly Oberleutnant Braatz’s 8. Kompanie) also mounted counter-attacks against the British Airborne position at Bénouville and Pegasus Bridge.

** On-Table Attachment
  x3 Forward Observer
GE-48
** Transport
  x3 Panzerbeobachtungswagen Lorraine
GE-P69

DIVISIONAL ATTACHMENTS
Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220 (-)
Hauptmann Hoegel
** Command
  x1 Commander
GE-46
** Transport
  x1 leSPW U304(f)
GE-P25
** 5cm PaK 38 (c)
GE-40

2. Panzer-Pionier-Kompanie (SPW)
Hauptmann Thannenberger
** Command
  x1 10.5cm leFH18 auf Lorraine
GE-P34
** FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (4. Batterie)
  x3 10.5cm leFH18 auf Lorraine
GE-P34
** FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (5. Batterie)
  x3 10.5cm leFH18 auf Lorraine
GE-P34
** FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (6. Batterie)
  x3 15cm sFH13 auf Lorraine
GE-P35
** On-Table Attachment
  x3 Forward Observer
GE-48
** Transport
  x3 Panzerbeobachtungswagen Lorraine
GE-P69

Kampfgruppe Rauch was heavily engaged west of the Orne on D-Day – mainly on the northern approaches to Caen, around Lebissey and Bénouville and in support of Oppeln’s panzers and of 716. Infanterie-Division.
Kampfgruppe Oppeln (Panzer-Regiment 22)

Kampfgruppe Oppeln
Oberst Hermann von Oppeln-Bronikowski

**HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT**

**Stab/ Panzer-Regiment 22**

Command
- x1 Pzkpfw III L (d) GE-01
- x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03

**MANOEUVRE ELEMENT**

**Flakpanzer-Kompanie**

Command
- x1 Flakpanzer 38(t) GE-18
- x3 Flakpanzer 38(t) GE-18

**BATTLEGROUPS**

BG-03
I. Abteilung/ Panzer-Regiment 22 (-)
Major von Gottberg

BG-04
II. Abteilung/ Panzer-Regiment 22
Major Vierzig

**DIVISIONAL ATTACHMENTS**

BG-01 (minus 3. Kompanie – retained by KGr Luck)
I. Bataillon (SPW) (-)/ Panzer-Grenadier-Regiment 125
Hauptmann Schenck zu Schweinburg

ME-03
1. Kompanie (SPW)/ Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220
(c)

III. Bataillon/ Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155
Hauptmann von Ziegeser

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (7. Batterie)**
- x3 10.5cm leFH18 auf Lorraine GE-P34

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (8. Batterie)**
- x3 10.5cm leFH18 auf Lorraine GE-P34

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (9. Batterie)**
- x3 15cm sFH13 auf Lorraine GE-P35

On-Table Attachment
x3 Forward Observer GE-48

Transport
x3 Panzerbeobachtungswagen Lorraine GE-P69

(a) Company Commanders in I./125 were as follows:
- 1. Kompanie - ?
- 2. Kompanie - ?
- 3. Kompanie – Leutnant Bandomir
- 4. Kompanie – Oberleutnant Wendorff

(b) Panzer Regiment 22 had been numbered as Panzer Regiment 100 until shortly before D-Day and is often referred to by its old number in many sources. Kampfgruppe Oppeln was created from the regiment on D-Day. The Kampfgruppe was stationed at Falaise, some distance to the south of Caen on D-Day and was only able to put in a counter-attack against the Allied bridgehead late in the afternoon. While the majority of the Kampfgruppe became embroiled in a bitter battle north of Caen, one small detachment succeeded in reaching the coast between the ‘Sword’ and ‘Juno’ landing beaches. However, this small group was forced to retire in the evening due the landing of the British 6th Airlanding Brigade in its rear.

(c) 1./Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220 was transferred to KGr Luck on 7th June.

(d) The command Pzkpfw III may have been an unarmed Befehlswagen variant, in which case use: Panzerbeobachtungswagen III GE-20
Kampfgruppe Luck (Panzergrenadier-Regiment 125)

**HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT**
Stab/ Panzergrenadier-Regiment 125
- Command
  - Commander: GE-46
- Transport
  - 1 x Panzerwagen U304(f): GE-P25
- Recce
  - 1 x Panzerbeobachtungswagen: GE-44
- Transport/Recce
  - 1 x Motorcycle: GE-94
- Recce
  - 1 x SPW U304(f): GE-47
- Transport
  - 1 x Panzerwagen U304(f): GE-P25

**BATTLEGROUPS**
BG-02
II. (Mot.) Bataillon/ PzGren-Regt 125
- Hauptmann Kuron (Kurz from 8th June) (b)

**MANOEUVRE ELEMENTS**
ME-01
- 3. Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (SPW), I./ Panzer-Grenadier-Regiment 125 (e)

**MANOEUVRE/FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT**
ME-01
- 9. (SIG) Kompanie/ PzGren-Regt 125
  - Command/Direct Fire Support
    - 1 x 15cm sFH 13 auf Lorraine: GE-P35
  - Direct Fire Support
    - 2 x 15cm sFH 13 auf Lorraine: GE-P35

**DIVISIONAL ATTACHMENTS**
Sturmgeschütz-Abteilung 200
- Major Becker

**MANOEUVRE ELEMENT**
ME-03
- 4. Kompanie, I./ Panzer-Regiment 22
  - Oberleutnant Hoffmann
  - (same as 1. Kompanie/ Panzer Regiment 22)

**OTHER ATTACHMENTS**
Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 21
- Major Waldow

1. Kompanie, Pionier-Bataillon 716 (d)

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (1. Batterie)**
- 1 x 10cm K18

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (2. Batterie)**
- 2 x 12.2cm FH 396(r)

**FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (3. Batterie)**
- 2 x 12.2cm FH 396(r)

**On-Table Attachment**
- 3 x Forward Observer: GE-48
- 3 x Panzerbeobw Lorraine: GE-P69

**OTHER ATTACHMENTS**
1. Kompanie, Pionier-Bataillon 716 (d)

(a) Waldow’s Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 21 was attached to KGr Luck for a few weeks from the evening of 6th June onwards.

(b) The Company Commanders of II./125 were as follows:
  5. Kompanie – Oberleutnant Brandenburg
  6. Kompanie – Hauptmann Ackermann
  7. Kompanie - ?
  8. Kompanie – Oberleutnant Labor (from 6th June)

(c) 1. Kompanie/Pionier-Bataillon 220 was transferred to KGr Luck on 7th June.

(d) 1. Kompanie/Pionier-Bataillon 716 was taken under command by KGr Luck from 7th June due to its physical separation from its parent 716. Infanterie-Division. It is also mentioned that the Pionier-Zug of StuG-Abteilung 200 took some stragglers from 711. Infanterie-Division under their wing on 7th June.

(e) Some sources list 1. Kompanie/ Panzer-Grenadier-Regiment 125 a being with KGr Luck, though Lt Bandomir’s writings and photographs are quite clear on the matter – it was his own 3. Kompanie that provided the SPW element in KGr Luck.
**Battalion Battlegroups (Panzergrenadiers)**

**BATTLEGROUP-01**

I. Panzergrenadier-Bataillon (SPW)

- **HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT**
  - Command
    - x1 Commander GE-46
  - Transport
    - x1 leSPW U304(f) GE-P25
  - Organic Fire Support
    - x1 15cm sFH 13 auf Lorraine GE-P35

- **ME-01**
  - 1. Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (SPW)
  - 2. Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (SPW)
  - 3. Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (SPW)

- **ATTACHMENTS (4. (Schwere) Kompanie)**
  - x1 leSPW U304(f) (2cm FlaK 38) GE-P26
  - x2 mSPW S307(f) (7.5cm PaK 40) GE-P30
  - x1 mSPW S307(f) (8cm Reihenwerfer) GE-P65

**Note:**
The battalion organisation was identical in both the 125. And 192. Panzergrenadier Regiments, as listed above.

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**BATTLEGROUP-02**

II. Panzergrenadier-Bataillon (Mot.)

- **HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT**
  - Commander
    - x1 Commander GE-46
  - Transport
    - x1 French Softskin FR-14 or 18
  - Organic Fire Support
    - x1 mSPW S307(f) (8cm Reihenwerfer) GE-P65

- **ME-02**
  - 5. Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (Mot.)
  - 6. Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (Mot.)
  - 7. Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (Mot.)

- **ATTACHMENTS (8. (Schwere) Kompanie)**
  - x1 leSPW U304(f) (2cm FlaK 38) GE-P26
  - x1 mSPW S307(f) (7.5cm PaK 40) GE-P30
  - x1 mSPW S307(f) (8cm Reihenwerfer) GE-P65

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**Note on Kampfgruppe Luck:**
The Kampfgruppe was stationed east of the Orne on D-Day, with one company actually conducting an anti-parachute exercise when the landings started. This availed them none, however, as this company was only armed with blank ammunition! Von Luck quickly mobilised his Kampfgruppe and soon counterattacked against the British-Canadian 6th Airborne Division near Ranville – being the first major German formation to do so. Contrary to his claims however, he was not involved in the battle for Pegasus Bridge, though elements of his Panzergrenadier-Regiment 125 were involved, but actually as part of Kampfgruppe Oppeln. Von Luck spent the entire campaign east of the Orne and was instrumental in halting the Operation ‘Goodwood’ offensive in July at Bourguébus Ridge.
(a) 3. Kompanie was short of one of its three platoons when this order of battle was recorded on 1st June 1944. It is entirely possible that the company was brought up to strength by 6th June, as further Pzkpfw IV replacements were already being shipped to the division from Germany.

(b) Despite wargamers’ undoubted enthusiasm for the French ‘panzers’ (including my own), evidence for their combat use within Panzer-Regiment 22 is non-existent. These strengths are based on the returns of 1st June, though it would seem that the crews departed soon afterwards for the panzer training ground at Mailly-le-Camp to collect and train with new Pzkpfw IVs that had already been dispatched from Germany (these new panzers reached the division in early July). Oppeln’s orders for his attack on the afternoon of 6th June only lists numbers of Pzkpfw IVs at his disposal – it makes no mention whatsoever of the Somuas and Hotchkisses listed above. Therefore, for historical scenarios remove the French panzers and treat each company (except 8. Kompanie) in II. Bataillon as an independent platoon of x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H. Designate one Pzkpfw IV in each company as the command tank. 8. Kompanie kept its obsolete short-gunned Pzkpfw IVs throughout the Normandy Campaign (though it may have been reinforced).
5. Kompanie/StuG-Abt 200 was still being trained on 6th June, though was used as the battalion reserve in the Caen area and eventually saw action during July. There was also a 6.Kompanie being raised, though this did not see action as a unified unit and was broken up to provide replacements for the heavy casualties suffered by the abteilung during the defence against Operation ‘Goodwood’.

(b) The Battery command vehicles may function as Forward Observers for the 10.5cm howitzer vehicles in the battery.
Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 21

Major Waldow

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

1. (Panzer-Spähwagen) Kompanie

- Command/Recce
  - x1 'Panzerbeobachtungswagen' (b) use GE-26
  - x3 'Panzerbeobachtungswagen' (b) use GE-26
  - x8 Sdkfz 250/9 GE-28

2. (Panzer-Spähwagen) Kompanie

- Command/Recce
  - x1 Sdkfz 221 (2.8cm Pzbchs) (c) use DAK-21
  - x3 Sdkfz 221 GE-90
  - x3 Sdkfz 222 GE-91
  - x4 Sdkfz 231 8-rad GE-92
  - x3 Sdkfz 233 GE-P21

3. (Leichte-Panzer-Aufklärungs) Kompanie

- Command/Recce
  - x1 Commander GE-46
  - x1 Sdkfz 250/10 (d) use GE-22
  - x6 Infantry (3 panzerfaust) GE-44
  - x6 Sdkfz 250/1 (d) GE-26
  - x3 Light Machine Gun GE-49
  - x3 Sdkfz 250/1 (d) GE-26
  - x1 Heavy Machine Gun GE-50
  - x1 Sdkfz 251/1 GE-21
  - x3 Sdkfz 250/1 with 2cm KwK (e) GE-P85
  - Recce/Organic Fire Support GE-23

4. (Leichte-Panzer-Aufklärungs) Kompanie

- Organised the same as 3. Kompanie, though delete the x3 Sdkfz 250/1 2cm cannon variants and add an additional x1 MG42 HMG plus x1 Sdkfz 250/1.

5. (Schwere-Panzer-Aufklärungs) Kompanie

- x1 7.5cm PaK 40 GE-41
- x1 Sdkfz 251/1 GE-21
- x3 Pioneers (1 pzf & 1 flame) GE-47
- x3 Sdkfz 251/7 GE-89
- x1 7.5cm leIG 18 GE-38
- x1 Sdkfz 251/1 GE-21
- x3 Sdkfz 251/9 GE-24
- x1 Sdkfz 251/16 GE-62

(a) The battalion was stationed a long way to the south – approximately 10km South-East of Condé-sur-Noireau – and was not therefore engaged on D-Day. It came under command of KGr Luck late that evening and was in action on 7th June.

(b) Probably OP/command versions of the Sdkfz 250 such as the 250/4, 250/5 or 253 (use GE-26). It’s also possible that they might have been Panzerbeobachtungswagen Lorraine (f), which were used by the divisional artillery (though this is pure speculation).

(c) This version of the Sdkfz 221, mounting the 2.8cm Pzbchs, was rare, though was found in other units in Normandy. It can be found in the Desert War Supplement.

(d) Some of these might also be leSPW U304(f) as for the Panzergrenadier Regiments.

(e) While these vehicles are described in Perrigault’s book as ‘leSPW U304(f) (2cm FlaK 36)’, the photographs make it clear that they are not. While the (two) photos only show upper parts of the vehicles, the vehicles are clearly Sdkfz 250 and the guns are pintle-mounted 2cm cannon, mounted in lieu of the usual MG or 3.7cm PaK 36.
Manoeuvre Elements Not Previously Detailed

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT-01
Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (SPW)

Command
x1 Commander GE-46

Transport
x1 leSPW U304(f) (3.7cm PaK 36) GE-P27

x6 Infantry (3 panzerfaust) GE-44

Transport
x3 leSPW U304(f) GE-P25

x3 Light Machine Gun GE-49

Transport
x3 leSPW U304(f) GE-P25

x2 Heavy Machine Gun GE-50

x1 leSPW U304(f) GE-P25

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT-02
Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (Mot.)

Command
x1 Commander GE-46

Transport
x1 French Softskin FR-14 or FR-18

x6 Infantry (3 panzerfaust) GE-44

Transport
x3 French Softskin FR-14, 19 or 20

x3 Light Machine Gun GE-49

Transport
x3 French Softskin FR-14, 19 or 20

x2 Heavy Machine Gun GE-50

x1 French Softskin FR-14, 19 or 20

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT-03
Panzer-Pionier-Kompanie (SPW)

Command
x1 Commander GE-46

Transport
x1 mSPW S303(f) GE-P29

x6 Pioneers (3 panzerfaust & 3 flame) GE-47

Transport
x3 mSPW S303(f) (Pionier) GE-P29

x3 Light Machine Gun GE-49

x1 Heavy Machine Gun GE-50

Organic Fire Support
x1 8cm Mortar GE-52

Transport
x3 mSPW S303(f) GE-P29

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT-04
Panzer-Pionier-Kompanie (Mot.)

Command
x1 Commander GE-46

Transport
x1 French Softskin FR-14 or 18

x6 Pioneers (3 panzerfaust & 3 flame) GE-47

Transport
x3 French Softskin FR-14, 19 or 20

x3 Light Machine Gun GE-49

x1 Heavy Machine Gun GE-50

Organic Fire Support
x1 8cm Mortar GE-52

Transport
x3 French Softskin FR-14, 19 or 20
Other Divisional Elements

200  Panzerjäger-Abteilung 200 (a)
      Hauptmann von Lyncker

   1. Kompanie
      MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
         1. Zug
            Command
            x1 Commander GE-46
            Transport
            x1 French Softskin FR-18
            x2 8.8cm PaK 43/41 GE-65
            Transport
            x2 Zugkraftwagen S307(f) GE-P36

   2. Kompanie (same as 1. Kompanie)

   3. Kompanie (same as 1. Kompanie)

(a) 21. Panzer Division was the only panzer division in Normandy to field the PaK 43/41. These three companies were stationed as follows on D-Day:
   1. Kompanie: Between Caen and Bayeux.
   3. Kompanie: At Basly (15km NW of Caen)
The battalion was heavily involved in halting the Allied drive to Caen on D-Day.

305  Heeres-FlaK-Abteilung 305 (a)
      Hauptmann Ohlendorf

   MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
   1. Batterie
      Command
      x1 Commander GE-46
      Transport
      x1 French Softskin FR-18
      x2 8.8cm FlaK 41 GE-42
      Transport
      x2 Zugkraftwagen S307(f) GE-P36
      x1 leSPW U304(f) (2cm FlaK 38) GE-P26

   2. Batterie (same as 1. Batterie)

   3. Batterie
      Command
      x1 2cm FlaK 38 auf Sdkfz 10/4 GE-19
      x2 2cm FlaK 38 auf Sdkfz 10/4 GE-19
      x1 Sdkfz 7/1 (Quad 20mm Flak) GE-P15

(a) The battalion was deployed as follows on D-Day:
   2. Batterie: To the West of Caen.
It was at least partly re-deployed to the northern suburbs of Caen and Lebissey, where it was involved in halting the Allied advance on the city on 6th June.

FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT
10. (Werfer) Batterie/
    Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155 (a)

   Fire Support
   x1 mSPW S307(f) (R-Vielfachwerfer) GE-P66
   On-Table Attachment
   x1 Forward Observer GE-48
   Transport
   x1 PzBeobw Lorraine GE-P69

(a) Not attached to any particular battalion in the regiment. It was stationed around Bourguébus on D-Day and so would be in a position to immediately support Kampfgruppe Luck.
### Deployment Of 21. Panzer-Division 5th June 1944

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<td>1-4. Kompanien/125</td>
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<td>Colombelles (5km NE of Caen)</td>
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<td>II. Bataillon Stab/22</td>
<td>Fresné-la-Mère (5km E of Falaise)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-8. Kompanien/22</td>
<td>Fresné-la-Mère</td>
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<td>Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 21</td>
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<td>Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155 Stab</td>
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<td>Beauville, Périers-sur-le-Dan &amp; Colombay-sur-Thaon</td>
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<td>Saint-André-sur-Orne, Saint-Martin-de-Fontenay &amp; May-sur-Orne</td>
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<tr>
<td>II. Bataillon Stab/155</td>
<td>Saint-Aignan-de-Cramesnil &amp; Bourguébus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6. Batterien/155</td>
<td>Saint-Rémy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Bataillon Stab/155</td>
<td>Quesnay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-10. Batterien/155</td>
<td>Detached to Gaillon &amp; Vernon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StuG-Abteilung 200</td>
<td>Cagny, except 5. Batterie at Epron (possibly without vehicles yet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panzerjäger-Abteilung 200</td>
<td>Batteries deployed Martragny-St-Croix, Putot-en-Bessin &amp; Basly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heeres-FlaK-Abteilung 305</td>
<td>Batteries deployed SE, W &amp; E of Caen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220 Stab</td>
<td>- Quesnay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Kompanie/220</td>
<td>Detached to Gaillon &amp; Vernon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Kompanie/220</td>
<td>Creully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Kompanie/220</td>
<td>- Saint-Rémy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Rommel’s Funnies**

The following is a list of some the various improvised designs, based on captured French vehicles, that were used by various units in Normandy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zugkraftwagen P107/304(f)</td>
<td>Softskin half-track, based on the Unic P107 halftrack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leSPW U304(f)</td>
<td>APC variant of the P107 - similar to theSdkfz 251 series. QRF &amp; FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leSPW U304(f) (Funk)</td>
<td>Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/3 or 251/8 radio/command vehicles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leSPW U304(f) (2cm Flak 36)</td>
<td>Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/17, mounting the 20mm Flak 36. QRF &amp; FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leSPW U304(f) (3.7cm PaK 36)</td>
<td>Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/10, mounting the 37mm PaK 36. FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zugkraftwagen S303(f)</td>
<td>Softskin half-track, based on the Somua MCL halftrack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zugkraftwagen S307(f)</td>
<td>Softskin half-track, based on the Somua MCG halftrack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mSPW S303(f)</td>
<td>APC halftrack based on the Somua MCL. Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mSPW S307(f)</td>
<td>APC halftrack based on the Somua MCG. Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/1. FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mSPW S307(f) (7.5cm PaK 40)</td>
<td>Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/22 - an armoured version of theSomua half-track, mounting the 75mmPaK 40. QRF &amp; FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**mSPW S303/307(f) (8cm Reihenwerfer)** - Mounting an incredible sixteen, twenty or twenty-two French 81mm mortars on a single mount!. Use 8cm mortar stats but use a large template. QRF & FoW do a model. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mSPW S303/307(f) (Pionier)</td>
<td>Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/7. FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mSPW 303/307(f) (R-Vielfachwerfer)</td>
<td>Mounting two racks of 8cm ‘Stalin’s Organ’ Katyusha Rockets (or German copies thereof). QRF &amp; FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pzkpfw 35S(f)</td>
<td>Ex-French Somua S35 tank with few differences to the original design (47mm gun). Skytrex/Old Glory produce a beautiful model of this tank – one of their best ever. QRF &amp; FoW also do models. Add a split hatch on the cupola for the German version.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pzkpfw 35/38/39H(f)</td>
<td>Ex-French Hotchkiss H35/38/39 tanks with few differences to the original designs (short or long 37mm gun). Peter Pig, FoW &amp; QRF produce models. Add a split hatch to the cupola for the German version.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panzerbeobachtungswagen 39H(f)</td>
<td>Open-topped forward observation vehicle based on thePzkpfw 39H(f).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pzkpfw B2(f)</td>
<td>Ex-French Renault Char B1bis, with little or no differences to the original design (47mm turret gun and 75mm hull gun). Again, Skytrex produce a beautiful model. QRF and FoW also produce models. Add a split hatch on the cupola for the German version.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pzkpfw B2(f) Flamm</td>
<td>Pzkpfw B2(f) retaining the turret-mounted 47mm, but with the hull-mounted 75mm replaced by a flamethrower. Later models had an altered front with two vision slits and a large fuel tank on the rear. FoW include the parts in theirPzkpfw B2(f) to model the Flammpanzer variant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pzbeobw auf Lorraine Schlepper (f)</td>
<td>Artillery observation vehicle based on French Lorraine armoured carrier, with a totally redesigned superstructure. FoW do a lovely little model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5cm PaK 40 auf 39H(f)</td>
<td>Panzerjäger based on Hotchkiss tank. Battlefront Miniatures used to produce a model of this. QRF and FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.5cm PaK 39 auf 39H(f)</td>
<td>Wespe-equivalent based on Hotchkiss H39 tank. Again, Battlefront produce a model of this. QRF and FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.5 cm leFH 18 auf 39H(f)</td>
<td>Wespe-equivalent based on Lorraine armoured carrier. QRF &amp; FoW do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15cm sFH 13 auf Lorraine Schlepper</td>
<td>Bison/Grille-equivalent based on Lorraine armoured carrier. FoW &amp; QRF do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5cm PaK 40 auf Lorraine (Marder I)</td>
<td>Panzerjäger based on Lorraine armoured carrier. FoW &amp; QRF do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panzerjäger 35R(f) (4.7cm PaK(f))</td>
<td>Panzerjäger I-equivalent, based on the Renault R35 tank. QRF do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morserträger 35R(f) (6cm GrW)</td>
<td>6cm mortar carrier based on the Pzkpfw 35R(f) hull. QRF do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UE Schlepper 430(f)</td>
<td>A tiny, tankette-type gun tractor with tracked, armoured trailer. Used by a lot of German units as a gun-tractor or armoured resupply vehicle. A few independent panzer units used them as 28/32cm Wurfrahmen launch-vehicles. QRF do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panzerjäger UE 430(f) (3.7cm PaK 36)</td>
<td>Some UE’s were converted to panzerjägers by the addition of a 3.7cm PaK 36 precariously mounted on top. There was no protection for the gunners beyond the PaK 36’s gun-shield. QRF do a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softskins</td>
<td>- Softskin based on the Renault R35 &amp; Hotchkiss H35 light tanks converted into 8cm mortar carriers in place of the mortar halftracks in the panzergrenadier battalions. Some Renault R35s were fitted with 2cm cannon and converted into recce tanks. Many light tank types were also converted into carriers for 15cm Panzerwerfer 42 and heavier rockets – fitting the Pzkpfw 35/39H(f) with 4x 28/32cm Wurfrahmen was a popular conversion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There was a bewildering array of converted ex-French vehicles in the German army, though many had been retired by 1944, or had gone to client states such as Croatia. I really have only scratched the surface with the list above. Many types were so similar in function and appearance to these, that they aren’t really worth listing in exhaustive detail. However, other possible (and significantly different) vehicles include Renault R35 & Hotchkiss H35 light tanks converted into 8cm mortar carriers in place of the mortar halftracks in the panzergrenadier battalions. Some Renault R35s were fitted with 2cm cannon and converted into recce tanks. Many light tank types were also converted into carriers for 15cm Panzerwerfer 42 and heavier rockets – fitting the Pzkpfw 35/39H(f) with 4x 28/32cm Wurfrahmen was a popular conversion.

**Select Bibliography**

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- ‘Panzers in Normandy, 1944’ – Eric Lefèvre
- ‘The German Order of Battle – Vol. 1’ – George Nafziger
- ‘D-Day Tank Warfare’ – Steven J Zaloga & George Balin
- ‘La Bataille de Caen’ – Georges Benamou
- ‘Captured French Tanks Under The German Flag’ – Werner Regenberg & Horst Scheibert
- ‘Panzer Commander’ – Hans von Luck
- ‘Panzer-Truppen – Vol. 2’ – Thomas Jentz
- ‘Rommel’s Funnies’ – Georges Bernage
- ‘Rommel’s Funnies’ – Georges Bernage
- ‘Wurfrahmen’ – Niklas Zetterling
- ‘Rommel’s Funnies’ – Georges Bernage
- ‘Rommel’s Funnies’ – Georges Bernage
He was also told that the 21st Panzer Division had been ordered to form up on his right flank. Watching the Canadian advance unfold from the tower of Ardenne Abbey, he could see an opportunity opening in front of him. At 10 a.m. on June 7, the 50 Mark IV tanks of the 2nd Battalion, 12th SS Panzer Regiment, arrived and moved into position. Facing the British by June 29 were elements of no fewer than six panzer divisions, including the 12th SS. Beginning late on the 29th, the Germans tried to regain the initiative, but dogged British resistance halted the attack. The nature of the fighting in Normandy meant that leadership often devolved down to junior noncoms and officers. Hardly older than the boys they led, their fanatical devotion to the point of death was an inspiration to the others. 21st Panzer Division (Wehrmacht). The 5th SS Panzer Division "Wiking" | 60 PHOTOS & VIDEOS OF THE GERMAN DURING WORLD WAR 2 | PART 20. The Wehrmacht - an Army on Horseback - WW2 - 100 - July 25 1941. Invasion of the Netherlands, 1940 51 UNSEEN GERMAN PHOTOS AND VIDEOS OF WORLD WAR II PART 25. Gazala was taken on 5 June, and during the battle from 20-21 June, 21st Panzer along with 90th Light Division and 15th Panzer Division broke through the Tobruk perimeter, capturing nearly 35,000 prisoners.[2] As a result, the British Eighth Army fell back. The fighting had taken its toll on the division, with the 15th and 21st Panzer only able to field 44 tanks between them. Rommel inspecting division in May, 1944. Further information: Juno Beach. 21. Panzer-Division adopted combined-arms battlegroups immediately following the Allied invasion of 6th June. The three battlegroups were formed using the Panzer and Panzer-Grenadier regiments as the nuclei. Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155 was split equally, with a battalion of artillery being attached to each group. Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220 was split between KGr Oppeln and KGr Rauch (though a company was allocated to KGr Luck after D-Day), while StuG-Abteilung 200 was allocated in its entirety to KGr Luck. Luck and Oppeln meanwhile swapped infantry for panzers, to give each other a limited The D-Day landing of June 6, 1944, ranks as the boldest and most successful large-scale invasion in military history and the most memorable WW2 moment.公益活动 divisions in France and ten panzer divisions, possessing 1,552 tanks, In Normandy itself the Germans had deployed eighty thousand troops, but only one panzer division. Approximately fifteen thousand French civilians died in the Normandy campaign, partly from Allied bombing and partly from combat actions of Allied and German ground forces. Of the Allied casualties, 83,045 were from 21st Army Group (British, Canadian and Polish ground forces). 125,847 from the US ground forces. Following D-Day, military generals and heads of state visited Normandy following the conclusion of June 6, 1944. 319 · 21 comments. Panther with a huge hole in the front of the hull destroyed at Balaton, Hungary. 1945. 41 · 2 comments. KV-2 eviscerated. 204 · 2 comments. A SU-85 wrecked in Mogilev, Belarus, 1944. 22 · 1 comment. BrutalSwede 1 point2 points3 points 5 years ago (11 children). Looks to be an Panzer IV Ausf. H, judging by the spaced armor on the turret, and the main cannon. permalink. embed. save. give award. TheIlliteratePoster 2 points3 points4 points 5 years ago (8 children).