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)

**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
- x1 Pioniere
  - GE-47
- Transport
  - x1 mSPW S303(f) (Pionier)
  - GE-P29
- x1 5cm Pak 38 (c)
  - GE-40
- Transport
  - x1 leSPW U304(f) (c)
  - GE-P25

**BATTLEGROUPS**

**BG-01**

- I. Bataillon (SPW)/ PzGren-Regt 192
  - Hauptmann Rätzer (a)

**BG-02**

- II. Bataillon (Mot.)/ PzGren-Regt 192
  - Hauptmann Zippe (Rusche from 8th June) (b)

**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

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.

**DIVISIONAL ATTACHMENTS**

**Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220 (-)**

- Hauptmann Hoegel
  - Command
    - x1 Commander
    - GE-46
  - Transport
    - x1 leSPW U304(f)
    - GE-P25

**ME-03**

- 2. Panzer-Pionier-Kompanie (SPW)

**ME-04**

- 3. Panzer-Pionier-Kompanie (Mot.)

**II. Bataillon/ Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155**

- Hauptmann Thannenberger
  - 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

(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 Kühbier
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.
Kampfgruppe Oppeln (Panzer-Regiment 22)

Kampfgruppe Oppeln
Oberst Hermann von Oppeln-Bronikowski

HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT
Stab / Panzer-Regiment 22
Command
- x1 Pzkpfw III L (d)
  x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
Flakpanzer-Kompanie
Command
- x1 Flakpanzer 38(t)
  x3 Flakpanzer 38(t)

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

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

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

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

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

On-Table Attachment
- x3 Forward Observer

Transport
- x3 Panzerbeobachtungswagen Lorraine

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

(d) The command Pzkpfw III may have been an unarmed Befehlsfahrgestell variant, in which case use: Panzerbeobachtungswagen III

22
Kampfgruppe Luck (Panzergrenadier-Regiment 125)

Command
- x1 Commander
  - GE-46

Transport
- x1 Pioniere
  - GE-47
- x1 Motor Lower
  - GE-44

Recce
- x1 5cm PaK 38
  - GE-40
- x1 leSPW U304(f)
  - GE-P25

FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT
- 1. Batterie
  - 10cm K18

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

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

On-Table Attachment
- x3 Forward Observer
  - GE-48

- x3 Pzbeob Lorraine
  - GE-P69

DIVISIONAL ATTACHMENTS
Sturmgeschütz-Abteilung 200
- Major Becker

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

I. Bataillon/ Panzer-Artillerie-Regt 155
- Hauptmann Feckler

FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (1. Batterie)
- x1 10cm K18

FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (2. Batterie)
- x2 12.2cm FH 396(r)

FIRE SUPPORT ELEMENT (3. Batterie)
- x2 12.2cm FH 396(r)

On-Table Attachment
- x3 Forward Observer
  - GE-48

- x3 Pzbeob Lorraine
  - GE-P69

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
9. (SIG) Kompanie/ PzGren-Regt 125
- 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 125
- Command/Direct Fire Support
  - x1 mSPW S307(f) (8cm Reihenwerfer)
  - GE-P65

- Direct Fire Support
  - x1 mSPW S307(f)
  - GE-P65

OTHER ATTACHMENTS
Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 21 (a)
- Major Waldow

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

- 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 Laber (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.
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.

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.

BATTLEGROUP-02
II. Panzergrenadier-Bataillon (Mot.)

- HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT
  - Commander
    - x1 Commander
      - GE-46
  - Transport
    - x1 French Softskin
      - FR-14 or 18

- 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
Battalion Battlegroups (Panzers)

BATTLEGROUP-03
I. Abteilung/ Panzer-Regiment 22 (-)

HQ

HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT
Stab
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw III L GE-01
  x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
1. Kompanie Hauptmann Schmidt
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03
  x6 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03

2. Kompanie
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03
  x6 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03

3. Kompanie (-) (a)
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03
  x4 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03

4. Kompanie (detached to KGr Luck))
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03
  x6 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03

(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.

BATTLEGROUP-04
II. Abteilung/ Panzer Regiment 22 (b)

HQ

HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT
Stab
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw 35S(f) GE-P04
  x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
5. Kompanie Hauptmann Herr
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw 35S(f) GE-P04
  x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03
  x3 Pzkpfw 35S(f) GE-P04

6. Kompanie Hauptmann Fromm-Fürchtner
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw 35S(f) GE-P04
  x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03
  x4 Pzkpfw 35S(f) GE-P04
  x1 Pzkpfw 39H(f) GE-P03

7. Kompanie Hauptmann Bischoff
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw 35S(f) GE-P04
  x2 Pzkpfw IV G/H GE-03
  x4 Pzkpfw 35S(f) GE-P04

8. Kompanie Hauptmann Rassmussen
** Command
  x1 Pzkpfw IV B/C GE-78
  x2 Pzkpfw IV B/C GE-78

(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 Somua 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).
Sturmgeschütz-Abteilung 200

HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT
Stab
- Command
  - x1 Pzbeobw Lorraine Schlepper GE-P69
  - x3 leSPW U304(f) (2cm FlaK 38) GE-P26
  - x3 Pioneers (3 pzf & 3 flame) GE-47
  - Transport
    - x2 leSPW U304(f) GE-P25

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
1. Batterie
- Command
  - x1 Pzbeobw 39H(f) (b) GE-P31
  - x2 7.5cm PaK 40 auf 39H(f) GE-P32
  - Organic Fire Support
    - x2 10.5cm PzFH 18 auf 39H(f) GE-P33

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
2. Batterie (same as 1. Batterie)

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
3. Batterie (same as 1. Batterie)

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
4. Batterie (same as 1. Batterie)

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
5. Batterie (same as 1. Batterie) (a)

(a) 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

Command
- x1 Commander GE-46
- Transport
  - x1 Sdkfz 250/3 use GE-26

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
1. (Panzer-Spähwagen) Kompanie
- Command/Recce
  - x1 'Panzerbeobachtungswagen' (b) use GE-26
  - Recce
    - x3 'Panzerbeobachtungswagen' (b) use GE-26
    - Recce
      - x8 Sdkfz 250/9 GE-28

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
2. (Panzer-Spähwagen) Kompanie
- Command/Recce
  - x1 Sdkfz 221 (2.8cm Pzbchs) (c) use DAK-21
  - Recce
    - x3 Sdkfz 221 GE-90
    - Recce
      - x3 Sdkfz 222 GE-91
      - Recce
        - x4 Sdkfz 231 8-rad GE-92
        - Recce/Organic Fire Support
          - x3 Sdkfz 233 GE-P21

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

(a) The battalion was stationed a long way to the south – approximately 10km South-East of Conde-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 ELEMENT-01
Panzergrenadier-Kompanie (SPW)

Command
x1 Commander

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

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

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

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

Panzerjäger-Abteilung 200 (a)
Hauptmann von Lyncker

1. Kompanie
MANOEUVRE ELEMENT
1. Zug

HQ
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. Zug (same as 1. Zug)

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.

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

MANOEUVRE ELEMENT

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

21. Panzer-Division Stab

- Saint-Pierre-sur-Dives

Panzer-Grenadier-Regiment 125 Stab

I. Bataillon Stab/125
- Vimont (13km SE of Caen)
1-4. Kompanien/125
- Fierville la Campagne (18km SE of Caen)
II. Bataillon Stab/125
- Saint-Sylvain, Fierville la Campagne, Vieux-Fumé & Vimont
5-8. Kompanien/125
- Colombelles (5km NE of Caen)
9. Kompanie/125
- Troarn, Banneville la Campagne, Escoville(?) & Colombelles
10. Kompanie/125
- Colombelles

Panzer-Grenadier-Regiment 192 Stab

I. Bataillon Stab/192
- Thury-Harcourt (27km SE of Caen)
1-4. Kompanien/192
- Verson (7km SW of Caen)
II. Bataillon Stab/192
- Château de la Londe, Buron, Pérriers-sur-le-Dan & Cairo
5-8. Kompanien/192
- Croisilles
9. Kompanie/192
- Thury-Harcourt
10. Kompanie/192

Panzer-Regiment 22 Stab

I. Bataillon Stab/22
- Aubigny (3km N of Falaise)
1-4. Kompanien/22
- Jort (8km SE of Saint-Pierre-sur-Dives)
II. Bataillon Stab/22
- Jort & 4. Kp in Epaney
5-8. Kompanien/22
- Fresné-la-Mère (5km E of Falaise)

Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 21

- Segrie-Fontaine (10km SE of Condé-sur-Noireau

Panzer-Artillerie-Regiment 155 Stab

I. Bataillon Stab/155
- Mathieu
1-3. Batterien/155
- Beauville, Pérriers-sur-le-Dan & Colomb-sur-Thaon
II. Bataillon Stab/155
- Saint-André-sur-Orne, Saint-Martin-de-Fontenay & May-sur-Orne
4-6. Batterien/155
- Saint-Aignan-de-Cramesnil & Bourguébus
III. Bataillon Stab/155
- ?
7-10. Batterien/155
- ?

StuG-Abteilung 200

- Cagny, except 5. Batterie at Epron (possibly without vehicles yet)

Panzerjäger-Abteilung 200

- Batteries deployed Martragny-St-Croix, Putot-en-Bessin & Basly

Heeres-FlaK-Abteilung 305

- Batteries deployed SE, W & E of Caen

Panzer-Pionier-Bataillon 220 Stab

1. Kompanie/220
- Saint-Rémy
2. Kompanie/220
- Quesnay
3. Kompanie/220
- Detached to Gaillon & Vernon
- Greuly
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:

- Zugkraftwagen P107/304(f) - Softskin half-track, based on the Unic P107 halftrack.
- leSPW U304(f) - APC variant of the P107 - similar to theSdkfz 251 series. QRF & FoW do a model.
- leSPW U304(f) (Funk) - Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/3 or 251/8 radio/command vehicles.
- leSPW U304(f) (2cm Flak 36) - Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/17, mounting the 20mm Flak 36. QRF & FoW do a model.
- leSPW U304(f) (3.7cm PaK 36) - Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/10, mounting the 37mm PaK 36. FoW do a model.
- Zugkraftwagen S303(f) - Softskin half-track, based on the Somua MCL halftrack.
- Zugkraftwagen S307(f) - Softskin half-track, based on the Somua MCG halftrack.
- mSPW S303(f) - APC halftrack based on the Somua MCL. Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/1. FoW do a model.
- mSPW S307(f) - APC halftrack based on the Somua MCG. Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/1. FoW do a model.
- mSPW S307(f) (7.5cm PaK 40) - Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/22 - an armoured version of theSomua half-track, mounting the 75mm PaK 40. QRF & FoW do a model.
- 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.
- mSPW S303(f) (Pionier) - Equivalent of theSdkfz 251/7. FoW do a model.
- mSPW 303/307(f) (R-Viellachwerfer) - Mounting two racks of 8cm ‘Stalin’s Organ’ Katyusha Rockets (or German copies thereof). QRF & FoW do a model.
- Pzkpfw 35S(f) - 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 & FoW also do models. Add a split hatch on the cupola for the German version.
- Pzkpfw 35/38/39H(f) - Ex-French Hotchkiss H35/38/39 tanks with few differences to the original designs (short or long 37mm gun). Peter Pig, FoW & QRF produce models. Add a split hatch to the cupola for the German version.
- Panzerbeobachtungswagen 39H(f) - Open-topped forward observation vehicle based on the Pzkpfw 39H(f).
- Pzkpfw B2(f) - 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.
- Pzkpfw B2(f) Flamm - 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 their Pzkpfw B2(f) to model the Flammpanzer variant.
- Pzeobw auf Lorraine Schlepper(f) - Artillery observation vehicle based on French Lorraine armoured carrier, with a totally redesigned superstructure. FoW do a lovely little model.
- 7.5cm PaK 40 auf 39H(f) - Panzerjäger based on Hotchkiss tank. Battlefront Miniatures used to produce a model of this. QRF and FoW do a model.
- 10.5cm Flak 36 auf 39H(f) - 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 & FoW do a model.
- 10.5 cm leFH 18 auf 39H(f) - Wespe-equivalent based on Hotchkiss H39 tank. Again, Battlefront produce a model of this. QRF and FoW do a model.
- 15cm sFH 13 auf Lorraine Schlepper - Bison/Grille-equivalent based on Lorraine armoured carrier. QRF & FoW do a model.
- 7.5cm PaK 40 auf Lorraine (Marder I) - Panzerjäger based on Lorraine armoured carrier. FoW & QRF do a model.
- Panzerjäger 35R(f) (4.7cm PaK(t)) - Panzerjäger l-equivalent, based on the Renault R35 tank. QRF & FoW do a model.
- Morserträger 35R(f) (8cm R-Viellachwerfer) - 8cm mortar carrier based on the Pzkpfw 35R(f) hull. QRF do a model.
- UE Schlepper 430(f) - 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 & FoW do a model.

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

‘21. Panzer-Division’ – Jean-Claude Pennipaut
‘The Panzers and the Battle of Normandy’ – Georges Bernage
‘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
‘Normandy 1944 – German Military Organisation, Combat Power & Organisational Effectiveness’ – Niklas Zetterling
‘Captured French Tanks Under The German Flag’ – Werner Regenberg & Horst Scheibert
‘Panzer Commander’ – Hans von Luck
‘Panzer-Truppen – Vol. 2’ – Thomas Jentz