

GERMAN FORCES IN NORMANDY

352. INFANTERIEDIVISION & 716. INFANTERIEDIVISION



FESTUNGSKOMPANIEN (NORMANDY) (page 26)

Fortress Company (Normandy)

A *Festungskompanie* mans the fortifications protecting the beaches of Normandy. With bunkers and obstacles they hold the beaches and pour fire on to anybody who dares to attack Rommel's Atlantic Wall.

FÜSILIERKOMPANIEN (page 32)

Light Infantry Company

A *Füsilerkompanie*, grouped with troops such as assault guns and tank-hunters, provides the reserve for the troops defending the beaches.

STUG ABTEILUNG (page 38)

Assault Gun Detachment

352. *Infanteriedivision* has its own detachment of StuG G assault guns. These tough vehicles make short work of the enemies' Sherman tanks. They are deployed in reserve to deliver a timely counterblow against the invaders.

21. PANZERDIVISION

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21. PANZERKOMPANIEN (page 52)

21. Panzerdivision Tank Company

21. *Panzerdivision* was first to launch a counterattack against the invasion beaches. The Panzer IV H tanks of the panzer companies can rely on the support of an array of well-equipped, if unusual, platoons.

BEUTE STUG BATTERIE (page 54)

Looted Assault Gun Battery

Among the unusual vehicles improvised for 21. *Panzerdivision* were the self-propelled guns of 200. *StuG Abteilung*. These little assault guns on obsolete French chassis pack plenty of firepower.

21. GEPANZERTE PANZERGRENAIDERKOMPANIEN (page 56)

21. Panzerdivision Armoured Grenadier Company

The armoured infantry of 21. *Panzerdivision* ride in armoured French half-tracks. These little vehicles are armed with machine-guns to provide additional fire support. An attack by this force will prove difficult to stop.

21. PANZERGRENAIDERKOMPANIEN (page 62)

21. Panzerdivision Motorised Grenadier Company

Most of the panzergrenadiers ride in trucks, allowing them to redeploy with speed. However, they fight on foot, often protected by extensive minefields.

21. PANZERPIONIERKOMPANIEN (page 66)

21. Panzerdivision Armoured Engineer Company

These combat engineers can take out any enemy fortifications, minefields and wire. They also fight as infantry.

21. AUFKLÄRUNGSCHWADRON (page 68)

21. Panzerdivision Reconnaissance Squadron

The armoured scouts from the reconnaissance battalion of 21. *Panzerdivision* provide the punch to push the armoured cars through the enemy lines.

21. PANZERSPÄHKOMPANIEN (page 72)

21. Panzerdivision Armoured Car Company

The armoured cars of 21. *Panzerdivision* probe for gaps and opportunities to get around the enemy. They have their own armoured infantry to support them when the going gets rough.

16. LUFTWAFFE FELDDIVISION



LUFTWAFFE JÄGERKOMPANIEN (page 84)

Air Force Rifle Company

Formed from excess *Luftwaffe* personnel, these troops are more usually used for garrison duties. 16. *Luftwaffe Felddivision* has found itself in the thick of the fighting, supported by the tough troops of 21. *Panzerdivision*.



Schwere Panzerkompanie

503. SCHWERE PANZERABTEILUNG

SCHWERE PANZERKOMPANIE (page 92)

Heavy Tank Company

503. *Schwere Panzerabteilung* operates in support of 21. *Panzerdivision*. This unit has a mixture of super-heavy Königstiger and heavy Tiger I E tanks, making it the most powerful tank battalion in Normandy

PANZER LEHR DIVISION, 2. AND 9. PANZERDIVISION



PANZERKOMPANIE (page 102)

Tank Company

Panzer Lehr Division is the very model of what a Panzer division should be, with a full complement of Panzer IV H and Panther A tanks. 2. and 9. *Panzerdivisionen* also follow this model, although not as lavishly equipped.

GEPanZERTE PANZERGRENADIERKOMPANIE

(page 106)

Armoured Grenadier Company

As the template by which all other Panzer divisions are measured, *Panzer Lehr* has the panzergrenadiers of all of its battalions mounted in armoured half-tracks and bristling with Panzerschreck anti-tank rockets. 2. *Panzerdivision* only has two armoured panzergrenadier battalions, while 9. *Panzerdivision* has a just one.

PANZERGRENADIERKOMPANIE (page 112)

Motorised Grenadier Company

Two *Panzergrenadier* battalions of 2. *Panzerdivision* and three of 9. *Panzerdivision* are mounted in trucks, giving them excellent operational mobility. Once they reach the front though, they fight on foot.

GEPanZERTE PANZERPIONIERKOMPANIE

(page 116)

Armoured Engineer Company

Like the panzergrenadiers, the pioneers of the *Panzer Lehr* are mounted in half-tracks, as is the third pioneer company of 2. *Panzerdivision*. Extreme pressure from the Allies often forces these highly-skilled troops to fight as infantry in the front line.

PANZERPIONIERKOMPANIE (page 118)

Motorised Engineer Company

The rest of the pioneers of 2. and 9. *Panzerdivisionen* are mounted in trucks. These specialists do their best work on foot, clearing and laying mines, and improving defensive positions. They are also excellent combat troops, more than capable of fighting alongside the panzergrenadiers.

AUFKLÄRUNGSCHWADRON (page 120)

Reconnaissance Squadron

Whether fighting to get the division's armoured cars through the enemy lines, or taking their place in the line alongside the panzergrenadiers, the infantry of *Aufklärungsschwadron* are a hard-hitting force.

PANZERSPÄHKOMPANIE (page 122)

Armoured Car Company

Both *Panzer Lehr Division* and 2. *Panzerdivision* are equipped with the latest Sd Kfz 234/2 Puma eight-wheeled armoured cars and Sd Kfz 250/9 (2cm) half-tracked armoured cars. 9. *Panzerdivision* has Luchs scout tanks in place of the eight-wheelers. All three divisions are amongst the best in the German army when it comes to reconnaissance work.

654. SCHWERE PANZERJÄGERABTEILUNG



SCHWERE PANZERJÄGERKOMPANIE (page 136)

Heavy Tank-hunter Company

The Jagdpanther tank-hunter is a deadly and impressive weapon, mounting a long 8.8cm gun on a Panther tank chassis. A company of Jagdpanthers fighting alongside the grenadiers of an *Infanteriedivision* will make light work of any enemy tank force.

243. INFANTERIEDIVISION & 326. INFANTERIEDIVISION



GRENADIERKOMPANIEN (page 140)

Grenadier Company

The bulk of the divisions fighting in Normandy are the humble foot soldiers of the infantry divisions. *243. Infanteriedivision* fought in Normandy from the start, defending the fortress port of Cherbourg against the American forces. *326. Infanteriedivision* arrived in Normandy in July and took up defensive positions facing the British near Caumont. These solid grenadiers were famously supported by the Jagdpanther tank-hunters of *654. Schwere Panzerjägerabteilung*.

PIONIERKOMPANIEN (page 144)

Engineer Company

Every infantry division in Normandy has its own battalion of combat engineers. These laid mines and barbed wire where it was needed, as well as fighting alongside the grenadiers.

100. PANZER AUSBILDUNGS UND ERSATZ ABTEILUNG & 206. PANZERABTEILUNG



BEUTEPANZERKOMPANIEN (page 152)

Looted Tank Company

These training battalions were equipped with outdated German tanks and old French tanks captured in 1940. Although never intended to fight, they nevertheless made a good showing against the American paratroopers and infantry, at least until real tanks showed up.

3. FALLSCHIRMJÄGERDIVISION & 6. FALLSCHIRMJÄGER-REGIMENT



FALLSCHIRMJÄGERKOMPANIEN (page 158)

Parachute Rifle Company

The elite paratroopers of *3. Fallschirmjägerdivision* and *6. Fallschirmjägerregiment* fight to prevent the Americans from breaking out through St. Lô. Even though lightly equipped, the veteran paratroopers use the bocage hedgerows with great skill, and make the Americans pay a high price for each metre of ground they give up.

FALLSCHIRMPIONIERKOMPANIEN (page 162)

Parachute Engineer Company

These elite parachute pioneers can do all manner of engineering work, from laying and clearing mines to storming fortifications with flame-throwers. Mostly though, they simply dig in and hold their ground against everything the Americans can throw at them

101. SCHWERE SS-PANZERABTEILUNG 102. SCHWERE SS-PANZERABTEILUNG



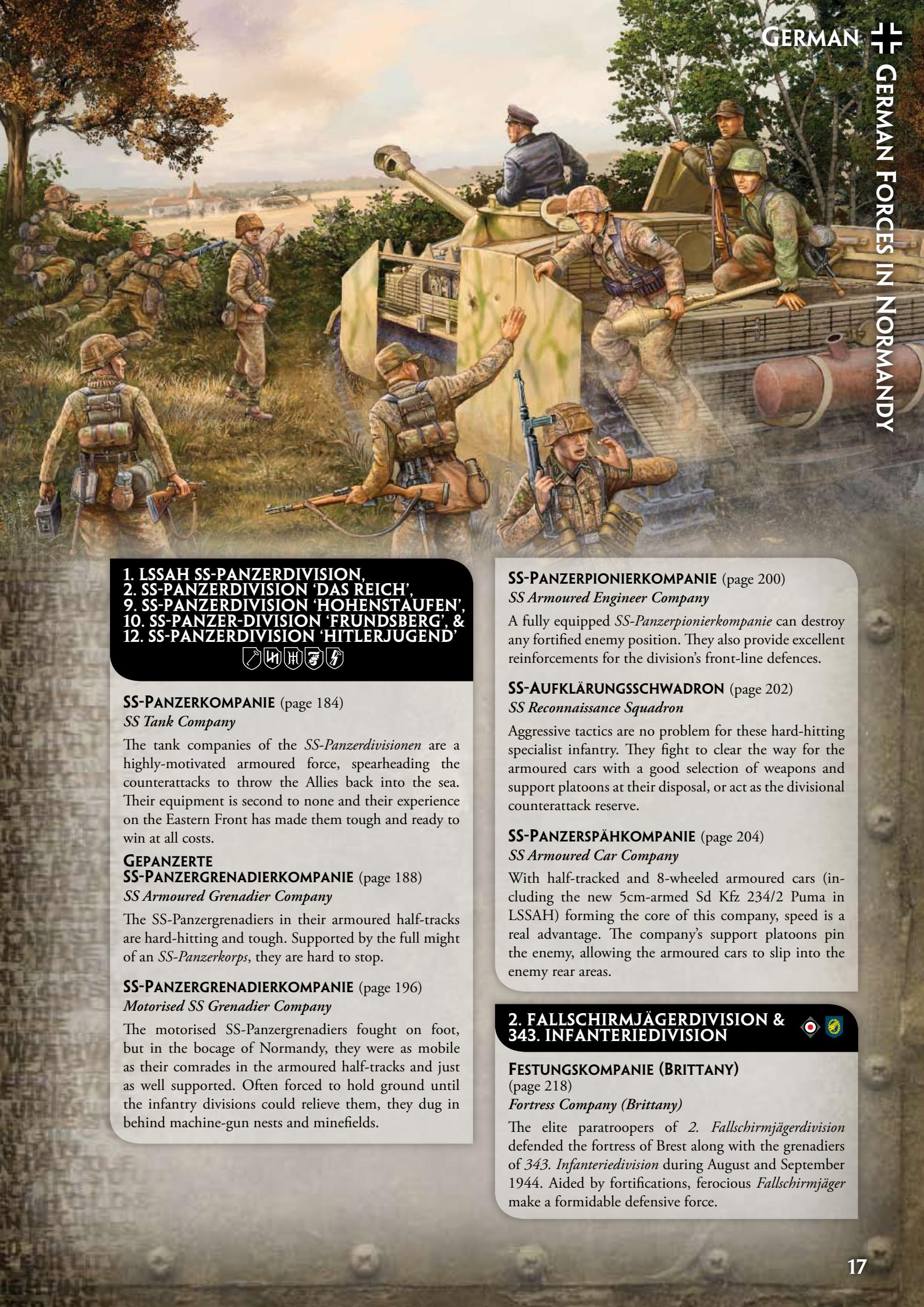
SCHWERE SS-PANZERKOMPANIEN (page 172)

Heavy SS Tank Company

101. Schweres SS-Panzerabteilung was the first of two SS Tiger tank battalions in Normandy. In its ranks was *Obersturmführer Michael Wittmann*, the top German tank ace with more than 138 Allied tanks to his credit.



★ *Tank Platoon*



1. LSSAH SS-PANZERDIVISION,
2. SS-PANZERDIVISION 'DAS REICH',
9. SS-PANZERDIVISION 'HOHENSTAUFEN',
10. SS-PANZER-DIVISION 'FRUNDSBERG', &
12. SS-PANZERDIVISION 'HITLERJUGEND'



SS-PANZERKOMPANIEN (page 184)

SS Tank Company

The tank companies of the *SS-Panzerdivisionen* are a highly-motivated armoured force, spearheading the counterattacks to throw the Allies back into the sea. Their equipment is second to none and their experience on the Eastern Front has made them tough and ready to win at all costs.

GEPANZERTE

SS-PANZERGRENADIERKOMPANIEN (page 188)

SS Armoured Grenadier Company

The SS-Panzergrenadiers in their armoured half-tracks are hard-hitting and tough. Supported by the full might of an *SS-Panzerkorps*, they are hard to stop.

SS-PANZERGRENADIERKOMPANIEN (page 196)

Motorised SS Grenadier Company

The motorised SS-Panzergrenadiers fought on foot, but in the bocage of Normandy, they were as mobile as their comrades in the armoured half-tracks and just as well supported. Often forced to hold ground until the infantry divisions could relieve them, they dug in behind machine-gun nests and minefields.

SS-PANZERPIONIERKOMPANIEN (page 200)

SS Armoured Engineer Company

A fully equipped *SS-Panzerpionierkompanie* can destroy any fortified enemy position. They also provide excellent reinforcements for the division's front-line defences.

SS-AUFLÄRUNGSCHWADRON (page 202)

SS Reconnaissance Squadron

Aggressive tactics are no problem for these hard-hitting specialist infantry. They fight to clear the way for the armoured cars with a good selection of weapons and support platoons at their disposal, or act as the divisional counterattack reserve.

SS-PANZERSÄHKOMPANIEN (page 204)

SS Armoured Car Company

With half-tracked and 8-wheeled armoured cars (including the new 5cm-armed Sd Kfz 234/2 Puma in LSSAH) forming the core of this company, speed is a real advantage. The company's support platoons pin the enemy, allowing the armoured cars to slip into the enemy rear areas.

2. FALLSCHIRMJÄGERDIVISION & 343. INFANTERIEDIVISION



FESTUNGSKOMPANIEN (BRITTANY)

(page 218)

Fortress Company (Brittany)

The elite paratroopers of 2. *Fallschirmjägerdivision* defended the fortress of Brest along with the grenadiers of 343. *Infanteriedivision* during August and September 1944. Aided by fortifications, ferocious *Fallschirmjäger* make a formidable defensive force.