

# **Battle of Belgorod, Southeast Flank Kursk The 6th Panzer Division. July 5 - 18, 1943 (24 Scenarios for SP I™)**

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## **1. READ ME:**

- All the scenarios use a NEW OBPZ file (edited with SPHACK 1.6 by Nick Bell). DO NOT play with original OBpz set - weird units will show up. Simply back up your old OBpz file and copy in the one provided with scenarios. Descriptions and stats of the new units are at the end of this document. As someone pointed out, this is inconvenient, I am sorry, but I do not have the time to go back and re-create the scenarios.
- The *primary* source utilized was General Hermann Breith's narrative of the III Panzer Corps from German Battle Tactics on the Russian Front 1941-1945, Steven H. Newton. General Breith commanded the III Panzer Corps.
- After researching the Battle of Kursk, specifically looking for information regarding the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Divisions, I discovered most sources of information (English sources) regarding the III Panzer Corps were inaccurate. As a result, I only have included information, which is from reliable sources, or sources that used reliable sources - primarily from the commander of the unit (General Breith) and several other German Army sources.
- Significant portions of the unit strength, organization and tactics were from Tom Jentz's Panzertruppen. The book is an invaluable resource for any scenario designer, historian, or WW II enthusiast. If you do not have them (two books) - buy 'em.
- SP I and Steel Panthers I are trade marks of SSI Inc.
- Play well and hope you enjoy these scenarios. Comments, criticism, corrections, etc. are welcome. Send to SSheckells@MSN.com.

## 2. THE BATTLE OF KURSK OVERVIEW

The Battle of Kursk in July 1943 was coded by the Germans as Operation Zitadelle (the Russians coded it - BEFORE it happened - as Lucy i.e. they knew it coming and had taken strategic and tactical steps to counter it).

The battle had three theaters of operation (defined by German High Command)<sup>1</sup>: the northern sector - The Orel Theater (area); the southern sector - The Prokhorovka Theater (area) and the southeast sector - Belgorod Theater (area). Please note the southeast sector was the flank of the southern sector, but is referred to separately by the German High Command.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>GERMAN UNIT IN THEATER</u>
Orel	9th Army
Prokhorovka	4th Panzer Army
Belgorod	Armeeabteilung Kempf

I mistakenly called the previous scenarios (7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division July 1943) the Battle of Kharkov July 1943. Actually, the Battle of Kharkov occurred from 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1943 to the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1943. It was the German counter-offensive to the Russians February 1943 Offensive. During the battle the Germans re-captured Kharkov (lost in February 1943) and created a new southern front-line, which remained static (for the Eastern Front) until the Battle of Kursk July 1943. Interesting virtually the same units fought at both Kharkov and Kursk (see brief OOB below).<sup>4,5,8</sup> For The Battle of Kharkov March 1943:

4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army: II SS Panzer Corps - 1<sup>st</sup> SS Panzer Division A.H., 2<sup>nd</sup> SS Panzer Division R., 3<sup>rd</sup> SS Panzer Division T.; 48<sup>th</sup> Panzer Corps - 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division; 52<sup>nd</sup> Corps - 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 332<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division.

Armeeabteilung Kempf: III Panzer Corps - Panzergrenadier Division G.D., 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division; 11<sup>th</sup> Corps (Raus) - 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 320<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

- Note: I could not find an official OOB for the units for 1.4.1943 - 1.5.1943. The OOB is from daily combat summaries and reports to German High Command.

These two Armies were arrayed against (south to north) the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tank Army, 64<sup>th</sup> Rifle Army, 69<sup>th</sup> Rifle Army, 21<sup>st</sup> Rifle Army, 1<sup>st</sup> Tank Army (deployed behind the 69<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> as a reserve), and the 40<sup>th</sup> Rifle Army.<sup>8</sup> This battle would make a great set of winter warfare scenarios. But I have digressed to another battle, back to Kursk.

## **The Battle of Kursk July 1943:**

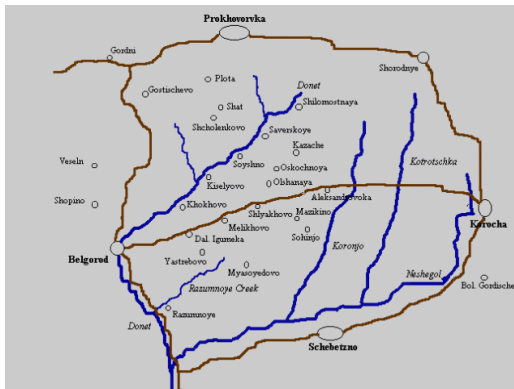
Originally Operation Zitadelle was scheduled to start May 5, 1943 - roughly 2 weeks after the Battle of Kharkov, as a follow up offensive to the Kharkov Thrust. It probably would have worked if it had been conducted as planned i.e. the Russians would not have had 2 months to fortify 3 defensive lines, set up large (huge) artillery clusters specifically designed to stop armored columns in their tracks (the Russians called them artillery fists), replenish their troops, deploy thousands of aircraft, and forward position their strategic reserves. Well, history was a different story.

The Battle of Kursk was actually 3 battles: Orel, Prokhorovka and Belgorod. The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Divisions fought in the latter - the Battle of Belgorod July 5<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> 1943.

The battle of Kursk can be visualized as a circular wall clock. The outside of the clock is the front line with the Germans on the outside and the Russians on the inside. The German / Russian front-line extends in a half circle from the 6 position to the 12 position. Kursk is the center of the circle, Orel is at the top (the 12 position), Prokhorovka is at the 3:30 position (between 3 and 4), and Belgorad is at the 5 position. The Germans wanted to close the circle around Kursk and trap large Russian formations. The 9<sup>th</sup> Army would attack "clockwise" from Orel pinching down to the 3 position. The 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army would attack counter-clockwise from the 6 position up to 3 position pinching the circle closed around Kursk. Armeekorps Kempf was to support the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer's attack by attacking counter-clockwise from the 5 position to the 3 position on the outside of the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army. The III (3<sup>rd</sup>) Panzer Corps would attack and its two infantry corps would form defensive lines along the outside of the gained territory protecting the flank of Armeekorps Kempf and the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army.

The map provided is the lower right quarter of the circle (the 3 position to 6 position). This is the area of operation for the Armeekorps Kempf. The 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army was to the northwest of the map and the immediate left (left of the highway connecting Belgorod to Prokhorovka) was part of the operational area for the II SS Panzer Corps. The 48<sup>th</sup> Panzer Corps was above the II SS Panzer. All in all, 9 panzer divisions attacked across an area about 40 to 50 kilometers long in the southern sector of Kursk (almost a division per 10 kilometers - no wonder the Russians were amazed at the number of tanks!! See unit strengths after OOBs).

### 3. MAP



- Note: The map is NOT to scale. It is roughly 27 kilometers from Belgorod to Prokhovorka. The map sole intention is to provide a sense of direction and general reference.
- Italic names are rivers.
- Brown is a major highway.

## MAP NAMES :

I have found the same town called (spelled) various names, dependent upon the language, translation, etc.. So here is a list of locations and, from what I could ascertain, their names in various languages.

Name 1	Name 2	Name 3	Name 4
Aleksandrova	Alexandrowka		
Belgorod	Beilgorod		
Dal. Igumnovo	Dem Uranjhaja	Blishnjaja Igumenka	
St. Gorodische	Gostischero	Gostischevd	Ivanoka
Koronjo			
Korocho	Kotoschka		
Khokhlovo			
Kiselyovo	Kiseloer		
Kazache	Kazachye	Kasatschje	
Kurakowha			
Mazitzno	Mazikino		
Melikovo	Melekhovo	Melichowo	
Myasoyedovo			
Olshanaya	Olkhovatka	Olchowatka	
Oskochnoye	Verkhni Oshanets	Worchne Oljchanez	
Plota	Provorat		
Prokhorovka	Prokrovka	Prothorovka	
Razumnoye	Rasumnaje		
Rschawez	Rhyavino		
Shlyakhovo	Shlykhova	Schlachowoje	
Saverskoye			
Shtosholevo	Shcholenkovo	Snochnoe	
Skorodnoje	Skorodnoye		
Schebetzno	Shebekino		
Sohijno	Sheino		
Soyshno	Sabynino		
Shilomostnaya			
Shat	Shakhovo		
Skorodyne	Shorodnye		
Yastrebovo			

## 4. BATTLE OF BELGOROD :

- Includes previous introduction (with corrections) for the 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division.

"The huge tank battle at Kursk in July 1943 is often described as one of the great turning points of the Russo-German war. Most accounts center on the deathride of Fourth Panzer Army's 6 Wehrmacht and SS Panzer divisions, to the detriment of the 9th Army or the subsidiary attack of Armeeabteilung Kempf east of Belgorod. The Fourth Panzer Army was north of Armeeabteilung Kempf's forces.

Armeeabteilung Kempf consisted of the III Panzer Corps, XI Corps and XXXXI Corps. The II SS Panzer Corps was the right flank and the most southern element of the Fourth Panzer Army. It was immediately north of Kempf's forces and the III Panzer

Corps. Kempf's Armeeabteilung was conducting offensive operations in support of the main operation Zitadelle - Battle of Kursk. The lack of coverage of Kempf's forces - especially III Panzer Corps - makes it almost impossible to understand the course of Army South's battle, since the failure of III Panzer Corps to rapidly penetrate the Soviet defenses and cover the flank of II SS Panzer Corps was critical to the outcome of the battle (Kursk)."

- Steven H. Newton. German Battle Tactics on the Russian Front 1941-1945.
- I have added text in parenthesis to clarify text.

Basically, there was another tank battle raging south of the main Battle of Kursk (the Prokhovorka Area) or more precisely at the same time as the southern sector of Kursk (\* see below). That battle was the Battle of Belgorod, July 1943. The Armeeabteilung Kempf (referred to as Army Kempf) had the III Panzer Corps deployed north, next to the II SS Panzer Corps (southern flank Fourth Panzer Army), the IX Corps (the 106th and 320th Infantry Divisions) center and the XXXXI Corps south. The front for the entire Army Kempf was the Donet River. The northern flank of Army Kempf, III Panzer Corps, would attack north and northwest supporting the II SS Panzer Corps advances to Prokhovorka. Essentially all other operations by the IX Corps and XXXXI Corps were to support the III Panzer Corps' offensive. **These scenarios are of one division (6th Panzer Division) from the III Panzer Corps during the Battle of Belgorod.**

- The usual view or scope of the Battle of Kursk is the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army's attack. The additional attacks by the 9<sup>th</sup> Army in the north and Armeeabteilung Kempf in the south are not usually included in the view of Kursk.

The III Panzer Corps had: three Panzer divisions - the 6th, the 7th, and the 19th; the 168th Infantry Division, the 503rd Tiger Battalion (deployed as Kompanien - one with each Panzer Division), the 228th, 393rd, and 905th Assault Gun Brigades; and some attached support battalions.

Although the Army Kempf and III Panzer Corps accomplished its objectives: penetrating the Russian defenses and protecting the right or southern and eastern flanks of the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army; it achieved them too late. The victory was short-lived because neither the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army nor Armeeabteilung Kempf penetrated far enough to encircle Kursk. Additionally, the panzer divisions involved lost about 60% of their armor for little gain, which in turn left them too weak to exploit. Moreover, the German had no reserves, while the Russians still did, even with their ungodly losses. Consequently, the Russians during the next month over-ran the German positions pushing them back to the February 1943 front-line. In other words, all of the sacrifices and gains in March 1943 - the Battle of Kharkov - were lost.

Specifically, the Army Kempf, within several weeks, gave up all their gains without achieving any impact in other sectors; as their original objective was to support the northern offensive. As a result, success, not temporary victory, would have been to follow-up with deep penetration operations to the northwest and northeast - this never occurred. Instead the whole offensive badly bled the freshly replenished Panzer units (something they couldn't afford), did not support the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army to the north and the subsequently weakened the southern flank because the entire front was at their starting positions within several weeks (now manned by under-strength infantry divisions).

These scenarios detail operations of the 6th Panzer from July 5th to July 15th. They are drawn from descriptions provided by Panzer General Hermann Breith (from Steven H. Newton's book). General Breith provided general tactical, environmental, and operations knowledge.

## 6. ORDERS OF BATTLE

### ORDER OF BATTLE - 6<sup>TH</sup> PANZER DIVISION (JULY 5, 1943)<sup>2</sup> :

6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division :

- 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment - 86 tanks <sup>9,11</sup>
- 4<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier Regiment
- 114<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier Regiment
- 76<sup>th</sup> Panzer Artillery Regiment
- 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Reconnaissance Battalion
- 41<sup>st</sup> Panzer Anti-Tank Battalion
- 57<sup>th</sup> Panzer Engineer Battalion
- 82<sup>nd</sup> Panzer Signal Battalion

⇒ **Order of Battle : 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment** (July 1, 1943) <sup>11</sup>

In Panzer Truppen, the number of tanks and type of tanks are provided, as well as the type of company. Using that information I have constructed (from original OOB charts) the II Abteilung, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment. The Regimental Stab had 3 Panzer Befehlsbereichen (PzBef) and 2 Pz III 75mm.

\* **I Abteilung**, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment, 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

In West. <sup>9</sup>

\* **II Abteilung**, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment, 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division <sup>11</sup>

**As of July 4, 1943:**

<i>Kompanie</i>	<i>Nachrichten</i>	<i>Aufklaerungs</i>
<b>Regimental Stab</b>	Pz Bef (1) Pz IIIIn75 (1)	Pz II (6)
<b>Abteilung Stab</b>	Pz Bef (2) Pz IIIIn75 (1)	Pz II (6)

<i>Kompanie</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Kp Trp</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Zug</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Zug</i>	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Zug</i>	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Zug</i>	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Zug</i>
<b>5</b>	Mittlere	Pz IIIm(1) Pz IVg(1)	Pz IVg (4) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIj (1)	Pz IVg (4) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj (1)	Pz IVg(3) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIm(1)	none	none
<b>6</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIm (1) Pz IVg (1)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIj(3)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIj(3)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIm(3)	none	none
<b>7</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIj (1) Pz IVg (1)	Pz IVg (1) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIm (3)	Pz IVg (1) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj (3)	Pz IVg(3) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIm(2)	none	none
<b>8</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIh (1) Pz IVg (1)	Pz IVg (1) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj(2) Pz IIIh(1)	Pz IVg (1) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIm(2) Pz IIIh(1)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIm(2)	FlammPz(6)	FlammPz(7)

Kp. = Kompanie

Stab = Command / Staff for larger unit such as an Abteilung, Regiment, etc.  
(companies usually do not have staff)

Zug = Platoon / Section

Nachrichten = Intelligence / News / Communication

Aufklaerungs = Reconnaissance

Kp. Troop = Headquarters for company



- The composition of each Zug is from an OOB from April 7, 1943. The number of tanks and type of tanks are from OOBs dated July 1, 1943 and July 5, 1943. Obviously the numbers have changed slightly, but the organization should be roughly the same.<sup>11</sup>
  - **Note:** Since (April 1942) the I Abteilung, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment was being re-equipped with Panthers in the West. It rejoined the division in October 1944.<sup>9</sup> This is in contrast to the other divisions (7<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>), which had two battalions in their regiments, but roughly the same total number of tanks as the 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - Typical Panzergrenadier Infantry Regiment has 2 (I and II) battalions of infantry; one armored (half-tracks) and the other motorized (trucks). Each battalion (infantry component) had 3 companies of 3 platoons of 4 squads.
  - Panzer Reconnaissance Battalion (1943) typically had 2 or 3 companies of either (or one of each) armored cars or light tanks in 4 platoons. Armored cars platoons were normally 6 cars and light tank platoons were 4 to 6 tanks apiece. Additionally, the battalion had 2 companies of armored infantry each with 3 platoons (4 squads per) of infantry and a 4<sup>th</sup> platoon of armored cars.
  - Panzer Anti-Tank Battalion was 3 or 4 companies of 3 platoons. The companies were typically Self-propelled Tank Destroyers with 4 vehicles per platoon. One company could be Heavy TDs or towed AT guns. If a fourth company existed, it was normally towed not self-propelled.
- ⇒ All divisions involved in all sectors of the Battle of Kursk were fully replenished before the battle and should be assumed to have full compliments of men and material unless noted.

## Vehicular Status during the Battle of Belgorod:

### II Abteilung / 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment / 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

- all information from Panzer Truppen 2 by Tom Jentz
- The **number** indicates how many tanks were **operational**.
- Non-operational tanks could be disabled, under repair or destroyed.
- Please note: From the 16<sup>th</sup> of July on the general offensive had stopped and all activities were defensive.

Vehicular Type	Date														
	1.7	4.7	5.7	6.7	7.7	8.7	9.7	10.7	11.7	12.7	13.7	14.7	15.7	16.7	
<b>Pz II</b>	13	12				8	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Pz III</b>	34	33				24	24	12	11	11	10	9	6	2	
<b>Pz III 75</b>	18	17				13	13	1	2	2	2	0	1	0	
<b>Pz IVg</b>	32	27				14	13	6	6	5	5	3	7	2	
<b>Pz Bef</b>	6	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	
<b>FlammPz</b>	14	13	?	?	?	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>T34</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	
<b>Total</b>	117	105	?	?	80	72	70	22	23	20	19	14	17	4	

## Order of Battle : 503<sup>rd</sup> Schwere Panzer Abteilung (July 1, 1943) <sup>11</sup>

- In Panzer Truppen, the number of tanks and type of tanks are provided, as well as the type of company. Using that information I have constructed (from original OOB charts) the Abteilung. Please note, the Abteilung was split up by company and each division (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>) had a company attached to it. I do not know which division had the Stab attached to it. For these scenarios, I have arbitrarily attached Kp. 1 to the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer, Kp. 2 to 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer, and Kp. 3 to the 19<sup>th</sup> panzer. Additionally, since the original assaults were concentrated around Belgorod, I have attached the Stab Kp. to the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer.
- Additionally, the Abteilung was organized as of the May 1943 OOB - 4 tanks (Pz VIs) per Zug versus the older 2 Pz VIs and 2 Pz IIIs per Zug.
- All tanks in the Abteilung are Pz VIs.
- As of July 5<sup>th</sup> 39 Tigers were operational. <sup>11</sup> The rest (6 more) were operational by July 6<sup>th</sup>. From July 5 - 8, 34 Tigers were immobilized (my definition is any vehicle not operational). Of the 34 only 2 were destroyed (non-repairable or recoverable). So as of July 8<sup>th</sup> 33 Tigers were operational i.e. some had been repaired. <sup>11</sup>
- Several tactical notes: Apparently (at least with the III Pz Korps), Tigers were employed without adequate infantry and vehicle support. They were often far ahead of the other tanks or infantry. Also, they were used in platoon strengths versus larger company sized units. This was apparently occurred with all panzer units. The result being high losses as the smaller (Zug sized) forces were overwhelmed by enemy anti-tank and tank forces.

<b>Kompanie</b>	<b>Nachrichten</b>	<b>Kp. Troop</b>	<b>Zug 1</b>	<b>Zug 2</b>	<b>Zug 3</b>	<b>Zug 4</b>
<b>Stab</b>	(3)	0	0	0	0	
<b>1</b>	0	(2)	(4)	(4)	(4)	
<b>2</b>	0	(2)	(4)	(4)	(4)	
<b>3</b>	0	(2)	(4)	(4)	(4)	

## **ORDER OF BATTLE (only for units involved in the Battle of Kursk)**

### **Order of Battle for Heersgruppe Mitte** <sup>1,2,3,4,11</sup>:

**(July 5, 1943)** - only Panzer units are included

- 5<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 8<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

9<sup>th</sup> - IX Army:

41<sup>st</sup> - XXXXI Panzer Corps:

- 18<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

47<sup>th</sup> - XXXXVII Panzer Corps:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Panzer Division
- 9<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 20<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

Kampfgruppe Eisebeck:

- 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 12<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

### **Order of Battle for Heersgruppe Sued** <sup>2,3,4,7,11</sup>:

**(July 5, 1943)**

4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army:

2<sup>nd</sup> - II SS Panzer Corps:

- 1<sup>st</sup> SS Panzer Division "Adolf Hitler"
- 2<sup>nd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Das Reich"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Totenkopf"
- 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (about 1/3 of unit)

48<sup>th</sup> - XXXXVIII Panzer Corps:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Panzer Division
- 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- Panzergrenadier Division "Gross Deutschland"
- Panzer Regiment 39 (PzVs)
- 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (remaining 2/3s of unit)

52<sup>nd</sup> - LII Corps:

- 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 255<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 332<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

Armeeabteilung Kempf :

3<sup>rd</sup> - III Panzer Corps:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- Attached:
  
- 503<sup>rd</sup> Heavy Panzer Abteilung
- 228<sup>th</sup> , 393<sup>rd</sup> , 905<sup>th</sup> Assault Gun Brigades

11<sup>th</sup> - XI Corps (Provisional Corps "Raus"):

- 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 320<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

42<sup>nd</sup> - XXXXII Corps:

- 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 161<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division
- 282<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

Note : the following units had a Heavy Panzer Company directly attached to their Panzer Regiment during the Battle of Kursk.

- 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- Panzer Grenadier-Division Grossdeutschland
- 1<sup>st</sup> SS Panzer Division "Adolf Hitler"
- 2<sup>nd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Das Reich"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Totenkopf"

#### **(July 17, 1943) - Order of Battle**

4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army:

Directly attached to 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army Command as mobile reserve:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Das Reich"
- 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

2<sup>nd</sup> - II SS Panzer Corps:

- 1<sup>st</sup> SS Panzer Division "A.H."
- 3<sup>rd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Totenkopf"
- 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

48<sup>th</sup> - XXXXVIII Panzer Corps:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Panzer Division
- Panzergrenadier Division "Gross Deutschland"
- 332<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

52<sup>nd</sup> - LII Corps:

- 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 255<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

Armeeabteilung Kempf :

3<sup>rd</sup> - III Panzer Corps:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

11<sup>th</sup> - XI Corps (Provisional Corps "Raus"):

- 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 198<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 320<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

42<sup>nd</sup> - XXXXII Corps:

- 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 161<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division
- 282<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

**(July 25, 1943) - Order of Battle**

4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army:

48<sup>th</sup> - XXXXVIII Panzer Corps:

- 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

52<sup>nd</sup> - LII Corps:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 255<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 332<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

Armeeabteilung Kempf :

11<sup>th</sup> - XI Corps (Provisional Corps "Raus"):

- 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 198<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 320<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

42<sup>nd</sup> - XXXXII Corps:

- 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 161<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division
- 282<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

6<sup>th</sup> Army:

2<sup>nd</sup> - II Panzer Corps:

- 1<sup>st</sup> SS Panzer Division "Adolf Hitler"
- 2<sup>nd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Das Reich"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Totenkopf"
- 24 Infantry Division (Rumanian)

3<sup>rd</sup> - III Panzer Corps:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Panzer Division
- 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- Panzergrenadier Division "Gross Deutschland"

**(August 8, 1943) - Order of Battle**

4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army:

7<sup>th</sup> - VII Corps:

- 68<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 88<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 323<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division (restored)

48<sup>th</sup> - XXXXVIII Panzer Corps:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- Half of the 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- Two thirds of the 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- Two thirds of the 332<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

52<sup>nd</sup> - LII Corps:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- Half of the 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division
- One third of the 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (restored)
- 255<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- One third of the 332<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

Armeeabteilung Kempf (co-designated the 24<sup>th</sup> - XXIV Panzer Corps):

Attached directly to Corps:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Panzer Division (within several days - by 8.8.43)

11<sup>th</sup> - XI Corps (Provisional Corps "Raus"):

- 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 198<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 320<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

42<sup>nd</sup> - XXXXII Corps:

- 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
- 161<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division
- 282<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

6<sup>th</sup> Army:

3<sup>rd</sup> - III Panzer Corps:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Das Reich"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> SS Panzer Division "Totenkopf"
- 5<sup>th</sup> SS Panzer Division "Wiking"

- **Historical Note:** As of August 8, 1943 Armeeabteilung Kempf became officially the 24<sup>th</sup> - XXIV Panzer Corps. Hence Armeeabteilung Kempf nomenclature ceased to exist.

## **Russian Order of Battle in Belgorod Area (July 5, 1943)<sup>2</sup> :**

Forward Lines

- 7<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Army - 8 Guard Rifle Divisions (south)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Army - 7 Guard Rifle Divisions (center)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Army - unknown (north)

Secondary Line

- 69<sup>th</sup> Rifle Army - 7 Rifle Divisions (deployed behind/between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Armies)

Reserves

- 6 Independent Tank Brigades

**(July 16, 1943) - Russian** (all units are severely under-strength)

Forward Lines

- 7<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Army - 6 Guard Rifle Divisions
- 6<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Army - obliterated
- 69<sup>th</sup> Rifle Army - 5 Rifle Divisions
- 1 Mechanized Brigade
- 5<sup>th</sup> Guards Tank Army - 4 Guards Tank Brigades

Units from the 1st Tank Army - 2 Tank Brigades and 1 Mechanized Brigade were supporting the right flank of the 5th Guards Tank Army



The panzer divisions (Directly - 9 Army, 3 SS and 1 Heavy PG *plus* 7 Army, 1 SS in support) represented approximately 70% of the armor for the Eastern Front (I cannot remember which source this came from). The point was the Germans concentrated most of their armor assets for this battle. As far as I can tell, all panzer divisions involved had full complements of tanks and troops.

Additionally, 2 full Luftwaffe Armies, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, were deployed for support - this represented about 60% of the airpower for the Eastern Front.

In turn, the Russians during the course of the battle committed their strategic reserves to blunt the armored thrusts of the Germans. The result being, the German losing roughly 58% of their armor entering the battle <sup>2</sup>, the Russians roughly 50% of all their tanks for the Eastern Front! In other words, the Russians lost 50% of their tanks, the Germans 41% (.58 \* .7). Casualty reports by the Germans differ for example: <sup>10,5</sup>

Date - 1943	Source A <sup>10</sup>		Source B <sup>5</sup>	
	Enemy tanks destroyed	Enemy Aircraft Destroyed	Enemy tanks destroyed	Enemy Aircraft Destroyed
5.7	no entry	no entry		
6.7	no entry	no entry		
7.7	no entry	205		
8.7	since 5.7 460	193		
9.7	195 (only for 4 <sup>th</sup> Panzer)	194		
10.7	no report	119		
11.7	no report	126		
12.7	since 9.7 572	no entry	Since 5.7 1640	no entry
13.7	163	no entry	400+	103
14.7	no entry	103	200	212
15.7	212	no entry	336	70
16.7			194	

Source A: mean from 5.7 to 12.7 : 129 tanks

Source A: mean from 13.7 to 15.7 : 159 tanks (assume at least 100 on 14.7)

Source A: Overall destroyed : 1507 tanks

Source B: mean from 5.7 to 12.7 : 205 tanks

Source B: mean from 13.7 to 16.7 : 283 tanks

Source B: Overall destroyed : 2770 tanks

This is interesting because more enemy tanks are destroyed after 12.7 than before. Most english language descriptions of Kursk indicate the 12<sup>th</sup> of July as the heaviest fighting, but Breith's and the German High Command's reports indicate the 13<sup>th</sup> thru the 16<sup>th</sup> of July as the heaviest fighting and subsequently having the greatest losses for both sides. The strong Russian counter-attacks (to III Panzer Corps) occurred on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> thru 16<sup>th</sup> of July. The heaviest is the 13.7.1943 to the 16.7.1943. Up to 13.7.1943 The Russians had been committing their tank reserves piecemeal (a brigade or a battalion at a time to plug holes within the line), until 13.7.1943. Then they committed the most of, if not all of, the 5<sup>th</sup> Guards Tank Army, the remaining armored elements from the 1<sup>st</sup> Tank Army, as well as the remnants from the independent armor brigades that were the reserves of the 6<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle, the 69<sup>th</sup> Rifle, and 7<sup>th</sup> Guards Rifle Armies. All total about 40 battalions of tanks!!!! The result was the largest tank melee of the war. The Russians called it **Prokhorovskoe poboishche - the slaughter at Prokhorovka.**<sup>6</sup>

Although, the Germans lost a number of tanks from tank to tank combat, most losses were from artillery, air and fortification (mines). The comment from the Germans was they had never seen so many Russian aircraft before, while the Russians said they have never seen so many German tanks before.

### Unit Strengths:<sup>2, 3, 11</sup>

- This is intended to provide a relative strength measure for each battle group.
- The list does not include Assault guns z.B. there were 3 Assault Gun Brigades attached to the III Panzer Korps for a total of 106 guns. As of June 6, 1943, each Assault Gun Brigade (Panzer Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung) had one Abteilung (battalion) consisting of 3 Kompanien (each Kompanie had a Kp Trp of 2 Stug) of 3 Züge (each Zug had 4 Stug) and a Nachrichten Zug (the battalion Stab) of 3 PzIIIg or PzBef (PzIII models).<sup>11</sup> Normally the Assault Gun Brigades had 45 guns, obviously the three attached to the III Panzer Korps were under-strength.
- List does not include Panzer Jaeger Abteilungen (Anti Tank vehicles). Every Panzer Division (at full operational strength) should have 42 SP AT vehicles. Each Panzergrenadier Division 28 SP AT guns, 12 towed AT guns and 12 Leichte (light) SP At guns. In other words, there were (potentially) an additional 256 SP AT guns available for use.
- These are the number of tanks not how many were operational at any one time.

	Kempf			48 <sup>th</sup> Panzer			2 <sup>nd</sup> SS			Total
	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	PG-GD	1 <sup>st</sup> SS	2 <sup>nd</sup> SS	3 <sup>rd</sup> SS	
Pz II	13	12	2	7	8	4	4	1	0	51
PzIIKz	0	0	5	8	11	1	3	0	0	28
PzIII*	34	43	22	34	51	20	10	62	63	79
PzIIIIn75	18	12	11	17	0	2	0	0	0	111
PzIVKz	0	1	2	2	1	5	0	0	8	19
PzIV*	32	37	36	21	25	63	67	33	44	358
PzV	0	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	200
PzVI	15	15	15	0	0	15	13	14	15	102
FlammPz	14	0	0	0	13	14	0	0	0	41
PzBef	6	7	3	1	4	8	9	10	9	57
T34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	25
										1094

	47 <sup>th</sup> Panzer			41 <sup>st</sup> Panzer	K. Grp Esebaeck		Total	
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>		
Pz II	12	1	0	5	0	6	0	66
PzIIKz	8	8	2	10	0	15	0	43
PzIII*	12	30	10	20	0	15	0	87
PzIIIIn75	20	0	5	5	15	6	0	51
PzIVKz	1	8	9	5	1	1	0	25
PzIV*	59	30	40	29	79	36	0	273
PzV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PzVI	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	31
FlammPz	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

PzBef	6	6	7	3	9	4	0	44
T34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pz38t	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	9
Ferdin	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	89
	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	45
								763

	Kempf	48 <sup>th</sup> Panzer	2 <sup>nd</sup> SS	47 <sup>th</sup> Panzer	41 <sup>st</sup> Panzer	K.Grp Esebaeck		
								Total
Pz II	27	19	5	13	5	6	0	75
PzIIIKz	5	20	3	18	10	15	0	66
PzIII*	99	105	135	52	20	15	0	431
PzIIIIn75	41	19	0	25	5	21	0	111
PzIVKz	3	8	8	18	5	2	0	44
PzIV*	105	109	144	129	29	115	0	631
PzV	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	200
PzVI	45	15	42	0	0	0	31	133
FlammPz	14	27	0	0	0	0	0	41
PzBef	16	13	28	19	3	13	0	92
T34	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	25
Pz38t	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	9
Ferdin	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	89
					0		45	45
								1992

Pz III\* (in Steel Panthers I terms) is Pz IIIh, Pz IIIj, or Pz IIIm.

Pz IV\* (in Steel Panthers I terms) is Pz IVg or PZ Ivh.

**Note** Pz38(t) is a SP AT gun. The vehicles were included in the Vehicular Strength Chart *only* when they were directly assigned to a Panzer Abteilungen. Thus Pz38(t)s that are assigned to Panzer Jaeger Abteilungen and / or being attached to a Panzer Abteilungen are *not* included in these strength figures.

## 6. SCENARIOS :

### A. Scenario Type:

<u>Scenario</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>
1. West Belgorod Bridgehead	081	5.7.43	Infantry Defend
2. Crossing the Donet	082	5.7.43	Infantry Attack
3. East Bridgehead	083	5.7.43	Recon Defense
4. Kolonoje Forest	084	6.7.43	Armor Attack
5. Ssolojew Farm	085	6.7.43	Armor Attack
6. North of Yastrebovo	086	7.7.43	Armor Advance
7. Ssewrikowo	087	7.7.43	Armor Assault
8. Melichowo Advance	088	8.7.43	Mechanized Assault
9. Melikhovo Assault	089	8.7.43	Armor Assault
10. South of Shlyakhovo	090	8.7.43	Armor Assault
11. West of Shlyakhovo	091	8.7.43	Armor Assault
12. Security Sweep	092	8.7.43	Armor Advance
13. Eastward Push	093	8.7.43	Theoretical
14. Southeast Shlyakhovo	094	9.7.43	Armor Advance
15. Shlyakhovo	095	11.7.43	Armor Assault
16. Olshanya	096	11.7.43	Armor Attack
17. Rshawez	097	12.7.43	Armor Assault
18. Street Fighting	098	12.7.43	Urban
19. Kurakowka Recon	099	12.7.43	Armor Advance
20. Rshawez Defend	100	12.7.43	
21. Rshawez Repulse 1	101	13.7.43	
22. Rshawez Repulse 2	102	13.7.43	
23. Northeast of Rshawez	103	13.7.43	
24. Rshawez Repulse 3	104	13.7.43	

### **Tactical Note:**

In early July 1943, General Guderian issued orders that Tigers should be concentrated into one unit and employed as a complete unit not segmented into companies and/or platoons.<sup>11</sup> Additionally, General Breith issued orders on July 21, 1943, that directed Tiger employment but included tactical directives for all Panzers. These orders and the report that accompanied them highlighted the "ineffective" tactics used by the III Korps during the Belgorod assaults (the report was specific to the III Panzer Korps, this does not imply they were unique to the III Panzer Korps).<sup>11</sup>

Primarily, Tigers were used in unsupported forward positions (no infantry or engineers, no supporting tanks). Additionally, most tanks were used in platoon (Zuge) sized formations versus companies (Kompanien). Furthermore, infantry were significantly behind (100-200 meters) the tanks or were not present. There was a serious lack of engineers to clear mines and hazards. The result was severe tank losses from mines, At guns (towed and SP), and infantry. As a result, General Breith forbade (his word) the use of tanks under Kompanien strength, static forward positions (you'll see in one scenario), or guarding other weapons. Their use is specifically for attacking the enemy in an assault or a counter-strike. Additionally, they should be pulled into rear positions at the end of each strike.

In the early scenarios, you will notice a lack of infantry support and the placement of tanks in "individual platoons. However, as the casualties of the battle mount, the "proper force allocation" will occur (infantry, tanks, half-tracks, usw.) i.e. they had to, there just was not a lot of tanks left.

## **B. Descriptions :**

### **July 5, 1943 :** Scenarios 1 - 3

**Orders for the Day :** *The kick off of the offensive!! Early in the morning, after a brief artillery bombardment, your panzers are rolling. The 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry will assault across the Donet and expand a small previous bridgehead and create more. Your objective today - provide support for the crossing, reinforce any bridgehead, assemble your tanks, and be ready to roll once bridgeheads are secured.*

1. West Belgorod Bridgehead, July 5, 1943 at 0300 Hours: As the balloon went up starting Zitadelle, 8 battalions of infantry began to cross the Donet to establish bridgeheads. Several bridgeheads already exist, but they have been under constant, although not severe, enemy pressure for several weeks. However, that pressure will increase, since Lucy has begun, the first Russian priority is to crush all bridgeheads. Elements of the 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division must hold this bridgehead and hopefully expand it during the day allowing the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Divisions tanks to cross.
2. Crossing the Donet, July 5, 1943 at 0330 Hours: The 248<sup>th</sup> Engineering Battalion has but a single critical task - cross the river and build a bridgehead. The assault troops know they are on their own except for artillery. Can they capture the hills overlooking the river before getting shot to pieces?
3. East Bridgehead, July 5, 1943 late morning: The assault group from the 248<sup>th</sup> was successful. Now it has to hold on to the ground it just paid for in blood. The enemy can and will try to kill the offensive at the critical bridgeheads bottlenecks.

**End of the Day :** *The bridgeheads were established but not to secure. Little headway was made by the 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry; it meet strong enemy resistance much more than expected. The 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer cannot cross the Donet as planned. However, there is good news - the 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer has established good bridgeheads. Follow them and assemble on the other side.*

### **July 6, 1943 :** Scenarios 4 -5

**Orders for the Day :** *The 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer and 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry are taking heavy casualties and progressing slowly in their attack on Belgorod. The pressure on the units must be alleviated. Consequently, Korp Command has ordered an attack north-east toward Melikhovo by the way of Yastrebovo. Then a sweep north isolating Belgorod.*

4. Kolonoje Forest, July 6, 1943 : The 6th Panzer is advancing, but the Belgorod assault (south to north) has failed. Consequently, you have been ordered to use the bridgeheads established by the 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer and attack on their left flank toward Yastrebovo. The radio traffic indicates the 7<sup>th</sup> is encountering increasing resistance, but your units have found minimal resistance in very rough terrain. Your current task is to secure the road junctions and prevent the scattered Russian units from escaping.
5. Ssolojew Farm, July 6, 1943 : The attack north-east is going well. Although, the Kompanien is encountering increasingly heavy AT positions and they are beginning to wear down the infantry who are liquidating the AT guns. But we must press on. It seems a nest of AT positions is situated around a collective farm. Kompanien 6 und 8 supported by Tigers have orders to eliminate this threat! (see notes after descriptions)

**End of the Day :** We have made contact with the 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer and we are close to Yastrebovo. However, we lost 11 tanks: 8 from enemy hits and 3 from mines.

**July 7, 1943** : Scenario 6 - 7

**Orders for the Day** : Take Melikhovo. Two towns to the west of Melikhovo, Jastrebovo and Ssewrikowo, are the excellent preparation points for the Melikhovo attack. Secure them first, advance to Melikhovo and then secure positions around Shlyakhovo (south, north, and west) for an assault the next day.

6. North of Yastrebovo, July 7, 1943 - 0600 Hours : The marshes and forests are holding up the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer's advance. It is taking too long to advance and the enemy is rallying. Move through the rough terrain and occupy the observation points.

7. Ssewrikowo, July 7, 1943 - 1130 Hours : Ssewrikowo is near, but a large minefield has been encountered. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Kompanie/ Panzer Pionier Battalion 57 must clear the field and allow the 7<sup>th</sup> Kompanie to advance and secure the town. Move out!

**End of the Day** : Not much activity today. Both Jastrebovo and Ssewrikowo were taken with minimal losses. However the bridges over the northern Rasumnaja Creek / River in Ssewrikowo were blown. As a result, we had to rebuild them while under rocket attack. We should have the heavy bridge (tank bridge) ready by morning to continue our advance.

**As of the morning July 8, 1943:** losses are real - speculative assessment

**II Abteilung**, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment, 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division <sup>11</sup>

<b>Kompanie</b>	<b>Nachrichten</b>	<b>Aufklaerungs</b>
<b>Regimental Stab</b>	Pz Bef (1) Pz IIIIn75 (1)	Pz II (4)
<b>Abteilung Stab</b>	Pz Bef (2) Pz IIIIn75 (1)	Pz II (4)

<b>Kompanie</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Kp Trp</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Zug</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Zug</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Zug</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Zug</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Zug</b>
<b>5</b>	Mittlere	Pz IIIIm(1) Pz IVg(0)	Pz IVg (2) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIj(1)	Pz IVg (3) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj (0)	Pz IVg(1) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIIm(1)	none	none
<b>6</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIIm(1) Pz IVg(0)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIj(2)	Pz IVg(1) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIj(2)	Pz IVg(1) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIIm(2)	none	none
<b>7</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIj(1) Pz IVg(1)	Pz IVg (1) Pz IIIIn75 (0) Pz IIIIm (3)	Pz IVg (1) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj (3)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIIm(1)	none	none
<b>8</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIh(0) Pz IVg(1)	Pz IVg (0) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj(2) Pz IIIh(0)	Pz IVg (0) Pz IIIIn75 (0) Pz IIIIm (1) Pz IIIh(1)	Pz IVg(1) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIIm(1)	FlammPz(4)	FlammPz(5)

- The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Züge / 5<sup>th</sup> Kompanie are now consolidated to create a full strength Zug with the designation 1<sup>st</sup> Zug / 5<sup>th</sup> Kompanie.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Züge / 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie are consolidated creating the 2<sup>nd</sup> Zug / 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie. Note - there will not be a 1<sup>st</sup> Zug / 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie.



**July 8, 1943** : Scenarios 8 - 13

**Orders for the Day** : Take Melikhovo and advance to Shlyakhovo. And if possible take Shlyakhovo.

8. Melikhovo Advance, July 8, 1943 - 0730 Hours : Kampfgruppe von Oppeln (6<sup>th</sup> Panzer) has crossed the bridges over the Rasumnaja Creek and is advancing toward Kampfgruppe Unrein (7<sup>th</sup> Panzer), which is northeast of the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer. A simple task today - seize Melikhovo!! Watch out for possible flanking maneuvers from Postnikoff (northern village) and Kalinina (southern village).
9. Melikhovo Assault, July 8, 1943 - 1500 Hours : Damn anti-tank trench!! It held us up for 5 hours and we lost a lot of Panzer-grenadiere in the woods clearing out the Russians and their mines. Now it is finally time to assault Melikhovo with the 8<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Kompanie leading the charge!

*Operational Activity Note:*

The 19<sup>th</sup> and elements (4<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier Regiment) of the 6<sup>th</sup> are assaulting Belgorod from the rear (north and east). The 7<sup>th</sup> is sweeping the eastern flank between the Koronjo River and Myasoyedovo halting enemy counter-attacks.

10. South of Shlyakhovo, July 8, 1943 - 1700 Hours : The attack will continue toward Shlyakhovo. We must have penetrated past their defensive lines. The 6<sup>rd</sup> Kompanie/II Battalion/11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment/6<sup>th</sup> Panzer with the Tigers will advance north and tie down the enemy. While the other Kompanien flank and overwhelm the enemy. Your orders are take the heights overlooking Shlyakhovo; where the last line of Russian defenses are. Or so we hope.
11. West of Shlyakhovo, July 8, 1943 - 1730 Hours : Panzer Kompanien the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> will strike west and occupy Hill 220 creating a firing point into Shlyakhovo. Then one Kompanie should assault into Shlyakhovo. You have your orders, good luck!
12. Eastward Push, July 8, 1943 - 1900 Hours : Panzer Kompanie 7 and the 5th Zug from the 8th Kompanie will continue the push into Shlyakhovo from the west with the support of 2 platoons of panzergrenadiers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kompanie/ II Battalion/ 114<sup>th</sup> PG Regiment. The rest of the 7th Kompanie will hold the Hills 220 and 221. Note : Play this only if you were successful in West of Shlyakhovo. In reality this never occurred, the tank gunfire from Shlyakhovo was too intense. The Regimental commander halted the attack.
13. Security Sweep, North west of Shlyakhovo, July 8, 1943 - 1730 Hours : The 5<sup>th</sup> Kompanie/Panzer Regiment 11 will conduct a security sweep of the woods north west of the assaulting 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanien to prevent a counter attack into their rear.

**End of the Day** : The assaults on Shlyakhovo have failed! However, we did take Melikhovo and are preparing for a morning re-assault on Shlyakhovo. Besides our casualties were light with only 2 tanks non-operational from mines. But we did lose a lot of infantry.

**July 9, 1943** : Scenario 14

**Orders for the Day** : Prepare an assault on Shlyakhovo. Regroup your forces and probe the enemy forces. Intelligence believes the enemy has re-supplied and reinforced itself.

14. Southeast Shlyakhovo, July 9, 1943 : The Panzer Kompanien 6, 7, and 8 are regrouping and refitting for another assault on Shlyakhovo. They are in forward striking positions. Movement has been detected in the woods ahead. Probe the enemy's defenses to see if reinforcements have arrived. Conserve losses for the later assault.

**End of the Day** : It was a dark day for the 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment. Our positioned panzers were caught cold in a hail of artillery. We lost over 48 tanks. The enemy did reinforce its AT defenses and targeted our grouping forces as the primary target for two or three of their Artillery Fists. We barely have a Panzer Kompanie left!!

**July 10, 1943** : No scenarios.

The division is in reserve, consolidating losses and re-grouping.

**As of the morning July 11, 1943: losses are real - speculative assessment**

**II Abteilung**, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment, 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division <sup>11</sup>

Kompanie	Nachrichten	Aufklaerungs
<b>Regimental Stab</b>	Pz Bef (1) Pz IIIIn75 (0)	Pz II (0)
<b>Abteilung Stab</b>	Pz Bef (1) Pz IIIIn75 (0)	Pz II (0)

Kompanie	Type	Kp Trp	1 <sup>st</sup> Zug	2 <sup>nd</sup> Zug	3 <sup>rd</sup> Zug	4 <sup>th</sup> Zug	5 <sup>th</sup> Zug
<b>5</b>	Mittlere	Pz IIIIm(1) Pz IVg(0)	Pz IVg (2) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIj(2)	Pz IVg (0) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj (0)		none	none
<b>6</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIIm(0) Pz IVg(0)	Pz IVg(0) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIj(1)	Pz IVg(1) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIj(0)	Pz IVg(0) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIIm(0)	none	none
<b>7</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIj(1) Pz IVg(1)	Pz IVg (0) Pz IIIIn75 (0) Pz IIIIm(2)	Pz IVg (0) Pz IIIIn75 (1) Pz IIIj(2)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIIm(1)	none	none
<b>8</b>	Leichte	Pz IIIh(0) Pz IVg(0)		Pz IVg (0) Pz IIIIn75 (0) Pz IIIj(0)	Pz IVg(0) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIIm(1)	FlammPz (0)	FlammPz (0)

**Re-organized & Consolidated: II Abteilung**, 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment <sup>11</sup>

Kompanie	Kp Trp	1 <sup>st</sup> Zug	2 <sup>nd</sup> Zug	3 <sup>rd</sup> Zug	4 <sup>th</sup> Zug
<b>7</b>	Pz IIIIm(1) Pz IVg(1)	Pz IVg (0) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIj (3) Pz IIIIm (1)	Pz IVg (3) Pz IIIIn75 (0) Pz IIIIm (2)		none
<b>8</b>	Pz IIIj(1) Pz IVg(0)	Pz IVg(2) Pz IIIIn75(0) Pz IIIj(2)	Pz IVg(0) Pz IIIIn75(1) Pz IIIIm(1) T34 (2)		none

**July 11, 1943 :** Scenarios 15 - 16

**Orders for the Day :** Assault Shlyakhovo and seize the town!! The division and the offensive is behind schedule. Therefore it is imperative you continue your advance into Kazache and if possible capture Rshawez and its bridges across the upper Donet. From there we should be past the Russian defensive lines and can thrust northeast and meet the 9<sup>th</sup> Army coming south. Additionally, we can isolate the enemy divisions around Kursk. Move out!!

15 Shlyakhovo, July 11, 1943 - 0400 Hours : After re-grouping on the July 10<sup>th</sup>, the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer has consolidated their panzer kompanien into two kompanien. Now it is time to an assault on the Shlyakhovo. The Tiger Abteilung, the entire operational 503<sup>rd</sup> Schwere Panzer Abteilung, has increased to 19 operational Tigers. The Tiger Abteilung will tie down the enemy while the 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie assaults from the northeast.

16. Olshanya, July 11, 1943 - 0930 Hours : The Tiger Abteilung with the 7<sup>th</sup> Kompanie will advance further. The 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie will hold Shlyakhovo. The Kampfgruppe ( Tiger Abteilung and 7<sup>th</sup> Kompanie ) will advance through several villages ( Olshanya, Snamenka, Verchna Olyohanen, and Vorchna Olykanino ) toward Kazache.

**End of the Day :** A complete success! Shlyakhovo, Olshanaya, and Kazache were captured. The day has gone so well, Oberst von Oppeln believes we should continue the momentum. Press on into Rshawez. Use the night to cloak your movements!!

**July 12, 1943 :** Scenarios 17 - 20

**Orders for the Day :** *It's the middle of the night and you're to press on into Rshawez. Capture the town and if possible the bridgeheads over the upper Donet.*

17. Rshawez Attack, July 12, 1943 - 0040 Hours : The assault was a stunning success, the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer is within reach of the upper Donet. The tow 7's are leading, the 7<sup>th</sup> Kompanie / 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment and the 7<sup>th</sup> Kompanie / 114<sup>th</sup> Panergrenadier Regiment. Your orders : advance into Rshawez and take the bridges over the Northern Donet.

18. Street Fighting Rshawez, July 12, 1943 - 0400 Hours : The rest of the Kampfgruppe has arrived and joined the melee. Apparently the Russians were reinforcing Rshawez while we were advancing into it. Thus our forces are mixed with theirs. Take the city, the bridges and eliminate the opposition.

19. Kurakowoka Recon, July 12, 1943 - 1000 Hours : A Panzer Zug from the 7<sup>th</sup> Kompanie is sent out to recon east of Rshawez through Kurakowoka and Point 214. Determine what enemy forces exist there. Scout the terrain and assess the enemy.

20. Rshawez Defend, July 12, 1943 - 1800 Hours : Enemy counter-attack! The remainder of your 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanien / 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment have pulled back to refit and prepare for tomorrow. The defenders of Rshawez are elements from the I Battalion / 114<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier Regiment and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kompanie / 228<sup>th</sup> Sturmshuetz Abteilung. Watch out the Russian 1<sup>st</sup> Tank Army has moved south and is releasing its hordes of tanks.

**End of the Day :** *Rshawez was captured. The II Battalion/ 114<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier crossed the destroyed bridgeheads in Rshawez and constructed new ones. We are preparing for a breakout north. However, there were reports of a large number of enemy tanks to the north and east; which were confirmed by the recon into*

*Kurakowoka and the brutal counter-attacks in Rschawez. It appears the enemy is not broken, instead fat with tanks eager to attack.*

**July 13, 1943 :** Scenario 21 - 24

**Orders for the Day :** *Hold Rshawez. The enemy is counter-attacking in force. We must hold the bridgeheads we built to advance further northwest and link up with the right flank of II SS Panzer Corps. Most of the division is being moved up to Rshawez today.*

21.Rshawez Repulse 1, July 13, 1943 - 0930 Hours : Another assault with tanks!! The forward element of the Kampfgruppe ( 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie ) is in Rshawez preparing for the assault toward Aleksandrovka later today and replacing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kompanie / 228<sup>th</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung. Defend the bridgeheads with the 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie/ 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment and elements from the I Battalion / 114<sup>th</sup> Panzergrenadier Regiment.

22.Rshawez Repulse 2, July 13, 1943 - 1300 Hours : The enemy took the chapel on the hill in the east part of Rshawez. We must regain that position!! The remnants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kompanie / 228<sup>th</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung is returning to aid the 8<sup>th</sup> Kompanie / 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment, which is pulling out. Additionally, the 6<sup>th</sup> Kompanie / 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Aufklaerungs Abteilung is pulling up to reinforce the Rshawez bridgehead. Unfortunately, it appears as though the enemy is also reinforcing. The good news - the enemy wants the bridgeheads too. So they will not use artillery in fear of damaging the bridgeheads.

23.Northeast of Rshawez - Blocking Force, July 13, 1943 - 1700 Hours : A light rain has begun, but the Luftwaffe was able to recon the enemy lines about an hour ago. Fortunately, they discovered another tank column coming toward Rshawez. This provided enough time to send out the 1<sup>st</sup> Kompanie / 41<sup>st</sup> Panzer Jaeger Abteilung to block or repulse this attack. The unit is taking positions along the main road in hope of diverting the tank column into rougher terrain ( and slower ) to the west or along the river bank to the east.

24.Rschawez Repulse 3, July 13, 1943 - 2330 Hours : Most of the Kampfgruppe has moved into forward positions in preparation for tomorrow mornings strike into Aleksandrovka. Apparently the enemy has not given up. An enemy infantry battalion is coming. Unfortunately, the enemy does not seem to care about the bridges - arty is back. But you do have the 1<sup>st</sup> Kompanie / 228<sup>th</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung.

**End of the Day :** *We held Rshawez, but lost a number of tanks. Unbelievably, our own bombers dropped munitions on positions. Command has changed our orders : the 7<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Divisions are assuming a northern and northwestern position, while we should re-deploy northeast and east. Our objective has changed from Prokhovorka ( north ) to Aleksandrovka ( east ). It is the main road juncture to Korocho and the center, the hub, of our eastern flank. The enemy has suffered today, hopefully enough to allow our assault tomorrow to be successful.*

**As of the morning July 14, 1943: losses are real - speculative assessment**

**II Abteilung,** 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment, 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division <sup>11</sup>

**Re-organized & Consolidated: II Abteilung,** 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment <sup>11</sup>

**Called KOMPANIE SPIEKERMANN**

<i>Kompanie</i>	<i>Kp Trp</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Zug</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Zug</i>	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Zug</i>	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Zug</i>
	Pz IIIIm(1)	Pz IVg (2)	Pz IVg (1)	none	none
	Pz IVg(1)	Pz IIIIn75(0)	Pz IIIIn75 (0)		
		Pz IIIIm (2)	Pz IIIIm (3)		
		Pz IIIIj (2)	Pz IIIIj (1)		



**July 14, 1943 :**

**Orders for the Day :** Assault east and capture Aleksandrovka!! Move out!!

**End of the Day :** Success!! Aleksandroka was captured. We are on the move again. However, radio traffic indicates the II SS Panzer Corps is having severe problems. Enemy counter-strikes have bleed them terribly, as they have with us. Intelligence indicates the enemy is regrouping for another round of counter-attacks. Dig in, the battle is far from over.

**July 15, 1943 :**

**Orders for the Day :** Not much activity. The 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division is being held in reserve preventing or stemming counter-attacks. The rumors are the offensive has stalled north near Orel and around Prohovorka. Apparently the 9<sup>th</sup> Army and the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army has failed to meet their objectives and have taken horrible casualties. Moreover, the enemy seems to have additional tank reserves. We should expect strong counter-attacks. Hopefully the rain will slow down their reinforcement, but it also prevents us from attacking.

**End of the Day :** Aside from repelling counter-attacks, there was not much activity. Given today's enemy counter-attacks we should set up better defensive positions. Thus we should advance and take the hills farther east and north.

**July 16, 1943 :**

**Orders for the Day :** Counter-attack!! Yes, yesterday we were calling our assaults attacks, but today they are now counter-attacks. The offensive has been called off and the enemy is now the aggressor. Our job is simple : conduct operations to create a secure forward line. This will entail offensive operations to secure positions forward of our current lines and counter strikes to any enemy strikes. Good luck.

**End of the Day :** We have succeeded in holding our positions and gaining some ground. However, the situation does not look good. We have lost all forward momentum and are simply reacting to the enemy strikes, which only seem to get worse.

## STURMGESCHUETZ ABTEILUNGEN

With the consolidation of the Panzers and the 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regimental strength approximately 1 kompanie, the Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung began to take an offensive role. Here is an approximate OOB for the 228<sup>th</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung (Assault Gun Brigade). Additionally I have arbitrarily (could not find any information) assigned :

(for a total of 106 guns as of July 5, 1943)

<u>PANZER DIVISION</u>	<u>STURMGESCHUETZ ABTEILUNG</u>	<u>GUNS</u>
		Stab;1 Komp;2 Komp;3 Komp
6 <sup>th</sup> Panzer Division	228 <sup>th</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung	2;2,3,4,4;2,4,4;2,2,3,4
7 <sup>th</sup> Panzer Division	393 <sup>rd</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung	2;2,3,4,4;2,3,4;1,2,4,4
19 <sup>th</sup> Panzer Division	905 <sup>th</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung	3;2,3,3,4;1,3,4;2,2,3,3

As of July 14, 1943 the Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung had primarily played a defensive role and had suffered few casualties or breakdowns. Consequently, I will assume an operational level, based on July 5<sup>th</sup>, of 86% i.e. 86% of 36 guns or 31 guns operational. The OOB for the 228<sup>th</sup> Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung is (real OOB but numbers and panzer types are fictitious and from SP I; due to no supporting information):

### **228<sup>TH</sup> STURMGESCHUETZ ABTEILUNG** attached to the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division/ III Panzer Korps <sup>11</sup>

- using Organization of Sturmgeschuetz Abteilung from 20.6.1943.<sup>11</sup>

As of July 14, 1943 :

<b>Kompanie</b>	<b>Nachrichten</b>	<b>Aufklaerungs</b>
<b>Abteilung Stab</b>	Pz Bef (2)	none

<b>Kompanie</b>	<b>Kp Trp</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Zug</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Zug</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Zug</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Zug</b>
<b>1</b>	Stug IIIIf(1) Stug IIIIg(1)	Stug IIIIf(2) Stug IIIH42(1) Stug IIIIg(0)	Stug IIIIf(2) Stug IIIH42(1) Stug IIIIg(0)	Stug IIIIf(3) Stug IIIH42(1) Stug IIIIg(0)	none
<b>2</b>	Stug IIIIf(1) Stug IIIIg(0)	Stug IIIIf(0) Stug IIIH42(1) Stug IIIIg(2)	Stug IIIIf(0) Stug IIIH42(0) Stug IIIIg(3)	Stug IIIIf(0) Stug IIIH42(0) Stug IIIIg(0)	none
<b>3</b>	Stug IIIIf(2) Stug IIIIg(0)	Stug IIIIf(0) Stug IIIH42(0) Stug IIIIg(0)	Stug IIIIf(1) Stug IIIH42(0) Stug IIIIg(2)	Stug IIIIf(3) Stug IIIH42(1) Stug IIIIg(0)	none

- Pz Bef are Pz IIIh command tanks.





**PANZER JAEGER ABTEILUNGEN** <sup>11</sup>

Here is an approximate OOB for the 41<sup>st</sup> Panzer Jaeger Abteilung (Anti Tank Battalion). Additionally this OOB is specifically for Panzer Jaeger Abteilungen with Panzer Divisions. The Panzer Jaeger Abteilungen with Panzergrenadier Divisions have two SP AT kompanien, 1 SP light AA kompanie, and 1 towed Schwere (88mm) AT kompanie.

<u>PANZER DIVISION</u>	<u>PANZER JAEGER ABTEILUNG</u>	<u>TYPICAL KOMPANIE</u>
6 <sup>th</sup> Panzer Division	41 <sup>st</sup> Panzer Jaeger Abteilung	2;4,4,4
7 <sup>th</sup> Panzer Division	42 <sup>nd</sup> Panzer Jaeger Abteilung	
19 <sup>th</sup> Panzer Division	19 <sup>th</sup> Panzer Jaeger Abteilung	

The AT Battalions were typically utilized as a reserve for the panzer divisions. They were not considered offensive units. As a result, the usual "pecking order" was panzers (tanks), assault guns, then SP AT guns and lastly SP artillery guns. The later two were solely (95% of the time) defensive units.

As of July 14, 1943 the Panzer Jaeger Abteilung had played a defensive role with little enemy contact. The Abteilung had suffered few casualties or breakdowns. Consequently, I will assume an operational level of 90% of OOB norms i.e. 90% of 42 guns or 38 guns operational:

**41<sup>st</sup> PANZER JAEGER ABTEILUNG / 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division/ III Panzer Korps** <sup>11</sup>

- using Organization of Panzer Jaeger Abteilung from 24.9.1943.<sup>11</sup>

As of July 14, 1943 :

<b>Kompanie</b>	<b>Nachrichten</b>	<b>Aufklaerungs</b>	<b>Heers Flak</b>
<b>Abteilung Stab</b>	SPW 7 (6) 6 rifle sqds	Pz II (6)	SPW 10/4 (2) 4 MG sqds

<b>Kompanie</b>	<b>Kp Trp</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Zug</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Zug</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Zug</b>	<b>Special</b>
<b>1</b>	Marder II(2)	Marder III(3) Marder II(1)	Marder II(2) Marder I(2)	PzJ 38t(2) Marder II(2)	13 AT teams
<b>2</b>	PzJ 38t(1) Marder II(1)	Marder II(1) Marder I(2)	Marder II(3)	PzJ 38t(3) Marder II(1)	11 AT teams
<b>3</b>	Marder II(1)	PzJ 38t(2) Marder I(1)	PzJ 38t(2) Marder III(2)	PzJ 38t(4)	12 AT teams

- Units can be Marder I, II, or III; PzJ 38t

- AT Teams can be larger than SP I designations. There was an infantry unit assigned to each SP AT gun.

**PANZER AUFKLAERUNGS ABTEILUNGEN** <sup>11</sup>

Here is an approximate OOB for the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Aufklaerungs (reconnaissance) Abteilung.

PANZER DIVISION

6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division  
 7<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division  
 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division

PANZER AUFKLAERUNGS ABTEILUNG

6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Aufklaerungs Abteilung  
 37<sup>th</sup> Panzer Aufklaerungs Abteilung  
 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer Aufklaerungs Abteilung

The Aufklaerungen Battalions were very strong light armor units. They possessed large components of infantry, a organic engineering unit, heavy and medium half-tracks, and a great deal of firepower. They were utilized as light attack forces and mobile reserves more often than as recon units. They provided a Panzer Division with a quick response strike force.

**6<sup>TH</sup> PANZER AUFKLAERUNGS ABTEILUNG / 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division/ III Panzer Korps** <sup>11</sup>

- using Organization of Panzer Aufklaerungs Abteilung from 24.9.1943.<sup>11</sup>

<i>Kompanie</i>	<i>Nachrichten</i>
Abteilung Stab *	3 rifle sqds

<i>Kompanie</i>	<i>Hvy</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Zug</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Zug</i>	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Zug</i>	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Zug</i>
1		SPW 10/4 (3)	3 Rifle sqds truck (3)		
2		13 Eng sqds SPW 251/9 (1) SPW 251/5 (6) SPW 251 (6)	9 Rifle sqds 88mm AT gun (3) SPW 7 (3) SPW 251 (9)	4 rifle sqds 75mm inf gun (2) SPW 251 (6)	8 Rifle sqds SPW 251/9 (6) SPW 251 (2)
3 *	81mm mtr (2)	4 rifle sqds	6 rifle sqds	6 rifle sqds	6 rifle sqds
4	81mm mtr (2) 37mm AT gun (3)	14 rifle sqds SPW 251 (14)	14 rifle sqds SPW 251 (14)	14 rifle sqds SPW 251 (14)	14 rifle sqds SPW 251 (14)
5	9 rifle sqds SPW 251 (9)	Pz IIC/f (4) 4 rifle sqds SPW 251 (4)	Pz IIC/f (4) 4 rifle sqds SPW 251 (4)	Pz IIC/f (4) 4 rifle sqds SPW 251 (4)	Pz IIC/f (4) 4 rifle sqds SPW 251 (4)
6	9 rifle sqds truck (9)	Sdkfz 231 (4) 4 rifle sqds truck (4)	Sdkfz 231 (4) 4 rifle sqds truck (4)	Sdkfz 231 (4) 4 rifle sqds truck (4)	Sdkfz 231 (4) 4 rifle sqds truck (4)
7		Sdkfz 234/1 (2) 2 rifle sqds truck (2)	Sdkfz 234/1 (2) 2 rifle sqds truck (2)	Sdkfz 234/1 (2) 2 rifle sqds truck (2)	

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> company and Abteilung Stab were transported by Volkswagen kettelwagens i.e. light fast trucks with MGs.
- **Company designations:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Headquarters ; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Heavy ; 3<sup>rd</sup> - Volkswagen ; 4<sup>th</sup> - Armored Infantry ; 5<sup>th</sup> Armor ; 6<sup>th</sup> - Armored Car ; 7<sup>th</sup> - Heavy Armored Car

**PANZER GRENADIER REGIMENT (GEPANZERT)** <sup>11</sup>

The Gepanzert Grenadier Regiment (the regiment with an armored or half-track battalion) was exceedingly strong in 1943. Notice the amount of men and material in the Gepanzert Battalion. The regiment had two battalions : one motorized ( motorized ) and one armored ( gepanzert ).

***REGIMENTAL ABTEILUNG*** <sup>11</sup>

<i>Regimental Stab</i>	<i>Nachrichten Zug</i>	<i>Aufklaerungs Zug</i>	<i>Panzerjaeger Zug</i>	<i>Sapper Zug</i>
3 rifle sqds	4 rifle sqds	Kettelkrads (6) 6 recon sqds	76mm AT guns (3) 3 jaeger sqds	6 Eng. Sqds 6 mineclear teams

<i>Komp</i>		<i>Zug 1</i>	<i>Zug 2</i>	<i>Zug 3</i>	<i>Zug 4</i>	<i>Zug 5</i>	<i>Zug 6</i>	<i>Zug 7</i>	<i>Zug 8</i>
9 Engineer		4 sqds Spw 251 (4)	4 sqds Spw 251 (4)	4 sqds Spw 251 (4)	6 mineclear teams Spw 250 (6)	4 sqds 4 trucks	4 sqds 4 trucks	12 mineclear teams 12 trucks	Spw 251/9 (1) 1 sqds
10 Rocket	1 sqd	3 sqds	3 sqds	Spw 250 Rckt (3) 3 sqds	Spw 250 Rckt (3) 3 sqds				
11 Flak	4 sqds	Spw 10/4 (4)	Spw 10/4 (4)	Spw 10/4 (4)					

- All units in Stab Kompanie are transported by HTs
- A second Sapper (Engineering) Zug in the Stab Kompanie was in ½ of the regiments.
- Typically the Sapper kompanie did not operate together, but each zug was attached to a PG kompanie i.e. the 1<sup>st</sup> Zug Sapper attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> Kompanie / I Battalion.

***I PANZER GRENADIER BATTALION*** <sup>11</sup>

- using Organization from 24.9.1943.<sup>11</sup>

<i>Komp</i>	<i>Kp Trp</i>	<i>Zug 1</i>	<i>Zug 2</i>	<i>Zug 3</i>	<i>Zug 4</i>	<i>Zug 5</i>	<i>Zug 6</i>	<i>Zug 7</i>	<i>Zug 8</i>
1 Rifle	2 sqds Spw 251 (2)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	81mm Mtr (2)	Spw 251/10 (3) 3 sqds	Spw 251/9 (2) 2 sqds	
2 Rifle	2 sqds Spw 251 (2)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	81mm Mtr (2)	Spw 251/10 (3) 3 sqds	Spw 251/9 (2) 2 sqds	
3 Rifle	2 sqds Spw 251 (2)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	8 sqds Spw 251 (8)	81mm Mtr (2)	Spw 251/10 (3) 3 sqds	Spw 251/9 (2) 2 sqds	
4 - Schwer e		75mm Gun (6) 4 sqds 4 AA teams	75mm AT Gun (3) 3 sqds 9 jaeger teams	82mm Rckt (2) 2 sqds 2 AA teams					

## II PANZER GRENADIER BATTALION <sup>11</sup>

- using Organization from 24.9.1943.<sup>11</sup>

Komp	Kp Trp	Zug 1	Zug 2	Zug 3	Zug 4	Zug 5	Zug 6	Zug 7
5 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
6 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
7 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
8 - Schwer e		3 sqds	75mm AT Gun (3)	120mm Mtr (2)	120mm Mtr (2)			

- All transported with trucks

### Infantry and Gun Unit Strength Chart for Gepanzert Panzergrenadier Regiment

Unit	Inf. Sctns	Eng. Sctns	81mm Mtr	120mm Mtr	AT 75mm Guns	Art 75mm Tubes
Gepanzert Battalion	126	0	6	0	3	9
Motorized Battalion	57	0	6	4	3	0
Regiment	219	27	12	4	9	10

**PANZER GRENADIER REGIMENT (MOTORIZED)** <sup>11</sup>

The regiment had two battalions both motorized.

***REGIMENTAL ABTEILUNG*** <sup>11</sup>

<i>Regimental Stab</i>	<i>Nachrichten Zug</i>	<i>Aufklaerungs Zug</i>	<i>Panzerjaeger Zug</i>
	3 rifle sqds	Kettelkrads (6) 6 recon sqds	76mm AT guns (3) 3 jaeger sqds

Komp	Kp Trp	Zug 1	Zug 2	Zug 3	Zug 4	Zug 5
9 Engineer		4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	18 mineclear teams	
10 Rocket	1 sqd	3 sqds	3 sqds	Spw 250 Rckt (3) 3 sqds	Spw 250 Rckt (3) 3 sqds	
11 Flak	4 sqds	Spw 10/4 (4)	Spw 10/4 (4)	Spw 10/4 (4)		

- All units in Stab Kompanie are transported by trucks
- A second Sapper (Engineering) Zug in the Stab Kompanie was in ½ of the regiments.
- Typically the Sapper kompanie did not operate together, but each zug was attached to a PG kompanie i.e. the 1<sup>st</sup> Zug Sapper attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> Kompanie / I Battalion.

***I PANZER GRENADIER BATTALION*** <sup>11</sup>

- using Organization from 24.9.1943.<sup>11</sup>

Komp	Kp Trp	Zug 1	Zug 2	Zug 3	Zug 4	Zug 5	Zug 6	Zug 7
5 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
6 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
7 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
8 - Schwer e		3 sqds	75mm AT Gun (3)	120mm Mtr (2)	120mm Mtr (2)			

- All transported with trucks



## II PANZER GRENADIER BATTALION <sup>11</sup>

Komp	Kp Trp	Zug 1	Zug 2	Zug 3	Zug 4	Zug 5	Zug 6	Zug 7
5 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
6 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
7 Rifle	2 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	4 sqds	81mm Mtr (2)		
8 - Schwere		3 sqds	75mm AT Gun (3)	120mm Mtr (2)	120mm Mtr (2)			

- All transported with trucks

### Infantry and Gun Unit Strength Chart for Motorized Panzergrenadier Regiment

Unit	Inf. Sctns	Eng. Sctns	81mm Mtr	120mm Mtr	AT 75mm Guns	Art 75mm Tubes
<b>Battalion</b>	57	0	6	4	3	0
<b>Regiment</b>	129	12	12	8	9	0

## D. Scenario Notes

***Ssolojew Farm, July 6, 1943* : The units are:**

8 Kompanie/ 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment : D series - Kp Troop; E series - 1 Zug; F series - 2 Zug; G series - 3 Zug; 4 Zug - in reserve i.e. off map; C series - 5 Zug (Flamm Panzers); 6 Zug - in reserve).

6 Kompanie/ 11<sup>th</sup> Panzer Regiment : Kp Troop - in reserve; B2,B3 - 1 Zug; F3 - 2 Zug, 3,4 Züge - in reserve.

1 Kompanie/ 503<sup>rd</sup> Schwere Panzer : B1, B2 - 1 Zug

Elements from the II Battalion/ 114 Panzergrenadier Regiment

## 7. ACCOMPANYING FILES:

Belgorod.doc (Word 7.0)

Bel.txt (text version of Belgorod.doc)

OBpz - edited OBPZ file

## 9. CREDITS:

- a. Nick Bell's SPHack 1.6 - great editor! Any more improvements planned?

## 10. SOURCES & FOOTNOTES

1. Kriegstagebuch des Oberkommandos der Wehrmacht 1940-1945. Dr. Percy E Schramm mit Dr. Walther Hubatsch. Bernard & Graefe. 1963. Volume III<sub>2</sub> p 737-803.
2. German Battle Tactics on the Russian Front 1941-1945. Steven H. Newton. Schiffer Military/Aviation History. 1994.
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Sources with Newton's book: Zitadelle. Busse, pg.54; Wolfgang Schulmann, Deutschland im zweiten Weltkrieg, 6 volumes (Koeln: Paahl-Rugenstein Verlag, 1977), III: p.566; Burkhardt Mueller-Hillebrand, Das Heer 1933-1945, 3 volumes, (Frankfurt am Main: E.S. Mittler & Sohn Verlag, 1969), III; pp.220-221.

4. Die Geheimentagesberichte der Deutschen Wehrmachtfuehrung im Zweiten Weltkrieg 1939-1945. Kurt Mehner. Oesnabueck. 1988. 10 Volumes.
5. "Das Oberkommando der Wehrmacht gibt bekamt ...". Gunter Wegmann. Oestnabueck. 1982. Band 2.
6. The Road to Berlin - Stalin's War with Germany. John Erickson. Weider & Nicolison. 3 Volumes. 1983.
7. Die Geheimentagesberichte der Deutschen Wehrmachtfuehrung im Zweiten Weltkrieg 1939-1945. Kurt Mehner. Oesnabueck. 1988. 10 Volumes. Volume 5 , p. 419-435

Source within book: Schematische Kriegsgreanering for days listed.

8. Der Grosse Atlas zum Zweite Weltkrieg. Peter Young. Suduett Verlag. Muenchen. 1975.
9. German Battle Tactics on the Russian Front 1941-1945. Steven H. Newton. Schiffer Military/Aviation History. 1994.

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Sources with Newton's book: Burkhardt Mueller-Hillebrand, Das Heer 1933-1945, III Volume, (Frankfurt am Main: E.S. Mittler & Sohn Verlag, 1969), III; pp.220-221; Ritgen, 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division, p. 34.

10. Die Geheimentagesberichte der Deutschen Wehrmachtfuehrung im Zweiten Weltkrieg 1939-1945. Kurt Mehner. Oesnabueck. 1988. Volume 5. P.217-342
1. Panzer Truppen. The Complete Guide to the Creation & Combat Employment of Germany's Tank Force Volume 2 1943 - 1945. Thomas L. Jentz. Schiffer Military Press. Arglen, PA. 1996.

