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While the ability to move tactically on the battlefield was paramount, it was also imperative to train soldiers in road marching so that march discipline could be maintained. Proper dispersal and weapons orientation assured protection of the force, while intervals and maintenance of speed allowed planners to ensure a smoother traffic flow in the congested rear area. As motorcycle-sidecar combinations move past, soldiers from a reconnaissance unit take a break from their road march along one of the recently constructed German freeways, the *Autobahn*.

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A column of light armored cars, *Sd.Kfz. 221's*, move out along a dirt road during a prewar exercise. Note the maintenance of exact intervals between the vehicles. JIM HALEY



A motorcyclist awaits orders to move out. The *Sd.Kfz. 232 Fu (6-Rad)* behind him has oriented its guns over the right side of the vehicle. JIM HALEY

Below: While combat was downplayed in prewar training for reconnaissance ~~force~~, gunnery was still conducted to prepare crews for just such an eventuality. [These images](#) were taken in 1943 at the Bruck Training Area and show *Sd.Kfz. 232 (8-Rad)* armored cars preparing to fire and conducting night firing. While there were no night-sighting devices fielded at the time, gunnery training also included nighttime exercises to familiarize soldiers with the difficulties of firing in darkness. On moonlit nights, targets could sometimes be made out with the naked eye or binoculars, but usually assistance was needed to acquire and engage targets with any sort of accuracy— aerial flares, lights or fires purposely emplaced down range, or range cards and sketch maps.

