



The armored car section of SS-Standarte "Deutschland." The *Sd.Kfz. 231 (8 Rad)* does well during a parade down a city street, but its counterpart, the *Sd.Kfz. 232 (Fu) (8 Rad)*, needs assistance in getting out of a muddy field. JIM HALEY

divisional battle group initially left behind had one company from the reconnaissance battalion. Because of delays in reconstitution and the late arrival of the battle group from the Eastern Front (April 1944), most of the division did not become involved in the fighting in Normandy until the latter part of June. In July, the battalion headquarters company was dispatched to the Wildflecken Training Area for completion of its reconstitution, reorganization and redesignation (it was the former 1st Armored Scout Company). In January 1945, the headquarters was restructured as a motorized headquarters company, and the 3rd Armored Reconnaissance Company was reconstituted with **Volkswagen** in February 1945. During the fighting in Hungary in 1945, the battalion reported directly to the headquarters of *I. SS-Panzer-Korps* during Operations **Frühlingserwachen**.

Kradschützen-Bataillon SS-Division Reich

Activated: 20 February 1941

Antecedent Formations: *Kradschützen-Kompanie/SS-Standarte "Deutschland," "Germania" and "Der Führer"*

Deactivation/Redesignation: *I./SS-Regiment (mot) "Langemarck"* on 20 April 1942

Commanders: *SS-Sturmbannführer Zehender* (February 1941); *SS-Hauptsturmführer Klingenberg* (dates unknown); *SS-Hauptsturmführer Tychsen* (to February 1942); *SS-Sturmbannführer Fick* (dates unknown)

Notes: Reassigned and redesignated on 20 April 1942 as part of the relatively short-lived *schnelles Regiment* of the division. Correspondingly, employed more as mobile infantry than reconnaissance assets.

Awards: Knight's Cross—*SS-Sturmbannführer Fick*, *I./SS-Kradschützen-Regiment "Langemarck"* (23 April 1943); *SS-Hauptsturmführer Klingenberg*, *2./Kradschützen-Bataillon 2 "Reich"* (14 May 1941); *SS-Sturmbannführer Krag*, *SS-Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 2 "Das Reich"* (23 October 1944); *SS-Sturmbannführer Krag*, *SS-Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung 2 "Das Reich"* (28 February 1945) (Oak Leaves); *SS-Oberscharführer Siegling*, *I./SS-Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung "Das Reich"* (2 December 1943); *SS-Obersturmführer Vogt*, *2./SS-*



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DHR

This *Sd.Kfz. 231 (8 Rad)* appears to be broken down and has no shortage of "supervisors" willing to offer an opinion. JIM HALEY