

**German Army
Authorized Strength
Staff
Panther Battalion (Freie-Gliederung)
1 March 1944**

Staff

1 Battalion Commander (officer)
 1 submachine gun
1 Adjutant (Officer)
 1 submachine gun
1 Ordnance Officer
 1 submachine gun
1 Battle Scribe
 1 rifle
1 Messenger and Vehicle Group Leader (NCO)
 1 rifle
1 Driver
 1 rifle & 1 light four seat passenger vehicle (volkswagen)
1 Corpsman (NCO)
 1 rifle
3 Drivers
 3 rifles, 1 light four seat passenger vehicle (volkswagen) &
 2 medium personnel vehicles with 2 Light Machine Guns
2 Kettenkraftkrad Drivers
 2 rifles & 2 Sd Kfz 2 Kettenkraftkrads
2 Messengers
 2 rifles

Staff Company

1 Company Commander (officer)
 1 submachine gun
1 Hauptfeldwebel
 1 pistol
1 Driver
 1 rifle & 1 light four seat passenger vehicle (volkswagen)
1 Scribe
 1 rifle

Signals and Reconnaissance Platoon:

1 Platoon Leader (officer)
 1st Leadership Group:
 1 Master Radio Operator
 1 pistol
 1 Panzer Leader (NCO)
 1 pistol
 2 Gunners (NCOs)
 2 pistols
 1 Radio Operator/Loader (NCO)
 1 pistol
 2 Radio Operators (NCOs)
 2 pistols
 3 Tank Drivers
 3 pistols & 3 Sd Kfz 171 Panther Tanks

3 Radio Operators
 3 pistols
1 Truck Driver
 1 rifle & 1 2-ton truck

2nd Group:

1 Group Leader (NCO)
 1 pistol
1 Panzer Leader (NCO)
 1 pistol
1 Gunner (NCO)
 1 pistol
1 Radio Operator (NCO)
 1 pistol
3 Tank Drivers
 3 pistols & 2 Sd Kfz 171 Panther Tanks
2 Half Track Drivers
 2 pistols & 2 Sd Kfz 251/8 ambulance half tracks with
 1 submachine gun each
2 Corpsmen
 2 pistols
2 Gunners
 2 pistols
3 Gunners
 3 pistols
2 Radio Operators
 2 pistols

Reconnaissance and Pioneer Platoon

1 Platoon Leader (NCO)
 1 pistol
1 NCO on special duty
 1 rifle
2 Kettenkraftkrad Messengers
 2 rifles & 2 Sd Kfz 2 Kettenkraftkrads
1 Motorcycle Messenger
 1 rifle & 1 350ccm motorcycle
1 Driver
 1 rifle & 1 light four seat passenger vehicle (volkswagen)
1 Machine Gunner
 1 pistol & 1 light machine gun

1st Reconnaissance Troop:

1 Troop Leader (NCO)
 1 submachine gun
1 Machine Gunner (in Kettenkraftkrad)
 1 pistol & 1 light machine gun
1 Messenger
 1 rifle
1 Kettenkraftkrad Messenger
 1 rifle
1 Driver
 1 rifle & 1 light four seat passenger vehicle (volkswagen)

2nd Reconnaissance Troop

 same as 1st Troop

3rd Reconnaissance Troop

 same as 1st Troop

4th Reconnaissance Troop:

same as 1st Troop

1st Pioneer Group:

1 Group Leader (NCO)

1 submachine gun

4 Pioneers

2 pistols & 2 rifles

2 Machine Gunners

2 pistols & 1 light machine gun

1 Half Track Driver

1 rifle & 1 Sd Kfz 251/7 half track with 1 LMG &

1 submachine gun

1 Truck Driver

1 rifle & 1 2-ton or 3-ton truck

2nd Pioneer Group:

same as 1st Group

3rd Pioneer Group:

same as 1st Group

Flak Platoon:

1 Platoon Leader (NCO)

1 submachine gun

1 Warning Service NCO/Assistant Platoon Leader

1 rifle & 1 350ccm motorcycle

2 Messengers (1 machine gunner in passenger vehicle)

1 rifle, 1 pistol, & 1 350ccm motorcycle

1 Driver

1 rifle & 1 light four seat passenger vehicle (volkswagen)

with 1 LMG

1st Flak Troop:

1 Gun Captain (NCO)

1 submachine gun

6 Gunners

3 rifles, & 3 pistols,

3 Munitions Handlers

3 rifles

1 Range Finder Operator

1 pistol

2 Half Track Drivers

1 Sd Kfz 7/1 with 1 20mm Quad Flak Gun &

1 Sd Kfz 3 Maultier for ammunition

2nd Flak Troop:

same as 1st Troop

3rd Flak Troop:

same as 1st Troop

Totals:

		Warrant		
	Officers	Officers	NCOs	Soldiers
Troop Command	1	-	1	2
Signals Company	1	-	21	12
Recon/Pioneer Platoon	1	-	8	45
Flak Platoon	-	-	5	39
Total	3	-	35	98

Records of Headquarters, German Army High Command, National Archives Microcopy No. T-78, Roll 393, American Historical Association Committee for the Study of War Documents, Washington, DC., 1960

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