



WARMACHINES N° 16

Military Photo File

GERMAN INFANTRY IN WWII

by Nick ADAMS

929





WARMACHINES N° 16

GERMAN INFANTRY IN ACTION WWII



VERLINDEN PUBLICATIONS

by Nick Adams

Cover & Title page : Mounted reconnaissance patrol taking their leave of officers and men of the Leibstandarte. Horses were used in great numbers by the Germans throughout the war. The MG42 gunner is wearing full battle pack.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The pictures on the following pages are to assist modellers and diorama builders with the representations of uniforms and equipment as worn by front line soldiers.

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Members of the Second Battle Group and Fallschirmjager for their time and effort.

Photographs by Nick Adams and Andy Colborn.

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Leibstandarte Kubelwagen type 82
moves off with grenadiers on the alert.



Folding down the canvas roof.

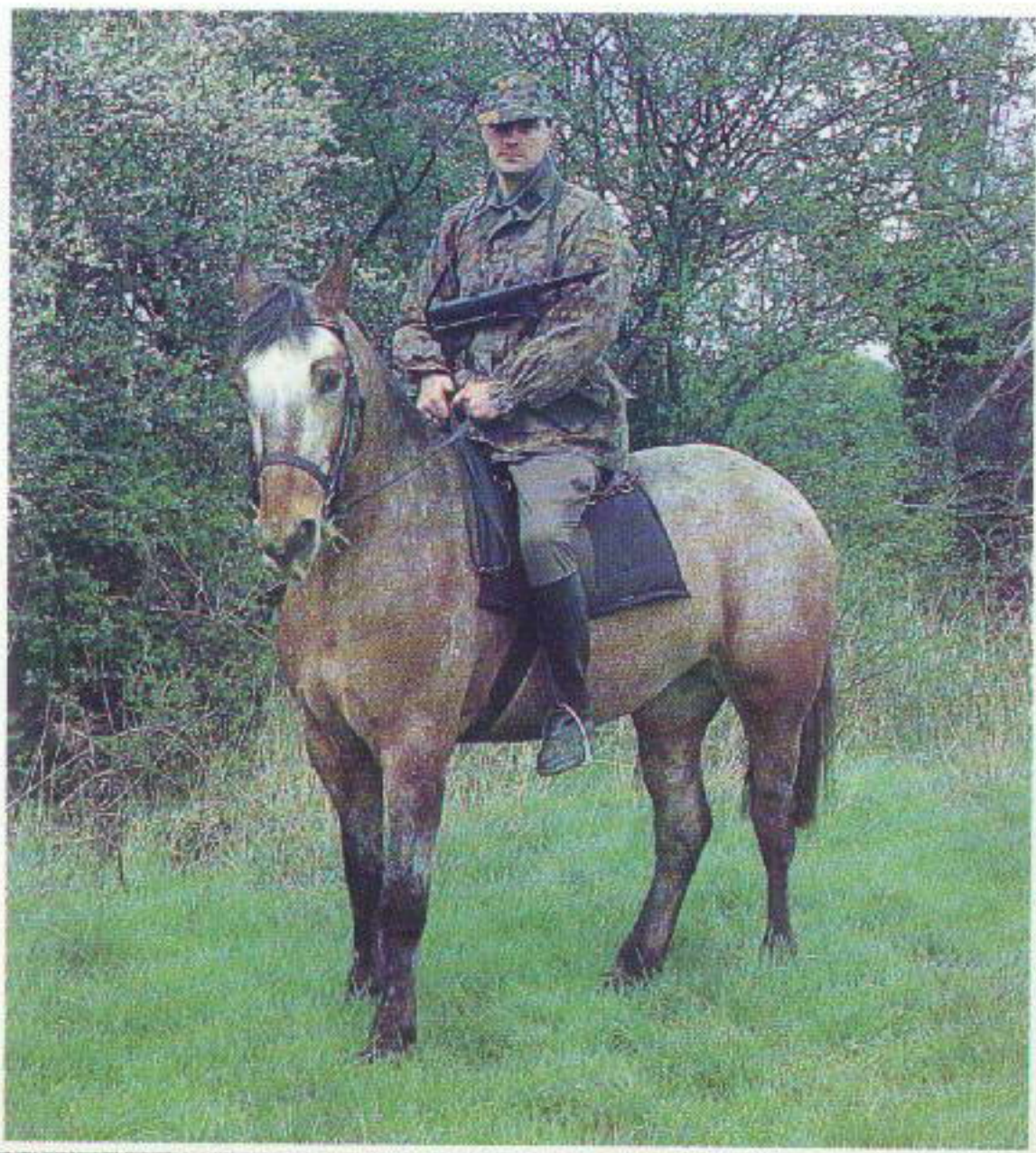


The Kubelwagen crew await the return of the mounted reconnaissance patrol, who have located the enemy and pointed out reference details to the patrol commander.



The officer on one of the horses.





For mounted soldiers the MP40 was more comfortable and accessible than a rifle.





A good view of an NCO in camouflage smock with an original saddle.

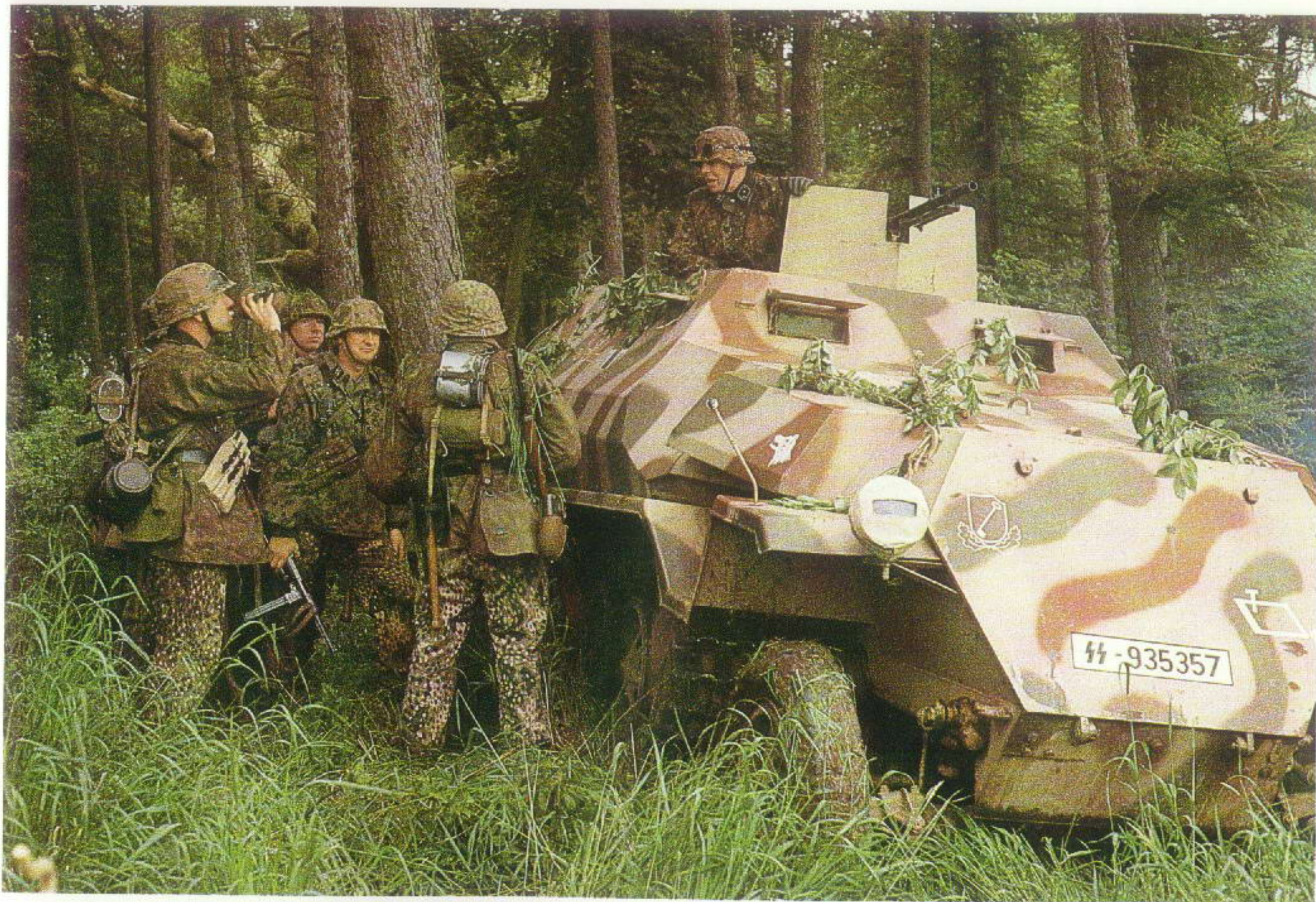
Horse and motorcycle, the old and the new, both able to do things the other could not. Zundapp KS 600, 28hp used throughout WWII.





Good view of camouflaged smocks and equipment. First three smocks front to back: Burred edge summer side, Oak leaf autumn side and Plane tree autumn side.

MG42 gunner wearing battle pack. Mess tin, zeltbahn and bag for battle pack which contained rations, rifle cleaning kit, wool sweater, field stove, fat container and knife, fork and spoon.



Normandy '44. A good 'before the battle' scene. Note the placing of equipment. (Converted Tarta 810).



Young Fallschirmjäger scanning the skies while awaiting their vehicle pick-up. The 2cm Flak can be fired from its trailer, although traverse is very limited.



Waffen SS 2 cm Flak crew ready for action.



Waffen SS crew in action. Their towing vehicle ready to depart at a moments notice, as they are very vulnerable once their position is known.

A mixed Fallschirmjäger and
Waffen SS Kampfgruppe
moving into position.



Good view of various clothing and
equipment.



The 2cm Flak was also excellent at engaging ground targets, and is here being moved into the ready position. Note use of the ground sight.



SS grenadiers watching as the 2cm Flak crew discuss their last action: "There was one aircraft here, and one aircraft there, and if they'd both been in the space I was shooting at, I'd have got them."

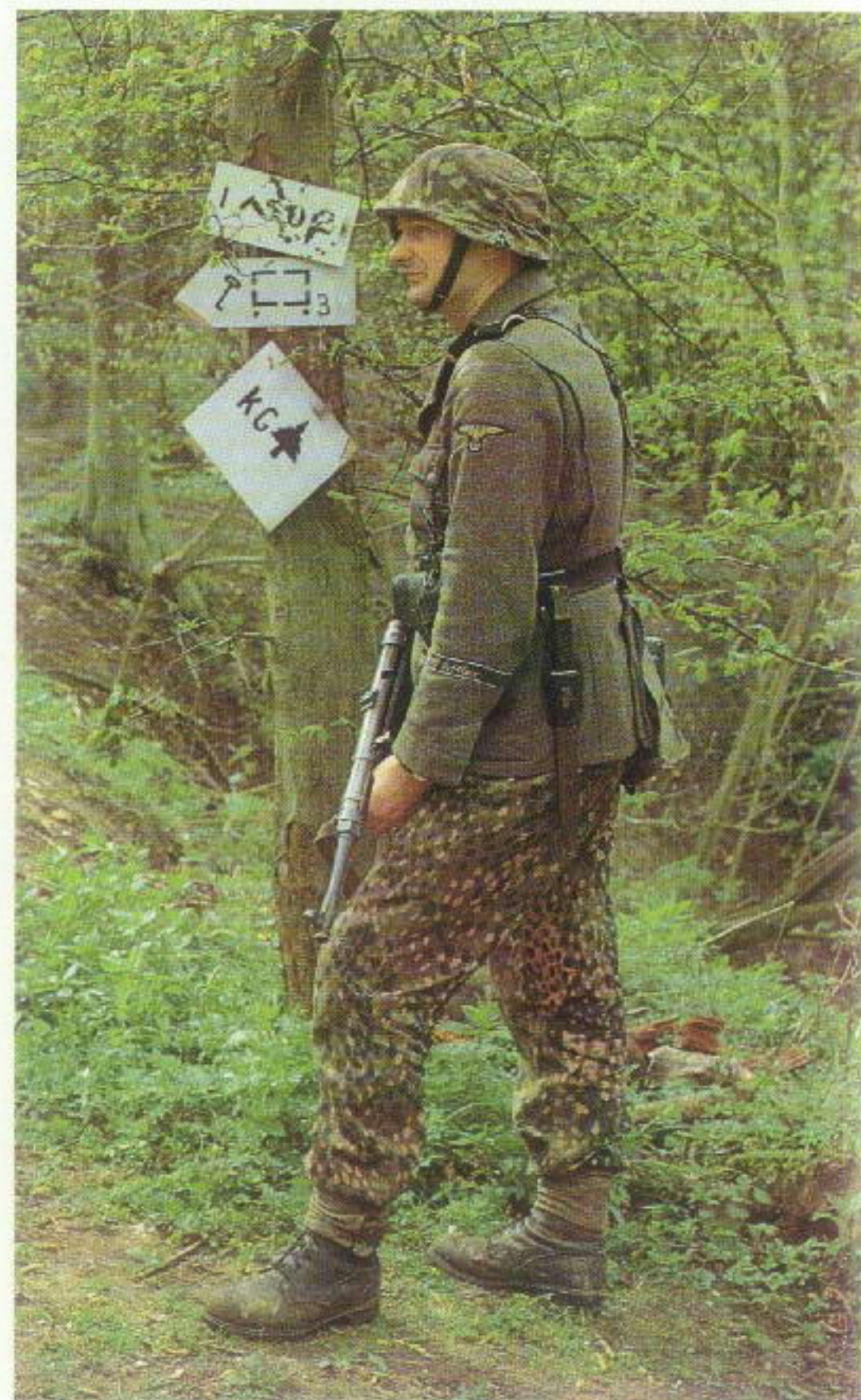
Fallschirmjäger gunner using anti-aircraft 'square' sight. The foot pedal is the trigger.

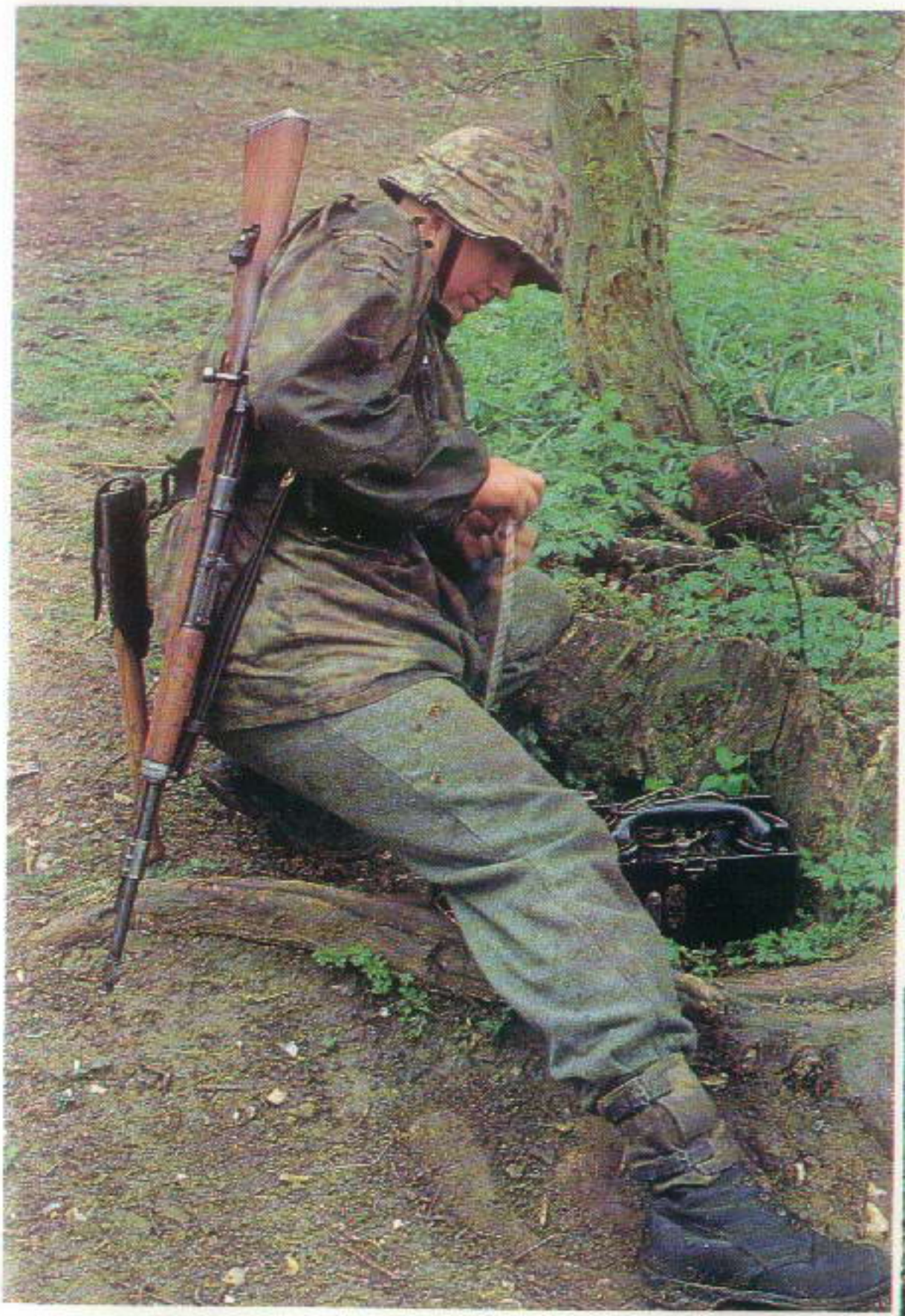


Searching the skies. From 1944 the Western Allies ruled the skies, so the Flak gun was a very important means of defence.



It's of great importance to know where you should be going, whether you're one man or a whole division.





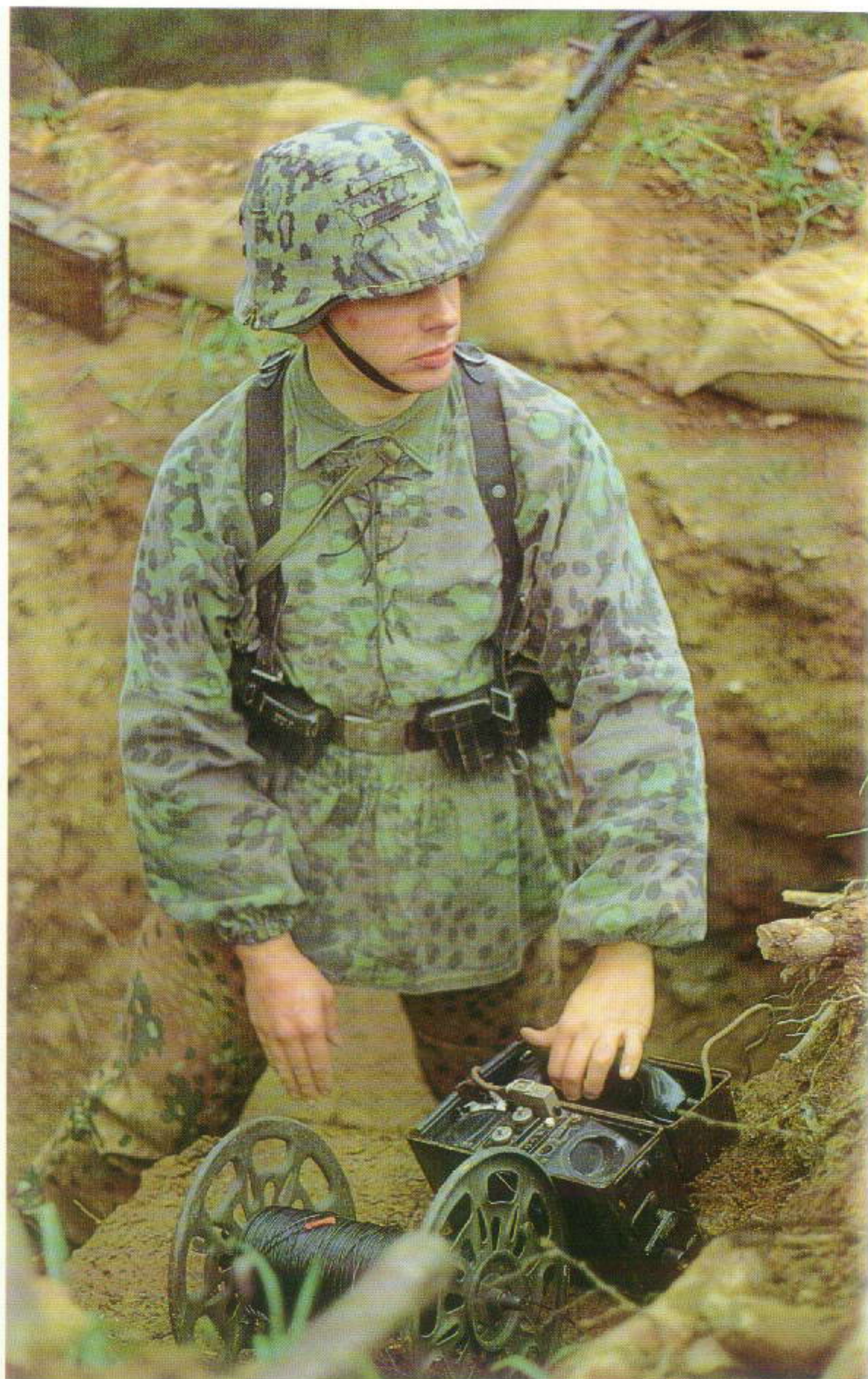
If communications break down a runner is always at hand.

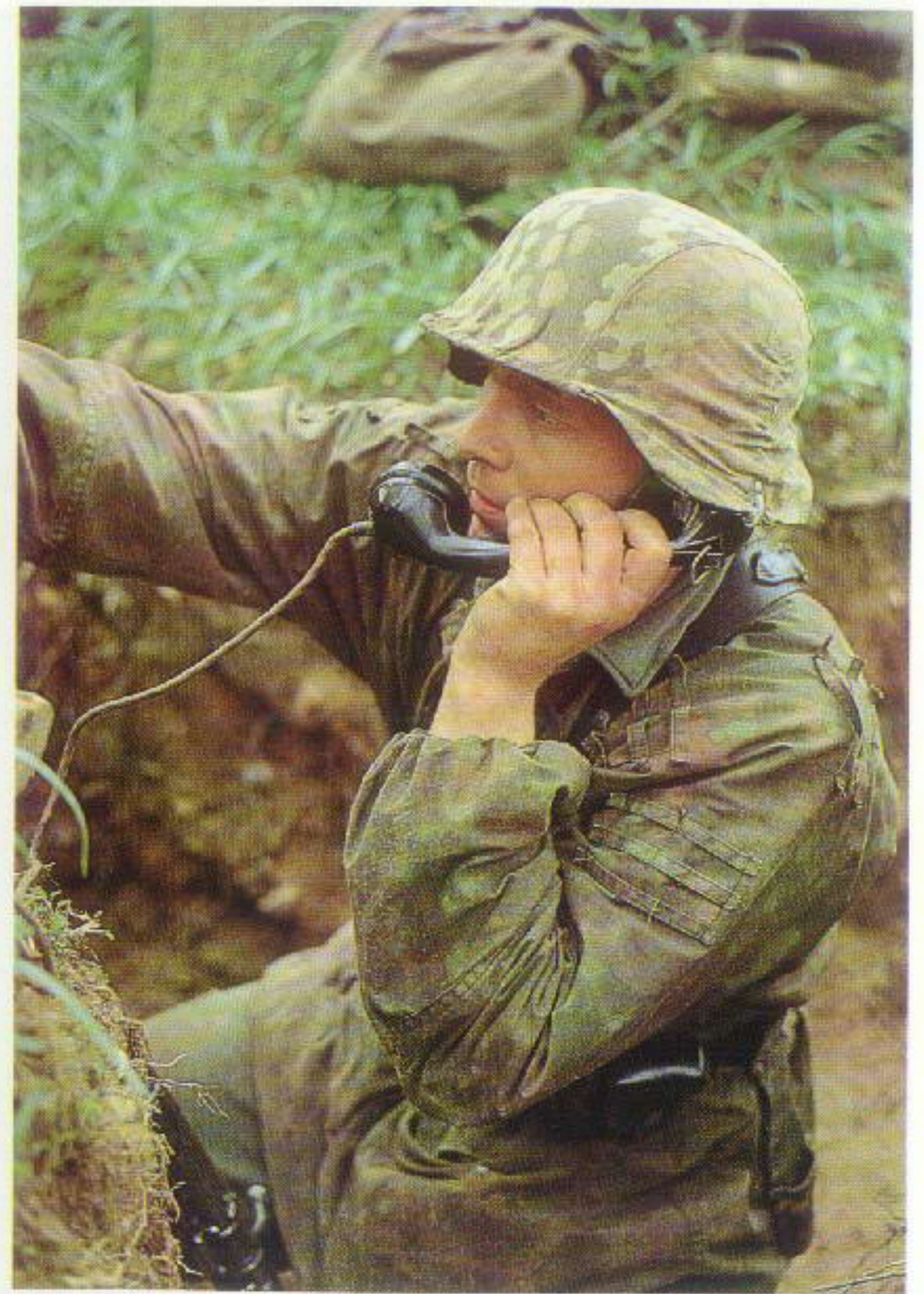
Telephone communications are a vital link between the commander and his men, and must be kept operational at all times.





Diggin a fox hole - tedious but life-saving.





Trench life - a constant round of watching, waiting and keeping in touch with the situation along the front. Field telephone, cable reel, Panzerfaust 60, MG34 spare barrel case and wooden rifle ammo box.



There's always somebody on watch, ...

so a cigarette break is in order. The pistol shown is a Polish 9mm 'Radom'. Note the folding shovel, a useful item but cumbersome to carry.





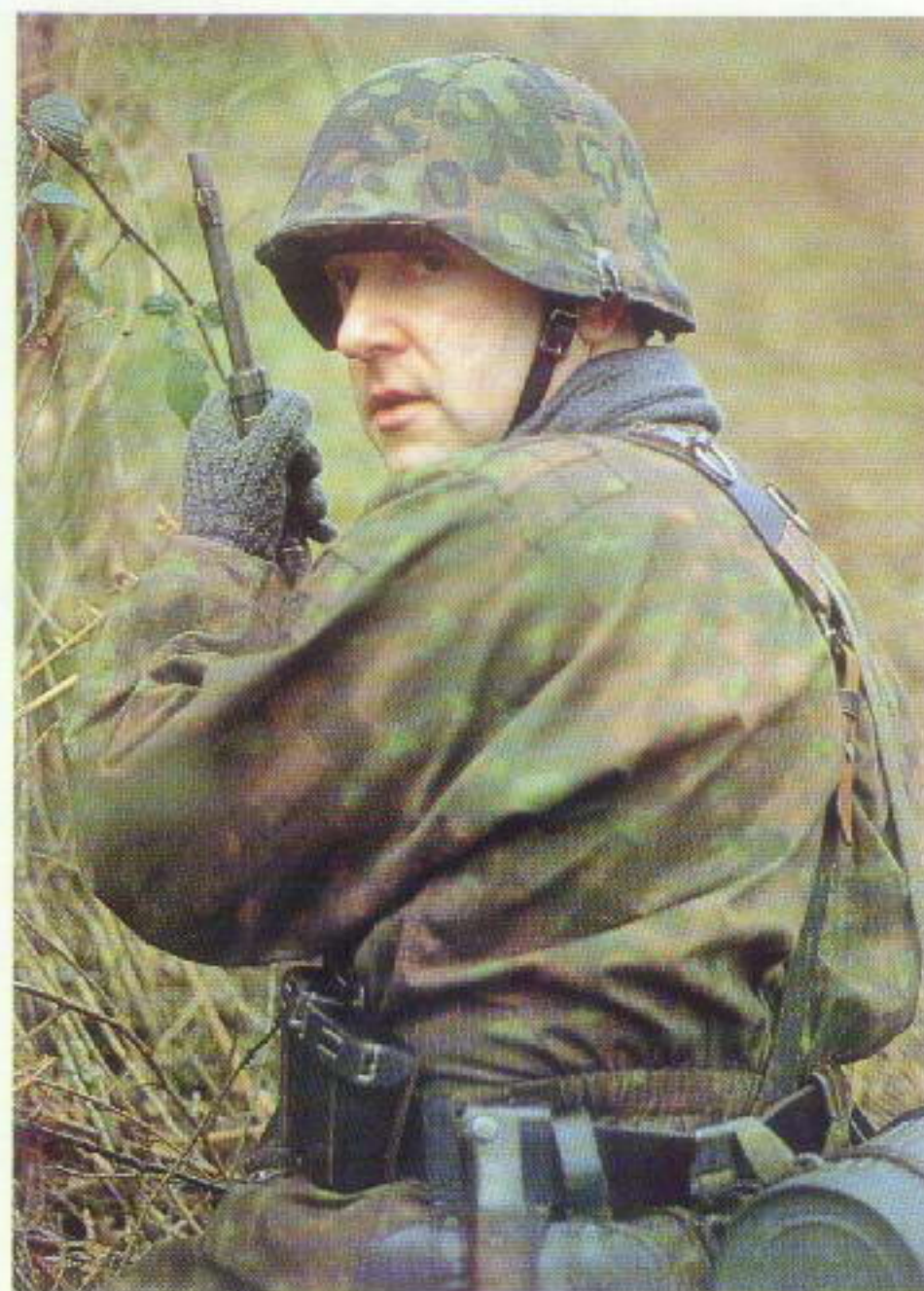
Soldiers of all nations have a lot to carry. The Germans make great use of Infantry carts.



A good view of equipment being worn. Note how the entrenching tool gets in the way when kneeling, the use of one of the many types of back packs and the essential items in the Infantry cart.

MP40 gunner on listening watch (the gun would not be held in this position when firing).



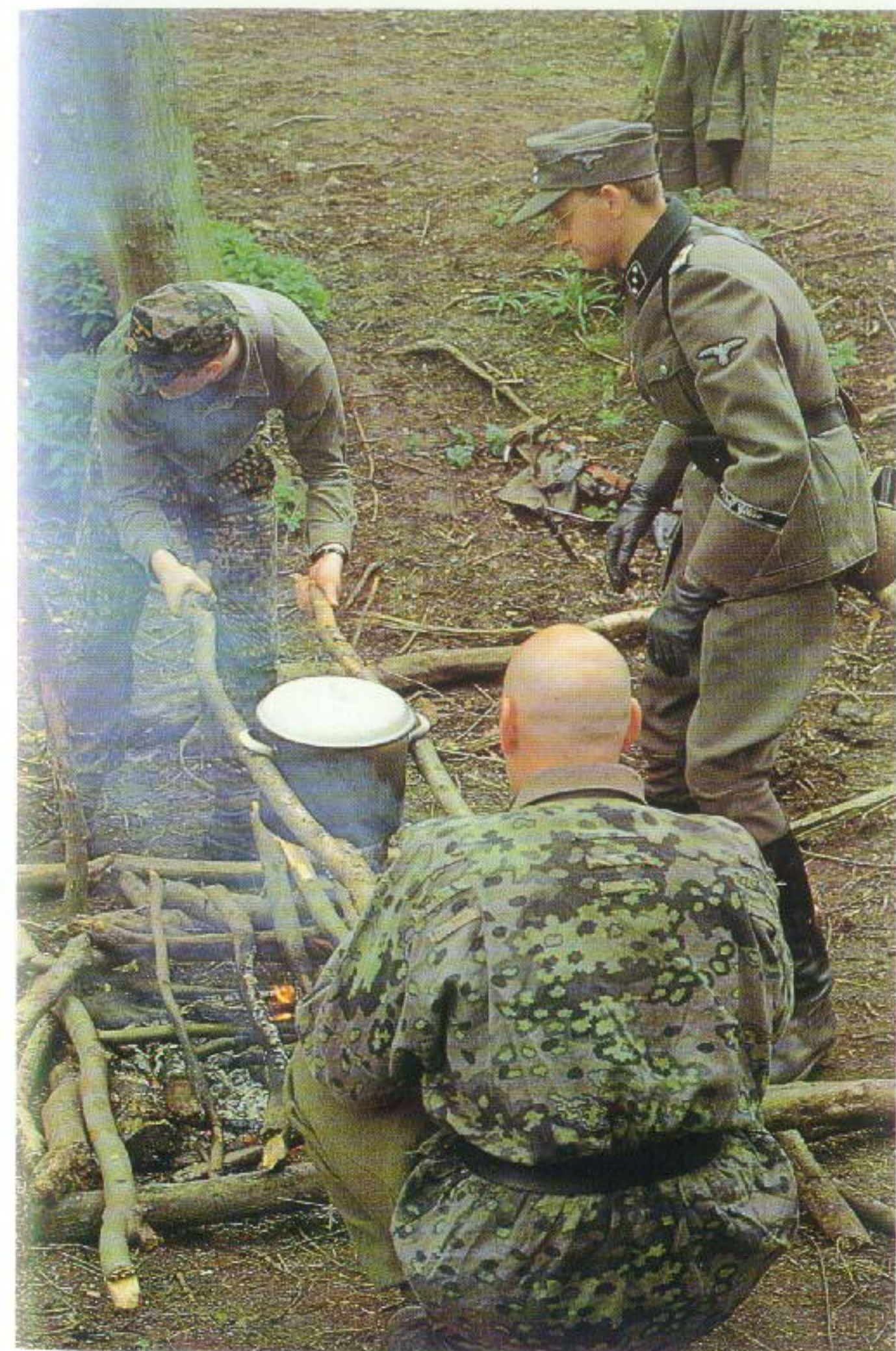


The way to a man's heart is through food and shelter. - Food container arriving at the front.



A rare original camouflaged tent, first manufactured for the Africa Korps. (Fly sheet missing on this example). Burred edge smock, oak leaf helmet cover and Army splinter pattern tent.

The officer makes sure hot food is ready for his men

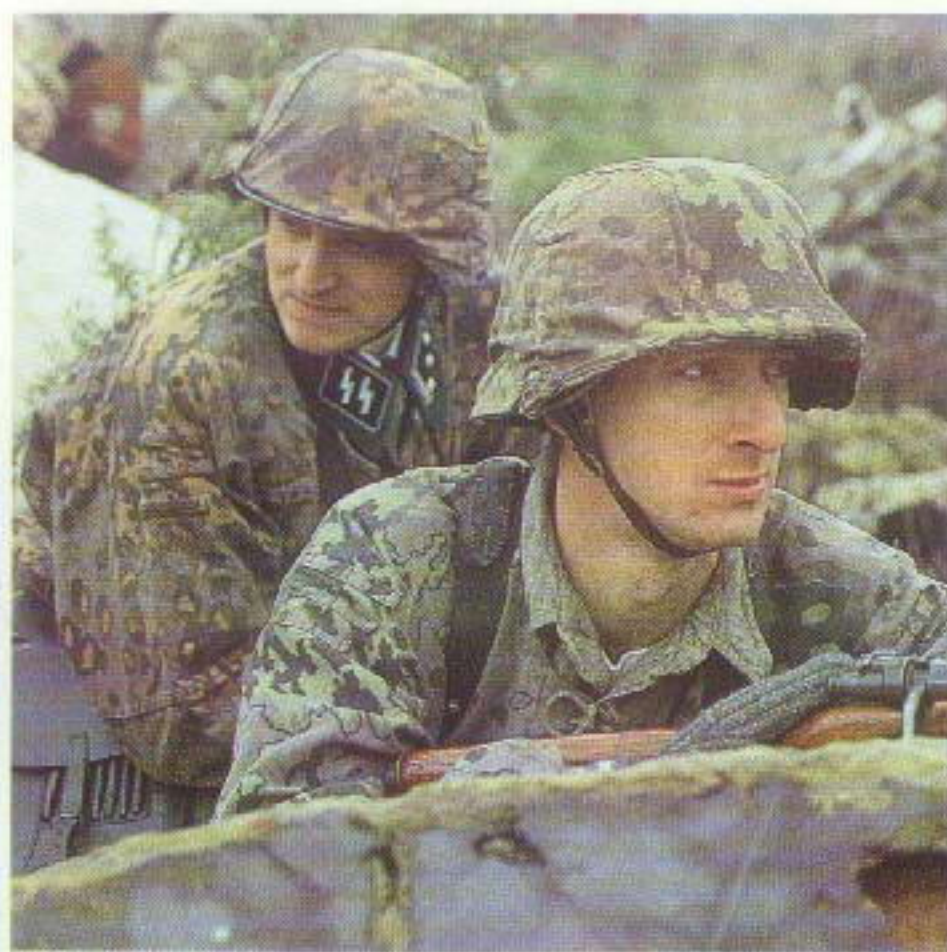
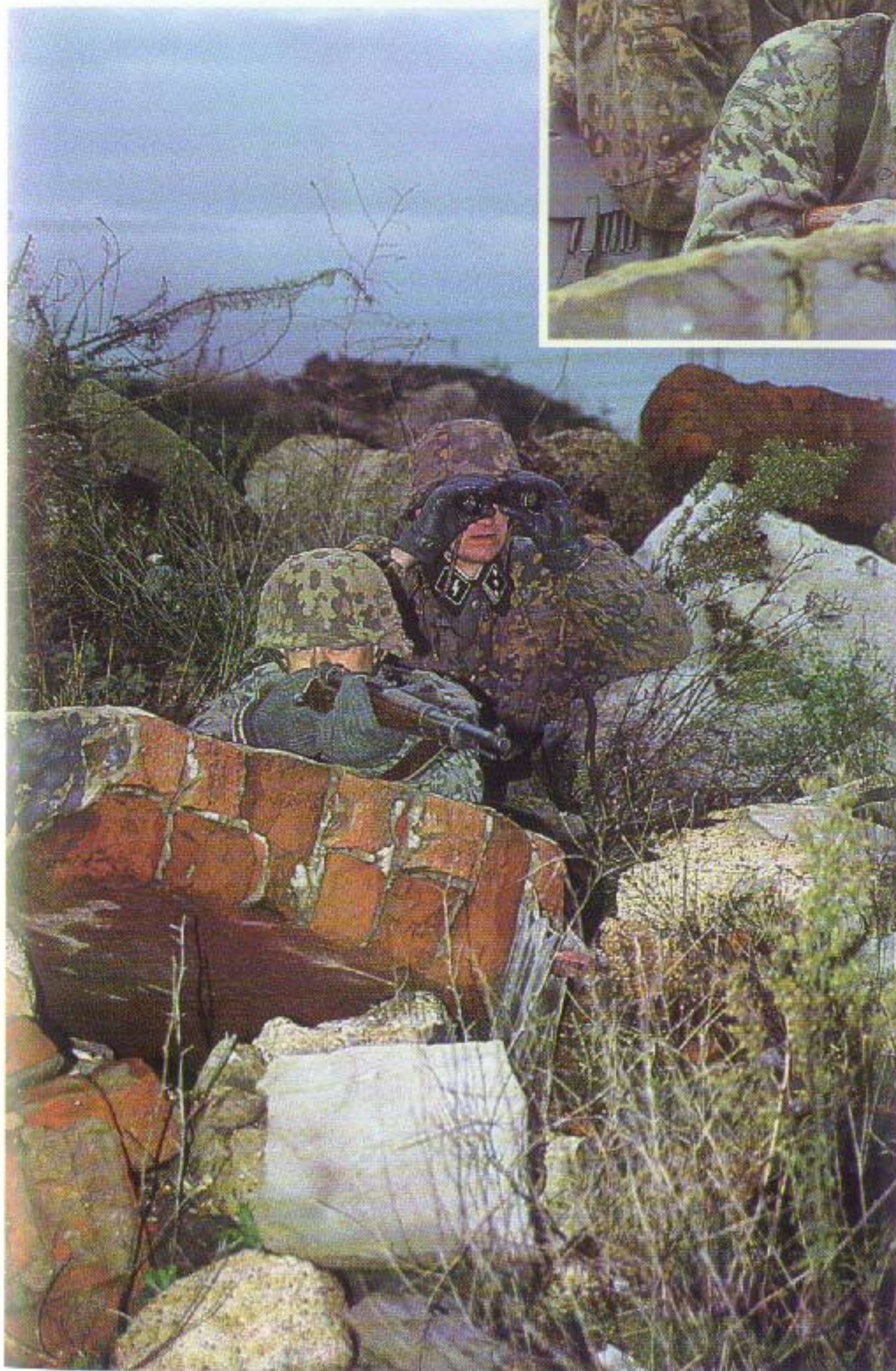


.... when they return from patrol.



The hot food is most welcome, but while some eat, others must keep watch.





Good view of officer's insignia and belt.

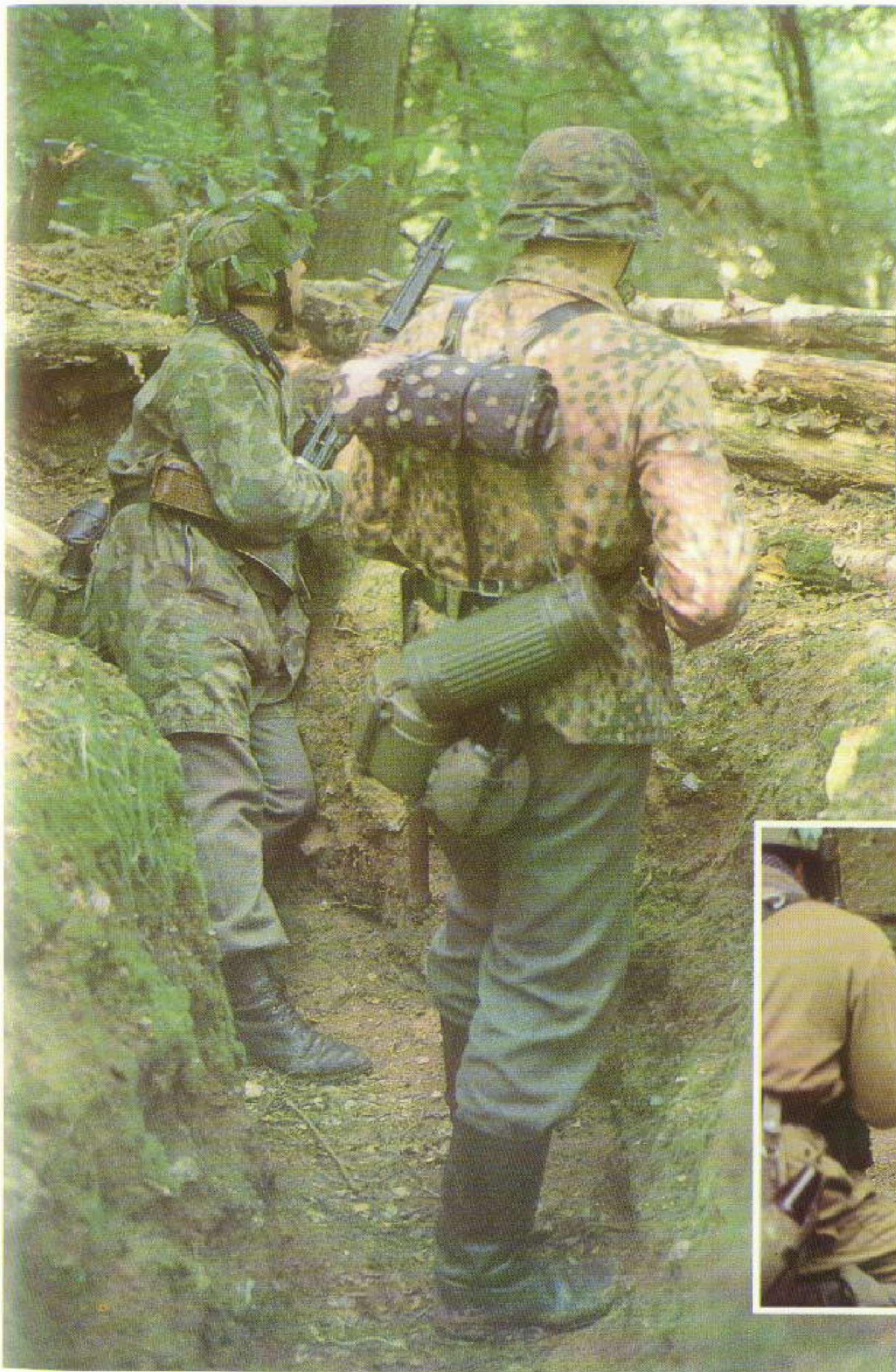




Scenes showing how in the same company many soldiers would wear their uniforms differently, whether through choice or supply difficulties - helmets with and without camouflage covers, shoulder straps being worn on camouflage jacket, some with battle packs.

Also showing the Zf41 telescopic sight in use with the M1943 stick grenade at the ready.

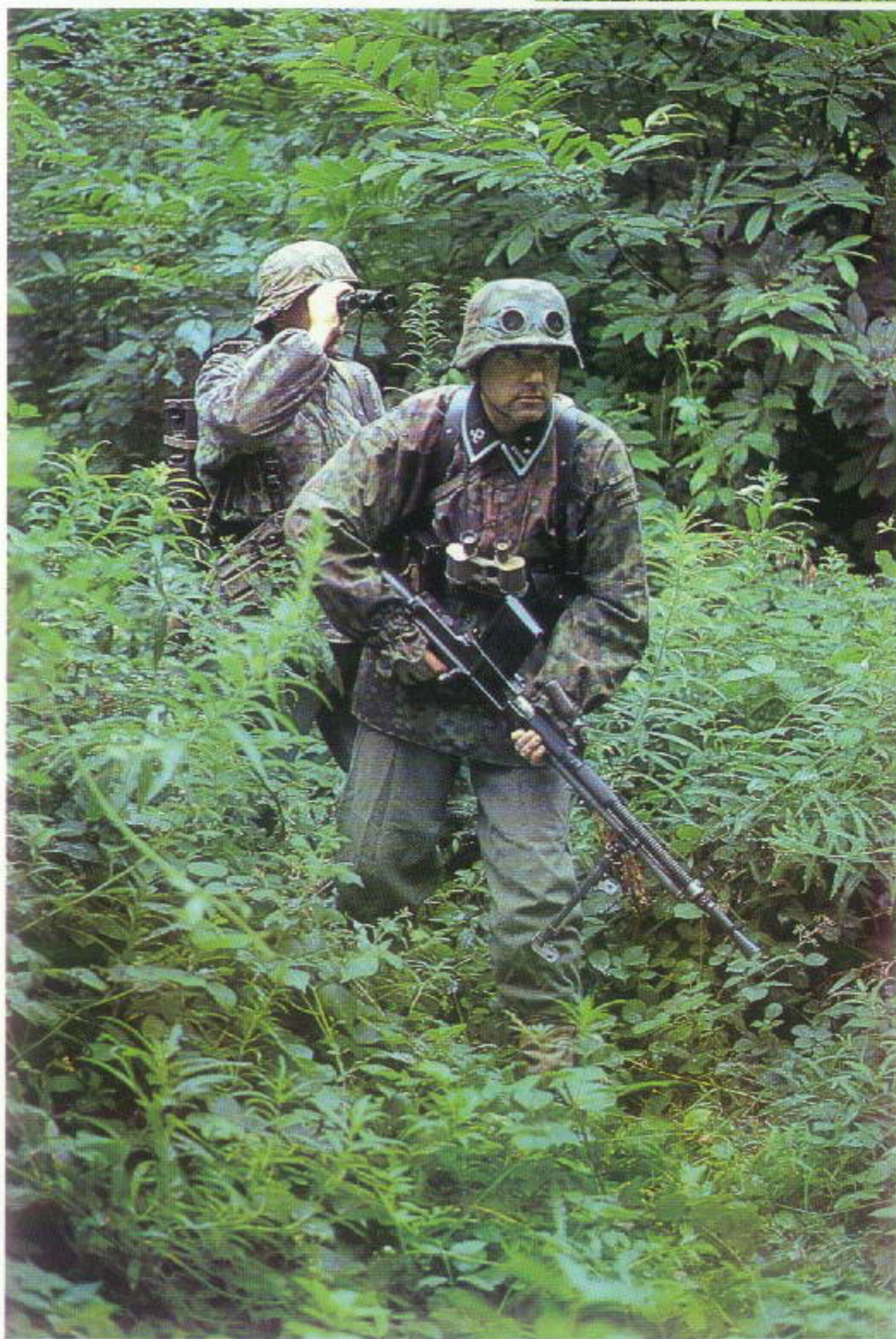




Mixed trench of Fallschirmjager and Waffen SS. This could be right and left flank of two separate units, or a Kampfgruppe (Battle group). One of the German strengths is the ability to bring together soldiers from various units to form a strong force to counter a specific threat.

Fallschirmjager officer giving his orders. MP44 and MG34 weapons shown.



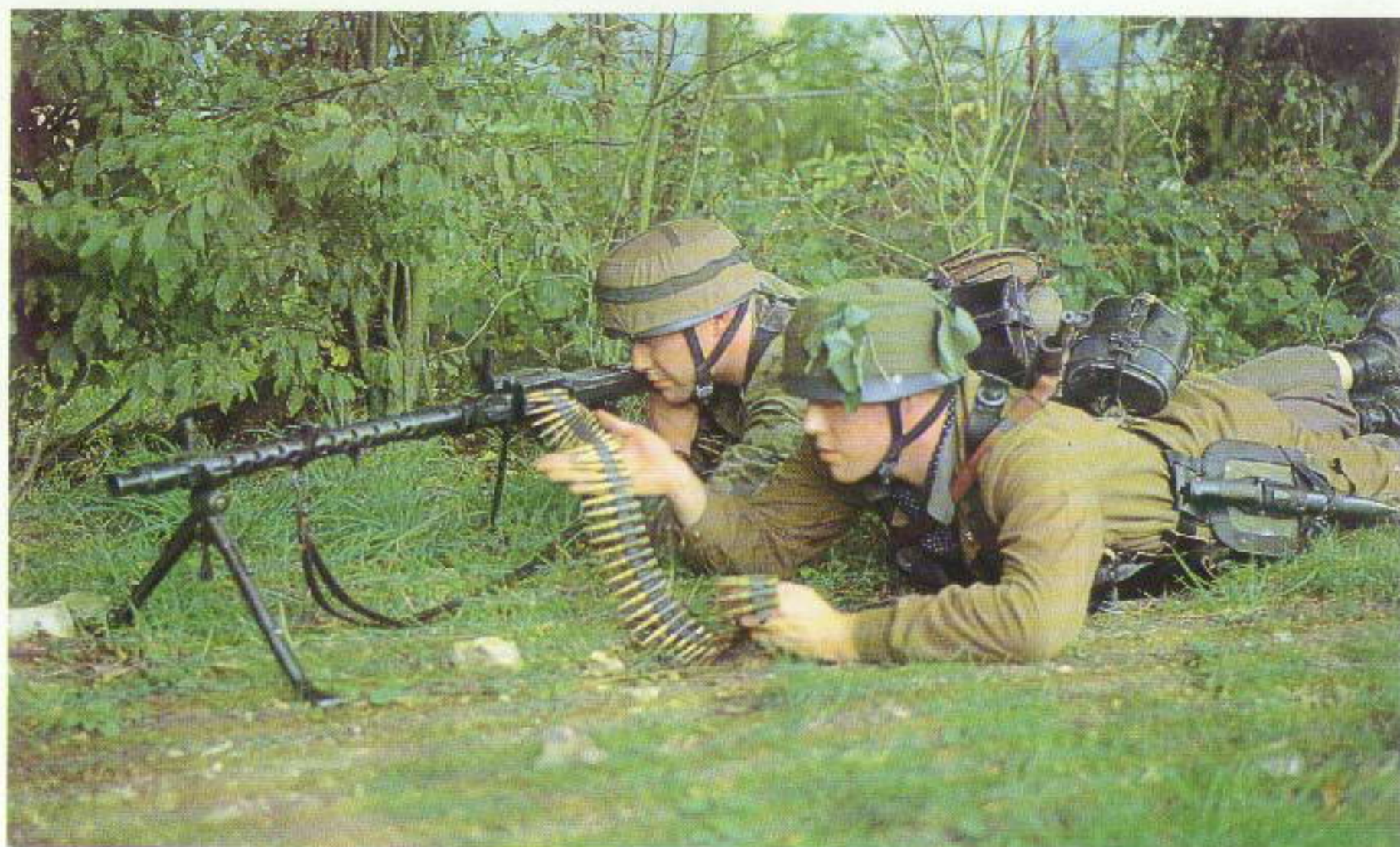


Waffen SS patrol take a five minute break in the hedgerows of Normandy.

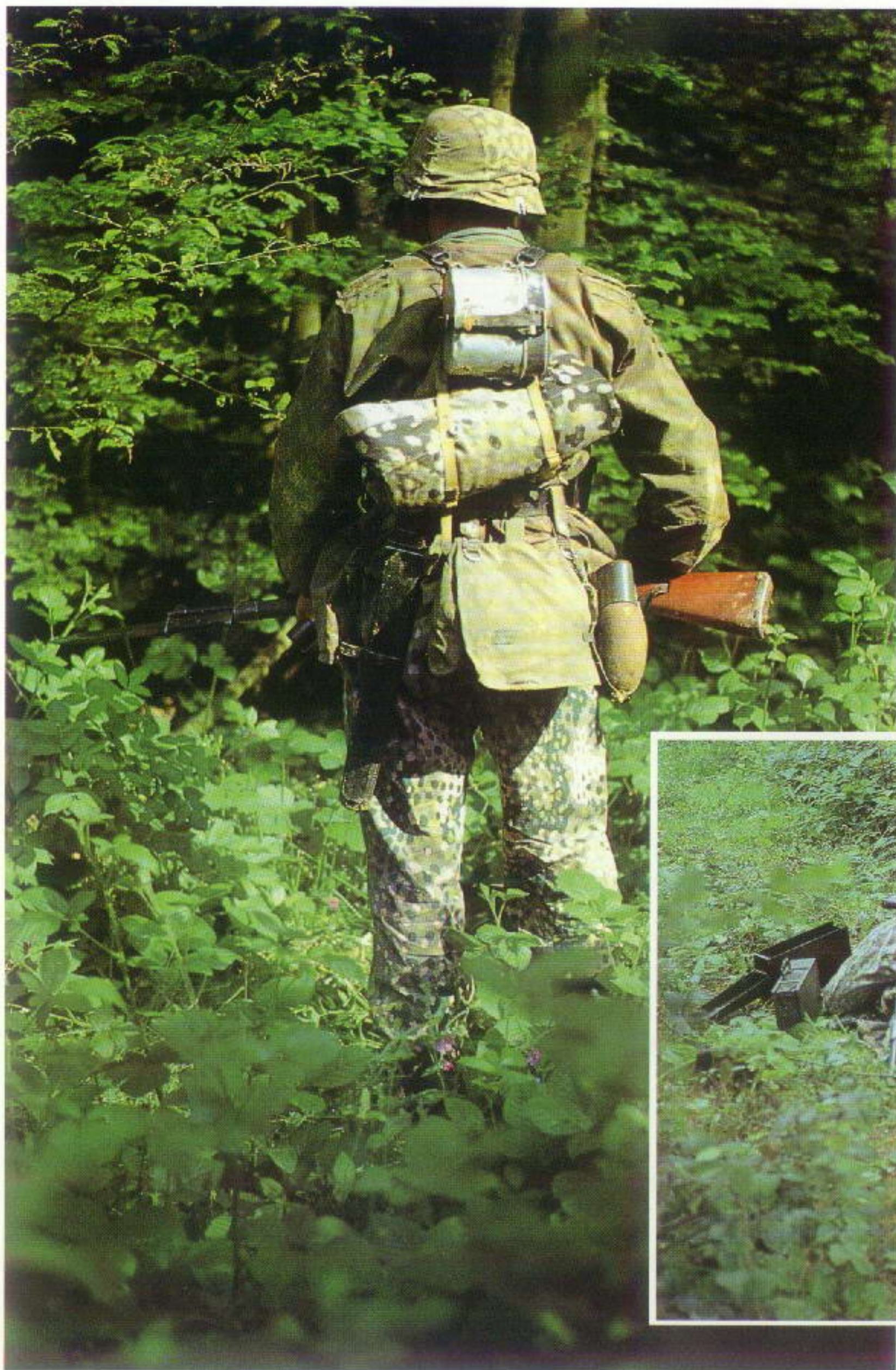
The ZB30 machine gunner from the 'Prinz Eugen' Division in the Balken forests.



A young grenadier adjusts the 'rain hood' on his Zf41 scope.



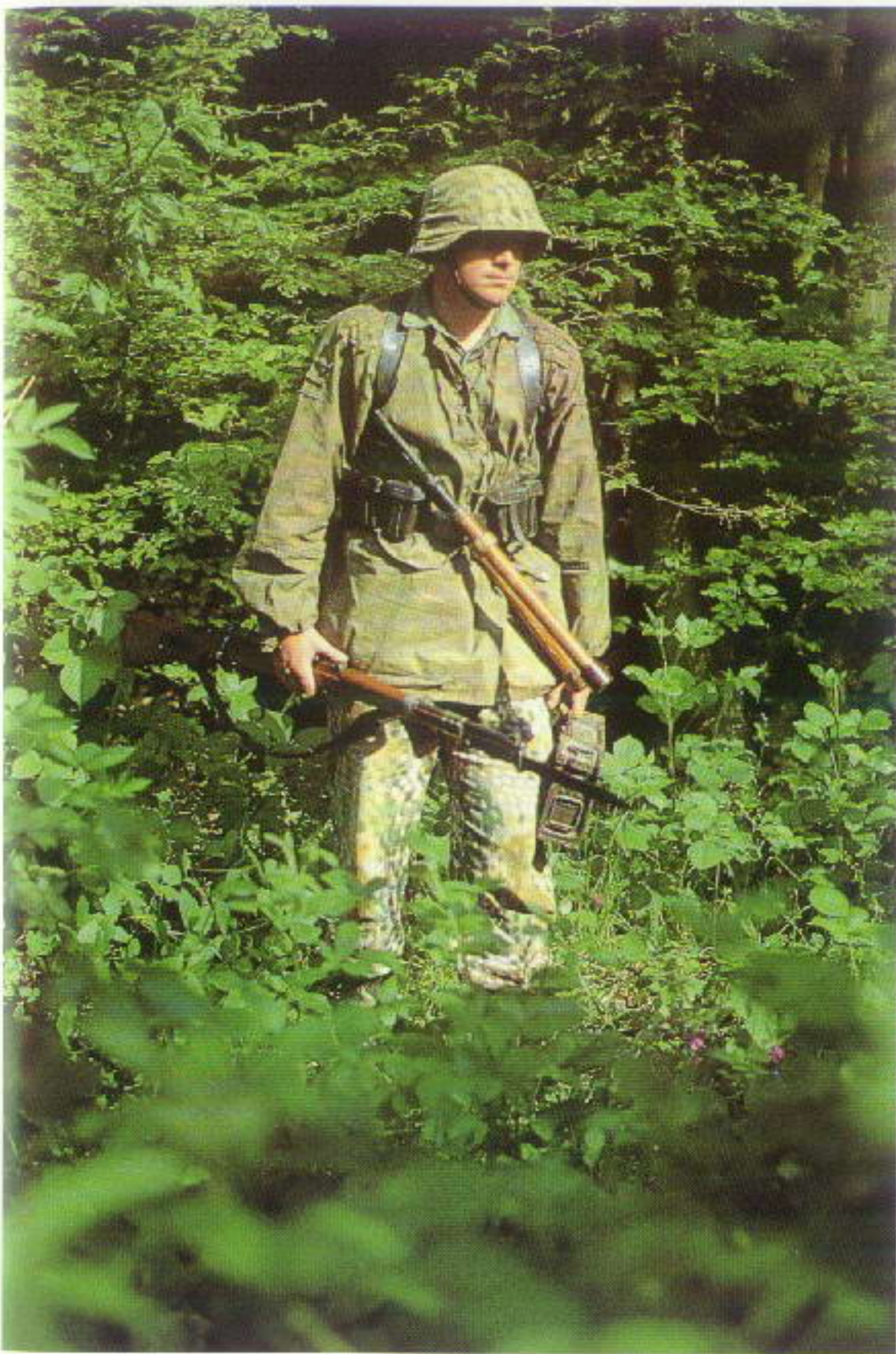
A Fallschirmjäger MG34 team cover the advance of the rest of their patrol.



When going out on patrol, whatever may be needed must be carried,....

whether it is wire cutters or ammunition. The ZB30 loader has a carrying frame with 2 ammunition boxes strapped to it in addition to the 2 he is already carrying - ammunition is very heavy.





A good photograph of a ZB30 gunner. The ZB30 was of Czechoslovakian design, the holster is for the Polish Radom.

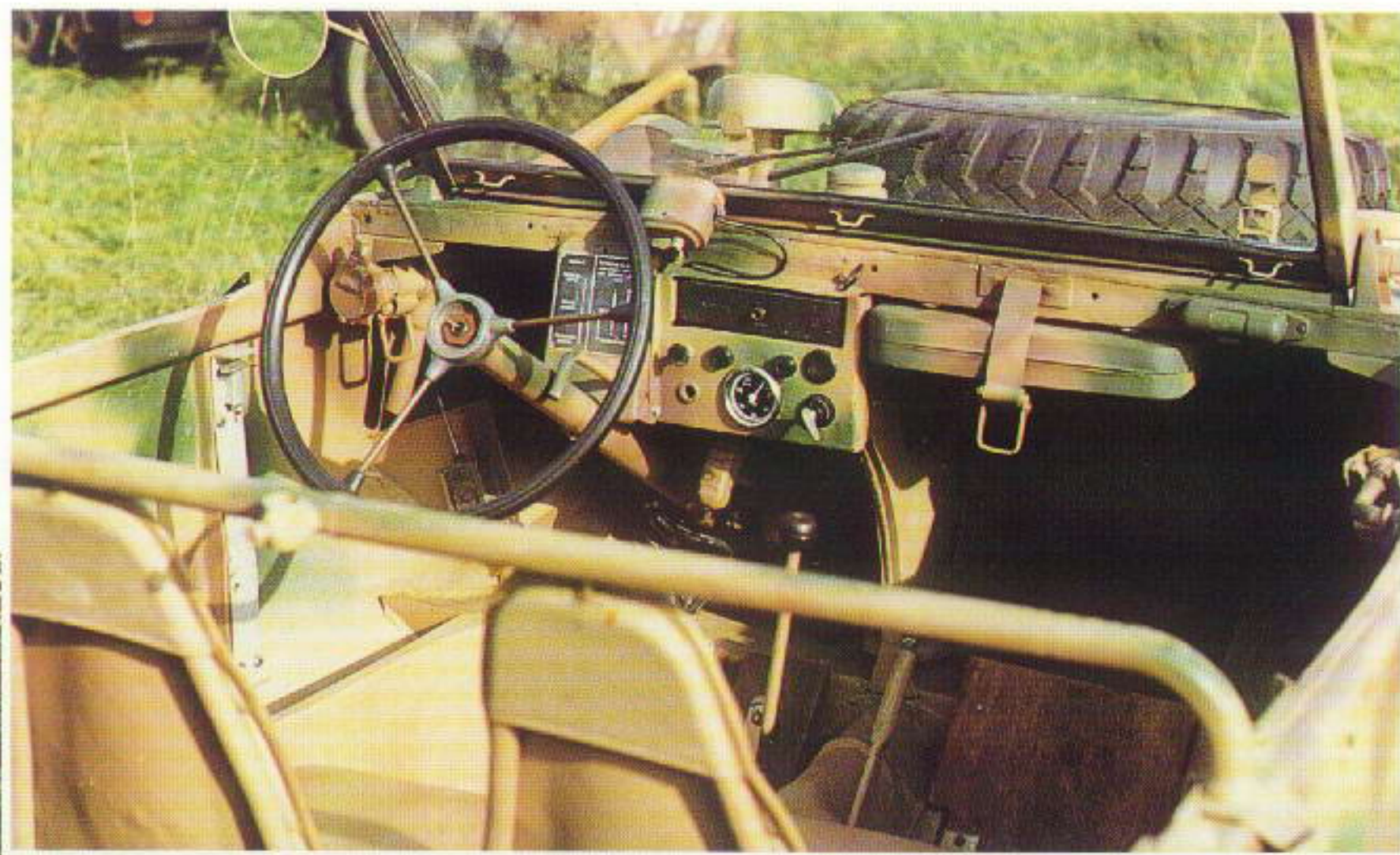


"Panzers"

Good views of the MG42 gun teams kit.



Panzerfaust in the ready position - the enemy has many tanks.





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