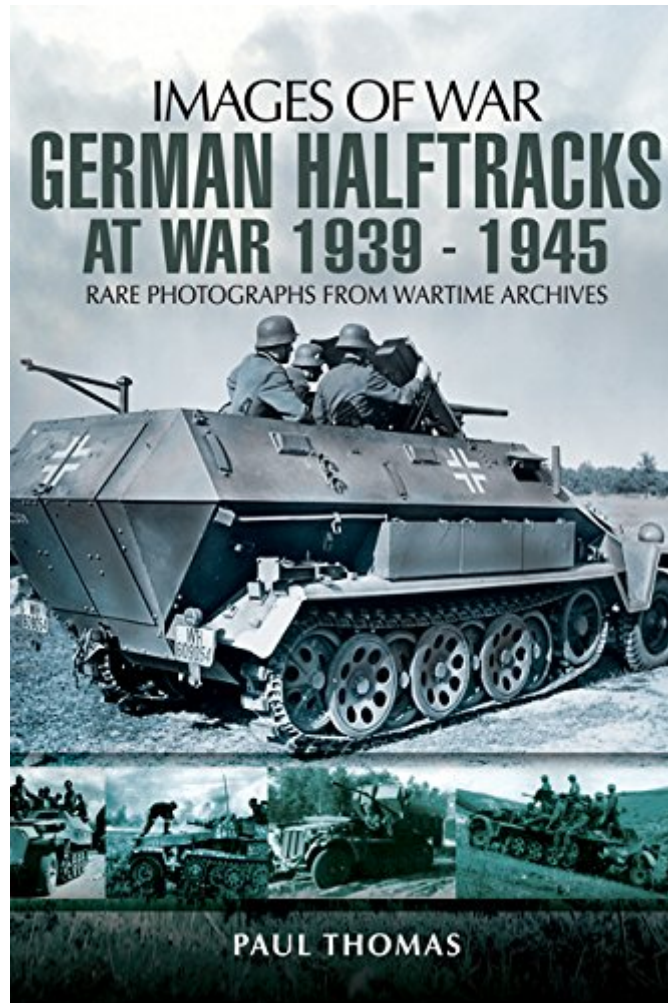


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# German Halftracks At War 1939-1945: (Images Of War)



## Synopsis

"In the aftermath of The Great War, which saw the introduction of the tank, the more far sighted military leaders realized that the future of warfare hinged on a balance of mobility, firepower and protection. Tanks would need to be accompanied into battle by supporting arms, specifically infantry, artillery and engineers. An all fully-tracked field army was thought to be too expensive, so the semi-tracked support vehicle (commonly called a halftrack) was born. The halftrack concept was embraced by the French, the US and most notably Germany. The Germans commissioned numerous types of half-tracked tractors, which were classified by the weight of their towed load. These vehicles were designated Sonderkraffarzeug (special motorized vehicle), abbreviated as Sd.Kfz. Without these vehicles the Blitzkrieg would not have been possible. These front-wheel steering vehicles with tracked drive transformed the fighting quality of the armored divisions. They carried the infantry alongside the advancing panzers and brought guns and pontoon-bridge sections. The halftrack also became the preferred reconnaissance vehicle."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"IMAGES OF WAR: GERMAN HALF-TRACKS AT WAR 1939-1945" is a book that provides a wide

variety of photographs of German halftracks from World War II. I'm an amateur historian, and World War II is my favorite period. While I have many books on aircraft, tanks, and ships from the era, I really can't say that I have much information on the less glamorous but still important halftracks that towed artillery pieces and carried infantry, among other tasks. I bought this book in order to learn more about these mechanical beasts of burden. Below are my impressions of the book. Pros:- There are indeed a wide variety of interesting photographs of most, if not all, German halftracks used in World War II. While not all of the pictures are well-focused (some appear to have been taken by the soldiers themselves rather than professional photographers), many show excellent detail, a boon for modelers.- There are good captions accompanying the pictures, although some of them are a bit repetitive. While I'm not an expert on halftracks and can't vouch for their accuracy, the captions provide specific information for the halftrack shown in the photo.- The book is broken out into six chapters: "The Early Years"; "1941", "1942", "1943", "1944", and "1945", and each chapter includes some summary information from the time frame being discussed, as well as the photographs and captions. There is also an appendix which lists most of the half-tracks in German service, as well as giving variant information for the two half-tracks used to primarily carry infantry rather than tow artillery and/or mount weapons (Sd. Kfz. 250s and 251s).

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