





The 2nd Panzer Division had been nearly destroyed in the Falaise Pocket near Normandy the previous summer, but it had been rebuilt and placed under new command and was considered to be in good shape at the start of the offensive. The 2nd Panzer had the distinction of driving the furthest west of any division in the campaign before it was severely mauled near Celles by the U.S. 2nd Armored Division. By the end of January, the 2nd Panzer had once again been nearly destroyed, consisting of just 200 men and four tanks.