

# 1944 Volkswagen Type 82 Kubelwagen

**Owner: Edward "Otto" Pernotto, Col USAFR [Ret.]**

**Fabricator: Stephen Bishop, Albuquerque, NM**

## BACKGROUND

in 1938, high ranking German Army officers asked Porsche if they could build an inexpensive, lightweight, military transport vehicle to operate reliable on and off road. Based on their Volkswagen Beetle civilian car, they proposed the Kubelwagen which translates from "bucket seat car." Several prototypes were built and evaluated and in February 1940, full scale production of the Type 82 began. The two wheel drive Type 82 was very popular with low weight, low gearing, flat bottom and a 285 mile range on it's 8 gallon tank. When production ended in 1945, over 50,000 were produced among many variants was the very popular amphibious Schwimmwagen.

## VEHICLE MARKINGS

This replica Kubelwagen is marked as part of the 21st Panzer Division (Wehrmacht) which fought in North Africa, the Normandy peninsula including D-Day, and was nearly eliminated in the Falaise Pocket. It was reformed and sent to the Eastern Front until surrender to the Soviet Army. The vehicle pictured below "Otto" was used by Luftwaffe ace Hans-Joachim Marseille who shot down 8 British aircraft in one day, the most in a single day by a German pilot against the Allies. His Italian comrades presented him the vehicle, in Italian Otto means eight. Marseille shot down a total of 158 Allied aircraft when he was killed in North Africa in 1942. This specific vehicle is built on the chassis of a 1970 Volkswagen Beetle, replica body and parts from the Czech Republic, and a new build engine.

This replica Kubelwagen is presented to represent a historical vehicle the Allies faced in WWII.

