

Jeremey Harder 5th SS Panzer Division Wiking River of Heroes

Headquarters, II Battalion, SS Panzer Regiment Wiking;
8th Company, Panzer Regiment Wiking;
66th Flak Regiment



Area of Operations

On 26 April, Standartenfuhrer Muhlenkamp received the following assignment: in cooperation with an infantry group, his units were to advance from the southern approaches of Kowel to Hill 189 along the rail line to Lubliniec, then swing toward the southeast, take Hill 193.3 and barricade the Soviet's crossing over the Turja River near Korodelc. The purpose of the operation was to disrupt Soviet plans for an offensive against Kowel.



Muhlenkamp

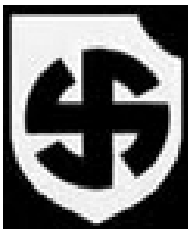
This Flames of War Company represents units from the 5th SS Panzer Division Wiking, occupied in fighting around the city of Kowel (Kowel) in the spring of 1944, specifically those units involved in **Operation II SE**.

The force is built around forces assigned to Untersturmfuhrer Jensen, a Dutch volunteer, whose company was responsible for seizing the village of Horodelec and blocking the Soviet's crossing point on the Turja River.



WAFFEN-SS





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“Attention, Horodelec ahead! We are going to try and seize it quickly. All tanks follow me in single file. Fire as soon as targets become visible, not before. Forward!” Radioed Untersturmfuhrer Jensen.

The tanks advanced, moving faster and faster, and drove toward the village; machine guns and antitank rifles opened fire, but without effect.

“Keep going, don’t stop!”

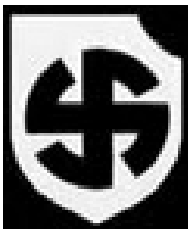
The tanks rumbled on, reaching the outskirts of the village and found themselves facing a lone antitank gun, which was soon destroyed.



Driving down the broad village street, the tanks came to a square; from there the tank commanders suddenly saw a long column of trucks with 12 limbered antitank guns preparing to drive toward the Turja River crossing.

“Open fire on the first truck!”

The first shell blew off one pair of the truck’s wheels and it ground to a halt. After an intense fire-fight the remaining gun crew surrendered, one tank remained on guard. Untersturmfuhrer Jensen led the remaining tanks toward the river crossing. Jensen rolled past an abandoned transport column to reach the crossing, at that point he knocked out the lead trucks in front of the bridge; the Turja crossing had been barricaded. The operation was a success; the attack’s objective – to destroy the strongpoints needed by the enemy for a further drive into the city – had been achieved. No fewer than 43 heavy antitank guns had been destroyed or captured, as well as six light antitank guns, seven heavy mortars, four infantry guns, 18 antitank rifles, 28 trucks, three light anti-aircraft guns, 25 panye wagons, three tanks and countless small arms. The enemy had suffered serious setbacks which made it painfully obvious that the defenders of Kovel were not a spent force.



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