

# Polish Cavalry in World War II

## About Polish cavalry in 1939

### Kavaleribrigade Suwalska

Brigaden var tilknyttet *Independent Operational Group "Narew"*

Chef:

Generalmajor Z. Podhorski (Suwayki)

#### Units:

3. Lette Rytterregiment "Mazowieckie" (Suwayki)

1. Lansenerregiment "Krechowieki" (Agustov)

2nd Lansenerregiment "Grochowski" (Suwayki)

3rd Mounted Infantry Regiment (Wolkowysk)

4th Horse Artillery Division (Suwalki)

### History

Until 4 September 1939, Cavalry Brigade Suwalska was in the area around Suwalki (the garrison area) on the border with East Prussia. From here the brigade carried out a few raids on German soil with units from the 3rd. Light Cavalry Regiment. The brigade was then transferred to the area around Zambrow, where on 9 and 10 September 1939 it took part in battles against units from Panzerdivision "Kempf".

The brigade then managed to break through the encirclement at Zambrow and reach the Bialowieza Forest (September 18, 1939).

Here the brigade, together with the "Plis" and "Edward" brigades, was multiplied into a cavalry division. The division now marched towards Hungary, but did not get very far. Along the way, it was incorporated into *Samodzielna Grupa Operacyjna "Polesie"* (General Kleeberg), together with which it surrendered - not without a fight - on 6 October 1939 at the town of Kock (near Lublin).

### Organization - cavalry regiment

- Regimental staff
- Staff squadron:
- Signal division (2 horse-drawn radio wagons (type N2))
- Engineer
- platoon Cyclist
- platoon Anti-tank gun platoon (4 horse-drawn 37 mm anti-tank guns)
- Four squadrons
- Each with 3 platoons of 50-60 men, as well as 3 light machine guns and 1 anti-tank gun.
- Machine gun squadron
- 12 medium machine guns (8 were carried on pack horses; 4 on light horse-drawn carriages).
- Supply element (light horse-drawn wagons).

The regiment could muster a (detached) fighting force of 230-250 men. (The figure varies slightly from source to source.)

## **Source**

Mainly from: *The Cavalry of World War II* by Janusz Piekalkiewicz, Orbis Publishing Limited, London 1979, ISBN 0-85613-022-2.

## **See also**

Organization: [http://www.freeport-tech.com/wwii/029\\_poland/organizations/brig\\_cav.html](http://www.freeport-tech.com/wwii/029_poland/organizations/brig_cav.html) Equipment

and material: <http://www.heroica.org/polish.htm>

Armored vehicles: <http://derela.republika.pl/armcarpl.htm>