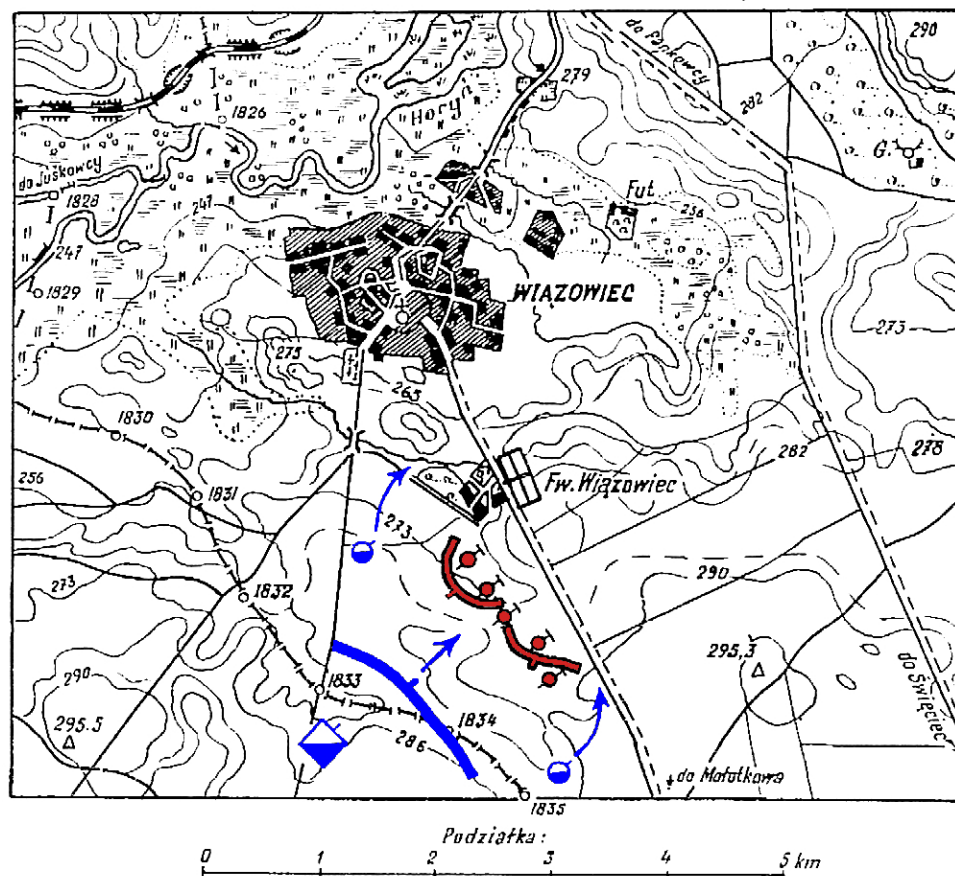


Warrant Officer Jaworski

Charge of the 1st Squadron of the 11th Lancers Regiment at Wiązowiec

The charge of the 1st Squadron of the 11th Lancer Regiment near Wiązowiec on 21 September 1920 is a great example of the decisiveness of a commander and the aggressiveness of the cavalrymen chasing retreating infantry.

I am giving its course in the words of Warrant Officer Stanisław Jaworski, who was a commander of the 3rd Platoon in the 1st Squadron.



On 21 September 1920, after the fight of 2nd Squadron at Białozierską [Bilozirka], the 1st Squadron went to the front of the regiment as lead element towards Jampol [Yampil].

About 7 kilometres before Jampol our patrol, which was moving parallel to us, reported that a large column of enemy infantry was retreating towards Jampol along a road from Mołotkow [Molotkiv] through Wiązowiec [V'yazovets].

Having received this news, Second Lieutenant Stanisław Krolicki galloped off with the squadron.

When the squadron reached the top of a hill in front of Wiązowiec, we saw the enemy infantry retreating along the road to the right.

The enemy noticed us at once and their column made an immediate turn, starting to fire from rifles and five heavy machine guns. This fire killed one lancer and wounded two.

Lieutenant Krolicki deployed the squadron in a fold in the land, leaving the 4th Platoon in the second line, and galloped forward.

The squadron advanced at lightning speed. We rode as fast as we could and ran like a storm into the enemy infantry. Individuals tried to defend themselves, but they fell quickly to sabres and lances, the rest surrendered, along with their commanders.



The losses of the squadron were ulan Kochanowski killed, ulans Oleksik and Zborowski wounded and one horse killed.

The troop's trophies were 300 prisoners, 5 HMGs and 35 horse-drawn carts.

The fight was so short that by the time our regiment's column arrived, the Soviet infantry regiment from 47th Division had ceased to exist. The road to Jampol was free, prisoners and booty collected, and the squadron was already marching on to Jampol.

With regard to this episode, I merely draw the reader's attention to what can be done by brave cavalry with a sense of their own superiority and bold commanders, especially if they catch up in pursuit of an enemy morally and physically tired. The best proof of this is the manner of execution of the charge at Wiqzowiec and its results.

Editor

