

CONFIDENTIAL

Sgt. Jan Jaworski

Date of Birth: 25 November 1905 in Brześć n/d Bugiem (Brest-Litovsk, Belarus)

son of Pawel Jaworski, Helena Jaworska

married: on 1 April 1929 in Brest - with Jadwiga Jaworska (origin surname from home: Paradowska)

Army:

He was evacuated from USSR (ros. CCCP) territory in 1942 by General Wladyslaw Anders, where he was an imprisoned by NKVD-police since November 1939 in Russian prison camp in Vladivostok. He traveled through Siberia, Kazakhstan (USSR) to Persia further to Palestine (via Suez canal). From Palestine he went by RMS Queen Mary to USA, Canada and reached the United Kingdom by the end of 1942, at Liverpool harbor.

He was member of 1st Polish Armoured Division under command of General Stanislaw Maczek, from: 1942-1947

Units: 1st Signal Battalion/1st Squadron, 1st Polish Armoured Division

Function: technician and service man in LAD. (LAD - Light Aid Detachment)

Specialization car/tank mechanic, radio-tele technician

His main job was to repair tanks, military vehicles, radio and tele equipment. He belongs to Headquarters Squadron in 1st Signal Battalion.

He took an active part in the war battles with German army in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

His army rank/number was: Nr. 23543

- up to 1945: (Corporal (Cpl))
- 1945 to 1947: (Sergeant (Sgt))
- from 1947: (Sergeant Major (Sgt Maj))

He was demobilized from army: **16 June 1947**

Return to Poland: **23 June 1947**

Died in Poland: **12 February 1980**

Corporal (Cpl) 1942-1945



**10th Engineering Workshop
Company**

Sergeant (Sgt) 1945-1947



HQ of 1st Signal Battalion



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Sgt. Jan Jaworski (1905–1980)

Before the outbreak of World War II, he lived in Brześć n/d Bugiem (Brest-Litovsk) - middle eastern Poland, illegally occupied and annexed by the Soviet Union in 1939. On September 17, 1939, while serving as a driver on a military train, at the station in Baranavichy (Belarus), arrested by the Russian security police NKVD. Imprisoned for several days in a prison-wagon and transported to Brest-Litovsk, from where he was further transported to the NKVD prison in Minsk. Sentenced by the military court on the death penalty for espionage in the USSR. Transported to prison in Moscow, where after several weeks, considering the appeal of the accused, the court's judgment changed to lifetime prison.

At the turn of 1939 and 1940, deported by the NKVD to the camp No.2 (Gulag) on the Kamchatka peninsula, at the Vladivostok area (east of Soviet Union). Extreme weather conditions and hard work in the iron ore quarries led him to deep physical and mental exhaustion.

On December 23, 1941, based on agreement between Stalin and Polish government in exile (London), was released from the camp due to the amnesty of Poles in the Soviet Union. After an exhausting trip from the camp to Vladivostok by foot, then on the Trans-Siberian railway through Siberia, he reported to the assembly point of the formed Polish Army in Guzar (Uzbekistan). Mobilized to the Polish Army, was assigned to the 11th Infantry Division, 4th Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Linear Squadron in the city of Guzar in the USSR.

After crossing the Soviet-Iranian border with General Wladyslaw Anders, through the Caspian Sea, he received a British military uniform and temporary ID card. He joined the Polish Armed Forces under the command of the British in Middle East. The Supplementary Commission in Palestine assigned him to the Air Force - due to the military service in the Air Force "11 Pulk Mysliwski in Lida" in the Corporal (CPL) degree, prior outbreak of II World War in Poland. In the Middle East (Palestine) he served from April to July 1942, when he was transferred to the Military Unit of Escorting War Prisoners from Egypt (Suez port) to Brazil, US and Canada. The trip and the escort of prisoners of war took place by RMS Queen Mary (the largest ship in the world). He went through Suez Canal, South Africa, Brazil, to the US, where he was supported by the local Polonia in New York. During this service he fully recovered his health condition.

On August 22, 1942, he arrived to the United Kingdom, crossing the route from the US and Canada to the port of Liverpool. On August 28, 1942, he was transferred to the 1st Armoured Division in the 1st Polish Corps under command of General Stanislaw Maczek. Got assigned to the 10th Workshop Company, where he received a new ID card. During the preparatory period of the formation of the Polish Armoured Division in Scotland, on March 1, 1943, he completed training and a course of car and tank mechanics.

On July 31, 1944, he arrived in France, at Normandy beach in Canadian sector at Juno beach, with the units of the 1st Armoured Division. His units were assigned to the Workshop Company of the Rifle Brigade. The 1st Armoured Division was commanded by the 2nd Canadian Corps, which became part of the 21 Army Group of Field Marshal Montgomery. During the liberation of Normandy by allied armies, Polish 1st Armoured Division played important role in the operation Totalize and Tractable at Falaise pocket (regions: Caen - Falaise). On late August 1944, the 1st Armoured Division began liberating the cities of the northern regions of France, followed by Belgium-Flanders and in October 1944 entered the province North Brabant in the Netherlands. The 1st Polish Armoured Division liberated Breda on October 29, 1944.



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On November 6, 1944, he was transferred to the Evidence Commission No. 1, after which he reported to the HQ of Signals Units in the 1st Armoured Division. In the following winter months, he performed work as a tank mechanic, radio and tele-mechanic in the LAD units - Light Aid Detachment in the HQ of 1st Signals Squadron in the Netherlands occupied zones.

On March 1, 1945, he was promoted to the Sergeant (Sgt.) rank and obtained the military specialty of the second-class car and tank mechanic.

He took an active part in the battles with German army in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. On May 8, 1945, with the Signals Units of the 1st Armoured Division, he ended the war in Wilhelmshaven (Germany) with simultaneous surrender of the base and supreme command of the "Ostfrisland" fleet.

In the years after the war, he served on the continent at the Meppen area (B.A.O.R. - the area controlled by the United Kingdom in North West Germany) until the repatriation to Poland was released. On May 12, 1947, he was transferred to the Reserve Center No. 4 in Schutterhof (Germany).

On June 12, 1947, he was promoted to the Sergeant Major (Sgt) degree and transferred to the Demobilization Center No. 2 in Quakenbruck (Germany).

June 23, 1947, repatriated to Poland in transport No. 16. Arrival in Poland and check-in at the National Repatriation Office at the Reception Point in Szczecin.

Died at the age of 75, in Wroclaw (Poland).

Theatre of Operations (10th Workshop units 1stPAD):

France, Belgium, Holland & Germany 31.07.1944 - 08.05.1945

01.08.44-06.09.44	Action at Caen, Falaise, Abbeville, FRANCE
06.09.44-16.09.44	Ypres, Roulers, Thielt, Ghent, St Nicholas, Stekene, BELGIUM
16.09.44-22.09.44	Koewacht, Axel-Hulst, HOLLAND
28.09.44-02.10.44	Merxplas, Baarle-Heide, BELGIUM
03.10.44-08.11.44	Baarle-Nassau, Gilze, Breda, Moerdijk, HOLLAND
09.11.44-08.04.45	Action on the River Maas, HOLLAND
14.04.45-08.05.45	Kusten Canal, Aschendorf, Papenburg, Ihrhove, Leer, GERMANY
09.05.45-12.05.47	Allied Occupation Forces of Germany

