

**Tank Inventories  
And Hull Numbers  
Various Soviet Armored Corps  
Late 1944-Early 1945**

The numbers are, apparently, those painted on the tanks.

1st Guards Mechanized Corps: (tanks as of February 1945)

- 1st Guards Mechanized Brigade (2 M4A2 Shermans)
- 2nd Guards Mechanized Brigade (3 M4A2 Shermans)
- 3rd Guards Mechanized Brigade (19 M4A2 Shermans)
- 9th Guards Tank Brigade
  - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Tank Battalions - 19 M4A2 Shermans
  - 9th Guards Motorized Rifle Battalion
- 382nd Guards SU Regiment
- 1453rd SU Regiment
- 1821st SU Regiment
- 267th Mortar Regiment (120mm mortars)
- 1699th Antiaircraft Regiment (37mm guns)
- 407th Guards Mortar Battalion (37mm guns)
- 84th Motorcycle Battalion
- 54th Guards Sapper Battalion
- Support Units as above

The tanks of the 1st Guard Mech Brigade had a 1 before the tank number, those of the 2nd Guard Mech Brigade had a 2, those of the 3rd Guard Mech Brig. had a 3 and those of the 9th Guard Tank Brigade had a 9. The numbers were white & 40 cm high.

104 = 4th Tank of the 1st Guard Mech Brig  
216 = 16th Tank of the 2nd Guard Mech Brig  
328 = 28th Tank of the 3rd Guard Mech Brig  
949 = 49th Tank of the 9th Guards Armored Brigade

4th Guards Mechanized Corps

- 13th Guards Mechanized Brigade (T-34/85 tanks)
- 14th Guards Mechanized Brigade (T-34/85 tanks)
- 15th Guards Mechanized Brigade (T-34/85 tanks)
- 36th Guards Tank Brigade (T-34/85 tanks)
- 4th Motorcycle Regiment
- 292nd Guards SU Regiment (SU-85s)
- 1512th Antitank Regiment (76mm guns)
- 527th Mortar Regiment (120mm mortars)
- 740th Antiaircraft Regiment (37mm guns)
- 348th Guards Mortar Battalion ( BM-13 launchers)
- 62nd Motorcycle Battalion
- 138th Sapper Battalion
- 46th Guards Signal Battalion
- 181st Repair Battalion

Tactical symbols, which appeared on all tanks and trucks.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Size</u>
13th Guards Mechanized Brigade	Deer	
14th Guards Mechanized Brigade	Horse	18 x 21 cm
15th Guards Mechanized Brigade	Elephant	20 x 22 cm
36th Guards Tank Brigade	Standing Bear	10 x 30 cm
4th Motorcycle Regiment	Fox or Wolf	8 x 30 cm
Corps Staff	Dove	

These symbols were painted white. Beneath them on tanks was the number of the brigade, with the 35th Guard Tank Brigade tanks bearing numbers from 42 to 77. These numbers were 27 cm high.

7th Mechanized Corps: (tanks as of late January 1945)

- 16th Mechanized Brigade (3 T-34/85s)
- 63rd Mechanized Brigade (? T-34/85s)
- 64th Mechanized Brigade (20 T-34/85s)
- 41st Guards Tank Brigade (27 T-34/85s)
- 1289th SU Regiment (SU-85s)
- 1440th SU Regiment (SU-76s)
- 109th Antitank Regiment (76mm towed guns)
- 614th Mortar Regiment (120mm mortars)
- 1713th Antiaircraft Regiment (37mm guns)
- 94th Motorcycle Battalion
- 40th Guards Mortar Battalion (BM-13 launchers)
- 136th Sapper Battalion
- 649th Signal Battalion
- 153rd Repair Battalion
- 556th Medical Battalion

Each tank had a three digit number. In the 41st Brigade this number consisted of the battalion number and the individual tank's number. The numbers were white.

102 = 2nd tank of the 1st Battalion  
210 = 10th tank of the 2nd Battalion  
317 = 17th tank of the 3rd Battalion

The 41st Brigade had a symbol of a solid triangle with an upside down "T" protruding from the bottom, something like a Christmas tree. It could be in a rectangle. The number was either below or to the right of the symbol. The number was 20-25 cm high. The tactical symbol was 30cm high and 40 cm wide.

9th Guards Mechanized Corps

- 18th Guards Mechanized Brigade
- 30th Guards Mechanized Brigade
- 31st Guards Mechanized Brigade
- 46th Guards Tank Brigade
- 389th Guards SU Regiment (SU-100)
- 458th Guards Mortar Regiment
- 388th Guards Antiaircraft Regiment
- 35th Guards Mortar Battalion
- 14th Guards Motorcycle Battalion

The corps was equipped with US M4A2 Tanks and British Valentine IX Tanks. As a symbol the corps used two superimposed equilateral triangles, the uppermost being 13cm and the lower 6cm high. The upper triangle was 17 cm wide and the lower was 7 cm wide. For 30th Brigade a small 2 stood either under or below and to the right of the triangles. For the 31st Brigade a 3 was below and to the right of the triangles. The 18th followed this pattern with a "1" and the 46th Tank Brigade with a "4" below and to the right. The small brigade numbers were 15cm high. The tank numbers of the 30th was a two digit number between 77 and 98, while those of the 31st were three digit numbers between 123 and 158. The tank numbers were 40cm high. The symbols and numbers were painted in white.

#### 5th Guards Tank Corps:

- 20th Guards Tank Brigade (T-34/85s)
- 21st Guards Tank Brigade (T-34/85s)
- 22nd Guards Tank Brigade (T-34/85s)
- 6th Guards Motorized Rifle Brigade (as above)
- 15th Guards Motorcycle Battalion
- 127th Guards Mortar Battalion (BM-13 launchers)
- 301st Light Artillery Regiment (76mm guns)
- 390th Guards SU Regiment (SU-100s)
- 391st Guards Antitank Regiment
- 392nd Guards Antiaircraft Regiment (37mm guns)
- 454th Guards Mortar Regiment (120mm mortars)
- 60th Guards Sapper Battalion

The tactical symbols of the corps were as follows:

	Brigade Number
20th Guard Tank Brigade	- 50
21st Guard Tank Brigade	- 51
22nd Guard Tank Brigade	- 52 (speculation)

This was followed by a number designating the battalion, a dash, and a two digit number representing the individual tank. As such a tank with the number "50 2-01" was the 20th Guard Tank Brigade, 2nd Battalion, 1st tank. The 21st Brigade organized the numbers differently. The numbers were 25cm tall and extended over 90cm. The gap between the brigade number and the battalion/tank number was 25cm. The numbers were in red.

51	$\frac{2}{10}$	The "51" was as large as the 2/10. 51 denoted the 21st Brigade, 2 the 2nd Battalion, 10, the 10th tank. The brigade number was 45cm high and the other numbers were 12cm tall. The numbers were in white
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#### 18th Tank Corps: (tanks as of January 1945)

- 110th Tank Brigade
- 311th, 312th Tank Battalions (T-34/85)
- 110th Motorized Rifle Battalion

- 180th Tank Brigade
  - 392nd, 393rd Tank Battalions (T-34/85)
  - 180th Motorized Rifle Battalion
- 181st Tank Brigade
  - 394th, 395th Tank Battalions (T-34/85)
  - 181st Motorized Rifle Battalion
- 18th Motorized Rifle Brigade
- 246th Guards Mortar Battalion (BM-13 launchers)
- 40th Mine-Engineer Company

Each tank had a 3 digit number with the first digit being 4 for the 110th Brigade, 5 for the 170th brigade, and 6 for the 181st brigade. The remaining two numbers were the tank number. Numbers were red.

407 = 7th tank of the 110th Tank Brigade  
 506 = 6th tank of the 170th Tank Brigade  
 649 = 49th tank of the 181st Tank Brigade

23rd Tank Corps: (tanks as of late December 1944)

- 6th Tank Brigade
  - 6th, 235th Tank Battalions (T-34/85)
  - 6th Motorized Rifle Battalion
- 130th Tank Brigade
  - 1st, 2nd Tank Battalions (T-34/85)
  - 130th Motorized Rifle Battalion
- 131st Tank Brigade
  - 262nd, 263rd Tank Battalions (T-34/85)
  - 131st Motorized Rifle Battalion
- 23rd Motorized Rifle Brigade
  - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Rifle Battalions

The brigade symbol was in a diamond (rhombus) (25 cm by 25cm) horizontally with the brigade letter and a small number (1,2, or 3) representing the battalion number. After that came a two digit number for the tank. The symbol and number were in red.

	Brigade Symbol
3rd Tank Brigade	Cyrillic B
53rd Tank Brigade	Cyrillic G
20th Tank Brigade	Cyrillic D

78th Guard Breakthrough Tank Regiment (January 1945)

JS-122 tanks, numbers unknown

The tactical symbol was a diamond (rhombus) 45 cm high by 65cm wide) with a 40cm high Russian "D" in it. The diamond and number were white outlined in yellow

1202nd Self Propelled Artillery Regiment (January 1945)  
SU-76 self propelled guns, numbers unknown

Tactical symbol in red, 30cm square.

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+-----+
|  D  |   Latin D""
+-----+
| 4|17| Battery #   & Gun number
+-----+
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1438th Medium, Self Propelled Artillery Regiment (January 1945)  
SU-85 self propelled guns, numbers unknown

Tactical symbol in white

102 = 2nd gun, 1st battery  
210 = 10th gun, 2nd battery  
304 = 4th gun, 3rd battery

366th Guards Heavy Self Propelled Artillery Regiment (January 1945)  
SU-152 self propelled guns, numbers unknown

Numbers are 40cm high and white. The numbering system is unknown, but known vehicles had the following numbers: 611, 613, 615, 624, 625, 653 & 654

373rd Guards Self Propelled Artillery Regiment (January 1945)  
SU-85 self propelled guns, numbers unknown

Tactical symbol on tanks: A cyrillic L or P followed by two numbers 40 cm high and painted in white.

382nd Guards Self Propelled Artillery Regiment (January 1945)  
SU-122 self propelled guns, numbers unknown

Numbers in white - 1st & 2nd btrys, red 3rd btry. 40 cm high.

102 = 2nd gun, 1st battery  
210 = 10th gun, 2nd battery  
304 = 4th gun, 3rd battery

1443rd Self Propelled Artillery Regiment (January 1945)  
SU-122 self propelled guns, numbers unknown

Tactical symbol a square (25cm on a side) rotated to resemble a diamond, with three parallel lines in it, one in the middle 22cm long and those above and below it 10cm long. The number was a letter followed by a dash and two numbers. The letter was the battery, A, B, or C (cyrillic "S"). The two numbers were the tank number. They were painted white.

1699th Flak Artillery Regiment:  
Equipped with American M-17 quad .50 cal in half-track.

1119th Flak Artillery Regiment  
Equipped with self 37mm guns.

743rd Flak Artillery Regiment  
Equipped with 85mm flank guns

27th Independent Guard Tank Brigade:

The tactical symbol of the two battalions were three digit numbers painted in white. The tanks of the 1st Battalion began with a "1" and were followed by two digits for the tank number and the letter M, i.e. 108-M would be the 8th tank of the 1st Battalion. Similarly, 214-M would be the 14th tank of the 2nd Battalion. The letters were 35cm high.

Records of Headquarters, German Army High Command, National Archives Microcopy No. T-78, Roll 477, American Historical Association Committee for the Study of War Documents, Washington, DC., 1960

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