

Greater Poland Uprising 1918-1919

<https://greaterpolanduprising.eu/pwe/history/the-course-of-insurgent/fighting-on-insurgent-f/3474,THE-BATTLE-S-NEAR-WIES-ZBASKA-17-February-1919.html>
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THE BATTLES NEAR WIEŚ ZBĄSKA 17 February 1919

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As opposed to the situation near Wielki Grójec, the insurgents had a bridgehead near Nowa Wieś Zbąska. In order to eliminate it, the Germans attacked the town from three directions:

- from the north, from the road which connected Nowa Wieś Zamek with Kosieczyn,*
- from the west - from the end of the forest between the Zdzisław colony and the road which connects Nowa Wieś Zbąską with Podmokla Wielkie,*
- from the south - from the end of the forest, north of Grójec Wielki.*

Nowa Wieś Zbąska was defended by the 2nd company of the 2nd Poznań Battalion, which was commanded by Second Lieutenant Korneliusz Mann. The Germans outnumbered the Polish

forces seven to one. The enemy all attacked at once. The insurgents initially managed to hold the attack down, soon, however, they were forced to retreat. Thanks to reinforcements, the Germans were pushed back in a counter-attack. However, the losses were heavy: 20 insurgents were killed (including Second Lieutenant K. Mann) and many soldiers were wounded or taken into captivity.

The notes regarding the battles near Nowa Wieś Zbąska may be similar to those regarding the combat for the forebridge near Wielki Grójec. Though this time the size of the German forces and their plans were known, it was all too clear that the attacking party outnumbered the Poles. In both cases, the losses among the officers were significant, and they may be treated variously, as:

- *lack of qualifications to command, which was related to excessive involvement of the commander in close combat;*
- *the result of very emotional treatment of the combat and exposition on the battlefield;*
- *in sporadic cases - as a result of a very developed sense of dignity and honour (e.g. suicide committed by E. Krause).*

