

Marian Majer (1924-2010)



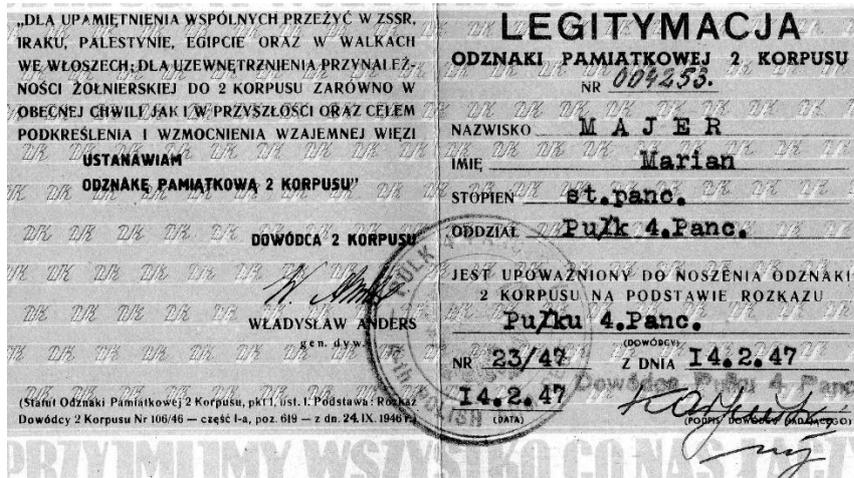
Herbert Speed,

York.

Marian Majer before being demobbed in July, 1947.

Marian Majer was born on the 10th November 1924 in the small farming village of Konarzyński in Northern Poland. It is situated approximately 102km SW of the regional capital Gdańsk. Marian was nearly fifteen when war broke out in September 1939. At that time he was working on his father's farm as a labourer. He came from a large family of ten children who lived and worked off the land they owned. During his lifetime, Marian didn't share very much about his wartime experiences, except to say that because the place where he lived was situated near the German border he was forcibly conscripted into the German army, a fate which befell other Poles. Towards the latter stages of the war, he escaped from the German Army and joined the Polish Army in Europe (1944). He participated in the battle of Monte Cassino (1944), where he served in the Polish Army's Fourth Armoured regiment. Monte Cassino is a rocky hill situated about 130 kilometres SE of Rome, Italy. When the war ended, Marian had the choice of going to Canada or coming to England. Choosing England, he arrived here in June 1946.

Discussions with Marian's daughter, Christine, and research of surviving documents available have made this account possible.



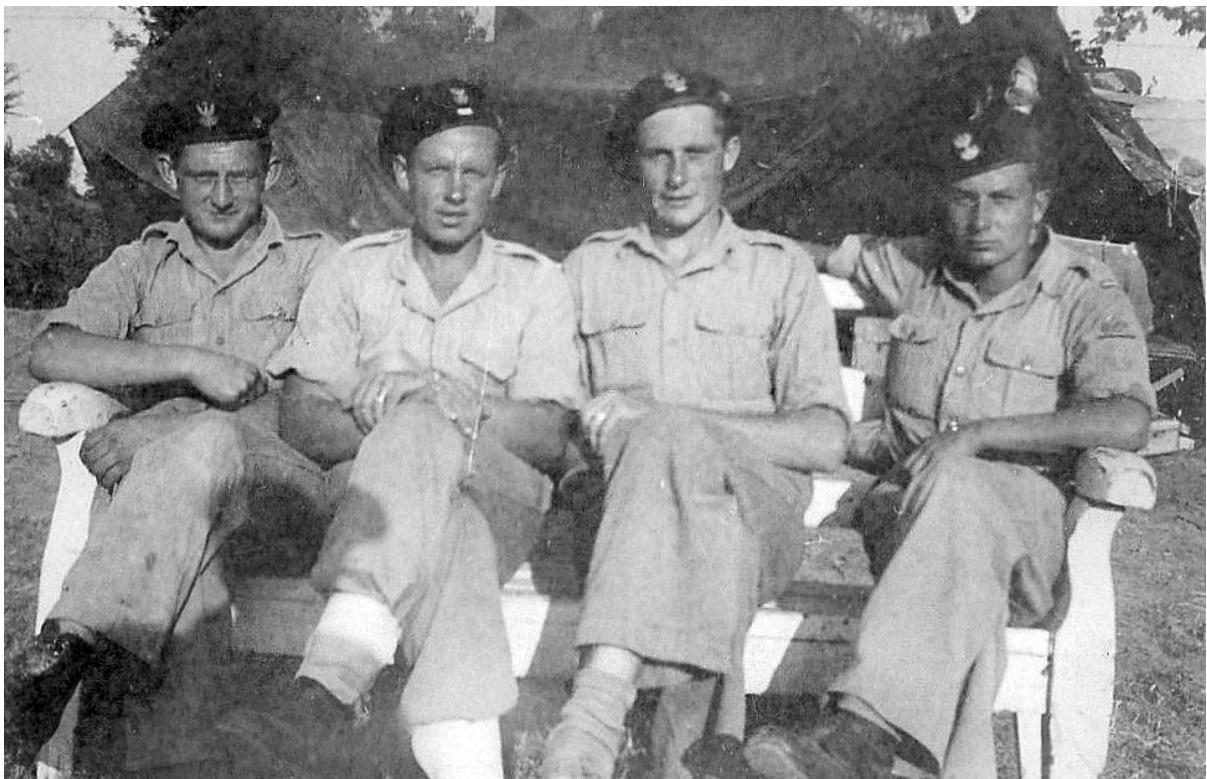
USSR – IRAN – IRAQ- PALESTINE – EGYPT TO ITALY, 1946.



Marian's Certificate of Registration.



Italy; circa 1944.



Polish Army, tank regiment. Marian is first on the left; Italy, 1944.



Polish Army, tank regiment. Marian is first on the right; Italy, 1944.



With the Polish Army, tank regiment on the steps of the destroyed Monte Cassino; Italy 1944.