

some sectors by heavy enemy fire. All who took part in this action have shown themselves to be courageous and deserve in the same measure to be commended.

Total Achievements: four 52-ton tanks and eight 35-ton tanks destroyed; one 35-ton tank damaged; two machinegun nests, one artillery position, and one artillery piece destroyed; four infantry attacks repulsed with large losses for the enemy; and one of our own *Infanterie* attacks effectively supported.

Losses:

Personnel: one killed, four severely wounded, seven lightly wounded.

Material: one *Zugkraftwagen*, two *Kfz.81*, one *Funkwagen* (radio vehicle), one Henschel truck damaged by shell fragments, one 2 cm *Flak* recoil arm broken, one 8.8 cm carriage immobilized because a guide rod broke.

Summary Results of the activities of the 2. Batterie/Flak-Regiment 701 in the Cholm area during the period of 2 to 5 September 1941

| Date | Time | No. of Rounds | Destroyed |
|------|------|---------------|----------------|
| 2Sep | 1700 | 12 Pzgr. | 1 35 ton tank |
| 3Sep | 1400 | 12 Pzgr. | 1 52 ton tank |
| 3Sep | 1400 | 8 Pzgr. | 1 35 ton tank |
| | | 5 Sprgr. Zz. | |
| 3Sep | 1500 | 19 Pzgr. | 2 35 ton tanks |
| | | 62 2 cm Pzgr. | |
| 3Sep | 1630 | 11 Pzgr. | 1 52 ton tank |
| | | 10 Sprgr. Zz. | |
| 3Sep | 1630 | 18 Pzgr. | 2 35 ton tanks |
| | | 22 2 cm Pzgr. | |
| 3Sep | 1800 | 10 Pzgr. | 1 52 ton tank |
| 4Sep | 1145 | 2 Pzgr. | 1 35 ton tank |
| | | 4 Sprgr. Zz. | |
| 4Sep | 1150 | 11 Pzgr. | 1 52 ton tank |
| | | 5 Sprgr. Zz. | |
| 4Sep | 1259 | 14 Pzgr. | 1 35 ton tank |

This report is unique in providing details of the range and number of rounds that it took for each tank kill claimed. A total of 117 8.8 cm Pzgr. rounds were expended to knock out four KW I and eight T 34 tanks, an average of 10 rounds per tank. This is a much higher expenditure than would be predicted by a simple assessment of the inherent accuracy and penetrating ability of the 8.8 cm Flak L/56 against these targets.

The issue of the 8.8 cm Flak L/56 spread beyond the Luftwaffe to outfit a battery organic to SS-Divisions by 1941 and to some of the Panzer-Divisions by the end of 1941. Employment of the 8.8 cm Flak L/56 as an anti-tank weapon on the Eastern Front continued to the end of the war.



Left:

An 8.8 cm Flak 37 being loaded to fire at enemy tanks at a location near Budapest on 14 December 1944. (GF)

Right:

An 8.8 cm Flak 36 with an 8.8 cm Flak-Rohr 18 on an Sd.Ah.202 being towed by an 8 to Zugkraftwagen. (BA)