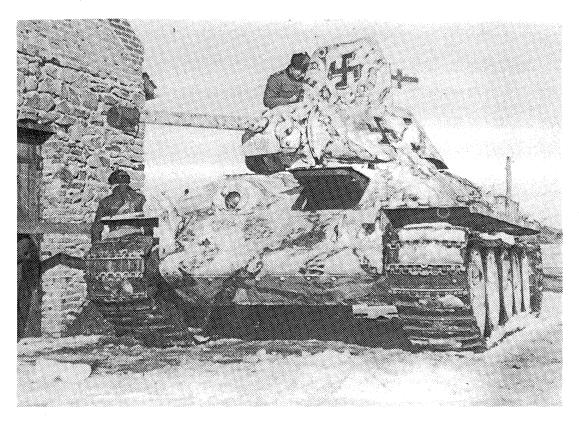


T-34/76

Finnish Army 1941-1944

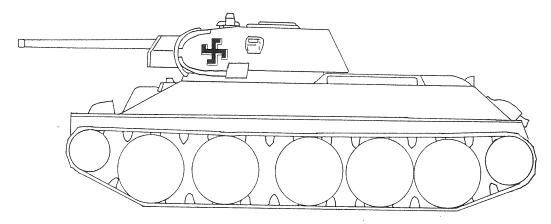


The Finnish army had seven T-34 tanks with the 76 mm gun in use during WW II. Five of them were war-booty ones, first of them captured in autumn 1941. In 1944 three were bough from Germany. Four of the tanks were of model 1941, one model 1942 and two of model 1943.

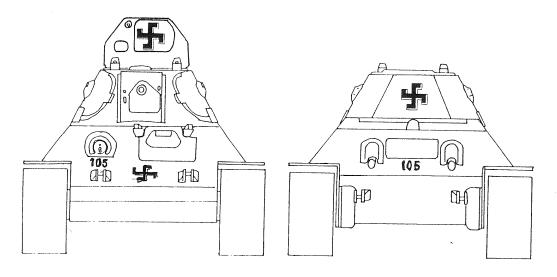
All T-34/76's were used by the Panssaridivisioona (Armoured Division), mainly by the third tank company of it's first tank battalion, which used yellow turret numbers to identify platoon and tank.

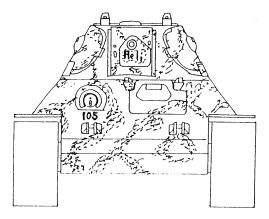
The first T-34/76 was used agains it's former owners during the fighting in East-Carelia and especially in the capture of the town Karhumäki. In the summer 1944 all seven were used on the Carelian Isthmus, where the Armoured Division was used against the Soviet offensive. Besides the StuG III Ausf. G -assault guns the T-34/76's were the only Finnish tanks capable to stand against the Soviet tanks and assault guns.

T-34/76 was used in training by the Finnish Army until 1961.

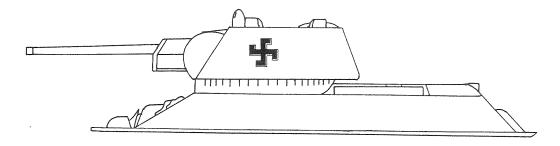


T-34/76 105 of Panssaripataljoona at Äänislinna, autumn 1942. The tank is painted overall medium green.

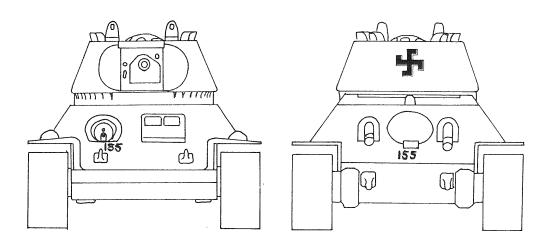


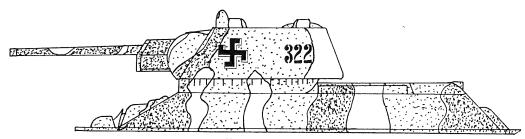


105 during winter 1942-43 at Äänislinna. The tank is whitewashed for winter camouflage thoroughly, only narrow stripes of medium green are showing throug. The tank has now got name "Heli" on it's gun mantlet.

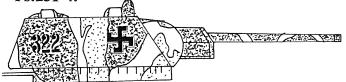


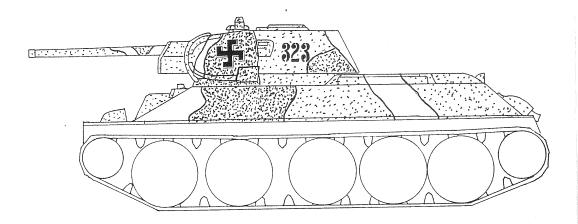
T-34/76 155 of Panssaripataljoona at Äänislinna, autumn 1942. The tank is painted overall medium green.

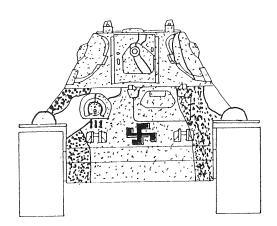




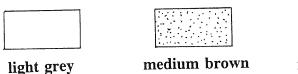
155 during summer 1943 at Äänislinna. A three-colour camouflage has been applied and yellow 322 on turret sides. The tank became later Ps.231-4.







T-34/76 111 during summer 1943 at Äänislinna, with three-colour camouflage and yellow 323 on turret. The tank became later Ps.231-3.



medium green

Camouflage and markings

Originally the T-34's were got in their Soviet dark green colour. After repairs the tanks were painted in Finnish dark green, which was in use until 1943, when a three-colour camouflage was taken in use. The colours were medium green, medium brown and brownish light grey. The sheme varied from tank to tank according to the tastes of the painter.

Finnish tanks were registrated with a one to

three digit number, which was usually painted in white on the bow armour plate and at the rear armour. This system was gradually replaced on tanks with a registration number like Ps. 231-4, where Ps. means an armoured vehicle, 231 is the code for the T-34/76 and 4 the number of the individual tank.

Black-and-white swastikas were used as national emblems, usually painted on turret sides and rear, bow armour and sometimes also on turret hatch.