

THE SUPPRESSION OF THE SLOVAK NATIONAL REBELLION IN THE CONTEXT OF GERMAN MILITARY OPERATIONS, AUTUMN 1944

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The political and military situation in the summer of 1944 was the decisive factor which triggered Slovak rebellion against the “protecting power”. In this context, the present contribution depicts German military reaction and, moreover, cross-refers it to the practically simultaneous Soviet operation against the German defensive front east of the Beskids. It attempts to show that the Red Army intended to bring about, with the help of the Slovak rebellion, the collapse of the defensive positions of the Heeresgruppe Nordukraine (Army Group Northern Ukraine) and thus to isolate German forces fighting in the Southeast, encircle them in the Balkans and destruct them. Defeating rebel as well as Soviet intentions caused the Germans a lot of trouble, with the Wehrmacht profiting from operative mistakes committed by both adversaries as well as from the topography of the operational area on the Beskids front.