Green Berets at Termoli (updated 2012)

**Termoli, Italy October 3rd, 1943** The seizure of Termoli by the British 78th Infantry Division was more a cakewalk than the expected hard battle. Losses were very light and the defenders were soon eliminated. But the commander of the “Battleaxe” Division, as the 78th was nicknamed, knew that a German counterattack was guaranteed. Orders were given to set up defensive positions around Termoli. No.3 Commando, attached to the 78th Division, dug in around the town, reinforced by anti-tank and machine-guns. Soon the sound of tanks filled the air. The 16. Panzer Division had started the counterattack!

**British Balance:** Exchange the German HMG for a MMG.

**German Balance:** Delete the PIAT from the British OB.

**Victory Conditions:** The Germans win at game end if they control hex 17G7 and Building 44BB8.

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**Special Rules:**
1. Weather is Overcast; EC are Wet, with no wind at start. All Orchard are Olive grove (F13.5). All buildings are stone. Grain is in effect. Place Overlays OS on 17H7-17 and Hh10 on 44T8-U8.
2. All British non-crew elite MMCs and SMCs are Commandos with an ELR of 5 and underlined morale. Commandos may declare HhH combat. All other British units have an ELR of 3. Bore sighting is NA.
3. At least three squads, one SMC and one gun manned by a crew must set up ≤ 3 hexes from each hex 17G7 and 44BB8. Remaining units may set up on/north of hexrows J on Board 17 and/or X on Board 44. All British units may set up in foxholes if in suitable terrain. At game start, each British 2-4-7 HS must possess a MMG. Both British guns may setup emplaced, but not HhH.
4. German AFV are equipped with Schürzen (D11.2).

**After the Battle**
The counterattack started with tanks and infantry slowly advancing towards the positions of the Commandos. The AT guns, firing at long range, showed no effect against the tanks. In return the German gunners calmly destroyed one gun after another. The Panzergrenadiers showed an inferior performance. They were stopped by the well armed fire from the Kensingtongs machine guns. The attackers kept up the pressure and soon the first tanks closed in with their targets. But the Commandos, proudly wearing their green berets, withstood all attacks until darkness, when the Germans stopped attacking to regroup their forces, giving the British time to pull back towards Termoli.
Pasir Panjang, Malaya, February 14th 1942: During the course of the Malayan campaign, the IJA landed in the north-western parts of Singapore on February the 8th. After the capture of Tengah airfield, the Japanese invading force, consisting of some 13,000 troops, moved south towards Pasir Panjang, known as “the gap”. Reaching their target on February the 13th, the Japanese were engaged by troops of the 1st Malayan Brigade, which was formed by indigenous soldiers led by British officers. The Japanese launched a heavy attack, supported by artillery and tanks which, after heavy fighting, including hand-to-hand combat, forced the defenders to retreat. Keeping up the pressure, a second attack followed on the morning of February the 14th. Both sides took heavy casualties, but finally the Malayan Regiment again was forced to fall back. One of their units, “C” company, received orders to move towards “Opium Hill”, forming a last defence line.

Victory Conditions: The Japanese win at game end if they have accumulated ≥ 24 VP. VP are awarded for units exiting through the south board edge as per A26.21 – 26.213 (Prisoner count, but are not doubled). In addition the Japanese receive VP for building control. Buildings 49K9 and 49O7 are worth 3VP’s, Building 49N9 is worth 2VP’s.

Special Rules:
1. EC are Moderate, with no wind at start. PTO terrain is in effect including light jungle (G2.1); however all roads and buildings remain (all buildings are single story) and the bridge is a two-lane stone bridge.
2. Place overlays as follows: Wd12 on 49D8-E8, H8 on 49K2-L1 and OW1 on 49N10-O10.
3. Beginning with Turn 5, the British suffer from Ammunition Shortage (A19.131).

Aftermath: “Opium Hill” or Bukit Chandu in Malayan, was named after an opium-processing factory located on the foot of the hill. Control of the hill allowed a good overview over the northern part of the island and opened a passage to the Alexandra area, where the British Army had their main supply and ammunition depots. Here “C” company prepared for a final stand against the Japanese 56th Infantry Regiment, which soon attacked with the support of tanks. Again a fierce fight developed, including the use of bayonets. Outnumbered and low on ammunition the defenders kept up the resistance, frustrating the Japanese, which attacked again and again. Finally, in a large Banzai-Attack, the Malayan Regiment again was forced to fall back. One of their units, “C” company, received orders to move towards “Opium Hill”, forming a last defence line.
Kovel, Poland, March 29th 1944: In March 1944 the advancing Russians had encircled Kovel with four divisions. The city was declared to a “Fester Platz”, which meant that it had to be defended to the last man, a common German practice in the last stage of the war. The commander of the 5. SS Panzerdivision "Wiking", Gruppenführer Herbert Gille flew into the beleaguered city to set up his divisional Command Post. Knowing that the way was blocked by fields of mud and dug-in Russian defenders, his plan was as simple as risky. The Panther tanks of his “Wiking” Division and the 131. Infanterie Division should break the encirclement and reopen the city of Kovel.

**BALANCE:**
- Replace the MMG with an HMG in the Russian OB.
- Two PzVG may set up "not in Motion".

**Victory Conditions:** The Germans win immediately if there is no Good Order Russian MMC in any building, **xDDD**, **xDD** and **xEE** AND if they have exited ≥ one PzVG with functional MA through the west edge of board 19.

**Elements of the 143. Rifle Division [ELR: 3]** set up anywhere on board 19 and/or in hexes numbered < 8 on board X. [SAN: 4]

**Elements of Infanterie Regiment 434, 131. Infanterie Division [ELR: 3]** set up on board 44. [SAN: 3]

**Elements of 8. /Panzer Regiment 5, 5. SS Panzer Division “Wiking” [ELR: 4]** set up on board 44 (see SSR 2):

**Special Rules:**
1. EC are Mud (E3.6 is in effect); Weather is Overcast (E3.5), with no wind at start. All Grain is Marsh. Kindling is NA. Place overlays as follows: **Wd34** on xW1-X1, **RR8** on 19U5-T4, **RR9** on 19BB8-CC9, **RR7** on xCC5-CC6, **RR12** on 44CC5-CC4. B32.43 is not in effect.
2. Place one PzVG in each ELRR hex of Board 44. All PzVG must setup “in Motion”. The 4-4-8 MMC are Assault Engineers and Sappers (H1.22 – 23). All SS Infantry units must start the game as Riders and are Fanatic (A10.8) while being Riders. A19.13 is in effect for all SS MMC/SMC.
3. The Russian player may secretly choose one group of Reinforcements before Setup. Mines and the gun of group 3 (the gun may setup emplaced, but NOT HIP) may be setup (if chosen) with the initial Russian OB. All Russian AFV must enter along the east and/or west edge of board 19. Any number of AFV may enter on/after the indicated turn of entry. No Russian AFV is AAMG equipped.

**Aftermath:** The first target during the relief of Kovel was the small town of Czerkasy and its railway station. Together with some 30 volunteers from the “Wiking”, pioneers and soldiers of the 131. Infanterie Division, Obersturmbannführer Nicolussi-Leck, CO of the 8. Kompanie, and his Panthers started the attack. The elevated railroad was the only safe passage to Czerkasy. Some tanks were lost due to the mud and mines, hidden on the railroad. Reaching the station, the fighting got fierce, but in the end the German attackers silenced the Russian guns and infantry. With the first objective taken, Nicolussi-Leck didn’t await new orders and moved further on with his tanks towards Kovel. The next day, after another hard fight, the leading elements of 8. Kompanie reached the boundaries of Kovel.
“Alarm, die Tommies kommen!!!“

Wailly, France, May 20th 1940: Unaware of the British intention to counterattack at Arras, 7. Panzer Division started to move out on the morning of the 20th May. Rommel had ordered Panzer Regiment 25 to drive toward Agnez in the northwest of Arras. Two British columns from the 50th Durham Light Infantry supported by Matilda tanks moved west of Arras southward, directly into the path of the German spearhead of infantry and supply elements. At the small hamlet of Wailly they ran into the newly arrived motorized SS Regiment “Totenkopf”.

**Victory Conditions:** The British immediately win if they exit ≥ two AFVs through the east board edge and control ≥ eight buildings west of hexrow T. The Germans immediately win if ≥ three British AFVs are eliminated/recalled/immobilized. Otherwise - at game end - the British win if they have more VP (calculated as per A26.2) as the Germans. Only British Good Order Infantry/AFV units east of hexrow Q are eligible for VP. VP for Good Order British Infantry units east of hexrow L are doubled. VP for Good Order German Infantry units west of hexrow Q are doubled. Prisoners are worth zero VP. In addition the Germans receive one VP for every German controlled building.

**BALANCE:**
- Prisoners do count VP as per A26.222.
- At Start NMC for SS MMC receives a -1 DRM (see SSR 2).

**Elements of 50th Durham Light Infantry** [ELR: 4] [SAN: 3]
- Company A set up on board 18 on/west of hexrow BB: (15 VP)
- Company B set up on board 42 on/west of hexrow BB: (16 VP)

**Elements of 4th Royal Tank Regiment** enter on Turn 1 along the west edge: (27 VP)
- Elements of Mortar Platoon set up with Company A or B: (1 VP)
- Matilda I 2
- Matilda II
- Matilda II CS

**Elements of SS Regiment “Totenkopf”** [ELR: see SSR 4] [SAN: 3]
- set up on board 42 between hexrows T-AA (see SSR 2): (16 VP)

**Elements of SS Regiment “Totenkopf”** [ELR: see SSR 4] [SAN: 3]
- set up on board 42 between hexrows T-AA (see SSR 2): (16 VP)

**Rearguard Elements of Schützen Regiment 6** set up (emplaced) anywhere east of hexrow P: (8 VP)
- The German player secretly chooses one “Gun” group before Setup and sets it up - non-emplaced but concealed - anywhere east of hexrow P:
  - Group 1: 1x 2-2-8, 1x 88L Flak 18, 6x ? (4 VP)
  - Group 2: 2x 2-2-8, 1x 37L AT, 1x 105 ART leFH 18, 3x ? (4 VP)
  - Group 3: 2x 2-2-8, 1x 20L Flak 38, 1x 37L AA Flak 36, 1x 37L leIG18 (12 VP)

**Special Rules:**
1. EC are Moderate, with no wind at start. Grain is in season. All buildings are single story. All level 2 hill hexes are level one only. Cliffs do not exist. Kindling is NA. Place overlays as follows: OW1 on 42BB2-CC3 and Wd12 on 18G4-H4.
2. Due to the shock of immediately facing an enemy counterattack, all German SS MMC not stacked with a leader must take a NMC after the British Setup is finished. All German SS MMC are Lax.
3. The German player secretly chooses two different Adhoc Forces before Setup. The lower numbered Adhoc Force must enter on Turn 1 and the other must enter on Turn 2 according to their entry instruction.
4. All German SS units have ELR 2. All other German units have ELR 4.
5. The British Matilda I is radio-equipped.

**Aftermath:** The surprised and inexperienced SS soldiers withdrew southward and spread panic among the soldiers of Schützen Regiment 6 who crossed their way. Rommel himself organized the defense in this sector by taking what ever was available to fight against the British Infantry and tanks. The arriving of some 88 Flak guns and the lack of reinforcements for the British Attack Groups saved the day for the Germans. This day the 7. Panzer Division had suffered the highest losses in Personnel and Vehicles during the whole French Campaign so long.

**Scenario Credits:**
- Scenario Designed by: Christian Koppmeyer 2008
- Scenario Card Layout by: Christian Koppmeyer
- VASL Counter Artwork: @ Rodney Kinsey, used with permission
Kharkov, Russia, 12 March 1943: Approaching Kharkov from the west, 2.SS Panzer Division “Das Reich” began to attack the inner city circle on 11th march. Remembering Stalingrad, Generaloberst Hoth ordered 1.SS Panzer Division “Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler” not to join 2.SS Panzer Division in this attack, but to move further around Kharkov, encircling the town and to start infiltrating from the north-east. On 4:00 AM of 12th march Panzergrenadier Regiment 1 of LAH was in position. They received direct support from the Tiger Kompanie of LAH which was equipped with the very new Tiger I tanks. While parts of the LAH moved further east to complete the encirclement, Panzergrenadier Regiment 1 started its advance to meet her sister Division (“Das Reich”) which came from the south-west. Russian resistance was heavy and every cityblock received a bloody fighting which most often was only decided when the supporting tanks gave direct Fire support.

Victory Conditions: The Germans immediately win, if they control > 14 Blocks (see SSR 3). At game end, the Germans win if they have assembled > 80 Victory Points. Victory Points are only awarded for controlled Blocks! Information: There is a total of 20 blocks with a maximum of 110 VP’s, subtracting 10 rubble hexes for a total of 100 VP.

Russian Balance: Add a 1-4-9 hero with a DC
German Balance: Add a 6-5-8 squad to the Recon Platoon

Set Up as per SSR 4
Set Up as per SSR 4 / GERMAN Moves First

Elements of the 19.Rifle Division [ELR: 3] set up concealed in any building/rubble hex (see SSR 4) [SAN: 4]

Tank Support from the 179. Tank Brigade set up anywhere (see SSR 4)

Elements of SS Panzergrenadier-Regiment 1, 1.SS Panzer Division [ELR: 5] enter on Turn 1 from the north edge [SAN: 4]

Recon Platoon SS Panzergrenadier-Regiment 1, 1.SS Panzer Division [ELR: 5] set up concealed in Block 20X4 or Block 45W7 (see SSR 4)

Special Scenario Rules:
1. EC are Wet with no wind at start.
2. Place Overlays: X12 on 20S1–R0, X9 on 20V0, Wd1 on 45U9. No building has a second floor. Before setup both players alternate (beginning with the Russians) placing five rubble counter in building hexes (no falling Rubble).
3. All hexes surrounded by streets or the board edge which contain at least one building/rubble hex are called a Block. The road net encircling a Block is not part of the Block. Each Block is worth as many Victory Points as there are building hexes in the Block, e.g. buildings 20R6 and 20S9 form a block with four Victory Points. Block control is gained by a player if he is solely occupying a Block with Good Order MMC. Unverified concealed units (including Dummy-stacks) cannot gain Block control, but do deny gaining Block control to the enemy (and need not be verified to do so). AFV gain Block control as if a location as per A26.12 but only if no enemy unit is in the Block. An AFV gaining Block control loses control immediately if it leaves the Block, letting the block uncontrolled. Each Block is initially controlled by the Russians.
4. The German Recon Platoon sets up first. All units must setup in the same block. Then Russian Infantry setup in building/rubble hexes outside the block where the Germans has setup. Russian AFV may setup anywhere, but not in the same hex as a German unit.
5. ATMM (C13.7) are available to German Infantry units.

After the battle
Reinforced by the Tigers the SS Troopers systematically cleared Block by Block until they reached the Red square. The Russian – being fully aware of their ill-fated situation – tried desperately to stem the tide. But due to the earlier encirclement their supply and replacement was not enough. In the evening of the 13th, General Hauser could telegraph that Kharkov was in German hands again. The last great German success in the east was secured.

SCENARIO CREDITS:
Scenario Designed by: Christian Koppmeyer
Scenario Card Layout by: Christian Koppmeyer
VASL Counter Artwork: @ Rodney Kinney used with permission
Houx, France, May 13th 1940:

German Kradschützen reached the Maas in the early evening hours of 12th May. While the French were still unorganized and even ignored the order of the High command to defend at the river banks, the German found an undefended Wehr (a man-built dam) which they immediately crossed during the night. After the French recognized this disaster the next morning, they tried to eliminate the bridgehead before the German Engineers could build a pontoon bridge to cross with their Panzers. Meanwhile the German had more than twelve Companies of Infantry on the west side of the Maas and tried to expand their bridgehead, while still lacking AT capability.

Victory Conditions: The side which have accumulated more VP at game end win. Count VP’s at game end as follows:
- Each controlled building is worth 1VP (EXC: 2VP if within the enemy setup area);
- Each CVP is worth 1VP (A26.222 is in effect);
- Control of the “Wehr” is worth 3VP;
- Each controlled pillbox is worth 2VP for the Germans but only 1VP for the French.

The French start the scenario with 33 VP (buildings + pillboxes). The Germans start with 10 VP (buildings)

FRENCH Moves First

GERMAN Moves First

Elements of 39th Infantry-Regiment, 18th Infantry Division [ELR: 3] set up as per SSR 2 [SAN: 4]

Elements of Kradschützen Battalion 7, 7. Panzer Division [ELR: 4] set up concealed in Foxholes (if in suitable terrain) west of the Maas on/within the Perimeter GG23-OO19-GG15 [SAN: 3]

Elements of I. Battalion Schützen Regiment 7, 7. Panzer Division set up east of the Maas within two hexes of PP9

Elements from I. Abt/23 Panzer Regiment 25, 7. Panzer Division enter on Turn 1 along the east edge

Special Rules:
1. EC are Most, with no wind at start. The LL15-V12 stream is dry. All woods are normal (no Pine woods as per P.1). Slopes (P.2) do not exist. Barbed Wire Fences (P.3) are in play. The Ambleve river represents the Maas. Place Overlays OG2 on SS15-TT14, WD1 on OO7. The Stream beginning in RR15 and ending in KK29 is also the Maas. Place Overlays OG2 on SS15-TT14, WD1 on OO7. The Stream beginning in RR15 and ending in KK29 is also the Maas. Place Overlays OG2 on SS15-TT14, WD1 on OO7. The Stream beginning in RR15 and ending in KK29 is also the Maas.
2. All French Fortifications setup HIP and loose HIP status as per E1.16. Pillboxes must setup outside the German Setup area. West of and adjacent to a Maas river hex, with at least one Maas river hex in each pillbox area. No pillbox can setup within two hexes of another pillbox. Each pillbox must be occupied by at least one MMC. Up to three Squad-equivalents and any SMC/SW stacked with them may setup HIP in Foxholes within two hexes of NN11. The French may divide their remaining force into two groups. The “Defend” group setup concealed (if in Concealment terrain) on/within the perimeter IIII1-CC14-V10-V1. The “Attack” group (if any) must enter along the south board edge – but only west of the Maas – during the MPh of the turn which the French secretly record during Setup. The “Defend” group receives one additional “?” counter for every counter within the “Attack” group. These additional “?” counters may setup with the “Defend” group on/within the given perimeter (IIII1-CC14-V10-V1).
3. German MMC/SMC can cross the Maas only at the “Seilfähre”. Movement cost for PP9 (Stacking capacity is 12PP – no over stacking allowed) and OO10 is 2M each hex. Hazardous Movement penalties apply in both hexes. Mark any unit TI by entering OO10. Treat any Break in OO10 or PP9 as Casualty Reduction instead (Pin and HoB Results are ignored). The “Seilfähre” cannot be destroyed by any means.
4. Control of the “Wehr” is gained by having a Good Order MMC in a hex adjacent to the “Wehr” while no Good Order enemy MMC meets the same condition.
5. All German AFV/Guns are elite for special ammunition purposes (C8.2).

After the Battle

By dawn the Germans tried to cross the Maas to reinforce their bridgehead against heavy resistance. French Artillery and Small-Arms Fire hindered all German attempts. The small German bridgehead came under attack but Rommel by himself organized the defense. On this morning Rommel was everywhere. He gave orders where ever the attack faltered. German losses were heavy, but around noon Rommel’s effort began to show effect. More and more rafts could cross the Maas. Pioneers begun to built a pontoon bridge and a Seilfähre was setup and transported men over the Maas. But the nail on the complete French disaster was the catastrophic French communication and lack of proper command structure.

DIFFERENCES TO PREVIOUS VERSION IN GREEN

BOARD CONFIGURATION
The Dornot Horseshoe

Dornot, Lorraine, September 10th 1944: After a fruitless attack versus Fort St.Blaise and Fort Sommy on the east bank of the Mosel, Companies F and G of the 11th Infantry found themselves back again in their starting positions, a small, horseshoe formed, wooded perimeter with the river banks in their backs. Together with units from the 23th Armored Infantry Battalion and some support from self-propelled guns west of the river, they defended the bridgehead bitterly against the experienced men of the 17. SS Panzergrenadier Division. Time and again the Germans attacked the dug-in Americans – with no success. But for how long would the decimated defenders be able to hold the line?

**Victory Conditions:** The Germans win at game end if they control $\geq 7$ Victory hexes. A Victory hex is every hex adjacent to a river hex within the US Setup area. All Victory hexes are initially US controlled. **[There are a total of 13 Victory hexes]**

**TURN RECORD CHART**

**BOARD CONFIGURATION:**

**SCENARIO CREDITS:**
Scenario Designed by: Michael Koch 2007
Scenario Card Layout by: Christian Koppmeyer
VASL Counter Artwork: @ Rodney Kinney, used with permission

**Special Rules:**
1. EC are Wet, with no wind at start. The river is deep with a heavy current flowing north. Kindling in NA. Place overlays as follows: Hit on 40U6-V5 and Wd34 on 40T1-S2.
2. The Americans may use HIP for $\leq 1$ HS and any SMC/SW set up with it.
3. The German player must secretly select one Tank group before the US Setup. German units may enter during Turns 1-3 on/between hexes 19A6-19G6. A19.1 is in effect. All StuG’s and StuH’s are equipped with Schürzen (D11.2). All appropriate German AFVs are AAMG equipped.
4. The Americans receive Air Support (E7.) in form of two 1944 Fighter Bombers. Make another dr for the armament (one dr for both). 1-4: Bombs; 5: Napalm; 6: MG only. The Fighter Bombers must leave one turn after their Turn of entry.
5. Bore Sighting is NA.

**Aftermath:** On the second day, orders were given to evacuate the small bridgehead, because a second, larger one had been established successfully by the 10th Infantry Regiment down the river. In the end the determined Defenders of the Dornot “Horseshoe” had withstand thirty-six separate attacks from tanks and overwhelming numbers of infantry and the crossfire from still enemy-held Forts on both sides of the Mosel. It was estimated that six hundred German soldiers were killed in this action. But the toll on the defenders was extremely high too. Nearly all officers were killed or wounded as were the enlisted men. The AAR reported that the action at Dornot had cost the 11th Regiment nearly five hundred casualties.