

MARCH OF THE MASTODONS

CHAUMONT, 4 MILES SOUTH OF BASTOGNE, BELGIUM, 23 December 1944: In the attempt to relieve Bastogne, Patton had charged the 4th Armored Division to "drive like hell", but it wasn't working out that way. While CCA struggled against stiffening opposition, demolished bridges and poor terrain, CCB encountered only token resistance on the 22nd and reached Burnon, only 7 miles from Bastogne. Before daylight on the 23rd, CCB resumed its advance only to find the next village, Chaumont, defended by a company from the 5th Parachute Regiment. In a combined arms assault, CCB rooted the *fallschirmjaegers* out of their cellars. That morning, at the HQ of the 26th *Volksgrenadier* near Bastogne, five Ferdinand tank destroyers arrived. Part of the 653rd heavy *Panzerjaeger* Battalion which had recently come from Italy, the giant assault guns were scheduled for commitment in Alsace; they had somehow been diverted to the Ardennes. The German commander, Kokott, cared not from where they came, or how; they seemed heaven sent to prevent the American drive from cutting into the rear of his division at Bastogne. Kokott promptly sent the Ferdinands southward, along with ten of his assault guns. The AFV arrived in time to enable the fallschirmjaegers to re-capture the Chaumont, while German guns exacted a heavy toll of the American tanks mired on a hillside outside the village. That night General McAuliffe sent an obviously concerned message from Bastogne to the 4th Armored: "Sorry I did not get to shake hands today. I was disappointed." A short time later somebody on his staff sent another: "There is only one more shopping day before Christmas."



RACE FOR THE BRIDGES

RHEINBERG, GERMANY, 5 March 1945: As March 1945 began the Allies still had not captured a bridge over the Rhine. Field Marshal Montgomery planned Operation Plunder, the final crossing of the Rhine for Mach 23. General Simpson, however, planned to grab any bridge across the river, and much sooner, in order to prevent any organized resistance on the east shore as well as to provide a solid bridge-head for the upcoming operation. A blood-red sun arrived with dawn on the 5th of March. It would prove a harbinger of things to come as the men of the American 8th Armored Division were ordered to attack Rheinberg in an attempt to capture at least one of the two remaining spans over the Rhine in that town. The attack was tipped off, as German generals von Schlemm and von Waldenburg were able to listen to radio transmissions from the waiting Sherman crews of the attackers. This lapse in radio discipline would cost the attackers dearly; the enemy was able to dispatch elements of the "Windhund" and 116 Panzer divisions to meet the threat. And a threat to the Rhine bridges indeed materialized as Task Force "Wan Houten" jumped off early and made good progress until realizing they had lost contact with their infantry support in the form of Task Force "Roseborough". The American tankers still pushed on, only to be me by a murderous hail of shaped-charge weapons fire and resistance from the deadly '88' guns still possessed by the Germans in some numbers and used to defend critical points. The tanks of TF "Van Houten" were easy prey for the determined defenders; in the absence of infantry support, the desperate American crew-men of knocked out tanks engaged their adversaries with their small arms. By the time TF "Roseborough" arrived, the losses to the 8th Armored Division had exceeded 50 tanks. The Rhine would not be crossed this day.

BOARD CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY:





VICTORY CONDITIONS: The Americans win immediately if they have a Good Order MMC on the south side of the river OR if they Control *all* of the multi-hex buildings on the VILLAGE overlay at game end.

SCENARIO BALANCE: GERMAN: Add a 9-2 armor leader to the German OB.

AMERICAN: The Turn 4 reinforcements enter on Turn 3.

SCENARIO SPECIAL RULES:

 EC is Wet and Overcast, with a Mild Breeze blowing from the southeast and no rain at start. The stream is Deep. All grain hexes are treated as Mud hexes (D8.23 and E3.6).
Place the Village-40 overlay on board 40. Two lane stone bridges exist in 40Q2-Q3 and

4012-13. 3. All American personnel must enter as PRC. All Passengers may use Cloaking (E1.41) until they become CE, unload, or conduct any other concealment loss activity.

4. The Americans receive one 105mm Creeping Barrage (E12.7) with an automatic black chit for purposes of E12.72. The Barrage hex grain runs east-west. The Germans receive one module of 150mm OBA (HE only) directed by an offboard observer at Level 2 in any hex along the south edge of the board. The German must pre-record this hex prior to all set up. Boresighting is NA.

5. All American AFV crews that Bail Out/Abandon/Roll CS are immediately marked with a Berserk counter and are treated as a Berserk MMC for all purposes. No further movement may be conducted during the MPh in which the crew is first marked with a Berserk counter. If no German unit (Known or concealed) is currently in the LOS of such a Berserk crew (only), the crew must charge toward the closest (in MF) bridge hex until an enemy unit is in its LOS. It then charges the enemy unit normally. Once a bridge hex is entered, the crew immediately returns to Good Order.

6. No German unit may move, advance or rout across the river. Any German unit that crosses the river is immediately removed from play. No German unit may set up in a bridge hex, but bridge hexes may be entered normally by the German during play.



THE SETON BLOCK

SETON, BURMA, 25 May, 1944: Now that General Stilwell's Chih Hu Pu forces had acheived early success in their return to Northern Burma he set his sights on Myitkyina. But fiirst the Japanese hold on the Mogaung valley had to be wrested from them, as well as their control of the vital Kamaing-Mogaung road. General Sun, the commander of the 22nd Division, ordered one regiment, the 112th, to slip around the Japanese east flank and cut the Kamaing road south of the small village of Seton. With his right rear flank now wide open, General Tanaka ordered everything available to immediately attack this blocking force in his rear. In vain did the Japanese strike the Seton Block repeatedly. The resolve of the defenders remained resolute as the Chinese inflicted heavy casualties on the Japanese desperately trying to reopen the Kamaing-Mogaung road. Rain, floods and the savage fury of the attack made this particular battle the most trying of the campaign. At the end of this action only two Chinese officers were left standing. However, their fortitude forced the Japanese to withdraw through a previously cut secret escape path. The withdrawal was now on with the victorious Chinese forces hard on their heels and in control of the Mogaung valley.

BOARD CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY:



ONE FOR THE TROPHY CASE

North of GOUBELLAT, TUNISIA, 31 JANUARY 1943: The first Allied offensive to reach Tunis has been stopped by the Germans for over a month. There had been several rumors of a new German tank, but because of General Arnim's reluctance to help Rommel the new Tiger tanks had been held in reserve since their arrival in Tunisia in November of 1942. On the morning of the 31st of January a spotter for the British 72nd Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery, sighted one of the new Tigers headed his way. He immediately radioed for reinforcements. There were some tanks in the area, but nothing able to match the Tiger; the spotter immediately left his post. He ran back to headquarters shouting, "Tigers! There are tigers coming down the road!" It was then that they realized only six-pounders were available to repel the attack. It would indeed be a long morning, and would possibly disturb tea time later that afternoon. The Tigers did disturb afternoon tea time. Although this was one of the first times that the new tank had been committed to the front, it showcased all of its assets. Its thick armor and long 88mm gun was more than a match for anything the Allies had in Tunisia at the time. This particular engagement saw the 72nd Anti-Tank Regiment call for reinforcements. These engagement was one of several probes over the next few weeks in preparation for the big February offensive. When it was over the 72nd Anti-Tank Regiment had captured the first Tiger tank of the war. This allowed for an immediate technical analysis of the new German wonder and provided much needed information about how to defeat the enemy in battle.

BOARD CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY:



Scenario Design: Rory Millard

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

South of DJEDEIDA, TUNISIA, 28 November 1942: On November 27 the Allied spearhead of the TORCH landings ran into heavy opposition near Tebourba. The 1st Surrey's scout vehicles contacted 15 German tanks, some of which were from the 501st Schwere Tank Abteilung, some 13 Mark III and 2 Mark VI. The weight of their counter-assault successfully halted the British drive for the day. This morning Brigadier Cass has brought up the 19 tanks form the 5th Northamptons to continue the assault and drive on towards Tunis. The rumors were that the new Tiger tank was mixed in with the units that had halted the offensive. The September intelligence from ULTRA had finally been realized. General von Arnim had finally committed part of the 501st Schwere Abteilung. He was intent on halting the Allied drive while maintaining the Axis foothold in Africa. The German commander began to sweat as he spotted the dust from the Allied tanks. The tanks from the 5th Northamptons were on their way. As the smoke clouds grew the German gunners patiently sighted in their guns on their approaching targets. Leftover from the previous days battle the Germans had only two Tiger tanks, but were able to use them to utmost effectiveness. The Germans knocked out so many tanks that the British withdrew the next day. After two more days of vicious fighting on both sides the British were forced to withdraw. Tunis would not be captured before the rains began, in fact it would not be captured before the first week in May. Much to the dismay of the Allied high command, they had not reached their objectives - and they had been introduced to an effective new German weapon, the Tiger tank.

BOARD CONFIGURATION:



SPECIAL MESSENGER

BIR EL AALIA, TUNISIA, 21 JANUARY 1943: On the 18th of January the Germans launched Operation *Eilbote* in an effort to shore up their southern defenses by recapturing the eastern Dorsals mountain range and the Kebir reservoir that supplied water to Tunis. Colonel Weber of the 10th Panzer Division was given elements of the 756th Mountain, 20th Flak, and 501st Schwere Panzer Abteilung. Group Weber drove for three furious days through the French sector, covering over 37 miles until it contacted Combat Command B of the U.S. First Armored Division. Commanded by Brigadier General Robbinett and sent north to contain the German offensive, CCB hit the Germans just north of Bir el Aalia. Running short on fuel, but not on numbers, the First Armored attempted to stave off the German offensive. The Allies were able to contain the German offensive in both the north and south of the Dorsal mountains. They did so only after the Germans had recaptured the Kebir reservoir, ensuring the continued supply of water to Tunis. This offensive saw some of the heaviest air operations during the African campaign, with both sides flying over 400 sorties each day. A specific effect of this operation occurred when the French were brought under the command of General Anderson, thereby revealing several command and control faults to the Allies. Recognition of these shortcomings helped the Allies to better coordinate the employment of their forces later in the war.

BOARD CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY:



Scenario Design: Rory Millard

BAPTISM OF FIRE

KOGENBROICH, NORTH OF GEILENKIRCHEN, GERMANY, 20 November 1944: The men of 'K' Company, 333rd Infantry Battalion, landed in Europe at Omaha Beach on November 2, 1944. Known as the "Railsplitters" the unit saw little action. 'K' Company had yet to fire a shot, when the attack orders came in for an assault against the Siegfried Line positions of the 183rd Volksgrenadier Division. The baptism of fire went by swiftly, with the company capturing its first objective. Things would be different on November 20th as the day dawned to mud, and more mud. Worse still, the enemy inserted fresh forces, including the seasoned tankers of the 9th and 10th SS Panzer Divisions. These forces would be faced by the men of 'K' Company as they attacked right into the midst of the Siegfried Line and its pillboxes and intersecting fields of fire. Support for the 333rd was on hand in the form of tanks from the British Sherwood Rangers, which blasted away at enemy pillbox positions from point blank range. Their true baptism of fire would not go as smoothly as the first; enemy armor appeared on the scene and the Yanks would be forced to rely on their own devices to capture the bridge over the Würm at Kogenbroich. The battle soon evolved into a bloody draw with more than one third of the men from 'K' Company lost. Within a stone's throw of their objective, the company halted and dug in for the night. The men of 'K' Company, 333rd Infantry Battalion, 84th Division had received their baptism of fire on this day.



Scenario Design: Klaus Fischer

SURPRISE AT HONKANIEMI

HONKANIEMI, FINLAND, 22 February 1940: The Russians had finally succeeded in breaching the Mannerheim Line. The tankers of 4th Pans.K. were just arriving to the front when the unit was ordered to immediately counterattack with the 'Jakaaris' of 3rd JP. Severe weather conditions had taken a toll of the diminutive Finnish tanks; only six tanks of fifteen were available for combat. The rest had technical problems. Everything went awry for the Finns right from the start. The pre-attack Finnish artillery barrage accidentally landed on a massed grouping of men from 3rd JP, dispersing it. However, that reverse was not realized by the tank men, and they started forward with little to no infantry support. Nonetheless, the arrival of Finnish tanks surprised the Russians, who had seen none in use by their Finnish opponents before. Startled, the Soviet tank crews rushed to their vehicles and started their engines. The Finns had some initial success against the surprised defenders, but the odds were against them. In the end, only one Vickers tank returned from battle. The others were lost to enemy fire and mechanical breakdowns. On paper, the results were negligible: only three Russian tanks were destroyed and some infantry killed. No matter the outcome, the Finnish tank force had been blooded in combat for the first time. There would be many more actions to come during the Jatkosota.

BOARD CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY:



(Only hexrows R-GG on board 5 and A-P on board 42 are playable.)



VICTORY CONDITIONS: The Finns win if, at game end there are no mobile Russian AFV with functioning main armament ≤ 4 hexes from 42G4, OR immediately upon amassing ≥ 36 CVP and they have Exited ≥ 1 AFV off any road hex.

SCENARIO BALANCE:

FINNISH: Replace the Finnish 9-1 armor leader with a 9-2. RUSSIAN: Add an ATR to the Russian OB.

SCENARIO SPECIAL RULES:

1. EC are Wet, with no wind at start. Extreme Winter (E3.74) and Ground Snow (E3.72) are in effect. All buildings are rubble (i.e., stone and wooden rubble placed based on the on-map building type). A +1 LV DRM (E3.1) is in effect at all ranges to represent the fact that the attack began at dusk.

2. One Russian AFV crew is placed in *each* hex containing an un-manned tank. All tanks for both sides lack radios. Before all set up, the Finnish player may secretly designate an "attack route" for his tanks. An attack route is defined by a contigous road defined by an entry hex and an exit hex [EX: 5Y1-4211]. If a Finnish tank "follows" its attack route (i.e., is in any road hex along this contiguous road) it may ignore the NTC for non-platoon movement (D14.23).

3. Russian tank crews are Inexperienced (D3.45).



BOTTOM OF THE BARREL

SOUTHEAST OF ZOSSEN, GERMANY, 22 April 1945: The German Army of 1945 was shadow of it's once potent self. To remedy the manpower crisis, all branches of the armed forces had their non-essential personnel reassigned to provide foot-soldiers for the fronts. Cooks, Drivers, technicians, navy and Luftwaffe personnel were transferred wholesale to the Wehrmacht, given a rifle, and led into combat. While these lightly trained men stood in front of the mightly Red Army of 1945, the rapid advance of Koniev's 3rd Guards Tank Army not only threatened Berlin from the south, but put the 9th Army facing Zhukov in a perilous predicament. In Koniev's path lay Zossen, the German High Command HQ and main communications center linking the still active but isolated German units from Norway to Italy. As the lead tanks of the 3rd Guards were approaching Zossen from the South, scattered resistance began to solidify in a small hamlet just outside of Zossen. The sharp crack of an '88' supported by rapid firing MG-42s stopped the lead elements cold at first. After the initial shock of the ambush wore off, an air strike was ordered and the advance was to continue. With the experience learned in years of fighting on the Eastern Front, teams of brown clad infantrymen began rooting out the defenders' positions one by one, while tanks carrying yet more infantry attempted to outflank the hamlet. A tight formation of fighter bombers soon arrived to sweep over the battlefield in low strafing runs. Heavy flak rang out from the nearby woods, revealing their positions, which the air support of the troops which had just eliminated an anti-tank gum and continued the process of launching an attack against the hamlet in the face of suprisingly stiff resistance; even the fire from some armored cars seemed to have little effect on the attacking Russians. Unable to deal with the thick armor of the enemy tanks, the armored cars soon pulled back, leaving the remaining defenders to their fate. With all their support stripped away, the infantry isolated in t



ACROSS THE WÜRM

KOGENBROICH, NORTH OF GEILENKIRCHEN, GERMANY, 23 November 1944: For three days the "Railsplitters" of 'K' Company were joined in an attack by the men of the armor British Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry. For three days the weather worsened. The rain was so heavy, the mens' foxholes filled up with water, making sleep nearly impossible. During this stretch, the combined assault of American and British arms was repulsed by the defenders. However, the pressure of a constant attack not only took its toll on the attackers; exhausted and battered German troops finally pulled back behind Wurm River to regroup. Despite the retrograde movement of the enemy the Siegfried Line was far from compromised. 'K' Company was ordered forward, assured of help tanks from the British 79th Armored Division, and additional support from their own unit in the form of "T" Company, 333rd Infantry Battalion, which had found a crossing further north. The renewed attack went off slowly, mud restricting tank movement to the roads. The Yanks advanced cautiously but were still pinned down by machine-gun fire delivered by the waiting Volksgreandiers; Sherwood tanks moving up were engaged by a lone 'Panther' tank. 'K' company Railsplitter hugged their helmets and laid in the mud praying for reinforcements. The promised armor was delayed after being forced to detour around the newly found, but overly soft crossing. The weight of the Allied armor was finally brought to bear, as the lone Panther was finally despatched, and enemy foot-soldiers were moved off their positions with the help of the liquid fuel of the Crocodiles. Just as the remnants of 'I' Company arrived, the American attack seemed to pick up momentum. After gaining a foothold into the outskirts of Wurm, any forward progress was again halted by the appearance of two German assault-guns from the 9th SS. Again 'K' Company was stopped short within reach of its objective.



Scenario Design: Klaus Fischer

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SOVIET UNION, July 1941: As Barbarossa was unleashed against Russia, the entire front reeled back as one army after another was surrounded. However futile, some pockets continued to resist and fought on bravely. For many Russian soldiers, their war ended just as the epic defense of the Motherland was beginning.

BOARD CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY:



RUSSIAN Sets Up First GERMAN Moves First





SCENARIO SPECIAL RULES:

1. EC are Moderate, with no wind at start.

2. The roadblock may be placed anywhere within the limits of B29.1.

3. The road continues between 14Y2 and 14X5 via 14X2-

X3-X4. The hedge in 14X3/X4 does not exist.

4. All German Personnel must enter as Passengers.

5. To reflect a lack of training, concealment is NA for Russian units.

6. The stream is Deep.





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THE CHANTILLY PRELUDE

FRANCE, November 1944: As the Allies approached the German border, enemy resistance increased. In one town near Strasbourg, the Americans captured one of the last remaining supply lines of the retreating Wehrmacht. The Germans promptly counter-attacked, starting a fire-fight which lasted through the night. As word of the heavily armed relief force reached battalion HQ, the Americans, too, rounded up a scratch force to throw into the fray. Neither side found itself ready for the sudden role of attacker thrust upon each; the ensuing fight would be a precursor of much of the fighting soon to take place within the borders of the Reich.

BOARD CONFIGURATION AND ENTRY:



SEQUENTIAL SET UP (See SSR 2) AMERICAN Moves First



VICTORY CONDITIONS: The Germans win if they Control the two Victory Buildings (see SSR 2A).

SCENARIO SPECIAL RULES:

1. EC are Wet, with no wind at start. Players may implement Ground Snow and/or Light Mist by mutual consent.

2. Set up on board 21 as follows: A) Kampfgruppe Hassler must place two MMC, one each in a different stone building. These two buildings are the Victory Buildings. The leader and HMG may also be placed with either MMC at this time. B) The American then places the three units of Task Force Nixon in any non-Open Ground Location at least 3 hexes away from the nearest enemy unit. C) The German then places the remaining two MMC, and any remaining leader and HMG in any non-Open Ground Location at least 4 hexes away from the nearest enemy unit in non-occupied Locations. D) The American then sets up the Relief Force. Deploying is NA for both sides during set up.

3. No unit of TF Nixon may move until the MPh following the first time a LOS can be drawn to any unit of the Relief Force.

4. Rowhouses do not exist. Treat them as normal buildings, ignoring the black bar.



