

TANGLE AT TOLOCHIN

OB 5 Operation *BAGRATION*

Battlefield Orientation:



Tactical Objective:

The Germans win immediately by destroying/immobilizing/UK/recalling/capturing all 9 Russian AFV, or by having ≥ 16 VP of Good Order units remaining at game end.

Play Balance:

Russian: Replace the *German* 2-2-8 crews with 1-2-7 crews

German: Replace the 2cm FlaK 38 with a 2cm FlaKvierling 38

Historical Special Rules

- Kindling is NA.
- Place Overlay 6 in 6O9-6O10. A continuous road exists between the following pairs of hexes: 6P2-6O3, 6P4-6O5, and 6P5-6O5.
- The Germans are Elite for Special Ammunition purposes (C8.2).
- No German ART Gun may set up within 3 hexes of another German ART Gun. In addition the 17cm K18 Guns lose HIP as if set up in open ground (A12.34), regardless of actual terrain occupied, if a Russian unit within 6 hexes has LOS to it.
- One of the German 8-1 leaders is secretly designated as an Artillery Leader. He functions in all respects as a normal leader. If in the same location with any ART Gun, he raises the morale level of the manning crew by 1, and may also apply his leadership DRM to any TH DR of that Gun.
- The Russians receive one module of 120+mm OBA with Plentiful Ammunition (HE only).
- Russian trucks do not have an inherent driver and are considered abandoned unless carrying passengers.
- Prior to setup the Russians may secretly designate \leq two eligible AFV as equipped with Gyrostabilizers (D11).

German Sets Up First [ELR: 3] [SAN: 3] [82]

Elements of 4th Army Artillery and Rear Area Troops; Army Artillery Battery 1/817 set up on board 6 and/or on board 43 within 4 hexes of N8 (see also HSR4)

8-1

7-0

2

4-4-7

4-3-6

2-2-8

HMG
4PP
3

MMG
3PP
2

2

5

3

4

LMG
1PP
3-8

30

AA
M 10

ART
M 8

ART
M 4

3

AAMG
-4/3

20L(6)

75 B11

*170L

2

Elements of *Schwere Panzer Abteilung* 501 and *Sturmgeschütz Brigade* 185 enter on turn 4 along the south edge

13

12

9-1

75L
-4/2*

88L
3/5/2

2

2

TURN
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
END

Historical Perspective

Tolochin, Belorussia, 26 June 1944

The 3rd Belorussian Front had penetrated German lines north of Orsha, and committed their cavalry-mechanized group (3rd Guards Cavalry Corps and 3rd Guards Mechanized Corps). The cavalry-mechanized group made deep penetrations, capturing numerous towns. Elements of the 5th Guards Tank Army were committed to exploit the cavalry-mechanized group's success, and on 26 June attacked the key town of Tolochin in the German rear just north of the Orsha-Borisov Highway.

Aftermath:

The German 4th Army Artillery commander tried to make a defense of Tolochin with any available rear area and artillery forces. At approximately 1200 over 40 Russian tanks were detected attacking toward Tolochin. To meet the threat, elements of the 501st *Schwere Panzer Abteilung* and *Sturmgeschütz Brigade* 185 were sent to bolster the defenses and counterattack if necessary. The Russian forces captured Tolochin, and Battery 1/817 was destroyed in the process. The 3rd Guards Tank Corps' drive west would continue the next day.

Russian Moves First [ELR: 4] [SAN: 3] [142]

Elements of 3rd Guards Tank Corps enter during turns 1, 2, or 3 along the north edge. All/some/none may enter each turn

9-1

8-0

4-5-8

5-2-7

MMG
2
B11
4-10

LMG
1
B11
2-6

11

3

2

3

ATR
1PP
1-12

Radio
6/7/8

28
T5
29PP

14
8
75
2/4/4

14
8
75
2/4/4

2

3

3

2

16
8-1
85L
2/4

11
6

2

Elements of 14th Guards Heavy Tank Regiment enter on turn 5 along the north edge

13

14

6-2-8

122L
1/4^{R2}

2

2