

"A Saar Soiree"



Near Lauterbach, Germany — September 18th, 1939

Following Germany's invasion of Poland, France declared war on Germany and on September 7th sent 40 divisions, with 4,700 artillery and 2,400 tanks into the German Saarland. Facing them were 22 divisions and less than 100 artillery pieces of the German 1st Army. The French advanced a little more than five miles into German territory. Several villages were occupied as the Germans fell back to the Siegfried Line. Lacking the heavy artillery necessary to destroy the German bunkers, the French decided to withdraw back to the Maginot Line. On September 17th, the French began pulling out of the Saarland. The Germans, not ready for a two front war, were content to let the French withdraw. But one local German commander near Lauterbach saw an opportunity. French infantry and armor were moving steadily westward towards a single bridge. Despite orders to the contrary, this German officer ordered his forces to move to cut off and eliminate the French in his sector.

VICTORY CONDITIONS: The French Player wins immediately under two conditions: #1—if 30 VP's successfully exit the west edge of Board 40 or #2—the German Player suffers 25 CVP.

Board Configuration:

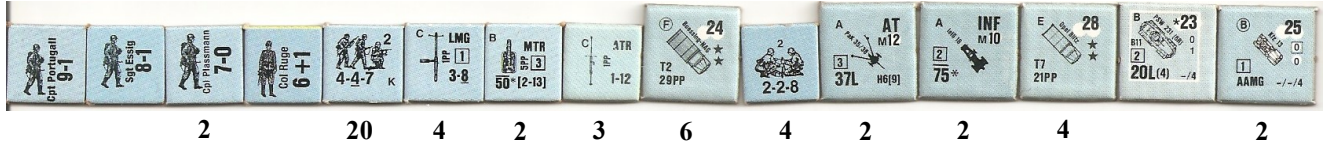


		73
40	17	

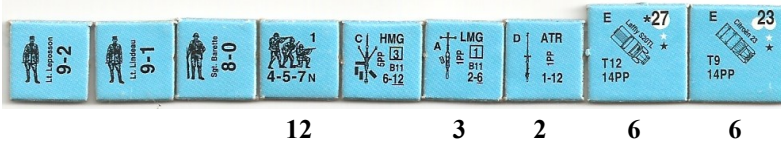
French Player sets up first	+	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
German Player moves first								



Elements of German 9th Division (ELR 4) (SAN: 2) (Setup: Enter Turn 1 on Board 40 east of the River on either or both the North or South edges)



Elements of the French 42nd Division (ELR 4) (SAN 3) (Setup: on Board 73 in motion on road Hexes H8-T3-Y1)



Tank Squadron of the 5th BCC (ELR 4) (Setup: enter Turn 1 on Board 73 through Hex A6)



75mm Battery 42nd Division (ELR 4) (Setup: enter Turn 1 on Board 73 through Hex Y1)



Special Rules/Notes:

1. EC are moderate with no wind.
2. Wheat is in season.
3. Kindling is N.A.
4. Place bridge counters on Board 40 Hexes Q2 & Q3.
5. The French radio represents one Battery of 105mm Artillery.

Aftermath: The French withdrawal was slow and methodical. Tanks, trucks and artillery moved slowly towards a single bridge crossing and then to the border back into France. French intelligence knew that the Germans had been ordered to stand down and allow the French withdrawal. So it was with great shock and surprise that the column of blue clad Poilus suddenly found themselves in a fight for their lives with Germans moving towards the bridge from both the north and south approaches. A confused and bloody close quarter fight erupted, but by the nightfall, the majority of French had made it across the bridge and into France. And an eager, young German officer would fight himself without a command.

