

# URBAN GUERRILLAS

## ASL SCENARIO J1 (AAR)

As we thought the Russian we're clearly advantage, to balance this scenario, we agreed that the St-Stephen's Cathedral rooftop were accessible location on set-up. This would allow the German Defender to use all those anti-tank Panzerfaust and Panzerschreck against the many Russian tanks without the penalty. Later in the game, we found out that they were no penalty for firing LATW from inside Factory (C 13.8 Backblast desperation).

German placement of the PAK 43 and Panther is crucial in this game, and I believe my opponent favored early use of them covering early enemy T-34/85 path crossing, but forgot a lot of Russian infantry was coming with them. My opponent strategy was to cut the Russian advance around the Cathedral and kept little to no backup on the 2 other victory locations north of the river.

I (Russian) decided to attack and concentrated my push forward on the left flank being covered with some houses and woods.

### TURN 1

On turn 1, the Germans manage to break 4 Russian squads, wound Maletski 8-1 and ELR another squad with only small arms squads and LMG. Parolow 9-2 and 3 daring squads managed to approach the Pzkw IV J lurking backed-up in the woods in 22O10. From the rooftop of the Cathedral, Oberleutnant Winter 9-1 leading a 658 Squad with the MMG tried to cut their advance to the wood building but with no success. In fact the SSR helped the Russian create a Partisan Unit then the Hero Pavlovski. Later during the Russians movement the Germans managed to break 3 other squads and the PAK-43 reduced a squad with a mighty 88 mm HE round. The newly created Russian Partisan HS 127 was eliminated during the Defensive Fire Phase, so much for turning your back to the Reich!

During the Advance Phase, Stárshiy serzhánt Parolow 9-2 and 2 squads courageously advanced into the woods 22O10 and ambushed the Pzkw IV J and eliminated the tank later in Close Combat with grenades. The Pzkw IV J exploded in flame turning the tide on this first turn who wasn't encouraging for the Russian. Later, on the German turn 1, the Blaze spread to the 22O10 wood and Parolow 9-2 and his squads add to voluntary break to escape the blazing woods.

### Turn 2

At the beginning of the Russian turn 2, the Russians rallied 2 Leaders, 6 squads and even created a new Leader (Mládshiy serzhánt Kamensky 8-0) with field promotion. The "Ruskies" were back in the fight. During turn 2, the Russian kept pushing toward the left side of the Cathedral. The Russian suffered a huge loss when Stárshiy serzhánt Parolow 9-2 and a 458 Squad with a LMG were cutted down into piece (3 KIA) from a long MMG shot led by Oberleutnant Winter 9-1. But the highlight of this turn was the Gun Duel between C T-34/85 led by armor Leader serzhánt

Tomilin 9-1 flanking the Panther V G led by armor Leader Oberleutnant Bartram 9-2 in 23FF7. Both Tank missed even being at point blank range but the “SS” suffered the worst turn of event on the game as the To Hit DR rolled a box car disabling the Panther main armament. Without a main gun to defend itself, the Panther V would be an easy target on the next turn for the T-34/85 flanking it. To make matters worse, the “Gods of War” punished the Germans when the PAK 43 88mm malfunctioned (rolling a 11 DR) seconds later while shooting at a Russian squad in a building across the road. The “SS” tools of wars weary from the hasting retreat, from years of fighting, lacking of maintenance were all falling apart at the worst of time. My German opponent could have invoked Murph’y Laws as despair was growing in his eyes.

It was time for German to move and the main gun lacking Panther G tried to fled, but before it could turn around the house to take cover, the C T-34/85 led by armor Leader serzhánt Tomilin 9-1 had already reloaded a AP round into the gun breach when serzhánt Tomilin shouted “Пожар”. The 85 mm AP round hit and pierced the back of the turret, inside, the shell exploded into thousands of shrapnel pieces killing instantly Oberleutnant Bartram 9-2 and his crew inside the Panther. The Germans were now left without any tanks and the PAK 43 was broken, the only armor remaining was a SPW 251/1 halftrack who would stand long in front of the Russian armor.

German and Russian exchange some casualty reduction and broken Squads in the defensive and Advanced fire phase but encircled broken German Leutnant Hamann 8-1 with 2 658 squads with LMG and PSK were eliminated for failure to rout in 22V10 9 (“SS” troops versus Russian) while another Russian Half-squad 248 was eliminated (No quarter) for failure to rout.

Even though the second turn ended with some German troops retreating toward the north of the river and taking control over important victory locations, the morale was deeply lowering on the German side and the Russian reinforcements were about to arrive with two heavy IS-2 M tanks and five assault squad with their PPs-42.

### **Turn 3**

On turn 3, the Russian B T-34/85 fired a high explosive round at rooftop “SS” but their main gun malfunctioned rolling another “boxcar” disabling this tank Main Gun for the remaining of the game.

The Russian tried to dash 3 squads across the street from 23U8 to 23V6, but two of them were broken crossing the street by D 658 with their MMG from the rooftop of the Cathedral. Meanwhile, on the north side of the Cathedral, one of the mighty IS-2m approached and engaged at point blank range the German half-track and hit the SPW 251/1 with a side hull shot that sent flying the Half-track in flame. So long, for the last remaining German armor. On the east side of the Cathedral, the “SS” Germans managed to still break one squad and eliminate the squad handling the dreadful Russian HMG.

On the west side of the battlefield, the fire from the burning wreck of the Pzkwf IV J started to spread to the woods and buildings nearby offering a dense cover of smoke, but it would prove useless for the Russian who already passed this point.

At the beginning of the German Turn 3 they failed to repair the Pak-43 and permanently break it rolling a 6 leaving the German defenseless against 5 Russian tanks (three T-34/85 and two IS-2m).

During the Prep Fire phase the German SS 658 Squad in 23EE7 sneaked out of the building and fired a Panzerfaust that missed, but forfeiting his inherent firepower the squad rolled for another PF and then hit the C T-34/85 directly in the front hull, the hollow shape must have ricochet inside or hit some high explosive ammo because the T-34/85 burst into flame, busting the turret out of his ring, killing instantly the crew and it's Armor Leader serzhánt Tomilin 9-1. It was sweet revenge for the German who saw minutes earlier the T-34/85 of serzhánt Tomilin blasting their sole Panther G in the vicinity of the battle.

In the process the Russian SAN rolling with the SSR created another soviet Hero Semenov 149. Another German "SS" squad tried to repeat in 23AA3 aiming for the D IS-2m nearby, but they missed their two shots, the second one by inches. Later, a Sniper shot eliminated Leutnant Konig 8-0 who was manning earlier the PAK-43 and his crew broke because of a missed Leader Loss Morale Check (LLMC).

D 658 with their MMG from the rooftop of the Cathedral still managed to break two more of the reinforcing Russian assaults squads 628. Just after, the German took also their revenge eliminating the already Wounded Mládshiy serzhánt Kamensky 8-0 with another sniper shot, losing their already broken Half-Squad accompanying him because of a missed Leader Loss Morale Check (LLMC). It's was now a tooth for a tooth, an eye for an eye.

## **Turn 4**

On the Russian movement phase on turn 4, the German morale went up significantly when the "SS" squad D-658 with their Panzerschreck secured a hull hit from the rooftop 23Y6 of the Cathedral across the river. Once again, the Russian IS-2m exploded in flame instantly killing the crew. Suddenly tanks were exploding in flame everywhere and the Russians were left with only two fully operating tanks the other one being without a functioning main gun, so the Russians had to rethought their strategy and keep at bay of the building that could cover for those sneaky but deadly Light Anti-Tank Weapons (LATW).

During the German turn 3 Rally phase, it was time for morale boosting for the Russians, when serzhánt Korskii rallied all of his desperation morale broken assault squad and created a hero Dimitrov 149, and N 628 became fanatic on a Heat Of Battle rally "snake eyes" rally dice roll of 2.

Even though German broke two squad in preparation fire, the Russian preparing the assault of the Cathedral in their next turn, with several breaking including Oberleutnant Winter 9-1 and then wounding him and eliminating him with two consecutive sniper shot leaving the Germans "SS" squad on the Cathedral rooftop without a leader. The ruthless Russian sniper would casualty reduce two already broken 658 squad to 348 HS on the rooftop, and break another one in a wood. In turn 4, the Russian sniper infamous efficiency would prove to be the nemesis for the Germans

who opted for the rooftop strategy overexposing them to this high probability “6 Sniper Activation Number” of this scenario.

Another German “SS” squad would fight till the end to avoid capture by the “untermensch” Russian, assaulting their interdicator and being eliminated for failure to rout on turn 4.

## **Turn 5**

On Turn 5, the Russian assaulted the Cathedral reaching the rooftop without hassle and took control of the Cathedral and one of the three victory locations fulfilling half of the winning victory conditions. Later on the turn, one Russian squad turned Berserk and two German became fanatic, rolling “snake eyes” on morale checks, creating two German heroes Friedrich and Von Miller but this was already too late.

The Russian moved a T-34/85 at point blank of the A German 658-LMG Squad in 23Z1 with a IS-2m covering it behind. The “SS” Squad managed to fire their last two panzerfausts at the T-34/85 but miss it by inches on both shot taken.

## **Turn 6**

On turn 6, the Russians focused on gaining control on the other Victory location north of the river.

In the preparing fire phase, the T-34/85 without a main gun broke the A German 658-LMG Squad in 23Z1 with their BMG/CMG at point blank. Then, the broken squad was reduced from the IS-2m main gun, high explosive 122 mm round that hit the building.

The only German squad remaining between the victory, was broken then reduced, so the Russian assault their location taking cover behind the burning wreck of the IS-2m and they advanced in 23Z1 to eliminate the broken Half-squad in close combat at the end of turn 6.

Other Russians squads took cover from the German SPW 251/1 halftrack burning wreck to enter building 23AA3 securing the second wining victory locations.

## **Aftermath**

Minutes later, the German battered, conceded the win to the Russian allowing them to advance in Vienna. The 2nd “SS” Panzer divisionen remnants, although were controlling the eastern part of the Cathedral, on the battlefield most of their force was eliminated, broken, scattered, outgunned, without anymore tanks between the Vienna outskirts and the advancing the elements of the Russian 5<sup>th</sup> Guards Mechanized Brigade with their helping 30<sup>th</sup> Guards Heavy Tank Regiment elements were now regrouping to push forward.