“The Lion and the Beer”



Dives-sur-Mer, France- August 20th, 1944

The Belgian Brigade originated in 1940 and was made up of Belgians who had escaped to England. The Belgian government in exile was keen to have Belgians participate in the D-Day landings and subsequent liberation of Europe. The Brigade would participate in Operation Paddle, while clearing the Channel coast from 17 August with British and Dutch (Princess Irene Brigade) troops of the 6th Airborne Division. The Brigade's armored car squadrons were detached to assist British units. On August 20th, while moving in support of the British drive on Dives-sur-Mer, the Brigade was ambushed at a local crossroads by a small German Kampfgruppe. Eager to prove their combat ability, the Belgians quickly dismounted their infantry and launched a coordinated attack to secure the crossroads and prevent German units from escaping from Dives-sur-Mer.



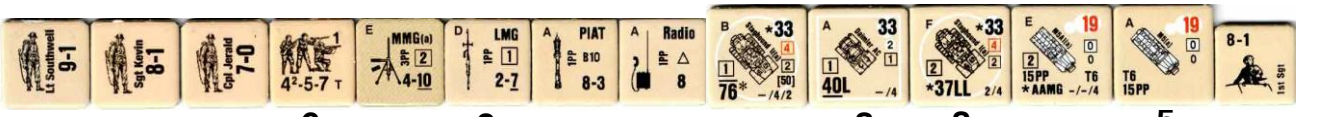


Board Configuration:
Boards 73

VICTORY CONDITIONS: The Belgian Player wins at game end if there are no good order German MMC’s in or adjacent to hexes T3, T4 or T5. Any other result is a Belgian victory.

German Player sets up first	1	2	3	4	5
Belgian Player moves first					

Elements of 1st Belgian Brigade “Brigade Piron” (ELR 4) (SAN: 2) (Setup: Enter on Turn 1 along the south edge as per SSR 2)



6 2 3 3 5

Kampfgruppe Hamel, 744th Grenadier Regiment, 711th Division (ELR 3) (SAN: 3) (Setup: on or North of Row S)



3 2 6 3

Panzerknacker Team (ELR 3) (Setup: HIP on or between Rows E and K)



Panzerknacker Team (ELR 3) (Setup: HIP on or between Rows L and Q)



Special Rules/Notes:

1. EC are moderate with no wind. Bore Sighting (C6.4) and Kindling (B25.11) are N.A.
2. Belgian vehicles and AFV’s enter on Turn 1 having already expended half of their movement factors.
3. Belgian MMC’s are subject to Cowering (A7.9).
4. The Belgians receive one module of 100+mm Battalion Artillery OBA (HE and Smoke).

Aftermath: The Germans had established a roadblock with an AT Gun and supported by a STUG. Veteran Wehrmacht grenadiers secured the flanks. After overcoming their initial surprise, the Belgians quickly dismounted their infantry in an effort to flank the roadblock, while the armored cars peppered the roadblock with suppressing fire. The rapid fire of the armored cars succeeded in pinning the Germans, while the Belgian infantry circled behind the German units. A lucky shot with a Piat knocked out the STUG, and shortly thereafter, the Germans surrendered. This brief, sharp firefight would be repeated throughout the end of August as the Belgian Brigade moved ever closer to their homeland.

GRUMBLE JONES BLOG

Scenario GJ039