THE RAG TAG CIRCUS

BARBY on the Elbe, GERMANY, April 12, 1945: GIs of the 83rd Infantry Division took particular pride in their use of captured German vehicles. So extensive was their “used car lot” appearance that the news correspondents nicknamed this unit the “Rag Tag Circus.” The Americans had a chance to prove the value of their assorted Wehrmacht hardware as they assaulted the German troops defending Barby.

VICTORY CONDITIONS

To win the US player must kill, capture, or currently have broken at game’s end all German full squads on board 8 west of the river. The German player wins by avoiding US Victory Conditions.

TURN RECORD CHART

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<tr>
<th>♦</th>
<th>Germans set up first</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>END</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠</td>
<td>U.S. moves first</td>
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Elements of the Scharnhorst Division set up on any whole hex on boards 6 and 8 east of hexrow 9, board 6 inclusive up to the west bank of the river:

Elements of the 83rd Infantry Division [EIR-4] enter on any west edge hex or hexes:

*SNote: captured vehicles.

SPECIAL RULES

306.1 All buildings are wooden. All multi-hex buildings are level one.
306.2 Overlay E place normally on board 6.
306.3 The river is deep and without current.
306.4 The German 8-3-8 is an engineer and must set up in the same hex as the 10-2 leader. It has only normal smoke-making abilities.
306.5 All captured weapons are subject to full captured weapon penalties. All captured vehicles must roll every turn they move or pivot. On a dice roll of 12 they undergo full speed breakdown. This roll is in addition to any full or excessive speed rolls they must take.
306.6 There is no German crew for the ATG.
306.7 Captured German AFV crews have a morale of 6.

AFTERMATH: The GIs of the 83rd preferred the nickname “83rd Armored Division.” Using their captured AFVs to lead each attack, despite the perverse tendencies of the infrequently maintained monsters, the Americans quickly cleared the west bank. This enabled the US troops to plan an amphibious assault across the Elbe on April 13th, still hoping to dash into Berlin.