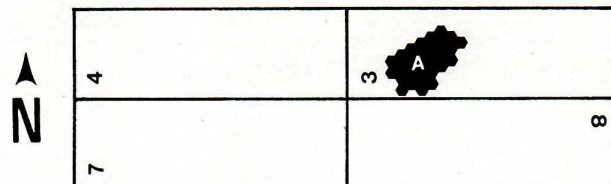


MEDAL OF HONOR



NIJMEGEN, HOLLAND, September 21, 1944: Following a costly assault boat crossing of the Waal River, the 504th Parachute Regiment had finally captured the Nijmegen bridge intact. Over this span would push the British Guards Armored Division toward the planned link with the embattled British paratroopers at Arnhem. But the hold on the bridge was tenuous and the Germans were determined to retake or destroy it. Reinforced by remnants of the 9th SS Panzer Reconnaissance Battalion, the Germans launched a series of violent counterattacks on the American bridgehead which grew in intensity throughout the night and early morning. Near noon, a German force consisting of over 100 SS infantry with armor support made a last effort against the left flank of Colonel Tucker's weary paratroopers.

Board Configuration



VICTORY CONDITIONS

The German player must either destroy at least one span of the bridge or eliminate twice as many U.S. squads or their equivalent (but must eliminate at least 10) as they lose of their own. Panthers equal two squads, and the halftrack equals one squad for victory condition purposes. The U.S. player wins by avoiding both German victory conditions.

Rules Introduced: 158-159

TURN RECORD CHART

☆ U.S. sets up first	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	END
✚ German moves first										

☆

Company C, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment [ELR:5] set up on any whole hex of board 8 other than the island and/or board 3. No squad may set up in a hex row adjacent to any hex row of the same board already containing a friendly squad. Non-squad units are not so restricted.

 7 ² -4-7	 9-1	 8-1	 8-0	 Towle 1-4-9	 8-20 B12	 4-12 B12	 4Aa 6 1PP [4] X11+	 Entrench 5
15					2	3	5	4

✚

Elements of SS Panzer Grenadier Training and Reserve Battalion set up anywhere on board 4 west of hex row AA exclusive:

 6 ² -5-8	 3-4-8	 9-2	 9-1	 8-1	 9-1 Zulu	 4-12 B12	 2-8 B12	 30 A	 20Δ -1 2	 8 4 X9-
11	2		2			2	6	3		

 15 75LL	 20 20L(6) -/2
2	

SPECIAL RULES

37.1 The Waal River is deep, running at normal level with a moderate current flowing to the west. The weather is moderate with no wind. A two-lane, vehicular, stone bridge extends from 8Q3 to 8Q8. This bridge is equivalent to a level 2 LOS obstruction although units on the bridge are considered at ground level.

37.2 Overlay A replaces hill 534 on board 3.

37.3 All buildings on board 8 are considered wooden except 8W6.

AFTERMATH: One of the first paratroopers to spot the German attack was a bazooka gunner, Private John Towle. With complete disregard for his own safety, Towle immediately set out to blunt the attack all by himself. Leaving his foxhole, he sprinted 200 yards across an open field to a vantage point which gave him a clear field of fire. Towle scored hits on both tanks, immobilizing one and convincing the other to retire. Under intense fire, Towle nonetheless continued firing—sending one HE bazooka round into a house occupied by no less than 10 Germans (including the SS captain leading the attack) which killed them all. Towle then set out to stalk a halftrack. Dashing some 125 yards to its flank, in full view of the enemy, he knelt down to take aim only to be killed by a burst of automatic weapons fire. By this time, the rest of C Company had concentrated and was putting down a lethal covering fire into the German positions. Unable to advance, the SS withdrew from the bridge outskirts for the last time. For singlehandedly halting the German attack at the cost of his own life, John Towle was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.