

ONE IF BY AIR, TWO IF BY SEA

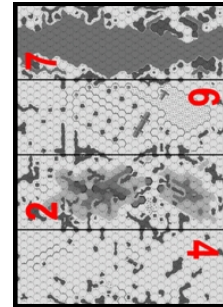
TAHGC GENERAL Scenario

090920



MOUNT RACHI, LEROS, November 12, 1943: As the war turned toward Italy, the British had island hopped through the Aegean. Hitler was quite aware of this event and he was determined to halt the British advance. The Island of Leros would prove to be the target of Hitler's *OPERATION LEOPARD*, a combined air assault and sea invasion. If a success, it would give British morale a blow and the Aegean back to the Germans.

BOARD CONFIGURATION:



VICTORY CONDITIONS: The German wins by clearing boards 2 & 6 of all good order British troops. The British win by avoiding the German victory conditions.

TURN RECORD CHART:

🎯 Allies set up first	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	END
⚔️ German moves first											

German Seaborne Invasion Forces - enter Turn 1 anywhere along north edge of board 7.

				12	2	3	5	12

Elements of the 1st Parachute Battalion, 2nd Regiment, 2nd Parachute Division - land via paraprop (99.) and glider (140.) on boards 2 & 4 on Turn 2. (Note rule 126.8)

				5	6	9	2	5	2	18

Note: The German HMGs & MMGs are considered as disassembled (3 PP each) in order to be transported by boat. They may be re-assembled on land during any friendly German Rally Phase. They may not be fired until re-assembled.

Elements of the 2nd Royal Fusiliers Battalion - set up on board 6:

2	8	2	2	3					

SAS "Bucaneers" - set up on board 2:

7	2	3	2	

Elements of the Italian 1st Battalion of the Italian Royal Army - Set up on board 4:

	6

SPECIAL SCENARIO RULES:

- SSR 1:** Night (49.), Paratroop Drops (99.), Stukas (101.), Rivers (126. note: 126.8), Boats (128.), Armored Carriers (138.), Glider (140.) rules are in effect.
- SSR 2:** Night (49.) Rules is used during Game Turn 1 only.
- SSR 3:** British receives 180mm artillery module beginning in turn 3.
- SSR 4:** *Terrain:* Islands on board 7 do not exist. All land hexes along the north edge of board 7 are considered water. All Marsh on board 7 are considered woods. Orchards and Grainfields are out of season on all boards.
- SSR 5:** Water current is moderate and flows west to east.
- SSR 6:** The Germans dropped even small arms in separate arms canisters. This meant that German paratroops dropped into action virtually unarmed until they found and unloaded an arms canister. To reflect this, represent all German paratroop squads with "?" counters (or use 228 FJ counters from the German counter mix in VSQ) until they occupy the same hex with an arms canister (use a panzerfaust counter of different year versions to represent an arms canister for each type of squad type) without a parachute counter. At this point, the "?" (or 228FJ) counter is replaced with a functioning paratroop counter of the type of arms canister. Prior to this rendezvous, the "?" (or 228FJ) counter is given all the capabilities of a squad except the ability to fire (Exc: if using 228FJ counters). Such units may attack & defend in Close Combat with a nominal strength of 1 (or 2 if 228FJ is used). The German drops one arms canister for every paratroop squad at no additional cost to the plane capacity. Arms canisters are treated the same as support weapons. A broken paratroop squad cannot

combine with an arms canister to become an armed broken squad. An already armed squad could carry extra arms canisters at a cost of three portage points each. Canisters can be destroyed by a KIA result on the IFT before or after landing or in the same manner as a support weapon.

AFTERMATH: While seaborne troops were invading at Alinda Bay, Paratroops dropped onto Mt. Rachi with Glider support landing close by. The appearance of the German paratroops stunned the British and the battle for Leros raged for 4 days. By the end of day one however, the narrow neck of land splitting Leros was in German hands. Despite heroic British efforts, they suffered their last loss to the Germans. Churchill called it a "bitter blow". Hitler sent his regards.

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 Original Scenario Design by Perry A. Moore;
 Modifications and/or clarifications are herein limited to corrections to typos and/or sentence structure, and/or missing information only, it is redesigned here for use with VSQ. Updated 090919; rev A
 Graphic Layout by Bill Sosnicki
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Scenario Note: The Italian forces in the scenario are members of the Italian Co-Belligerent Army, also known as the Army of the South, and are considered as Italian Royalist forces fighting on the side of the Allies. The Italian Co-Belligerent Army was formed in southern Italy following the Allied armistice with Italy which was declared on September 8, 1943. The Italian soldiers of the Co-Belligerent Army no longer fought for Italian dictator Benito Mussolini or for the Axis. Their allegiance was to the Allies, to King Victor Emmanuel, and to the new Marshal of Italy Pietro Badoglio. The King and Badoglio were the men who ousted Mussolini and who created what was known as the "Badoglio government." In many regards, the Italian Co-Belligerent Army was a reorganized version of the Italian Royal Army.