

Panzerblitz: Liberation

This is a conversion for the East Front game for the nine situations of Panzerblitz: Liberation by James Johnson.

These were the first scenarios that James Johnson created for his Panzerblitz: Liberation rules and they preceded both the Panzerblitz: Gross Deutschland and Panzerblitz: Barbarossa scenario sets I had provided earlier.

While converting these to John Tiller's Campaign Series I also corrected some of the finer points of Russian unit orders of battle. I hope you enjoy them.

Alan R. Arvold

1) German Counterattack in Force: Brussilov, Kiev Salient

Alan R. Arvold

15 November, 1943

Brussilov, Ukraine: (Best played against human opponent.): The Soviets have retaken Kiev, establishing a powerful bridgehead across the Dniepr River. The XLVIII Panzer Corps, one of the most powerful formations left in the Wehrmacht, mounts a counteroffensive built around the 1st, 7th, and 1st SS LAH Panzer Divisions. At Brussilov, the 1st SS LAH would collide with the 5th and 8th Guards Tank Corps, from Gen Rybalko's 3rd Guards Tank Army.

This scenario is based on the original Panzerblitz scenario by James Johnson.

2) Russian Assault on Shevchenka: Kremchug Bridgehead

Alan R. Arvold

27 November, 1943

Shevchenka, Ukraine: (Best played against human opponent.): Konev's Front has crossed the Dnieper River, almost without breaking stride, and contained subsequent German counterattacks. Now the 5th Guards Tank Army (P.A. Rotmostrov) undertakes a westward assault to expand the right shoulder of the bridgehead. Here, the 11th Guards Mechanized Brigade (reinforced), which is part of the 5th Guards Mechanized Corps, hits elements of the German 167th Infantry Division, XI Corps, 8th Army, along a secondary line of defensive positions.

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3) Heavy Armor Clash at Oglenduv, Poland

Alan R. Arvold

14 August, 1944

Oglenduv, Poland (Best played against human opponent.): As the Soviets expand their Baranov-Sandomierz bridgehead over the River Vistula, they are counterattacked by strong elements of the 4th Panzer Army. Spearheading this assault is the 16th Panzer Division, reinforced by a heavy armor detachment recently equipped with the new "King Tiger". The Germans are ambushed, however, by elements of the 6th Guards Tank Corps and an independent Guards Heavy Tank Regiment.

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4) Russian River Assault: Grygorovka

Alan R. Arvold

22 September, 1943

Grygorovka, Russia (Best played against human opponent.): As spearheads of the Veoronezh Front rampage towards the brittle German defenses along the Dniepr River, forward elements of the 3rd Guards Tank Army reach the so-called "Bukrin Bend". Light elements of the 6th Guards Tank Corps boat across under the cover of massed Soviet artillery, and engineers are now building pontoon bridges for the vehicles. However, the German 20th Panzergrenadier Division (XLVIII Panzer Corps, 8th Army), has orders to ensure that the Russian river crossing ends in failure.

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5) German Counterattack Against Soviet Vanguard: Lipyni

Alan R. Arvold

3 August, 1944

Lipyni, Poland (Best played against human opponent.): With Soviet armored spearheads within sight of Warsaw, the Germans launch destetermined counterattacks with the best units they have left. Here, the elite 3rd SS Panzer Division "Totenkopf" launches of Kashnyev Nov, striking southward in the right flank of the 3rd Tank Corps, of the 2nd Tank Army, 1st Belorussian Front. They hit the 103rd Tank Brigade at Lipyni, sparking a two-day battle that will leave both sides heavily mauled.

This scenario is based on the original Panzerblitz scenario by James Johnson.

6) Relief Effort at Cherkassy Pocket: Antonovka

Alan R. Arvold

7 February, 1944

Antonovka, Ukraine (Best played against human opponent.): When the 1st and 2nd Ukranian Fronts close a vast double pincer at Korsan-Cherkassy, trapping part of the 1st Panzer Army against the bend of the Dniepr River, the III Panzer Corps is sent to open a relief corridor. As part of this effort, the 1st SS Panzer Division

"Leibstandarte" is assigned to protect the left flank of the advance. They are struck in several places by the 3rd Tank Corps, spearheading a larger counterattack by the 2nd Tank Army, 1st Ukrainian Front.

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7) Cavalry Attack at Zmiyev: Kharkov Offensive

Alan R. Arvold

14 February, 1943

Zmiyev, Ukraine (Best played against human opponent.): Following the German collapse at Stalingrad, Soviet armies flood through the Shattered Axis line. As spearheads close on Khar'kov and begin to encircle the city, German armored divisions are ordered to hold no matter what the cost. Here, elements of the 8th Guards Cavalry Division, 6th Cavalry Corps (3rd Tank Army) form the vanguard of another Soviet push to encircle Khar'kov from the south. They are met by an exhausted Kampfgruppe of the elite but badly scattered 1st SS Panzergrenadier Division, frantically trying to hold the in a dozen crumbling places.

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8) Seregelyes, Hungary - Lake Balaton

Alan R. Arvold

16 March, 1945

Seregelyes, Hungary (Best played against human opponent.): Spearheads of the Soviet 2nd and 3rd Ukrainian Fronts have encircled Budapest, the capital of Hungary. Obsessed with keeping control of Hungary's oil fields, Hitler orders Operation Fruhlingerwachen, or Spring Watch. This desperate counterattack at Lake Balaton is every bit as futile as the gamble in the Ardennes three months before, and as the 6th SS Panzer Army runs out of steam far short of its objectives, they are resolutely counterattacked by Russian reserves. Here, the 18th Tank Corps (27th Army, 3rd Ukrainian Front), drives into the gap between the 2nd SS Panzer Division and the III Panzer Corps. They are met by some of the last armored reserves in the Reich, a scratch battle group consisting of units from the 2nd SS Panzer and 9th SS Panzer Divisions.

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9) Breakout From the Halbe Pocket

Alan R. Arvold

28 April, 1945

Munchehofe, Germany (Best played against human opponent.): In the last days of the war in Europe, shattered remnants of Theodore Busse's 9th Army had been shoved back from Frankfurt-am-Oder and was now encircled in a small and shrinking pocket about twenty kilometers south of Berlin. With the war clearly lost, surviving battle groups began making desperate breakouts to the south and west, hoping against hope for a chance to

reach the Elbe and surrender to the Western Allies. One of the biggest breakouts came along the Halbe Road, where the remains of five divisions (Panzergrenadier Division "Kurmack", 32nd SS Freiwilligen Division, 169th Infantry Division, 712th Infantry Division, and 21st Panzer Division) banded together in a bid to break through the stranglehold of the 3rd Guards Army, in Zhukov's 1st Belorussian Front.

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