WOLOMIN SCENARIO

On 23 June 1944, the greatest offensive in Soviet history, Operation Bagration, began at the eastern border of Byelorussia near the city of Vitebsk. By the end of July, the final battles were being fought nearly 660 kilometres (410 miles) to the west at the line of the Vistula River on the outskirts of Warsaw, Poland.

During those six weeks the Soviet Army had ripped a hole in the German lines nearly 1100 kilometres (685 miles) wide, completely annihilating Germany’s Armee gruppe Mitte (Army Group Centre) and putting half a million German soldiers out of the war. In the final weeks of July 1944, the Soviet armoured spearheads reached the Vistula River and were threatening to overrun Poland and enter German territory.

However, Soviet losses had exceeded those of the Germans. As their depleted spearheads began to slow, one of the final objectives in Operation Bagration was to secure a river crossing at the great bend in the Vistula River, where it meets the Narew and Bug Rivers. A bridgehead here, near the town of Wolomin, would enable the Soviets to cut off the German armies in Prussia and Latvia. The German High Command was well aware of this possibility and the importance of holding this critical bridgehead.

While the Red Army was racing across Byelorussia, the Germans were quickly reconstituting all available armoured divisions into Panzerkorps (Armoured Corps). With the Soviets approaching the Vistula, Hitler released IV SS-Panzerkorps, consisting of two armoured divisions, 5. ‘Wiking’ SS-Panzerdivision and 3. ‘Totenkopf’ SS-Panzerdivision. Its first task was to assist XXXIX Panzerkorps, under General der Panzertruppen von Saucken in halting the lead Soviet spearheads east of Warsaw, Poland.

The battle raged for nearly ten days and when the smoke cleared the Soviet 3rd Tank Corps of the 2nd Tank Army was encircled and severely mauled. The 8th Guards Tank Corps of the 70th Army suffered similar losses at the hands of the two SS armoured divisions in an effort to break through to their comrades. The lead elements of Operation Bagration had finally been halted.

After six weeks of retreat the Germans could finally catch their breath and rearm their battered forces.

This scenario represents the initial engagement of the lead battalion of the 50th Tankovy Brigade of the 3rd Tank Corps with the Panzergrenadiers and Panzers of the 5. ‘Wiking’ SS-Panzerdivision at the approaches to the bridges over the Narew River near Wolomin, Poland. Can you drive the Soviets through the German armoured defence and keep Operation Bagration moving forward or will you meet the same fate as the Soviet 3rd Tank Corps?
The lead elements of the 2nd Tank Army raced northwards towards the great bend in the Vistula River where it combined with the Narew and Bug Rivers. Gaining a bridgehead here would directly threaten to cut off all German forces in Army Group North potentially replaying the debacle that was Army Group Centre.

"His army was poised for action like a sledgehammer over the anvil."
—Marshal Chuikov of General Bogdanov’s 2nd Tank Army.

The 3rd Tank Corps contained the 50th, 51st, and 103rd Tank Brigades fully equipped for Operation Bagration with 65 T-34/85 tanks apiece. By the end of July when the Corps had reached the outskirts of Warsaw, they had already suffered nearly 40% casualties. In August, they received the 6th Guards Heavy Tank regiment with 21 IS-2 tanks for support.

It was this force that initially faced the two SS-Panzerdivisions of the IV. SS-Panzerkorps and the three Heer panzer divisions of the XXXIX Panzerkorps northeast of Warsaw in its attempt to secure a bridgehead over the Narew River. After the initial battles, the 3rd Tank Corps was reinforced with the other two (8th and 16th) Tank Corps from the 2nd Tank Army.

YOUR ORDERS

GERMAN
As Commander of 4. Kompanie, III/9. SS-Panzergrenadier Regiment your orders are clear. Take and hold the approaches to the bridges over the Vistula and Bug Rivers. You will receive reinforcements from 5. SS-Panzerregiment. Under no circumstances allow the Soviets to obtain a bridgehead over either river.

SOVIET
You are the lead tank battalion of the 3rd Tank Corps. Your mission is to secure a bridgehead over either the Vistula or Bug River before German reinforcements can counterattack. Though you have been fighting for six weeks, this is the final battle that could open a clear road into the lair of the beast. Your numbers are dwindling but your orders are firm.

PREPARING FOR BATTLE

1. Set up terrain using the map as your guide.
2. Place the three objectives (1, 2, & 3), as identified on the map. All objectives are at least 12”/30cm from any table edge.
3. Deploy the platoons and independent teams of the 4. Kompanie, III/9. SS-Panzergrenadier Regiment within 16”/40cm of any objective. Only one of the panzergrenadier platoons may be deployed within 16”/40cm of Objective 1.
4. Deploy the 1125ya Legkiy Bronnveekiy Vzod, Light Armoured Car Platoon within 12”/30cm of Point A.
5. The 254th Tank Batalon and its Independent teams move onto the map within 12”/30cm of Point A on the first turn.

BEGINNING THE BATTLE

1. The German Player begins the game in prepared positions.
2. The Soviet Player may make a Reconnaissance deployment move before the first turn.
3. The Soviet Player has the first turn.
4. German reserves may enter the map on the roads at either Point B or C.

ENDING THE GAME

The battle ends when:
1. Beginning on Turn 6, the Soviet Player holds two objectives at the beginning of their turn.
2. One of the forces fails a Company Motivation Check.
3. Or, the German player begins a turn after Turn 6 with no Soviet units contesting Objectives 2 or 3.

DECIDING WHO WON

The Soviet player wins if, beginning on Turn 6, they hold two objectives at the beginning of a turn, or force the Germans to leave the field of battle.

The German Player wins if they hold objectives 2 & 3 after Turn 6, or have forced the Soviet forces to leave the field of battle.
German deployment area

Soviet deployment area

12’/30cm

24’/60cm

36’/90cm

WOLOMIN SCENARIO MAP

Soviet advance forces scout enemy defences

SS forces rush to defend the vital crosswords.

Panthers arrive to tear soviet tanks apart...

...while Panzer IV’s rush to protect vital supplies.
### WOLOMIN FORCES

**4. Kompanie, II/SS-Panzergrenadier Regiment 9 “Germania”**  
**Supported by: SS-Panzerregiment 5 and SS-Panzer Artillerie Regiment 5.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>Troop Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hauptsturmführer Rolf Handel</td>
<td><strong>1st Platoon, 4. Kompanie</strong></td>
<td>One Command SMG with Panzerfaust, three Gepanzerte SS-Panzergrenadier MG squads with one MG replaced by Panzerfaust.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2nd Platoon, 4. Kompanie</strong></td>
<td>One Command SMG with Panzerfaust, three SS-Panzergrenadier MG squads with one MG replaced by Panzerfaust.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>4. Batterie, SS-Panzerartillerie Regiment and SS-Panzerjägerabteilung 5</strong></td>
<td>One SS-Armoured Artillery Battery, one Gun Section with three Wespe self-propelled guns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obersturmführer Erik Stemme</td>
<td><strong>3rd Platoon, Panzerjägerabteilung 5</strong></td>
<td>Three Panther A with Panzer Kanone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untersturmführer Kurt Schumacher</td>
<td><strong>1st Platoon, 6. Kompanie, SS-Panzer Regiment 5</strong></td>
<td>Five Panzer IV H with Panzer Kanone.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Delayed Reserves**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>Troop Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obersturmführer Fritz Darges</td>
<td><strong>3rd Platoon, 4. Kompanie, SS-Panzer Regiment 5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untersturmführer Kurt Schumacher</td>
<td><strong>1st Platoon, 6. Kompanie, SS-Panzer Regiment 5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**254th Tankovy Batalon, 50th Tankovy Brigade, 3rd Tank Korpus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battalion</th>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>Troop Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Battalion Command Tank Team (T-34/85.)</strong></td>
<td>Podpolkovnik Stanislaus Berensky</td>
<td><strong>1st Tankovy Polk, 254ya Batalon</strong> Ten T-34/85.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2nd Tankovy Polk, 254ya Batalon</strong> Ten T-34/85.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>115ya Tankodesantnik Batalon</strong> HQ section, three Tank-Rider Platoons with Komissar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>117ya Motorstrelky Protevotankovy Batalon</strong> HQ section with two Anti-tank Platoons (57mm ZIS-2), with Trucks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>126ya Gvardeyskaya Menometki Batalon</strong> HQ section with two Rocket Mortar Platoons (BM-13 Katysha), with extra crews.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1125ya Legkiy Broneweekiy Vzod</strong> Light Armoured Car Platoon (three BA-64).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**254th Tank Battalion (Confident Trained)**