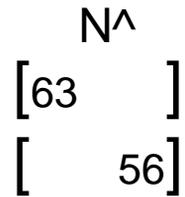




Chistyakovo, Ukraine August 30, 1943

The wastefulness of Operation Citadel was beginning to hit home for Heeresgruppe Sud. Stripped of many Panzer Divisions, these were replaced with worn –out infantry divisions such as the 258th which formed a shallow crust around the transport hubs heading west towards the Mius river. With too few strongpoints and too much steppe between them, these strong points could not prevent penetrations into rear areas by roving battle groups of Soviet mechanized forces.

MAP CONFIGURATION: :



(only hexrows I-Y are in play)

Victory conditions: the Russians win if at game end they have at least 15 VPs, and more VPs than the Germans. Both sides get 3 VP for each multi-location building controlled at game end, and 1 VP for every 2 CVP scored (FRD).

German sets up first	1	2	3	4	5	6
Russian moves first						

Elements, 2nd Guards Mechanized corps: [ELR:3] enter turn 1 along the east edge: (SAN:2)(See SSR 3)

10 x 4-4-7 4 x 6-2-8 8-1 8-0 7-0 3 x LMG ATR DC 4 x T-34M41 (note 14)

Balance: Exchange three 4-4-7 for 4-5-8

Elements: Infanterie Division 258 HQ [ELR:2] set up in buildings, with no (NON- HIP) units ADJACENT to another German unit (SAN:3)

4 x 4-4-7 4 x 2-3-7 8-0 6+1 HMG

Elements, Flak Regiment 24: set up WEST of hexrow Q:

88L AA (note 30) 20LL AA (Flak38- note 26)) 2 x 2-2-8

enter turn 2 along the west edge: (see SSR 4)

3 x 4-6-7 3 x 4-4-7 9-1 8-0 7-0 MMG(dm) LMG DC 81 * MTR (note 2) 2-2-8

Balance: Exchange the German 6 +1 for a 7-0 and add a 2-3-7 to the German at –start OB.

SSRs:

1. EC are wet with no wind at start. Kindling is NA
2. Night rules are in effect. Base NVR is 2 hexes, with no clouds and a half-moon. German majority squad type is lax, Russian are normal. Neither Russian MMC, AFV nor German Half-squads may use starshells.
3. Russian AFV are radioless, but recall is NA (treat any additional Stun results as SHOCK). 6-2-8s must enter as riders and may not disembark (EXC: bail out D6.24) until turn 3.
4. German reinforcements may utilize cloaking, with a maximum of 7 cloaking counters.

5. All buildings are wooden and single-story. Place overlays: **X13** on 63P9/P10.

Aftermath. One such rear area included the headquarters of the 258th Infantry division, located at the village of Chistyakovo. Tank-borne Russians struck out of the dark night on August 30, causing mayhem and many casualties among the 258th's staff. Before the Russians could set up defensive measures, a counterattack was organized by the commander of by the division flak regiment, which was able to surprise the Russians and retake the town using AA guns brought forward along with a scratch force of artillery and rear-echelon troops. The paucity of armored reserves did not reduce the German knack for tactical initiative.