

Pipkorn's Attempt

Baruth, Germany, April 25th 1945: For the initial attempt to breakout from the Halbe Pocket, the German 9th Army formed two spearheads for the attack. *Kampfgruppe von Luck*, centered on the remnants of 21st Panzer Division, would form the northern spearhead, while *Kampfgruppe Pipkorn*, comprised of the remnants of the 35th SS-Polizei-Grenadier-Division, would form the southern spearhead. Both *kampfgruppen* would be reinforced by panzers, including Tiger IIs of *schwere SS-Pz.Abt 502* and Panthers of Pz.Abt. 'Stahnsdorf II'. *Kampfgruppe Pipkorn* was commanded by SS-Standartenführer Rüdiger Pipkorn. Pipkorn's plan was to attempt a breakthrough via the road hub of Baruth, a well defended town surrounded by soggy fields.



Historical Result: The hard-hitting assault of *Kampfgruppe Pipkorn* collided with a relentless Soviet defense at Baruth. The only available road was covered by fire from a dug-in Soviet IS-2. This forced the German panzers to veer off into the surrounding fields where they quickly became bogged down, and the assault on Baruth failed. *Kampfgruppe von Luck's* attempt was also thwarted, and thus the 9th Army's first attempt to breakout was not realized. It would take two more breakout attempts over several days before a small portion of the 9th Army was finally able to escape from the death and destruction of the Halbe Pocket. As for SS-Col. Rüdiger Pipkorn, he was killed when his H.Q. was overrun during the breakout.

BOARD CONFIGURATION:



VICTORY CONDITIONS

The Germans win at Game End if they have amassed more VP than the Russians. Each Friendly-Controlled stone building/stone rubble hex is worth 1VP, and each Friendly Mobile (D.7) AFV with functioning MA/Good Order (A.7) Dug-In AFV with functioning MA in play is worth 1VP.

BALANCE



Russian: Replace one T34/85 with an IS-2.



German: Replace one JgPz 38(t) with a PzKw Vlb.

★ RUSSIAN Sets Up First

✚ GERMAN Moves First

1 2 3 4 5 6 END



Elements of the Soviet 329th Rifle Division [ELR:4]
set up on/west of the Hex Grain A16 - Q8: {SAN:4}

| | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-------------------|
| E | E | 1 | E | | | MMG |
| 6-2-8 | 4-5-8 | 4-4-7 | 2-4-8 | 9-2 | 8-0 | B11 5PP 2 4-10 |
| 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 | | | 2 |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| LMG | BAZ 44 | MTR | DC | ? | 13 |
| B11 1PP 1 2-6 | X11 1PP 8-4 | 3 4PP 50* [3-20] | Δ 1PP X12 30-1 | | IS-2 Heavy Tank 11 B11 122L 1/4 12 |
| 3 | | | | 6 | 2 |

Reinforcements enter on Turn 4
along the west edge:

| | | | |
|-------|-----|-------------------|---|
| E | | DC | 16 |
| 6-2-8 | 9-1 | Δ 1PP X12 30-1 | T-34/85 Medium 11 1 Tank 6 85L 2/4 |
| 2 | | | 2 |



Elements of *Kampfgruppe Pipkorn*, SS-Polizei-Grenadier-Division 35, Panzer-Abteilung 'Stahnsdorf II' and schwere SS-Pz.Abt.502 [ELR:2]
enter on Turn 1 along the east edge: {SAN:2}

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 5-2-4-8 | 4-2-6-8 | 4-4-7 | 9-2 | 9-1 | 8-1 | 8-0 |
| 3 | 3 | 8 | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| dm MMG | LMG | PSK | 11 | *15 | 13 |
| 2PP 3-8 1 3-8 | 1 3-8 | X10 1PP 12-4 | PzKw Vlb Heavy Tank 26 1 88L 3/5/2 | PzKw VG Medium 18 1 75L 3/5/2 | JgPz 38(t) Tank Destroyer 14 3 75L -/-/1* |
| 2 | 4 | 2 | | 2 | |

Reinforcements enter on Turn 3
along the east edge:

| | | | |
|-------|-----|-----------------|---|
| 4-4-7 | 8-1 | PSK | 13 |
| | | X10 1PP 12-4 | JgPz 38(t) Tank Destroyer 14 3 75L -/-/1* |
| 2 | | | |



Special Rules

#1 - EC are Wet, with No Wind at start. Late War SS (A25.111) is in effect. The Germans are Elite (C8.2).

#2 - Plowed Fields (B15.6) are Bog Terrain (D8.2) and Soft Ground (D8.21) is in effect.

#3- Russian AFV may set up Dug-In (D9.54).