



Battle in the Schnee Eifel



The Battle of Schnee Eifel occurred in December 1944 during the early days of the **Battle of the Bulge**, the last major German offensive on the Western Front in WWII.

The Schnee Eifel, a forested ridge in eastern Belgium, was held by U.S. forces, mainly the **106th Infantry Division**. On December 16, 1944, German forces launched a surprise attack, encircling and overwhelming two regiments of the 106th. After intense fighting and lacking supplies, around **6,000 American soldiers were forced to surrender**—one of the largest mass surrenders of U.S. troops in the war.

The loss was a setback for the Allies but did not stop their eventual counteroffensive and victory in the Ardennes.



6 VP's

Card Balance:

Allies - 4

Axis - 6

Complexity:

4

Conditions:

Winter



Context:

Historical

Location:

Belgium

Year:

1944



Theater:

Western

Campaign:

Battle of the Bulge

Summary:

Objectives:

6 VP's, plus three Permanent Medal Objectives for the Axis (Turn Start) for Roth by Prum, Auw by Prum and Pleialf), plus a Sudden Death Exit hex for the Axis

Battlefield:

Winter countryside with a hilly ridge across the center, with scattered forests, and a road encircling almost the entire battlefield.

Troops:

Allies - 8 Infantry including two Engineers, 3 Armor (Tank Destroyers), 2 Artillery

Axis - 9 Infantry including one Machine Gun unit and five Elites, 2 Armor, including one Tank Destroyer, 1 Artillery

Special Weapons: Tank Destroyers, Machine Guns.



Allied Strategy:



1. Historically, the Allies got routed, so the primary goal here is to protect the permanent medal objectives and the exit hex.
2. Get your two Artillery into play quickly and use them as much as you can to take out the enemy.
3. Your two Tank Destroyers on the left flank should move forward, in and around to defend the city of Roth by Prum, which is a Permanent Medal Objective.
4. Your other Tank Destroyer and two Artillery should defend the city of Blelaif, which is another Permanent Medal Objective.



Axis Strategy

1. Historically, the Axis had the largest victory of the war in this battle, so speed and attack are your principle tools.
2. Get your Tank Destroyer and Infantry on the right flank mobile and engaging the enemy as soon as you can.
3. On your left flank, you have overwhelming advantage with your four Infantry units, and one Armor. Use it to overwhelm the defenses at the town of Blelaif to gain the Permanent Medal Objective.

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BR - Schnee Eifel

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