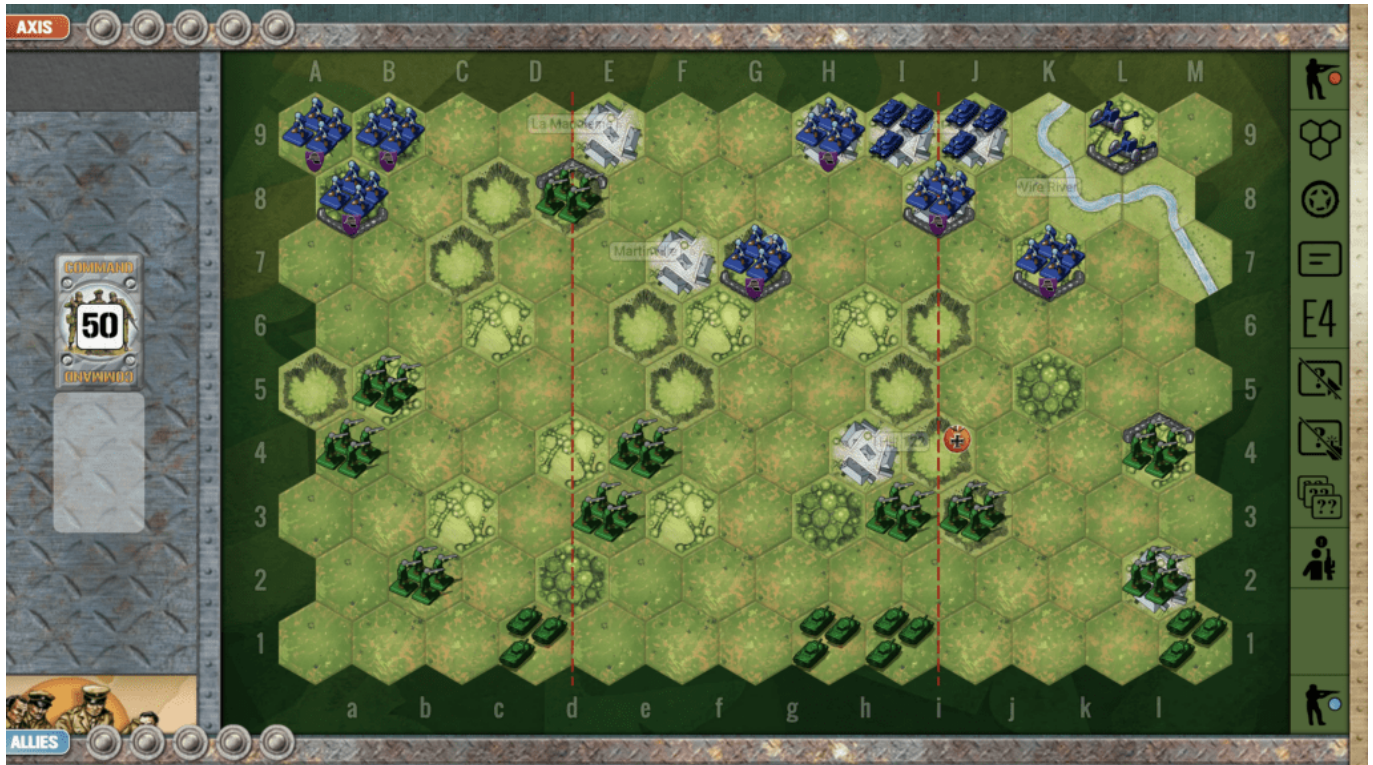# Martinville Ridge

The **Battle of Martinville Ridge** took place from **July 10 to 12, 1944**, during the Normandy Campaign in World War II. It was part of the larger **Battle of Saint-Lô**, as Allied forces sought to break through the heavily fortified German defenses in the bocage (hedgerow) terrain of Normandy.

The U.S. 35th Infantry Division launched an attack to capture Martinville Ridge, a strategically important high ground near Saint-Lô. The ridge was strongly defended by German forces, who used the dense hedgerows and well-prepared positions to resist the American advance. The fighting was intense and characterized by brutal close-quarters combat.

Despite initial progress, the U.S. forces encountered stiff resistance and were forced to withdraw temporarily under heavy counterattacks. However, the engagement tied down German forces, contributing to the eventual Allied breakout during **Operation Cobra** later that month.

The battle highlighted the challenges of fighting in the Normandy bocage and the high cost of attritional warfare in the campaign.

5 VP's

Card Balance:

Allies – 5

Axis – 5

Complexity:

3

Conditions:

Countryside

Context:

Historical

Location:

France

Year:

1944

Theater:

Western Front

Campaign:

Normandy Campaign

Summary:

Objectives:

5 VP's, plus territorial objectives for each side.

Allies can target St. Lo and the ridge by Martinville. Axis targets Hill 122.

Terrain:

The battlefield is scattered with hills, towns, hedgerows, and forests.

Troops:

Allies – 10 Infantry, 4 Armor

Axis – 7 Infantry, 2 Armor, 1 Artillery

Allied Strategy:

1. Your forces are scattered and in disarray. You need to coordinate them into a cohesive attack force.

Axis Strategy:

1. Your forces are outnumbered, so you will need to get your armor out of the town into attack positions. You also need to move your infantry from the corner on your right flank and into a more centralized position.

6
BR - Martinville Ridge

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