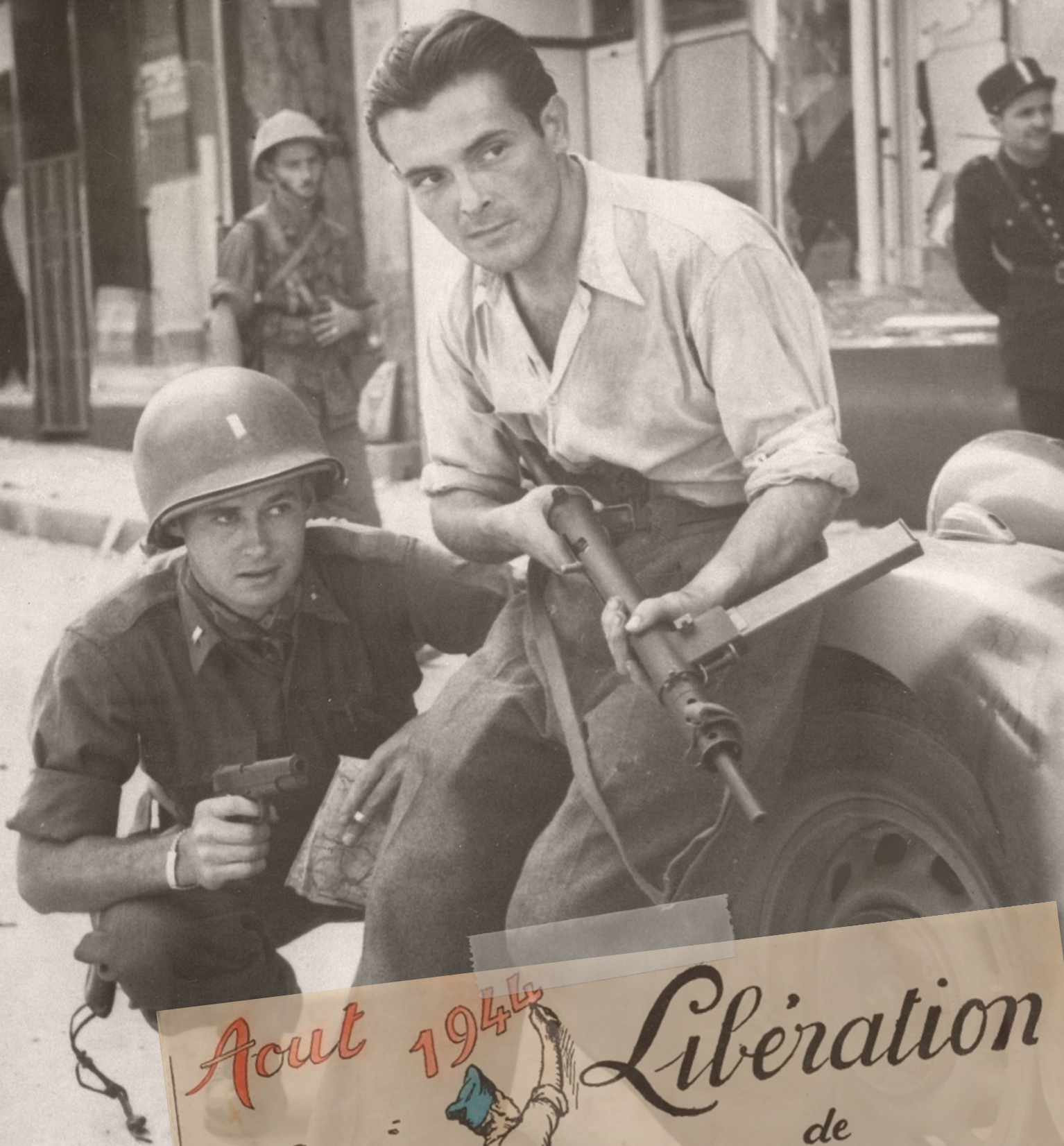


MEMOIR '44



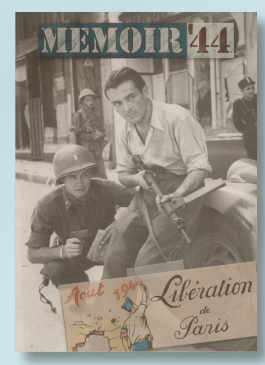
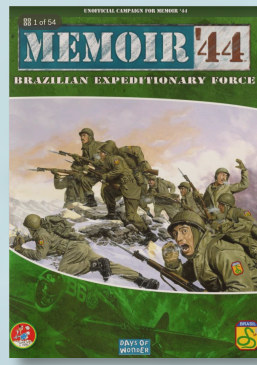
Aout 1944



*Libération
de
Paris*

Introduction

“Liberation of Paris” is the fourth compilation of scenarios that I have put together as a Memoir 44 Japan project.



I did try making a “Liberation of Paris” as part of my earlier released Tigerfibel - but it didn’t work out. As a result, I’ve started from scratch and this is what I came up with.

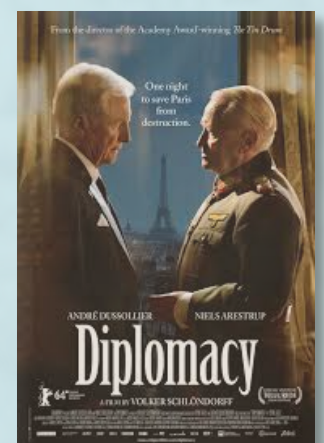
I’m a keen Memoir 44 player and have an interest in World War 2 history. I especially enjoy taking a look at some of the lesser known battles, units and nations. Drawing attention to curious and little-known clashes is interesting for me. Additionally, finding scenarios (usually French) and translating them into English for others to enjoy is a great pleasure. (In this compilation Paris I and Paris II have been translated from French. Additionally, Scenario 6 “Assault on Le Bourget Airfield” was a last minute addition to the project - it made the cut as it occurred so soon after the liberation and shows the German’s actions immediately after pulling out on Paris.

Many of the existing French scenarios focus on the D-Day landings, Caen and the Falaise Pocket. With this compilation we look at the history of the Liberation of Paris (which has not seen so much coverage so far) within the Memoir 44 world.

The Liberation of Paris sees the occupying Germans firmly on the back foot. They have the local Resistance causing problems within the city and French and US troops breathing down their necks, predominantly from the south of Paris. While the Germans are under pressure it is a good opportunity for them to use their snipers - who appear in 5 out of 6 of this compilation’s scenarios - to snatch victory.

I’d like to make special mention of AKHIL KADIDAL who produced the fantastic maps and published them on his blog Achilles The Heel. They are glorious and give a visual depiction of the events. Also, jdrommel, hellskitchen29 and player963954 who produced the scenarios.

One final point is that there is controversy regarding Dietrich von Choltitz’s role as the “Saviour of Paris” (in not following Hitler’s instruction to destroy Paris). I have read the available information on the matter, watched the movie “Diplomacy” about his role in saving Paris and to be honest I’m not sure. You can decide for yourself what you think happened – what I have presented is probably the popular version of what happened and it may or may not be accurate.



Liberation of Paris

Cast of Characters

Dietrich von Choltitz

Madeleine Riffaud

Raoul Nordling

Ralph Morse

Milice (The French Militia)

Objective Paris (MAP)

The Battle of the Fresnes-Berny-Antony Triangle (MAP)

1. The Croix-de-Berny Crossroad

2. Paris I

The Battle for the Garden (MAP)

3. Paris II

German Snipers of WW2

4. Paris III

The Capture of the Hôtel Meurice (MAP)

5. Hôtel Meurice

Dietrich von Choltitz Surrender Document

6. Assault on Le Bourget Airfield



THE LIBERATION OF PARIS

The Liberation of Paris took place during WW2 from August 19 1944 until the German garrison surrendered the French capital on August 25 1944.

THE UNITED STATES PERSPECTIVE

In August 1944, as the Allies gained the upper hand in the Battle of France, Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower had to decide what to do about Paris. When the Allies invaded France on June 6 1944, they intended to bypass the historic city. Engaging in a protracted urban battle in Paris would risk destruction of the city's key historical and cultural sites, slow down the advance toward Germany, and require significant resources to secure and sustain the civilian population. Bypassing Paris and its garrison would leave the German soldiers in the city isolated, with no outside support and few options. From a military standpoint, liberating Paris offered no advantage to the Allies.



"Paris was something else. We came from blood and mud and suddenly we were surrounded by joy and beauty. It was overwhelming." (Sergeant Charles Shay)



THE FRENCH PERSPECTIVE

The French people saw the situation differently. Despite the impending defeat of the Wehrmacht in France, the victory over Germany would not be complete until the capital of France was liberated and the Vichy government replaced. The taste of imminent victory led to labor strikes, attacks on Wehrmacht patrols, and, on August 14 1944, a rebellion led by Communist resistance. Despite the rising violence and casualties, Paris police left their posts to join the rebellion the next day. General Charles de Gaulle, who arrived on the Continent on August 20 1944, warned that a determined German effort would surely defeat the rebels. Moreover, he argued that the ongoing insurrection strengthened the French communists.

EISENHOWER'S MOBILIZATION OF FORCES

Eisenhower realized they had to intervene: on August 22 1944, he ordered General Omar Bradley, commander of the 12th US Army Group, to seize the city. Bradley gave the mission to Major General Leonard T. Gerow, V Corps commander.

As Eisenhower had promised de Gaulle, Free French forces would liberate the city; specifically, General Philippe François Marie Leclerc de Hauteclocque's French 2nd Armored Division. Gerow assigned Major General Raymond O. Barton's 4th Infantry Division the task of securing the Seine River crossings south of Paris while serving as a reserve for Leclerc's forces. Barton's division was already in a reserve status integrating replacements when he received his orders on August 23 1944.



That night, the division left its encampment at Carrouges in a steady downpour and headed toward Paris. By the evening of August 24 1944, Barton's troops had occupied an assembly area about 40 miles southwest of the city, ready to move when ordered to do so.

LECLERC'S MOBILIZATION OF FORCES

Meanwhile, Leclerc's advance into Paris quickly ran into trouble. Ignoring Gerow's orders to enter the city from the west, Leclerc chose to attack from the south. He outran his artillery support before encountering the strongest portion of the German defense, making little progress. Roadblocks and ambushes chipped away at the French forces, and by the evening of August 24, Leclerc's formations had suffered 300 casualties, with 35 tanks and 117 other vehicles destroyed.

Gerow complained to Bradley, who was equally irritated by Leclerc's behavior, ordering Barton to move past the French troops and enter the city from the southeast. Still, despite Leclerc's slow progress, word moved quickly through the populace that the French 2nd Armored Division had entered the city, spreading joy among the long-suffering Parisians.



THE GERMAN DEFENSE



The German defense was loose. The commander of the German garrison, General Dietrich von Choltitz, had a respectable combat record and long military pedigree. Still, he knew that his small force of 20,000 had no chance against three million French citizens, especially now that Allied forces had entered the city. And, like the Allies, von Choltitz did not desire to see Paris reduced to rubble. While reporting to his superiors on imaginary operations, von Choltitz could do little more than hope for reinforcements that were not coming.

"The Maquis are worse than the Russians. You don't see them, you only hear the shots." (German POW)

"By 1944, many German soldiers dreaded being posted to France because of the Maquis (French Resistance) and the increasing violence they faced." (Ian Ousby & Richard Vincent)

The enemy is no longer just on the battlefield, he is in every alley, behind every corner. (Wehrmacht Security Report, Paris 1943)



"The Resistance was everywhere. My men were exhausted and surrounded by a city that hated them." (Dietrich Von Choltitz)

FRENCH FORCES ENTER PARIS

On the morning of August 25 1944, the liberation gained momentum. Leclerc resumed the attack and, by 10.00, the French 2nd Armored Division was in the city, reducing strongpoints and taking increasing numbers of German prisoners. While French resistance fighters and police fired on enemy barricades and captured fleeing Germans, French infantry assaulted Choltitz's headquarters in the early afternoon, taking the garrison commander prisoner. His captors took Choltitz to Leclerc at 15.00, where the men signed a formal surrender document. Paris was finally liberated after four long years of German occupation.



As word moved through the city of the German surrender, citizens sought their own justice against collaborators by conducting thousands of summary executions. Meanwhile, the military operation wound down, with 15,000 German prisoners of war captured in Paris and another 4,200 killed or wounded. The process of retribution and reconciliation would go on for years, but for now a celebratory mood took hold.

De Gaulle entered the city in the late afternoon of August 25 1944, declaring Paris liberated by the French while barely mentioning the Allied forces, which had lost 50,000 troops since June 6 1944. As de Gaulle cemented his hold on the political leadership of France, GIs, French troops, and resistance fighters hunted the remaining snipers and holdout defenders around the city.

CONTINUED US ASSISTANCE

Despite his snubbing of the American effort in the city's liberation, de Gaulle asked Eisenhower for two US divisions to remain in Paris to provide security and deal with any unexpected enemy activity.

Eisenhower was in no position to hold back such a large force with combat operations continuing east of the city. Additionally, he would not have placed American troops under French command. Instead, he diverted the US 28th Infantry Division through Paris on the way to the front to make a show of force while taking part in the Victory Parade on August 29 1944. It was a grand spectacle, and a moment of celebration, but with the war waiting to the east, it was a fleeting moment.



CAST OF CHARACTERS

"The Beast of Sevastopol" **Dietrich von Choltitz**

Dietrich Hugo Hermann von Choltitz was a German general during WW2. On August 1 1944, he was promoted to General der Infanterie, and on August 7 1944 was appointed the military governor of Paris, making him "commander of a besieged stronghold". Arriving the following day, he set up headquarters in the Hôtel Meurice on the Rue De Rivoli, and finding that he had few resources at his disposal, and 20,000 troops, mostly unmotivated conscripts.

Invariably he was attired in the standard field grey Wehrmacht general's uniform, complete with the Iron Cross, and a visor cap.

"He was a large man, around fifty years old, with as sportive and soldierly a demeanor as one could have; although obviously suffering from the heat. ... So this was the devil who had fought so vigorously in Normandy," (Colonel Pierre Billotte)

Of above average height and carrying himself with impossibly correct posture he projected a sense of rigid Prussian military discipline. He possessed a stocky robust torso, typical of middle aged military men of affluence. His face was round and full with pronounced cheeks and a relatively soft jawline. His facial expressions in photographs often seemed serious, stern, or resigned, appropriate to his role during a critical and morally complex time. Completing the look he had a straight, prominent nose a firmly downturned mouth and wore a monocle.



On August 15 1944, the Parisian police went on strike, followed on August 19 1944 by a general insurrection led by the French Communist Party. The German garrison under Choltitz fought back but was far too small to quell the uprising, and they lost control of many public buildings, many roads were blocked, and German vehicles and communications were damaged.

With the help of the Swedish consul-general in Paris, Raoul Nordling, a ceasefire was brokered with the insurgents on August 20 1944, but many Resistance groups did not accept it, and a series of skirmishes continued on the next day.

On August 23 1944, Hitler gave the order to destroy the city by cable:

"Paris must not pass into the enemy's hands, except as a field of ruins."

"PARIS DARF NICHT ODER NUR ALS TRÜMMERFELD IN DIE HAND DES FEINDES FALLEN"

After which explosives were laid at various bridges and monuments throughout the city.

With the arrival of Allied troops at the edge of the city the next day on the, Choltitz made the decision not to destroy the city, and on August 25 1944, surrendered the German garrison, not to the Supreme Allied Command, but rather to representatives of the provisional government, the Free French. Because Hitler's directive was not carried out, Choltitz is often seen as the "Saviour of Paris".

Even whilst in captivity after surrendering Paris, he retained a dignified and composed demeanor. After the war, he lived out the rest of his life in West Germany, where he became an unlikely symbol of moral ambiguity and restrained rebellion.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Madeleine Riffaud

A French Resistance fighter who actively resisted the German occupation of France during WW2. She was 15 when the Germans again invaded France in May 1940, and found herself in a column of refugees from the Somme strafed by the Luftwaffe. The experience, together with "a massive kick in the ass" delivered in a train station by a German soldier whose advances she had resisted, steeled her determination to resist the occupation.

Although, the Allies, after successful landings, were approaching Paris both from the north and the south, the Resistance in the capital were demoralised by recent atrocities. This prompted the FTP Resistance to order its members to each kill a German.



"I have no hate. It was a mission. We had to do it in daylight, to encourage the population. To show them there was an opposition to the German occupation and it was French. I wanted to do more than simply harangue people in queues, telling them the truth of what was happening and I was cross at being told always to carry weapons across town for the men to use, so I asked for permission to use a gun myself." (Madeleine Riffaud)

On July 23 1944, in broad daylight on a bridge overlooking the river Seine, she approached a lone German NCO and when he turned to face her ("it was important to me not to shoot him in the back") she shot him twice in the temple. She later reflected: "Can one be mean, when one looks at the Seine? He was perhaps a good guy... but well, that's war". As she fled the scene on her bicycle she was knocked over by a car driven by French collaborator, a Milicien, who, before she could turn her gun on herself, had her handcuffed.

After two weeks of interrogation at Gestapo HQ, she was incarcerated in Fresnes Prison. She had not named names, maintaining that she was avenging the execution of a boyfriend. On August 15 1944 she jumped from a train taking her to Ravensbrück concentration camp, but was recaptured.

Four days later she was freed in a prisoner exchange negotiated by the Swedish consul Raoul Nordling with the Wehrmacht's Paris commander, Dietrich von Choltitz. She immediately returned to the Resistance. On August 23 1944, in command of four men, and with the support of railway workers, she trapped a train carrying loot and munitions in the Buttes-Chaumont tunnel and secured the surrender of the 80 German soldiers aboard. On August 25 1944 she took part in an attack on the barracks on Place de la République, whose garrison who refused to accept von Choltitz's order to surrender.

After the Liberation of Paris, Riffaud was demobilised on August 31 1944. She had hoped to finish the war with the rest of her resistance group, now part of the regular French army, but, at a time when women in France did not yet have the right to vote, she was told that she did not have her father's permission. Left behind in Paris, she found herself acting as a tour guide for a young American soldier, the future singer Sammy Davis Jr.

CAST OF CHARACTERS



Raoul Nordling

Raoul Nordling was a Swedish-French businessman and diplomat. He was born in Paris and spent most of his life there.

He is best remembered for his efforts to mediate between French and German forces during the occupation and Liberation of Paris during WW2. He played an important role in ensuring Red Cross access to prisoners of war, and during the uprising of the French resistance in August 1944 he negotiated with the General Dietrich von Choltitz, to try to limit the bloodshed and damage to the city. Many accounts of these events attribute him a major role in doing so, and he was honoured by France after the Liberation with the highest available medal, the Croix de Guerre avec palme in 1949.

Ralph Morse

LIFE photographer Ralph Morse, recalls being outside Paris in a press camp—he was covering George Patton's Third Army and its sweep toward the Rhine—when, he says, Ernest Hemingway, who was also in the camp, offered a suggestion...

"You know, the Germans can't possibly have mined every road into Paris. Why don't we find a back road? We can be at the Champs-Élysées before the troops get there."

Of course, we did make it into Paris . . . but not the way Hemingway wanted. Someone leaked the plan to Patton, and before we knew it, the press camp was surrounded by military police. Patton walks in and says,

'If any of you make a move toward Paris before the troops do, I'll court martial you!'

Strikes in Paris—by railway workers, cops, postal workers—and a relentless guerrilla resistance meant that the Germans' hold on the city was tenuous. When word spread that the Nazi military garrison in the capital had surrendered, the streets erupted. Wine flowed. People laughed, sang "La Marseillaise," wept. "It was an amazing sight, an amazing feeling," Morse recalls.

"One thing that really stands out," Morse says of those indelible days in Paris more than six decades ago, "is the feeling of certainty in the air. Everyone knew it was over. And I don't mean the battle for Paris. I mean the war. We all knew there was a lot of fighting left. The Battle of the Bulge a few months later proved that, and who knew what was going to happen in the Pacific? But when the Germans surrendered Paris, we all sensed it was only a matter of time, and not much time, before we took Berlin."



Milice (The French Militia)

The Milice française, was a political paramilitary organization created by the Vichy régime (with German aid) to fight against the French Resistance during WW2. They were the Vichy régime's most extreme manifestation of fascism. Wearing blue jackets and trousers, a brown shirt and a wide blue beret. They were armed with weapons captured from the Allies. It is estimated that the Milice's membership reached 25,000–30,000 by 1944.

Early Milice volunteers were far-right blue collar people. In addition to ideology, incentives for joining the Milice included employment, regular pay and rations. Some joined because members of their families had been killed or injured in Allied bombing raids or had been threatened, extorted or attacked by French Resistance groups. Still others joined for more mundane reasons: petty criminals were recruited by being told their sentences would be commuted if they joined the organization, and Milice volunteers were exempt from transportation to Germany as forced labour.



Milice members frequently used torture to extract information from those whom they interrogated. The French Resistance considered the Milice more dangerous than the Gestapo or SS because they were native Frenchmen who understood local dialects fluently, had extensive knowledge of the towns and countryside, and knew local people and informants.

The Resistance targeted individual miliciens for assassination, often in public areas such as cafés and streets. The Milice retaliated by killing well-known anti-Nazi politicians and intellectuals.

After the Allied Liberation of France, during a period of reprisals following the German retreat, many miliciens were executed. Milice offices throughout France were ransacked, with agents often being brutally beaten and then thrown from office windows or into rivers before being taken to prison. Those who managed to escape to Germany became part of a new unit known as the Charlemagne Division of the Waffen-SS. Some of its surviving members were among the last defenders of Hitler's bunker, fighting suicidally to the end in the ruins of Berlin.



OBJECTIVE

PARIS

THE ALLIES' APPROACH
THE CAPITAL
23-24 AUGUST

MAP BY AKHIL KADIDAL, MAY 2022

LEGEND

- FREE FRENCH ADVANCE
- US ARMY ADVANCE
- ALLIED BIVOUAC AREA
- PRIMARY GERMAN DEFENCE LINE AS ORDERED ON 19 AUG
- FOCUSSED GERMAN RESISTANCE
- US 1ST INFANTRY BRIGADE 23 AUG
- US 2ND INFANTRY BRIGADE 23 AUG
- RAIL TRACKS
- MAJOR ROADS
- MAJOR SECONDARY ROADS
- DENSE URBAN SPRAWL
- WOODS

UNIT SYMBOLS

- INFANTRY
- ARMOR
- RECONNAISSANCE
- TACTICAL GROUP

- UNIT SIZE SYMBOLS
- X: 1st Brigade
- III: 1st Division
- II: 1st Army
- I: 1st Army Group

SCALE



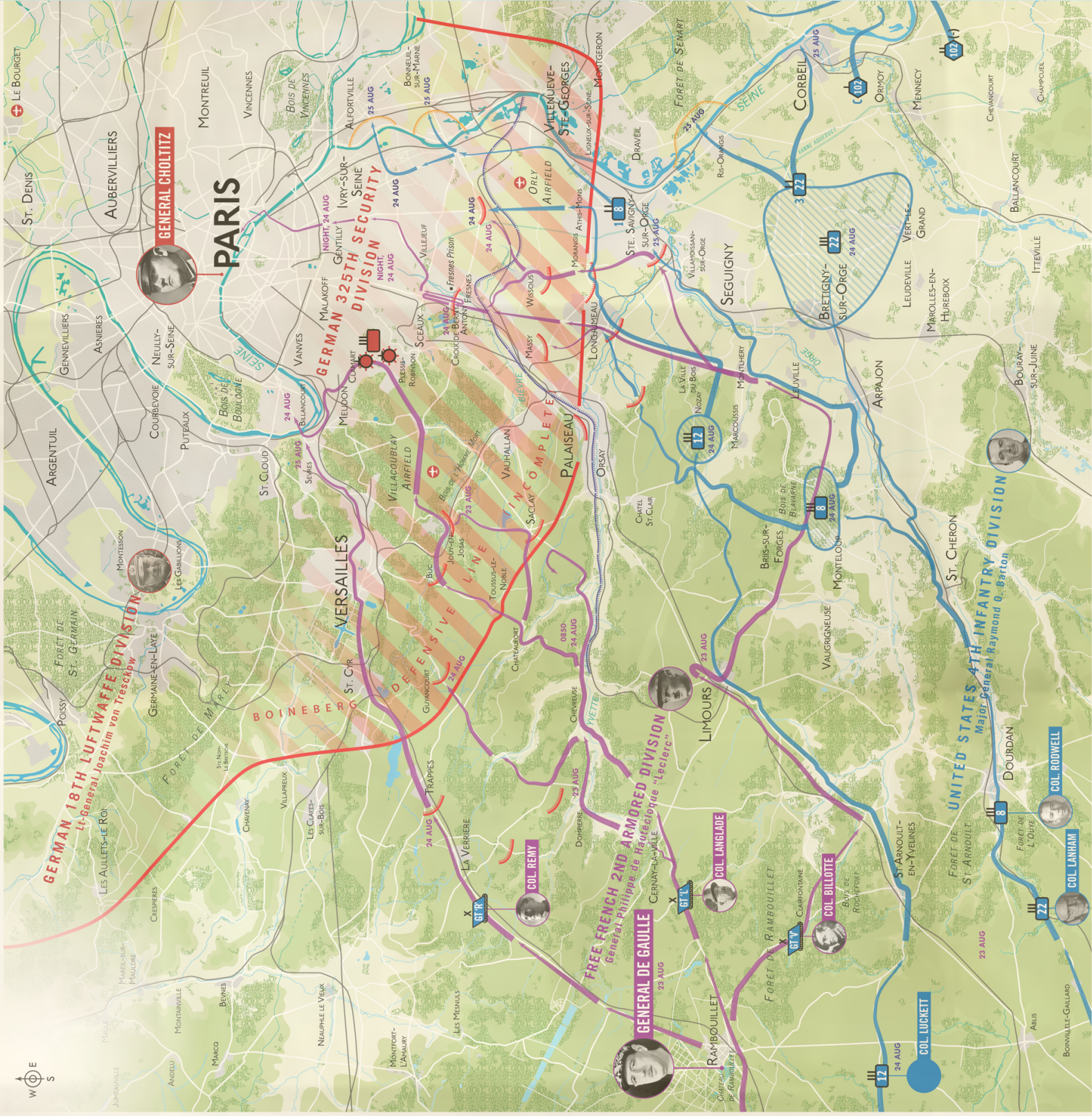
ELEVATIONS IN METERS



SOURCES

- Blumenson, Martin, *Breakout and Pursuit*, US Army Center for Military History, 1961.
- Smith, Jean Edward, *The Liberation of Paris*, 2019.
- Zaloga, Steven, *The Liberation of Paris 1944*, Osprey, 2008.

Reference maps: Series M661 (General Staff Geographic Service No 4249), US Army Map Service, 1944, Sheets 106, 9F and 9G.



UNEXPECTED CARNAGE

THE BATTLE OF THE FRESNES-ANTONY-BERNY TRIANGLE, 24 AUGUST 1944



- A** German 88mm cannon commands the approaches up the Route Nationale (RN) 20. The Free French advance is stalled.
- B** French resistance fighters lead Captain Witasse's squadron of tanks (from the 501e Régiment de Chars de Combat) on a flank, up the Rue Vélpeau. A Sherman tank annihilates the 88 gun at around 6 pm.
- C** At about 6 pm, groups of Free French tanks, infantry and engineers move on the Fresnes Prison. The position is dominated by an 88mm gun and an 88mm Puppchen cannon. The Germans open fire at the Free French.
- D** Several tanks are hit, including the Sherman *Grand Couronné*. Another tank, a Sherman 105, erupts into flames. This is the *Marne*, the tank of a platoon commander, Lt. Jacques Hery. The crew is killed or badly burned. Another Sherman, the *Notre-Dame de Lorette*, destroys the German guns.
- E** Captain Raymond Dronne's 9th Company of the Régiment de Marche du Tchad (RMT) has become scattered and stalled. At 4 pm Dronne receives new orders to form a new detachment with two platoons and push past the area. This detachment makes brisk progress towards Paris. Then Dronne receives orders to fall back on the axis at 600 meters south of Croix-de-Berne crossroads.
- F** A furious Dronne returns to Antony. The streets are jammed with vehicles. Dronne parks his jeep on the Rue Louis Barthou. He walks to the crossroads of Rue Albert Mouliné-Rue Jean Moulin-RN20. Leclerc is there.
- G** Leclerc orders Dronne to head back the way he came - Towards Paris.
- H** With the German roadblock at the crossroads destroyed, the 2e DB makes another push towards Paris at around 8 pm. But another German 88 gun has been deployed at the entrance to Bourgl-la-Reine.
- I** A powerful M4A3(76) Sherman tank, the *Eldringen II*, is at the head of the Free French armored column. The tank belongs to Lt. de la Bourdonnaye's 3rd Section (2nd Company/501e RCC). Around 8:30 pm, the *Eldringen II* is about 400 m south of Bourgl-la-Reine when an 88mm shell comes crashing out of the dim light and tears into the tank. The assistant driver, Jean-Luc Ceronimi, is killed instantly. The German shell had pierced 60mm of steel. The 88mm gun is knocked out by a following Sherman. Leclerc gives up trying to reach the capital by the RN20.

The Croix-de-Berny Crossroad



Setup order

1

x11

2

x7

3

x1

4

x1

5

x1

6

x6

Historical Background

Upon receiving authorization from US High Command, General Leclerc ordered his division to rush towards Paris. On August 24 1944, the 2nd French Armored Division clashed with the main German defensive line south of the capital.

The Germans had a defensive position centered around the junction of Croix-de-Berny and the Fresnes Prison (pictured). It guarded the primary route into southern Paris with deadly German 88mm Guns.



By evening, the German defense surrendered and the road into Paris opened.

At the congested junction of Croix-de-Berny, Leclerc decided to send an advance detachment to Paris. At 21.00, the first soldiers of the 2nd DB, entered Paris through the Porte d'Italie, south of the city and advanced towards the city hall. They were the 9th Company of the Tchad Infantry Regiment, comprised of 146 Spanish Republicans or men of Hispanic origin. Followed up by three Sherman tanks of the 501st Combat Tank Regiment.

Briefing

Axis : [Germany] 5 Command Cards

Allies : [France] 6 Command Cards (FIRST MOVE)

Conditions of Victory

6 MEDALS

Special Rules

Snipers (Troops10)

Heavy Anti-Tank Guns (Troops23)

Fresnes Prison is a Fortress (Terrain24)



The German 88mm anti-tank cannon's Pzgr. 39/43 Armor Piercing Capped with Ballistic Cap-High Explosive (APCBC-HE) shell could penetrate 132 mm of armor at a range of two kilometers – more than a match for the thinner-armored Sherman tank. (Bundsarchiv)

- 5 -



5



4 -

-
- TONNEAU

Paris I

Original Title : Paris 1944 - La Résistance En France



Historical Background

The Allied troops that had arrived in Normandy were now rumbling towards Germany. To the side is Paris but their commanders consider it to be tactically insignificant.

General Leclerc's French troops had made their push towards Paris and Koenig, the commander-in-chief of the FFI, was stirring up chaos in central Paris.

A storm was brewing on multiple fronts for the Germans. The Parisian resistance fighters surround the German defences, from its command centre on Denfert-Rochereau. Roads are barricaded to complicate the movement of German vehicles.

"Houses were never sanctuaries. The Gestapo often conducted their arrests between midnight and five in the morning. It appeared that at any instant the door could open, allowing a cold breath of night air to blow in, and three friendly Germans with revolvers." (Jean-Paul Sartre, Paris Under the Occupation)

The Germans units are losing their composure and they retreat into the suburbs south of the city where the fighting has intensified.

General Leclerc's forces entered Paris through the Porte d'Orléans and the Porte d'Italie on August 24 1944.

Ordre de pose

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1 | | x27 |
| 2 | | x9 |
| 3 | | x9 |
| 4 | | x3 |
| 5 | | x2 |
| 6 | | x2 |
| 7 | | x2 |
| 8 | | x2 |
| 9 | | x1 |
| 10 | | x1 |
| 11 | | x1 |
| 12 | | x1 |
| 13 | | x3 |
| 14 | | x1 |
| 15 | | x2 |
| 16 | | x1 |

Briefing

Axis : [Germany] 5 Command Cards

Allies : [France] 5 Command Cards (FIRST MOVE)

Conditions of Victory

8 MEDALS

The HQ & Supply Tent is a Temporary Medal Objective for the Axis.

Special Rules

French Resistance (Nations1)

Urban Combat Cards (Actions25) are OPTIONAL

Hospitals (Terrain55)

HQs & Supply Tents (Terrain56)

Infantry units are unable to attack across the river.



The crew of the M4A2 “La Moskowa” in Paris. The crew (from left to right): Jean Fabre, Louis De Cherchi (gunner), Sergeant Robert Boccardo (commander), Charles Kartner. (driver) and 19-year-old Fleuret. The girl in the photo chose to be the crew’s “godmother”. Such “godmothers” sent letters and parcels to their adopted crews to boost morale.

SMASHING THE LAST GERMAN STRONGHOLD IN PARIS. 2 PM-7.35 PM, 25 AUGUST 1944

GRAPHIC BY AKHIL KADIDAL, JULY 2022
IMAGE MODIFIED FROM GOOGLE EARTH



At the head of a column of peeps, writer Ernest Hemingway (now a war correspondent) rushes to the home of Sylvia Beach, who had published his first book, *Three Stories and Ten Poems*, in 1923. Beach heard "a deep voice calling 'Sylvia'." The cry was taken up by others in the street. Beach's companion, Adrienne yelled: "Sylvia! It's Hemingway!" Sylvia hurried down the stairs — and crashed into Hemingway. "He picked me up and swung me around and kissed me while people on the street and in the windows cheered," Beach wrote later. After firing at German troops on the rooftops in the street, Hemingway and his men race away "to liberate" the Rif Hotel.

LUXEMBOURG PALACE
Senate Building

ODÉON SHAKESPEARE & CO.
THEATRE (Sylvia Beach home)


With the Germans clinging on at the garden, Colonel Jean Crépin (the 2e DB's chief artillery officer) carries a copy of General Choltitz's surrender order to the palace (senate building) just after 6.30 pm. With him is Oberst Friedrich von Unger, Choltitz's Chief of Staff. Both men are stunned by the scale of the destruction at the senate. The German commander refuses to capitulate – until Crépin tells him that his men will “not be treated as prisoners of war” if they do not surrender within the hour. For the next sixty minutes, the Germans fire off their remaining ammunition. At 7.35 pm, 700 German soldiers enter into captivity. Several Germans are shot out of hand by the Iraqi FFI and some Free French. Ten paratroopers are captured.

Régiment de Marche
de Snahis Marocains

12th Régiment de Cuirassiers (RC)

I Spahis and FFI fighters penetrate the garden from the Rue Auguste Comte late in the afternoon. They are guided by the garden curator, Professor Léon Cuny, Sherms of Lt. Krebs's 2nd Platoon, 3rd Squadron, 12th RC assist M10 Wolverine tank destroyers of the 1st AFM to reinforce FFI fighters.

Pierre Georges "Col. Fabien"	FTP Shock Units
---------------------------------	--------------------




A In the morning, Pierre Georges, 26, alias “Colonel Fabien”, the commander of shock forces of the Francs-tirateurs at Partisans (FTP) in Paris is tasked with reducing German forces in the garden. Georges has only 300 men.

Escadron de Protection
du Général Leclerc
(EDGL)

In the late morning, De Boissière's Escadron de Protection du Général Leclerc (EDGL), with its two platoons (of tanks and infantry) is sent to secure the Ecole des Mines and the southern part of the gardens. German observers from the 484th Feldgendarmie Company see the unit. De Boissière's forward tanks are hit by fire. He tells his tankers to shell the Luxembourg Palace.

C Lt. Fouchardière's light tank platoon attracts fire from a bunker at the École des Mines.

J Two Shermans from Lt. Erik de Colombel's platoon (3/12e RC) attack up the road from 2.30 pm




**Lt. Pierre de la
Fouchardière**

**Light Tank
Platoon, EDGL**

G As the afternoon wears on, Captain de Witasse sends Lt. de la Bourdonnaye's 3rd Platoon in a wide arc via Rue Soufflot in the east, to secure the Boulevard Saint-Michel near the École des Mines.

H With his tanks being knocked out, De Boissieu seeks a way to regain the initiative against the German panzer. A US Army reconnaissance squad from the US 4th Division appears. Lt Duplay finds that they have an anti-tank bazooka. The US squad joins the battle. Within minutes, one of the GIs is dead. The team destroys at least one Panther, however.



**Lt. Geoffroy de la
Bourdonnaye**

**3rd Platoon,
501 RCC**

As the afternoon wears on, Captain de Witasse sends Lt. de la Bourdonnaye's 3rd Platoon in a wide arc via Rue Soufflot in the east, to secure the Boulevard Saint-Michel near the École des Mines.

5301

In the absence of a detailed narrative of this battle, myriad sources were used to consult this graphic. These include: Dominique Lapiere's and Larry Collins' seminal work *Is Paris Burning?*, Jean Edward Smith's *The Liberation of Paris*, Matthew Cobb's excellent *Eleven Days in August* and two books by William Mortimer Moore: *The French Lion* and *Paris '44*.

Several websites were consulted to fill gaps in information: www.ordredelaliberation.fr, www.parismuseecollections.paris.fr, <http://imuseedelarresistanceenligne.org>, www.chars-francais.net (which contains the war diaries of several units), francaislibres.net, plus <http://the.shadock.free.fr/> and <http://www.chars-francais.net/> (which contains information about Free French tanks).

Paris II

Original Title : Soulèvement de Paris



Historical Background

Despite the romantic image of the French Resistance blowing up bridges and ambushing German columns, in reality these sorts of paramilitary operations were rare, at least until 1944. Most resistance activities were much less dramatic. It was only after D-Day that resistance groups were able to wage open warfare against the Germans.

There was also the question of what resistance groups would actually do, which depended on their location, their composition, and their politics. Typically they would be involved in...

- ♦ Printing underground newspapers, giving intelligence to the Allies.
- ♦ Helping downed airmen and British soldiers stranded in France after the 1940 campaign to escape.
- ♦ For young female résistantes, body type, clothing, hair, and makeup provided an innocuous presentation of femininity that enabled certain activities. Annie Kriegel remembered leaving Grenoble on a mission when the city was completely surrounded by German police posts. No young man would be able to get beyond this police belt, she argued, but she had no problem given "my innocence in the manner of a young girl." As the war went on, résistantes increasingly manipulated their appearance for political ends. Baby carriages hid ammunition and market baskets concealed anti-Nazi tracts.

Ordre de pose

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1 | | x33 |
| 2 | | x24 |
| 3 | | x10 |
| 4 | | x4 |
| 5 | | x3 |
| 6 | | x3 |
| 7 | | x3 |
| 8 | | x2 |
| 9 | | x2 |
| 10 | | x2 |
| 11 | | x1 |
| 12 | | x1 |
| 13 | | x1 |
| 14 | | x1 |
| 15 | | x1 |
| 16 | | x1 |
| 17 | | x1 |
| 18 | | x1 |
| 19 | | x8 |
| 20 | | x3 |
| 21 | | x7 |
| 22 | | x1 |



◆ French factories played an important role producing equipment and war material for Germany, and owners and workers who opposed the Germans could hamper their efforts merely by working slowly or poorly on purpose. For example, the chairman of Citroën directed his workers to set the oil indicator of trucks a little higher than it was supposed to be, so that the gauge showed an incorrect amount of oil. When the trucks were sent to the Eastern Front, they would run out of oil unexpectedly and leave German troops stranded.

◆ Resistance cells conducted sabotage directly against targets like rail lines, mines, communications and radar installations, etc. This avoided the collateral damage caused by air raids, and was often more effective than crude saturation bombing.

Such actions came at a steep cost, however, because German policy was to execute scores of innocent French hostages for every German who was harmed.

Briefing

Axis : [Germany] 4 Command Cards

Allies : [France] 6 Command Cards (FIRST MOVE)

Conditions of Victory

7 MEDALS

Special Rules

French Resistance (Nations1)

The three French 2nd Armored Division Units are Specialized Units (Troops2)

Snipers (Troops10)

Simone Segouin, was a French Resistance fighter during WW2. Among her first acts of resistance was stealing a bicycle from a German patrol, which she then used to help carry messages. She went on to take part in large-scale or otherwise dangerous missions, such as capturing German troops, derailing trains, and acts of sabotage.

“I was fighting for the resistance, that's all. If I had to start over, I would, because I have no regrets. The Germans were our enemies, we were French.”





German Snipers of WW2

All but one scenario in "Liberation of Paris" contains a German sniper unit. Let's take a closer look at these soldiers (often dressed in civilian clothing) who were present during the "Liberation of Paris" and attempted to kill Charles De Gaulle at its conclusion.

During the Winter War skilled Finnish snipers were a nightmare for the Russians to contain. The Russians (despite numerical superiority) faced the horror of being picked off from afar in whiteout conditions. As the fighting on the Eastern Front heated up in 1942, the Russian Snipers dealt this very same lesson to the Germans.

In response the Heer had a formalised training pipeline for most of its scharfschützen. By 1944, there were over thirty sniper training companies and schools scattered across Germany and Occupied Europe. They actively recruited...

"People born for individual fighting such as hunters, even poachers, forest rangers, etc without taking into consideration their time of service." (Matthais Hetzenauer)

"A passion for the chase [and] fanatical love of firearms." (German Sniper Training Officer)



A German sniper team takes aim with a Mauser Karabiner 98k rifle equipped with a Dialytan RH36 4x32 telescopic sight.

German Snipers of WW2 (continued)

In 1944, trainee German snipers were indoctrinated with 10 maxims...

- **Fight fanatically.**
- **Shoot calm and contemplated, fast shots lead nowhere, concentrate on the hit.**
- **Your greatest opponent is the enemy sniper. Outsmart him.**
- **Always only fire one shot from your position, if not, you will be discovered.**
- **The entrenching tool prolongs your life.**
- **Practice judging ranges.**
- **Become a master in camouflage and terrain usage.**
- **Practice constantly, behind the front and in the homeland, your shooting skills.**
- **Never let go of your sniper rifle.**
- **Survival is ten times camouflage and one time firing.**

Different sniper schools ran for different lengths and had varying curriculum. A four-week course in marksmanship, range-finding, stalking, camouflage, and other sniper skills seems to have been the norm. This resulted in a kind of two-tier system amongst German snipers. Trained snipers, armed with 4x and 6x scopes atop their K98s, always operated as two-man teams, with one shooting while his partner spotted. These snipers were specialists and tended to be employed more judiciously.

Other snipers were just designated marksmen. These men were experienced soldiers and good marksmen who were given one of the sniper rifles (typically G43 or K98k rifles with a 1.5x scope) allotted to each company. This weapon configuration meant they were only effective out to a range of 400 meters.

Many of the German snipers encountered by Allied forces also weren't what we'd think of today as trained snipers, or even designated marksmen. The shooters who stayed behind to harass advancing Allied forces were often just ordinary riflemen who'd volunteered for the job or been told to do it.





Parisians drop to the ground to duck sniper bullets, as firing starts at the Place de L'Hotel de Ville, in Paris, during liberation celebrations on August 26 1944. City hall is in background, right.



Crowds in a street run for shelter to get out of the line of German sniper fire in Paris on August 29 1944.

Sniper Bullets that Narrowly Missed General de Gaulle

On the afternoon of August 26 1944, after 4 years of German occupation, an estimated 1 million Parisians flocked to the streets to cheer for General Charles de Gaulle. The previous day, Germany had ceded Paris to the Allies and the politically astute De Gaulle wanted to seize upon the opportunity to march down the Champs-Élysées in a triumphal procession - a decision that nearly saw him killed.

After laying a wreath upon the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, beneath the Arc de Triomphe, de Gaulle headed down the Champs-Élysées on foot until he reached La Place de la Concorde. Masses of deliriously happy Parisians clogged the expansive boulevard. Dressed in blue, white, and red, spectators hung from lampposts and cheered from tree branches. De Gaulle, who was 6' 5", towered above most everyone around him. In contrast to his jubilant supporters, de Gaulle's stately expression might be described as one of confidence and pride, but it was hardly celebratory.



Once at La Place de la Concorde, he boarded an open-air car which chauffeured him past clamoring throngs until it reached the Hôtel de Ville. After, delivering a rousing speech, de Gaulle proceeded to the Cathedral of Notre Dame for a Te Deum of thanksgiving. The parvis in front of the great church was bordered with tanks in a show of military might. As de Gaulle strode toward the massive bronze portals shots rang out, followed by machine gun fire. People ran for cover, hiding between the tanks or escaping into the church. De Gaulle appeared unperturbed as he continued on his intended route to mass.

Once indoors, however, the shooting continued. Snipers were positioned in the cathedral's upper galleries. Parishioners threw themselves under pews and hid behind massive stone pillars in an effort to shield themselves. However, de Gaulle, without hesitation, continued his march down the center aisle toward the altar. The estimated number of casualties ranges from 100 to 300 but de Gaulle remained unscathed.



There were blinding flashes inside the cathedral, there were pieces of stone ricocheting around the place... Heaven knows how they missed him, for they were firing the whole time. (Robert Reid, BBC)

Paris III

Original Title : The Battle For Paris

House To House Fighting In Paris



Historical Background

Josette (Cella) Maddison, was a child in Paris during the Liberation. By June 1944, her father, was keeping track of the Allies' progress towards Paris with little flags on a map designating the positions of the French, Americans, English and Russians forces.

"On August 24 1944, late afternoon, someone comes in the courtyard and yells: 'they're here, the Americans are here.' Without thinking, the hundreds of people who lived in all these apartment buildings, went down to the Pôterne des Peupliers, us included, Mama & Papa carrying babies and me running; everybody running to greet the deliverer.

We stopped in the middle of the Pôterne and both parents were crying... There were half-tracks and tanks with colored shields on them. They were not Americans, but French 2nd Division (2eme DB) commanded by General Leclerc. They had started their campaign in Africa, the Tchad to be exact, and as Paris could not hold on any more, some of the Resistance (FFI) went on bicycles to Evreux and brought them to Paris the back way. They stopped there long enough to talk. One soldier said his Dad lived rue Damesme. A child went to get him, he came on his bicycle and the soldiers put him in one of the half-tracks, bicycle and all and they left.

We could all have been killed, standing there laughing, crying, kids running while cannon shells were passing over our heads. They could have just as well shot at us, but they didn't. That night, a little after midnight, after a lot of street fighting, they secured the Hôtel de Ville and Paris was finally free."

Setup order

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1 | | x18 |
| 2 | | x16 |
| 3 | | x10 |
| 4 | | x10 |
| 5 | | x7 |
| 6 | | x5 |
| 7 | | x3 |
| 8 | | x3 |
| 9 | | x3 |
| 10 | | x3 |
| 11 | | x2 |
| 12 | | x2 |
| 13 | | x2 |
| 14 | | x2 |
| 15 | | x1 |
| 16 | | x1 |
| 17 | | x1 |
| 18 | | x1 |
| 19 | | x1 |
| 20 | | x4 |
| 21 | | x4 |
| 22 | | x2 |
| 23 | | x2 |

Briefing

Axis : [Germany] 4 Command Cards

Allies : [France] 6 Command Cards (FIRST MOVE)

Conditions of Victory

6 MEDALS

Two town hexes are Temporary Medal Objectives for the Allies.

Special Rules

French Resistance (Nations1)

Snipers (Troops10)



“Throughout France, the Free French had been of inestimable value in the campaign. Without their great assistance, the liberation of France and the defeat of the enemy in Western Europe would have consumed a much longer time and meant greater losses to ourselves.” (General Eisenhower)

Hôtel Meurice

The Hôtel Meurice in Paris, located at 228 Rue de Rivoli, was for generations of wealthy Francophiles, the only hotel to stay at when visiting Paris.

"For an English traveler, no hotel in Paris offers more benefits than Le Meurice."

Between September 1940 and August 1944, the hotel was requisitioned by the German occupation authorities. In August 1944, Room 213, became the headquarters of General Dietrich von Choltitz, the military governor of Paris.

"Following the liberation, the Hotel Meurice was repurposed as the officer's mess for the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF). American staff stationed there noted lingering traces of the German occupation, such as the pervasive smell of greased Wehrmacht boots in the cupboards."



Hitler's instruction to von Choltitz, was to defend the city to the last man and, if that was not possible, to destroy it rather than let it fall into Allied hands. He specifically ordered the city not to fall into enemy hands except as a "field of ruins". This included destroying bridges, major buildings, and essential facilities.



Captain Jacques Branet, commander of the 3rd Company of the 501e RCC was assigned the job of storming the Hôtel Meurice.

He had two infantry platoons from the Régiment de marche du Tchad. Machine gun fire from the Hôtel de la Marine, some 300 meters beyond the Meurice, was a problem as was the limited cover afforded by the Tuileries' side of the Rue de Rivoli. They also suffered some losses due to grenades being hurled from windows above the street.

Captain Branet's exuberance to be at the fore of the advance was perhaps driven by a secondary motive. He was in love with one of Rochambelles, Anne-Marie Davion, one of the group's prettiest ambulance drivers. Davion was also married – to a member of the resistance. Branet had promised to get her a helmet to serve as the hood ornament of her ambulance. He appeared to have his sights on a helmet belonging to the German general staff.

The French captain could almost taste the glory of capturing the Gross Paris staff. His dream evaporated when a grenade landed nearby and exploded. Branet saw the world go white. His ears sang. He fell to his knees, blood oozing from wounds in his back and sides. Two infantrymen near him were also wounded.

Branet's driver called for medics. At that moment, Lt. Franjoux appeared on the scene and looked almost overjoyed to see Branet incapacitated: "Not so clever are you, Captain?" he said, smiling. Before Branet was evacuated, he ordered his driver to secure a helmet for Davion.

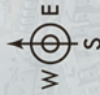
Free French infantry take cover behind the arches of the buildings leading up to the Hôtel Meurice.



THE CAPTURE OF THE HÔTEL MEURICE

1.30-3 PM, 25 AUGUST 1944

GRAPHIC BY AKHIL KADIDAL, JULY 2022
IMAGE MODIFIED FROM GOOGLE EARTH



RUE CAMBON



GENERAL CHOLTITZ
Room 213

Using the Rue Cambon entrance, writer Ernest Hemingway "liberates" the Hôtel Ritz. With him are 30 US GIs (including two AWOL paratroopers), 10 résistants and 14 gendarmes



RUE STE. HONORÉ

RUE DU MONT THABOR

BRANET DETACHMENT



CAPTAIN JACQUES BRANET
3rd Company, 501e Régiment de
Chars de Combat (RCC)



LIEUTENANT ALBERT BÉNARD
1st Section
(3rd Company, 501e RCC)
Five M4A2 (75) Shermans

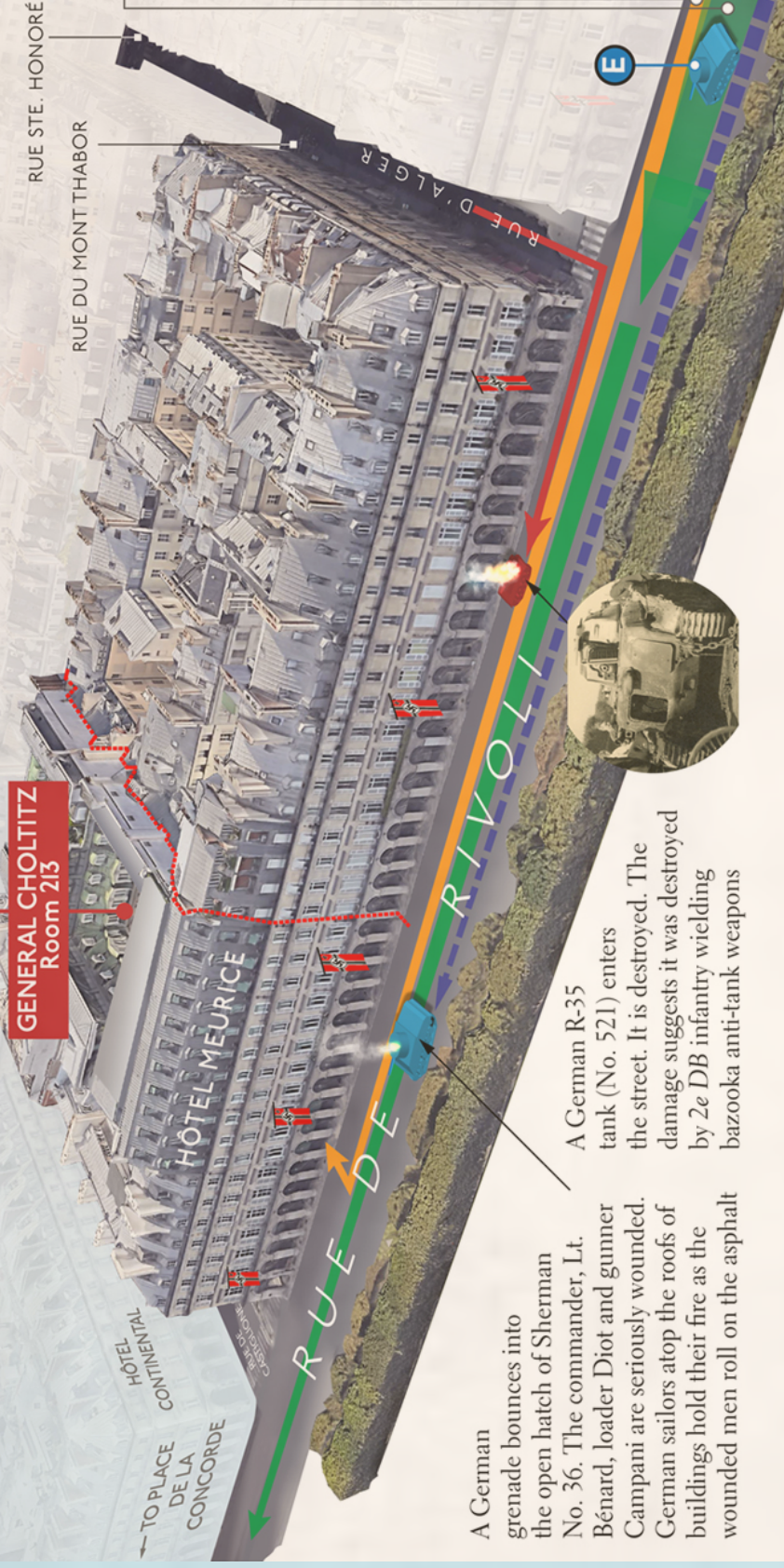


LIEUTENANT HENRI KARCHER
3rd Platoon
(3rd Company, RMT*)



LIEUTENANT JACQUES FRANJOUX
2nd Platoon
(11th Company, RMT*)

*RMT: Régiment de marche du Tchad



A German grenade bounces into the open hatch of Sherman No. 36. The commander, Lt. Bénard, loader Diot and gunner Campani are seriously wounded. German sailors atop the roofs of buildings hold their fire as the wounded men roll on the asphalt

A German R-35 tank (No. 521) enters the street. It is destroyed. The damage suggests it was destroyed by 2e DB infantry wielding bazooka anti-tank weapons



Lt. Albert Bénard



Sgt. Jacques d'Etienne



Sgt. Henri Pertuiset



Sgt. Marcel Bizien



Sgt. Pierre Laigle

SOURCES

Dominique Lapiere's and Larry Collins' *Is Paris Burning?*, Jean Edward Smith's *The Liberation of Paris*, Mathew Cobb's *Eleven Days in August* and Laurent Fournier and Alain Eymard's *2e DB Dans la Liberation de Paris*, Vol. 2. Photo of destroyed R-35, courtesy of Laurent Fournier. Websites consulted include: www.ordredelaliberation.fr; www.parismuseescollections.paris.fr; <http://museedelaresistanceenligne.org> and www.chars-francais.net

In his Hôtel Meurice headquarters, Choltitz, demoralized by the events of the past two weeks decided to surrender. Slightly after 13.00, soldiers of the bloodied Free French armored division flooded into the hotel with guns firing. Franjoux was among the first inside. "The hall was dark," he said. "Private Gutière, from my section, shot down a German on the stairs. Sergeant Brieuze threw a smoke grenade which hit and knocked out a German officer with his hands in the air. A soldier from the 1st Battalion who spoke German summoned the officer to call his comrades. About thirty officers and about sixty men come out with raised hands." Seeing an official portrait of Hitler on a wall, the Free French infantry riddled it with gunfire.

In Room 213, General Choltitz was in a state of paralysis whilst the French contemplated offering him conditions of surrender. The whole process was frozen as it was not known if the fracas below was being caused by Free French troops or the FFI.

"Lieutenant Henri Karcher of the army of General de Gaulle."

"General von Choltitz, commander of Gross Paris."

"You are my prisoner," Karcher informed him.

"Ja," replied Choltitz.

Von Choltitz found his would-be captor unimpressive

"A Frenchman in a donated American uniform combined with French insignia." And "a haggard and excited looking civilian."

"Sprechen deutsch?"

"Undoubtedly better than you," von Choltitz responded.

Moments later, an equally unimpressive-looking character appeared: The diminutive Lt-Colonel de la Horie, with a pistol in his hands. Lt Colonel de la Horie saluted. von Choltitz, a little pale, sat upright at his desk, his arms crossed.

"I wish that we are treated like soldiers," he said stiffly.

Lt Colonel de la Horie ignored the statement.

"Mon general, are you ready to cease combat?" he asked in French.

"Yes, I am ready," von Choltitz replied.

The general's captors were barely able to protect him from the mob forming outside. Fully expecting to be lynched, he was somehow ushered through the vindictive throng, with a few nicks, bruises and a saliva-spattered uniform his only injuries, and driven away.



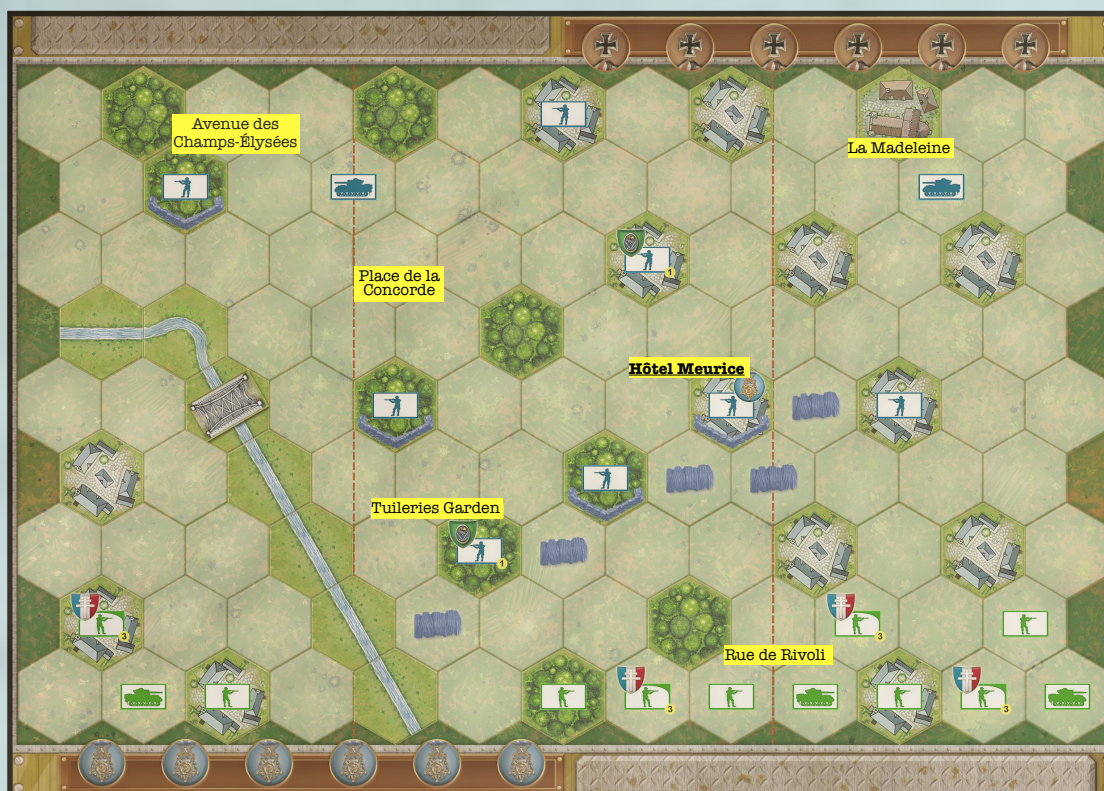
Around 16.30, a three-car procession pulled up in front of the 2nd French Armored's newly established headquarters at the Hotel de Ville. From the second auto, an open Hotchkiss, stepped General Charles de Gaulle. When Leclerc handed him a copy of Choltitz's surrender paper, de Gaulle's face hardened in anger. On the document, which he had had no chance to sign himself, was the signature of his Communist rival, Colonel Rol (pictured on page 34).

However, in the coming victory-liberation parade, the general—his massive frame accentuating his imposing, formidable presence—would read a “proclamation of The Republic” to the cheering masses. That was all it would require from this towering symbol of Free France to ensure that there would be no left-wing coup.


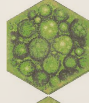
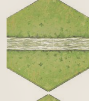





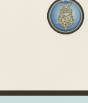
Ultimately, the liberation of Paris was to come at a great cost. Allied fuel reserves had been depleted, and those German forces that escaped reached the safety of the Siegfried Line. The Western Front stagnated with the approach of autumn and winter. There would be a great slaughter in the dreary Hürtgen Forest. The British would be crushed at Arnhem. There would be a Battle of the Bulge.



Hôtel Meurice



Setup order

- 1  x13
- 2  x9
- 3  x6
- 4  x1
- 5  x1
- 6  x1
- 7  x4
- 8  x5
- 9  x1

Historical Background

Von Choltitz sat in the German Army HQ in the opulent Hôtel Meurice. He was struggling with his conscience.

Seeing the glum looks on the faces of the other members of his staff, von Choltitz said angrily, "What else did you expect? You've been sitting here in your little dream world for years. You see nothing but your own pleasant life in Paris... Germany has lost this war, and we have lost it with her." (Collins & Lapierre, 268)

Hitler's military operations chief, Alfred Jodl, had just repeated his orders to demolish Paris — orders that von Choltitz had not carried out. Having met a ragged and ranting Hitler in Germany weeks earlier von Choltitz had concluded that he was losing his mind and that Germany would lose the war.

Briefing

Axis : [Germany] 5 Command Cards

Allies : [France] 6 Command Cards (FIRST MOVE)

Conditions of Victory

6 MEDALS

Hôtel Meurice is a Temporary Medal Objective for the Allies.

Special Rules

French Resistance (Nations1)

Snipers (Troops10)

Urban Combat Cards (Actions25) are OPTIONAL

The Air Power Card is not available to the Axis. Draw another card.

CONVENTIONS DE REDDITION CONCLUES ENTRE LE ~~Colonel Rol~~
 le général DE DIVISION LECLERC, COMMANDANT DES ~~Colonel Rol, Cdt les FFI de la~~
 la 2^{ème} DB FORCES ARMÉES FRANÇAISES d'une part
 et
 LE GENERAL VON CHOTTIZ, COMMANDANT
 MILITAIRE DES FORCES ALLEMANDES
 DANS LA REGION DE
 PARIS.- d'autre part



Toutes les conventions ci-dessous s'appliquent aux unités
 de la Wehrmacht dans l'étendue du commandement/général Von CHOTTIZ
 du

- 1°) Donner immédiatement aux commandants des points d'appui
 l'ordre de cesser le feu et de hisser le drapeau blanc. Les armes
 seront rassemblées: le personnel rassemblé sans armes dans un endroit
 dégagé, attendant les ordres. Les armes seront livrées intactes.
- 2°) Donner ordre de bataille, y compris les unités mobiles et les
 dépôts de matériel, dans l'étendue du commandement. Les dépôts seront
 livrés intacts avec leur comptabilité.
- 3°) Dispositifs de destruction des ouvrages et des dépôts.
- 4°) Envoyer à l'Etat Major du Général Leclerc autant d'officiers
 allemands d'Etat Major qu'il y a de points d'appui ou de garnisons.
- 5°) Les conditions d'évacuation du personnel de la Wehrmacht
 seront réglées par l'Etat Major du Général Leclerc.
- 6°) Une fois les conventions signées et les ordres ^{reçus} ~~transmis~~, les
 militaires de la Wehrmacht qui continueraient le combat ne relèveront
 plus des lois de la guerre. Toutefois, de ces soldats allemands se
 trouvant à Paris ou à Paris et se relevant par des ~~faux~~ ^{faux}
 sera traité équitablement.

Paris, le 25 août 1944

Leclerc

V. Chottitz

Rol
TANGUY

Extrait du FONDS HISTORIQUE LECLERC

Ce document a été signé le 25 Août 1944 vers
 16 Heures, par le Général LECLERC et le Général VON CHOTTITZ
 dans la salle de billard de la Préfecture de Police de PARIS.

Il a été rectifié à la main, un peu plus
 tard, à la Gare Montparnasse où le Général LECLERC avait ins-
 tallé son P.C., pour que le Colonel ROL-TANGUY y appose sa
 signature.

When General Leclerc's troops entered Paris, they were met by wild scenes of joy. The next day August 26 1944, half the population of the city watched General de Gaulle's triumphant progress from the Arc de Triomphe to Notre-Dame.

The spirit of freedom was intense, but celebration was edged with revenge. Marshal Pétain's regime was now cursed. Scores were settled in a rough and uneven justice, while black marketeers grew rich on the misery of the population. Yet a vibrant energy gripped the young of Saint-Germain and the Latin Quarter, who ignored hunger as they argued through the night in a tumult of ideas.

Theatre and haute couture sprang back to life. In smart restaurants the headwaiters who had bowed to the Germans now welcomed back their old customers.









Assault on Le Bourget Airfield

**STOP
PRESS**



Setup order

- 1  x7
- 2  x6
- 3  x2
- 4  x2
- 5  x1
- 6  x8

Historical Background

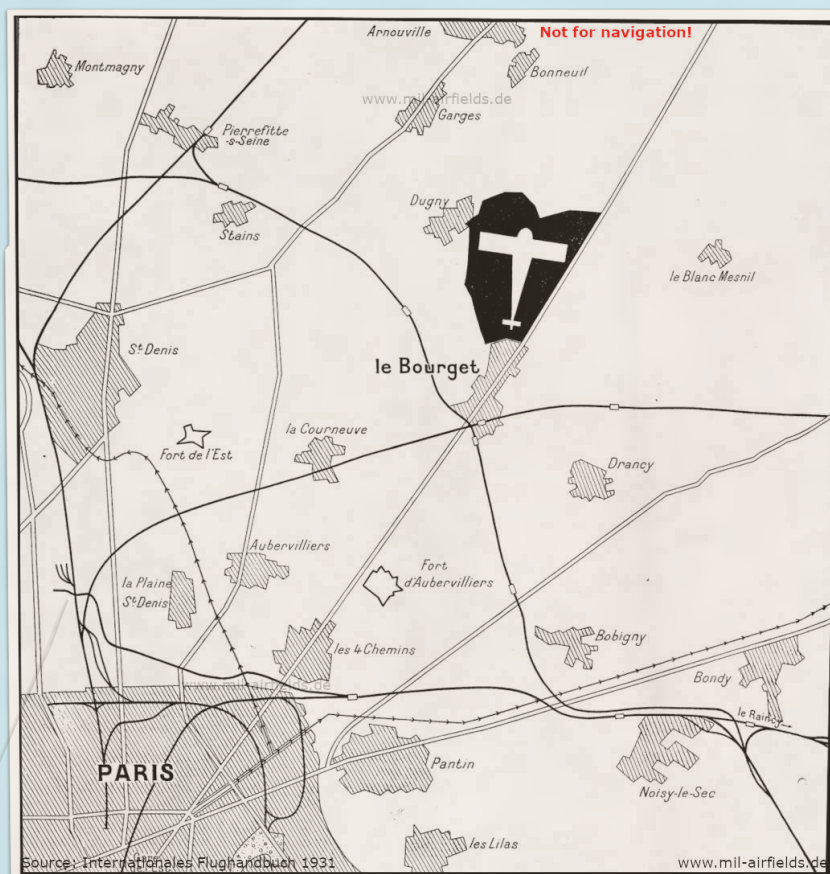
When WW2 broke out and Paris became occupied by the Germans, the Aeroport de Paris-Le Bourget was taken over and new concrete runways were constructed.

Located seven and a half miles north east of Paris the facility was bombed on numerous occasions throughout WW2.

On August 27 1944, soon after the Liberation of Paris, the 2nd French Armored Division's Tactical Group Dio with the support of the local French Resistance clashed with the German 47th Infantry Division at Le Bourget Airfield.

It was a ferocious battle and both sides suffered heavy losses.

Le Bourget Airfield was eventually restored after the Liberation of Paris in 1944 and from the May of 1945 around 42,000 prisoners were repatriated from it.



Briefing

Axis : [Germany] 5 Command Cards

Allies : [France] 5 Command Cards (FIRST MOVE)

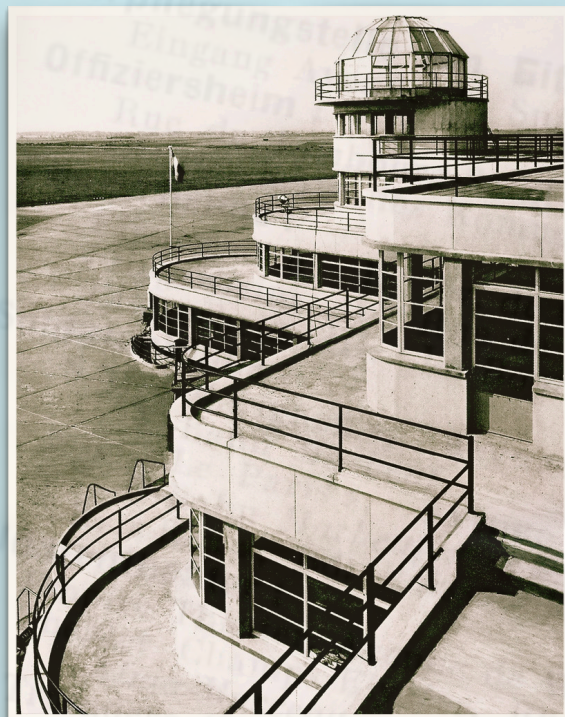
Conditions of Victory

6 MEDALS

Special Rules

French Resistance (Nations1)

Use (SWA4) + (SWA6)



R. DUMOULIN

LIBERATION



LA FAYETTE
NOUS VOILA



G. P. R. F. - SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL A L'INFORMATION

AFFICHE EXÉCUTÉE SOUS L'OCCUPATION ALLEMANDE - AOÛT 1944