Across The Rubicon

A wargame for the TRS-80 COLOR EXT computer 32K

The Battle for the Huertgen Forest during WWII. Player controls American forces and wins by capturing pillboxes, cities, and an airfield in under twenty turns.

PREPARATION

1) PCLEAR 1 OR PCLEAR 0-see NOTES, last page.
2) CASSETTE VERSION - LOAD from either side DISK VERSION
   LOAD "RUBIY"
3) RUN
4) SELECT N>ew game or F>ile.
   NEW:
   a) Select Difficulty (1-easiest)
   b) Purchase Order of Battle.
FILE: (DISK) Select File # (1-9)
## ORDER OF BATTLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strength</th>
<th>Unit Type</th>
<th>Abr</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Moves</th>
<th>Graphic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13-17</td>
<td>Infantry</td>
<td>INF</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>![I]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Recon Tnk</td>
<td>LT</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>![R]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Heavy Tnk</td>
<td>HT</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>![A]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tactical Air</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>![E]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-30</td>
<td>Artillery</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>90-350**</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>![G]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mortar &quot;M&quot;.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(INF with strength &gt; 15 carry mortars)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Supply</td>
<td>SUP</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>![S]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESTRICTIONS:

a) At least 15 INF must be purchased.

b) No more than 38 Total units may be purchased.

c) Four Supply Units are free and do not count toward b, above.

d) **ART costs increase, i.e., 1 ART unit costs 90, 2 cost 210, and 3 cost 350 points. No more than 3 ART units may be purchased.

e) No more than three (3) Air units may be purchased.

f) Reserve Points are points remaining after units are purchased. No more than 100 points will ever be awarded.
STRATEGIC COMMAND MODES 1-8

MAP-1 INT RPT-2 REIN-3 REPL-4
SIT-5 MERGE-6 SAVE-7 PRINT-8

(To view UNIT STATUS, <ENTER>)

We'll skip MAP-1 for now.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT Enter <2> INT RPT displays

memory, the strength (STR) of the enemy force, the number of its Panzer units, its unit losses,
F (friendly) and E (enemy) casualties, victory points (VP) awarded, American TA remaining, ground troop STR and reserve points (RP) left.

<ENTER> to return to STRATEGIC COMMAND.

REINFORCEMENTS Enter <3> Reinforcements are eliminated INF units revived. Enter the INF unit's number, the new STR you wish it to have.

The cost is one RP per STR. You cannot overspend.
The new STR cannot exceed 15.

As many Elim INF may be reinforced in a turn as desired, provided there are enough RP's to pay for them.

Reinforced units enter the game one move south of the river in the middle of the map.
REPLACEMENTS  Enter <4>  Replacements are not fresh troops but rather are stragglers from other units. To simulate this, you will not receive replacements until friendly losses exceed random 100.

When given, replacements are awarded only once per turn.

Only non-eliminated units, units in supply, and units with STR's less than 12 are eligible for replacements. Capturing pillboxes (replacement objectives) increases the likelihood of receiving replacements.

SITUATION MAP  Enter <5>  Available sometime after turn 2. Displays strategic territory belonging to Germans (blue-red) and Americans (white).

Also displays Battles <B> and Victories <V> for all INF engagements. (Not TA, ART, etc.) Victories over ride Battles. (This data is a/l saved as "MAP".)

<ENTER> to return to Strategic Command Modes.

MERGE  Enter <6>  Allows players to combine like units (INF with INF, LT's with LT's, HT's with HT's).

Computer will list units eligible and then ask you to select 1st unit; 2nd unit. 2nd unit receives merger, 1st is elim.

Units must be in the same location and have a combined STR of less than 16 to merge.

Patience. When no units fit above criteria the search may take half a minute.

More than two units may merge but they will be displayed one pair at a time.
SAVE Enter (7) After turn one. For Cassette or Disk, depending on version.

PRINT Enter (8) Select MAP STATUS or INT RPT for printout. NOTE: LINE 1960 starts printer routine.

MAP(screen) Enter (1) Where tactics are played: movement, combat, para drops, art strikes, etc.

FEATURES

Graphics:

River: The blue stripe, shown as ;;;;; on printouts. Impedes all non-retreat movement, modifies combat in favor of the Germans when Americans attack from it.

Rough terrain: (>) << Non INF move through at the rate of 1 move per turn. Modifies combat in favor of Germans.

Pillboxes: (=) Also called replacement objectives. There are 5, worth 1 VP each. Disappear after capture. No modifier.

Airfield: 2% one, (1) worth 4 VP's. Requires control of === center "%" for capture; then becomes rubble.

Cities: The 3 black tri-squares. Shown as $$ on printouts. Worth 2-8 VP's. Central location control, rubble.

NOTE: German Panzers receive a modifier in addition to any others received.
According to intelligence...

Enemy units may be shown as P-panzer, G-grenadier, V-volks, (homeguard), M-mechanized, or X-unknown before being contacted. Once contacted, enemy unit becomes exposed.

Other:

(+) Friendly movement path.

(!) Location of German unit during combat.

(STR) of friendly unit appears when entering "M" for movement. (See THE GAME)

Characters are printed in order of importance, least to most with German units last. Any number of characters may be stacked atop one another.

II) Alpha (Bottom to top)

====> LOC CON TH -- F -- E -- States current location of friendly unit, location of last German unit contacted, game turn and casualties,

The numerical location of the friendly unit will take the place of the abbreviation "LOC" during movement.

L/M Lower left. Last friendly unit moved.

MVS appears in upper left showing the moves the moving unit has remaining.

UNIT LOC SUP XP STR (KTR) — top

Names unit, its location, number of supply turns, movements, strength remaining; and if capable of firing mortars will mention KTR.

NOTE: All locations are print & location of the computer's text mode.
END OF MOVE DISPLAY. States results of move. Self explanatory

TACTICAL COMMANDS (Entered from MAPscreen)

There are two kinds of tactical commands, UNIT and NON UNIT, but first we need to see how units move.

When the turn begins, a black arrow will point to the unit being described at the top of the screen. Enter \(<M>\) to prepare that unit for movement, \(<C>\) to defer to the NON UNIT COMMANDS or \(<E>\) to defer to the END OF MOVE DISPLAY, and to reset the arrow to the unit number closest to "0".

Entering any other key advances the arrow to the next unit having movement and supply turns remaining.

Holding down the right arrow advances the arrow faster.

**NOTE:** When no units have movement left the computer will automatically End the TURN.

UNIT COMMANDS (After entering \(<M>\))

Enter the direction arrow to move the unit.

OR \(<\text{Enter}>\):

\(<M>\) (again) prepares the unit (if eligible) to fire mortars. To be eligible, the unit must be INF, have not moved, and an STR greater than 15. Answer DIRECTION with an arrow. Mortars fire N,S,E,W.

\(<T>\) To send out patrol. Patrols attempt to expose enemy units without suffering casualties. Only one (1) patrol is allowed per turn.

A patrol may take five moves or until it contacts an enemy unit.
Forced March. INF ONLY! Doubles INF movement that turn,, causing attrition of from 0-8 STRs.

\(<M>\) and \(<T>\) preclude the unit's moving that turn.

---\>NON UNIT COMMANDS Enter \(<C>\) instead of (first) \(<M>\). Appearing at the top of the screen will be:

\(<A>rt TA<\text{ }<C><F>ara \text{ }<G>roup \text{ }<S>upply \text{ }<QUIT>\)

\textbf{NEVER ENTER A DIRECTION ARROW AT THIS TIME!!!}

1) \underline{Artillery}- Enter \(<A>\). Then enter location of spotting round. If not okay, enter \(<N>\) and correct. ART may be cancelled with \(<C>\) AFTER location is entered. Entering \(<Y>\)yes starts the barrage.

===\>NOTE: The availability of ART is limited, but unlike ATR, its return is only delayed: from 0-4 turns per ART used

2) \underline{Tactical Air}- Enter \(<c>\), then location of smoke marker. Correct as in ART above. Cancel with \(<C>\).

\textbf{NOTE: Tactical Air suffers attrition of 0-8 STR during strike. See IHT RPT for accurate number remaining.}

3) \underline{Parachute drops}- Enter \(<P>\); location of jump marker. Correct. \(<Y>\) lists units eligible to drop, reserve points remaining.

\textbf{a)} Eligible units must be at least 3 turns in supply, have an STR > 8, except SUP units with 1 STR, and be located south of the river.
b) There must be enough reserve points left to pay for the drop. INF pay 10, LTs 15, HTs 20, and SUP 25. Careful, if you overspend the result will be the loss of all RPs and no drop!

Dropped unit may suffer from 0-8 STRs making the drop, but may always move.

To cancel, <ENTER> in place of a unit number.

RANDOM "HIT" ZONES:

```
C C C
C T C
A A A
```

The "T" above is the target location. It and the "C" are locations capable of being hit by tactical air. All locations are capable of being hit by ART or PARA.

4) Group Enter <G> Allows player to move units south of the river in groups.

Enter Start unit #; End unit #. Note brackets.

Enter (Y/N) if this is okay or not, or <ENTER> to cancel.

Enter arrow for direction of move, then the amount of moves you wish the group to take.

Units inside the brackets that have moved, or O/S units, or those located in or north of the river will not be affected.
Units whose total movement or remaining movement is less than that entered will move their allotment and stop. Others continue on.

5) Supply—Enter <S> Displays those areas supplied by the 4 supply units. For reference only. Real supply occurs after <Q> is entered ending turn.

6) Quit—Enter <Q> Ends turn.

THE GAME

MOVEMENT: All units with supply turns remaining may be moved.

Movement may be ended early with <E>. Even F/M.

Enemy units that have not been contacted move during STANDBY at the end of the turn. German Mechz units may move whether contacted or not.

All friendly units stop when contact is made or when entering the river voluntarily.

INF only may cross rough terrain at more than 1 move per turn.

ADVANCE MOVEMENT One (1) move is awarded to the victorious unit after defeating the enemy. Advance movement may cross all terrain except rivers.

Like normal movement, advance moves may be refused with <E>.

COMBAT

MAY occur when a friendly unit moves into a zone of enemy control. (ZDEC)
Depending on which ZDEC is entered, combat may not occur.

3 3 3
A A A
3 3 3

All the above are ZDEC’s with the enemy unit in the middle. Combat has a 33% chance of occurring at a (3) location, ALWAYS occurs at an (A) location.

===>NOTE: The computer will check to the north of the friendly unit twice. Thus there is a 33% chance of combat each time the computer checks. It checks south, east and west only once.

During combat, the type of enemy unit and its STR are displayed in the upper right.

If the German unit is elim, a high/low pitch will sound; if the friendly unit is elim, the pitch will be low.

No sound indicates neither was elim and the friendly unit is being retreated one (1) move back in the direction it came.

Combat may reoccur during retreats.

Friendly Modifiers (for enemy, see Graphic Features)

Friendly units receive a large modifier when attacking from the north, and a moderate modifier when attacking from the east or west.
The last direction arrow entered before combat occurred determines the direction of attack.
Friendly modifiers are lost during retreats.

**SUPPLY** To function, units must be in supply. Units begin the game 3 turns in supply and lose one (1) SUP each turn they end away from supply.
"Away from supply" and "resupply" are opposites. To resupply, the unit must end the TURN (8) in one of the supply positions:

```
 X X X
X X X S X X X
X X X X X
```

The "S" and "X"s are supplied positions of the supply unit "S".
When a unit's SUP reaches zero it becomes (O/S) on the STATUS screen, ceases movement and loses two (2) STR's each turn it remains O/S.

**SUPPLY UNITS** Have an arbitrary STR of one (1), but no effect in combat. If contacted, SUP units are ELIM and are immediately replaced at the starting position south of the river.
ELIM SUP units do not count against friendly losses.
There are always four (4) SUP units with a SUP factor of four (4).

**SHERMAN ARTILLERY** Occurs at random during play. When announced, played has opportunity to interdict with counter battery (CB) fire. If (Y)es is
entered, there is a 7 to 1 chance of success.
Player loses ART unit for 0-4 turns if CB fire is ordered.

===> **RESERVE POINT BONUS** of 50 RP's. Given ONCE, when RP's run out the first time.

**END OF GAME/ VICTORY CONDITIONS**

Game ends the moment a) more than 24 Victory Points (VPs) are captured, or b) when the American Ground Troop STR falls to less than 2/5 (40%) of American losses.

There are nine (9) VP objectives worth a total of 26 VP's. Pillboxes (5), worth (1) point each, the airfield worth (4), the south city (3), the NW city (8), the NE city (6).

Accumulated VP's are listed in the INT RPT.

**VICTORY STATUS**

There are 3 victory conditions, DECISIVE, CONDITIONAL and MARGINAL; a DRAW condition and a BATTLE LOST condition.

**Ending turn - VP's = Y**

Using the formula, if:

- -6 > Y then Victory is DECISIVE
- -6 < Y < -3 then victory is CONDITIONAL
- -4 < Y < 0 then victory is MARGINAL
- 0 < Y < 3 then DRAW results
- Any other result is BATTLE LOST.
A (+3) modifier is ADDED to the turn # whenever the 2/5ths rule is applied. (The end of game recap with reflect FL/GTS when this occurs.

A (+) modifier is subtracted for the integer value of total enemy losses / friendly losses.


\[ Y = 21 - 23 - 1 = (\text{INT}(E/F)) \]

\[ Y = -3, \text{ a MODERATE victory.} \]

A second player captures 15 VP's when the game ends on the 18th turn because of the 2/5ths rule.

\[ Y = 18 - 15 + 3 = 6, \text{ a BATTLE LOST.} \]

NOTES:
R11 uses a great deal of memory, and to preclude the chance it will run out during play, player may wish to POKE 25,6:NEW before loading. With DISK, POKE .25,14 :POKE26,0 :NEW. Or if that doesn't work with your disk, poke 25,14 :PoKe 3584,0 :NEW
We have done everything possible to assure that this program is free from error. However, in a program of this magnitude and complexity, it is virtually impossible to playtest every possibility. Therefore, if an error should occur, GOTO 1170 <ENTER> to return to the MAPSCREEN and continued the game.

Cassette
Cassette owners. Because of the variances in cassette operation (motor speed, head sensitivity, cleanliness) there are times when the saved program may not reload properly. When this occurs, simply reload and reload again.

ROSS THE RUBICON is a product of ARK ROYAL GAMES, Box 14806, Jacksonville, FL, 32238, Copyright (C) 1983.

Other ARK ROYAL warGAMES:

Starblazer 32K
Mission:EMPIRE! 16K & 32K
Bomber Command 16K
Waterloo 32K

Coming Soon! GUADALCANAL 32K