

ER Bickford Presents

Sicily Replay

Dec 11, 2012

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:23 pm (#681 Total: 2389)

About Me. **SPI Victory in the West Games**

S&T 89 Sicily

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:24 pm (#682 Total: 2389)

About Me. **Sicily**

Turn 1

July 10-11, 1943

Turn one is full of special rules. I hope that I get most of them correct. The Weather roll results in Good weather, which should help the airborne landings some. There is no administrative phase this first turn. During set up, it was predetermined that five Italian Coastal Defense regiments surrendered during the invasion. [A surrendered or eliminated Italian Regiment is worth 2 VP's each. This is worth 10 VP's]

The British 1st Airborne have mandatory landings near the port of Syracuse. Unfortunately the 1st battalion drifts out to sea and is eliminated. Then the 2S lands on the beaches southeast of its target and becomes disrupted.

Hopefully the Americans do better. The 82nd Airborne also has a mandatory drop. Units from the 504th Regiment land. 3rd battalion attempts to land near Niseemi but misses the target drifting to level 4 terrain which exacts a step loss. Then the unit becomes disrupted. The 505th Regiment also attempts to para-drop near the beaches. 1st battalion hits the target dead on without loss. 2nd battalion also hits the target but becomes disrupted. 3rd Battalion misses the target and takes a step loss and becomes disrupted.

Then the sea invasion begins. The US and British first wave all land with relative ease as the weather is good. None are disrupted, although a few land in contested beaches.

The British 50th Infantry Division is confronted on the beaches by the Italian 145th Coastal Defense at Avola. The 5th Infantry Division lands nearby and assists in the attack with the aid of the Royal Navy. [This is represented by Naval Support points which can shift columns on the CRT.] The battle is a complete success and the 145th CD is reduced to a cadre and is forced to retreat toward the north along a secondary road leading to Palazzolo Acreide, leaving the beaches to the 151st Infantry Brigade. The British expend a Support Point. [5 SP] Support Points are expended for each attack. In this way the number of attacks without penalty is limited. Support points are also expended by taking replacements and for certain other actions. The Commonwealth, US, and Germans begin the game with 6 SP's each, and the Italians begin with only 4 SP's.

The British 231st Infantry Brigade attacks Mobile Group F near Bark. The Italian mobile group is eliminated. The Commonwealth expends another Support Point. [4 SP]

The Americans also attempt to consolidate. The 82nd Airborne is the first to attack. Elements of the 505th Regiment attack Mobile Group G. The attack is repulsed by the Italians and 3rd battalion is eliminated. [-3 VP] The US expends a support point [5].

The US 45th Infantry Division assaults the 178th Coastal Defense unit, which is eliminated with a breakthrough result. No support points are expended as the result was a breakthrough.

The US 1st Infantry with the 4th Ranger battalion attacks in the landing zone. Gela is defended by the 134th Coastal Defense. The battle goes to the Americans and the Italian unit is reduced to a cadre and is forced to retreat. The American rangers capture the port facilities at Gela. [1 Tactical Point] The Italians did not have time to set up any demolitions and the port remains intact and usable. The US expends a support point [4].

The Axis begins to react. The 15th Panzergrenadier Division is spread out across the island. Elements on the western side of the island begin to move across to the center. Additionally, the Italian Assietta Division starts to move toward the center of the Island. The 19th CCNN moves eastward as well. The rest of the Axis units in western Sicily are restricted for the first two turns. The Aoesta Division moves into the port at Palermo.

In the center, the HG Panzer Division advances toward the American forces that have landed, near the DIME Beach. The Italian 230th Tank battalion and Mobile Group G both attack the US airborne battalion [82nd Airborne] The attack is repulsed and the Italian infantry battalion is eliminated. The Italians expend one Support Point [3].

The Second Stage begins. As a note, all of the movement this turn is halved to allow for two sequences during the invasion turn.

The British 5th Infantry Division with a battalion of commandos attacks the Italian forces in Syracuse. The British desperately need the port facilities there. The Italian Naval battalion is eliminated but the Air Force unit remains. The British expend a support point [3] The 231st Infantry Brigade attacks the Italian 173rd CCNN battalion near Ispica. The militia is eliminated and the Commonwealth expends an SP [2].

The Americans resume their operations as well. The 1st battalion [505 AB] attacks the HG PZ position. The attack is repulsed and the US troops lose a step and retreat to the beaches. The US expends an SP [3].

Then the US 3rd Infantry attacks the Italian 17th CCNN militia unit which has the benefit of defending in a town [column shift]. Despite this, the Italian force melts away and the 15th regiment captures Campobello di Licata. [1 Tactical Point] The US expends another SP [2]. The 3rd Division also attacks the Italian cavalry with support from the USN off shore. [The Americans have good naval support for the first 5 game turns. The cavalry is destroyed and the US expends an SP [1]

The Axis side licks its wounds and issues a counterattack. The 15th PG in the west continues to move toward the center with the Italian Assietta Division. The HG Panzer Division moves forward to engage the Americans in the south. The HG PZ Division has to make a mandatory attack on the US troops at some point during the invasion turn. The odds are not too good, but the panzers are supported by Italian artillery. Despite this, the attack is repulsed by the Americans and the two panzer battalions lose a step each and retreat with the infantry. The Germans and Italians both expend SP's [5 and 2 left, respectively].

As the turn ends, the Commonwealth has captured two airfields and have landed two supply depots. The Americans also have captured two airfields and two ports, Gela, and Licata. The Axis has lost 19 VP's to

surrender and combat losses while the Allies have lost 6 VP's to casualties.



ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:25 pm (#683 Total: 2389)

About Turn Two
Me.

July 12-13, 1943

The weather is good again. The Allies hold a total of four airfields. All units on both sides are in supply. The Commonwealth collects 2 Support Points [4] one for each depot, while the US gains 4 support points [5] 2 for each depot in a minor port.. Additionally, the Allies receive an air point, and the Royal Navy provides one point and the USN receives three.

On turn two, the 82nd Airborne has another mandatory drop, and fortunately the weather is good. The 1st battalion of the 504th hits the target spot-on but is disrupted. The 2nd battalion lands a bit north of the target and also becomes disrupted.

The British forces renew their attack on Syracuse. It is a major port and it is also worth 5 tactical points. The 5th Infantry with the aid of the 1st Airborne attacks the Italian units in the city. This attack is repulsed and the British 15th Brigade loses a step. And the attackers retreat toward the south. The Commonwealth expends a support point [3].

Next, the British 50th Infantry attacks the Italian 146th cadre which is south of Palazzolo. The unit is in rugged terrain but is too weak to withstand the attack. The 146th is eliminated. The CW expends another support point [2].

The 1st Canadian Infantry Division attacks the Italian 230th Tank battalion near Modica. The Canadians achieve a breakthrough and eliminated the tanks. No support points are expended.

Then the Americans return to action on the left. The US 1st Infantry attacks the HG Panzer Division and is repulsed. The 16th Regiment loses a step and the Americans retreat. One SP is expended [4]. The rangers [1st and 4th battalions] attack an Italian CD cadre near Mazzarino. The 134th is eliminated and the US expends an SP [3].

The Axis forces remain in supply and add Support Points. The Germans now have 7 SP's and the Italians have 6 SP's. The HG Panzer Division pulls back a few miles. Then Syracuse is reinforced. The 15th PG continues to consolidate from the western part of the island. They finally arrive near Enna. The movement restrictions on many of the units on the western part of the island remain in effect.

The 1st Fallschirmjaeger Division arrives as reinforcements. The 3rd Regiment lands at the "4" airfield hex and the 4th Regiment lands at Acireale.

The Italians have lost 5 more VP's totaling 24 VP's and the Allies remain with at minus 6 VP's. Not much ground was gained by the Allies.



ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:26 pm (#684 Total: 2389)

About Turn Three
Me.

July 14-15 1943

The weather turns sour. A severe mistral springs up. The Allies still have the same four airfields that were captured during the invasion. Thanks to the Americans, they have captured two ports and their two Tactical Points. The American and Commonwealth forces have established a contiguous line. The boundary between the US 7th Army and the British 8th Army remains locked until turn six.

This is the turn when the Allies have to determine their end runs. The US plans its end runs, and it will allow two battalions to land. The Commonwealth will have only one end run with one battalion.

The Axis receives variable reinforcements [the B and F reinforcements]. Two Italian Mountain Regiments and a German Panzer battalion from the 29th PG. These are all held back to avoid the VP penalty [2 VP's each] that would be incurred.

The Commonwealth adds 2 additional Support Points [4] and the US adds 4 SP's [7].

The 1st Airborne Division [British] has a mandatory reinforcement landing. This should be an adventure as the weather is severe. The 2nd battalion misses its target and lands disrupted between Lentini and Catania. The 1st battalion loses a step and lands near 2nd battalion. 3rd battalion drifts out to sea and is eliminated.

The British 5th Infantry and the 51st Infantry division prepare for yet another attack on Syracuse. This time they will have artillery support. An airborne battalion from the US 504th captures another airfield [5] at 4327. Elements of the US 45th Infantry capture another airfield [6] at 4325. The 1st Infantry captures an Axis airfield [7] at 3822. The Americans continue to strengthen their foothold and make no attacks.

The British Airborne units, which are behind enemy lines, attack some of the units of the HG PZ Division. This is a low odds attacks and not surprisingly, the British paratroopers are repulsed. They lose a step and retreat towards Mt. Etna. The British 51st Infantry attacks Syracuse with the aid of commando units. This attack is supported by artillery. The Italian Air Force unit is eliminated and the tank battalion retreats. The Port falls to the British. Again, the Italians fail to damage the port facilities leaving it intact for the Allies. The British expend an SP [3]. On the left flank, the British 5th Infantry attacks the Italian position. This results in a breakthrough. The 12th Infantry and tank battalion are eliminated. [Since this is a breakthrough, no SP's are expended].

The Axis adds Support Points to the German and Italian stockpiles. The Italian Mobile Group D [Tank battalion] attacks the forces in Syracuse. The attack is repulsed and the tank battalion is eliminated. The Italians expend an SP [8]. The 1st Fallschirmjaeger Division attacks the British airborne units near Mt. Etna. The attack is repulsed. The German infantry battalion is eliminated and the Fallschirmjaeger Regiment remains in place. The Germans expend an SP [9].

At this point the Allies have lost 3 more VP's [Airborne units that landed in the Mediterranean] which is a total of -9 VP's. The Italians have lost 5 VP's and the Germans 2 VP's to casualties. It stands at 22 Allied VP's. [At least 101 are needed for even a marginal Allied Victory]



ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:28 pm (#685 Total: 2389)

About Turn Four
Me.

July 16-17, 1943

The weather reverts to good. The Allies now have captured 7 Airfields. There are no special air missions to

perform. The two British airborne units behind enemy lines have become isolated. All of the Axis units are found in supply. The CW adds 2 SP's [5] and the US gains 4 SP's [11].

There are no airborne operations nor any amphibious landings. The 8th Army moves one of its depots to the port at Syracuse. This will increase its output to 5 SP's per turn.

The British 5th Infantry attacks the Axis forces defending the town of Augusta. With support from a commando battalion and artillery, the Italian coastal unit is eliminated and Augusta is captured by the 153rd Brigade.[+5 Tactical Points] The CW expends one SP [4]. In the hills to the west, the British 50th Infantry joins the 1st Canadian Infantry in an attack against the Napoli Division at Vizzini. This is a combined arms attack [with bonuses] and the Italians are overrun. The Commonwealth achieves a breakthrough and captures Vizzini. [No SP's are expended].

The Americans resume operations to the west. The 1st Infantry Division attacks the other infantry regiment of the Napoli Division at Caltagirone. This is also a combined arms attack. The Italian 75th Infantry Regiment loses a step but stands fast. The US expends an SP [10]. On the Italian right the rest of the US 1st Infantry attacks mobile group E. The Americans also have artillery support. The American attack is repulsed and the 26th Regiment loses a step and retreats. The US expends an SP.[9]

The US 3rd Infantry attacks the Italian forces at Mazzarino. Despite combined arms and artillery support this attack is also repulsed and the CCA loses a step. One of the paratroop battalions also loses a step and the Americans retreat. The US expends another SP [8]

The Axis collects 7 new SP's. [German 14, Italian 10]. The 3rd Fallschirmjaeger Regiment moves in on the isolated British paratroopers. They are joined by panzers from the HG division. Both British battalions are eliminated in the action. The attack results in a breakthrough so the Germans do not have to expend any SP's.

The 15th PG [129th Regt.] attacks the US 1st Infantry outside of Caltagirone. The Americans rebuff the German forces. The Italian tanks are eliminated and the German troops retreat. The Germans expend an SP [13] and the Italians expend an SP [9].

The British have lost two airborne units [6 VP's] while the Axis has lost a tank and a kriegsmarine unit for 3 VP's. That leaves it at 19 VP's. If we add the airfields [7] and the Tactical Points [12] the VP's stand at about 38 VP's.





ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:28 pm (#686 Total: 2389)

About Me. **Turn Five**

July 18-19, 1943

The weather is good. The Allies still have seven airfields. The US 3rd Infantry is now allowed to use pack when desired. [Pack allows the unit to trace supply as a mountain unit would]. The Allies have captured 12 Tactical Points. Since they have 8 or less air fields, the Allies decide to use Emergency Bombing, which will provides an extra two ground support bonuses. There is still no change to the 7th and 8th Army boundary.

Both sides' troops remain in supply. The Commonwealth receives 6 SP's [9] and the US gains 4 SP's [12]. There are no airborne or amphibious operations. The British 51st Infantry presses its attack toward Catania, the next major objective. The German 115th Infantry Regiment is in defense. The British have artillery support as well as emergency bombing support which enables them to obtain a breakthrough. No SP's are expended. The German 115th PG Regiment is wiped out [5 VP's] Then the KRRC battalion captures the airfield [8] and the armour advances a few miles farther.

The 51st Infantry also attacks the German 382nd Infantry Regiment and the supporting 923rd Infantry battalion. Again the British have artillery support and ground support. The 923rd is eliminated [1 VP] and the 382nd is reduced and pushed out of its position. The British 154th Infantry Brigade advances and the Commonwealth expends a Support Point [8].

The British 50th Infantry attacks the Italian Napoli cadre near the town of Grammichelle. The cadre is easily dispatched. [2 VP's] The CW expends another SP [7]

The Americans attack with 1st Infantry against the Italian position outside of Caltagirone. The US has full artillery support and calls in ground support aircraft which find the target. [die roll 1-2] The Italian AT unit is eliminated [1 VP] and the Napoli Infantry Regiment is reduced to a cadre., retreating. The US expends an SP

[11]

The Axis collects 8 Support Points, due to the fact that the Allies called for emergency bombing. [Evidently this takes away from interdiction. The German 382nd Infantry is found out of supply. It attempts to escape by pulling away from the Allies ZOC, yet it still remains in danger.

The 15th Panzergrenadier Regiment arrives at Messina as reinforcements. It strategically moves to the southern side of Mt. Etna. The 15th PG Division launches a counterattack against the American 1st Infantry. This results in the loss of the 75th Napoli Infantry Regiment and the Assietta Regiment is reduced. [2 VP's]. The Axis forces retreat. Both the Germans and the Italians expend one SP each.

The Allies have collected 12 VP's. [11 in casualties an airfield] this totals 49 VP's.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:30 pm (#687 Total: 2389)

About Turn Six
Me.

July 20-21 1943

The weather continues to be fair. The Allies have captured 8 airfields and have 12 Tactical points. The Army boundary is adjusted. [An imaginary line divides Sicily into an American side and a Commonwealth side. Can you say: Cooperation.] The Axis does not receive any variable reinforcements and the Italians do not capitulate.

The US collects 4 SP's and the CW receives 7 SP's. The German 382nd Infantry Regiment is still out of supply. The Allies do not perform any airborne or amphibious operations.

The British 51st Infantry continues to work toward Catania, advancing into the low area to the south. The 3rd Commando battalion captures an airfield east of Lentini. [9] To the west, the US 45th Infantry also captures an airfield north of Biscari. [10].

Then the British 51st Infantry opens another round of attack against the Axis position south of Catania. The defending Port Defense unit loses a step and retreats to Catania. The British troops advance and capture the airfield, which is still in an enemy ZOC. The CW expends a Support Point.

Then the British 50th Infantry to the west attacks the German 382nd which is OOS. With artillery support, the German unit is reduced to a cadre and retreats. The CW pays another SP.

The Americans take their turn. The US 1st Infantry attacks the HG infantry Regiment. Although the American artillery lends support, the air units are too late to effect the attack. The Americans are repulsed and the 753rd Tank battalion is reduced. The entire force retreats and the US expends an SP.

Toward the western side of the island, US rangers attack the Italian 139th CD Regiment. The Americans have artillery support and manage a breakthrough. The CD is eliminated [2 VP] and the American troops advance. This costs no SP's.

The Axis gains 7 SP's which gives the Germans and the Italians SP's. The 58th Bersaglieri Regiment moves into Catania. The rest of the forces pull back into two major defensive positions. One is based on Catania while the other on Enna. With 5 additional VP's the Allied advance toward their goal.





ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:30 pm (#688 Total: 2389)

About Me. Turn Seven

July 22-23, 1943

Weather turns to severe mistral. The Allies have control of 10 airfields and 12 Tactical Points. There is no heavy interdiction and the Army boundaries remain the same.

The German 382nd Infantry is still out of supply. The US collects 4 new SP's and the CW receives 7 SP's. The Royal Navy lends a support point each turn with a 1-6 chance of having any effect. The Allies receive two air points. There are no airborne or amphibious operations [thankfully].

The 1st Canadian Infantry captures an airfield at Palagona. [11] The German 382nd is surrounded by CW forces and is in dire circumstances. The British 5th Infantry joins with the Canadians in an attack against the beleaguered infantry. It is ultimately eliminated [5 VP's] The CW expends an SP.

The 51st Infantry attacks the city of Catania defended by German and Italian troops. British artillery provides support but the Allied air support is unable to find the target. The Royal Navy is also ineffective. Nonetheless, the Italian unit is reduced a step. The CW expends a Support Point.

The British 50th Infantry attacks the 15th Panzergrenadier to the left. Artillery and terrain swing the battle toward the Allies. As a result, the Italian 29th Assietta infantry is eliminated [2 VP] and the German PG is forced to retreat. The CW expends another Support Point.

In the west the Americans continue to work. The US 9th Infantry attacks the Italian position at Agrigento. There is an airfield in that town as well. Despite having artillery, the Italian AT unit negates the combined arms effects and the Americans are stopped in their tracks. The 3rd Tank battalion is reduced and the 82 airborne battalion is eliminated. [3 VP]. The US expends an SP. [I made an error here as I believe the tanks

should have been eliminated by priority.]

The Axis receives 6 Support Points. Two Italian artillery units are evacuated to the mainland from Messina. The Germans have an infantry replacement which is conserved. The 15th Panzergrenadier Division counterattacks the Americans. The attack is repulsed and the 215th panzer battalion is reduced. All of the Axis forces retreat. The Germans expend a Support Point.

By the end of the turn, the Axis had lost 7 VP's to casualties and 1 VP airfield. The Americans lost 3 VP's for a net of 5 VP's. The total VP's is roughly 59.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:32 pm (#689 Total: 2389)

About Me. **Turn Eight**

July 24-25, 1943

The weather is good. Allies now control 11 airfields. The CW adds 6 new SP's and the US adds 4 SP's. Also the Allies have two air points and the Royal Navy has 1 Naval point.

The US expends an armored replacement point to bring the 753rd Armored battalion back to full-strength. This costs the US 1 Support point and the Allies a VP.

The Americans attack the Italian position on the southwestern coastal road with a regiment from 9th Infantry Division. With air support and artillery the US forces manage to damage the Italian position. The 19th CCNN is eliminated. [This is another VP for the Allies 60]. The US expends an SP.

The next attack is in the center near Enna. A strong Italian infantry regiment defends. The Americans have combined arms, Divisional Integrity and artillery and as a result, knock a step from the Italian 33rd Infantry Regiment. They also retreat. The Americans expend an SP and advance.

Then the US 1st Infantry attacks the German panzers at Piazza Armerina. Again the Allies have artillery support. The panzergrenadier regiment loses a step and retreats. The Americans expend another SP. The town falls to the American forces.

To the east, the British launch a diversionary attack against a powerful regiment of the 1st Fallschirmjaeger. The infantry battalion is reduced and forced to retreat. The CW consumes an SP. Then the Commonwealth attacks Catania again using the 51st Infantry. The air support fails to arrive in time and the naval support misses entirely. Fortunately the British 8th Army has artillery available. The Italian port defense cadre is eliminated and the 58th Bersaglieri battalion is eliminated. The German paratroopers remain ensconced in Catania through. Perhaps they will set demolitions. [This is determined by die roll when a port is captured]. The Italian losses add 4 VP's to the Allies [64] and the CW expends an SP.

The Axis forces collect only one SP giving it to the Germans. The 71st PG regiment arrives at Messina as a reinforcement. The 129th Panzer is brought in as a variable reinforcement at Messina. This costs the Axis 5 VP's [69], but it seems worth it. The Axis forces fall back and avoid dangerous counterattacks.





ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:33 pm (#690 Total: 2389)

About Me. **Turn Nine**

July 26-27, 1943

The Allies have 11 airfields and 12 Tactical Points. The Axis gets no variable reinforcements. During supply, the US takes an armor replacement [-1 VP] and brings CCA back to full strength for one SP. The CW collects 6 SP's and the US adds 4 SP's. The Allied Air Points and Naval Points are recharged.

American forces led by the 9th Infantry launch another attack against the Italian position at Porto Empedocle. The Americans call in air support to buttress their artillery, but the Italian AT unit prevents Combine Arms bonuses. The 9th Infantry is repulsed and the ranger battalion loses a step and the entire force retreats. The US expends one SP. [Again I think that the armor should have taken the loss. Oh well].

The US forces launch another attack against the Italians near Enna. US 3rd Infantry hits the 30th Regiment [Assietta] and it is reduced to a cadre, retreating. The US expends uses a Support Point.

The 3rd Infantry Division also attacks the Italian 10th Bersaglieri. This attack is supported by artillery, but it is repulsed by the stubborn defenders. The 3rd Infantry loses a step and retreats. The US expends another SP.

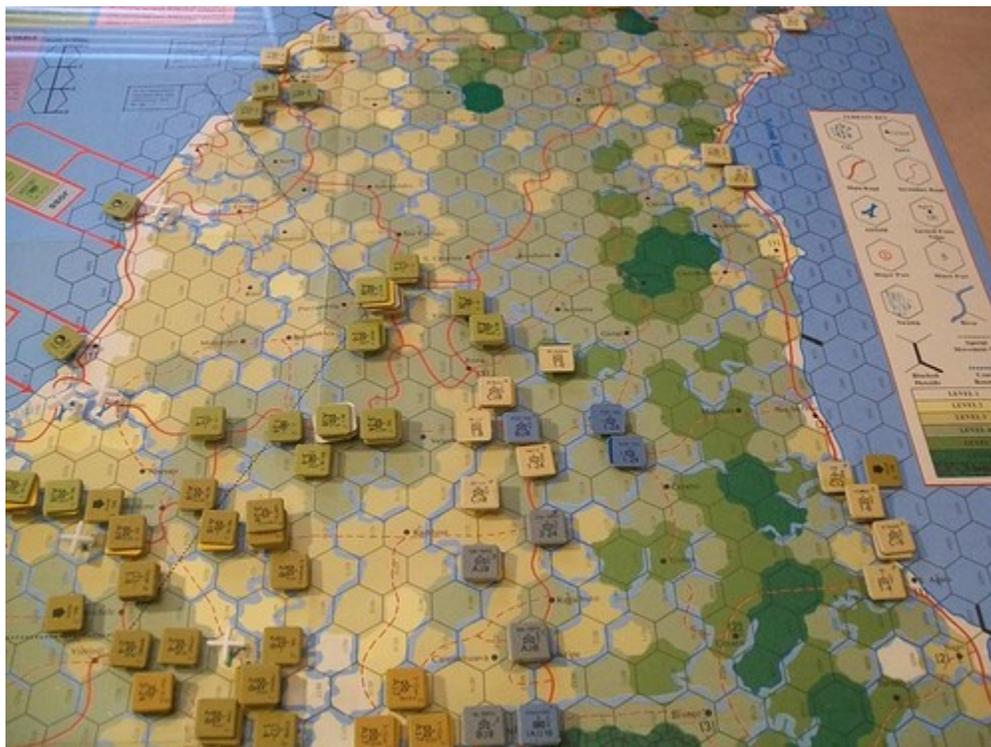
Last, the US 1st Infantry attacks the 34th Livorno Regiment. The Italian unit is reduced and forced back, where they join the German panzers. The US expends an SP.

Commonwealth forces also renew its attacks. The 1st Canadian Division strikes Mobile Group B, a battalion of Italian tanks. The defender is completely eliminated. The Allies gain 2 VP's [71]. No SP's are expended as the result was a breakthrough.

The 51st Infantry also attacks Catania. It is defended by Italian units and the German 1st Fallschirmjaeger. The

Brits prevail and both Italian units are eliminated. This brings three VP's to the Allies [74 VP]. The CW pays for Support.

The Axis collects additional Support Points. The Germans expend an SP and an Axis VP to bring a replacement to the 215th Panzer battalion, which returns to full strength. A number of units are exposed and the Axis pulls back in a general retreat. The 1st Fallschirmjaeger attacks the British 51st and gives it a bloody nose, forcing a retreat. No further battles to resolve. Expend an SP.



About Turn Ten
Me. 

July 28-29, 1943

The weather turns to a severe mistral. The Allies have 16 airfields. The US 1st Infantry Division takes one step of replacements, which costs 1 SP and a VP. The Americans add 4 Support Points and the CW adds 6 SP's.

A new British Division is available as reinforcements. The British 78th Infantry Division lands at the depot. Meanwhile, the 1st Canadian Infantry attacks the 1st Fallschirmjaeger Division at Catania. The CW has artillery support, as well as air support. The navy misses the target again though. In the ensuing combat the German division loses a step and decides to retreat. The British forces capture Catania and expend a support point. The Germans managed to set demolitions in the port facilities and the port will not become operable until turn 12. [This essentially cancels 8 SP's due to the CW.]

The US 1st Infantry attacks elements of the Italian Livorno Division. In the overwhelming attack, the Americans manage a breakthrough and the 34th Infantry Regiment is eliminated. The unit is worth 2 VP's [76 VP's]. No support is expended as the result was a breakthrough.

Then the US 3rd Infantry attacks the 10th Bersaglieri. Another breakthrough is achieved and the Italian regiment is reduced to a cadre. Again, no support points are expended. With Enna thus captured, the Italians and Germans both lose support points, one each.

To the west, the US 9th Infantry attacks the Italian position at Porto Empedocle. With artillery and air support, the American forces inflict heavy damage on the enemy position. The 177th Bersaglieri is reduced and forced to retreat. The US expends 1 SP and captures the port. The Italians were unsuccessful in their port demolition attempts.

The Axis forces collect new Support Points and continue to withdraw toward the northeast. No attacks are deemed useful, and the resources are spent on redeployment.



ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:34 pm (#692 Total: 2389)

About Turn 11
Me.

July 30-31, 1943

Weather is Light Mistral. The Allies have 18 airfields. This will greatly increase the effectiveness of ground support. The VP is around 115 with the airfields and Tactical Points. The CW adds 6 Support Points and the US adds 4 SP's.

The US 1st infantry takes a replacement step which costs 1 SP and 1 VP. The Americans go to work again at Porto Empedocle. With artillery and air support, the Americans manage a breakthrough. The 177th Bersaglieri is reduced to a cadre and the AT battalion is eliminated. The Allies pick up a VP.

The US 3rd Infantry attacks the Axis position at Nissoria. With artillery and close ground support, the enemy position is dislodged. The 33rd Livorno is reduced and the Axis force retreats. The US expends an SP.

To the east, the British have cornered a regiment from the 1st Fallschirmjaeger Division. The air support does not arrive in time and the naval support has no effect, but the attack prevails. The elite German unit is eliminated, which adds another 5 VP's to the Allies. [Due to an Axis mistake, this unit was left out to dry.] The CW expends an SP to pay for the attack.

The Axis forces collect 6 Support Points. The Germans expend one SP and give the 4th Regiment, 1st Fallschirmjaeger a replacement step, which restores the unit to full strength. It also costs an Axis VP. The Italian 185th Infantry regiment lands at Messina as a reinforcement. It is moved to the north side of Mt. Etna.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:35 pm (#693 Total: 2389)

About Me. Turn 12

1-2 August, 1943

Weather is rain. This impacts the various air missions. For example, the number of Ground Support missions are cut in half. The Allies have captured 18 airfields and have 27 Tactical Points. As a result, Mussolini is toppled. The Italian units will begin reacting to this next turn with surrender die rolls.

Catania becomes operational as a port and the Commonwealth moves their depot into the port facilities. This will bump the depots Support Point output to 5/turn. The US 3rd Infantry Division takes on replacements and expends an SP and a VP. The US adds 4 new SP's and the CW adds 10.

The rest of the US 9th Infantry lands as reinforcements. The CW launches an attack against the German units on the eastern side of Mt Etna. A breakthrough is achieved and the attack costs no SP's. The 4th Regiment is reduced to a cadre and is forced to retreat.

On the western side of Mt Etna, the 1st Canadian Division attacks the Axis position. With Artillery support and divisional integrity, the Canadians manage to deplete the HG division. The Germans lose a step. The CW has to expend an SP. [It has plenty]

The British 50th Infantry attacks the Italian 10th Bersaglieri. With the aid of artillery, the Italian unit is eliminated and the Allies collect 2 VP's. The CW issues an SP.

The US 3rd Infantry attacks the Italian 30th Assietta Regiment in the center. The Italians put up a stiff resistance and repulse the Americans. The 7th Regiment loses a step and retreats. The US expends an SP. The 3rd Infantry also attacks elements of the HG near Nicosia. This attack is repulsed too and the 91st Recon is reduced, while the Americans retreat. Another SP is used.

The American CCA attacks the 136th Coastal Defense in the area east of Cefelu. The Italian unit has been caught in open terrain, which is dangerous against combined arms. The Italian unit is wiped out completely and the Allies gain 2 more VP's while expending a Support Point.

Over to the southwest, the US 9th Infantry attacks the Italian position on the southern coastal road. With artillery support the Americans reduce the Italian 138 CD to a cadre, which then retreats. The US expends an SP for this attack.

During the Axis turn, the Germans and Italians collect their respective Support Points and evacuate five Italian units before they become subject to surrender. The Germans and Italians counterattack near Mt. Etna but are repulsed. The Italian forces lose a step. Both the Italians and Germans expend one Support Point each.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:35 pm (#694 Total: 2389)

About Me. Turn 13

August 3-4, 1943

The weather clears. The Allies still have 18 airfield and will receive four air support points. The CW recharges its naval point and the 30th Assietta surrenders. This gives the Allies 2 VP's [circa 130]. The 51st Bersaglieri also surrenders and yields 1 VP. An Italian Coastal battalion surrenders for another Allied VP and the 143rd Coastal Defense regiment loses a step to surrender.

The US 3rd Infantry takes replacements. This costs 1 Support Point and 1 VP. The Americans gain four new Support points and the CW collects 10 SP's.

Patton's forces are rolling over western Sicily. The US CCA captures the vacant port at Catalu, which is left intact, and then captures another airfield [19].

The CW attacks the German forces on the eastern side of Mt Etna. Despite artillery and air support, the Germans repulse the attackers and the 46th RTR takes a step loss. The CW uses one SP. On the other side of Etna, the 1st Canadian Division attacks the 29th Panzergrenadier. They achieve a breakthrough and reduce the German unit to a cadre. No Support Points are thus expended.

Then the US 9th Infantry attacks the Italians on the southern coastal road, near Siculiana. The 138th Coastal Defense regiment is eliminated in the battle. The Allies gain 2 more VP's. This is a breakthrough and therefore no Support Points are expended.

The Axis forces gain four Support Points, and then continue with their redeployment. Things are going poorly.



ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:36 pm (#695 Total: 2389)

About Turn 14
Me.

August 5-6, 1943

The weather worsens to a severe mistral. The Allies have 19 airfields. The Italian coastal battalion surrenders which gives the Allies 1 VP. The Allies add Support Points to their coffers.

A battalion of US rangers captures the port facilities at San Stephano on the northern side of the Island. The port remains intact. The Commonwealth continues to press against the Axis positions in the narrow passages

near Mt. Etna. An attack on the eastern side is launched against the 135th Coastal Defense regiment near Acriale. The Allies receive close air support and reduce the Italian regiment to a cadre and it retreats. The CW uses 1 Support Point.

Then the Americans in the southwest attack the Italian position along the southern coastal road. The weak 177th Bersaglieri defends in a town, but the American support is overwhelming and the Italian unit is eliminated. This gives the Allies 2 VP's. The US consumes an SP.

The Axis gains only 2 Support Points. The 926th Infantry battalion lands at Messina as reinforcements. The defensive position is improved as best as possible under the deteriorating circumstances.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:37 pm (#696 Total: 2389)

About Me. **Turn 15**

August 7-8, 1943

The weather is clear and the Allies have 19 airfields and 39 Tactical Points. The 120 Coastal Defense loses a step as more Italian troops surrender. Both sides are in supply and the Americans add 4 SP's and the CW adds 10 SP's. If the Americans can capture Palermo, they will further increase their support.

The US CCB unit rolls into Corleone, in Western Sicily and picks up 2 Tactical Points. To the south, the US 9th Infantry attacks the Italian 120th Coastal Defense, which is at zero strength. The enemy force is easily dispatched and the Americans capture the airfield. [20] The US expends an SP.

The US 45th Infantry attacks the Italian forces in Palermo. Despite the efforts of artillery and ground support aircraft, the attack is repulsed and the 45th Infantry takes a step loss. The US uses a Support Point.

The Canadians renew their attack on the western side of Mt Etna against the German position which is held with some Italian tanks. These will negate any combined arms bonuses of the CW forces. Air and artillery are used in support of the attack but the Axis defenders manage to beat off the attack. The Canadian tanks take heavy losses and the entire attack force retreats. The CW expends an SP to pay for the attack.

The British 151st attacks the 104th PG regiment to the west of the Canadians. The British have successful ground support and manage to damage the 104th Regiment which loses a step.. The CW expends an SP.

On the eastern side of Mt Etna, the British 153rd Infantry attacks the Axis position. Artillery support is used, but the naval support fails to find the target. Despite this, the Italian 185th Infantry Regiment sustains a step loss and the Axis forces decide to retreat. The CW expends an SP. On the British right, the 78th Infantry attacks the 71st Panzergrenadier Regiment. With artillery support, the British sally but the defensive terrain of the German unit comes into play and the British infantry are turned back. After losing a step, a retreat is undertaken. The CW expends an SP.

The Axis commander is pleased with the defensive work of the rearguard and makes a few adjustments to trade a little more space. But time is running out.



ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:37 pm (#697 Total: 2389)

About Turn 16
Me.

August 9-10, 1943

The weather is clear. The Allies have 20 airfields and 44 Tactical Points. The Boundary is shifted to give the Americans more leeway. The Italian unit at Palermo loses a step to surrender, even though it has represented itself well against the American infantry. The US adds 4 new Support points and the Commonwealth receives 10 SP's.

The US 3rd Infantry uses its freedom to move east along the northern coastal road. It captured S. Fratello and S. Agata for 3 Tactical Points. On the western side of the island, the 9th Infantry plugs along and attacks the 143rd Coastal Regiment. It is eliminated. The Allies have about 160 VP's which puts them in the neighborhood of a Substantive Victory.

At Palermo, the 45th Infantry attacks the depleted Italian unit, with the benefit of close support, artillery and Divisional Integrity. Repulsed again by the stubborn coastal defense. After sustaining two step losses the US uses an SP.

The US 3rd Infantry attacks the 179th Coastal Defense regiment along the northeast coast. The Italians lose two steps and retreat. The Americans use a Support Point.

The British continue to slug their way through on the eastern side of the Island. The 50th Infantry attacks the PG near Bronte. The close support never materializes but at least the British have artillery. The 104th PG Regiment manages to hold its ground and the Commonwealth takes step losses. The British use a Support Point.

Can the Canadians have better luck? The 1st Canadian Infantry attacks the 129th PG at Bronte. The air support and artillery help the attack along but the German defenders block the Commonwealth again. The Canadians retreat and expend an SP.

The 78th Infantry attacks the Axis position along the eastern coastal road. This is a low odds attack and the naval support fails to come through. The 78th is turned back and the 50th RTR is eliminated [-3 VP]. A Support Point is used up.

The Axis side receives 2 Support Points. Rather than counterattack, the Germans give a little ground.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:38 pm (#698 Total: 2389)

About Turn 17
Me.

August 11-12, 1943

The weather continues to be clear. The Allies have 20 airfields and 61 Tactical Points. The Allied boundary line remains pat. More Italian forces desert. The 185th Infantry Regiment is reduced to a cadre and the 137th Coastal Defense is reduced to desertions.

Another airfield [21] falls to the Allies as the US 9th Infantry moves through. The 124th Coastal Defense is attacked by the US 9th. It is reduced and forced back. The Americans use up an SP.

The US 45th Infantry renews its attack on Palermo with the aid of CCA. The Italian unit is reduced and forced out. Palermo falls to the Americans. This adds 5 Tactical Points. The Italians were ineffective [half-hearted?] and the port remains intact. The US uses an SP, and the Axis side loses one SP each due to the loss of Palermo. This will isolate the rest of the Italian troops in western Sicily.

The 3rd Division attacks the Italians near Naso at decent odds but the attack is repulsed! The Americans use a Support Point. The British also continue to pound away at the Stubborn defenders.

Near Taormia, the British 78th Infantry attacks the Axis position. The Italian 135 CD is eliminated [2 VP] and the Axis units retreat further. An SP is used. The rest of the 78th Infantry attacks the 23rd Cavalry [Italian]. It is wiped out. The British issue a Support Point.

The Axis receive no Support Points this time. That is okay as they still have a few stockpiled and do not intend on making any attacks.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:38 pm (#699 Total: 2389)

About Turn 18
Me.

August 13-14, 1943

The weather continues clear. The Allies now control 22 of the 24 airfields. The Italian 133rd CD surrenders and is reduced. The 1st AT is eliminated by desertion and the 124th CD surrenders and is eliminated.

The US 9th attacks the 137th Coastal Defense at Marsalla. It is destroyed and the port falls to the Americans [1 Tactical Point]. Another airfield is captured [23]. The US 45th Infantry attacks what is left of the 133rd CD. It is subsequently eliminated, but it certainly put up a hard fight at Palermo. The 45th also attacks the PDN unit which is also eliminated.

The 3rd Infantry attacks the Italians at Naso. The 17th CCNN is eliminated and Mobile Group A [tanks] is also eliminated. British attacks eliminate the 119th Coastal Defense Regiment and the 71st Panzergrenadier retreats. The Axis posture to their best advantage, but it is too late.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:39 pm (#700 Total: 2389)

About Turn 19
Me.

August 15-16, 1943

Weather: Good. The US 3rd Infantry knocks out the 33rd Livorno Regiment. Patti is captured for 2 Tactical Points. The British 51st Infantry attacks the 104th PG which is subsequently reduced and retreated. The 78th Infantry pushes the 71st PG back, but it incurs no damage.

ER Bickford - Dec 19, 2011 3:39 pm (#701 Total: 2389)

About Turn 20
Me.

August 17-18, 1943

The weather remains fair. The 185th Infantry, [Italian] surrenders. The US 3rd Infantry strikes the 179th CD and it is eliminated. The British 51st and 78th attack the 129th PG, but are repulsed and the British infantry loses two steps. The rest of the 78th Infantry attacks the HG panzers which are eliminated. In the last attack, the KRRC forces the 926th Infantry to retreat.

The Allies have captured all 24 airfields and 74 Tactical Points. Then German and Italian losses are added as well as Axis replacements and variable reinforcements. The Allied losses are subtracted along with replacements and variable reinforcements [none]. The Total VP is 174, enough for an Allied Substantial Victory.



Final Positions
before
evacuation