"Merdjayoun"

Merdjayoun Village, Lebanon — June 19th, 1941

In mid-June 1941, Vichy forces had launched a major counter-attack in the Merdjayoun Sector of Lebanon to the west of Damascus. This area was filled with hills and old Crusader-era forts. The Vichy forces pushed hard into the area and pushed into Merdjayoun. The Australians had initially retreated in panic before the combined armor and air assaults of the Vichy forces. Having regrouped, the Australians would begin taking back lost ground. By the 17th of June, the Australians were once again fighting for control of the village of Merdjayoun.

Board Configuration: (Boards 12 & 73)

VICTORY CONDITIONS: The Vichy Player wins at game end if there are no good order British MMC's in the Board 12 Cemetery or in Building U5. Any other result is an Australian victory.
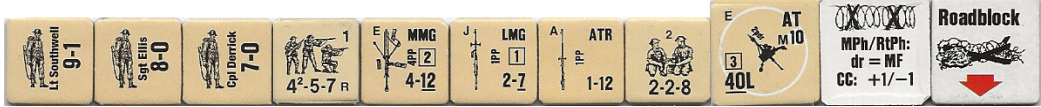
Only Rows S-FF on Board 12 and Rows O-B on Board 73 are playable

Australian Player Sets up first	🇫🇷 1	🇫🇷 2	3	4	5	6
Vichy Player moves first						

Elements of 2/25 Battalion, 25th Australian Infantry Brigade (ELR 4) (SAN 3) (Set up: north of the Board 73 Road)

Lt Southwell 9-1 · Sgt Ellis 8-0 · Cpl Derrick 7-0 · 4²-5-7 R (12) · MMG 4-12 (2) · LMG 2-7 (2) · ATR 1-12 (2) · 2-2-8 (2) · AT M10 40L (2) · Roadblock (2)

Elements of 3e Bataillon, 6e Regiment Etranger d' Infanterie (ELR 3) (SAN 2) (Set up: enter Turn 1 on the south edge.)

Lt Cassel 9-2 · Sgt Summer 8-1 (2) · Sgt Lavole 8-0 · Cpl Bassin 7-0 · 4-5-8 (4) · 4-5-7 (12) · MMG 4-11 (3) · LMG 2-6 · MTR 60⁺ [3-42] · DC 30-1 (2) · Radio 7

Enter Turn 2 through Board 73 Road Hexes O5 and/or B5

R35 37* -/2*/* · 8-1 (4)

Special Rules/Notes:
1. EC are moderate with no wind.
2. Kindling & No Quarter are N.A.
3. Building U5 on Board 12 has a two level Steeple (B31.2) in Hex U5.
4. All Orchards are Olive Groves (B14.8,F13.5).
5. The Vichy Radio represents one module of 70mmOBA (HE only).

Aftermath: The Australians of 2/25th had engaged the Vichy in hard fighting in some houses and nearby cemetery in Merdjayoun. After some quick fortifying of their position, the Australians were subjected to a hard counter-attack by the Vichy, which included heavy artillery fire and supporting R35 tanks. In the ensuing fighting, groups of Australians were isolated and captured. By the morning of the 20th of June, the Australians had retreated to the Litania River and surrounding area.

Scenario GJ110