



The French Expeditionary Corps in Italy.

Created during the summer 1943 in Nord Africa, the French Expeditionary Corps (CEF) intended for the Italy campaign, was under the command of General Alphonse Juin. Composed of four infantry divisions, one Tabor group and several separate units, the CEF was subordinated to the 5th Army under the command of US General Clark. Landed in November 1943 at Napoli, the 2nd Moroccan Infantry Division (2e DIM) of General Doddy was the first to fight and to point out, to the Allies as well to the Germans, the value of the French troops. Fighting on a mountainous hard ground, under a very bad climate and against veteran enemy troops well entrenched, the French soldiers showed their high spirit which amazed everyone, friend or foe. Its victories were called Pantano, la Mainarde and Monna Casale. Arrived in Italy in January 1944, the 3rd Algerian Infantry Division (3e DIA) of General de Monsabert was the winner of terrible battle of the Belvedere Mount. Then, the 4th Moroccan Mountain Division (4e DMM) of General Sevez, the 1st Free French Division (1e DFL or 1e DMI) of General Brosset and the Tabor Group of General Guillaume, landed in April/May 1944, were involved in the famous Garigliano battle which gave the breakout of the German Gustav Line and on the 4th of June, the victorious entry of Allied troops in Rome. An Allied victory overshadowed by the landing in Normandy, Operation Overlord, two days after. The CEF continued to fight until July 1944, taking Sienna and approaching Firenze. Then the French divisions were progressively removed of the Italian front to participate of Operation Dragoon, the Landing in Provence, as part of the 1st French Army under the command of General de Lattre de Tassigny. The epic of the French Expeditionary Corps in Italy was closed, troops of General Juin had pointed out to the world the real value of the French Army and so had erased the dreadful defeat of 1940.

This campaign with ten scenarios (including one breakthrough) relate the main battles of the French Expeditionary Corps in Italy from November 1943 to July 1944.

Jdrommel.



Campaign notes

Expansions needed to play with the base game :

- One "Terrain Pack" expansion for mountain tiles;
- One "Eastern Front" expansion for some special tiles;
- One "Equipment Pack" expansion for French soldiers figures and materials;
- One "Pacific Theater" expansion for some rules as Mobile Artillery;
- One "Winter Wars" expansion for other necessary rules.

Gaming

This campaign is simply played in the chronological order of the scenarios. There are no advanced rules.

Chronological order of the scenarios:

- 19661 – The San Michelle Pass – 15/12/1943
- 19647 – Capture of Mount Pantano – 16/12/1943
- 19663 – La Mainarde – 27/12/1943
- 19668 – Mount Monna Casale – 12/01/1944
- 2036 – Mount Belvedere – 25/01/1944
- 10945 – Battle of Garigliano – 11/05/1944
- 19679 – Battle of Pico – 22/05/1944
- 17806 – From Tuscania to Radicofani – 10/06/1944 (breakthrough)
- 13678 – Radicofani – 18/06/1944
- 19686 – Belvedere Hill – 12/07/1944





Who wins the campaign of the CEF in Italy ?

In accordance with history, the French troops won the campaign by taking several mountains where the Germans had made strong defensive positions. In spite of a high number of losses, the CEF was successful to break the German front. However, the enemy was very tough and aggressive, running quick counter-attacks whenever some positions were lost, as usual. So, in this campaign, each scenario is well-balanced to give a chance to win to the two players. The winner will be the one who implements the better strategy (or who have the best fortune with dices).

Counting up the Victory points:

1 VP by full ENY unit destroyed,

1 VP by scenario won,

1 additional VP by medal token gained.

Victory Points Counter Sheet

(available VP).

<i>SCENARIO</i>	<i>ALLIES</i>	<i>AXIS</i>
The San Michelle Pass	(6+1+1)	(6+1)
Capture of Mount Pantano	(7+3+1)	(7+1)
La Mainarde	(7+3+1)	(7+1)
Mount Monna Casale	(7+2+1)	(7+1)
Mount Belvedere	(7+4+1)	(7+1)
Battle of Garigliano	(7+3+1)	(7+1)
Battle of Pico	(6+1+1)	(6+2+1)
From Tuscania to Radicofani	(12+1+1)	(12+1)
Radicofani	(6+1+1)	(6+1)
Belvedere Hill	(6+1+1)	(6+1+1)
Total	(71+20+10)	PV (71+3+10)



Bibliography

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