

Setup

Interesting map, no real concealed or covered routes other than slopes. There's a slight elevation on the right flank objective, with excellent overwatch on the objective and the likely route to be taken by any relief force.

Since we don't really know much about the precise enemy dispositions, I will move first with 17/D/Essex plus scout squad onto the Right Flank objective. On the left flank 16/D/Essex 1st Section will advance to contact towards north edge of Le Norey.

I decide to setup a pre-planned bombardment, we will start slow with harassing fire and up the tempo as we get closer to launch the assault itself.

I will keep the AT section amongst the ruins of Verrieres, the idea is to deploy them on the Right Flank objective once secured.

54:00

D/Essex 2IC Section detached to scout and cover 16/D/Essex left flank. This was prompted by what looks like an AFV sound contact.

52:00

Bombardment of Le Noyer ends.

51:00

German barrage, with huge caliber, starts falling on the far left flank (out of the map actually). Seems aimed at the Royal Scottish Grey's Shermans.

49:00

D Coy 2IC arrives at his position, no enemy reaction. Decision is made to dash all the way to the Caen - Falaise highway.

47:00

Scout Section locates Right Flank objective. D Coy 2IC decides to overtake Le Norey and take a look over the crest.

46:00

D Coy 2IC finds German entrenchments *behind* the objective. The section also finds a Mk IV in Tilly la Campagne. Only one man leaves the Bren Carrier, as the Mk IV crew finds its aim.

41:00

German heavy artillery barrage creeping towards the supporting Shermans.

40:00

Leading Section of 16 Platoon, receives MG fire from Le Norey western hedge. One of the Shermans engages the estimated MG position.

37:00

16 Platoon has reached the designated phase line. Assault plan gets underway with platoons 15 and 17 forming for the attack covered by the slope of the Right Flank objective. FO, AT section and 18th Platoon move to back 15th and 17th.

30:00

One of the ATG section carriers is fired upon by one of the Pz IV in Tilly la Campagne. Fortunately the gun crew was already out of the carrier, yet three men are lightly wounded.

29:00

MG fire from Le Norey causes casualties on ATG crew as they cross the Caen - Falaise highway. The enemy hadn't open up on the lookouts we had sent in that general direction...

27:00

15 Platoon jump off point is under MG fire from Le Norey. 15 and 17 Plt mortar sections answer the fire. German 81mm fire falling near rear slope occupied by scouts and part of the AT section.

24:00

German stonk falls to the right of the main body of our attack... barely 50 meters away. That was lucky. A bit prematurely, perhaps, the attack kicks off... just in case.

22:00

Heavy German barrage creeps again on the right flank. 18 Platoon changes position. 15 Platoon will do too for security.

18:00

16 Platoon makes contact with the enemy, 2 casualties. Troops falter.

17:00

One of our AT guns is destroyed by mortar fire.

13:00

Attack progresses slowly. Light casualties so far.

11:00

16 Platoon 2nd Section wiped out by hard to spot MG nest. Platoon mortar zeroes in. Smoke screen fully deployed.