



**Mission Boston - Objective La Fièrè** is a short, five-mission, non-branching campaign that follows the events of June 6th through 9th related to one of the 82nd "All American" Airborne's D-Day mission objectives - the securing of the La Fièrè bridge and causeway across the Merderet River until relieved by the 90th Infantry Division moving inland from Utah beach.

### The Scenarios

- June 6, 0800 - Manoir Leroux
- June 6, 1600 - Angriffe der Grenadiere
- June 7, 1000 - No Better Place to Die
- June 9, 1030 - Sauls' Run
- June 9, 1200 - Le Motey

### Strategic Situation

Shortly after midnight on 6 June 1944, paratroopers of the 101st Airborne "Screaming Eagles" started dropping behind Utah beach in operation Albany. Approximately an hour later the 82nd Airborne "All American" was dropped further inland. At 0400 glider missions Chicago (101st) and Detroit (82nd) began landing with heavy weapons and finally at 0630 hours the combined Allied armies landed on a 50 mile stretch of the coast of Normandy, France, opening a new front in the war against the Axis.

### 82nd Airborne Mission Objectives

The original plan for the 82nd Airborne was to drop deep into the Cotentin Peninsula with the aim of rapidly isolating Cherbourg. But ten days before Operation Overlord, the German 91st Luftlande Division moved into the Cotentin with armor support. This resulted in Overlord's planners scaling back the American airborne operation to areas nearer the beaches to avoid the airborne forces being overwhelmed before they could be relieved.

### 82nd Airborne Operational Orders

1. 505 PIR - DZ "O" (Sainte-Mere-Eglise). Seize the villages of Sainte-Mère-Église, La Fièrè, Chef-du-Pont and Neuville-au-Plain. Seize and hold the bridges at the eastern ends of the two

causeways crossing the Merderet at Chef-du-Pont and La Fiere. Establish a line facing north from Neuville-au-Plaine to Baudienville, establishing contact there with the 101st Airborne.

2. 507 PIR - DZ "T" (Amfreville). Support the 505 PIR by seizing and holding the western end of the La Fiere causeway at Cauquigny. Establish a line facing west from Gourbesville to Le Hameau Renouf.

3. 508 PIR - DZ "N" (Picauville). Seize and destroy the bridges over the Douve at Beuzeville La Bastille and Etienville (a.k.a. Pont l'Abbé). Patrol aggressively around Renouf. Clear and secure the Division area. Be prepared to advance west on Corps order to the line of the Douve.

### **Additional Mission Objectives Assigned to 505 PIR**

Not covered in this campaign:

- 1st Battalion B Company - Bridge at Chef-du-Pont.
- 1st Battalion C Company - Drop Zone security
- 2nd Battalion - Neuville-au-Plain
- 3rd Battalion - Sainte-Mère-Église

### **Significance of Objectives**

The target bridges and causeways are choke points into and out of the Cotentin Peninsula. Securing them will block German efforts to attack the beaches and facilitate our entry into the peninsula with the aim of the eventually capturing the port of Cherbourg. Sainte-Mère-Église is a transportation hub and sits astride the road between Utah beach and La Fièvre.

### **Campaign Failure**

The campaign will end in failure if ...

1. You fail to secure and hold the La Fièvre bridge and Le Manoir Leroux
2. You fail to establish bridgehead west of the Merderet as far as Le Motey.

### **Acknowledgements**

This is the final revision of the short variant of my 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Campaign. The present version is the result of detailed feedback from a number of patient players and especially from our gaming colleague from Caen, France – PEB14 (Pierre). I thank you all with gratitude.

### **Future Revisions**

I have two more projects to revise – the expanded 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Campaign and all of my free-standing scenarios. Thereafter I will retire from creating anymore CM maps and scenarios. Any future revisions will be left up to others and to any and all I gladly give my permission to use or alter my creations.

Wishing all “Happy Gaming!”