



'Not a hope in Hades'
Opening the road to
Baghdad.



The Battle of Fallujah

SCENARIO AIW-3

Outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, 18/19 May 1941

The capture of Fallujah was the next step in the advance on Baghdad. Fortunately for the British the Iraqis had not demolished the bridge, capturing the bridge intact is vital for the advance. In the week following the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces near Habbaniya, Colonel Roberts formed what became known as, the "Habbaniya Brigade." The brigade was formed by grouping the 1st battalion The Essex Regiment from Kingcol with further infantry reinforcements that had arrived from Basra, the 2nd battalion 4th Gurkha Rifles and remnants from the RAF Assyrian Levies, RAF Armoured Cars.

Victory Conditions

The player that occupies both sides of the bridge without being contested is declared the winner at the end of turn 8.

Turn Record Chart

Axis player deploys first	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Allies have initiative on turn 1								END	

"Habbaniya Brigade":



New Zealand
Commander



Vickers
MG Team



Bren MG



Gurkha
Rifleman



3-Inch
Mortar



Bedford

Number 1 Armoured Car Company RAF:



Marmon
Herrington
Mk II AC



Universal
Carrier



Royal
Engineers

Assyrian Levies:



Azad Hind Fauj
Infantryman



Bedford

Reinforcements Enter Turn 5:

Units from the Essex Regiment:



Can be any Soldier,
Armoured Car or Transport
from the Commonwealth
Nations dated 1939-1941.

Iraqi remnants from the Habbaniya Brigade:



Stalwart
Lieutenant



Italian
Conscript



Breda
Modello 37



Imperial
Sniper

Fullujah City Defenses:



Pillbox



Barbed
Wire



Minefield



20mm
Flak 38

Reinforcements Enter Turn 3:

Iraqi 6th Infantry Brigade, of the Iraqi 3rd Infantry Division:



L3/35



Azad Hind Fauj
Infantryman



Can be any Soldier, Armoured
Car or Transport from
Germany or Italy dated
1939-1941.

Luftwaffe Support may deploy according to special rule #1.



Bf 110 C



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Special Rules & Options

The 20mm Flak 38 is controlled by the player that controls the hex the unit is in. The Flak doesn't count towards the stacking limits. The Flak may move around the three city hexes following the standard movement limitation. The opposing players may target and destroy the Flak if they choose to and loss the benefits of AA cover if needed.

Set-up

Use maps 14 and 15 from the Eastern Front Map Guide

Map Notes: Treat all Brush terrain on 14 as Barren terrain.
Treat all Hill terrain on 15 as Water terrain.



The Axis player deploys first anywhere on Map 15 within two hexes from the three town hexes.

Restrictions: Minefield cannot be placed on any of the road hexes.
The 20mm Flak 38 must be placed in a town hex.



The Ally player deploys within the designated area along the Western edge of the map.

Restrictions: All Soldier units need to be deploy loaded onto the Transports.

Reinforcements



The Axis reinforcements enter on Turn 3 from the Eastern edge of the map.

Luftwaffe Support: The Luftwaffe ground support was sporadic. Each turn, after initiative is determined, the German player rolls a die to determine if the Bf 110C is available. A DR of 1 or 2 results in the Bf 110C being available. A DR of 3 to 5 results in no air unit available for the turn. A DR of 6 means the Bf 110 C is Disrupted and is unavailable next turn as well as the current turn.



The Ally reinforcements enter on Turn 5 from the Northern and/or the Southern edge of the map on the Western side of the River.

Outcome

In the comradeship of arms the Assyrian Levies and the “Habbaniyan Brigade” share the glory of this bitterly fought and brilliantly won engagement. Disaster for the British was averted only by the staunchness of the defenders, from the counterattack of the Iraqi forces. The speed by which the reinforcements were able to reach the town from Habbaniya. Brigadier Kingstone received the immediate award of a bar to his Distinguished Service Order (DSO) and a DSO, Military Cross and Military Medal were awarded to officers and soldiers of 1 Essex. The British defense of Falluja meant that the road to Baghdad remained open.

Additional Reading:

Lyman, Robert. Iraq 1941 *The Battles for Basra, Habbaniya, Fallujah and Baghdad*. Osprey Publishing, 2006.
Northcote, Stafford H. *Revolt In The Desert*. History of the Second World War, 1968.