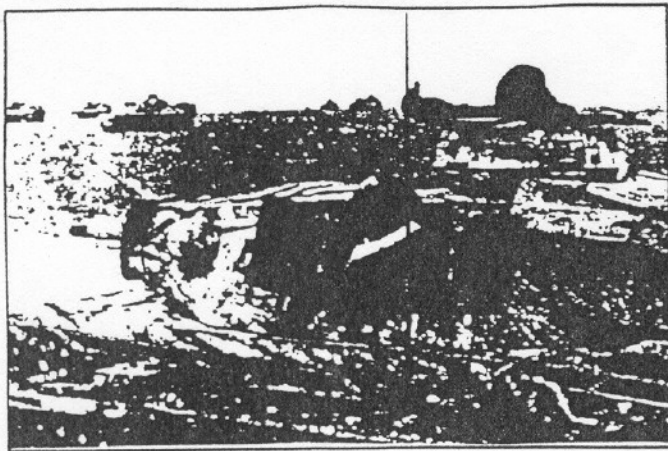
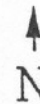


Wintergewitter



Verkhne-Kumsky, USSR December 13, 1942: Time was running out for the Germans surrounded in Stalingrad. On December 12 the LVII Armored Corps launched Operation Wintergewitter (Winter Tempest), the offensive to relieve VI Army. Spearheading the drive was the veteran 6th Panzer Division, equipped with an entirely new allocation of AFV's. Driving north from Kotelnikovo the Germans easily cut through the Soviet 51st Army. On the morning of the second day of Wintergewitter 6th Panzer reached and crossed the Askay River after capturing a bridge at Zalivsky. Driving forward with all speed, the lead elements of the division entered the village of Verkhne-Kumsky in the late afternoon.

Board Configuration:



33	
	12
16	

Victory Conditions: The German wins if there are no good order Russian MMC or AFV's on board 12 within the area bounded by Q1-N2-N7-Q9-T7-T2-Q1, inclusive, at scenario end. The Russian wins by avoiding the German victory conditions.

Balance:

German: Add a 10-2 Armor Leader to the German OB.

Russian: Add 6 '?' counters to the Russian OB.

RUSSIANS Set Up First	1	2	3	4	5	6
GERMANS Move First						



Elements of 11th Panzer Regiment and 6th Panzer Reconnaissance Battalion, [ELR 4], enter on Turn One anywhere on the southern map edge: {SAN 2}

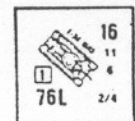
 4-8 3	 2-3-8 2	 8-2 2	 8-1 2	 3-8 2	 3-8 2	 9-1 2	 14 75L 3/5	 13 50L 3/5	 13 75* 3/5	 18 15PP AAMG 1/1-3	 16 15PP AAMG 1/1-3
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Elements of 5th Shock Army [ELR 3], set up on any whole hex of board 12: {SAN 4}

 4-4-7 4	 5-2-7 2	 2-3-7 2	 8-1 2	 7-0 2	 2-8 2	 4-10 2	 1-12 2
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Reinforcements of 7th Tank Corps, enter on Turn Two anywhere on the northern map edge.



3

Special Rules:

- 1) EC are Ground Snow (E3.72), with no wind at scenario start.
- 2) All buildings are single story (ground level only), and wood. Place wood rubble in hex R7. All Woods are Brush, and all Gullies are treated as Wadis (F5). Hexes S1 and T1 are clear, ground level terrain; the hill therein does not exist.
- 3) All Infantry and Vehicles of both sides have Winter Camouflage (E3.712).
- 4) Halftrack passengers may be kept offboard in cloaking boxes and are represented on board by ? counters until they unload or make a MC/TC.

Aftermath: The Soviets in Verkhne-Kumsky were part of the powerful Fifth Shock Army, ably commanded by General M.A. Popov. When the Germans entered the village, the Russian armored forces reacted violently. A furious tank battle ensued during which the village repeatedly changed hands over the next 24 hours. When it became obvious that the Russians were gathering an overwhelming force, the Germans withdrew to the Askay. The Soviets had suffered such heavy losses, however, that they did not pursue, but simply established a defensive position along a ridge about two miles south of Verkhne-Kumsky. It would be four days before the Germans would take Verkhne-Kumsky and shake free of the Fifth Shock Army to continue the drive to Stalingrad.