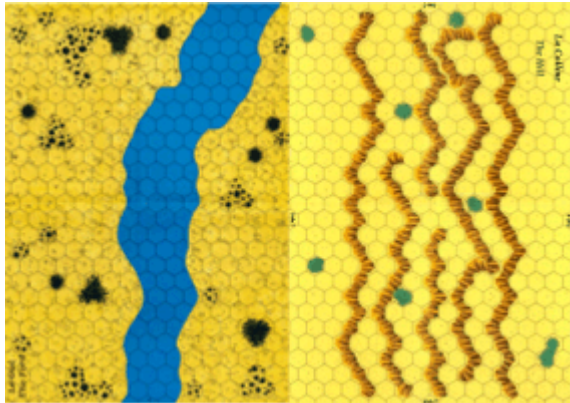# The Ford of Blanche-Taque

Background

1346 – After looting Caen, Edward is determined to cross the river Somme but all bridges and fords are heavily guarded by the French forces. He is made aware that just a few miles ahead of his army is a tiny ford named Blanche-Taque which is likely unprepared for an attack. On arrival at the river, the English find out that the position is more strongly defended than previously believed: Godemar du Fay and his large troop is guarding the crossing, drawn up in three lines along the sloping bank. Edward is determined to cross at this point: English supplies are running out and his army's morale is dropping.

Map Layout & Starting Positions

English forces are deployed on the left bank of the river.
French forces are deployed on the Hill map. They must form 3 lines.
The game is played in 12 turns.
The English player plays first.

Counters

English (Siege)				French (Horse Raiders)			
Knights (on foot)	Lacy Clarence Wulfric	Squires (on foot)	Fitzwaren Mortimer Hugues	Knights	Graton Aymon Girard Pierre	Billmen	Foulque Rollet Waleran Arthaud
Longbow	Owen Idris Myrlin Dylan Aylwin Gwyn	Billmen	Godric Cliff Shawn	Genoese Crossbows	Gianni Paolo Roberto Leonardo Stefano Carlo	Pikemen	Louis Hélias Henri Fulbert
Halberders	Bors Evans Fursa	Pikemen	Brendan Mordred Bryn Gareth Hayden Stori Arnold Aki	Sergeants	Antoine Thierry Raoul	Macemen	Urbain Evrard André Péronet Gontrand Yves
Sergeants	Morgen Pugh Llewelyn						

Victory Conditions

The English must cross the ford and force the French to flee the battlefield.

At the end of the 12 turns, each Englishman that is on the right bank of the ford earns 1 point. Each Englishmen on the Hill map add another point.

If the total of English points is:

> Less than 10 points: Crushing defeat – Who will tell Edward?

> From 11 to 20 points: Large defeat – Longbow men didn't train enough;

> From 21 to 30 points: Average defeat – Those French were stronger than we thought;

> From 31 to 40 points: Average victory – Not sure we will be able to resist the next assault from the French tomorrow;

> From 41 to 50 points: Great victory – Troops will be able to sleep well to get ready for the next battle;

> Over 50 points: Stellar victory – Hide these barrels of ale or the troops won't be able to fight tomorrow!

Epilogue

100 English knights and men-at-arms entered the ford, supported by large numbers of English longbow men. The Genoese crossbowmen were under heavy fire and could not respond effectively. The English reached the other side and could create a beachhead into which Edward fed more soldiers. The combination of desperate foot soldiers and accurate archery forced the French force backwards until their lines broke and they fled to Abbeville, pursued closely by English cavalry. The entire English army could cross the ford and marched northward to a town named Crecy. They would fought again the next day…

Sources

Wikipedia – The battle of Blanchetaque