

FINLANDS LÅS



ASL SCENARIO RH1

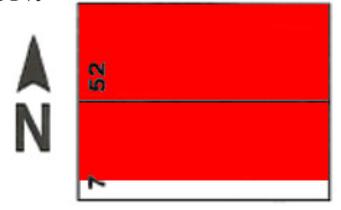
Scenario Design: Rhett Richwell & Hannu Tuikkala



Southeast of TIENHAARA, FINLAND, 23 June 1944: The Soviet offensive was launched on 9 June 1944 on the Karelian Isthmus. Against 270.000 men, artillery, tanks and waves of attack-planes stood 70.000 Finnish soldiers. Soon the front collapsed and the Finns had to retreat. On the 20 June Viborg fell, the second largest city in Finland. In this chaos the 61st Infantry Regiment (JR61) was sent forward to defend the northern exit of Viborg. JR61 consisted of Swedish-speaking Finns and was ably led by lieutenant colonel Alpo Marttinen. The terrain in this area was advantageous to the defender. The Soviets had to cross the Kivisillansalmi, a waterway, to attack a narrow isthmus southeast of Tienhaara. This area was called Finlands Lås, the Lock of Finland, for if it fell the whole interior of Finland would be open. After a heavy bombardment the Soviet attack commenced with an assortment of assault boats and rafts.

VICTORY CONDITIONS: The Russians win immediately if a Good Order MMC is in any path-hex (see SSR 1) on board 52.

BOARD CONFIGURATION:



BALANCE:

- ♁ Shorten the game to 6½ turns.
- ★ Remove a Finnish 8-0 leader and a radio with 80+mm MTR OBA.

(Only board 52 and hexes numbered ≤ 8 on board 7 are playable)

TURN RECORD CHART

♁ FINN Sets Up First [112]	1★	2★	3★	4	5	6	7	8	END
★ RUSSIAN Moves First [0]									

Elements of 9th and 12th Companies, 3rd Battalion, Infantry Regiment 61 [ELR: 3] set up on all land hexes. Units and SW may set up using HIP if in Concealment Terrain (see also A12.33): {SAN: 4}

8	3	3	3	2	2	4
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Elements of 90th Infantry Division [ELR: 3] enter on Turn 1, 2 and 3 in boats along the south edge. Some, all or no units may enter each turn: {SAN: 2}

14	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	10
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SPECIAL RULES:

1. EC is Moderate, with no wind at start. All woods-roads on boards 7 and 52 are paths. All other roads and buildings do not exist. The islands and south side of the river do not exist (treat the hexes as water). The water is a Lake (B21.14) with no current and is deep. All Marsh is Woods. Kindling is NA.
2. Due to the rocky terrain the Finnish foxholes (and all foxholes made by Entrenching) were shallow and give only a +1 TEM to all types of attacks.
3. As an effect of the Russian preparatory bombardment, after setup, each Finnish unit must take a TC. The only possible consequence of failure is that the unit must begin the scenario broken. Those units which break during this pre-game TC are not subject to Desperation Morale in the initial Russian RPh.

4. The Assault Boats use the motorized (German) MP of 4.
 5. The Finns receive one module of 120+mm OBA and one module of 80+mm MTR OBA. Both modules can fire only HE and both have one Pre-Registered hex.
- AFTERMATH:** With the help of accurate artillery fire most of the attackers were killed as they assembled or were on their way across the water. Those that made it across were soon eliminated by the Finns. The Soviet attack was stopped at a price of about 800 Finnish casualties but without having to commit the reserve battalion. A few days later the Soviets gave up this axis of advance. Soon Marttinen could report back to Mannerheim: «Herr Marskalk – Tienhaara holds!» The same day he was promoted colonel, the youngest in the Finnish army.