

Battle of Stalingrad Campaign Awards

Campaign Progression Awards:

Days before counteroffensive:



Awarded for completing the “Days before counteroffensive” chapter.

Operation Uranus:



Awarded for completing the “Operation Uranus” chapter.

Air Bridge:



Awarded for completing the “Air Bridge” chapter.

Unternehmen Wintergewitter:



Awarded for completing the “Unternehmen Wintergewitter” chapter.

The Ring of Death:



Awarded for completing “The Ring of Death” chapter.

Battle of Stalingrad Medal:



Awarded for completing the “Battle of Stalingrad” campaign.

General Campaign Awards:

Young pilot certificate:



First steps - the hardest ones.

AAA Crusher:



Awarded for Destruction of 10 enemy AA artillery cannons.

Ace Fighter:



Awarded for taking down 10 enemy planes in combat.

Experienced Attack Plane Pilot:



Awarded for completing 10 combat missions as member of a ground attack plane crew.

Expert Bomber:



Awarded for completing 10 combat missions as a member of a bomber crew.

Fighter Sharpshooter:



Awarded for killing 20 enemy plane crew members in combat.

For Physical Endurance:



Awarded for completing 5 combat missions being wounded.

Hunter:



Awarded for Destroying 20 enemy light armored units.

Interceptor:



Awarded for taking down 10 enemy bombers in combat.

Lucky:



Awarded for completing a mission and successfully bailed out 5 times.

Tank Fighter:



Awarded for destroying 10 enemy armored units.

Tough Crew:



Awarded for completing 15 combat missions being wounded.

German Campaign Awards:

Luftwaffe's Eagle:



Awarded for surviving and keeping the plane operational in 14 combat missions.

For bravery in the battle near Kalach:



The results of Stalingrad and South-West front groupings advance depended on their success in forcing the river Don. On November 22nd, 1943 advanced force units of the 26th tanks corps captured the bankside at the Don river nearby Kalach. The battle for Kalach started in the morning after that. At that point the entire Operation Uranus could fail giving a chance to the German army.

For fighting the 24th Army RKKA:



Emerged from the 9th reserve army according to the directive of Supreme commander-in-chief on September 1st, 1942, 24th Army consisted of 120th, 173rd, 207th, 221st, 292nd and 308th rifle divisions and 217th tank brigade. The army fought in the Battle of Stalingrad operating in the Don and Stalingrad front groups. In spring 1943 it was redeployed near Voronezh and became a part of the Stepnoy military command.

For aerial defense of 6th Army of Wehrmacht:



Friedrich Paulus' 6th Army had been involved in the Battle of Stalingrad from the very beginning. Along with the 4th tank army it was encircled and destroyed by February, 1943. After that it was formed again out of the army group Hollidt and deployed in the southern sector of the Eastern front on March 6th, 1943.

For convoying:



Starting November 24th and till the end of January 1943 Luftwaffe's general efforts were applied to aerial supply bridge established to support the 4th and the 6th Armies surrounded inside Stalingrad. Luftwaffe's mission was to provide cover to the transport planes and defend them from Soviet interceptors on the way to Stalingrad.

For supporting the aerial bridge:



The supply operation involved all Ju 52 and He 111 that the 4th Air Fleet could provide. The troops' needs were estimated as 300 tons of supplies every day, however the 6th Army was only receiving averagely 94,16 tons per day. The 4th air fleet lost 495 transport aircraft shot down mostly by interceptors and AA artillery during the aerial bridge.

Medal of Generaloberst Richthofen:



Generaloberst Richthofen was assigned commander of the 4th Air Fleet on July 20th, 1942. 4th Air Fleet had been taking an active part in the Battle of Stalingrad and later, in November 1942 its primary mission was to provide supplies to the surrounded armies.

Breakthrough badge:



On December 17th, 1943 the German 6th tank division attacked the right flank on Volynskys' grouping nearby Verkhne-Kumskoe, but had no significant success. Luftwaffe's ground attack planes that joined the assault on December 19th helped to draw the Soviet tanks back to the Myshkova river. However the Red army troops won enough time to form a powerful defense force in the attack route.

For supporting the surrounded Wehrmacht troops:



In the late fall of 1942 the 6th tank division including 160 Panzer tanks and 42 assault guns were moved to the southern sector of the frontline to join and liberate the encircled 6th Army. Together with the 57th tank corps (the group of armies Don) the troops succeeded to breakthrough heading to Stalingrad, but they were stopped near the Myshkov river, 48 km away from the surrounded army.

Medal of Manstein:



Appointed as a commander of the newly created Army Group Don, Manstein was tasked with mounting a relief operation named Operation Winter Storm, to reinforce the German hold on the city. Launched on 12 December, the operation achieved some initial success, and by December 20th Manstein's three Panzer divisions and supporting units of the LVII Panzer Corps advanced to within 48 km of Stalingrad.

For daring defense:



After the 6th Army command declined Soviet summons to surrender, the Don front troops started their decisive counter offensive on January 10th, 1943. By January 15th the German defense was shattered, and the remaining forces fell back to what's left of Stalingrad.

Last chance medal:



On January 25th the Soviet troops stormed the city from the West. By the end of January 26th two armies - 21st and 26th - re-joined near the Mamaev hill and split the German forces into two isolated parts. The fate of the 6th Army was sealed.

Paulus medal:



In January 1942 Friedrich Paulus was put in command of the 6th Army that had been fighting the Battle of Stalingrad from its beginning, and later was destroyed in the encirclement. Paulus was promoted to Generalfeldmarschall on January 30th, 1943. The day after that he surrendered to the 64th Don front army as the head of the southern group of surrounded German army.

Cross of Honor:



For courage and skill, initiative on the battlefield and contribution to successful completion of combat missions.

Stalingrad Survivor:



Awarded for exceptional performance in air sorties in Stalingrad area.

Soviet Campaign Awards:

Stalin's Falcon:



Awarded for survived and keeping the plane operational in 14 combat missions.

For heroic surrounding the enemy near Kalach:



The results of Stalingrad and South-West front groupings advance depended on their success in forcing the river Don. On November 22nd, 1943 advanced force units of the 26th tanks corps captured the bankside at the Don river nearby Kalach. The battle for Kalach started in the morning after that. If they failed the entire Operation Uranus could slip down to the brink of catastrophe.

For the 24th RKKA Army support:



Emerged from the 9th reserve army according to the directive of Supreme commander-in-chief on September 1st, 1942, 24th Army consisted of 120th, 173rd, 207th, 221st, 292nd and 308th rifle divisions and 217th tank brigade. The army fought in the Battle of Stalingrad operating in the Don and Stalingrad front groups. In spring 1943 it was redeployed near Voronezh and became a part of the Stepnoy military command.

Offensive versus the 6th Army of Wehrmacht:



Friedrich Paulus' 6th Army had been involved in the Battle of Stalingrad from the very beginning. Along with the 4th tank army it was encircled and destroyed by February, 1943. After that it was formed again out of the army group Hollidt and deployed in the southern sector of the Eastern front on March 6th, 1943.

Interceptor over Stalingrad:



Starting November 24th and till the end of January 1943 Luftwaffe's general efforts were applied to aerial supply bridge established to support the 4th and the 6th Armies surrounded inside Stalingrad. Soviet air forces mission was to provide persistent interceptor activity and draw away all enemy air transport.

For destroying the aerial bridge:



The supply operation involved all Ju 52 and He 111 that the 4th Air Fleet could provide. The troops' needs were estimated as 300 tons of supplies every day, however the 6th Army was only receiving averagely 94,16 tons per day. The 4th Air Fleet lost 495 transport aircraft shot down mostly by interceptors and AA artillery during the aerial bridge.

Medal of Major General Khryukin:



In July 1942 Major General Khryukin was assigned the VVS commander of the South-West front that was supporting and providing cover to both South-West and Stalingrad front troops. Starting December 1942 the 8th Air Army under Khyukin's command was participating the aerial blockade of the surrounded enemy grouping.

For the December offensive:



On December 17th, 1943 the German 6th tank division attacked the right flank on Volynskys' grouping nearby Verkhne-Kumskoe, but had no significant success. Luftwaffe's ground attack planes that joined the assault on December 19th helped to draw the Soviet tanks back to the Myshkova river. However the Red army troops won enough time to form a powerful defense force in the attack route.

For crushing the 6th tank division:



In the late fall of 1942 the 6th tank division including 160 Panzer tanks and 42 assault guns were moved to the southern sector of the frontline to join and liberate the encircled 6th Army. Together with the 57th tank corps (the group of armies Don) the troops succeeded to breakthrough heading to Stalingrad, but they were stopped near the Myshkov river, 48 km away from the surrounded army.

Medal of Yeryomenko:



For almost four months the troops under Yeryomenko's command have been holding enemy's advance to Stalingrad. During Operation Uranus in November 1942 his group broke through the enemy defense lines to the south of Stalingrad and rejoined general Vatutin's forces, completing the encirclement of Friedrich Paulus' 6th Army.

For effective aerial strike:



After the 6th Army command declined Soviet summons to surrender, the Don front troops started their decisive counter offensive on January 10th, 1943. By January 15th the German defense was shattered, and the remaining forces fell back to what's left of Stalingrad.

Mamaev hill medal:



On January 25th the Soviet troops stormed the city from the West. By the end of January 26th two armies - 21st and 26th - rejoined near the Mamaev hill and split the German grouping into two parts, and isolated them from each other. The future of the 6th Army was determined.

Rokossovskii Medal:



Lieutenant-General Rokossovskii was assigned commander of the Don front on September 30th, 1942. This grouping took part in the Battle of Stalingrad, in operations Uranus and The Ring in particular. The southern group of the 6th Army led by Paulus capitulated on January 31st, 1943; two days later, on February 2nd the northern group seized any resistance as well. On January 15th Rokossovskii was promoted to Colonel-general.

Star of Honor:



For courage and skill, initiative on the battlefield and contribution to successful completion of combat missions.

Defender of Stalingrad:



Awarded for valor during the Stalingrad defense.