

THE IMPERIAL ELITE OF THE RISING SUN

A GLOBAL WAR EXPANSION SET

THE IMPERIAL ELITE OF THE RISING SUN v3.0

A Global War 1936-1945 v3.0 Expansion

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1. OVERVIEW

Historical Board Gaming is proud to present the Imperial Elite of the Rising Sun (ERS) Expansion. The Elite Forces of the Japanese military existed mostly of the Special Naval Landing Forces (SNLF). At the start of the war the city of Yokosuka had an important military base and shipyard. The Yokosuka naval district was one of the regions where battleships and carriers were built. The naval base was also home of the three Yokosuka marine paratrooper units of the SNLF, known in Japanese as Rikusentai.

Other Japanese Naval Districts also formed (and named) multiple Special Naval Landing Forces. This expansion enables you to take control of Japan's elite forces, often entering the game at the historical date of entry in World War II. Some units have been formed two times in the Imperial Japanese Naval history. In this expansion the rules use either of two entry dates of these units to spread their entries between the Sino-Japanese War and the Pacific War. The 3D optional Type 2 Ka-Mi units give Japan an extra punch in late war amphibious attacks. Regular Marines and Paratroopers remain available for Japan, but the SNLF Units provide Japan with better options to defend their newly gained possessions.



Yokosuka naval arsenal

2. SET CONTENT & OPTIONAL 3D UNITS

The ERS expansion contains 30 Markers. The expansion is a Markers only set. The optional units mentioned in this rule set are sold separately by HBG.

2.1. The ERS Expansion Markers are:

- (22) Individual SNLF Unit Markers
- (3) SNLF Marine Paratrooper Markers
- (5) Individual Special Naval Guards



Table 1

LIST OF MARKERS		
1 st Sasebo SNLF	1 st Kure SNLF	Marine Paratroopers
2 nd Sasebo SNLF	2 nd Kure SNLF	1 st Yokusuka SNLF
3 rd Sasebo SNLF	3 rd Kure SNLF	2 nd Yokusuka SNLF
5 th Sasebo SNLF	4 th Kure SNLF	3 rd Yokusuka SNLF
6 th Sasebo SNLF	5 th Kure SNLF	
7 th Sasebo SNLF	6 th Kure SNLF	Special Naval Guards
8 th Sasebo SNLF	7 th Kure SNLF	Ryojun SNLF
		Shanghai SNLF
1 st Maizuru SNLF	4 th Yokusuka SNLF	Kanton SNLF
2 nd Maizuru SNLF	5 th Yokusuka SNLF	Hankow SNLF
4 th Maizuru SNLF	6 th Yokusuka SNLF	Yangtze SNLF
5 th Maizuru SNLF	7 th Yokusuka SNLF	

2.2. ERS Build Chart

The ERS Build Chart is a game aid useful for availability and placements of the ERS Markers. See the Chapter 7 print out.

2.3. Optional 3D Units

The optional units mentioned in these rules are not a standard part of the ERS Expansion set.

3. TYPE 2 KA-Mi (Optional 3D Unit)

3.1. History:

Type 2 Ka-Mi units were Japanese amphibious tanks developed during the Pacific War and at times fought alongside SNLF infantry.



3.2. Type 2 Ka-Mi Statistics

Vehicle class

Type 2 Ka-Mi Units Statistics			
Attack	Defense	Move	Cost
3*	1	2	4

*4 during first round of amphibious attack

3.3. Special:

- *Marine Unit:* Can attack in the first round of amphibious combat.
- *Amphibious Movement:* Can use its full movement to cross 1 sea zone starting and ending in any land zone. This 1 sea zone may not contain enemy units or must be screened and emptied before amphibious combat



may take place.

3.4. Availability:

A maximum of 1 Type 2 Ka-Mi can be build per turn, beginning in January 1942.

The Type 2 Ka-Mi amphibious light tank 3D units can be purchased [HERE](#)

4. SPECIAL NAVAL LANDING FORCES

4.1. History

SNLF units were small elite Japanese Naval Infantry Forces and were part of the Japanese Navy. Special Naval Guards Detachments were tactical units detached to fleets or districts with important bases in Chinese Home Country. Both types are SNLF units and use SNLF statistics as per 4.2.

4.2. SNLF Statistics

Infantry Class

SNLF Units Statistics			
Attack	Defense	Move	Cost
2*	4	1	4

* 3 during first round of amphibious attack

4.3. Special

Special Base Forces: As the war in the Pacific progressed, more and more SNLF units were assigned defensive duties and turned or were absorbed into Special Base Forces.

Once Japan is at war with the USA, any SNLF unit (with the text SNLF on the marker) on a captured island with a facility in the Pacific Ocean may be used for the construction of Fortifications:

➤ *1st Stage*

Place Fortification and an Under Construction marker in the Japanese Placement Phase at no cost on the designated island. The SNLF units and marker are taken from the map.

➤ *2nd stage*

The second stage of construction can only be paid with IPP in any of the following Purchase New Units Phases.

4.4. Availability

SNLF units may be purchased per availability.



Table 2

Availability of SNLF Units			
1 st Sasebo SNLF	January 1937	1 st Kure SNLF	January 1937
2 nd Sasebo SNLF	July 1941	2 nd Kure SNLF	January 1937
3 rd Sasebo SNLF	July 1941	3 rd Kure SNLF	July 1941
5 th Sasebo SNLF	January 1942	4 th Kure SNLF	July 1938
6 th Sasebo SNLF	July 1937	5 th Kure SNLF	January 1938
7 th Sasebo SNLF	July 1942	6 th Kure SNLF	July 1942
8 th Sasebo SNLF	July 1941	7 th Kure SNLF	January 1943
1 st Maizuru SNLF	July 1939	4 th Yokusuka SNLF	July 1941
2 nd Maizuru SNLF	July 1941	5 th Yokusuka SNLF	January 1942
4 th Maizuru SNLF	July 1942	6 th Yokusuka SNLF	January 1942
5 th Maizuru SNLF	January 1943	7 th Yokusuka SNLF	July 1942

Special Naval Guards are available for free as soon as the corresponding Land Zone is Japanese controlled. Place 1 Special Naval Guards Marker under an existing Japanese Infantry Unit in that zone.

Table 3

Availability of Special Naval Guards	
Ryojun SNLF	Rehe
Shanghai SNLF	Nanking
Kanton SNLF	Kwantung
Hankow SNLF	Shantung
Yangtze SNLF	Any Japanese Land Zone bordering or containing part of the Yangtze River (the river Yangtze starts in Yunnan)

4.5. Placement

SNLF-units were placed and stationed at Naval Bases. Maizuru, Kure and Sasebo in Kyushu Land Zone and Yokosuka in Tokyo. The Special Naval Guards are placed as per Table 3.

5. MARINE PARATROOPERS

5.1. History

The Imperial Japanese Navy had its own Paratroopers which were trained SNLF units.

5.2. Marine Paratroopers Statistics

Infantry Class

SNLF Paratroopers Units Statistics			
Attack	Defense	Move	Cost
2*	4	1	4

*3 in the first round of combat if paratrooped or if attacking amphibiously



5.3. Special

Seaplanes: Marine Paratroopers may also be dropped from Seaplanes on a 1:1 basis. The Seaplane would function as an Air Transport applying air transport statistics. 1 unit can perform 1 function per turn. This must be announced at the start of the Combat Movement Phase.

Seaplane Statistics				
	Attack	Defense	Move	Cost
As Seaplane	3	1	6	7
As Air Transport	N/A	N/A	6	



An H8K2 51-085 of the 851st Kōkutai in flight

Japanese Seaplanes can be purchased [HERE](#)

5.4. Availability

July 1941

5.5. Placement

Japan can purchase a maximum of 3 Marine Paratrooper units per game as per 5.2. These must all be built in Tokyo.

The 3 Marine Paratrooper Units are:

- 1st Yokosuka SNLF
- 2nd Yokosuka SNLF
- 3rd Yokosuka SNLF

6. EXPANSION COMPATIBILITY

Placement restriction of maximum 2 per turn as mentioned on NRS Build Charts for Special units is ignored for SNLF.



7. ERS BUILD CHART (print out)

Table 4

Placement and availability SNLF		
	Kyushu	Tokyo
1 st Sasebo SNLF	Jan. '37	
1 st Kure SNLF	Jan. '37	
2 nd Kure SNLF	Jan. '37	
6 th Sasebo SNLF	July '37	
5 th Kure SNLF	Jan. '38	
4 th Kure SNLF	July '38	
1 st Maizuru SNLF	July '39	
2 nd Maizuru SNLF	July '41	
2 nd Sasebo SNLF	July '41	
3 rd Kure SNLF	July '41	
8 th Sasebo SNLF	July '41	
3 rd Sasebo SNLF	July '41	
4 th Yokosuka SNLF		July '41
1 st Yokosuka SNLF		July '41
2 nd Yokosuka SNLF		July '41
3 rd Yokosuka SNLF		July '41
Type 2 Ka-Mi	Jan. '42	
5 th Sasebo SNLF	Jan. '42	
5 th Yokosuka SNLF		Jan. '42
6 th Yokosuka SNLF		Jan. '42
7 th Yokosuka SNLF		July '42
7 th Sasebo SNLF	July '42	
4 th Maizuru SNLF	July '42	
6 th Kure SNLF	July '42	
7 th Kure SNLF	Jan. '43	
5 th Maizuru SNLF	Jan. '43	
Special Naval Guards	When conditions are met in specific Land Zones as per 4.4	
	Where	When
Ryojun SNLF	Rehe	At game start
Shanghai SNLF	Nanking	Immediately when Possessed
Kanton SNLF	Kwantung	
Hankow SNLF	Shantung	
Yangtze SNLF	Any Land Zone along Yangtze River	

