

Hey Terje,

Just a small PDF to show you the basics of splicing screen-shots with GIMP

Just be aware that I'm learning this stuff as I go myself, so there may be an easier way to do this.

(Talk about the blind leading the blind *LOL*)

I'll just show an example splicing 2 images, but the principle is the same when combining 8-10 Zoom 2 front-line screens.

First off, you need to have both GIMP and WitE open simultaneously. Use PrtScr to do a screen-grab in WitE, Alt-Tab to GIMP and press Ctrl-Shift-V. That'll insert the clipboard image into GIMP.

Go back to WitE, scroll down to the new area (remember you'll want to have some overlap between the two images), and take another screenie.

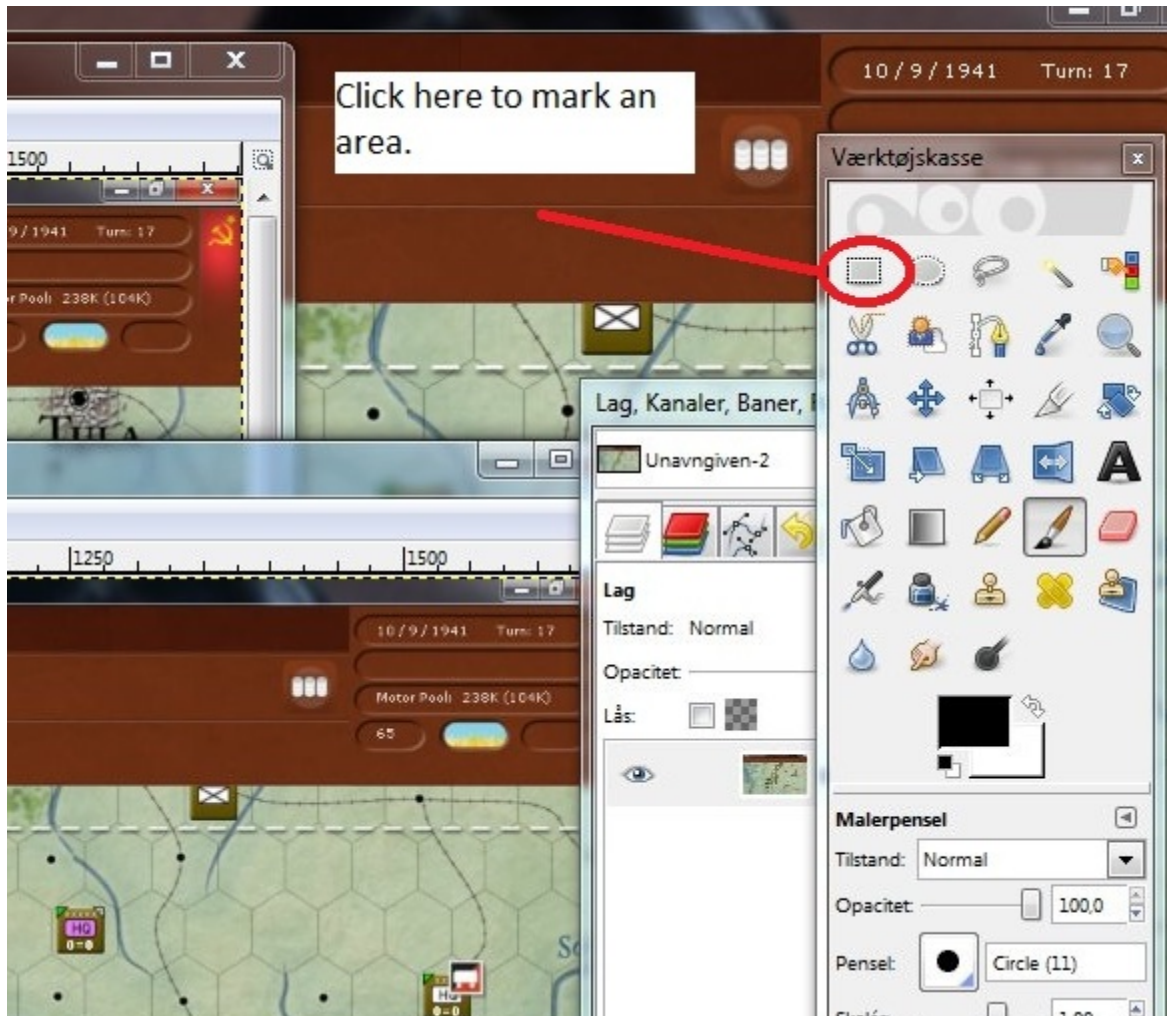
Back to GIMP and Ctrl-Shift-V. Hey presto, you now have two separate GIMP images.

That should get you a screen looking something like this, with WitE in the background, and 2 GIMP images in the foreground.

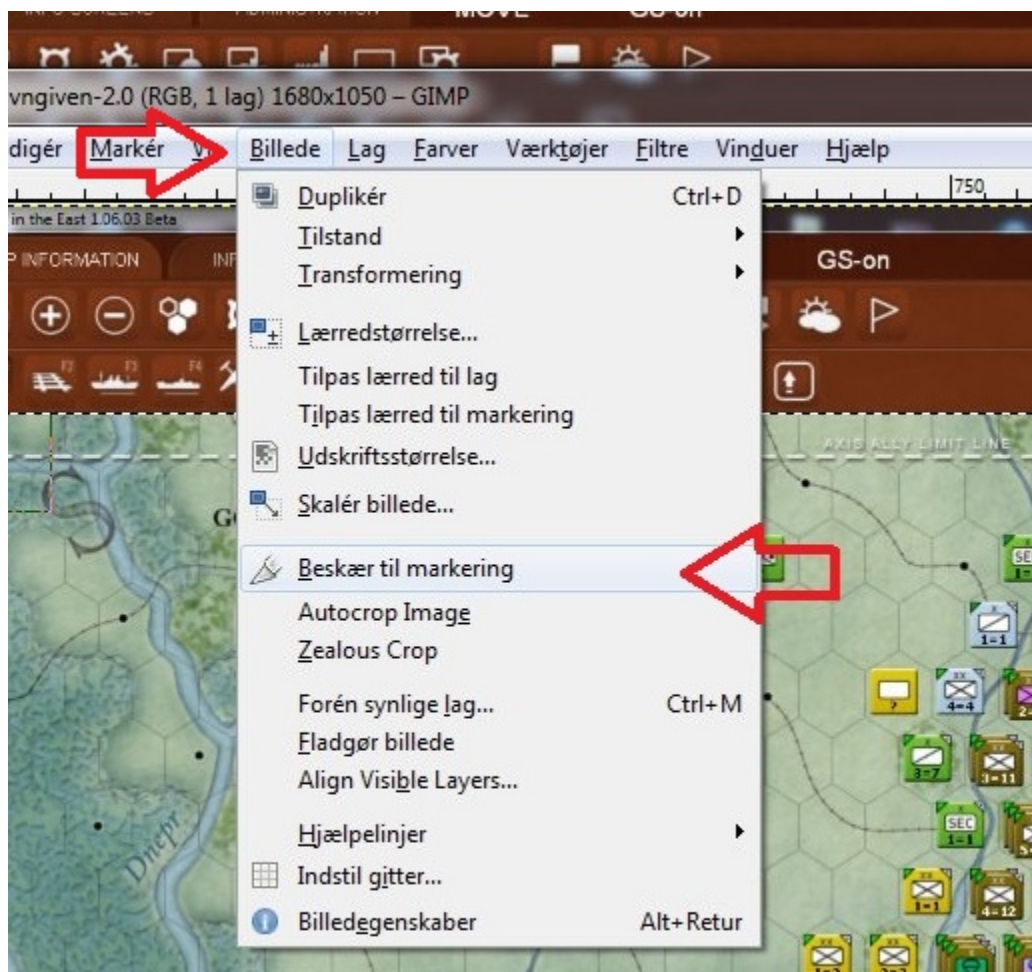


Next you'll need to get rid of the WitE menu-bar.

Select the Area-Tool (see pic), click'n'drag the area you want to KEEP (not what you want to delete).



Next go to the 'Billede' menu, and select 'Beskær til markering'



Do this for the other GIMP image as well. Your screen should now look like this.



Obviously we'll need to combine them (duh...).

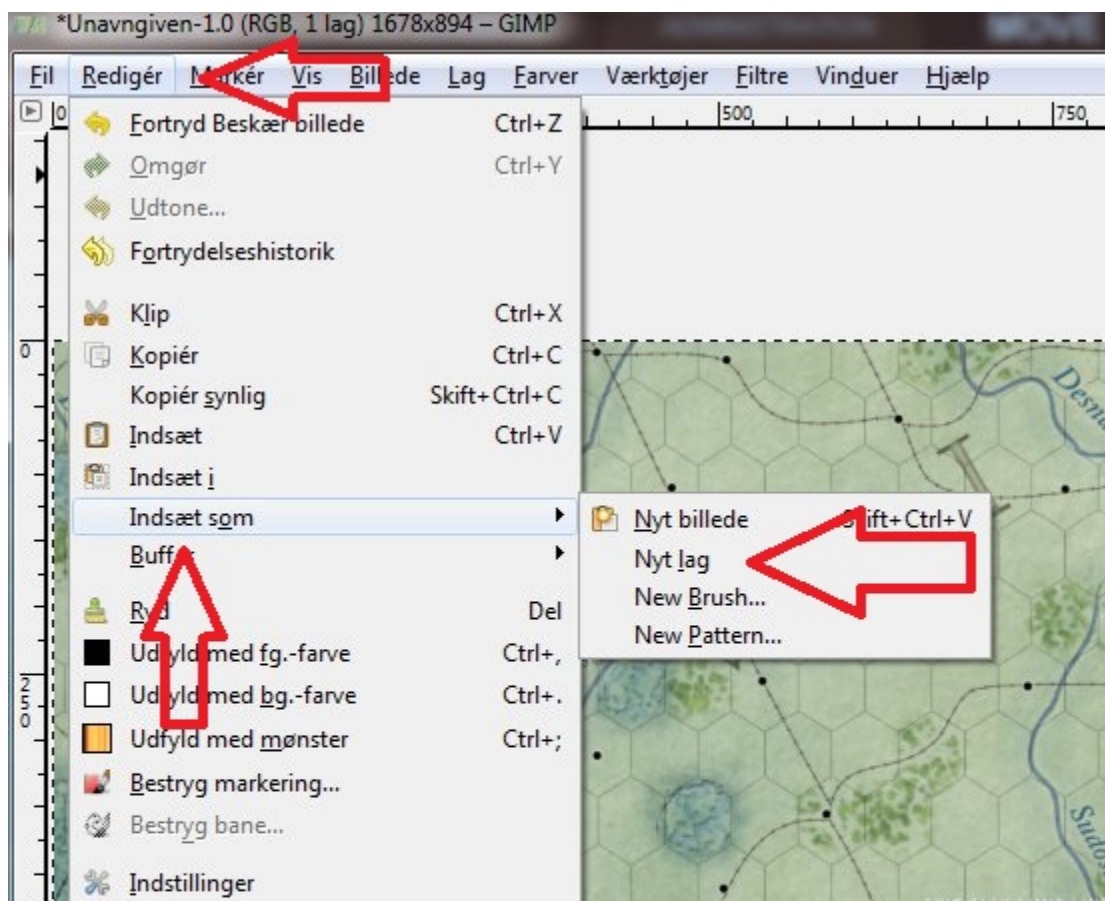
Now, there's no need to splice them in any particular order since you can shift the layers at will, but I've found that the easiest way to do it is to start in the north and then add each image southwards in order.

So if you take your screen-shots starting from the extreme north and work your way southwards, the northernmost screenie should be called "Unavngiven 1.0", the next "Unavngiven 2.0" and so forth and so on.

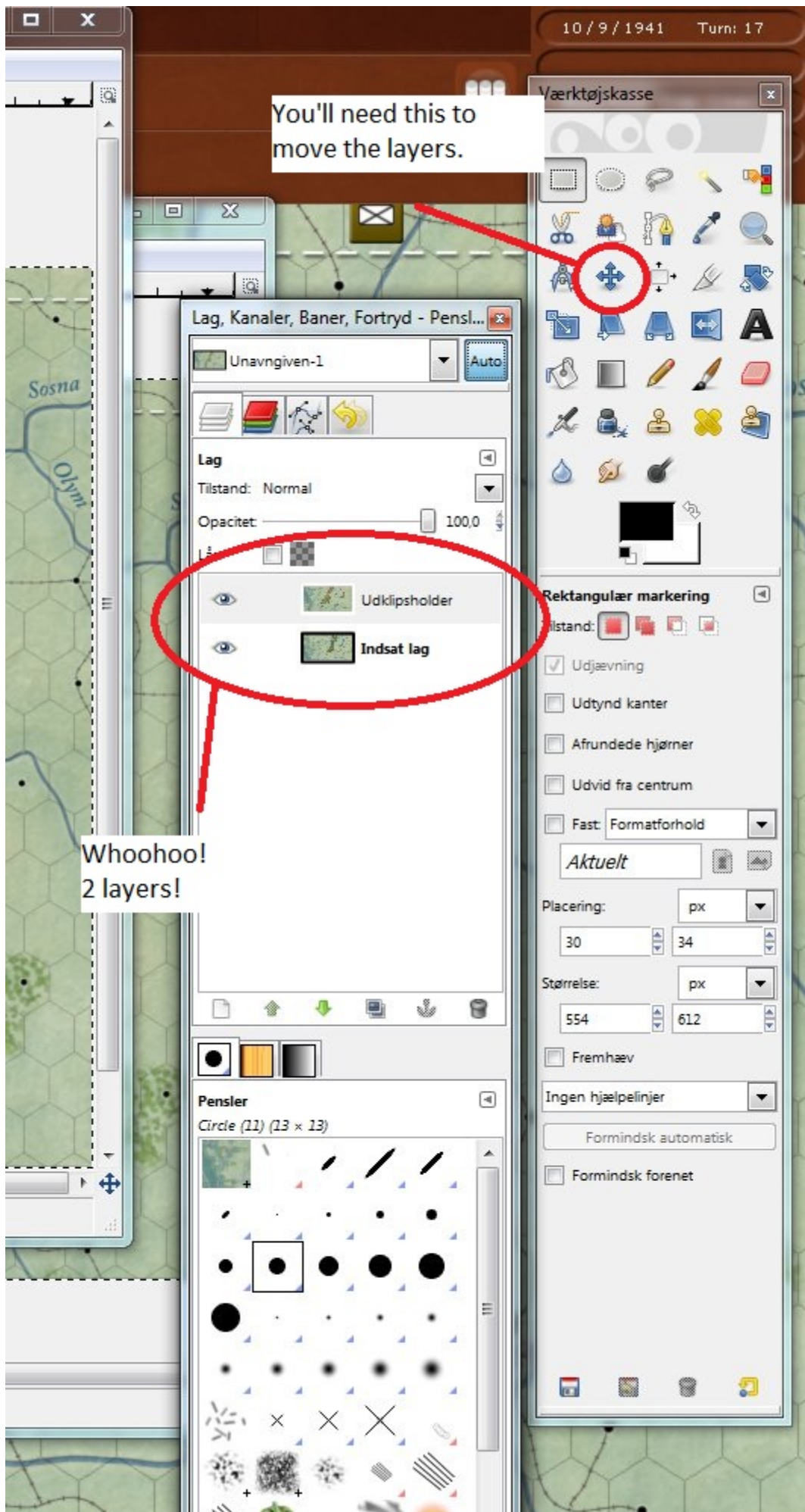
So switch to GIMP "Unavngiven 2.0", and hit Ctrl-C

Just as usual, this'll copy the image to your clipboard.

Now switch to your GIMP "Unavngiven 1.0", select 'Rediger' and then 'Indsæt som nyt lag'



Now it looks like you've deleted the original image, but it's still under the newly inserted layer. Just check your status window. All you have to do is move it, so select the 'Move' tool and you can drag the top layer down.

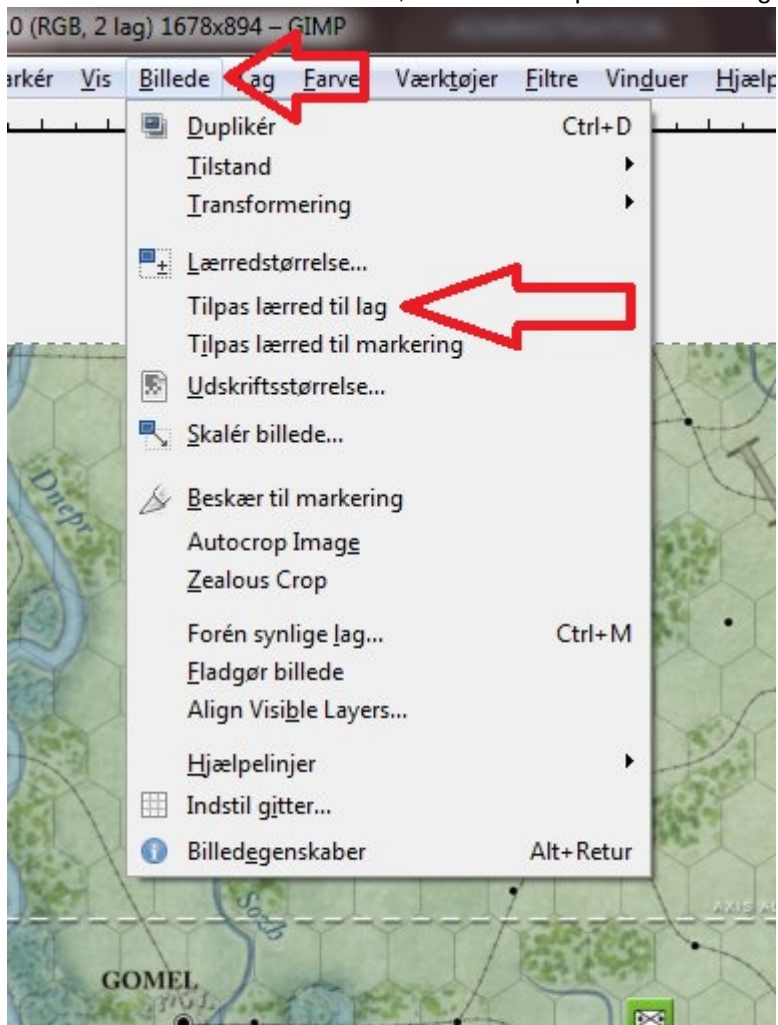


Try dragging the top layer downwards.

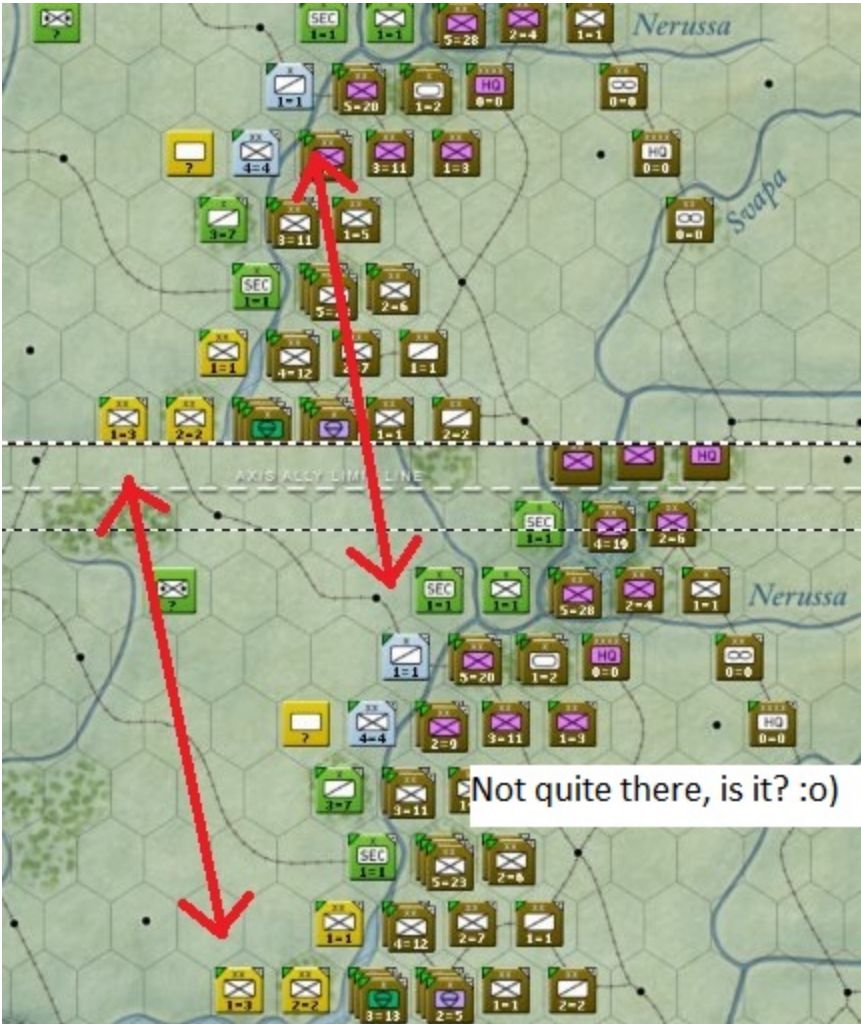
You'll notice that as you drag it, the bottom of the top layer is disappearing.

That's because the canvas is only as big as the original image, so we'll need to correct that.

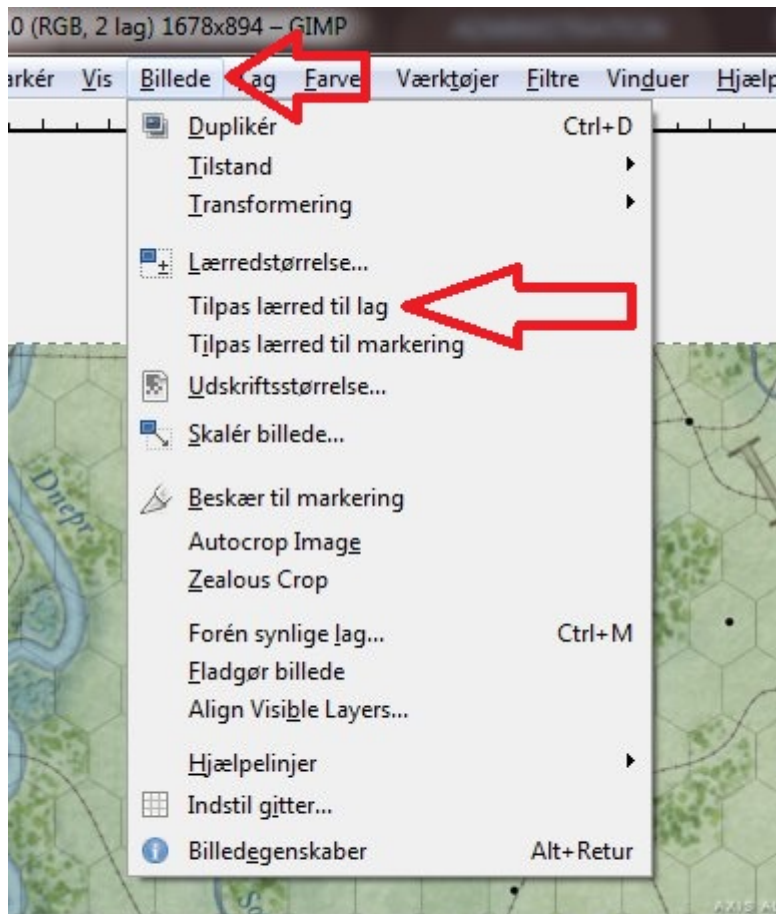
First drag the top layer down to approximately where you want to splice it (no need for accuracy just yet), then it's back to the 'Billede' menu, and select 'Tilpas lærred til lag'



Now you've got enough room to move the layers around on, so all you have to do is find some fix-points, and move the top layer onto the bottom one until they fit.



After this remember to adjust the canvas again, since you've moved the layers around.



Now save the image, and you're done. You'll get a warning that .jpg doesn't support layers. That's fine, just choose 'Export' and compression.

Whew!

It does seem like a fairly industrious process, but once you've done it a few times, it becomes second nature.

Obviously you'll need more than 2 images to cover an entire front, and in theory you can simply add layers southwards.

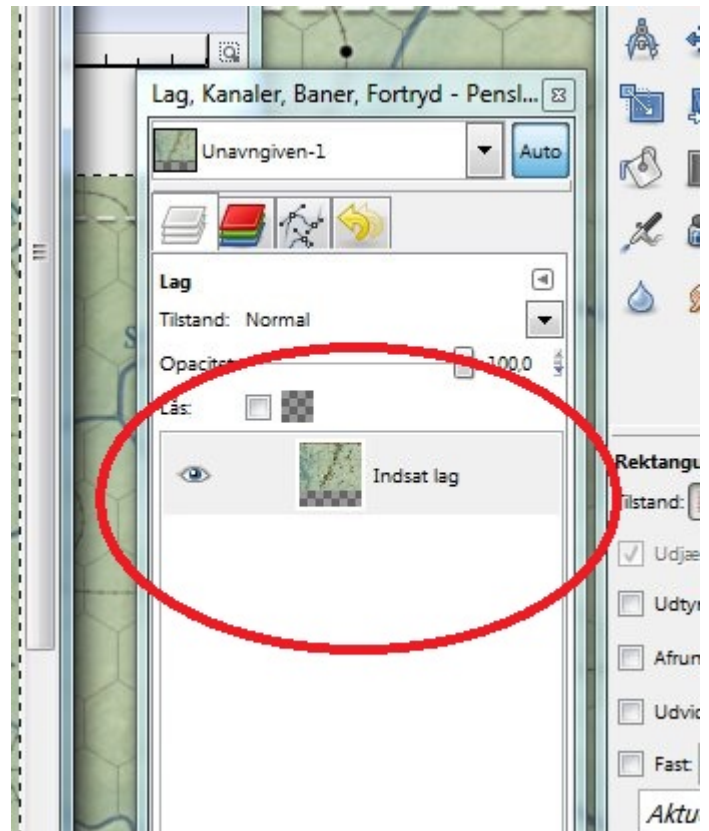
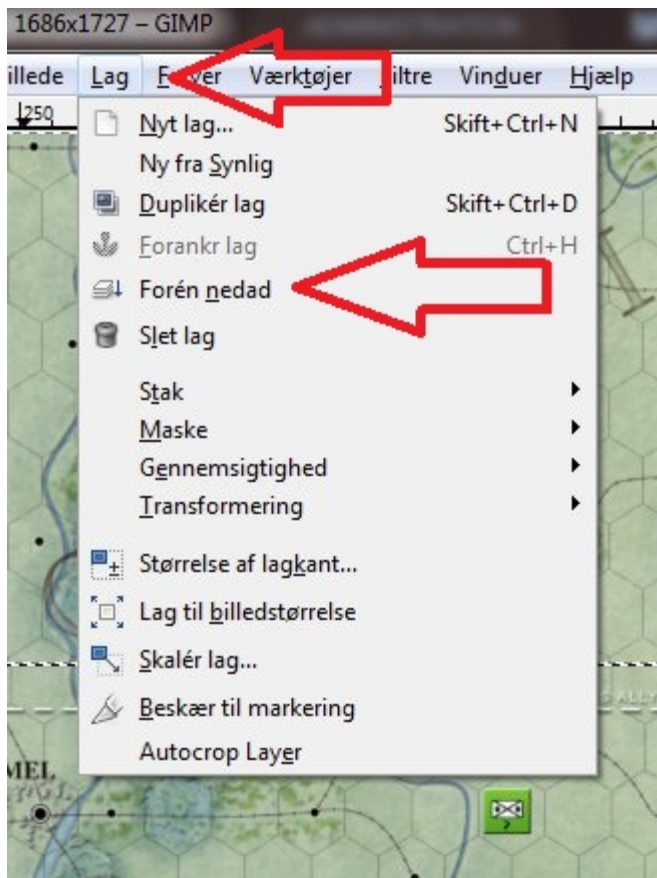
There are however two problems with this:

- 1) It's a little hard on the RAM of your computer.
- 2) Working with 8-10 layers is a surefire way to fuck things up. :-P

So what I'd recommend is that after you've spliced two images, you combine the two layers BEFORE adding the next one.

Go to the 'Lag' menu, and select 'Foren nedad'

Now your status window should show only one layer



This way you'll have combined the first two images to one layer, and you can now add the next image as the second layer.

Combine those, and you can add the next image etc. etc.

So if you want to have an entire front at Level 2 Zoom (just as an example), here's the full walkthrough:

- 1) Scroll to the top in WitE, hit PrtScr. (remember to put the cursor somewhere that doesn't result in a pop-up box)
- 2) Switch to GIMP, hit Ctrl-Shift-V
- 3) Back to WitE, scroll down to the next section (remember to have some overlap), hit PrtScr again.
- 4) Back to GIMP again, hit Ctrl-Shift-V.
- 5) Repeat 3-4 until you've covered the entire front.
- 6) If needed/wanted, switch to GIMP "Unavngiven 1.0", and crop out menu-bars and other unwanted items.
- 7) Switch to GIMP "Unavngiven 2.0" (this is the first image you'll add), crop to your liking and hit Ctrl-C
- 8) Switch to GIMP "Unavngiven 1.0" and insert as new layer.
- 9) Drag top layer, fit canvas to layer, and place layer to wanted position.
- 10) Combine the layers and adjust canvas again.
- 11) Switch to GIMP "Unavngiven 3.0", crop, and hit Ctrl-C
- 12) Switch to GIMP "Unavngiven 1.0", insert as new layer, adjust canvas, adjust layer, combine layer, adjust canvas.
- 13) Etc. :o)

After you're done you can re-crop the image so you don't post the entire width of the Soviet Union. ;o)

And please remember to adjust the canvas after each change.

You can also use the technique to show combat-details:

- 1) Hit F-11 in WitE, and take a screen-shot.
- 2) Alt-Tab to GIMP, hit Ctrl-Shift-V.
- 3) Back to WitE, click the combat you want, and take another screenie.
- 4) Alt-Tab to GIMP, Ctrl-Shift-V.
- 5) Now you have two screenies, one with the map, and one with the combat-details.
- 6) Mark and Crop the combat-details, hit Ctrl-C
- 7) Insert into the map-image and place it where you want.
- 8) SAVE! :o)

Hope all this helps at least a little bit.

Any questions, feel free to write me:

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Cheers,

Lars

(CheerfullyInsane)