

# Jagged 1401

## Chapter 1401

On the surface of the South China Sea, the battleship formation of the German Navy is cruising. Huge warships guard the two aircraft carriers in the center. When the "Aries" aircraft carrier and the "Taurus" aircraft carrier dispatched a large number of carrier-based aircraft to attack the No. 1 aircraft carrier team of the island navy, the battleship formation assumed the air defense mission.

For the battleship formation, the island navy is too far away from them, whether it is a capital ship fleet or an aircraft carrier fleet. Therefore, in the current naval battle, they can only act as spectators.

Fortunately, in the battle last night, they sank two battleships of the island navy's capital ship team. This is already a very good result. If the aircraft carrier formation can achieve greater results in today's battle. Then, the German navy will win this naval battle.

On the battlecruiser 'Blücher', officers and soldiers are repairing the places hit by artillery fire. During the battle last night, the battlecruiser 'Blücher' was also hit by several shells. Although none of the hit places were critical, they also caused some damage. From the outside, the battlecruiser 'Blücher' also had a few big holes, making it look a bit embarrassed.

The sailors can only simply repair it now. Many of the other wounds need to return to the dock of the shipyard for repairs. However, because they were all minor injuries that were not fatal. So, it doesn't take much time.

On the bridge, Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt and Chief of Staff Rear Admiral Abraham are drinking coffee. Now the battle has been handed over to the carrier-based air force, they just need to watch. For the two who have just experienced a big battle, this is undoubtedly a good opportunity to rest.

"Your Excellency, Commander, a telegram from the Army's 23rd Army!" A communications officer reported.

"Army's telegram?" Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt was a little surprised. Generally speaking, the army rarely contacts them directly. Even if there is something, it is often sent to the Fleet Command first, and then the Fleet Command forwards it to them.

However, Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt immediately began to read the telegram. After reading the telegram, Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt couldn't help laughing.

"Your Excellency, what's the matter with the Army?" Major General Abraham asked.

"The army wants us to dispatch, provide them with fire support, and support them in counterattacking the 18th Front Army of the Island Army!" Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt said.

After hearing this, Major General Abraham also laughed: "I'm afraid the islanders will cry this time. They asked their navy to reinforce them and use naval guns to tear apart our army's defense line. Now, our army I also made such a request. When the shells of our large-caliber naval guns hit the heads of the island army, they will definitely regret it very much!"

"Haha! Send a telegram to the 23rd Army and tell them that tomorrow morning, we will launch an artillery attack on the island army on time!" Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt said.

Between the German Army and Navy, although there were some conflicts. But on the whole, in this war, the two sides are still working together. Especially on the Pacific battlefield, they must support each other so that they can persist until the German army dispatches the main force to the Pacific battlefield. Therefore, the navy will generally not refuse the army's request.

Besides, in the eyes of Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt, this is just a small favor. With the strength of the fleet, it is easy to help. Besides, assisting the Army to defeat the German 18th Front Army is also a good feat.

"Let the fleet get ready, and we will set off after the battle of the aircraft carrier team is over. After the island navy is defeated this time, it should not threaten us again!" Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt said.

After the first aircraft carrier team of the island navy was severely damaged, in the next period of time, the German navy could walk sideways in the Western Pacific. As long as they are not attacked by the army aviation of the island country, their safety is undoubtedly guaranteed. Besides, the army aviation of the island country also suffered heavy losses under the attack of the Luftwaffe. Therefore, their actions in the South China Sea will hardly encounter any danger.

When the German Navy's aircraft carrier formation severely damaged the Island Navy's 1st Aircraft Carrier Squadron, the German Navy's battleship formation immediately separated from the aircraft carrier formation, and once again went to the waters near Beaufort, preparing to launch shelling on the Island Army's 18th Front Army on time.

Time passed bit by bit. While the generals of the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army were still thinking about what they should do next, the German army had already started to do it.

The three most elite divisions under the 23rd Army of the German Army, plus the battleship formation of the Navy, this is already a force that can destroy the 18th Front Army of the Island Army.

When Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura was still dawdling, he didn't know that the crisis was about to come to them.

On the morning of April 16, the five battlecruisers of the German Navy's battleship formation, under the protection of a large number of cruisers and destroyers, had arrived in the offshore waters of Beaufort. They are cruising only ten kilometers from the coast.

Because it was only dawn just now, the 18th Front Army of the Island Army did not find the enemy on the sea.

"Command the fleet, get ready to fire! Let the islanders see how powerful our firepower is." Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt gave the order energetically.

"Yes, General!" Major General Abraham nodded.

On the sea, the five battlecruisers, 12 heavy cruisers, 16 light cruisers and 25 destroyers of the German Navy are all ready. The 210mm main gun of a heavy cruiser, the 150mm main gun of a light cruiser, and even the 105mm main gun of a destroyer are all powerful threats to targets on land.

"Fire!" Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt personally gave the order to fire, and the German naval warships on the sea began shelling one after another.

The three triple-mounted 380mm main guns of the battlecruiser 'Blücher' took the lead in shelling.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Accompanied by the sound of violent shelling, heavy shells flew out of the barrel and hit the coast.

Other battlecruisers, heavy cruisers, light cruisers and destroyers followed closely behind and began shelling. For a while, the sound of artillery rumbling on the sea was like thunder. The shells, like raindrops, hit the positions of the 18th Front Army of the Island Army on the shore.

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"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Shells fell like raindrops one after another, hitting the defense line of the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army, leaving huge craters. Especially the craters left by those 380mm shells are extremely huge. The officers and soldiers of the island army who were affected have been torn to pieces one by one.

"Boom!" A 380mm artillery shell happened to land in an island army tent. When the shell exploded, the entire tent disappeared. All the island soldiers sleeping inside were gone.

The shells of other large-caliber naval guns also caused great damage to the island army. Many soldiers of the island country army were torn to pieces even in their sleep, and went to see their Amaterasu god.

"Baga! What's going on?" Akito Nakamura rushed out of his tent in disheveled clothes.

However, what unfolded in front of him was a hell-like scene. Explosions are everywhere, and shells falling from the sky are devouring the lives of the soldiers of the island country army.

"Your Excellency, bombardment! The German navy is bombarding us with large-caliber naval guns!" Major General Moriya Seiji's face was pale.

"Damn! How could this happen?" Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura also had a glimmer of despair in his eyes. Such a result was unacceptable to him, and it was also something he had never thought of. However, the fact has already happened, even if you don't want to believe it, there is no other way.

"Your Excellency, Commander, what should we do now? The Germans have assembled a large number of warships and are firing at us! Our losses are very large." Lieutenant General Shojiro Iida, commander of the 15th Army, also ran over in panic.

The German Navy assembled dozens of warships and opened fire, and the firepower was very terrifying. Not to mention that there are many battleships and battlecruisers among them. The 380mm main gun, the 210mm main gun, the shells fired by these naval guns can take a large number of people's lives at once.

When the German Navy dispatched so many warships to open fire on the 18th Front Army of the Island Army, it was enough to cause a devastating blow to the 18th Front Army.

There were panicked Island Army soldiers everywhere, and many of them ran away before they even had time to put on their trousers. However, under the intensive firepower of the German navy, how could they escape!

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Continuous explosions sounded on the position of the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army, and a large number of Japanese soldiers were directly killed in the explosion. In front of the navy's large-caliber naval guns, their lives seemed so fragile.

"Order all troops to retreat immediately! We can't stay here anymore. If this continues, we will all be killed by German warships!" Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura gave the order with a dark face.

"Hi, Your Excellency Commander!" Major General Moriya Seiji replied.

It's just that the order to retreat was issued at this time, which seems to be too late. Under the heavy shelling of the German Navy, the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army suffered great losses. At the same time, their organizational structure collapsed. Under the chaos, there were fleeing soldiers everywhere. They couldn't find their commander, so naturally they didn't care about obeying orders.

The entire 18th Front Army of the island country army is already fleeing. During this process, the German Navy is still seizing the opportunity to eliminate them continuously.

On the defense line of the German 226th Infantry Division, Lieutenant General William Adam, Commander of the German 23rd Army, Major General Erwin Vilo, Chief of Staff, and several division commanders who participated in the counterattack, all rushed here.

Behind the defense line of the 226th Infantry Division, the tanks and armored vehicles of the 23rd Zhuang Jiaxin, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division, and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division have already been prepared and can launch an attack at any time.

"It's spectacular! The main guns of the guys in the navy are too powerful. No one can survive such a fierce shelling!" Lieutenant General William Adam sighed.

"Yes, Admiral, it is a utterly devastating force. I have to observe a few minutes' silence for the Islanders. But the Islanders should be able to die without pain from the bombardment of these large-caliber naval guns." Die. This is also a kind of kindness." Major General Erwin Willow said.

"Your Excellency, Commander, Your Excellency Chief of Staff. Such a scene almost happened to us!" Major General Friedley, commander of the 226th Infantry Division, looked terrified.

The army of the island country requested fire support from the navy. It is for this reason that the island navy task force joined the battle. It's just that it was finally intercepted by the German Navy, and it also paid the loss of participating in the war. If the German Army fails to intercept the island navy in time, or if it is defeated by the island navy instead, the consequences will be disastrous. At that time, the entire 226th Infantry Division will probably be destroyed under such fierce shelling.

"Haha!" Lieutenant General William Adam and a group of other German generals couldn't help laughing.

Indeed, the 226th Infantry Division can be regarded as a narrow escape this time!

The bombardment of the German Navy battleship formation lasted for a full hour before it ended. When they stopped shelling, the position of the 18th Front of the Japanese Army was no different from the surface of the moon. There are craters like craters everywhere. The officers and soldiers of the island army stationed on these positions suffered heavy losses.

The officers and soldiers of the island country army, who had managed to escape, were running away even more. None of them are fools, after being heavily bombarded by the German Navy and suffering heavy losses. They all knew that the German Army's counterattack would start immediately. Under such circumstances, they are undoubtedly unable to resist the attack of the German Army.

"Attack! Destroy the 18th Army of the Island Army in one fell swoop!" Lieutenant General William Adam, commander of the German 23rd Army, issued an order.

The 23rd Armored Division, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division, which had been prepared for a long time, immediately launched an attack. Hundreds of tanks and a large number of armored vehicles drove out of the position and rushed to the position of the 18th Front Army.

It's just that when they rushed to the position, they realized that there was no one in the position. There are bomb craters and broken limbs everywhere. Some larger craters, tanks and armored vehicles have to go around. Otherwise, it is possible to sink in and not be able to climb out.

Although the 18th Front Army on the Island Country Road has begun to flee. But how could they escape the pursuit of armored forces? The powerful armored force of the German 23rd Army easily broke through the interception of the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army and began to completely wipe out the Front Army.

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"Your Excellency, Commander, all divisions have suffered heavy losses. The German naval guns are too powerful, and our troops can't resist them at all!" Major General Shuwu Jinger looked terrified.

Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura also looked very ugly. He knew that they had already lost this time, and the loss was very ugly. Several complete divisions suffered extremely heavy losses under the heavy shelling of the German fleet. This made them afraid that they would not have the strength to fight any longer. What's more terrible is that the behavior of the German fleet clearly means that the German counterattack has officially begun.

"Order the troops to evacuate as far east as possible! Wait until they are out of the range of the German fleet's firepower and then regroup the army." Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura ordered. The most important thing now is undoubtedly to prepare the troops. Only by withdrawing as many troops as possible can the combat power of the troops be preserved.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander. However, this may be very difficult. The German fleet has been chasing us. We can't escape at all." Major General Shuwu Jinger said with a look of despair.

Although the speed of the naval warship does not seem to be fast, at least it is much faster than the island army that almost marches on two legs. Dozens of warships sailed slowly eastward along the coastline, constantly bombarding the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army with naval guns, causing them as many casualties as possible.

"Baga! Damn the islanders, they are really despicable and shameless. They don't have the guts to fight us head-on, they only know how to use such despicable means." On the contrary, Lieutenant General Shojiro cursed.

But he seems to have forgotten that they also requested naval fire support. It's just that the navy of the island country was defeated, so it was unable to provide them with fire support.

"Your Excellency, something is wrong. The Germans dispatched a large number of armored troops to launch an attack!" An officer reported in horror.

Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura felt his head spinning and almost fell to the ground. There is no doubt that the German counterattack has begun. The steel torrent of hundreds of tanks was enough to tear them all to shreds.

"Your Excellency, Commander, you must resist the German attack. Otherwise, we will be finished." On the contrary, Shojiro said.

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander. The heavy bombardment of the German fleet looks scary. But not many people died under their bombardment. As long as we can regain our momentum, we can gather a lot of people." But if we are attacked by the German armored forces, then we will be completely finished." Moriya Jing Ershao also said.

"General Watanabe, lead your troops, build a defense line, and resist the German attack!" Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura immediately issued an order.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander!" Lieutenant General Tosaka replied.

Although he knows that if he stays to stop the German armored forces, there may only be one result, that is, all his 15th Division will be lost. However, Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura's order had already been issued, and he obviously could not disobey the order.

It's just that the 15th Division is also in retreat now, and the troops are almost dispersed. It is almost impossible to organize a powerful force to stop the German armored forces.

In addition, many officers and soldiers have died under the fierce German shelling. Therefore, even if Lieutenant General Tosa used all his breastfeeding strength, he was not able to organize many troops.

"Crunch, crunch!"

When a torrent of steel consisting of hundreds of tanks and a large number of armored vehicles appeared on the battlefield, many officers and soldiers on the Daoguo Road were about to be scared to pee. Some people who were not determined even planned to turn around and run away.

"Prepare the anti-tank artillery, if we don't resist the German armored forces, we will all have a dead end!" The junior officers shouted loudly, hoping to help the officers and soldiers of the island country army in this way.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Some anti-tank guns fired, but they couldn't penetrate the armor of the German Tiger and Leopard tanks at all. Instead, they were destroyed by the German tanks with tank guns.

When the German tanks rushed to the position of the island army, a large-scale massacre began.

Tanks used artillery, machine guns and even tracks to slaughter those island soldiers. Even the brave soldiers of the island nation broke out with a strong will to fight under such a desperate situation. They rushed to the German tanks with explosive packs or cluster grenades, trying to blow up the German tanks in this way.

However, it is often difficult to succeed. Before rushing to the front of the tank, it was already beaten into a hive by the machine gun on the tank and the infantry accompanying the tank.

When a large number of tanks broke through the defense line of the 15th Division of the Japanese Army, the division inevitably collapsed. Whether it was the bombardment of the naval artillery of the island countries or the impact of the German armored forces, they had a great impact on the armies of these island countries. Even though they were deeply poisoned by the Bushido spirit, they couldn't bear it.

The 23rd Armored Division, 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division of the Island Army advanced eastward along the coastline, catching up with many officers and soldiers of the island nation who had no time to escape, surrounded them and wiped them out.

At the same time, the German fleet also sailed eastward along the coastline, launching fierce shelling along the way.

Under such a blow, the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army suffered extremely heavy losses. A large number of officers and soldiers were either killed by the bombardment of the German fleet, or they were surrounded and wiped out by the German armored forces.

The 18th Front Army of the entire island country army is completely powerless to resist. The only way to wait for them is to be wiped out by the German army.

Originally, the escape route of the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army was to escape eastward along the coastal road. However, under the pursuit of the German fleet and armored forces, they soon discovered that this route could not escape at all.

As a last resort, many island soldiers began to attempt to cross Crocker Mountain in order to escape the pursuit of the German army. After all, no matter how powerful the German armored forces are, there is no way to cross mountains and mountains.

It's just that the poisonous insects, snakes and ants in the dense forest will also kill the officers and soldiers of these island countries.

The pursuit of the German army lasted for three full days, until the 18th Front Army of the Island Army on the coastal road was completely wiped out. Although a lot of island armies fled into the dense forest. However, this is undoubtedly asking for a dead end. The island army that actually crossed Crocker Mountain and successfully escaped through the dense forest was only two or three thousand people. The rest were wiped out.

## Chapter 1404

Manila, Island Army Southern Command.

Admiral Hisao Nishio has been in a very bad mood these two days. Regardless of his identity, he personally went to Subic Bay to ask the task force to provide fire support for the 18th Front Army. However, the final result turned out to be like this. Not only did the navy fail to provide any support for the 18th Front Army, but it also lost itself.

"The \*\*\*\* guys in the navy, they are simply incompetent. Now, the battle in Borneo must be more critical." Admiral Hisao Nishio couldn't help complaining.

Now he feels more and more that the position of commander of the Southern Army is very hot, and even once thought of resigning from this position. It's just that this is his only hope of being promoted to marshal, but he doesn't want to give up just like that. If he can lead the southern army to defeat Nanyang and Australia, he will be promoted to marshal, that is a sure thing.

The army and navy of the island country have a lot of generals. However, the Marshal is very sacrificial. It can be said that every marshal is full of gold. This also makes the generals of the Japanese army almost all striving to become marshals.

Nishio Hisao general is also one of them. And after being appointed as the commander of the Southern Army, he even thought he was one step ahead of others. After all, as long as he made some achievements during his tenure as the commander of the Southern Army, becoming a marshal would be a sure thing.

But who knew that the situation in Nanyang was so unfavorable. The southern army lost troops and lost generals on the Borneo battlefield. This is still the case of only facing an army group of the German army. If the other three armies of the German army had joined the battle, wouldn't the southern army have already been defeated? Thinking of this, General Nishio Hiso had a very headache. He even really planned to resign as the commander of the Southern Army. However, these are just angry words. When he calmed down, the idea of being promoted to marshal was what really dominated.

"Your Excellency, Commander, the big thing is not good. The Germans dispatched a large number of warships to bombard the 18th Front Army. Under the attack of the Germans' large-caliber naval guns, the 18th Front Army suffered heavy losses." Chief of Staff Tsukada Tsukada of the Southern Army reported in.

General Nishio Hiso's complexion suddenly became even uglier. He knew that the 18th Front Army might have to face extremely heavy losses this time. This is undoubtedly a heavy blow to the entire Southern Army.

"Let the 18th Front Army withdraw from the battle and save its strength first! The guys in the navy have no way to defeat the German navy. If they continue to attack along the coastline, they will suffer a lot!" Admiral Hisao Nishio said helplessly.

The navy has made it clear that it will take at least half a year before it can regain the strength to challenge the German army. This also makes the island army probably have to fight alone in the six months. Naturally, don't expect the casualties of the Japanese army to be too small.



"Your Excellency, Commander, an urgent telegram from the 18th Front Army. They were attacked by armored units of the German Army." A communications officer reported in panic.

"It's over, the 18th Front Army is completely over. The Germans must have planned to attack them!" General Nishio Hiszo sat back on his chair dejectedly. He can be sure that this time the 18th Front Army is in danger.

Lieutenant General Tsukada's face was also livid, losing a front army again, which was undoubtedly a huge blow to the southern army.

Facing the current predicament the 18th Front Army is in, Nishio Hisao Daion has no way to save him, and can only let the 18th Front Army fend for itself. Although he hopes in his heart that the 18th Front Army can escape this disaster. But he also knew that this possibility was undoubtedly very small. This time, the 18th Front Army is estimated to be dead.

Sure enough, as General Nishio Hisozou expected, the 18th Front Army was wiped out in just three days. Although a group of generals and a very small number of troops escaped smoothly. But the troops have been lost, and the 18th Front Army naturally exists in name only.

"Your Excellency, Commander, almost all of the 18th side is broken. The battle situation in Borneo is once again very unfavorable to us. What should we do next?" Lieutenant General Tsukada asked.

Admiral Hisao Nishio is also very troubled by this. If possible, he certainly wants to hold back and wait until the navy recovers its combat effectiveness before launching an attack. In that case, the loss of troops can undoubtedly be minimized. Unfortunately, he simply doesn't have that much time. In the island country, he will not be allowed to delay like that.

"Our time is very tight. The development of the domestic military industry needs support. Although the Americans are still supporting us. However, as they speed up their own preparations for war, they can provide us with less and less support. Therefore, we We can only rely on ourselves. Borneo and even the whole of Nanyang are rich in resources. This is very important to the empire. Therefore, we must speed up our pace and occupy the whole of Nanyang as soon as possible. Only in this way can our military strength continue to grow Growth. Only then will it be possible to win this war." General Nishio Hiszo said.

Lieutenant Admiral Tsukada Gong nodded, and he also knew this. So he knew that many things were inevitable.

"Without the support of the navy, we are doomed to rely on huge losses in exchange for victory in this war. Besides, we have no other way!" Admiral Hisao Nishio sighed .

"Your Excellency, Commander, let the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army continue to attack! Although these two front armies have suffered heavy losses, they still have spare strength." Lieutenant General Tsukada suggested.

General Nishio Hisao nodded: "In addition, let the 2nd Army, 18th Army, 37th Army and 38th Army also go to Borneo! This time, we must do our best. If these troops If you still can't defeat the Germans after pressing down on them, then I'm afraid I, the commander, will be done!"

Lieutenant General Tsukada was silent, he knew General Nishio Hiszo's worry. After the establishment of the Southern Army, the total strength reached more than 1.2 million people. If there are so many troops that even a group army of the German Army cannot defeat, then the commander, General Nishio Hiszo, must bear the responsibility. However, General Hisao Nishio is already the commander of the Southern Army, so he has no way to turn back, and can only go one way to the dark.

#### Chapter 1405

On the front line of Crocker Hill, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army have stopped attacking the German defense line. However, the previous continuous attacks have caused heavy losses to both front armies. The 35th Army and 41st Army under the 14th Front Army were almost completely lost, and several armies under the 7th Front Army also suffered considerable losses.

The German defense line is still strong. Although the onslaught of the island army also caused the German army to pay a certain amount of casualties. But these casualties are still within the acceptable range. It's just that the fortifications were severely damaged.

The 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army often chose to attack at night when facing the solid German defense line and strong firepower. During the day, it was just a slight offensive, which prevented the German army from resting. At night, under the cover of darkness, a large-scale night attack was launched. Under this tactic of the island army, the German defense line was under tremendous pressure, and casualties began to rise. It's just that these casualties are insignificant compared to the casualties they caused to the island nation's army.

When Lieutenant General Masahiro Homma and Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo were preparing to expand the scale of the attack and tear through the German defense line in one fell swoop, a bad news came. The main force of the German 23rd Army launched an offensive and wiped out the 18th Front Army of the Japanese Army in one fell swoop.

The destruction of the 18th Front Army immediately shocked Lieutenant General Masahiro Homma and Lieutenant General Shizuo Tanaka. Although both the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army are stronger than the 18th Front Army. However, if the German army is capable of annihilating the 18th Front Army, it will definitely have the strength to defeat these two front armies. Even cause more casualties to them.

In order to avoid causing greater losses, both the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army immediately stopped attacking and entered defensive operations instead.

"Honma-kun, I really didn't expect the 18th Front Army to disappear like this. I'm afraid Nakamura-kun will not have a good time this time." Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki sighed.

Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma nodded. Although Lieutenant General Akito Nakamura and most of the generals escaped, the troops were all dead, and they all became bare commanders. If there are big bosses in the country covering them and giving them supplements, maybe their troops will be supplemented and there will be a chance to make a comeback. Without the support of the background, I am afraid that there is only one way to be a part-time job for the elderly, or even transfer to the reserve.

"The strength of the Germans is even stronger than we imagined! Even after we have been on the offensive for so long, they can still assemble a strong force and wipe out the 18th Front Army. If the Germans send out a large number of armored troops to attack us If so, we probably won't be able to resist." Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said.

"The key is that the guys in the navy didn't work at all this time. If they can defeat the German navy, with the fire support of naval guns, it will be much easier for us to defeat the Germans." Tanaka Shizuka Will continue to say.

"Yes, the Navy is hopeless." Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma felt very helpless. If it can get the fire support of the navy, the island army can easily defeat the German 23rd Army. But now, they are forced to pay even greater losses.

"Your Excellency, Commander, a telegram from the Southern Army Headquarters." Lieutenant General Masami Maeda, Chief of Staff of the 14th Front Army, reported.

Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma took a look at the telegram, and then said: "Your Excellency Commander ordered us to suspend our offensive and preserve our strength. The 2nd Army, 18th Army, 37th Army, and 38th Army will all land on Borneo one after another. Wait until these Once the troops arrive, we will be strong enough to attack the Germans again."

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo nodded: "In that case, we may be able to defeat the Germans. However, our losses will not be small."

"There is no way. Who made the gap between us and the Germans so big? If we want to defeat the Germans, we can rely on more warriors to sacrifice!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma looked very helpless.

When the island country army stopped attacking across the board, the German 23rd Army began to think of ways to severely damage the island country army.

"Your Excellency, Commander, it is reported from the front that both the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army have temporarily stopped their offensive. It seems that they were all frightened by the destruction of the 18th Front." Chief of Staff Major General Erwin Vilo Said.

Lieutenant General William Adam nodded: "It's a pity that because of Crocker Hill, our armored forces can't take the initiative to launch an attack. Otherwise, it would be enough to take advantage of this opportunity to defeat them in one fell swoop."

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander. We can only think of other ways." Major General Erwin Vilo said.

"Your Excellency, Commander, according to the information we have received, the island army is still frantically transporting troops to Borneo. Including the 2nd Army, the 18th Army, the 37th Army and the 38th Army under the Southern Army of the Island Army. These four If the army adds up, there are about 400,000 people. Once they all arrive, our pressure will increase again." Major General Erwin Vilo continued.

Lieutenant General William Adam couldn't help frowning tightly together.

"After such a long period of fierce fighting, the troops are already very exhausted. If the islanders send 400,000 reinforcements to land on Borneo again, this is not good news for us. We must find a way to fight against the islanders. Before the arrival of the reinforcements, we should eliminate the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army. At least they must be severely damaged! In that case, we can safely leave Borneo!" Lieutenant General William Adam said.

Lieutenant General William Adam is obviously not stupid enough to use one of his own army groups against the entire island army. He just wanted to cause more casualties to the island country army in Borneo, and let the whole world know the strength of the 23rd Army. Now, their goal has basically been achieved, and naturally there is no need to stick to Borneo.

However, before the evacuation, Lieutenant General William Adam also hoped to further cause greater casualties to the island army. In this case, it will be safer when the 23rd Army withdraws.

Major General Erwin Willow thought for a while, and then said: "Your Excellency, Commander, we may be able to lure the island army to the vicinity of Brunei City. In this case, we can severely damage or even wipe them out."

Lieutenant General William Adam also knew that if they could fight around the city of Brunei, they would have a great chance of winning. The terrain here is suitable for armored troops to attack. At the same time, it can also get fire support from the naval fleet. However, how to lure the army of the island country to the vicinity of Brunei is a difficult problem.

#### Chapter 1406

The demise of the 18th Front Army of the Island Army really frightened the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army, making them afraid to act rashly anymore. However, this is obviously not what the 23rd German Front wants to see. Lieutenant General William Adam also wanted to severely damage these two front armies.

"Order the 23rd Armored Division, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division to retreat westward in batches. At the same time, the troops deployed in the west also began to gather at the port, making a statement that we are ready to evacuate Borneo at any time. The 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, and 229th Infantry Divisions retreated to defend around Brunei City. At the same time, let the transport troops start to transport war materials from Brunei City to the western port. I don't believe it. We are all ready to evacuate, and the islanders will remain indifferent!" Lieutenant General William Adam said.

Major General Erwin Willow nodded: "Your Excellency, Commander, this is a solution. However, I just don't know if the islanders will be fooled. Perhaps the collapse of the 18th Front Army has scared them."

Lieutenant General William Adam smiled wryly: "It seems that we are too strong, and it is not entirely a good thing! At least many of our strategies have no way to continue to implement."

Major General Erwin Willow also looked helpless.

"Let's implement it according to the plan! It's the best thing if the islanders are fooled. If they are not fooled, then forget it. We have also wiped out many islanders in the previous series of battles. Before and after, they wiped out two of their front armies, more than 300,000 people! There are also

two front armies that have been severely damaged by us. With all our efforts, at least 500,000 islanders have been wiped out by us! Such a result, already It is very good. Although I have some regrets, I am also satisfied." Lieutenant General William Adam said.

Although, Lieutenant General William Adam also hopes to eliminate more island armies and achieve greater results. But he knew that he had to stick to a bottom line. That is, the 23rd Army must not be put in danger. Otherwise, no matter how great the battle results are, if the 23rd Group suffers heavy losses, then everything will be in vain.

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander!" Major General Erwin Willow nodded.

Subsequently, the German 23rd Army immediately took action. The 23rd Armored Division, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division, the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division, and even the 23rd Heavy Artillery Brigade, which were the main force of the group army, all withdrew westward one after another. On the coastal road in northern Borneo, a long convoy showed that the German army was about to withdraw from Brunei.

In addition, the 223rd Infantry Division, 224th Infantry Division, and 230th Infantry Division of the German 23rd Army in western Borneo also evacuated their defense areas and went to the port, as if they were going to board a ship to evacuate Borneo.

Even the German 227th Infantry Division and 229th Infantry Division, which were confronting the island army at Crocker Hill, suddenly gave up their defense line one night and withdrew from the front line.

Although the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army suspended their attack on the German army, this does not mean that they ignored the German army. Their scouts are also constantly spying on intelligence. At the same time, the intelligence agencies of the island nation do not know how many people are lurking in Borneo.

On the morning of April 21, Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma received a report that the German position opposite was empty. This surprised Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma. You know, in order to break through the German defense line, the island army has already suffered extremely heavy casualties on this line of defense.

"What's going on here? How could the Germans give up the line of defense?" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma couldn't figure it out. Although Crocker Hill's line of defense was damaged a lot during the battle, it was still a line of defense that would be difficult to break through if heavy troops were deployed. If the island country army wants to break through forcefully, it does not know how much loss it will pay. Now, the German army has voluntarily abandoned this line of defense, which really makes Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma a little confused.

"Your Excellency, Commander, I don't know. Our people sneaked up on the German defense line last night, only to find that there were no German troops on the defense line. There were some supplies scattered everywhere that we hadn't had time to take away. Obviously, the German troops withdrew very hastily." Lieutenant General Maeda Masami replied.

"Contact the intelligence department, what is going on!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma ordered.

Before finding out the truth, Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma would not dare to act rashly. If it falls into the German defense line because of this, the consequences will be serious. The current 14th Front Army can no longer afford too much loss.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander!" Lieutenant General Maeda Masami replied.

That afternoon, Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma got the information he wanted to know.

"Are the Germans preparing to withdraw from Borneo? How is this possible? In previous battles, they defeated us time and time again and caused us heavy damage." Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma couldn't believe this result.

"Your Excellency, the Germans may have suffered a lot. In addition, we are still increasing our troops in Borneo. Therefore, the Germans also know that it is impossible for them to fight against the Imperial Army with only more than 200,000 people. That's why I had to choose to evacuate." Lieutenant General Maeda Masami said.

Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma thought for a moment, and it was indeed possible.

"Send someone to confirm which German troops have retreated. I want to get exact information!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said.

"Hi, Commander!"

Soon, Masaharu Honma knew that the 23rd Armored Division, the 23rd Heavy Artillery Brigade, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division, the main force of the German 23rd Army, had all retreated. Just an infantry division. Moreover, these five infantry divisions still lost a lot of infantry divisions in the previous battles, and the total strength may only be 70,000 to 80,000.

Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma was very excited after learning such information. Because he seemed to see an opportunity to avenge his shame and make great achievements.

"If we march towards Brunei now, we will definitely be able to wipe out the tens of thousands of troops left behind by the Germans in Brunei!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said.

Lieutenant General Maeda Masami nodded: "Yes, Your Excellency Commander. Although we have lost a lot, we still have the strength to defeat them. However, if we can convince the 7th Front Army, then our chances of winning will be very high !"

Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma also thought so. He immediately went to discuss with Lieutenant General Shizuku Tanaka. The next day, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Japanese Army began to cross Crocker Mountain and march towards Brunei.

## Chapter 1407

On the Crocker Hill defense line, Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma and Lieutenant General Shizuichi Tanaka stood side by side. This line of defense that once blocked them like a moat was already under their feet. On the battlefield, scattered supplies can be seen everywhere. Obviously, the German army was in a hurry when they evacuated. All of this undoubtedly shows that the German army seems to be unable to hold on in this war.

The soldiers of the Island Army in khaki military uniforms are lined up neatly, with their chests outstretched and bow-legged, crossing Crocker Hill. They also seem to forget that countless of their comrades lost their lives on this line.

"Tanaka-kun. According to the information we have received, the main force of the German 23rd Army has already withdrawn from Brunei. There are only a few German infantry divisions around Brunei. And, these few The infantry divisions are all units that have suffered considerable losses in previous battles. According to estimates, the total strength may only be 60,000 to 70,000. If we want to defeat them, it will be a piece of cake." Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma looked very confident confidence. It's like this battle, they will definitely win.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo nodded. The reason why he agreed to Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma's proposal to launch an attack on Brunei was because he didn't want to let go of this opportunity. Their troops have already suffered a lot of losses in the previous battle to storm the defense line of Crocker Mountain. If they can grab the tail of the German 23rd Army and win a battle in the final battle, it will be very beneficial for them to gain military exploits. It even matters what supplement they get next.

"However, Mr. Honma, I'm afraid we still need to be more careful. This may be a trap for the Germans." Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki said.

"Don't worry, Mr. Tanaka, I have already obtained information from the intelligence agencies. The Germans are planning to retreat across the board this time. Their losses in the previous battles must have been considerable. Although they also caused us great damage Loss. However, overall, we still have an advantage in Borneo. As our reinforcements continue to arrive, our advantage will become greater and greater, and we will definitely be able to defeat the Germans in the end. Therefore, the Germans will withdraw from Borneo Under such circumstances, they should not set a trap for us. I always think that this is a very rare opportunity for us. If we miss this opportunity, we will regret it for the rest of our lives!" Honma Lieutenant General Yaqing said.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo was still persuaded by Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma. In other words, it was affected by the greed in my heart.

The battle of the island army in Borneo did not go well. This naturally made them a little bit embarrassed when it came to fighting for supplements. Under such circumstances, if they can seize the opportunity to win a victory, then everything will be different. It is not out of the question that they would be heroes in defeating the German army, receiving numerous honors and exploits, and even a promotion.

"Mr. Honma, then this time we must do our best! Although there are tens of thousands of Germans left in Brunei, they are not so easy to be wiped out by us." Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki said.

Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma nodded: "Of course I am aware of this. The Germans are never easy to deal with. This has been proved from countless previous battles. Therefore, in order to eliminate the Germans, We have to do our best!"

The remaining troops of the 14th Front of the Island Army and the remaining troops of the 7th Front of the German Army are obviously all ready to be dispatched. Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma and Lieutenant General Shizuo Tanaka will never let go of this rare opportunity.

Brunei City, the headquarters of the German 23rd Army.

Although the 23rd Armored Division, 23rd Heavy Artillery Brigade, 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division have withdrawn from Brunei. However, Lieutenant General William Adam and Major General Erwin Velo, as well as the headquarters of the Army Group, remained in Brunei.

This time, the appearance of evacuating Borneo was originally intended to attract the army of the island country to be fooled. Although the 23rd Army will really withdraw from Borneo soon, it is definitely not now. Lieutenant General William Adam also wanted to teach the islanders a lesson before evacuating Borneo, and further damage the strength of the island army.

"Your Excellency, the island country army has crossed Crocker Mountain. Their vanguard is even approaching Lavas." Major General Erwin Willow reported.

"Where are our troops? Are they all ready?" William? Adam asked.

"Your Excellency, the infantry divisions have all retreated to the periphery of Brunei City. We have also built a defense line and are waiting for the islanders to launch an attack. If the islanders launch an attack, we can definitely let them in our defense line It's going to be bloody!" Major General Erwin Willow said confidently.

The German army's powerful firepower is particularly powerful in defensive operations. This is undoubtedly a good opportunity to use powerful firepower to cause greater casualties to the Japanese army.

"Let the 23rd Armored Division, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division be ready. Once the island army launches a fierce attack on Brunei City, when the time is right, they will have to launch a counterattack. Can this time be eliminated in one fell swoop It's up to them to lose the main force of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Japanese Army!" Lieutenant General William Adam said.

Infantry can display their strength to the fullest in defensive operations. However, when it comes to large-scale counterattacks, that is the strength of the armored forces. If infantry is used to launch a counterattack, even if the troops can win, their own casualties will not be so small. Armored units can easily win with their powerful assault capabilities.

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander." Major General Erwin Willow nodded.

"Your Excellency, Commander, according to the advance speed of the island country road, an attack on Brunei City will be launched in the morning of the next day at the latest. This will become a battlefield and it will be very dangerous. So, can you evacuate Brunei City and retreat to a safe place? Go?" Major General Erwin Willow suggested.

Although their headquarters can be moved underground, there is no absolute safety on the battlefield. If anything happens to Lieutenant General William Adam, it will be troublesome.

"Don't worry, I'll be fine. At a time like this, I should be with my soldiers. I can't let them bleed and die, but I ran away." Lieutenant General William Adam shook his head and rejected the proposal .



On the morning of April 24, the attack on Brunei City by the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army officially kicked off. In order to wipe out the German army entrenched in Brunei City in one fell swoop, the island army can be said to be the main force.

The 1st Division, the 10th Division, the 19th Division, the 23rd Division, the 26th Division, the 103rd Division, the 105th Division, and the 2nd Tank Division directly under the 14th Front Army of the Japanese Army. \* The 55th and 58th Brigades, the 1st Advancement Group, and the 68th Infantry Brigade were all assembled in Brunei. Although the 35th Army and 41st Army under the 14th Front Army were almost completely lost, the troops directly under the 14th Front Army suffered little loss. This makes the 14th Front Army still have a very strong strength.

The 7th Front Army of the Island Army entered the battle late, so their main force is still preserved. The subordinate 16th Army, 25th Army and 29th Army, as well as the 46th Division directly under it, and the independent and mixed 26th Brigade, all still have strong combat capabilities.

In terms of military strength, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the island country army can now invest a total of 180,000 and 120,000 troops respectively, which is already four times the total strength of the German army defending Brunei.

"My lords, victory is just around the corner! As long as we can conquer Brunei City and wipe out the Germans entrenched here in one fell swoop, we will be able to win the final victory!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said excitedly.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander!" A group of division heads and brigade heads replied one after another.

Everyone also swept away the previous decadence, and hoped to defeat the Germans in this battle. If it can win, it seems that it will be able to justify the name of the island army. And what awaits them will also be a lot of glory.

"The attack begins!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma personally gave the order to attack.

The artillery of the island country army, which had been prepared a long time ago, began to fire violently at the German positions.

The two front armies of the island country army add up to 12 divisions, 10 independent mixed brigades, one advance group and one infantry brigade. The artillery of these troops are all assembled, and they undoubtedly possess extremely powerful strength. If all assembled, there are 636 75mm mountain guns, 258 75mm field guns and 24 120mm howitzers.

Such artillery strength is undoubtedly very powerful. Even though the German army has 5 infantry divisions in Brunei, the artillery they belong to is also very powerful. But in terms of quantity, it is not as good as that of the Japanese army.

The artillery of the 5 infantry divisions of the German army added up, there are only 90 150mm heavy howitzers, 180 105mm light howitzers and 270 75mm field guns. In terms of quantity, it is only less than 60% of the total artillery of the island country army. It's just that the German Army has an advantage in terms of artillery caliber and power. This makes them not at a disadvantage in artillery battles. It can even rely on the power and range of the artillery to suppress the artillery of the island army and cause greater casualties and losses to the artillery of the island army.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The artillerymen on both sides began to fire violently, and the shells shuttled through the sky one after another, smashing hard at the opponent's position. It's just that the artillery bombardment of the Japanese army aimed at the defense line of the German infantry. The main target of the German artillery was the artillery positions of the island army. When the island army did not launch an offensive, destroying their artillery was the main purpose of the German army. Once the infantry of the island army launches an attack, all the cannons will turn to pour shells at the infantry of the island army.

"Damn it, why is the German artillery still so powerful?" Lieutenant General Masharu Honma felt as if his heart was bleeding when he saw his own artillery positions being removed one after another. He even began to speculate, did the main force of the Germans really retreat? Otherwise, how could it still have such a powerful artillery.

"Honma-kun, could this be a conspiracy?" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki was a little worried again.

"It shouldn't be! The German artillery is already very strong. They have assembled several infantry divisions in Brunei. It is understandable to have such a powerful artillery!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said bravely.

At this point, he will naturally not admit that all this is a trap. In that case, wouldn't his efforts become a joke? What's more serious, I'm afraid they will all fall into crisis.

"I hope the attack will go well!" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo said.

It's just that Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo's expectations are destined to be unfulfilled.

The island army is completely incomparable with the German army in terms of artillery. In particular, they lack the large-caliber heavy artillery that can confront the German army. Although the 75mm mountain artillery and field artillery are powerful, they obviously cannot compete with large-caliber heavy artillery. The artillery of the Japanese army may have an advantage when dealing with Asian countries. However, in front of the world's most powerful army, this seems a bit unsightly.

But in order to be able to defeat the German army, the island army struggled to suffer large losses, and also provided sufficient fire support for the infantry's offensive. They almost covered the German frontline positions with bullet rain. Many fortifications were also destroyed. It's just that the actual losses caused to the German army were not large. The power of the 75mm mountain artillery and field artillery is indeed not enough.

After the firepower is prepared, the attack of the island army begins. On the 20-kilometer-long defense line of the German army, the Japanese army invested ten infantry regiments at one time, that is, more than 38,000 people launched an attack.

You must know that the German army only deployed two infantry divisions on the line of defense. The troops invested by the Japanese army in the first round even exceeded the total strength of the two infantry divisions of the German army.

Fierce battles ensued, and the island army rushed towards the German defense line like a tide, trying to tear the German defense line apart. However, what awaited them was intense firepower like pouring rain.

The officers and soldiers of the German army used powerful firepower to contain the offensive momentum of the island country army. Moreover, the losses of the island army began to soar.

Although, the generals of the island army seem to have expected that this will be a big battle with heavy losses. However, the astonishing loss still shocked them greatly.

In addition, fighter planes from the German Air Force also rushed to the battlefield for reinforcements, dive bombers, and ground attack planes bombed with powerful aerial bombs. And those fighter jets strafed with machine guns and machine guns.

These have further increased the casualties of the Japanese army, and also made Lieutenant General Masahiro Homma and Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo realize that it is very difficult to capture Brunei and defeat the German army.

#### Chapter 1409

On April 24th, the island army launched a fierce attack on the German defense line in Brunei. However, after a day of fierce fighting, they still failed to break through the German defense line. Although the German army suffered a lot of casualties, the German army's defense line was still solid. At the same time, the loss of the island army was very large.

Preliminary statistics show that during the daytime battles, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front of the Japanese Army suffered more than 30,000 casualties and missing officers and soldiers. It can be said that this can be regarded as the death of two ordinary divisions. Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma and Lieutenant General Shizuo Tanaka felt very distressed at this rate of loss. According to this rate of loss, all the remaining troops of their two front armies can last for ten days at most.

"Honma-kun, isn't our loss too great?" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo's expression turned ugly.

"Tanaka-kun, the loss is huge. The Germans have strong firepower and are very tenacious in combat. However, they should be desperate. And we have no other choice, we can only do our best." Lieutenant General Jian Yaqing said.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo nodded, just as Lieutenant General Masahiro Homma said, since the battle had already begun, they had no other choice but to grit their teeth and go all the way to the dark.

"Tonight, dispatch more troops to launch a night attack! I don't believe that the Germans can still resist our attack!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said fiercely. In the absence of other options, he could only launch a night attack.

"Yes!" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo nodded, agreeing with Lieutenant General Masharu Homma's strategy.

That night, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army planned to invest 10 infantry regiments, and then accelerated the 12 infantry brigades of the independent mixed brigade,

with a total of more than 50,000 people to attack. They hoped to break through the German defense line in one fell swoop and break into the city of Brunei.

Once entering street fighting, the German army's strong firepower advantage will be greatly reduced. And the military advantage of the island country army will be even greater. At that time, the possibility of them defeating the German army will undoubtedly be even greater.

In order to win, the island army has spent a lot of money.

However, Lieutenant General Masahiro Homma and Lieutenant General Shizuo Tanaka did not know that the German army had already prepared for it.

"Chief of Staff, the islanders will definitely be desperate tonight. Therefore, we will be under great pressure. Whether we can hit the islanders hard in one fell swoop depends on tonight. Have we made all preparations?" Lieutenant General William Adam asked.

"Your Excellency, Commander, we are ready! The 23rd Armored Division, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division, the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division, and the 23rd Heavy Artillery Brigade have all started their return journey. It is expected that they will rush back tomorrow morning, and then report to the islanders who are attacking!" Major General Erwin Vero replied.

The main force of the German army, which was retreating westward along the coastal road, will actually return overnight after the sun goes down. Although, traveling overnight will be very hard work. By now, these troops are already mechanized troops. Tanks, armored vehicles and trucks, a lot. Soldiers don't need to travel with their own legs, they only need to travel by car. When they retreated westward before, the speed was very slow. Therefore, one night is enough for them to rush back to Brunei.

"After traveling all night, the soldiers will be very tired. I hope they can overcome this!" Lieutenant General William Adam said.

"Your Excellency, please rest assured, there will be no problem!" Major General Erwin Vero said.

"Where's the navy? Have they arrived? Whether they can withstand the attack of the islanders tonight, the fire support of the navy is essential!" Lieutenant General William Adam said.

Lieutenant General William Adam had expected that the island army would definitely launch a large-scale attack tonight. Therefore, the German army has long been prepared. After nightfall, the battleship formations of the German Navy will enter the offshore waters to provide fire support for the army. Relying on the fierce firepower of dozens of warships, coupled with the German Army's own artillery fire, is enough to deal an unimaginably heavy blow to the island army.

"Your Excellency, Commander, all warships of the navy have dispatched observers and have already entered the frontline positions. Once the army of the island country launches an attack, the warships will directly launch firepower strikes on the frontline through the guidance of these observers!" Erwin Vero, the major general, reported.

"Very good, tell the front-line troops. If necessary, we can really give up the front-line positions. As long as we can persist until tomorrow morning, we will win!" Lieutenant General William Adam did not want his troops to lose in such a battle too big. He hopes to preserve his own strength as much as possible while causing as many casualties as possible to the island country army.

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander!" Major General Erwin Willow nodded.

The attack of the island country army started at 8 o'clock in the evening. They did not conceal their intentions. Lieutenant General Masahiro Homma and Lieutenant General Shizuki Tanaka knew very well that a large-scale attack involving tens of thousands of people would be impossible to keep secret. Therefore, the possibility of launching a night attack is almost zero. Under such circumstances, there is naturally no need to carefully launch a night attack.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Although in the daytime battles, the artillery losses of the island army were great. However, they still participated in the battle at night. The island army hopes to cause greater losses to the German army through shelling, and at the same time to support its own infantry.

With the support of artillery fire, tens of thousands of troops of the island country army launched a large-scale attack. They chanted slogans and attacked the German positions with overwhelming momentum.

"Yoshi! The warriors of the empire are indeed the most heroic and skilled in combat. Even if the Germans are the number one in the world, they are absolutely incomparable to us in this respect!" Masahiro Homma said with dignity.

"Yes, Honma-san. After we conquer Southeast Asia and Australia and obtain abundant resources, our army can also get more good equipment. At that time, we can completely replace the Germans and become the world's number one army!" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki also had a smile on his face.

It can be seen that both of them are very confident in tonight's battle, thinking that they can win in one fell swoop.

It's just that what they didn't expect was that the crisis was coming soon.

The frontline positions of the German army, the observers of the island navy, are reporting the direction of the bombardment to their warships.

On the sea, warships are adjusting their muzzles one after another. The shells and propellant have been stuffed into the barrels, ready to fire at any time.

Chapter 1410

"Empire shall prevail! His Majesty the Emperor onboard!"

"Kill all the Germans!"

The officers and soldiers of the island country army shouted slogans loudly, and launched an attack on the German positions like a rainbow. Since there was no need to launch a night attack, they naturally wanted to show their bravest side. As if this can give yourself courage.

"Your Excellency, the islanders' offensive has begun!" Major General Abraham reported to Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt.

"Order the ships to fire! Let the islanders have a good taste of our strength." Lieutenant General Otto Schneewendt ordered. Lieutenant General Otto Schneewent naturally had no objections to the islanders coming to die. In this case, on the contrary, they can earn a lot of military exploits.

"Yes, General!"

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The battlecruiser 'Blücher' took the lead in shelling, and three triple-mounted 380mm main guns began to roar.

The other battlecruisers, heavy cruisers, light cruisers and destroyers, followed suit and began shelling.

All of a sudden, hundreds of artillery pieces from dozens of warships opened fire one after another.

On the artillery positions of the German Army, howitzers and field guns from door to door also started shelling one after another.

Although it is night, the accuracy of shelling will be greatly affected. However, firing according to the calibrated shooting elements can also cover the frontline positions very well. This will allow the German artillery to completely cover the front line.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The shells exploded in the ranks of the island army, and countless island soldiers were instantly torn to pieces. Especially those large-caliber naval guns are even more powerful. One shot down, a large number of island soldiers were killed.

The sudden and violent German shelling caused great damage to the attacking island army. If the shells falling like raindrops frantically reaped the lives of the officers and soldiers of these island countries.

The observers of the German Navy on the front line are constantly observing the effect of the bombardment, and then notify the warships on the sea to change the direction of the bombardment, so as to cause as much damage as possible to the army of the island country.

This is still because it is during the day. If it is at night, the German bombardment will be more powerful. The casualties caused to the Japanese army will also be greater.

Lieutenant General Masahiro Homma and Lieutenant General Shizuo Tanaka, who were watching the battle, as well as other generals of the Japanese Army, gradually changed their expressions.

"What's going on? How did the German artillery fire become so fierce?" Masahiro Homma asked, frowning.

"From the sound, it seems that there are large-caliber heavy artillery inside. Hasn't the German 23rd Heavy Artillery Brigade been withdrawn?" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo's face also became very ugly.

"Your Excellency, the two commanders, it seems that it is not the army's cannon, but the navy's large-caliber naval gun!" An artillery officer reported.

Suddenly, the faces of Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma and Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo became even uglier.

"Baga! The German navy is shelling our troops?" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma was shocked and angry.

"Nothing is impossible. When the Germans eliminated the 18th Front Army, their navy also participated. Otherwise, the 18th Front Army would not have been defeated so quickly." Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki said.

"Your Excellency, Commander, is this a conspiracy?" A division commander asked.

Obviously, if this is another conspiracy, then the island army may be in danger again this time.

"Conspiracy? I don't know. But maybe the German navy is here just to help them resist our attack!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma is still imagining on the bright side.

It's not that Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma doesn't know how big the risk is, it's that he doesn't want to think about it. People seek advantages and avoid disadvantages, and they all hope that the situation will develop in their favor.

"I hope so! However, we must prepare our army!" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo said.

Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma nodded: "Let the 4th Tank Division, 1st Division and 10th Division build a defense line to the west of us."

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander!" Lieutenant General Maeda Masami immediately went to make arrangements.

These three divisions can be called the main force of the 14th Front Army. When the battle was fierce before, none of them went into battle. It was originally intended to be used to launch a fatal blow to the German army in Brunei. But now, it has to be used to guard against the Germans.

If all this is really a German conspiracy, then the only threat undoubtedly comes from the west. The elite troops withdrawn by the German 23rd Army are very likely to kill a carbine.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The heavy shelling by the German army continued. The army's hundreds of cannons, together with the navy's dozens of warships, caused unimaginable damage to the island army.

"Whoo! Whoo! Whoo!"

Flares rose from the German positions, and night turned into day.

The officers and soldiers of the island army who finally broke through the German artillery blockade were revealed under the strong light of the flares. What awaited them was the intensive firepower on the German positions.

"Da da da! Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Light and heavy machine guns, mortars, and grenade launchers all started firing crazily. The more intensive firepower directly made the attacking island country army seem to have hit an invisible wall, and the head was broken and bleeding, and it could not move forward.

Although the island army invested more than 50,000 people in the attack at night.

However, under the intensive firepower of the German army, the casualties of the island army began to soar and became larger and larger.

Many troops were even wiped out by the bombing directly in the shelling. Squads, squadrons and even brigades were wiped out by the powerful firepower of the German army. Such a result is simply unimaginable for the officers and soldiers of the Japanese army.

Lieutenant General William Adam, commander of the German 23rd Army, and Major General Erwin Vilo, chief of staff, went to watch the battle not far from the front line.

"How is the situation on the front line?" Lieutenant General William Adam asked.

"General, report from the front line that the island country's army is attacking very violently. However, after the weakening of artillery fire, there are not many troops that can really attack our defense line. Therefore, the pressure is not too great, and we can fully persist Hold on!" Major General Erwin Willow said.

Lieutenant General William Adam nodded in satisfaction.

"Where's our armored unit? Have they returned? After dawn, it's up to them."

"General, the 23rd Armored Division, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division are returning, and they have made it clear that they can launch a counterattack on time."