

Jagged 1411

Chapter 1411

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The fierce gunfire continued, but the hearts of the generals of the island country army kept sinking. Although they invested heavily, the officers and soldiers were also very brave and launched a fierce attack. But now it seems that their attack is like sending them to death. I don't know how many brave Japanese army officers and soldiers died under the fierce German artillery fire!

"Baga! Damn the Germans. After the capture of Brunei, I must kill all those Germans!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said viciously. The heavy loss of the troops has almost made him lose his mind.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo did not speak. He always thought that this attack might not be so smooth. Judging from the current situation, all this seems to be a conspiracy.

"Your Excellency, Commander, the 2nd Tank Division, 1st Infantry Division and 10th Division have all arrived at the predetermined area and have begun to build a defense line." Lieutenant General Masami Maeda, chief of staff of the 14th Front Army, reported.

Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma nodded, and his heart was finally relieved.

The 1st Division and the 10th Division are both standing divisions, with two infantry brigades and four infantry regiments under their jurisdiction, with a total strength of more than 25,000 troops. The 2nd Tank Division is also one of the few tank divisions in the Japanese army, equipped with more than 300 tanks. However, the tanks currently equipped by the Japanese army are almost useless in the face of the German tiger and leopard tanks that are rampant in the world.

As far as the tanks currently equipped by the Guide Rod Army are concerned, they are mainly Type 95 light tanks, Type 8*9 Type B medium tanks and Type 97 medium tanks. Of the more than 300 tanks in the 2nd Tank Division, more than 200 are Type 95 light tanks, and the remaining 100 are Type 97 medium tanks.

It's just that the tank division of the Japanese army is different from that of Germany. The total combat weight of the Type 95 light tank is only 7.4 tons, and the armor is 6-12mm thick. It is equipped with a 37mm tank gun and two 7.7mm machine guns. For such a tank, the armored defense strength is not even comparable to the armored vehicles of the German army. At most, it can bully the infantry of weak countries who lack anti-tank forces. If you face the German infantry, it will not have much effect at all. Bazookas, large-caliber sniper rifles, and even large-caliber heavy machine guns can penetrate its armor. At least, the 6 mm armor on the sides and rear is easily penetrated.

The Type 97 medium tank has a total combat weight of only 15 tons and is equipped with a 57mm tank gun and two 7.7mm machine guns. Armor thickness is 8-33 mm. This kind of armor defense is comparable to, or even slightly inferior to, the light tanks used by the German army in the early days. It is completely different from the Tiger and Leopard tanks currently used by the German Army Armored Forces.

"Tanaka-kun, we have deployed two standing divisions and a tank division. Even if the main force of the Germans really kills a carbine, we can resist it." Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki nodded, but he didn't know what was going on in his heart.

The battle was still going on fiercely, and the German army firmly resisted the attack of the island country army through fierce shelling. Although the island army's attack was very violent, after being weakened by the fierce German artillery fire, there was not much power left. For the German defense line, it cannot cause too much pressure. Instead, it was hit by the powerful firepower of the German army and suffered heavy losses.

"Islanders are really not afraid of death! However, the more I like this, the more I like it. If all the islanders are so easy to kill, it would be great! We can easily defeat the islanders." Lieutenant General William Adam said with a smile.

Major General Erwin Willow was a little speechless. The German 23rd Army has already caused very large losses to the Japanese army in this battle. If the plan this time can be successful again, then their results will rise further. Even if they are evacuated from Borneo, they will never be treated badly in the country. Even Lieutenant General William Adam's promotion will be a certainty.

If one can be promoted to admiral during the war, then, when the war is over, promotion to marshal does not seem to be an unattainable dream.

Time passed little by little, and the German Army's 23rd Armored Division, 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division were already approaching Brunei.

It's just that the scouts who went out discovered the defense line built by the island country army. So instead of attacking immediately, they waited for dawn. At the same time, contact the Army Command.

After learning that the 23rd Armored Division, the 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division had arrived, Lieutenant General William Adam was completely relieved. He got the 23rd Armored Division, 221st Mechanized Infantry Division, and 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division to launch counterattacks on time. As for the defense line built by the islanders, they didn't take it seriously at all. After all, can the Japanese defense line withstand the German armored forces? That is obviously unlikely.

It was more than six o'clock in the morning, and the sky was already bright. The German 23rd Panzer Division, 221st Mechanized Rifle Division and 222nd Mechanized Rifle Division were all ready to attack.

"Armored soldiers, attack! Tear open the defense line of the islanders and kill them all!" Major General Paul, the commander of the German 23rd Armored Division, gave the order to attack.

"Boom!"

The tanks and armored vehicles were launched, a total of more than 500 tanks and a large number of armored vehicles, centered on the 23rd Armored Division, with two mechanized infantry divisions on the flanks, attacking the defense line of the island country army.

A large number of tanks and armored vehicles formed a torrent of steel and rushed towards the defense line of the island country army.

"Report, Your Excellency, Division Chief, the Germans have launched an attack. They have a lot of tanks!" A staff officer reported to Lieutenant General Yoshiharu Iwamaka, head of the 2nd Division of the Japanese Army Tank Division, with a look of horror.

"What? The Germans are really coming. Order all tanks and prepare to counterattack the Germans! Anti-tank artillery units, enter the position!" Lieutenant General Iwamaka Yoshiharu ordered.

At the same time, the 1st Division and 10th Division of the Japanese Army also hurriedly entered a fighting state.

Facing the attack of the German armored forces, the 2nd Army Tank Division of the Japanese Army did not blindly defend. Instead, they took the initiative to break out of their positions in an attempt to defeat the German 23rd Armored Division.

This was a surprise for the German 23rd Armored Division. When other armored units were able to wipe out the Russian armored units on the Russian battlefield, they could only bully the infantry, which made them feel very tired. Now, the armored troops of the island country army actually went to battle, which undoubtedly gave them an excellent opportunity!

"Attack! Let the islanders see who is the real armored force!"

A large-scale tank battle broke out.

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"Boom!" The sound of the tank's engine gathered together, as if it was thunder. Hundreds of tanks from both sides are approaching.

"Baga! The German tanks are really big! At least twice the size of ours!" A commander of a Type 95 light tank couldn't help sighing after seeing the German Tiger and Leopard tank.

Compared with the tanks of the German army, the tanks of the Japanese army are indeed too small. Their tanks are also called "bean chariots". As the name suggests, they are chariots the size of soybeans. It is conceivable that compared with the mainstream tanks in Europe, the tanks of the island army are not only small in size, but also have very weak armor. It may be able to show off its power against infantry without anti-tank capabilities. However, in an armored duel with world-class tanks, the consequences can be imagined.

"Attention all companies, keep your distance, and deal with the islanders' tanks at a long distance!" A German heavy tank battalion commander issued an order. This battalion is equipped with Tiger tanks.

"Yes, sir!" The commanders could directly hear the orders from the battalion headquarters through the radio.

"Boom!"

A 'Tiger' tank opened fire. The 88mm tank gun shot out an orange-red flame, and an armor-piercing projectile had already roared and fired at the island tank more than 1,000 meters away.

In the blink of an eye, the island tank exploded into a ball of fire. The weak armor of the tanks in the island country simply cannot withstand the powerful tank guns of the German tanks. Whether it is the 88mm tank gun of the "Tiger" tank or the 75mm tank gun of the "Black Panther" tank, they can easily break through the weak armor of these tanks of the Japanese Army. In front of the powerful tanks of the German army, these tanks of the Japanese army are really no different from paper. It can be said that the tanks of the two sides are not at the same level at all.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The German tanks fired one after another at a long distance, smashing the island tanks one after another into fireballs.

It can be said that the tanks of the Japanese army cannot withstand the shelling of the German tank guns at all. Unless it is a miss, otherwise it will be destroyed.

In less than ten minutes, the 2nd Division of the Japanese Army Tanks lost more than fifty tanks.

"Baga! How could this be? How could our tanks be no match for the Germans at all?" Lieutenant General Yoshiharu Iwamaka, head of the 2nd Tank Division of the Japanese Army, looked angry.

He can feel that in front of the German tanks, their tanks have no power to parry at all.

"Your Excellency, Division Commander, the German tanks are too powerful. They can easily destroy our tanks at a distance of more than one kilometer!" The brigade commander of the 3rd Tank Brigade reported.

"Damn! We must find a way to defeat the Germans, or at least resist them. Otherwise, we will lose this battle. Once we lose, the consequences will be unimaginable!" Lieutenant General Iwanaka Yoshiharu ordered.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander!"

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Facing the attack of the German armored forces, the tanks of the 2nd Army Tank Division of the Japanese Army also launched a counterattack. But unfortunately, the distance of thousands of meters is too far for them, and it is difficult for them to hit the target. Even if it hits the target, the 37mm tank gun of the Type 95 light tank and the 57mm tank gun of the Type 97 medium tank can't do anything about the thick armor of the German tank.

"Baga! What's going on? We obviously hit the German tank? How come nothing happened?" The commander of an island tank looked stunned. The armor-piercing shells they fired clearly hit a German Tiger tank. However, there was nothing wrong with that tank and it was still moving.

The armor-piercing projectiles fired by the 57mm tank gun are indeed useless to the armor of the later generations of the "Tiger" tank. At most, it leaves a shallow dent on the armor.

In contrast, the German "Tiger" tanks and "Black Panther" tanks, once they hit the tanks of the Japanese army, they are often destroyed, and there will be absolutely no exceptions.

This tank battle has completely become an asymmetrical battle. With its excellent tank performance, the German tank troops continued to destroy the tanks of the Japanese army.

As the losses are getting higher and higher, the 2nd Division of the Japanese Army Tank is on the verge of collapse.

"Your Excellency, Division Commander, I can't hold back anymore. We have lost more than half of our tanks!" Lieutenant Takahashi Kiyogo, the commander of the 6th tank regiment, reported with a horrified expression.

"Baga!" Lieutenant General Iwamaka Yoshiharu cursed. He felt deeply humiliated. Because the tank troops under his command were completely vulnerable to the German armored troops. Such a result made him completely unacceptable.

"Your Excellency, Commander, we must retreat. Otherwise, we will all lose here!" Lieutenant Kazuo Harada, the commander of the 10th tank regiment, reported.

"Baga! Even if it's all pieces of jade, you can't retreat!" Lieutenant General Iwanaka Yoshiharu ordered.

Subsequently, Lieutenant General Iwanaka Yoshiharu gave the order for the 2nd Chariot Division to fight to the end. At the same time, a telegram was sent to the 14th Front Army Headquarters to let Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma make early preparations. Because he knew that even if the 2nd Chariot Division tried its best, it probably wouldn't last long.

There is no suspense in the next battle. The 23rd Armored Division of the German Army eliminated all the 2nd Army Tank Division of the Japanese Army at a small cost. Those Type 95 light tanks and Type 97 medium tanks were all destroyed. A large number of armored vehicles and trucks were either destroyed or captured.

At the same time, the German 221st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 222nd Mechanized Infantry Division attacked the 1st and 10th Divisions of the Japanese Army. Although the mechanized infantry divisions of the German army possessed far less armored forces than the armored forces. But for pure infantry, it is still irresistible.

The torrent of steel composed of tanks and armored vehicles of the two mechanized infantry divisions of the German army easily broke through the defense lines of the 1st and 10th Divisions of the Japanese Army.

After that, the German army, relying on tanks and armored vehicles, massacred the 1st Division and the 10th Division of the Japanese Army, and easily defeated these two divisions.

A large number of broken troops retreated eastward along the coastal road, but the speed of their retreat was simply not comparable to the German tanks and armored vehicles. Although the soldiers of these island armies are also very brave, after being chased, they will often fight to the end. But this also cannot undo their defeat. The fate of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the entire island country seems to have been doomed.

On the front line of Brunei City, fierce fighting continues. Despite the fierce attack overnight, not only did not tear through the German defense line, but it also caused heavy losses. However, Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma, commander of the 14th Front Army of the Japanese Army, and Lieutenant General Shizuo Tanaka, commander of the 7th Front Army, still chose to let the troops continue to attack.

This is not what they want, but they are already stuck. After investing heavily in the attack on Brunei City and having suffered heavy losses, if they just give up the attack, they will have to bear the consequences of losing the battle.

Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma and Lieutenant General Shizuo Tanaka still have a bit of delusion. Although the loss of the troops is huge, if they can break through the city of Brunei, no matter how big the loss is, it will be acceptable. After all, as long as the 23rd Army is defeated, they will soon get more supplements. Moreover, they will also become famous in one battle, gaining great military exploits and glory.

"Reorganize the troops and launch an attack! The Germans have fierce firepower and support from naval guns. However, this cannot cover up their lack of troops. As long as we continue to attack, we will be able to defeat them !" Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma ordered.

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

"Tanaka-kun, it seems that this time we have to do our best and we can't have any reservations. Otherwise, we will lose this time." Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma said.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo nodded: "Honma-kun, the 7th Front Army will do its best!"

Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma felt relieved after receiving a positive reply from Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo. In his opinion, with the full support of the 7th Front Army, they still have a good chance of winning. After all, they have an overwhelming advantage in terms of military strength.

"Your Excellency, the 2nd Tank Division has reported that the Germans have dispatched a large number of armored troops to attack their positions. The battle is now very fierce. The 2nd Tank Division is doing its best to resist the German attack!" Major General Utsunomiya Naoken, Deputy Chief of Staff of the 14th Front reported.

"Huh! This is indeed a trap set by the Germans. They are trying to use their armored forces to kill a carbine, trying to defeat us as they defeated the 18th Front Army. This is simply wishful thinking. The combined forces of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army The strength is much stronger than that of the 18th Front Army!" Masaharu Honma snorted coldly.

"Send a telegram to the 2nd Tank Division, the 1st Infantry Division and the 10th Division, telling them to resist the German attack no matter what, and buy us enough time." Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma ordered .

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander!" Major General Utsunomiya Naoken immediately went to convey the order.

"Tanaka-kun, we have to speed up!" Lieutenant General Masaharu Honma said.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuo nodded in agreement.

Knowing that the German armored forces had returned, Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma and Shizuka Tanaka both knew that they had to speed up their attack. Otherwise, once the German armored forces tore through the defense lines of their troops, the consequences would be disastrous.

The 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army once again organized a large number of troops to launch a fierce attack on the positions of the German 23rd Army. Trying to break through the city of Brunei in one fell swoop and eliminate the German army here.

But unfortunately, what greeted them was dense shells and powerful firepower. Relying on a strong line of defense, as well as the fire support of artillery in the rear and warships on the sea, the German army firmly resisted the attack of the island army. And continue to cause greater casualties to the Japanese army. Under such circumstances, the loss of the army of the island country is increasing, but it is still unable to break through the German defense line, let alone capture the city of Brunei and eliminate the German troops stationed there.

An hour later, the telegram from the 2nd Tank Division came again.

"Your Excellency, the 2nd Tank Division has suffered heavy losses and is no longer able to withstand the German attack. The 1st Division and the 10th Division have also been fiercely attacked by the German armored forces. Their defense lines it has been broken through, and the troops are retreating now." Lieutenant General Maeda Masami reported with a serious face.

"What? How did this happen? There are more than 60,000 of them, how could they not be able to hold on so easily?" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma was stunned, as if hit by a bolt from the blue.

Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki's face also turned pale. He knew very well what would happen if the German armored forces attacked their main force.

"Honma-kun, we can no longer attack, we must retreat. Otherwise, our entire army will be wiped out!" Lieutenant General Tanaka Shizuki said decisively. Under such circumstances, it is impossible for them to conquer Brunei and defeat the German army. What should be done now is to preserve their strength as much as possible. Otherwise, they will lose this battle completely.

"Oh! Order the troops to retreat!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma said helplessly.

He had no choice but to order a retreat. Under the circumstances that Brunei City cannot be conquered, if you continue to keep the main force here and launch an attack, it will undoubtedly be an act of courting death.

A large number of island armies began to withdraw from the surrounding areas of Brunei City and retreat to Crocker Hill.

In order to resist the attack of the German armored forces, they must retreat to the other side of Crocker Mountain, and then rely on the terrain and fortifications to resist the attack of the German armored forces. Otherwise, being chased by the German armored forces in the plains is undoubtedly a dead end.

The German 23rd Army will not let the Japanese army go so easily. Lieutenant General William Adam originally hoped to cause as many casualties as possible to the island army in this battle.

Therefore, the German troops stationed in Brunei immediately gave up their positions and began to actively attack the island army.

The German warships on the sea are also frantically firing at the retreating lead army, using powerful artillery fire to continuously destroy the officers and soldiers of the island army.

The armored forces of the German army also caught up after solving the 1st Division, 10th Division and 2nd Tank Division of the Japanese Army.

Although it only takes more than a day to travel from Brunei City to the other side of Crocker Mountain. But human legs are still incomparable with tank tracks and car wheels. After a large number of Japanese armies were caught up, they were surrounded and wiped out. Not many island armies successfully escaped back to the other side of Crocker Hill. The 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Japanese Army suffered fatal losses in this battle.

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On the afternoon of April 26, the battle between the 23rd German Army and the 14th and 7th Fronts of the Japanese Army came to an end. After the remnants of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army of the Island Army retreated to the south of Crocker Hill, the German 23rd Armored Division stopped pursuing.

Though, there are roads through Crocker Hill. But the valley is narrow. Once the island army deploys a large number of anti-tank guns in the valley, it will be able to turn the valley into a cemetery for German armored forces. Therefore, in order to preserve the strength of the troops, Lieutenant General William Adam ordered to stop the pursuit. He is already very satisfied with the current results.

After another victory, Lieutenant General William Adam had no regrets and could organize troops to withdraw from Borneo. After continuous fighting, the 23rd Army has achieved great results. At the same time, the soldiers were also very tired, and it was time to rest. Lieutenant General William Adam believed that after the islanders occupied Borneo and Dutch Indonesia, they would not stop their invasion. Next, there will definitely be attacks on the Indochina Peninsula and Australia. At that time, they will continue to fight the Japanese army.

Perhaps it was because the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army fell into the trap and suffered heavy losses. When the German 23rd Army began to retreat in an orderly manner, the Japanese Army stopped pursuing. They were very worried whether this would be another German trap, deliberately luring them into the bait. If that's the case, one has to be careful. Otherwise, if the troops suffer heavy losses again, the consequences will be very serious.

The headquarters of the 14th Front of the Island Army. Admiral Masahiro Honma sat on his seat with a pale face. The paleness this time was undoubtedly a great blow to him. He was ordered to restrain the 7th Front Army and the 18th Front Army. However, because of him, the 18th Front Army was completely wiped out, and the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army also suffered heavy losses.

Although, Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma wanted to say that he didn't want to do this either. The reason for this result was entirely because the combat effectiveness of the German 23rd Army was too strong.

However, it seems that it is useless to say these now. It is already a fact that the troops have suffered heavy losses. Then the sophistry is pale and powerless in the face of such facts.

"Your Excellency, the battle report has been prepared." Lieutenant General Masami Maeda, chief of staff of the 14th Front Army, reported.

"Yes!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma nodded, and then signed his name on the battle report.

Lieutenant General Maeda Masami was hesitant to speak, but in the end he turned and left the office without saying anything.

Lieutenant General Masharu Honma drew his samurai sword. For this defeat, someone must be responsible for it. Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma, who was ordered to command the three front armies, undoubtedly became the best scapegoat. Perhaps, he was unwilling in his heart, but there was nothing he could do. When he received this appointment, everything seemed to be doomed.

If he can lead three front armies to defeat the German 23rd Army, then what awaits him is a promotion. Now that he is defeated, he will naturally have to pay the price for it.

"The Empire will win! His Majesty the Emperor is on board!" Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma shouted loudly.

Then, he inserted the samurai sword in his hand directly into his stomach.

A sharp pain hit, Lieutenant General Masahiro Honma fell to the ground, and gradually lost consciousness.

Manila, Island Army Southern Command. General Hisao Nishio, commander of the Southern Army, received a telegram from the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army. The 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army suffered heavy losses again. Such a result made General Hisao Nishio very angry.

"Masaharu Honma and Shizuo Tanaka, are they idiots? They don't know, is this all a conspiracy by the Germans? Well now, the main forces of the two front armies have been wiped out by the Germans, how can this battle continue!" General Nishio Hisao was furious.

Although, if the remaining troops of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army add up, there are still more than 100,000 people. But what can such a small force do? Can it withstand the fierce attack of the Germans? That is undoubtedly a fool's dream. Even the 14th Front Army, the 7th Front Army and the 18th Front Army had nearly 700,000 troops in their heyday, but they were all defeated by the German 23rd Army. Let alone this.

"Your Excellency, Commander, will the follow-up troops be sent to Borneo?" asked Lieutenant General Tsukada, Chief of Staff of the Southern Army. Obviously, because of the disastrous defeat of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army, the battle situation in Borneo has once again become very unfavorable to the island army.

"Of course we will be dispatched! We can't give up Borneo because of the disastrous defeat of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army, right? In that case, wouldn't all previous efforts be wasted? Order the 2nd Army, 18th Army, 37th Army and 38th Army, speed up the progress, and land on Borneo as soon as possible. However, after they arrive in Borneo, don't rush to attack the Germans, first occupy

the eastern part of Borneo, and wait for the follow-up reinforcements to arrive before launching an attack!" General Nishio Hisao asked.

"Follow-up reinforcements? Your Excellency, Commander, apart from the fact that the Philippine Front Army has not yet been dispatched to Borneo, do we have any reinforcements?" Lieutenant General Tsukada asked in surprise.

You know, except for the troops stationed in the Philippines, the Southern Army has received orders and sent them to Borneo to fight.

"I will send a telegram to the country, asking them to send more reinforcements to us! The Germans are too powerful. With the troops before the Southern Army, it is impossible to defeat them!" General Nishio Hisao said.

Lieutenant Admiral Tsukada Shogun couldn't help but nodded. Indeed, as Admiral Hisao Nishio said, the Germans were too powerful, and they were so powerful that they completely exceeded their expectations.

Just the 23rd Army of the German Army caused them to be devastated and suffered heavy losses. If the other three armies of the German army were added, the Southern Army might have been defeated long ago. Not to mention defeating the German army and occupying Southeast Asia and Australia. That is totally a luxury. If you want to win, the island country army may have to send more troops to fight. Otherwise, it would be impossible for them to win.

After arranging all of this, General Hisao Nishio knew that this time the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army suffered disastrous defeats, and more people would definitely use this as an excuse to attack him.

General Hisao Nishio locked himself in his office and thought about it all night.

The next day, he personally drafted a telegram and sent it to the Army Ministry and Army General Staff of the island country, requesting his resignation as the commander of the Southern Army.

Chapter 1415

Manila, Confederate Army Command.

After the telegram of resignation was sent back to China, General Hisao Nishio felt a lot more relaxed, as if a heavy burden had been lifted from his body.

Although after resigning from the position of commander of the Southern Army, he basically cut off the hope of being promoted to marshal. But General Nishio Hisao did not regret it. Through these two months of fighting, he could see that the gap between the Japanese army and the German army was too great. Even if it can temporarily gain an advantage on the Nanyang battlefield by virtue of its superiority in military strength, once Germany frees up its hands, the island country will definitely not be Germany's opponent. The final result is very likely to end in a fiasco.

As for pinning hopes on the Americans, General Hisao Nishio thinks this is unrealistic. The United States may have strong industrial strength, but in terms of military strength, it is much worse than Germany.

It is better to resign as the commander of the Southern Army now than to apologize for the defeat of the Southern Army in the future.

As for whether he would be thrown into a idle job after returning to China, General Nishio Hiszo didn't care that much. In his opinion, being able to save a life is already very good.

"Tukada-kun, I have already sent a telegram to the country, intending to resign as the commander of the Southern Army." General Nishio Hiszo said. In front of Lieutenant General Tsukada, General Nishio Hiszo did not hide anything.

Lieutenant General Tsukada was a little surprised. Although the Southern Army suffered heavy losses, it was far from the point where General Nishio Hiszo had to resign to take responsibility. However, after thinking about it, Lieutenant General Tsukada understood what General Nishio Hiszo meant.

Obviously, General Nishio Hiszo was not optimistic about the current battle situation, so he wanted to retreat as an advance, wisely protecting himself.

Even Lieutenant General Tsukada Gong admired General Nishio Hiszo very much for being able to make such a decision. After all, not everyone can give up the position of commander of the general army like General Nishio Hiszo. Lieutenant General Tsukada Gong vaguely believed that General Nishio Hiszo was right to do so, at least he could escape from this unfavorable battle.

"I wish your Excellency the Commander a great success!" said Lieutenant General Tsukada Gong. General Nishio Hisozou waved his hand: "I know very well that after returning to China this time, I will probably retire to an idle job and have no future. Tsukada-kun, we have worked together for a while anyway. So, I hope you plan early. It's not that I'm pessimistic, but our enemy is too strong. If we want to win this war, it may be very difficult!"

Lieutenant General Tsukada was silent, he knew that General Nishio Hiszo was persuading him in good faith. But now the war has begun. The entire island country has already put their fate on it. Is there any way out for these soldiers? There is no other choice but to try our best.

General Nishio Hiszo seemed to see Lieutenant General Tsukada's thoughts, so he sighed and didn't say anything more.

Tokyo, the capital of the island country, the Ministry of the Army, the six generals of the Army Minister Hata Toshi, the Army Chief of Staff Prince Kanin Miyazaihito, and the Director of Education Yamada Oto three generals all gathered here.

The southern army was defeated again in Borneo, and the two front armies suffered heavy losses. Such a heavy loss made the Ministry of Army furious.

Although the army of the island country has a large number of troops after mobilization, no amount of troops can withstand such a loss! With a loss of hundreds of thousands at a time, it won't be long before the army of several million island countries will be completely lost!

As the person who recommended General Hisao Nishio as the commander of the Southern Army, the pressure on Prince Hanin Gongzaihito was also very great.

"His Royal Highness, Mr. Yamada, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army were once again severely damaged by the German 23rd Army during the first battle in Brunei. The two front armies only had more than 100,000 troops left relying on Crocker Mountain to survive! Borneo The war against us has once again become very unfavorable to us." Said the Sixth General Hata Toshi.

"Yes, Your Excellency Lu. The southern army has lost nearly 700,000 people on the battlefield of Borneo! Especially in just two months. If this continues, it may not be long. The empire All the troops of the army will have to be lost there. Then, how will this battle continue? How will the empire win this war?" General Yamada Ootosan also said.

Prince Zairen of Xianyuan Palace looked a bit unhappy. Although General Yamada Ootosan put all the responsibility for the failure on the Southern Army. This is undoubtedly unfair. After all, there were various reasons for the Southern Army's disastrous defeat. For example, the navy failed to obtain command of the sea as scheduled. Army Aviation was not able to defeat the Luftwaffe and gain air supremacy. The armor and firepower of both sides are not at the same level at all.

However, although there are these reasons, but if you lose, you lose, and no one can deny this.

"The Southern Army did not perform very well in the battle in Borneo. However, there are many reasons for this. The main reason is that the enemy is too strong!" said Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen.

The Sixth Generals Hata Toshi and Yamada Ootosan also had to nod their heads in agreement. The strength shown by the German army was indeed too strong, far beyond their expectations.

"Although that's what I said, but the Southern Army has lost so many troops this time, I'm afraid it won't be able to explain to the country." Sixth General Hata Toshi said. At the beginning, he did not agree with General Nishio Hiszo as the commander of the Southern Army. Now, General Hisao Nishio is serving in the southern army, and he can be described as a bad head. In this case, the six generals of Toshiro Hata could not tolerate General Nishio Hiszo as the commander of the Southern Army again.

Prince Xianyuan Palace Zairen was silent. He knew that this time General Nishio Hisao's position as the commander of the Southern Army might really be lost.

At this moment, a staff officer walked in.

"Your Excellency, Prime Minister Lu, a telegram from the Southern Army Command!"

General Hata Toshi took a look at the telegram and couldn't help but nodded: "It seems that Nishio-kun is still self-aware. This is his resignation telegram. He claims that he is not capable enough to serve as the commander of the Southern Army. Go to Your Highness, Yamada-kun, what do you think?"

Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen couldn't help but heave a sigh of relief. General Nishio Hisao resigned voluntarily, no doubt many things happened. It also avoids the intensification of the conflict between him and the six generals of Hata Jun.

"Since this is Nishio-kun's choice, I respect it!" Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen said.

"So, who will be the new commander of the Southern Army? I am more optimistic about General Umezu Yoshijiro." General Yamada Ootosan first recommended his favorite person.

"General Umezu Yoshijiro? He is not a suitable candidate. General Umezu Yoshijiro has just been appointed as the commander of the Kwantung Army, and at the same time, his rank is only lieutenant general. The Southern Army's operations in Nanyang are related to the fate of the empire. A more suitable candidate will do!" Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen retorted.

Although General Nishio Hiszo, who was previously recommended by General Prince Xianyuan Gongzairen, did not do very well in the position of commander of the Southern Army. However, besides General Nishio Hiszo, he also had other candidates.

"General Ueda Nobuken, the former commander of the Kwantung Army, is more suitable to be the commander of the Southern Army. I believe that after Ueda-kun takes office, he will be able to open up the situation!" said Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen.

Hata Toshi's six generals couldn't help but frowned. Neither Umezu Yoshijiro nor Ueda Nobuken was obviously not the object of his approval.

"His Royal Highness, Yamada-kun. The Germans in Nanyang are very powerful. If we want to defeat the Germans, we must send a general with outstanding abilities. Personally, I think General Juichi Terauchi is the most suitable person!" Hata Toshi six generals said.

Prince Hanin Gongzaijin and General Yamada Otozo were both silent. Then, they all chose to compromise. Because the six generals of Toshiro Hata, as the minister of the army, undoubtedly occupy the leading position in the army. The chief of staff and the director of education in the two of them must also give face to the six generals of Jun Hata.

Of course, if General Toshiichi Terauchi failed to bring victory to the island army in his position as the commander of the Southern Army, they could justifiably request the removal of General Toshida Terauchi.

"General Terauchi Shouichi is a good candidate, he should be qualified for the position of commander of the Southern Army." General Yamada Otosan said.

"I also agree. General Terauchi Shouichi performed very well on the China battlefield. Although the Germans are very strong, General Terauchi Shouichi will definitely win the Nanyang battlefield!" Said Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen.

"Very well, since His Royal Highness and Yamada-kun have no objections, then it is decided that General Terauchi Shouichi will replace General Nishio Hiszo as the commander of the Southern Army." General Hata Toshi said with a smile on his face.

"Then, what will General Nishio Hiszo do after he returns to China?" General Hata Jun-six then asked.

After some discussions among the three of them, it was decided that General Nishio Hiszo would go to a idle job to provide for the elderly. For the defeated generals, it is already very good to have such a result. After all, the generals of the island country army, once defeated, would often ask for seppuku. It is already a very good result to be able to save their lives.

"His Royal Highness, the Southern Army has experienced several disastrous defeats. So far, the remaining total strength of the Southern Army is only more than 500,000. Such a small force is obviously

not enough to fight against the brutal Germans. Therefore, I hope that the General Staff Headquarters can reinforce the Southern Army in the shortest possible time!" said the Sixth General Hata Toshi.

Terauchi Toshiichi is the commander of the Southern Army recommended by him to take office, so he will naturally provide support to him as much as possible. Otherwise, if General Toshiichi Terauchi still failed to bring victory in his position as the commander of the Southern Army, but instead failed, then he, the Minister of the Army, would probably be ashamed.

"The Lanyin Front Army under the Southern Army, and the 18th Front Army, which has just been nearly wiped out, have retreated to the Philippine Islands for rest. The country is sending a large number of troops to the Philippine Islands. If necessary, the 14th Front Army can be dispatched to the Philippine Islands. The Front Army and the Seventh Front Army also retreated to the Philippine Islands for rest!" said Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen.

General Hata Toshi shook his head: "The newly mobilized troops have limited combat effectiveness. Even if they are supplemented, it will be difficult to form combat effectiveness in a short period of time. Besides, we can't stop attacking the German army before these front forces recover their combat effectiveness. Attack? The current situation is very unfavorable to us. The longer the time drags on, the more unfavorable it will be to us!"

Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen couldn't help but frowned. He understood the meaning of the six Generals Hata Toshi. He just wanted to transfer other troops to join the Southern Army, so that the strength of the Southern Army could be quickly restored. Look, in order to support General Kotobuki in the temple, the six generals Hata Toshi did not hesitate to pay. However, Prince Zairen of Xianyuan Palace can also understand. After all, once General Kotobuki in the temple loses, the consequences will be disastrous.

"Your Excellency Lu Xiang, what do you mean?" Prince Zairen of Xianyuan Palace asked.

"His Royal Highness, directly transfer a few front troops or troops, and join the Southern Army! The Germans are in Southeast Asia and Australia, but there are still hundreds of thousands of them. Without enough troops, it is difficult for us to defeat them. Only by defeating the Germans, Only then can we occupy Nanyang and Australia. Only in this way can we use the resources of Nanyang and Australia to become even stronger!" said General Jun Hata.

"Okay, Your Excellency Lu Xiang!" Prince Zairen of Xianyuan Palace nodded, not entangled in this issue. As a general of the royal family, he certainly hoped that the Japanese Army would win.

General Yamada Otosan did not speak on this issue. After all, although the director of education is one of the three officers, his authority is not as good as that of the secretary of the army and the chief of the army general staff.

In the next two days, after discussing with the six Generals Hata Jun and Prince Xianyuan Gong Zairen, they confirmed the plan to reinforce the southern army.

First, mobilize a large number of newly mobilized troops to the Philippine Islands to restore the strength of the Lanyin Front Army, the 18th Front Army, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army.

In addition, from the island country, the 5th Front Army, the 8th Front Army, the 10th Front Army, the 4th Army, the 31st Army and the 34th Army were transferred. The three front armies plus three

armies have 20 divisions and 24 independent mixed brigades under their jurisdiction, with a total strength of more than 700,000 troops. If these troops are added to the troops originally under the Southern Army, once those damaged troops regain their strength, the total strength of the Southern Army of the Island Army will exceed two million.

In addition, in order to further provide support to the Southern Army, the six generals of Toshiro Hata also decided to strengthen a large number of field artillery regiments and heavy artillery regiments to the Southern Army, further enhancing the strength of the Southern Army.

It can be said that in order to allow General Toshida Terauchi to lead the Southern Army to open up the situation on the Nanyang battlefield, the six generals Hata Toshi undoubtedly spent a lot of money. If under such circumstances, the Southern Army still fails to win, then it is time for them all to commit seppuku.

Chapter 1417

Island country, Tokyo, Ministry of the Army.

Lu Xiang Hata Toshi six generals are summoning the trusted Southern Army Commander Terauchi Toshiichi.

"Mr. Temple, the situation in Borneo is very unfavorable to us now. Although the remaining troops of the Southern Army are being dispatched to Borneo one after another, even with the remnants of the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army, there are only more than 50 troops. There are only ten thousand people. Moreover, the 14th Front Army and the 7th Front Army should not have much combat effectiveness." General Hata Toshi said.

General Toshiichi Terauchi nodded. He was very happy to be the commander of the Southern Army. This means that the road to the marshal has been opened to him. There are as many generals in the Japanese army as dogs, especially the lieutenant generals, which are everywhere. But the number of generals is relatively small. It's just that General Kotobuki in the temple undoubtedly wants to go one step further and become a marshal. The position of commander of the Southern Army undoubtedly provided him with such a platform.

However, when the excitement passed, Terauchi Toshiichi also calmed down. He knew that the position of commander of the Southern Army was not so easy to take. General Hisao Nishio has been disgraced in this position, and now he has to resign. Although, for Admiral Nishio Shouzo's behavior of running away from battle, Admiral Toshiuchi Terauchi is very shameless. But he had to admit that this was undoubtedly a very wise choice. If he continued to occupy the position of commander of the Southern Army, he might lose his life.

Since General Toshida Terauchi succeeded the position of commander of the Southern Army, he naturally wanted to win and get promoted instead of being defeated and having to commit seppuku.

"This time, I mobilized three front armies and three armies to reinforce the southern army. The purpose is to hope that after you take office, you can make good use of these troops and change our decline in Nanyang!" General Hata Toshi continued.

"I have written about the support of Your Excellency Lu Xiang! With the support of the new force, I believe that I will be able to regain my disadvantage on the Nanyang battlefield!" General Toshiichi

Terauchi seemed confident. After all, with the support of 700,000 fresh troops again, the Southern Army became stronger again.

"Don't underestimate the Germans! After the reinforcement of the Southern Army this time, it will undoubtedly be very difficult for the Southern Army to gain more support. Moreover, the Southern Army has to deal with not only those entrenched in Borneo. The 23rd Army of the German Army, but the German Army that includes the entire Southeast Asia and Australia!" Said the Sixth General Hata Toshi.

Terauchi Toshida's expression suddenly became serious. The German 23rd Army alone is already so difficult to deal with. If you add several other group armies, even if the strength of the southern army is restored, it will reach more than two million people. But if you want to defeat the four armies deployed by the German army in Nanyang and Australia in one fell swoop, it will undoubtedly be very difficult.

"Your Excellency Lu Xiang, I will do my best in this humble position!" said General Shou of the temple.

The six generals of Hata Toshi nodded: "The empire must win in the Nanyang and Australia battlefields! The date for the Americans to enter the war is getting closer and closer. Once the Americans enter the war, they will no longer provide so many supplies to support. Therefore, we have to obtain more materials by ourselves. Materials from Southeast Asia and Australia are extremely important to the empire. Therefore, the Southern Army must win as soon as possible."

Terauchi Kotobuki nodded, he is also very aware of the situation in the island country. As the consumption of the war increases, the island country is indeed almost unable to persist. If US aid is reduced or even cut off, and there is no other way to obtain resources, the collapse of the island nation is imminent. It was precisely because of this that General Kotobuki in the temple felt the pressure on his shoulders was very heavy.

"Next, the war in Nanyang will be entrusted to you. The army and even the entire empire will provide you with support as much as possible!" said General Jun Hata. He has great expectations for General Shou in the temple.

"Hi, Your Excellency Lu Xiang!" General Toshiichi Templeuchi replied.

The army of the island country began to send reinforcements to Nanyang aggressively, although they suffered a disastrous defeat in Nanyang and lost a large number of troops. However, the islanders obviously will not give up Nanyang so easily. After all, this is a matter of the fate of the entire island nation.

It's just that even though the army of the island country began to increase its troops in Borneo, they didn't dare to take the initiative to attack again for a while. The disastrous defeat of several front armies of the island country army had already made the rest of the army terrified. They were afraid that they would be counterattacked by the German 23rd Army again, and they would be hit hard.

For a while, the battle situation in Borneo became calm.

Brunei City, the German troops are withdrawing here in an orderly manner. Several infantry divisions withdrew first. The armored and mechanized troops stayed behind. If the island army dared to

launch an attack, they would not mind another counterattack, which would cost the island army a heavy price.

"Your Excellency, the 223rd Infantry Division, the 224th Infantry Division and the 230th Infantry Division have boarded and left." Major General Erwin Willow reported.

Lieutenant General William Adam nodded: "Let's take advantage of the islanders not daring to confront us now, withdraw from Borneo, and minimize the loss of troops as much as possible!"

Although, in the past few battles, the German 23rd Army has achieved major victories, wiping out more than 700,000 enemies. However, the 23rd Army's own losses were not small. Adding it all up, the number of troops lost has exceeded 50,000. This is also the reason why Lieutenant General William Adam didn't want to fight anymore. If the fight continues, the 23rd Army will really be hurt.

"Yes, Your Excellency, Commander. After arriving in Lion City, we can recruit some young men from overseas Chinese to supplement. If we can get another batch of soldiers from the country, our strength will be restored soon." El Major General Wen Weiluo said.

"Yes, we have wiped out so many islanders, and the country will definitely not be stingy enough not to give us more. Besides, the imperial army is also winning in the European battlefield. It is reasonable to say that the next target should also be round The islanders are here!" Lieutenant General William Adam said.

When the German army fought against the island countries in Southeast Asia, the German army once again launched a fierce attack on Bu Russia on the European battlefield. Therefore, most of the resources have to be given priority to the European battlefield. This made the German army have to focus on stability in other theaters. After the European battlefield is decided, it is time for the German army to send reinforcements to other battlefields.

By the end of April, the German 23rd Army had completely withdrawn from Borneo. The island army took advantage of the situation to occupy Borneo and the entire Dutch Indonesia.

Chapter 1418

Time goes back to March 1940, although the European continent is still covered with ice and snow. But the breath of spring has gradually arrived. The German army, which had been dormant for a winter, also began to mobilize.

After entering the winter last year, the German army moved its main force away from the first-line positions and retreated to the second-line positions to rest.

Although the Russian army also launched an offensive in the ice and snow, but suffered heavy losses, it still failed to break through the German defense line. This also further weakened the vitality of the Russian army.

However, after a winter of mobilization, the strength of the Russian army has also swelled to its peak. Even lost a lot of troops last year. But now the Russian army still has more than 10 million troops. Compared with the German army, such a huge army is naturally much more than the German army. However, if the German army is counted with the army of the slave country, it is no less than the Russian army, and even more dominant.

In addition, the troops lost by the Russian army last year were almost all elite main forces. Even though a larger army was formed later, the loss of elites made the combat effectiveness of the Russian army drop a lot. Even with the supplement of T-34 tanks and KV-1 and KV-2 tanks, compared with the German army, there is still a big gap in their combat effectiveness. In the case of some second-line troops, the combat effectiveness is even not much different from that of the German servant army.

For Germany, the European battlefield is undoubtedly the main battlefield in the early stage of the war. Only after the demise of Bu Russia can Germany ensure its absolute security on the European continent. Only in that way can the power of the whole country be gathered to compete with enemies such as the United States and island countries for victory in the world battlefield. Therefore, Germany must gather its main forces at the beginning of the war to defeat Bu Russia in one fell swoop.

1940 was undoubtedly a critical year for the war between Germany and Russia. Before the winter of last year and during the winter war, Germany caused extremely heavy losses to Bu Russia. And this year, Germany hopes to seize the period from spring to autumn to wipe out the main force of the Russian army in one fell swoop. In this case, Russia will be powerless. From this winter to next year, the German army only needs to leave a small number of troops in Bu Russia, and then cooperate with the servant army to wipe out the remaining forces of Bu Russia in one fell swoop.

It is precisely because of this that Emperor Qin of the Empire attaches great importance to this year, which is related to whether Germany can quickly obtain the victory they want on the Russian battlefield.

Of course, the Russian side also knows this. Throughout the winter, Joseph summoned the marshals and generals of the Russian army many times, demanding that they must resist the German army's attack this year anyway, crush the German army's offensive, and defeat the German army in one fell swoop.

Although, Joseph still has confidence in the strength of the Russian army. But he knew that compared with the German army, the strength of the Russian army was too weak. If you want to defeat the German army, it will be very difficult. Therefore, if the Russian army cannot win this year, what awaits them may be a complete failure. Joseph didn't want their country to be destroyed. In that case, what awaits him is probably death.

At the end of March, Emperor Qin Tian visited the Army General Staff Headquarters to listen to the combat plans of the Imperial Army and Air Force. The commanders of the army groups at the front, and the commanders of the armies, all returned to Berlin one after another.

"Everyone, in the past six months, we have caused the Russians to suffer a lot and caused them to lose a lot of vitality. It can be said that most of the elite troops of the Russian Army have been wiped out by us. However, we have to admit The fact is that the huge population of Russia makes them have a very large number of troops. According to the exact information we have obtained, the total strength of the Russian Army has now risen to 10 million people. Moreover, the mobilization of Russia is still going on. They are planning Mobilize the elderly, children, and even women, arm them, and send them to the battlefield. In that case, the total strength of the Russian Army may have to increase by five million! Therefore, we must not take Russia lightly and despise Russia. Otherwise, we will pay a very high price! I don't want any accidents on the Russian battlefield. I think everyone knows what it will mean if we fail on the Russian battlefield!" Qin Tianyan said seriously Said.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" A group of marshals and generals answered solemnly. They all know very well that once the German army really fails on the battlefield of Bu Russia, what awaits them may be the collapse of the empire. Those servant countries and protectorates are now fighting for Germany. But in fact, they are all fools. When Germany was strong, they fought behind Germany's ass. But if Germany loses, they will definitely turn against each other without saying a word.

Without the support of the vassal state, relying on the German army alone would not have any advantage in military strength. In addition, Germany has so many enemies. At that time, there will definitely be a lot of people who will make trouble.

"Everyone, this year is undoubtedly a critical year for the empire. I hope that the imperial army can wipe out the main force of the Russian army in one fell swoop in this year's war! In this case, by next year at the latest, we will be able to Russia will be destroyed in one fell swoop. Only then will we be able to free up our hands to deal with other enemies!" Qin Tian continued.

"Your Majesty, the Empire will definitely be able to accomplish the planned combat objectives!" said Marshal Manstein, Minister of War and Chief of the General Staff.

Qin Tian nodded, although he also knew that there might be some difficulties. But generally speaking, with the current strength of the German army, it should not be a big problem to complete this predetermined combat goal. Otherwise, wouldn't the decades of his rebirth be wasted?

"According to the information we have obtained, in the past winter, Bu Russia received a lot of support. They also served some new weapons, such as the Army's T-34 tank, KV-1 tank, Air Force's Yak-1 fighter jet, etc. etc. Although there is still a big gap between these weapons and ours, we have to admit that these weapons can already pose a certain threat to us. T-34 tanks, KV-2 Tanks can pose a certain threat to our Tiger and Leopard tanks. Yak-1 fighter jets can also threaten our air force fighters. It can be seen that our enemies are also making rapid progress. If we don't hurry up, They will make greater progress. At that time, if we want to defeat them, I am afraid we will have to pay a greater price!" Qin Tian said with a serious face.

Chapter 1419

"Your Majesty, the number of T-34 tanks and KV-1 tanks equipped by the Russian army is relatively small. If it is a frontal confrontation, it is not the opponent of our tiger and leopard tank. Unless it hits the side of our tiger and leopard tank Or the rear can destroy our tanks. As long as our armored forces deal with it carefully, they should be able to handle it. As for the KV-2 tank, its 152mm tank gun is indeed impressive. But the speed of this tank is slow, It is very inflexible, and the accuracy is not good. In fact, the threat to our tanks is not as good as the T-34 tank!" Marshal Guderian said.

Qin Tian nodded. He knew that the marshals and generals of the empire also studied Bu'e carefully. Otherwise, they wouldn't know the data of the tanks in Bu Russia so clearly.

Indeed, both the KV-1 tank and the KV-2 tank are not excellent tanks, with many defects. In comparison, the threat of the T-34 tank is far greater than the threat of the KV series of tanks.

"The number of T-34 tanks is indeed small now, but according to the information we have obtained, Bu Russia has already begun to mass-produce T-34 tanks. It is foreseeable that such tanks will soon fill the armored forces of Bu Russia Yes. In the past, when our tiger and leopard tanks dealt with the Russian

armored forces, they were often able to win at a very small cost. But soon, our casualties may have to rise. In this regard, the frontline troops must Get ready!" Qin Tian said.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" All the marshals and generals replied. If Bu Russia really installs T-34 tanks on a large scale, the threat will indeed be great. That's all for T-34/76, and the follow-up T-34/85 will pose a greater threat.

Qin Tian clearly knew that a total of 50,000 tanks like the T-34 had been produced. It can be seen that once the Russian arsenal is fully operational, how fast the production speed of this tank will be. Of course, after being subjected to large-scale strategic bombing by the German Air Force, Russia's industrial production strength has been greatly weakened, but even so, it is no problem to produce hundreds of T-34 tanks a month. In this case, it can also pose a very big threat to the German army.

Not to mention, Qin Tian also knows that Russia is secretly developing IS-1 tanks and IS-2 tanks, especially the latter, although it has many shortcomings, it can also be regarded as a powerful tank.

"Your Majesty, the Yak-1 fighter jet equipped by the Russian Air Force is indeed a fighter with advanced performance. Judging from the data obtained, even though there is still some gap compared with our BF-109 fighter jet, it can barely fight against it." However, if it is against our FW-190 fighter jets, it will not be enough." Air Force Minister Marshal Kesselring said.

"How is the refitting of the fighter unit of the Imperial Air Force going?" Qin Tian asked.

Before, the main fighter of the Imperial Air Force was still the BF-109 fighter, and only a part of the FW-190 fighter was in service. With various losses and sales to vassal states, the BF-109 fighter jets are gradually being retired from the fighter force of the Imperial Air Force and replaced by the more powerful FW-190 fighter jets. Compared with the BF-109 fighter, the performance of the FW-190 fighter is undoubtedly more advanced. The increase in the number of such advanced fighter jets is also of great help in improving the combat effectiveness of the Luftwaffe.

"Your Majesty, so far, half of the combat wings of the Imperial Air Force have been replaced with FW-190 fighter jets. Especially the air forces deployed on the Eastern Front have basically completed the replacement. Only the air forces deployed in other directions, haven't changed clothes yet," Marshal Kesselring reported.

The Eastern Front is undoubtedly the most important battlefield. Here, the Imperial Air Force is about to launch a more intense confrontation with the Russian Air Force. Although in last year's battle, the Imperial Air Force beat the Russian Air Force to the ground, causing it to pay extremely heavy losses. However, the Russian Air Force has a large number of pilots. Even if their quality is not as good as that of the Luftwaffe, if they can be equipped with advanced fighter jets, they can still pose a great threat to the Luftwaffe. Therefore, the German Air Force must further enhance the strength of the air force, especially the strength of the air force deployed on the Eastern Front. Only in this way can the advantage occupied by the Luftwaffe be maintained. Only then can the losses of the Luftwaffe in the war be further reduced. After all, although the German Air Force has a large number of pilots, each one is very precious. It may take a long time for this war to end. It is undoubtedly very necessary to find a way to avoid the loss of the Air Force.

Qin Tian nodded, although the Yak-1 fighter jet of the Russian Air Force is good, even better than the Lager-3 fighter jets and MiG-3 fighter jets that will be in service later. But compared with the FW-

190 fighter jet of the German Air Force, the gap and disadvantage are still very obvious. Once the German Air Force's fighter jets on the Eastern Front are all refitted as FW-190 fighter jets, it will be even more impossible for the Russian Air Force to regain its disadvantage. What awaits them will be one after another fiasco.

"By the way, Marshal Kesselring. How is the development progress of the TA-152 fighter? When will it be ready for deployment?" Qin Tian asked.

The TA-152 fighter is definitely the pinnacle of the propeller fighter. This is also the last propeller fighter of the Luftwaffe. Even, in this war, this fighter may become the main fighter of the Luftwaffe. Therefore, Qin Tian is very concerned about this.

"Your Majesty, the development of the TA-152 fighter jet is going very smoothly, and the test flight has already begun. However, if it is to be mass-produced, it will probably have to wait until the second half of the year. If it is to form combat effectiveness, I am afraid it will have to wait until next year!" Marshal Kesselring replied.

Marshal Kesselring and other marshals and generals of the Imperial Air Force are also looking forward to the new fighter jet TA-152 fighter. This means that the German Air Force will further widen the gap with other countries' air forces in terms of fighter jets. As a result, the Luftwaffe will have a greater advantage in future battles.

"What about the development progress of the jet fighter?" Qin Tian continued to ask.

Compared to the popular propeller pilots, jet aircraft will undoubtedly represent the mainstream of the future. However, the current technology is still very limited. There is undoubtedly a long way to go to develop a jet aircraft that meets Qin Tian's needs.

"Your Majesty, the jet fighter of the Imperial Air Force is stepping up research and development. At present, a breakthrough has been made in the jet engine. It is expected to be successful next year." Marshal Kesselring reported.

Chapter 1420

"Marshal Manstein, the main task of the empire in 1940 was to defeat Bu Russia and completely defeat them. However, this does not mean that the empire does not care about other battlefields. On the Pacific battlefield, the empire and the island countries have already fought. Yes. Although the island countries have the home court advantage in the Pacific battlefield, our troops deployed in the Pacific seem to be performing very well. Although we cannot send the main force to the Pacific in a short period of time, we must maintain the battle. After we have won the victory in Europe and other battlefields, we will increase our troops in the Pacific and defeat the islanders in one fell swoop!" Qin Tian said.

"Yes, Your Majesty. I have been paying attention to the Pacific battlefield. The island navy did not take advantage of the Imperial Navy's Pacific Fleet and Indian Ocean Fleet, but suffered heavy losses. Similarly, on the Borneo battlefield, the southern army of the island army, also suffered heavy losses in the battle with the 23rd Army of the Imperial Army. Therefore, it can be clearly seen from these situations that the combat effectiveness of the island * army is weaker than we imagined. With the

military forces deployed by the Empire in the Pacific region, It shouldn't be a big problem if you stick to it. However, I'm afraid it will lose some ground." Marshal Manstein said.

Qin Tian nodded: "It doesn't matter if you lose some territory. As long as the empire can occupy some territory in Nanyang and Australia, we can free up our hands and fight back. By that time, the empire's large-scale increase of troops in the Pacific Ocean will be enough to crush the islanders. !"

With Germany's current strength, Qin Tian didn't regard the island country as a big threat at all. After all, although the island country can be regarded as one of the powerful countries, compared with Germany, the world hegemon, the gap is still too large. If it weren't for the fact that the mainland of Germany is too far away from the Pacific Ocean, Germany would have perished as an island country long ago. After Germany has won or gained an advantage in other battlefields, it can mobilize troops to increase its troops in the Pacific at any time, so as to win the final victory.

"Your Majesty, the Imperial Army, Navy and Air Force will also appropriately send some reinforcements to the Pacific battlefield." Marshal Manstein continued.

"In addition to the island countries, the empire must also pay special attention to the Americans this year! I think that the Americans will never watch the empire perish this year. Therefore, we must prepare early. The Americans are extremely It is possible to start a war against the empire this year!" Qin Tian reminded.

Marshal Manstein and the others couldn't help but become serious. After all, to some extent, the United States is undoubtedly Germany's biggest enemy. The barrier of the Atlantic Ocean makes it difficult for Germany to deploy its military power to the United States, posing a real threat to the United States. At the same time, the strong industrial strength and huge population of the United States enable the United States to possess extremely powerful military strength. Although it cannot be compared with Germany, it is enough to pose a relatively large threat to Germany. Although, also blocked by the Atlantic Ocean, even if the United States goes to war with Germany, it will not be able to threaten the European continent for a while. However, the pressure on the Imperial Navy may be very high.

"About the United States, you don't have to worry about it for the time being. The Imperial Navy will resist the American attack. Before defeating the Imperial Navy, the Americans cannot threaten the European continent. Therefore, the Imperial Army and Air Force must hurry up and hit hard this year. Bu Russia, let the empire gain a decisive advantage on the Bu Russia battlefield. Only in this way can the empire calmly deal with the threat of the Americans!" Qin Tian continued.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" All the marshals and generals replied.

That afternoon, Emperor Qin Tian summoned several marshals and important generals of the Imperial Navy in the palace, including Marshal Raeder, Minister of the Imperial Navy, Marshal Doenitz, Commander of the Submarine Force of the Imperial Navy, and Marshal Lütjens, Commander of the Imperial Home Fleet. , Admiral Rolf Karls, commander of the Imperial Atlantic Fleet, Admiral Herman Boehm, commander of the Imperial Mediterranean Fleet.

The reason why these admirals and generals were summoned separately was because, on the Bu-Russian battlefield, the navy was basically of little help. On the other hand, it is because in this year's war, the combat mission of the Imperial Navy is also very important.

"Everyone, I have said before that this year will be a critical year for the Empire. This is not just for the Imperial Army and Air Force. The same is true for the Navy. Therefore, I hope that the Empire The navy will be able to make preparations for the empire in this year!" Qin Tian said solemnly.

The admirals and generals of the navy are also very aware of what will happen this year. They are all ready. Even, this has already been very much looking forward to.

"Your Majesty, the Imperial Navy is ready. If any enemy dares to launch a war against the Empire, the Imperial Navy will definitely be able to defeat them, defend the Empire's maritime interests, and win the final victory for the Empire!" said Marshal Raeder, Minister of the Navy.

Qin Tian nodded in satisfaction. Since the Imperial Navy defeated the British Navy in the last war and became the supremacy of the sea, the strength of the Imperial Navy has surpassed the whole world. Now, despite the challenges of the U.S. Navy and the island nation's navy, the overall strength of the Imperial Navy is still stronger than them. Therefore, the imperial navy has a very high chance of winning this war.

"On the Pacific battlefield, the Imperial Navy's Pacific Fleet and Indian Ocean Fleet have already defeated the attack of the island nation's navy. However, the island nation's navy is rapidly recovering its strength, which cannot be underestimated. Tell the Pacific Fleet and the Indian Ocean Fleet whether the Empire can hold the Pacific Ocean On the battlefield, it depends on whether they can withstand the attack of the island nation's navy." Qin Tian said.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Marshal Raeder nodded.

"Then, the most critical battle is undoubtedly the Atlantic Ocean. According to the analysis of the Empire, the United States is likely to go to war against the Empire this year. Then, the Imperial Navy will undoubtedly become the first target of the Americans. Even, the United States It is very likely that people will adopt a conspiracy to attack the imperial navy first and then declare war. Therefore, the mission of the imperial navy in the Atlantic Ocean is very important." Qin Tian continued.

Marshal Lütjens, Commander of the Home Fleet, and Admiral Rolf Karls, Commander of the Atlantic Fleet, all looked dignified. Once the empire and the United States go to war, the navy will become the most important force. In particular, their two fleets will become the main force against the US Navy. The strength of the Mediterranean Fleet is relatively weak, so it can only be used as a supplement.