

# Jagged 1761

## Chapter 1761

Semarang, one of the main cities in the east of Java Island, was once a place of economic prosperity. However, after the war started, the city has become very depressed. Especially after the German army began to gather in Southeast Asia and Australia, the people living in the city almost fled.

The headquarters of the 5th Front of the Island Army is located in Semarang. The entire front army has 5 divisions and two independent mixed brigades under the jurisdiction of the island army, with a total strength of more than 100,000.

In view of the small size of Java Island, although the army of the island country also deployed two front armies and two armies on Java Island. But in fact, the establishment of the two front armies and the two armies is not large. Compared with the two front armies and two armies of the island army deployed on Sumatra Island, the strength is much smaller.

At 9 o'clock in the morning, the 6th Division of the German Marine Corps had established a firm foothold on the beach about five kilometers northeast of Semarang. The 42nd Division of the Japanese Army stationed here was defeated. Now, the 12th Army of the German Army is landing here.

"Your Excellency, Commander, the 42nd Division has lost more than two-thirds, and all coastal positions have been lost. The Germans are landing in large numbers." Lieutenant General Hagi Saburo, Chief of Staff of the 5th Front, reported.

Lieutenant General Jiichiro Higuchi, the commander of the 5th Front Army, looked very ugly. The defense zone of his troops seemed to be the focus of the German attack. This caused the 5th Front Army to suffer very large losses during the battle.

"Bastard! Did the 42nd Division collapse after holding on for less than two hours? How can this battle continue? Tell Lieutenant General Sano Torata to launch a counterattack immediately, and drive the Germans into the sea no matter what!" Lieutenant General Higuchi Kiichiro ordered.

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander!" Lieutenant General Hagi Saburo replied.

Although, at this moment, the 42nd Division of the Japanese Army has suffered heavy losses, with more than two-thirds of the people killed in battle. Letting them launch a counterattack at this time will only kill them all. However, after receiving the order, Lieutenant General Sano Torata, head of the 42nd Division of the Japanese Army, had no choice but to carry out the order and lead the remaining defeated soldiers to attack until they all died in battle.

Lieutenant General Higuchi Kiichiro has no choice but to defend the lines of Cirebon, Pekalongan and Semarang with his troops. In each of these three major cities, a division was deployed. Without exception, the three divisions stationed on the front line have all suffered devastating blows. It can be said that the entire 5th Front Army of the Japanese Army has been severely damaged. If it goes on like this, I'm afraid it won't last long.

Kiichiro Higuchi also sent a telegram to Batavia asking for help, hoping to get reinforcements. Judging from the current situation, the defense zone of the 5th Front Army has

become the key breakthrough target of the German army. If no more reinforcements are received, the 5th Front will soon be completely lost. At that time, the Germans will easily land from here.

After learning of the plight of the 5th Front Army, General Toshida Terauchi has ordered the 38th Army to rush to help. But whether it can withstand the German attack is undoubtedly very difficult to say.

Sumatra Island, along the Strait of Malacca, the fighting was very fierce.

The German Army and Marine Corps that had landed began to attack the coastal cities of the Strait of Malacca.

Two regiments of the 21st Infantry Division under the German 3rd Army and a regiment of the 1st Marine Division launched a fierce attack on Banda Aceh. Stationed here is the 16th Army of the Japanese Army. This army has the 48th Infantry Division, the independent mixed 27th brigade and the independent mixed 28th brigade, as well as the 4th Tank Wing and the 12th Field Heavy Artillery Brigade directly under the army.

During the landing operations of the 1st Division of the German Marine Corps, the 48th Division of the Japanese Army was almost disabled. The troops of the two regiments died on the beach, and the remaining 47th infantry regiment withdrew to Banda Aceh.

But at this moment, the army of the island country in Banda Aceh has not many troops, and the front-line combat troops only have more than 20,000 people. Facing the attack of the three regiments of the German army, they are completely at a disadvantage.

"Your Excellency, the German offensive is too fierce, and the 48th Infantry Division is almost finished." Major General Shigeichiro Yamamoto, chief of staff of the 16th Army, reported.

Lieutenant General Yuichiro Nagano, commander of the 16th Army of the Island Army, looked very ugly. Although he has long known that the German army's combat effectiveness is very strong. It is almost impossible for the island army to compete head-on with the German army. However, now that he has fought against each other, he really knows how strong the German army is. In terms of firepower alone, the German army does not know how many streets the Japanese army has thrown away.

During the firepower preparations before the German landing operations, the German 16th Army suffered a lot of losses. Not only the painstakingly built fortifications were almost destroyed, but the carefully camouflaged artillery positions were also found by the Luftwaffe. This made the 12th Field Heavy Artillery Brigade under the 16th Army and the 48th Mountain Artillery Regiment under the 48th Division almost completely wiped out. The artillery of the two independent mixed brigades did not suffer much loss. But obviously, in the face of the strong fire support of the German army, such a little artillery would be useless at all. Even if it is exposed, it will definitely be attacked by the Luftwaffe. Therefore, Nagano Yuichiro does not intend to use these two artillery units immediately.

"Order the 4th Tank Wing to independently form the 27th Brigade and launch a counterattack. The Germans must be driven into the sea!" Lieutenant General Yuichiro Nagano ordered.

"Yes, Your Excellency, Commander." Major General Shigeichiro Yamamoto replied.

Ten minutes later, the 4th Wing of the Japanese Army Tank and the Independent Mixed Brigade launched a counterattack.

The 4th Wing of the Island Army is equipped with hundreds of tanks. The island nation calls it a chariot, though. They are Type 97 Medium Tank and Type 95 Light Tank. The former weighed 15 tons and was armed with a 57mm short-barreled tank gun and two 7.7mm machine guns. The latter weighs 7.4 tons and is armed with a 37mm tank gun and two 7.7mm machine guns.

It's just that the 4th Wing of the Japanese Army Tank was discovered by the German army as soon as it appeared on the tank.

More than a dozen armed helicopters launched attacks on these island tanks.

The front armor of the Type 97 medium tank is only 25 mm, and the front armor of the Type 95 light tank is only 12 mm. This kind of defense is not even as good as the armored vehicles of the German army.

Under the attack of the German armed helicopters, these tanks were destroyed one after another. Even a large-caliber aviation machine gun can easily penetrate the side armor of the Type 95 light tank.

From entering the battlefield to the annihilation of the entire army, less than 20 minutes before and after, all the tanks of the 4th Wing of the Island Army Battlefield were wiped out. The 27th Brigade, an independent and mixed group of the Japanese army, also collapsed subsequently.

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"Your Excellency Chief of Staff, we have captured Banda Aceh. The 16th Army of the Island Army stationed here were all killed. During the battle, the Islanders also dispatched armored troops. However, almost all of their tanks It is a light tank or a miniature tank." Marshal Bock, commander of the German 3rd Army, said.

The weight of the medium tanks of the Japanese army is only equivalent to the light tanks of the German army. As for the light tanks weighing only a few tons, they are only equivalent to the tanks equipped by the German army in the early days. The current German army is rarely equipped with light tanks. As the main force, they are all medium tanks and heavy tanks. Even after the mass production of the "King Tiger" heavy tank began, the production of the "Black Panther" tank had stopped. In other words, the German army has begun to eliminate medium tanks. It can be seen how big the gap between the armored forces of the two sides is.

The German Minister of War and Chief of the General Staff Marshal Manstein was not surprised that the island army's armored forces were vulnerable. After all, the previous island countries have always lacked resources, so it is naturally impossible to develop heavy tanks that consume extremely resources like Germany.

"How many troops from the 3rd Army have gone ashore?" Marshal Manstein asked.

"Your Excellency Chief of Staff, four infantry divisions of the 3rd Army have successfully landed. After occupying Banda Aceh, the 3rd Armored Division, the 21st Mechanized Infantry Division and the 22nd Mechanized Infantry Division are speeding up their landing. In addition, The 13th Army of Army Group F also captured Simawei, and the main force began to land," Marshal Bock reported.

"Marshal Rundstedt, what about the 11th Army?" Marshal Manstein asked.

"Your Excellency, Chief of Staff, the 11th Army has captured Lansia in the west of Medan, only 40 kilometers away from Medan. Now, the main force of the 11th Army is landing, and will launch an attack on Medan later." The Special Marshal replied.

Marshal Manstein nodded. The German attack on Sumatra Island went smoothly. Although the army of the island country has two front armies and two armies on Sumatra Island, its strength is strong. However, the German army planned to invest in three main armies to fight. Judging from the current situation, there is no problem at all for the three main group armies of the German army to wipe out the island army's troops on Sumatra in one fell swoop.

"Order all the ministries to step up the landing, and then launch an attack. Try to take Sumatra within half a month." Marshal Manstein ordered.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Chief of Staff!" Both Marshal Bork and Marshal Rundstedt replied.

The German army is not only progressing smoothly on the island of Sumatra, but also on the island of Java, the German army is also progressing smoothly. The 12th Army of the German Army Group E, the 4th Army and the 16th Army of the G Army Group have all established a firm foothold in Cirebon, Pekalongan and Semarang on Java Island. And, as a large number of troops landed, they began to attack the defense line of the island country army, further seizing more territory.

As some coastal cities fell into the hands of the German army, the main armored forces of the German army also began to go ashore. Once these armored units go ashore, the attack power of the German army will be greatly improved. It is even more impossible for the Japanese army to resist the German attack.

Semarang, the 5th Front Army of the Japanese Army is still struggling here. Three infantry divisions of the German 12th Front and a regiment of the Marine Corps laid siege here. As for the troops defending in the city, only the 101st Independent Mixed Brigade and the 129th Independent Mixed Brigade of the 5th Front Army of the Japanese Army and the 41st Independent Mixed Brigade directly under the 5th Front Army remained. The 22nd Chariot Wing, the 22nd Independent Tank Battalion, and four independent infantry brigades. Adding up these troops, the total strength is only more than 20,000. It is almost impossible to resist the attack of the superior forces of the German army.

As for the several divisions under the 5th Front Army of the Island Army, they have suffered heavy losses under the German attack, and even two divisions have been wiped out.

The reinforcements sent by the Southern Army Command of the Island Army were intercepted by the German 4th Army west of Cirebon. This also made it impossible for reinforcements to arrive.

Under such circumstances, it is only a matter of time before the 5th Front Army is eliminated.

The underground headquarters of the 5th Front Army of the Semarang Island Army, Lieutenant General Higuchi Kiichiro, the commander, was pale. Even though he tried to stay calm, he found that it was impossible. The bad news one after another put him in a state of collapse.

"Your Excellency, Commander, the 42nd Infantry Division was completely broken an hour ago. The 7th Infantry Division was surrounded by siege in Cirebon. The division commander, Lieutenant General Kotogyuichi, is determined to die!" Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Hagi Saburo reported. .

Such news made Lieutenant General Higuchi Kiichiro's face pale again.

"What about the situation in Semarang City?" Lieutenant General Higuchi Kiichiro asked.

"Your Excellency, the situation in the city is also very pessimistic. The Germans actively launched an attack with tens of thousands of elite troops, while our troops are seriously at a disadvantage, and we are almost unable to hold on." Lieutenant General Hagi Saburo said.

"Baga! Where's the reinforcements? Where's the reinforcements sent by the commander? Why haven't they arrived yet?" Lieutenant General Higuchi Kiichiro panicked. He knew that if this continued, he might have to commit seppuku.

"Your Excellency, the reinforcements were stopped by the Germans west of Cirebon. The commander of the 38th Army, Lieutenant General Yuichi Dohashi, reported that they were unable to break through the German blockade." Lieutenant General Hagi Saburo replied.

"Baga! The 38th Army has 4 divisions and an independent mixed brigade, as well as an elite unit like the 2nd Infantry Division. How could it be impossible to break through the German blockade?" Lieutenant General Kiichiro Higuchi Some gaffe. There is no way to do this, and no one can be calm when facing death.

Lieutenant General Hagi Saburo said nothing. Although the 38th Army has 4 infantry divisions and an independent mixed brigade, the enemies they face are not weak either! The German 4th Army deployed three infantry divisions west of Cirebon, supported by naval artillery fire from the sea and air force. It is almost impossible for the 38th Army of the Japanese Army to break through the German blockade. Once the armored troops of the German army come ashore, the 38th Army of the Japanese Army can be thrown out.

The German army's large-scale offensive has only been carried out on the third day, and the situation in the entire Southeast Asia has become very unfavorable to the army of the island country. Whether it is Sumatra, Java, or New Guinea, the war situation continues to erode.

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"Your Excellency, the reinforcements sent by the 14th Front Army were heavily shelled by the German Navy and bombed by the Luftwaffe. The troops suffered heavy losses. At the same time, the marching speed was very slow. The 7th Front Army now lacks time most. If it is not good, I am afraid that the reinforcements will not arrive. Once the 7th Front Army is wiped out by the German army, the main force of the German army will attack the 14th Front Army, the 2nd

Army and the 18th Army. The German army has invested a total of three groups in Sumatra. 600,000 people. Although we are not at a disadvantage in terms of military strength, judging from the current situation, it may be very difficult to resist the German attack!" Lieutenant General Tsukada Gong looked worried.

The entire Nanyang war situation is now very unfavorable to the army of the island country, as the German army has established a firm foothold in Sumatra, Java and New Guinea. This would allow more German troops to land easily. At that time, it will undoubtedly be impossible for the Japanese army to compete with the German army.

General Shou in the temple looked very ugly. The order issued by the country was to hope that the Southern Army could persevere in the Nanyang battlefield. The longer the delay, the better, and the greater the casualties caused to the German army, the better. But now he found that this task was simply impossible to complete. The German firepower was strong and the offensive was fierce. The island army resisted desperately, and it was no different from hitting a stone with a pebble, and was easily wiped out by the German army.

"Tukada-kun, do you have any suggestions for the current situation?" General Toshiichi Terauchi asked.

"Your Excellency, the reason why we are at a disadvantage is simply because the Germans have too much firepower. They can get support from the sea and the air. This makes our troops have to risk heavy German shelling and bombing Combat. If there is no threat in this aspect, then our pressure will be much less. In this case, we may be able to withstand the German attack. No matter how bad it is, the German army can also pay more casualties during the attack " said Lieutenant General Tsukada Gong.

General Toshiichi Terauchi nodded: "The German naval guns and air support are indeed very powerful. The fortifications that our troops have painstakingly built cannot withstand the German naval artillery bombardment and bombing. The troops are also We suffered heavy losses under the firepower of the enemy. If this continues, our strength will only become weaker and weaker, and it will be even more impossible to resist the German attack."

"However, several Army Air Forces suffered heavy losses under the sudden attack of the Luftwaffe. Although in the battles of the past few days, they insisted on launching operations. However, the Luftwaffe has completely taken advantage. Our Army Aviation The loss of the army is also increasing. The air supremacy of the entire Southeast Asia has fallen into the hands of the Germans. I will report to the country and ask the Army Air Force to send us more reinforcements. But even so, I am afraid it will be very difficult reverse the situation."

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander. The Luftwaffe has a huge advantage. Even if all the domestic aviation forces reinforce Nanyang, they are not the opponents of the Germans. Even if we replace the aircraft developed by the Americans. Compared with other aircraft, the gap is still very obvious. Even if our pilots try their best, they are not the opponents of the Germans. Moreover, as our elite pilots lose more and more, the remaining pilots are less skilled. Even more so, they are no match for the Germans." Lieutenant General Tsukada also sighed.

Before the German army aggressively attacked the North American continent, in order to cause trouble for Germany, the U.S. government transferred all the production technology of the P-51 fighter jets and P-47 fighter jets to the island country government free of charge. It even

exported a batch of machinery and equipment to the island country, making it easier for the island country to manufacture these two powerful aircraft.

Originally, the U.S. government wanted to arm the island countries as much as possible, so that the island countries could make breakthroughs on the Nanyang battlefield, so that Germany had to deploy more troops to Nanyang to relieve its own pressure.

But unfortunately, the island country has not been able to fulfill the expectations of the Americans at all. In other words, the United States collapsed too quickly. Before the islanders were ready, the United States had already surrendered.

However, this has also significantly improved the military strength of the island country. However, even so, the gap between them and the German army is still very large. So much so that the southern army of the island country was suppressed from the very beginning in this war. Up to now, the loss has been heavy, and it is almost unbearable.

"Your Excellency, in addition to the Army Air Force, there is also the Navy. The Combined Fleet is now very strong. Although the main force of the German Navy has gathered in the Pacific Ocean. However, our navy is not without a chance of victory. As long as the Imperial Navy can If the German navy is defeated and the German navy is severely damaged, then the imperial navy can take advantage of the situation and cooperate with us to launch an attack. Attack the German troops that have already landed. In that case, our pressure will be much less. We can even seize this opportunity , defeating the Germans in one fell swoop." Lieutenant General Tsukada said.

General Toshiichi Terauchi couldn't help frowning. As a general of the army and the son of the late Prime Minister Masatake Terauchi, General Toshiichi Terauchi still has a great influence in the island country. However, the navy and the army have always been at odds, and there are great contradictions between the two sides. General Toshiichi Terauchi is on the navy side, but he doesn't have much influence.

If General Toshiichi Terauchi applies to the country, hoping to reinforce some units of the Southern Army, or some aviation units, this should not be a big problem.

However, if Admiral Terauchi Toshiichi is to ask the Navy to engage in a decisive battle with the German Navy, then he will not have this face. The navy may not necessarily sell his face. After all, although the navy of the island country is now powerful, it is obviously still at a disadvantage compared with the German navy. If there is a little carelessness, the navy of the island country is likely to lose completely in this decisive battle. At that time, the results of the Japanese navy's hard work for so many years will be in vain. Therefore, it is undoubtedly very, very difficult to persuade the navy to engage in a decisive battle with the German navy.

"Your Excellency, Commander, if we don't try, what awaits us is probably failure. And, we will fail soon." Lieutenant General Tsukada said.

Terauchi Kotobuki nodded, the current situation is indeed very unfavorable to them. If they don't think about it, they will die.

"Okay, send a telegram to the country immediately, telling them that we need reinforcements. And, we need the navy to defeat the German navy. Otherwise, Nanyang will be completely over!" General Toshiichi Terauchi ordered.

## Chapter 1764

"Your Excellency, Commander, Lieutenant General Kiichiro Higuchi, the commander of the 5th Front Army, once again requested reinforcements. The 5th Front Army has lost more than half of its troops. The remaining troops are also surrounded by the Germans." Tsukada Attacks Will look panicked. As the chief of staff of the Southern Army, after learning about the situation on the front line, he undoubtedly knew that the current battle situation was very unfavorable to them.

"Where's the 38th Army? Hasn't arrived yet?" General Kotobuki asked.

"Your Excellency, the 38th Army has been blocked by the Germans. They have been on the offensive for two days. Not only did they fail to break through the German blockade, but they suffered heavy losses." Lieutenant General Tsukada replied.

"Damn it! Has the situation become this bad on the third day?" General Toshiichi Terauchi couldn't help cursing.

Although, he had long expected that facing the German attack this time, the southern army of the island country army might be at a disadvantage. It may even fail. However, he did not expect that the situation would become so unfavorable to them so quickly. You must know that according to the information obtained so far, the German offensive troops only have 8 army groups. This only accounts for 40% of the German troops in Southeast Asia and Australia. Once the German army invests more troops, won't the Southern Army soon fall apart?

"Your Excellency, the German offensive is too fierce. The navy's naval gun fire support, as well as the powerful air support, make our troops often suffer heavy losses under the German's fierce firepower before they have exchanged fire with the German army. Yes. Coupled with the gap in weapons and equipment between the two sides, it may be very difficult for us to resist the German attack." Lieutenant General Tsukada said.

Terauchi Shouichi's expression became even uglier.

"Deploy the 4th Army to reinforce the 5th Front Army. No matter what, we must persevere!" General Toshiichi Terauchi said.

"Hi, Your Excellency Commander." Lieutenant General Tsukada Ko replied. Then immediately go to convey the order.

The Island Army has a total of two fronts and two armies on Java Island, namely the 5th Front, the 18th Front, the 4th Army and the 38th Army. Among them, the 18th Front Army and the 4th Army are both defending the most important front line of Batavia. Now, the German army did not launch an attack on Batavia, but focused on attacking the defense area of the 5th Front Army of the Island Army. This forced the Island Army to continue to draw troops from Batavia to reinforce the 5th Front. However, such a refueling tactic is doomed to fail.

The 4th Army of the Island Army has 3 divisions and 4 independent mixed brigades under its jurisdiction, with a total strength of nearly 80,000 troops. After receiving the order, the 4th Army immediately reinforced the 5th Front Army along the road. However, this unit was discovered by the Germans as soon as it left Batavia. As a result, this army was bombed on a



large scale by the Luftwaffe on the way to the march. A large number of soldiers died on the march, and the speed of the march was not much faster than a snail.

Before the 4th Army arrived at the front line, the 5th Front Army of the Japanese Army was completely wiped out. Commander Lieutenant General Kiichiro Higuchi and Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Hagi Saburo were defeated and committed seppuku. The division heads of the various divisions under its jurisdiction, and the brigade heads of the brigades, also died in battle or committed suicide one after another. The entire 5th Front, except for a very small number of people who surrendered, was killed.

The main force of the German army also began to land on Java Island. In particular, a large number of armored and mechanized troops began to disembark quickly with the help of port facilities. The 38th Army and the 4th Army of the Japanese Army have been forced to switch from offense to defense. With the 5th Front Army annihilated, their offensive was meaningless. Moreover, after the German army solved the 5th Front Army of the Island Army, they were the next target to attack.

On Sumatra Island, the situation is also very unfavorable to the army of the island country. The German 3rd Army, 11th Army, and 13th Army that had landed began to deploy troops to attack Medan, where the headquarters of the 7th Army of the Island Army is located.

Although, the German army has not completely landed at this moment. The troops attacking Medan were an armored division, a mechanized infantry division, and two infantry divisions of the German 11th Front, as well as an infantry division of the 3rd Army and an infantry division of the 13th Army. But at this moment, the 7th Front Army of the Japanese Army has suffered heavy losses. The troops defending Medan are only the 46th Infantry Division under the 7th Front Army, the 26th Independent Mixed Brigade, and the Medan Defense Force whose strength is comparable to that of an independent mixed brigade.

As for the 16th Army under the 7th Front Army, it has been wiped out by the German 3rd Army. The 25th Army and the 29th Army also suffered heavy losses. The remaining troops were also besieged by the German 3rd Army and the 13th Army, and it was no longer possible to rescue Medan.

General Seishiro Itagaki, commander of the 7th Front Army of the Japanese Army, had to send a telegram to General Homofumi Yamashita, commander of the 14th Front Army of the Japanese Army, requesting reinforcements.

The 14th Front Army of the Japanese Army is much stronger than the 7th Front Army. In addition to the 35th Army and 41st Army, it also directly controls a chariot division, 7 infantry divisions, and two independent troops. \* Create a mixed brigade, an advance group and an infantry brigade.

After receiving a telegram from General Itagaki Seishiro and an order from Batavia to the commander of the Southern Army, General Toshida Terauchi, General Yamashita Fufumi did not dare to neglect, and immediately ordered the 2nd Tank Division and the 1st Infantry Division Regiment, the 10th Division, the 19th Division and the 23rd Division formed a reinforcement force to reinforce the 7th Front Army of the Japanese Army.

It's just that this reinforcement force was also violently bombed by the Luftwaffe. At the same time, because the roads on Sumatra Island are mainly concentrated on the seaside.

Therefore, the German Navy also dispatched a large number of ships to bombard them with naval guns. This not only caused the reinforcements to suffer heavy losses under the shelling and bombing of the German army. It also makes it very difficult for them to rush to Medan as soon as possible.

"Your Excellency, Commander, the situation on Sumatra Island is very unfavorable to us. The German army has already launched a siege to Medan. General Itagaki Seishiro reported that they will soon be unable to hold on." Lieutenant General Tsukada reported.

"Didn't the 14th Front Army reinforce them?" General Toshiichi Terauchi's face was very ugly. He had already issued the order for reinforcements. Moreover, the main force of the Southern Army is concentrated on Sumatra Island. Now, even the war on Sumatra is almost unbearable, so how can we fight this battle?

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The capital of the island country, Tokyo, the Prime Minister's Office.

A car with a license plate of the Ministry of War, under the protection of several jeeps and trucks, drove into the Prime Minister's Office.

The one who got out of the car was General Gen Sugiyama, Chief of Staff of the Japanese Army.

"Your Excellency Chief of Staff, Your Excellency the Prime Minister is waiting for you in the office." The secretary of the Prime Minister Hideki Tojo said.

General Gen. Sugiyama nodded, and went directly to the office of Prime Minister Hideki Tojo.

"Your Excellency, Prime Minister!" Gen. Sugiyama saluted Prime Minister Hideki Tojo respectfully.

"Sit down, Your Excellency the Chief of Staff." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo nodded.

"Hi, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." General Sugiyama Moto took the seat next to him.

"Your Excellency, Chief of Staff, is the domestic conscription going well?" Prime Minister Hideki Tojo asked.

After Germany rejected the island country's request for peace talks, and massively increased its troops in Southeast Asia and Australia, assuming a posture of destroying the island country, the island country government was indeed frightened. On the one hand, they made a strong statement that they would fight to the end, and on the other hand, they frantically recruited troops in the country.

Although, the total population of the island country is less than 80 million. However, the island government led by Prime Minister Hideki Tojo put forward a crazy slogan of recruiting another five million troops. You know, the island country army now has more than six million troops. If another five million were recruited, that would mean that 15% of the people would join the army. This is equivalent to recruiting young and middle-aged men from all over the country into the army. Even the elderly and children were not spared.

Of course, the island government also knows that this is a very crazy behavior. But they hoped to scare the German army through such a move, so that the German army would not dare to attack the mainland of the island country. Or accept the island country's summation. In this way, the island country can end the war at a relatively small cost, and even obtain a relatively decent peace.

"Your Excellency, the recruitment of troops has gone very smoothly. A large number of people have joined the army enthusiastically. It is estimated that in about a month, five million troops will be recruited. However, it may be very difficult to arm these troops. We are already seriously short of It's a heavy weapon. It can't even be done with one rifle per person." General Sugiyama Moto said.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo nodded, this is indeed a real problem.

The island country lacks resources, although it has plundered a lot of resources from the Indonesian and Philippine archipelagos before. However, it is also consumed very quickly. Both the army and the navy are big consumers of these resources. So much so that it is now impossible for the island government to arm the newly recruited troops.

"Let's find a way to equip rifles as much as possible first! The bullets can be a little less. If it is really impossible, one person can fire two grenades." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo said.

"Hi, Your Excellency Prime Minister." General Sugiyama Moto nodded.

"In addition, the ordinary people of the empire must also be mobilized. Once the Germans attack our homeland, we must let them know that all islanders will bravely resist their attack. In this way, the Germans will retreat in spite of difficulties. A flicker of madness flashed in the eyes of Prime Minister Hideki Tojo.

Although, if you surrender to the German army, you may be able to save a lot of people from dying. For island countries, it is also the best choice. However, Hideki Tojo and the soldiers of many island countries would rather die than surrender. They are willing to take more than 70 million people in the entire island country to hell, and they are unwilling to surrender in humiliation.

"Hi, Your Excellency Prime Minister." General Sugiyama Moto replied.

"By the way, Your Excellency the Chief of Staff, what is the matter with you this time?" Prime Minister Hideki Tojo asked.

"Your Excellency, the commander of the Southern Army, General Hisashi Terauchi, has sent a telegram requesting support." General Sugiyama Moto said.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo's brows immediately frowned: "The German offensive has just begun, and the Southern Army can't hold it?"

"Your Excellency, the German offensive is very fierce. Moreover, the German army has received a large number of naval artillery fire support and air support from the sea. The Southern Army fought very hard. All units were lost under the strong firepower of the Germans. It is terrible. Now, all the Southern Army units are retreating steadily. With more and more main German troops landing, the Southern Army is in a very dangerous situation. If it is not good, they will not last long in Nanyang." General Sugiyama Moto Said.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo's face suddenly became very ugly. The strength of the German army seemed to exceed their expectations once again! And this is obviously not what the island country wants to see.

"The Southern Army has no way to resist the German attack, is it?" Prime Minister Hideki Tojo asked.

General Gen. Sugiyama nodded: "Judging from the current situation, this possibility is very low."

"What if we provide support to the Confederate Army?" Prime Minister Hideki Tojo asked.

If the German army can be dragged in Southeast Asia, and then continue to consume the vitality of the German army, this is undoubtedly what the island government wants to see. In this case, at least the war will not burn to their homeland, and they can avoid too much loss.

"Your Excellency Prime Minister, if we support the Southern Army, we can persist in Nanyang for a longer period of time. However, it is still very difficult to completely hold the German army back." General Sugiyama Moto said.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo nodded, he already had a decision in his heart.

"Okay, what support would Terauchi-kun want?" Prime Minister Hideki Tojo asked.

"Terauchi-kun hopes to get the support of the air force to weaken the air superiority of the Germans. In this way, their pressure will be less." General Sugiyama Moto said.

"This is no problem, the Army Air Force can dispatch two air forces to reinforce them!" Prime Minister Hideki Tojo said. He was the commander of the Air Force and had a great influence on the Air Force.

"In addition, Terauchi-kun hopes that the navy can be dispatched to defeat the German navy. In this case, the Germans will lose the support of the navy and their air superiority will be weakened. The possibility of the Southern Army's persistence is much greater." Admiral Sugiyama Moto Then he said.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo frowned again: "I'm afraid it's not easy to get the navy to fight!"

"However, Your Excellency, Prime Minister. If the navy can win, the situation in Nanyang may change. In order to win, we must let the navy go to war." Admiral Sugiyama Moto said.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo nodded: "Okay, let Shimada Shintaro, Nagano Shoshin, and Yamamoto Fifty-Six call immediately. Put pressure on the Navy and let them send a joint fleet to fight."

General Sugiyama Moto nodded in agreement.

In the current island country, the army has an advantage. Therefore, if they put pressure on the navy, the possibility of the navy's rejection is very small.

General Shimoda Shigetaro, General Nagano Shoshin and General Yamamoto Fifty-six did not keep Prime Minister Hideki Tojo and General Sugiyama Moto waiting for a long time, and arrived at the prime minister's office half an hour later.

The three of them also analyzed Prime Minister Hideki Tojo's intention to summon them on the way here. Although it is not particularly clear, the meaning has probably been guessed. The southern army is now in a bitter battle. Prime Minister Hideki Tojo wants to summon them at this time, it must be for the war in Nanyang. However, how to deal with it depends on what Prime Minister Hideki Tojo is going to do next.

When the main force of the German navy entered the South China Sea, the navy of the island country voluntarily withdrew from the South China Sea in order to preserve its strength. Now, the combined fleet has retreated to the waters east of the Philippine Islands. Although there are many German islands in this sea area. However, in the first half of this year, after the recovery of the naval strength of the island countries, they continued to attack these islands. The military installations on these islands were destroyed over and over again with bombs and shells. This made it impossible for the German Navy to use these islands for a while.

However, the navy of the island country is very clear. Although the island nation's navy is now at its peak in history. However, compared with the German Navy, they are still at a disadvantage. Even if the German navy has only assembled three fleets in the Pacific Ocean, it is not something that the navy of the island country can deal with. If possible, the navy of the island country hopes to delay the decisive battle with the German navy as much as possible. After more aircraft carriers and capital ships are in service, they will have relatively greater strength. That way, the chances of success are greater.

"Shimada-kun, Nagano-kun, Yamamoto-kun, please sit down!" Prime Minister Hideki Tojo's face was full of smiles.

Although the conflict between the army and navy of the island country is very large. However, after he became prime minister, he had to find a way to balance the army and navy. Otherwise, this will not only cause the loss of the military power of the island nation, but also seriously affect the unity of the island nation society.

General Shimoda Shigetaro, General Nagano Slim and General Yamamoto Fifty-six have done well.

"My lords, the empire is now at the point of life and death. The German offensive in Nanyang is very fierce. With the naval artillery firepower of the navy and the air support of the air force, the southern army suffered heavy losses. Terauchi Shouichi The general reported that if this continues, the Southern Army may soon be unable to hold on. So now we must find a way to allow the Southern Army to continue. Otherwise, once the Southern Army fails, the entire Nanyang will fall. It fell into the hands of the Germans. At that time, they will even directly attack our homeland. In that case, it will be a disaster for the empire." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo said with a serious face.

Generals Shimoda Shigetaro, Nagano Self-cultivation, and Yamamoto Fifty-Six said that this is really no different from what they expected. However, the southern army is now at a disadvantage, which is not good news for the island navy. Once the southern army is defeated,

the mainland of the island country will be threatened. At that time, the Japanese navy will have to find a way to resist the German attack.

"Gentlemen, the southern army needs support now. The army has decided to deploy two air armies to Nanyang again to weaken the air superiority of the Germans. I hope that the navy can be dispatched and wait for an opportunity to defeat the German navy. Just wait for the country to defeat the German navy. If so, then our predicament in Nanyang can be resolved. After losing command of the sea, it is impossible for the Germans to defeat us in Nanyang." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo continued.

General Shimoda Shigetaro and the others were taken aback for a moment. They did not expect that Prime Minister Hideki Tojo would directly make such a request. However, this is too much to think highly of the island navy. If they want to defeat the German navy, it will be very difficult. It is even said that it is almost impossible.

"Your Excellency, our strength is weaker than that of the German Navy. Not only is the number of carrier-based aircraft greatly inferior to that of the German Navy, but the performance is also seriously behind the German Navy. Moreover, due to the heavy losses of our carrier-based aircraft pilots, the supplementary carrier-based aircraft pilots are all recruits without actual combat experience. If we let them go to a decisive battle with the Germans, it may be very difficult for us to win. We may even lose ourselves." General Shimoda Shigetaro said.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo couldn't help but frowned.

"Shimada-san, if the navy doesn't move out, I'm afraid we can only watch the Southern Army suffer a disastrous defeat. At that time, the Germans will attack our homeland step by step. Once the homeland is attacked by the Germans, this will deal a devastating blow to us." General Sugiyama Gen said.

"But if the navy fails instead of defeating the Germans, then once our homeland is threatened by the Germans, there will be no way to resist the Germans' attack." Admiral Nagano Slim said.

"The defense of the mainland is the responsibility of the army. We are recruiting more troops. Soon, we will be able to assemble 8 million troops on the mainland. Even if the navy fails, it is impossible for the Germans to defeat us on the mainland. Yes." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo said.

Suddenly, Generals Shimoda Shigetaro, General Nagano Shoshin and General Yamamoto Fifty-six were silent. From the words of Prime Minister Hideki Tojo, they could hear the determination of Prime Minister Hideki Tojo. In other words, it is the determination of the Army. If the Navy still refuses to agree to send a joint fleet to fight at this time, then the two sides may officially tear each other apart.

"Gentlemen, the situation is urgent now. It is about the life and death of the empire. We must do our best. Even if there is only a sliver of hope, we must do our best. In this case, maybe we can have a chance. As long as we can defeat the German navy. Let the southern army persist in Nanyang. Then, we will be able to obtain a large amount of resources from the Indonesian and Philippine archipelago. At that time, the warships lost by the navy will be replenished soon. Even, there will be development. It is stronger. But if the Southern Army loses, we lose Nanyang. Then, we will no longer get any resources. And the aircraft carriers and battleships under

construction in the Navy may just continue to lie on the berth. Slowly rusting." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo continued.

General Shimoda Shigetaro and others looked very ugly, and Prime Minister Hideki Tojo's intention of persecution was undoubtedly already very obvious.

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"Defeating the Germans is not only the responsibility of the army, but also the responsibility of the navy. Now, the army is fighting the Germans on the front line, and the casualties are very large every day. Could it be that the navy is watching from the sidelines? If so, Once we cannot withstand the German attack and lose the battle, the navy will not benefit at all." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo continued.

"Your Excellency, the strength of the United Fleet is not easy to recover. Now, it has not recovered to its strongest state. If we can persist for a while and let us have more warships in service, we will have a greater chance of winning. Otherwise If not, the odds of winning now will be very small," said Admiral Yamamoto Fifty-Six, Commander of the Combined Fleet.

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo shook his head: "There is no time. The German offensive is very fierce, and the Southern Army is almost unable to hold on under the massive German offensive. Unless the German Navy can be severely damaged and the command of the sea can be taken over. The Army Air Force will attack with all its strength to weaken the air superiority of the Germans. Otherwise, the Southern Army may soon be defeated. At that time, the Germans will occupy the entire Southeast Asia. Not only will our homeland be threatened, but more importantly, We will no longer be able to obtain resources from Nanyang. All local military manufacturing will be stopped. This will not only affect the army, but also the navy. The construction of the navy requires a lot of resources."

General Shimoda Shigetaro and the others also became serious.

In the shipyard of the German Navy, there are still a large number of warships under construction. The follow-up of the "Yunlong-class" aircraft carrier is simply the "Kai Taifeng-class" aircraft carrier, the "Kai Yamato-class" battleship and the "Super Yamato-class" battleship. At the same time, a large number of cruisers and destroyers are also under construction. The construction of these warships is very resource-intensive. Once the island country can no longer obtain resources from Southeast Asia, it will be almost impossible for the navy of the island country to serve these warships.

General Shimanta Shigetaro and the three looked at each other, they all knew that they had to compromise now.

"Well, the combined fleet will go to battle as soon as possible. We will do our best to defeat the German navy. However, I can't guarantee the final result." Admiral Yamamoto Fifty-Six said.

"This is natural. I can't believe it. Amaterasu will definitely bless us. We will be able to defeat the Germans in the end." Prime Minister Hideki Tojo said.

After the meeting, General Yamamoto Fifty-Six did not leave Tokyo immediately, but went to the Ministry of the Navy first.

"Yamamoto-kun, are you sure about this battle?" Admiral Shigetaro Shimada asked with concern.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six shook his head: "The Germans have too great an advantage. Although they only have 16 aircraft carriers, they are all large aircraft carriers. They are much more. Moreover, the performance of their carrier-based aircraft is generally better than ours. The quality of the pilots is also better. Under such circumstances, it is very difficult for us to defeat the Germans."

"We still have the 'Yamato class', which is definitely the most powerful battleship in the world!" General Nagano Slim said.

"The 'Yamato-class' battleships may be very powerful. However, we only have eight capital ships in total. The Germans have more than twenty capital ships!" General Yamamoto Fifty-Six said.

I have to admit that from these perspectives, the odds of winning for the navy of the island country are very small.

"Shimada-kun, Nagano-kun. In short, I will try my best to defeat the Germans this time. But because of the gap between the two sides, the chance of winning is probably less than 30%!" General Yamamoto Fifty-Six said.

Although from the perspective of these leaders of the island navy, they don't want to have a decisive battle with the German navy so soon. But the current situation does not allow them to think about anything else. Even if the chances of winning are small, they have to muster up the courage to go all out.

"Yamamoto-kun, if you have no choice, you can only fight. Go ahead and fight! We firmly believe that you will win!" General Shimoda Shigetaro said.

General Yong Ye also nodded repeatedly.

I have to admit that the gambling nature of the islanders is very strong. Knowing that the enemy is very strong, the chance of winning is very small. However, the islanders still dare to go all out to fight for that chance of survival.

Of course, if the bet wins, the harvest will be very large. But if the bet is lost, the consequences are obvious.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six nodded, he also knew how much pressure was on his shoulders.

In the afternoon of the same day, General Yamamoto Fifty-Six left the island country on a special plane, traveled to the Philippines via Ryukyu, and then took a seaplane to the flagship aircraft carrier "Taiho" of the United Fleet.

Although the most powerful battleships of the Japanese navy are already in service, previous naval battles have proved that the combination of aircraft carriers and carrier-based aircraft is the main force of current naval battles. Therefore, the navy of the island country also recognized this, and the flagship became the aircraft carrier "Taiho" instead of the battleship "Yamato".



At this time, the main force of the combined fleet of the island nation's navy is operating in the Philippine Sea in the east of the Philippine Islands, thousands of kilometers away from the Coral Sea where the main force of the German Navy is operating.

However, after the fifty-sixth general Yamamoto arrived, he immediately issued an order for the fleet to go south. At the same time, a group of generals from the United Fleet was summoned.

"My lords, the cabinet requires us to go south immediately to find the main force of the German navy to fight decisively with it, and strive to defeat the main force of the German navy in one fell swoop, win the command of the South China Sea and the entire Western Pacific Ocean, and assist the southern army to resist the German attack. Although, I It is clear that the German navy is very strong. However, the survival of the empire is now at stake. Therefore, we have no other choice. We must do our best to defeat the German navy in one fell swoop. Otherwise, the empire will be doomed " General Yamamoto Fifty-Six said with a serious face.

The expressions of the generals of the United Fleet also became very serious. They are naturally very aware of how big the gap between their own strength and the German Navy is. It is undoubtedly very difficult to defeat the German Navy.

"Masters, I hope that everyone will fight bravely this time, and never retreat. Everyone must do their best in this battle. In this battle, if you fail, you will succeed!" General Yamamoto Fifty-Six said.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander!" All the generals of the combined fleet of the island nation's navy replied one after another. They all know that in this battle, they will probably have to fight desperately.

#### Chapter 1768

The fleet of the navy of the island country is very large. There are 8 battleships and 21 aircraft carriers of various types just as the main battleships.

Among them, the "Taiho" aircraft carrier, two "Xianghe-class" aircraft carriers and the "Ryuho" light aircraft carrier formed the first aircraft carrier team. Lieutenant General Nagumo Chuichi served as the commander, and Major General Ko Liu Yipachi served as the chief of staff.

Four of the "Unryu-class" aircraft carriers form the second aircraft carrier team, with Lieutenant General Ito Seiichi as the commander and Major General Morishita Nobuo as the chief of staff.

Two of the 'Unryu-class' aircraft carriers and two 'Xiangfeng-class' light aircraft carriers form the third aircraft carrier team, with Lieutenant General Ozawa Jisaburo as the commander and Major General Obayashi Moxiong as the chief of staff.

Two Chitose-class aircraft carriers and two Flying Eagle-class aircraft carriers form the 4th Aircraft Carrier Squadron, with the former Lieutenant General Chuichi serving as the commander and Major General Michio Sumikawa serving as the chief of staff.

Three "Daying-class" aircraft carriers, the "Shenyang" aircraft carrier and the "Haiying" aircraft carrier form the 5th aircraft carrier battle group, with Lieutenant Admiral Shima Seiying as the commander and Major General Matsumoto Takeshi as the chief of staff.

Four "Yamato-class" battleships form the 1st Battleship Squadron, with Lieutenant Admiral Daigo Tadashige as commander and Rear Admiral Sasaki Hankyu as chief of staff.

The battleship Kaga, the battleship Mutsu, the battleship Yamashiro, and the battlecruiser Takao formed the second battleship squadron, with Lieutenant Admiral Omori Sendaro as the commander and Major General Fujiwara Kiyoma as the chief of staff .

The five aircraft carrier battleships and two capital ship battleships that make up the combined fleet of the island nation's navy, in addition to these aircraft carriers and battleships, also include a large number of cruisers and destroyers.

When the German Navy was frantically building battleships and aircraft carriers, the construction of cruisers and destroyers did not give up. A large number of new cruisers and destroyers were built, named after the cruisers and destroyers that were sunk before, and re-entered the navy of the island country.

Of course, if these warships of the combined fleet of the island nation's navy are sunk again this time. Perhaps, the navy of the island country will never have the opportunity to rebuild them again. Germany will not give the island country another chance.

"Commander, this battle is always risky!" Lieutenant General Nagumo Chuichi sighed.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six nodded: "There is no way. The Germans are pressing us step by step. We have been cornered and there is no way to retreat. Now, we can only fight back. Even if the chances of winning are slim, we must do our best. In this case, there may be a glimmer of hope. Of course, if we lose, the Imperial Navy will be finished, and the Empire will also be finished!"

"Your Excellency, Commander, has it really reached this point?" Lieutenant General Chuichi Nagumo asked.

"Yes, it has reached the last juncture. Now the empire is facing life and death. The Germans will not let us go. Unless they can withstand the German attack, otherwise, the empire will be defeated like the Americans. The Germans will perish." General Yamamoto Fifty-Six said.

"In order to prevent the empire from being destroyed by the Germans, we have no choice but to do our best to defeat the Germans. Only by defeating the Germans will the empire have a future." General Yamamoto's eyes were full of determination.

"Mr. Nagumo, make arrangements to launch an attack on the Caroline Islands tomorrow. Destroy the German bases on the islands. In the meantime, tell them we are here. We are waiting for them in the Caroline Islands. I believe that the Germans People will definitely come." General Yamamoto Fifty-Six said.

He knew that if the navy of the island country crossed the Bismarck Islands and went south, it would die very ugly. Germany has strengthened its defenses against Australia and the Bismarck Islands. The main force of the German navy is also eyeing somewhere. If you attack rashly, you will be courting death. Only in the waters near the Caroline Islands, where Germany

is relatively weak, or even in the Philippine Sea, the navy of the island country has a chance of winning.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander, I will arrange it immediately!" Lieutenant General Chuichi Nagumo replied.

On the afternoon of July 29, the joint fleet of the island nation's navy dispatched a large number of carrier-based aircraft to attack the German Navy's military base on the Caroline Islands. Under the violent bombing of a large number of carrier-based aircraft of the island navy, all the bases of the German navy were lost. And this also attracted the attention of the German Navy.

North of the Coral Sea, south of the Bismarck Sea. The German Navy's Atlantic Fleet, Pacific Fleet aircraft carrier formation, Indian Ocean Fleet aircraft carrier formation, and the fire support fleet directly under the Ministry of the Navy have all gathered in this sea area.

Atlantic Fleet Commander Rolf Karls Marshal is temporarily in charge of commanding this huge fleet. Because of Marshal Rolf Karls' performance on the Atlantic battlefield, he won such an opportunity. Of course, Marshal Rolf Karls also cherished such an opportunity very much. He hopes to lead the fleet to greater glory.

"Marshal, it has been confirmed that the main force of the island nation's navy is operating even in the waters east of the Philippines. The carrier-based aircraft fleet they dispatched to attack the Caroline Islands is very large, with more than 500 combat aircraft." Atlantic Fleet Staff Officer Lieutenant General George Friedberg said.

"Very well, it seems that the army's offensive has put the islanders under tremendous pressure. Therefore, their navy can't help but jump out." Marshal Rolf Karls laughed.

"Marshal, do you mean that the islanders did this on purpose?" Lieutenant General George Friedberg asked.

Marshal Rolf Kars nodded: "Well. The islanders know very well that if they want to defeat us, the eastern part of the Philippine Islands is a very good battlefield. They will not go south, only us go north. If this is the case, Then I'll give them a chance."

"Your Excellency, what if there is any trap in this?" Lieutenant General George Friedberg was a little worried.

"Don't worry, in the face of absolute strength and superiority, all conspiracies and tricks will be useless." Marshal Rolf Karls seemed very confident.

Indeed, after the German Navy defeated the U.S. Navy, no navy could confront the German Navy. Although the navy of the island country is very strong, in the eyes of the German navy, it is still nothing more than a clown.

Although the German Navy only assembled three fleets in the Pacific Ocean. But the overall strength is still far superior to the navy of the island country. It is almost impossible for the island navy to defeat the German navy.

On the afternoon of July 29, the main force of the German navy headed northward from the northern part of the Coral Sea to the waters near the Caroline Islands to face the combined fleet of the island nation's navies.

Chapter 1769

"Everyone, the main force of the island nation's navy has appeared. Our military base in the Caroline Islands was destroyed by the island nation. It seems that the army's fierce attack has scared the island nation people. The island nation's navy jumped out at this time, nothing more than wanting to We want to restore the situation in Nanyang. Then, we should seize this opportunity and kill the navy of the island country in one fell swoop! It can be regarded as clearing the way for the attack on the mainland of the island country." Marshal Rolf Karls said.

The generals of the German navy who attended the meeting were all smiling.

There are two main tasks for the German Navy in this battle. One is to assist the army to eliminate the army entrenched in the Nanyang island country. The other is to get rid of the navy of the island country and prepare for the attack on the mainland of the island country.

Supporting army operations can be accomplished by the battleship formations of the Pacific Fleet and the Indian Ocean Fleet. The aircraft carrier formations of the Atlantic Fleet, Pacific Fleet, and Indian Ocean Fleet are targeting the navies of island countries. Now that the navy of the island country is taking the initiative to show up, this undoubtedly gives them a chance.

"Your Excellency Marshal, the current strength of the island nation's navy is not weak. Eight capital ships and 21 aircraft carriers are definitely the most powerful navy in the world after the Imperial Navy." Pacific Fleet Aircraft Carrier Formation Commander William Carter Lieutenant General Naris said.

Marshal Rolf Kars nodded: "The navy of the island country is very strong, but the imperial navy has even greater advantages. I believe that the imperial navy will definitely be able to win this battle."

The other generals also nodded repeatedly, agreeing with Marshal Rolf Karls' point of view.

Subsequently, the generals of the German Navy discussed the battle plan. The fleets will operate separately. The Atlantic Fleet will go northward from the eastern Solomon Sea, while the Pacific Fleet aircraft carrier formation, the Indian Ocean Fleet aircraft carrier formation and the fire support fleet will go northward from the western Solomon Sea and eastern Bismarck Islands. At the same time, in order to search for traces of the island nation's navy, the German Navy's base on the Bismarck Islands launched a large number of reconnaissance planes to search the entire northern waters of the Bismarck Islands.

For the German navy, it is not very difficult to defeat the island navy. The difficulty is to find the navy of the island nation in this vast ocean. In the era without satellite positioning, if the other party's fleet has been keeping radio silent, if you want to find the other party, it will undoubtedly be a needle in a haystack.

In the waters near the Caroline Islands, the joint fleet of the island nation's navies is cruising in this sea area. In order to avoid being attacked by the German Navy, the fleet's air search radar has been turned on. At the same time, there are dozens of Zero fighters hovering above the fleet.

Although after receiving technical support from the United States, the navy of the island country can also manufacture F4U fighter jets. This fighter is undoubtedly stronger than the Zero fighter. But the island navy did not give up the Zero fighter in the end. The Zero fighter's large range and low-altitude combat performance are undoubtedly very powerful. In comparison, F4U fighters are far behind in this respect. The island navy still regards the Zero fighter as their pride. It's just that the Zero fighter is completely behind compared to the German Navy's carrier-based FW-190 fighter. Of course, in terms of range and low-altitude combat, the carrier-based FW-190 fighter is not an opponent of the Zero fighter. However, after the German Navy knew the performance of the Zero fighter, it would no longer engage in dogfights with the Zero fighter.

"Your Excellency, Commander, we have been in this sea area for two days, and we have shot down more than five German reconnaissance planes. Now, more and more German reconnaissance planes are searching in this direction. If we don't leave, our location will be exposed. At that time, we will be in danger." said Rear Admiral Yano Shikazo, Chief of Staff of the United Fleet.

Admiral Yamamoto Fifty-Six nodded: "calculating the time, the Germans should have entered this sea area. Order the fleet to go north and leave immediately. Let our reconnaissance plane focus on searching the southern waters of the Caroline Islands and take the first step Find the Germans!"

"Hi, Your Excellency Commander." Major General Yano Shikazo replied.

Subsequently, the joint fleet of the island nation's navies began to change course, and the entire fleet began to be evacuated.

At the same time, from those cruisers of the combined fleet, a seaplane took off. These seaplanes will be responsible for searching this sea area and finding out the German navy.

Fighting on the sea, if you can find the enemy's traces first, you can launch an attack first. In this case, the possibility of taking advantage will be greater.

It's just that the German navy and the island navy are both making efforts in this regard. But whoever can find the opponent first and launch an attack depends on luck. After all, the combination of carrier-based aircraft and aircraft carriers has expanded the distance of naval battles to hundreds of kilometers. However, subject to the range of carrier-based bombers and torpedo attack aircraft, generally speaking, the engagement distance is about 500 kilometers.

Although the zero fighter jets of the island navy have a range of up to 2,000 kilometers. However, the range of the Ninety-Nine Ship Explosion and the Nine Seventh Ship Attack is much smaller than that of the Zero fighter. This also greatly limits the attack distance of the island navy.

"The Germans have already taken the bait. It depends on whether they can seize this opportunity and defeat them in one fell swoop. If they can defeat the German navy, then they can turn the tide of the war." General Yamamoto Fifty-Six secretly thought.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six knows that this time the battle between the navies of the two countries will be a final battle. If the island navy could win, they might be able to force Germany into a decent peace. No matter how bad it is, it can ensure the continued existence of the island

country. If it fails, it's all over. Therefore, General Yamamoto Fifty-Six told himself that he must do his best to win this war.

On the afternoon of August 1, a submarine of the German Navy discovered the joint fleet of the island nation's navy in the waters 200 kilometers north of Palau.

After the combined fleet left this sea area, the submarine of the German Navy immediately surfaced and sent a telegram.

After the German Navy received this telegram, Marshal Rolf Karls immediately ordered the Atlantic Fleet to speed up the pursuit.

At this moment, their position is more than a thousand kilometers away from the position of the United Fleet, far outside the combat radius of the carrier-based aircraft. Only when the distance is further shortened can they launch an attack.

At the same time, the German Navy's Pacific Fleet aircraft carrier formation, Atlantic Fleet aircraft carrier formation and fire support fleet also issued an order to accelerate the pursuit.

The two fleets of the German Navy are about 200 kilometers apart, chasing the combined fleet from east to west.

Chapter 1770

"Your Excellency, Commander, the radio department has detected a radio signal. According to the analysis, it is very likely that it was sent by a German submarine. And our fleet has just passed through that sea area." Rear Admiral Yano Zhikasan reported with a worried expression on his face.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six's expression suddenly became very ugly. Originally, he had hoped that his own reconnaissance plane would discover the traces of the German fleet first, but he did not expect that his own traces would be exposed first.

"Hasn't our reconnaissance planes spotted the German fleet yet?" General Yamamoto Fifty-Six asked.

"No!" Major General Yano Shikazo shook his head.

"Your Excellency, what should we do now? The German fleet must have begun to speed up our pursuit."

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six did not answer immediately, but looked at the sky. Now, there are only two or three hours until dark.

"Even if the Germans find us and start chasing us now, it is impossible to attack us before dark. Their attack on us should be tomorrow." General Yamamoto Fifty-Six said.

Major General Yano Shikazo nodded.

"Immediately turn to the southwest and sail to the western waters of Palau. Before dawn, take off the seaplane to search the eastern and southeastern seas for traces of the Germans. At that time, all carrier-based aircraft are ready to fight. Once the Germans are found Fleet, launch an attack immediately!" General Yamamoto Fifty-Six ordered.

"Hi, Your Excellency, Commander." Major General Yano Shikazo immediately went to convey the order.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six knows that if the fleet continues to maintain its course, it is very likely that it will be chased by the German Navy tomorrow and then launch an attack. Although the number of aircraft carriers in the Japanese navy has reached 21. But seven of them are aircraft carriers converted from merchant ships. Although the power system has been strengthened, the maximum speed is only 25 knots. And, generally speaking, the cruising speed is lower. Compared with a regular aircraft carrier, it is several knots lower. This also makes the combined fleet much worse than the German Navy in terms of speed.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six then ordered the fleet to turn to escape the search direction of the German Navy, so as to avoid being discovered by the German Navy and thus being attacked. Even, it can be the first to launch an attack after dawn.

Of course, General Yamamoto Fifty-Six is also betting. If he is lucky, his purpose may be achieved. However, if you are unlucky, the combined fleet may be attacked by the German navy first. At that time, the United Fleet will suffer a devastating blow.

General Yamamoto Fifty-Six can only pray to God Amaterasu, praying that their luck will be better. It can be said that he is betting on the fate of the United Fleet and even the entire island country.

The two fleets of the German Navy are speeding up to pursue the combined fleet. Moreover, in order to avoid being ambushed by the capital ship formation of the combined fleet, the distance between the two fleets of the German Navy is also constantly approaching.

After all, neither the capital ship formation of the German Navy's Atlantic Fleet nor the fire support formation has the strength to defeat the capital ship formation of the island navy alone. The four "Yamato-class" battleships of the Japanese Navy are too perverted. The 460mm main gun can tear any capital ship of the German Navy to pieces. And its abnormal defense can also withstand the attacks of the 406mm main guns and 380mm main guns of the battleships of the German Navy.

Therefore, the German Navy handed over the task of sinking the four "Yamato-class" battleships of the island navy to the carrier-based air fleet. Submerge the Japanese 'Yamato-class' battleships with overwhelming bombs and torpedoes. Only in this way can these four terrifying battleships be sent to the bottom of the sea.

As for the battleship duel with the battleship formation of the navy of the island country, forget it. The capital ships of the German Navy do not have such strength. Once such a battle is launched, it will inevitably suffer heavy losses.

The night of August 1 was a torment for both the German Navy and the island navy. Both sides are full of expectations for the battle after dawn tomorrow, hoping to defeat the enemy in one fell swoop.

The aircraft carrier of the two fleets was brightly lit. The ground crew is refueling the carrier-based aircraft, adding ammunition, and preparing for take-off. In order to be able to take off the carrier-based aircraft to launch an attack immediately after discovering the enemy's traces, so as to seize the opportunity.

At 5 o'clock in the morning, the cruisers of the combined fleet of the island nation's navy began to release seaplanes. After more than 20 seaplanes took off, they searched in a fan shape towards the sea to the east and southeast of Palau.

Although it was still dark at this time, the speed of the seaplane was not fast. It will be light in an hour and you will be able to see the sea clearly.

The German Navy also released seaplanes almost at the same time to search for traces of the island navy. The German Navy also hoped to be able to attack first.

At this moment, the distance between the two fleets of the German Navy is less than fifty kilometers apart.

At 6:30 in the morning, the air search radar of the aircraft carrier formation of the German Navy's Pacific Fleet discovered the seaplane of the island navy.

Lieutenant General William Canaris immediately ordered the "Aries" aircraft carrier to take off two carrier-based FW-190 fighter jets to attack the island navy's seaplane.

In the air 120 kilometers away from the fleet, the carrier-based aircraft of the German Navy shot down the seaplane of the island navy.

However, before the seaplane was shot down, a telegram was sent. Although this seaplane did not find any trace of the German navy. However, the Combined Fleet could infer the position of the German fleet based on the position of the downed seaplane.

In fact, after the seaplane of the island navy sent a telegram, the staff officers of the combined fleet deduced that the German fleet was about 150 kilometers away from the location where their seaplane was shot down.

After the 56th General Yamamoto learned of this situation, he immediately ordered all aircraft carriers to start taking off carrier-based aircraft, preparing to launch an attack.

"Order all aircraft carriers. Except for a certain number of air defense fighters, the rest of the carrier-based aircraft will be divided into two batches to take off, and try to kill the German Navy in one fell swoop!" General Yamamoto Fifty-Six ordered.

"Yes, Your Excellency, Commander." Major General Yano Shikazo replied.

Subsequently, the aircraft carrier of the United Fleet began to take off the carrier-based aircraft.

When the first Zero fighter took off from the aircraft carrier 'Taiho', this naval battle can be regarded as officially kicked off. The 21 aircraft carriers of the United Fleet began to take off carrier-based aircraft one after another. Numerous carrier-based aircraft pilots of the island nation's navy, with white cloth strips with the word "struggle" tied on their heads, drove the aircraft away from the aircraft carrier amidst the cheers of the ground crew.