

Jagged 331

Chapter 331: Desperate Attack

"I hope this time, we can defeat the Austro-Hungarian Empire in one fell swoop! Otherwise, the entire Southwest Front Army will be finished." Admiral Ivanov said, staring at the map.

The attack power of the German army was too strong, so Admiral Ivanov had to make a bad move. He knows very well that if he blindly defends, he will only be solved bit by bit by the German army in the end. Only when they take the initiative to attack and defeat the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the shortest time, can they have a chance. However, such a tactic is too risky. Once the strategic goals are not fulfilled, what awaits them is failure.

General Rusky, Commander of the 3rd Army of the Russian Army, General Bruschinov, Commander of the 8th Army, and General Serivanov, Commander of the 11th Army, received a letter from General Ivanov. After the telegram, the mood also became quite heavy. As the old subordinates of General Ivanov, they knew very well that if the situation was not critical, General Ivanov would definitely not say such a thing.

"Order all the ministries, prepare for battle! Tomorrow morning at dawn, launch an attack. Before the sun goes down, we must tear through the defense lines of the Austro-Hungarian Army and completely defeat them!" Admiral Ruski issued an order.

"Yes, General." The commanders and division commanders of the Russian Third Army replied one after another.

Generals Brushinov and Serivanov also issued similar orders. They all regard tomorrow's attack as the most important battle. It can be said that it is a battle where only success is allowed and failure is not allowed. Everyone knows very well that if it fails, the consequences will be disastrous. The

Russian army is very likely to lose in this battle. And the frontline commanders like them will not end well.

October 8, just after dawn, the Russian army's position was already busy. Soldiers were queuing for breakfast, and quartermasters were distributing ammunition. Of course, the food of the Russian army is undoubtedly the worst among the armies of the great powers. Two potatoes and a piece of hard black bread are their breakfast. As for milk and meat, they are absolutely invisible, unless you are an officer, otherwise you can only eat such a breakfast.

On the artillery positions of the Russian army, 76.2mm field guns were also pushed out. The artillerymen are moving the artillery shells to the position, making preparations before firing. Although these 76.2mm field guns are weak and have a short range, they are the only cannons that the Russian army can rely on.

In the Austrian army position opposite the Russian army, the soldiers also got up early and got ready for battle under the urging of the officer. Of course, the fear on the faces of many Austrian soldiers has not dissipated. Obviously, it was because of the psychological shadow after being defeated by the Russian army before.

Compared to the Russian army, the morale of the Austrian army is low. However, their weapons and equipment are much better than the Russian army. The number of machine guns is also more than that of the Russian army. As for the cannon, let alone. The heavy artillery of the Skoda factory is famous all over the world. The Austrian army is not only equipped with 75mm caliber field guns, but also equipped with a lot of 105mm light howitzers, and even 150mm heavy howitzers. In terms of the number of artillery alone, although it is not as good as the German army, it is also much stronger than the Russian army.

Last night, the Chief of the Austrian General Staff, Baron Herzendorf, personally summoned the commander of the 2nd Austrian Army, General Pom Elmoli, the commander of the 3rd Army, General Borojevic, and the commander of the 4th Army. General Danker, commander of the army group. They are required to find ways to resist the Russian army's attack in today's battle, and they must not let the Russian army break through their defense line.

In view of the three armies, the combat effectiveness is strong or weak. Marshal Herzendorf, Baron, specifically requested the stronger 2nd Army and 3rd Army as the main forces. The 4th Army, which has weaker combat effectiveness, serves as a reserve force. Although, this will make the troops on the defensive line one-third less than the offensive Russian army. However, when fighting, the defensive side has to take advantage of it. Especially if you have strong firepower, you can use fortifications and strong firepower to cause greater damage to the enemy. The attacking party will often pay a greater price.

Austrian 4th Army, mostly composed of Czechs, Slovaks and Slavic soldiers. Their morale is low, their actions are slow, their training is lax, and their combat effectiveness is low. If this group army were to go to the front line, Marshal Herzendorf was really worried that they would collapse under the fierce attack of the Russian army. Let the 4th Army serve as a reserve team, and let them send troops to fill in the event of a dangerous situation on the defense line. In this case, it is relatively safe.

Qin Tian didn't raise any objection to Baron Herzendorf's arrangement. Although, in this battle, Baron Marshal Herzendorf stated that he would fully support him. However, he could not dictate the command of the Austrian army because of this. Otherwise, it will inevitably cause displeasure on the Austrian

side. After all, even if you are an ally, there are some bottom lines that cannot be touched.

On the other hand, Qin Tian didn't know much about the Austrian Army either. It was much better to deploy as Marshal Baron Herzendorf, the Chief of Staff of the Austrian Army, than to be deployed by him, a layman.

Although, the combat effectiveness of the Austrian army is very bad. But Qin Tian believes that if they defend with all their strength, they should still be able to withstand the attack of the Russian army.

"Fire!"

At 8 o'clock in the morning, the three Russian armies launched an attack on the Austrian defense line on the 200-kilometer defense line. Thousands of cannons began a fierce shelling. The Russian army attempted to use violent shelling to disintegrate the fighting spirit of the Austrian army and prepare for the next battle.

It's just that the Russian army's shelling just started, and it was counterattacked by the Austrian army. Although the Austrian army only deployed two group armies on the front line, with more than 600,000 people. The strength is only equivalent to two-thirds of the Russian army. However, the number of their artillery is not less than that of the Russian army. Quantitatively, the two sides are evenly matched. However, in terms of the caliber and performance of the artillery, it is the Austrian army that has the upper hand. In terms of the quality of artillery, the two sides can be described as evenly matched. It's just that the morale of the Austrian army is a little weaker.

So, after the artillery battle between the two sides started, they were evenly matched. Under the strict orders of the Austrian army officers, the Austrian artillery could even use their own large-caliber heavy artillery to

launch a suppressive attack on the Russian artillery positions, causing greater losses to the Russian artillery.

Chapter 332: fierce battle

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

In the eastern part of the Carpathian Mountains, the Russian army and the Austrian army, with more than 1.5 million people on both sides, launched a fierce offensive and defensive battle on the 200-kilometer-long defense line. Whether it is the Russian army on the offensive side or the Austrian army on the defensive side, they have almost used all their strength.

As soon as the battle started, the artillery on both sides started a fierce exchange of fire. The Russian army attempted to use artillery fire to destroy the Austrian fortifications, preferably to destroy the Austrian will to resist. Similarly, the Austrian army also hopes to use powerful artillery fire to cause greater damage to the Russian army, so that they can be in a favorable position in the following defensive operations to complete this combat mission.

"Boom! Boom!"

The 76.2mm artillery shells fired by the Russian army fell on the positions of the Austrian army. The fortifications built by the Austrian army were bombed to pieces, and occasionally Austrian soldiers were killed. The rest of the Austrian soldiers either hid in the anti-gun holes, or lay on the bottom of the trench, hugging their heads tightly, praying to God that the Russian shells would not fall on their heads.

The morale of the Austrian army is relatively low. They held more advanced weapons than the Russian army, but they were defeated by the Russian army in the previous stage of the battle. This was undoubtedly a serious blow to the morale of the Austrian army. Of course, when the Russian army fought, they were not afraid of death, and their fighting will was much stronger than that of the Austrian soldiers.

"God! The Russian bombardment is too violent. If we stay here, we will be killed. Should we retreat?" A young Austrian soldier said to his comrades with fear in his eyes.

"Idiot! Run away now? Do you want to be shot by the military police? The officer has already issued an order. This time, if you don't get an order, you must not retreat without authorization." An older soldier scolded.

The young soldier's heart tightened suddenly. He turned around with a little guilt and looked at a place more than a hundred meters away from their line of defense, a team of military police was guarding there. In front of the gendarmes, a heavy machine gun was set up. There is no doubt that if they dare to escape this time, those military police will not hesitate to use heavy machine guns to shoot. The young Austrian soldier had no choice but to suppress the idea of fleeing, and continued to squat in the trench.

Baron Marshal Herzendorf, in order to prevent the Austrian army from retreating again, specially sent a large number of military police to the front line. These gendarmes have only one mission, and that is to deter those weak-willed troops and let them be firmly nailed to the front line after the battle begins. The escape of these cowards must not cause the entire front to be defeated.

Under the deterrence of the military police, the soldiers of the Austrian army could only bite the bullet and fight the battle, instead of being easily intimidated by the Russian army as before. In fact, as long as they overcome the fear in their hearts and display the power of the weapons in their hands, not to mention defeating the Russian army, but holding their own defense line, there is no problem at all.

Among the fierce counterattacks, the artillery of the Austrian army has achieved a lot of results. Their heavy artillery suppression caused a lot of losses to the artillery of the Russian army.

The front line of Lesko, this is the key area for the Russian 3rd Army to attack. The 3rd Army has assembled half of its troops, hoping to break through here. After capturing Lesko, they crossed the Carpathian Mountains and attacked the Hungarian Plain.

"General, our artillery has lost a lot. The Austrian artillery fire is very fierce. Up to now, we have destroyed 7 artillery positions and lost more than 100 cannons." The artillery commander reported to Admiral Ruski .

"Damn, how could this be? The state of the enemy army on the opposite side seems to be different! When fighting them before, their shelling was definitely not so violent." Admiral Ruski frowned tightly.

"General, do we still want to continue shelling? If this continues, I'm afraid it won't be long before all our cannons will be lost." The artillery commander said.

Admiral Ruski considered for a while, and then said: "Ten minutes! Let the artillery hold on for another ten minutes. In ten minutes, the infantry will attack! I hope they can break through the enemy's defense line in one fell swoop."

"Yes, General!"

The artillery of the Russian army withdrew from the battle after ten minutes. The remaining cannons retreated to the woods to hide. The artillery battle just now also made the artillerymen of the Russian army tremble with fear. After all, although the artillery seems to be safe, the artillery battle is still very tragic. No one knows when the enemy's shells will fall from the sky and blow themselves to pieces.

Especially in this battle, the Austrian artillery performed very well, which made the Russian artillery even more worried. Fortunately, the order to retreat was issued, and they finally survived.

When the artillery of the Russian army withdrew from the battle, the infantry of the Russian army immediately launched an attack.

"Come on! Tear through the enemy's defenses and kill them all!"

"Ulla! Ulla!"

Countless Russian soldiers jumped out of the trenches and rushed to the Austrian positions. They chanted slogans and charged forward indomitably, like a gray tide, flocking to the front line of the Austrian army.

"Quick! Get into position, the Russians are attacking."

"My God! There are so many Russians. Can we withstand their attack?"

After many Austrian soldiers entered the position, seeing this scene, they couldn't help but feel their scalps tingling with fright.

"Quick, fire! Stop those Russians from approaching our position. If our position is breached, everyone will die." The officers of the Austrian army ordered loudly.

Even, in order to take care of soldiers who speak different languages, they have to issue orders in multiple languages. This is undoubtedly a great test for these officers.

After all, the Austro-Hungarian Empire was a multi-ethnic country. This dual empire consisted of more than a dozen kingdoms, duchies, and marquisates. Each country had its own language. Therefore, it is a severe test for any commander to command such a multilingual unit.

"Fire!"

"Da da da! Bang! Bang! Bang!"

Following the command of the commander, all kinds of firepower of the Austrian army started shooting one after another. Heavy machine guns and

light machine guns all started firing violently. The rifles in the hands of the soldiers also started shooting one after another.

Suddenly, intensive firepower enveloped the attacking Russian army. Countless Russian soldiers were shot and fell to the ground. However, even so, it still failed to scare these Russian soldiers. They passed the corpses of their comrades and continued to attack the Austrian positions.

Chapter 333: The attack is frustrated

"Go to hell, **** Russian!" A heavy machine gun of the Austrian Army was firing crazily.

The industrial strength of the Austro-Hungarian Empire is very good, and their military products also have excellent performance. Although the heavy machine guns equipped by the Austrian army cannot be compared with the general-purpose machine guns equipped by the German army, they are at least at the leading level in the world.

Dense bullets enveloped the Russian army like a torrential rain. The Russian army, which maintained a dense formation to attack, became the best target for heavy machine guns. Pieces of Russian troops were shot and fell to the ground, as if they were cutting wheat.

"Ulla! Ulla!"

Ula of the Russian army charged forward with momentum like a rainbow. Although, they are poorly equipped. However, when they attacked, they were not afraid of death. Such tactics enable them to intimidate their opponents and defeat them in battle.

It's just that this time, the Ula charge of the Russian army doesn't seem to be very effective. The Austrian soldiers on the opposite side didn't seem to be intimidated by them, and they were still fighting back with powerful firepower.

Under such circumstances, the losses of the Russian army began to soar.

"boom!"

Clear gunshots sounded, and a Russian soldier was shot in the chest, and his charging body suddenly fell to the ground.

In the trenches of the Austrian Army, young Austrian soldiers are pulling the bolt and loading the next bullet. At first, his face was full of fear. However, gradually, he has slowly overcome the fear in his heart, and began to fight calmly.

Many Austrian soldiers, almost all of whom were in battle, slowly changed. Ula's charge from the Russian army scared them enough that many of them almost ran away. However, under the strong deterrence of their own military police, they did not dare to escape, so they could only bite the bullet and continue to fight. But soon, they discovered that the Russian army's attack had nothing special about it other than its astonishing momentum. They were all human beings, and they would be killed if they were hit by bullets. As long as you can overcome the fear in your heart, you can defeat them.

In this way, the morale of the Austrian army began to gradually recover.

The frontline commanders of the Austrian Army finally breathed a sigh of relief after discovering this change. No one wants to be defeated. When they were defeated by the Russians before, they were also very aggrieved. It's not that their soldiers are inferior to the Russians, or that their weapons and equipment are inferior to the Russians. The main reason is that everyone is frightened by the Russians. After overcoming the fear, the Austrian army finally began to display its due combat effectiveness.

The morale of the Austrian army gradually recovered, and the defense line began to stabilize. This is not a good thing for the Russians on the offensive side.

"Damn, how could their firepower be so powerful?" Admiral Ruski saw this scene and couldn't help being stunned in shock. You know, in the previous battles, the Austrian army has always been vulnerable. But now, they seem to have changed their army! Such a change really made him a little unbelievable.

"General, is it not the Austro-Hungarian Army that is fighting us, but the Germans? Otherwise, how could the combat effectiveness of the Austro-Hungarian Army have improved so much?" said a lieutenant general.

"Germans? How is this possible? Let's not say that the Germans are attacking the 4th Army. Even if they were really Germans, they would have stopped blindly defending and launched an attack. If the Germans launched an attack, can we withstand their attack?" Admiral Ruski shook his head.

A group of generals of the Russian army also looked deeply convinced. Indeed, the German army was much stronger than the Austrian army. If they were facing the German army, I am afraid that the offensive and defensive momentum would have been reversed long ago.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Shells continued to explode in the queue of the Russian army, and soldiers of the Russian army were constantly torn to pieces.

"Da da da!"

The dense firepower network composed of light and heavy machine guns of the Austrian army recklessly harvested the lives of these Russian soldiers.

Under the powerful firepower of the Austrian army, the Russian army suffered extremely heavy losses. Even if the Russian soldiers are not afraid of death when fighting, their courage will disappear when the comrades around them fall one after another.

Under the huge loss, the Russian army had to retreat in the first round of attack. Countless Russian soldiers turned and fled. The speed of their escape was actually much faster than their attack speed.

"Long live! Long live! We have defeated the Russians."

Seeing the Russian soldiers fleeing, cheers from the soldiers resounded from the Austrian defense line. Countless Austrian soldiers cheered loudly. They haven't had a victory like this in a long time.

"It seems that the Russians are not invincible. Before, we were just intimidated by them. Now, we have understood that the Russians are just paper tigers, and there is nothing to fear at all." said a young Austrian soldier.

"Haha, the Russians are so vulnerable. From now on, we don't have to be afraid of them at all." Such words are everywhere.

Through this battle, the low morale of the Austrian soldiers was quickly revived.

"Bastard! After half an hour, continue to attack. Even if the cowards of the Austro-Hungarian Empire have become different, we can still defeat them!" Admiral Ruski ordered through gritted teeth.

Although, he knew that this battle might not go as smoothly as they expected. But now they have no way out. This battle still had to be fought like this.

"Yes, General!"

Not only the attack of the Russian 3rd Army was frustrated, but the attacks of the Russian 8th Army and the 11th Army also encountered a strong counterattack from the Russian Army. The Austrian defense line seemed to have become impregnable overnight. The Austrian army, whose morale was low and could be defeated by a single charge of the Russian army, seemed to have reborn, and their combat effectiveness had been greatly improved.

This made the Russian army inevitably suffer severe losses in front of the Austrian defense line.

Although, the Russian army launched multiple rounds of attacks in the ensuing battle. However, it still failed to break through the Austrian defense line. Although, their offensive also cost the Austrian army some price. But overall, the Russian army suffered even greater losses. More importantly, after this fierce battle, the morale of the Austrian soldiers was revived. When the weapons are not as good as the Austrian army and there is no advantage in military strength, it is conceivable that the Russian army wants to break through the Austrian army's defense line.

Chapter 334: Urban Street Fighting

When the Russian army gathered three armies and launched a fierce attack on the Austrian defense line, the attack of the German 8th Army continued.

The German 20th Army and part of the 8th Armored Division, under the leadership of Lieutenant General Mackensen, launched a fierce attack on Zamosic, which was stationed by a part of the Russian 4th Army. Everything is like a replica of the German 17th Army and the 8th Armored Division outside the city of Chelm yesterday. The troops of the Russian 4th Army simply cannot withstand the attack of the German armored forces.

The Russian army's defense line outside Zamosic City was quickly broken by the German army. The Russian army, which suffered heavy losses,

had to retreat to the city of Zamość in an attempt to resist. However, what awaited them was still the heavy shelling of the German army and the bombing of the air force. The shelling and bombing of the German army in Chelm yesterday afternoon achieved good results. Such excellent combat experience will of course be extended to other troops. In this case, the German army can win at the least cost.

While the German 20th Army and a part of the 8th Armored Division beat the Russian army in Zamosic, the German 17th Army and part of the 8th Armored Division continued their attack in Chelm.

Shortly after dawn, the artillery of the German 17th Army began shelling Chelm. Last night, a large shipment of shells was brought in, which enabled the cannon to continue firing.

The fierce artillery fire once again attacked Chelm, a city that had basically been turned into ruins. The violent explosion sounded again in the city. The Russian army, which had just woken up, had to accept the baptism of the German artillery fire again.

The Russian soldiers in the city are already very tired. Last night, they were asked by the officers to repair the damaged fortifications, and they continued until very late before they were able to rest. Even so, it was just a little repair of those broken fortifications. It is very difficult to say how effective these fortifications re-established on the ruins can play under the fierce attack of the German army.

However, what the Russian army did not expect was that after dawn the next day, the German army would launch another large-scale shelling. The fortifications they painstakingly built were once again destroyed by the fierce German shelling. At the same time, the German bombardment caused even greater casualties to the Russian troops who lost their cover in the city. As a

result, the number of Russian troops in the city further decreased. Of course, let alone the morale of the Russian army, it is almost about to hit the bottom.

Not only the artillery of the German 17th Army launched an attack, but the German 8th Air Force also joined the attack on Chelm. A large number of bombers dropped bombs over the city of Chelm, and carried out carpet bombing of the Russian army in the city. Although this intensive bombing method is a bit of a waste of ammunition. However, I have to admit that the effect is very good. A bombed area, everything will be bombed. The losses caused to the Russian army are also very astonishing.

"God! Are the Germans planning to use shelling and bombing to destroy us directly? How long will their endless shelling and bombing last!" Lieutenant General Fyodor roared angrily. Now he was like a bear trapped in a trap, although he slapped around angrily, but there was no hope of escaping at all.

Lieutenant General Golovin said nothing, but his face was as dark as the bottom of a pot. Originally, they all thought that with their huge force, they could hold out in Chelm for a long time. Even, there is a chance to turn defeat into victory. However, the German army gave them a slap in the face with facts, letting them know that all their previous assumptions were nothing but delusions. Before the German army really launched an offensive, they had already caused them to pay huge casualties. Under such circumstances, not to mention defeating the German army, even defending Chelm was almost impossible.

"The current situation is very unfavorable to us! The Germans actually adopted such a tactic against us. It is almost impossible for us to resist their attack in Chelm." Lieutenant General Golovin said.

Lieutenant General Fyodor nodded: "However, we have no other way. Unless we abandon Chelm and flee to Lvov. But if we do that, General Dimitriev and Ivan General Nov will not let us go."

Lieutenant General Golovin smiled bitterly: "It seems that we can only defend here!"

Indeed, the Russian army's large-scale offensive against the Austrian army has already begun, which means that their plan has been fully implemented and cannot be stopped at all. Before the Russian army defeated the Austrian army, the task of the 4th Army was to resist the attack of the German 8th Army. Anyone who dares to violate this order will be severely punished. Therefore, Lieutenant General Fyodor and Lieutenant General Golovin, even knowing that it is not a good idea to stick to Chelm. However, they have no other way.

"General, the German offensive has begun. They dispatched a large number of infantry and tanks to attack the city." A staff officer reported.

"Order all the ministries to defend the line of defense. No one is allowed to retreat without an order to retreat!" Lieutenant General Fyodor ordered viciously.

"Yes, General." The staff officer immediately went to convey the order.

"How long we can persist in Chelm depends on the German attack. I hope we can persist a little longer!" Lieutenant General Golovin said.

"Urban street fighting is not field fighting. The advantage of the Germans is not that great anymore." Lieutenant General Fyodor said.

Outside the city of Chelm, the German attack has begun. The 49th Infantry Division and the 50th Infantry Division under the German 17th Army divided into two groups and launched an attack on Chelm. A part of the 8th Armored Division led by Colonel Rommel was also divided into two parts to assist the two infantry divisions in their offensive.

In this round of offensive alone, the German army invested nearly 40,000 troops. It can be seen that Lieutenant General Zeckert is full of confidence in

this attack. You know, the original Russian army deployed in Chelm had a total of 100,000 troops. However, the combined losses of yesterday and this morning have resulted in the loss of more than half of the Russian army. The number of Russian troops in the city is less than 50,000. Facing the German attack, it was undoubtedly very difficult for them to defend Chelm.

The 8th Army of the German Army has specially trained in the subject of urban street fighting, although this is the first time it has conducted actual combat. However, they performed handily, very well.

Chapter 335: Vulnerable

The two infantry divisions of the 17th Army of the German Army and part of the 8th Armored Division launched an attack on the city of Chelm, officially kicking off the prelude to the tragic street fighting. The German army attempted to wipe out the Russian army entrenched here in one fell swoop in the street fighting. Similarly, the Russian army also hopes to use street fighting to defeat the powerful German army. As for whose goal can be realized in the end, I am afraid that we have to wait for the final result of the battle.

The defense line of the Russian army on the edge of the city could not withstand the German attack at all. The tanks led the infantry, and after launching a round of assault, they could easily defeat the Russian army. Of course, the real battle will start after entering the city.

After the German army entered Chelm, they immediately launched an attack according to the previous training. In street fighting, it is obviously unrealistic for large forces to gather together to attack. Narrow streets will restrict the deployment of troops. Therefore, the troops are often divided into small units with companies and platoons as units to fight in the streets of the city. This way of fighting will be more flexible. Especially after receiving the

support of armored forces, they can easily defeat their opponents in urban street battles.

A tank is marching on the ruined street. The turret of the tank is constantly rotating, searching for possible threatening targets. Dozens of German soldiers followed behind the tank, guarding all around. They also provide protection for tanks while drawing on the protection of tanks.

"Da da da!"

Suddenly, gunfire rang out. A Russian machine gun erected on a ruin began to shoot. Several German soldiers were shot on the spot and fell to the ground. The rest of the soldiers also quickly lay down on the ground.

The tank played a great role at this time. The turret rotated and aimed at the Russian machine gun fire point on the ruins.

"Boom!"

The tank gun fired, and a high-explosive bomb hit the point of fire of the Russian machine gun in the blink of an eye, blowing it up. At the same time, the machine guns of the tanks also began to fire, suppressing other Russian troops on the ruins.

The German soldiers who were lying on the ground immediately began to attack under the cover of the tank's machine gun fire. They outflanked the Russian army's retreat, and after a fierce battle, they killed all the dozens of Russian soldiers stationed here.

After clearing the surrounding area, the German army began to move on.

The German army used this tactic to gradually clean up the Russian army entrenched in the city of Chelm. Constantly eroding the living space of the Russian army and squeezing their activity space. When the living space of the

Russian army was completely squeezed out, they were wiped out. And Chelm also fell into the hands of the German army.

Of course, for the German army, the main purpose of this battle is to eliminate the Russian army's vital forces, not to compete for cities. The gains and losses of a city and a pool are not important. The important thing is to get rid of the more than one million troops of the Russian Southwest Front Army. In that case, it can be regarded as a victory in this battle.

"Boom!" A mortar shell fell into the German column that was carefully searching. Several German soldiers were killed in the bombing.

"Hidden!" shouted a platoon leader. The rest of the soldiers immediately looked for hiding places.

"Boom! Boom!"

The mortars of the Russian army fired continuously, but when the German army was already prepared, it did not cause any casualties to the German army.

"Mortar, kill the enemy's artillery!" The platoon leader ordered loudly.

"Platoon leader, the Russian mortars are deployed on the corner of the street, out of our reach!" the mortar team replied.

"Bastard! Where's the sniper? Can you kill the Russian mortar?" the platoon leader asked.

"Can't aim!" replied the sniper.

"Damn! Request support from the battalion headquarters, we need a tank!" the platoon leader ordered.

"Yes, platoon leader." The correspondent immediately bowed his back, evacuated the street, and rushed to ask for help.

However, the platoon leader soon realized that his request for help was completely unnecessary.

An F2 fighter jet flew over this street, and after discovering the firepower of the Russian army, the fighter jet immediately launched an attack.

"Da da da!"

A series of bullets from aviation machine guns fired over, turning the Russian soldiers who were hiding in the corner of the street on their backs. The bullets of aviation machine guns are extremely powerful, and those who are hit basically have no way to survive. When the bullet hit the mortar of the Russian army, sparks burst out.

"Great! Attack." The German platoon leader immediately launched an attack after seeing this scene.

Under the cover of aircraft firepower, a dozen soldiers rushed over and eliminated all the Russian troops hiding there.

The planes of the 8th Air Force also came to help when the 17th Army attacked Chelm. However, almost all the bombers went to Zamość to support the attack of the 20th Army. Only some fighters came to support the 17th Army. But even so, their support gave the 17th Army great help during the battle.

Even though Chelm has become ruins under the indiscriminate bombing of the German army, the Russian army is like a mouse, hiding in the ruins and fighting the German army. In many cases, attacking from the ground, it is not easy to eliminate them. However, for aircraft in the sky, it is very easy to spot the Russian army and launch an attack.

The tactics of mutual cooperation between the air and the ground, and I don't know how many years ahead of the Russian army, which made the Russian army's plan to defend Chelm completely aborted.

"General, the Germans' offensive is very fierce. They not only have tanks to cooperate, but also planes in the sky. We can't resist their attack at all! The casualties of the troops are very heavy, and the morale is also falling very quickly." A Russian military division The commander reported to Lieutenant Generals Fyodor and Golovin.

"Damn! Isn't it just street fighting? The Germans even used aircraft and tanks. How can we persevere!" Lieutenant General Fyodor roared angrily.

Lieutenant General Golovin's face was also very ugly. In their view, the tactics of the Germans are too bullying. According to the tactics of the German army, the Russian army in Chelm was simply vulnerable. Wanting to persist here for half a month is even more idiotic. If it is not done well, it will not last for four or five days.

Of course, even so, Lieutenant General Golovin overestimated the Russian army. Under the fierce attack of the German army, in one morning, the German army had already occupied one-third of the urban area of Chelm. According to this speed, the entire city of Chelm can be occupied in a maximum of two days. As for the Russian army stationed here, one can imagine what the final result will be.

Chapter 336: Fighting aid

"When can the 22nd Army arrive?" Lieutenant General Fyodor asked.

As the German army's offensive became more and more fierce, and they suffered heavy losses, they obviously could not last long in the city of Chelm, so they had to pin their hopes on the reinforcements.

"The 22nd Army set off yesterday morning. Calculating the time, we will be able to arrive this afternoon. However, if that guy Boris deliberately dawdled on the road, it would be difficult to say. After all, our situation is now critical , The Germans are too powerful. That guy Boris will not rush to die." Lieutenant

General Golovin said with a gloomy face. If it were him, I'm afraid he wouldn't rush to Chelm.

"No, we can't let that guy hang around any longer. We need more reinforcements. Otherwise, with the strong attack power of the Germans, we may not be able to last for three days." Lieutenant General Feodor said.

"Then we have to send a telegram to the general and ask him to urge the 22nd Army." Lieutenant General Golovin said.

Lieutenant General Fyodor nodded. They and Lieutenant General Boris are both lieutenant general commanders, and their ranks and positions are equal. Therefore, they have no way to order Lieutenant General Boris to do anything. Only General Dimitriev has this power.

The sharp attack of the German army caused heavy losses to the Russian army stationed in Chelm. As a last resort, they had no choice but to turn their minds on the reinforcements, hoping that the reinforcements would arrive in time so that they could persist in Chelm for a longer period of time.

Outside the city of Chelm, the headquarters of the German 17th Army, Lieutenant General Zeckert, the commander, and a group of division commanders are listening to the report from the front line.

"General, so far, our advance is going smoothly. Although, the resistance of the Russian army is still very tenacious. However, with the whole of Chelm being bombed into ruins, the fortifications of the Russian army have been destroyed by us. It's almost there. There are very few fortifications that they can rely on. The threat to us is naturally very small. In addition, our armored force and air force cooperated to effectively attack the Russian army and destroy their The firepower point has cleared the way for the infantry to attack. At present, we have cleared almost one-third of the city of Chelm. If it arrives

in the afternoon, we will probably be able to control such a large city again."
The staff officer said to Everyone introduced.

"Very good! This means that by tomorrow at the latest, we will be able to take down the whole of Chelm." Lieutenant General Zeckert smiled.

Qin Tian's order to the 8th Army was to require them to defeat the 4th Russian Army within half a month, copy the back route of the Russian Southwest Front Army, and together with the Austrian Army, attack the Russian Southwest Front Army to completely solve the problem. them. Defeating the Russian 4th Army is undoubtedly the primary task of the German 8th Army. Chelm, which was attacked by the 17th Army, had one third of the strength of the Russian 4th Army. If they can get rid of the Russian army here within three days, then the subsequent offensive will be much smoother.

"General, judging from the current situation, there should be no problem in taking Chelm tomorrow. As the casualties of the Russian army increase, the possibility of their stubborn resistance will become smaller and smaller. Morale will also be reduced. It will become more and more depressed, and the will to fight will become more and more fragile. It can be said that defeating them is already a certainty." said the commander of the 49th Infantry Division.

Lieutenant General Zeckert nodded: "After solving the Russian army's troops in Cheum, we can attack westward and cooperate with the 20th Army to take down Zamošić. In this case, the main force of the Russian 4th Army will be It was solved by us. The next battle will undoubtedly be much easier to fight."

The other generals nodded again and again. Everyone was very optimistic about this battle.

"General, the air team reported that their reconnaissance plane found a Russian army 20 kilometers southwest of Chelm and was approaching Chelm." A staff officer came in and reported.

"Another Russian army? How many people are there?" Lieutenant General Zeckert's heart tightened and he asked quickly.

Now is the critical moment for their attack on Chelm. If a Russian army appears and attacks them, it will definitely affect their battle plan.

"General, the aviation team predicts that the Russian army will be around 50,000 people." The staff officer continued.

"Fifty thousand? General, although fifty thousand is not many, it is definitely a lot. If they are allowed to enter Chelm, this will strengthen the defense of the Russian army. If we want to take Chelm, I am afraid we will have to It will take more time. The support army of the Russian army must not be allowed to enter Chelm!" said the commander of the 51st Infantry Division.

Zekt nodded, and he also had this opinion. However, the 50,000 Russian army is no less than the 17th Army. This is also a huge threat to them.

"Colonel Rommel, how many tanks are available now?" Lieutenant General Zeckert asked. If you want to attack the 50,000 reinforcements of the Russian army and defeat them in one fell swoop, the support of the armored forces is absolutely indispensable.

"General, we still have about seventy tanks available to start." Colonel Rommel replied.

"Well, dispatch 50 tanks to cooperate with the 51st Infantry Division to launch an attack on the Russian reinforcements. In addition, I will contact the 8th Air Force to let them bomb the Russian reinforcements. Try to defeat them all at once. The reinforcements of the Russian army. If the reinforcements of the Russian army are defeated, I want to see how long the Russian army in the city can last!" Lieutenant General Zeckert said.

"Yes, General." Both Colonel Rommel and the commander of the 51st Infantry Division replied.

Although, the 51st Infantry Division plus the 50 tanks dispatched by the 8th Armored Division have a total strength of less than 20,000 troops. Compared with the 50,000 Russian troops, they are undoubtedly at an extreme disadvantage in terms of strength. However, Lieutenant General Zeckert still believes that there is no problem at all in defeating the Russian reinforcements with the cooperation of armored forces and air force fighters. After the Russian reinforcements are defeated, the Russian defenders in Chelm will probably be shaken again in their will to fight! When the time comes, it will be even easier for them to take down Chelm.

"While the 51st Infantry Division and armored units attacked the Russian reinforcements, the 49th Infantry Division and the 50th Infantry Division continued to attack Chelm, and could not give the Russian army in the city of Chelm any respite. Lieutenant General Zeckert ordered.

"Yes, General." The commanders of the 49th Infantry Division and the 50th Infantry Division also replied.

The 17th Army and the 8th Armored Division immediately took action. Part of the troops continued to attack Chelm, while the other part rushed to the reinforcements of the Russian army.

Chapter 337: Raid

On the road from Lviv to Cheum, the Russian army in gray uniforms is marching. Although these Russian soldiers were tall, they were sallow and thin, and looked malnourished. Their marching ranks were not neat at all, and looked very messy. However, there is no way to do this. The quality of the Russian army is at the bottom among the great powers.

This Russian army is the 22nd Infantry Army under the Russian 4th Army, which is almost a pure infantry army. Except for a small number of horses used to drag artillery and transport supplies, the rest of the people marched entirely on their feet. Of course, high-ranking officers and generals

are exceptions, and they can ride horses. No matter how difficult the conditions of the Russian army are, the needs of generals and senior officers can still be guaranteed.

"General, we are only ten kilometers away from Chelm. It is estimated that we will arrive this evening. However, the Germans are storming Chelm. Our troops stationed in Chelm suffered losses due to the German attack. It's terrible. I'm afraid it's not a good idea for us to arrive in Chelm at this time." A major general and division commander said to Lieutenant General Boris, commander of the 22nd Army, who was riding on a tall horse.

"Of course I know! The two guys Fyodor and Golovin are almost unable to hold on under the onslaught of the Germans. That's why they asked the general to put pressure on me and asked me to rush to the sea quickly. Umm. I don't want to go, or I don't want to go so soon. But what can I do? The general's attitude is very strict. If we don't arrive at Chelm before today, the general will not let us go " Lieutenant General Boris said with some helplessness.

"General, are the Germans really that powerful?" Another major general asked.

Although, the German army has successively made the Russian army pay a heavy price. But the 22nd Infantry Army of the Russian Army has never fought against the German Army. The strength of the German army is heard from other troops. How powerful the German army is, they don't know.

"The Germans are indeed very powerful, otherwise, Fyodor and Golovin would not have been forced to such a point." Boris said.

"Order the troops to speed up the march. In any case, since the general's order has been issued, we have no way to disobey it. Hurry to Chelm as soon

as possible, strengthen the defense there, and hope to withstand the German attack!" Lieutenant General Boris gave the order.

Tens of thousands of Russian troops began to speed up and rushed towards Chelm. The marching queue meanders and circles on the plain, like a long gray snake.

"Whoo! Whoo! Whoo!"

Suddenly, there was a sharp whistling sound in the sky, and small black spots were approaching at high speed.

The expressions of the Russian troops on the ground changed drastically after hearing this voice. The war has started for more than two months, and they are all veterans who have experienced the baptism of war, so they naturally know what it means.

"Bombardment! Take cover!"

Five kilometers in front of the Russian army, the artillery of the German 51st Infantry Division was firing at the Russian army. 18 150mm heavy howitzers, 36 105mm light howitzers and 50 75mm field guns started shooting frantically. The superior's order was to let them, in the shortest possible time, drop more shells on the heads of the Russians, causing them as many casualties as possible.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The shells kept falling to the ground and exploded, and the shock wave engulfed the shrapnel and exploded in all directions. Russian soldiers were constantly being taken away. The originally irregular formation of the Russian army was in a mess at this time.

"Damn, why did the Germans appear here? They also attacked us? What are those two idiots, Fyodor and Golovin, doing?" Lieutenant General Boris was furious.

However, complaining at this time has no effect. The German shelling, so violent, is harvesting the lives of these Russian officers and soldiers.

"Where's our artillery? Immediately deploy and fight back!"

"General, the Germans don't seem to have many cannons, only a hundred or so, which means that they don't have many troops. If we launch a counterattack, we will definitely be able to defeat them." A Russian major general suggested.

"Okay, launch an attack and break through the blocking of the Germans!" Lieutenant General Boris ordered. He also thought about it, this is clearly the German army's blocking of them, preventing them from entering Chelm. This also means that the battle of Chelm has probably entered the most critical moment. If they were unable to reach Chelm in time, the fall of Chelm might be a foregone conclusion. At that time, not only the troops of Fyodor and Golovin will be wiped out, but they will also be encircled and suppressed by the superior forces of the German army.

The general of the Russian army began to organize troops and prepare for a counterattack. However, at this moment, a large number of German aircraft appeared in the sky. In order to cooperate with the 17th Army's attack on the Russian reinforcements, the 8th Air Force specially mobilized fifty bombers and fifty fighter jets for air strikes against the Russian 22nd Army.

"Find the target, give priority to attacking the artillery positions of the Russian army, and those Russian troops that are gathering!" The commander of the 8th Air Force in charge of this operation issued an order.

Dozens of bombers and fighter jets immediately began to lower their altitude and discovered the attack.

"Plane! German plane. Run away!"

The appearance of German aircraft made the Russian 22nd Army panic again.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The artillery of the 22nd Army of the Russian Army has become the key target of the air force. Those artillerymen were originally freeing the cannons from behind the flattery and pushing them to the artillery positions. But the appearance of German planes made them flee in all directions, and no one cared about those cannons at all. The gathered cannons undoubtedly became the best targets for German bombers.

"Start dropping bombs!"

The magazine of a fighter jet was opened, and bombs fell from the sky one after another.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The artillery shell hit the artillery position of the Russian army, and there were continuous explosions. The Russian army's cannons were destroyed one by one during the explosion.

And those Russian troops who were lining up to launch a counterattack against the German army became the targets of fighter jets of the German air force.

"Da da da!"

Fighters flew over the formation of the Russian army, and aviation machine guns fired wildly. The dense machine gun bullets hit the queue of the Russian army, leaving traces of blood and dead bodies. Countless Russian

soldiers fell to the ground amidst screams. The remaining Russian soldiers ran around like headless chickens, almost peeing out of fear.

Chapter 338: collapse

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

The fighter jets and bombers of the German Air Force unscrupulously launched attacks on the Russian army. For them, this is completely a **** killing feast. The Russian army exposed to the wild became the target of their massacre. Almost every pilot, after passing through this battle, has the blood of Russian soldiers on his hands.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The artillery of the German army also continued to fire, and cooperated with the air force, further causing greater losses to the Russian army.

Under the fierce attack of the German army, the casualties of the Russian army are rising sharply. At the same time, the German attack dealt a devastating blow to the morale of the Russian army.

"God! How could the German attack be so powerful?" Lieutenant General Boris looked desperate. Although, he already knew that the German attack was very strong. However, now that he has actually experienced the German attack, he realizes that the German army is stronger than he expected. It can be said that the German army is completely different from the Russian army. The combat effectiveness of the Russian army cannot catch up with the German army even if it is flattered.

"General, what should we do? The troops are in a mess now. It is impossible for us to continue our counterattack." A major general said.

After being attacked by the German army, the Russian army suffered heavy losses, and at the same time morale also fell to the bottom. Under such circumstances, how could it be possible to organize a counterattack?

"How big are our casualties?" Lieutenant General Boris stood up and looked at the fleeing Russian soldiers around him, his face as dark as the bottom of a pot. Before they reached Chelm, they were hit by a thunderous blow from the Germans. This made him no longer have much confidence in this plan.

"General, it is difficult to count now. However, our losses may not be so small."

Lieutenant General Boris frowned, as if he was thinking about whether to move on. If you want to move on, you have to tear through the German blockade. Can the 22nd Infantry Army of the Russian Army do it now? This is probably very difficult. But if they retreat, General Dimitriev can't explain it. Therefore, Lieutenant General Boris was caught in a dilemma.

However, Lieutenant General Boris will not have to worry about it soon, because the German army has already made a choice for him.

After the air strike of the German 8th Air Force ended, the fifty tanks of the 8th Armored Division, which had already been prepared, and the infantry of the three infantry regiments of the 51st Infantry Division launched an attack on the Russian army.

Fifty tanks, leading tens of thousands of infantry, launched an attack. Although, in terms of military strength, the Russian army still has an absolute advantage. However, in panic, morale suffered a devastating blow at the same time. Under such circumstances, how could they withstand the German attack?

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The German tanks fired with tank guns while marching, causing further damage to the Russian army.

"What's that?" During the chaos, some Russian soldiers discovered the approaching tanks. Many of them saw tanks for the first time. Seeing those black-painted iron guys approaching them, many people were frightened.

"Tanks! The German tanks are coming." A Russian officer shouted in horror.

The track of the tank crushed the ground and approached the Russian army without hesitation. The tens of thousands of German infantry behind the tank also showed a strong fighting spirit. This kind of momentum made the Russian army frightened.

"Damn, the Germans are calling. Open fire and stop them!" A Russian officer ordered.

"Da da da! Bang! Bang! Bang!"

Part of the Russian army opened fire, heavy machine guns and rifles, and started shooting, trying to stop the German armored forces. However, they soon discovered that neither heavy machine guns nor rifles could cause any harm to those black-painted iron guys. On the contrary, the German tanks suppressed the Russian army with tank guns. The heavy machine guns fired by the Russian army became the key targets of the German tanks.

The tank gun of a tank aimed at a heavy machine gun of the Russian army that was firing. The driver stopped abruptly, and the gunner immediately opened fire.

"Boom!" In the blink of an eye, the shell exploded, and the heavy machine gun of the Russian army was directly blown into a pile of parts.

The German tanks fought and walked, and soon broke through to the Russian defense line, only a few hundred meters away. The soldiers of the Russian army were retreating in a panic, and they had been frightened by the German tanks.

"Da da da!" The machine guns on the German tanks also started firing, and the intensive firepower knocked down the Russian soldiers to the ground.

"Mortar, kill the German tanks for me." A Russian officer shouted loudly.

A mortar was erected, and the gunner aimed at a German tank and opened fire soon.

"Boom! Boom!"

Two consecutive shells flew out of the barrel and hit the German tank.

The first shell exploded beside the tank without causing any damage to the tank at all. Another shell, although it hit the front armor of the tank. But unfortunately, the power of the mortar is too small, and it is undoubtedly impossible to penetrate the later armor of the tank.

"God!" The officer of the Russian army couldn't help being stunned when he saw this scene. He couldn't believe it at all, since there was nothing wrong with the German tank that was hit by the shell.

"Run away! German tanks are indestructible." A group of Russian soldiers fled one after another.

However, the counterattack of the German tanks came soon. The coaxial machine gun fired wildly at these Russian troops. The dense bullets shot all these Russian troops to death.

"General! The German offensive is too fierce, and we have suffered heavy losses. The front line simply cannot withstand the attack of German tanks. The troops have already begun to collapse, so let's retreat!" A major general and division commander reported to Lieutenant General Boris .

"It's over! It's over! The entire infantry army was defeated by the Germans in a single encounter. How can we fight this battle?" Lieutenant

General Boris murmured. His confidence also seemed to be destroyed at this moment.

The German army took the initiative to attack with a weak force, but with the cooperation of a large number of technical weapons, it was able to easily defeat the Russian army with absolute superiority in strength. This made the Russian generals who are good at fighting more with less, not knowing how to face it for a while.

Under the attack of the German 51st Infantry Division and part of the tanks of the 8th Armored Division, the Russian 22nd Infantry Division collapsed after suffering heavy losses. The frightened Russian army fled in all directions. Some Russian troops who had no hope of escape even surrendered directly to the German army.

Chapter 339: Surrender

In the city of Chelm, the fierce naval battle continued. The attack of the two German infantry divisions on the Russian army did not slow down because of the transfer of the main force of the 8th Armored Division, but became more violent.

Colonel Rommel led the main force to assist the 51st Infantry Division to attack the Russian 22nd Infantry Army. In the city of Chelm, only less than 20 tanks were left to cooperate with the 49th Infantry Division and the 50th Infantry Division. The lack of a large number of tanks has weakened the German army's attack capability, but they are still advancing continuously, squeezing the living space of the Russian army and causing greater casualties to the Russian army.

"The first squad covers fire, the second squad frontally attacks, and the third squad turns around!" A German platoon leader ordered.

"Da da da!"

The platoon belonged to heavy machine guns and mortars, and started shooting. The squad's machine gun also fired immediately, and the dense bullets sent smoke and dust to the Russian barricade at the end of the street. Those Russian soldiers were so suppressed that they couldn't even raise their heads.

"Boom!" A mortar shell hit the barricade of the Russian army. The explosion sounded and killed many Russian soldiers inside.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, a squad of German troops launched an attack on the Russian barricade and successfully broke through the barricade. After a brutal hand-to-hand fight, the barricade was occupied by the Germans. With this barricade as the center, the German army began to attack all around, clearing out the surrounding Russian troops.

In the city of Chelm, the positions of the Russian army are constantly being lost, and the casualties are also increasing. This made it more difficult for the Russian army to persist in the city. Many Russian soldiers who were injured in the battle had no one to take care of them at all. They could only endure the pain caused by the trauma, and in the midst of howling, they felt their lives passing away little by little.

"General, our position is lost. The German offensive is too fierce, and we can't stop it at all! Now, there are less than a thousand people left in my army." A major general and division commander reported with a ashen face. .

"The German attack is getting more and more violent. And our troops are retreating steadily. If this continues, we will not be able to withstand the German attack. Soon, the entire Chelm will fall under the Germans' control." In your hand." Lieutenant General Fyodor said with red eyes. In the past two days, he has hardly rested for a moment. Although, he has tried everything. However, the current battle situation is still very unfavorable to them. For the

Russian army, the situation is constantly deteriorating, and he seems to have seen that failure is imminent.

"Where has the 22nd Army arrived? Why hasn't it arrived yet?" Lieutenant General Golovin asked.

The 22nd Army, which was ordered to reinforce them, has become their only hope. If the 22nd Army can arrive in time, relying on these new forces, it may be able to barely stop the German attack. Otherwise, the troops currently deployed in the city of Chelm would not be able to withstand the German attack at all.

"I don't know. I have sent a telegram to inquire. But there is no news at all. Only God knows when that fellow Boris will arrive in Chelm. I hope he will not come to collect the body for us." Lieutenant General Fyodor smiled wryly.

"Damn it!" Lieutenant General Golovin couldn't help cursing.

They are now like bears trapped in a trap. They have tried their best, but there is still no way. They can only watch the enemy approaching constantly, and eventually lose their lives.

At this moment, a staff officer rushed in with a look of panic.

Lieutenant General Fyodor and Lieutenant General Golovin couldn't help feeling tense after seeing this scene. They knew that there must be some bad news coming.

"Report! The 22nd Infantry Corps is calling. They were attacked by the German army. The troops suffered heavy losses, and now the whole army has collapsed." The staff officer said.

"What? How is this possible?"

"Excuse, this must be the excuse made by that guy Boris. The main force of the Germans is still in Chelm, how could they attack them? I will report to

General Dimitriev and expose that shameless guy Boris !" General Golovin was furious.

"General, the 22nd Infantry Division reported that they were not only attacked by a large number of German infantry and tanks, but also by a large number of German aircraft. This made the 22nd Infantry Corps collapse." The staff officer continued.

"A large number of planes and tanks? Could it be that other German troops have taken action? The German Eighth Army has more than just such a small number of troops." Lieutenant General Feodor said.

Lieutenant General Golovin's face also continued to darken. Regardless of whether the collapse of the 22nd Infantry Corps is true or not, it is very bad news for them. Originally, the 22nd Infantry Army had become their life-saving straw. However, the 22nd Infantry Army was defeated by the Germans before it reached Chelm. This undoubtedly made them lose their reinforcements. If they want to continue in Chelm, they can only rely on their own strength. And that, obviously, is impossible. The sharp attack of the German army has proved that their resistance is so fragile in the face of the powerful attack of the German army.

"Fyodor, what should we do now? Can we continue to persevere?" Lieutenant General Golovin asked.

Lieutenant General Fyodor shook his head: "Judging from the attack strength of the Germans, we will be wiped out by them by tomorrow at the latest!"

"No, we can't go on like this. Let's break through!" Lieutenant General Golovin suggested.

"Breakthrough?" Lieutenant General Fyodor was taken aback. Admiral Dimitriev's order was to ask them to stick to Chelm. If they broke through, it would undoubtedly violate Admiral Dimitriev's order.

However, for the sake of his own life, Lieutenant General Fyodor still approved this suggestion.

In the evening of that day, the remaining Russian troops in Chelm broke out to the south in an attempt to escape from Chelm. But unfortunately, they ran into the German 51st Infantry Division, which defeated the Russian 22nd Infantry Corps, and dozens of tanks of the 8th Armored Division.

This naturally made the breakout of the Russian army smashed as easily as hitting a stone with a pebble.

In the case of heavy losses, the rest of the Russian army had to retreat to Chelm again. The Germans, on the other hand, completed the siege of Chelm. The Russian army inside is hard to fly even with wings.

The breakout failed, and an atmosphere of despair spread within the Russian army. Many Russian officers and soldiers do not want to be killed. So, they joined forces and demanded that Lieutenant General Fyodor and Golovin surrender to the Germans.

Under tremendous pressure, Lieutenant General Feodor and Lieutenant General Golovin had no choice but to adopt this suggestion and send someone to contact the German army about the surrender.

Chapter 340: Blitz Lviv

Uzhhorod, Austrian Army Command. The three armies of the Russian Southwest Front Army are still launching a fierce attack on the Austrian defense line. Although, the Austrian army successfully resisted the attack of the Russian army by using fortifications and powerful firepower, and caused

great casualties to the Russian army. But at the same time, the casualties of the Austrian army continued to increase.

As the casualties increased, the morale of the Austrian army inevitably began to decline. The consequence of this is that the defense line of the Austrian army has been in danger several times. There are several defense lines that were almost broken by the Russian army. This made Marshal Herzendorf very nervous, and even had to start splitting and supplementing the 4th Army as a reserve to the front line to stabilize the defense line.

Regarding the performance of the Austrian Army, Qin Tian couldn't help shaking his head. Initially, the Austrian Army's performance is not bad. But as the casualties appeared, the performance of the troops began to develop in a worse and worse direction. The reason is undoubtedly that the fighting will of the Austrian army is too fragile. In the case of the German army, such a situation is absolutely impossible.

However, the Austrian army has been weak for a long time, and Qin Tian has nothing to do about it. He can only hope that the Austrian army can persist until the German army's strategic plan is realized. In that case, they will win this battle. Otherwise, the consequences will be disastrous.

"Your Excellency, Marshal, is the Russian army's offensive still fierce?" Qin Tian asked.

"Yes, Your Royal Highness. The Russians seem to be crazy, and they continue to launch fierce attacks on our defense line. Our troops are under great pressure." Marshal Herzendorf said with red eyes. He didn't sleep all night last night. Because, at night, the Russian army organized several night raids and almost broke through the Austrian army's defense line.

As the Chief of Staff of the Austrian Army, Marshal Herzendorf knew very well how serious the consequences would be if the Austrian Army failed to

hold on to the line of defense. Therefore, he has been guarding the command post, constantly contacting the front line, knowing that he has personally sent a telegram to the commander of each infantry division, asking them to hold the line of defense no matter what.

"The losses of the Russians are even greater than ours, and much larger. I think their high-intensity attacks should not last long. If you persist for a few more days, there will be a turning point." Qin Tian Said.

Marshal Herzendorf nodded, he thought so too. After all, the Russians suffered far more casualties than the defending Austrians. Even if it is such a fight for consumption, the Austrian army is more dominant. It is precisely because of this that Marshal Herzendorf took a very rare and severe attitude towards those generals, requiring them to hold the line of defense no matter what, and not to retreat without an order, and those who violated the military law will be punished.

It was precisely because of the strong suppression of Marshal Herzendorf that the generals of the Austrian army desperately defended the line of defense. If the performance of the Austrian army on the battlefield before, their defense line had already been broken by the Russian army.

"Your Highness, how is the progress of the German army?" Baron Marshal Herzendorf asked.

"The progress of the 8th Army is still a victory. Our battle at Chelm is about to win. The Russian army tried to send an infantry army to reinforce Chelm, but we were defeated. The battle of Zamosic has also begun. Yes. There, we also have an absolute advantage. The Russian 4th Army has been completely defeated, which is an irreversible fact. Soon, they will be killed." Qin Tian said quite confidently.

Marshal Baron Herzendorf could not help but breathe a sigh of relief when he heard what Qin Tian said. He knew that Qin Tian would not deceive him on these issues. As long as the progress of the German 8th Army goes smoothly, it means that victory is expected.

"His Royal Highness, don't worry. This time, we will never hold back. Before the German army completes the scheduled battle plan, we will firmly hold the line of defense, and we will never let the Russians break through our line of defense!" Baron Marshal Herzendorf said.

"Your Excellency Marshal, I believe that your army will be able to do it. The Russians will definitely not be your opponents this time." Qin Tian said.

Marshal Herzendorf Baron nodded, he seemed very satisfied to be recognized by Qin Tian.

Backing to his office, Qin Tian received the battle report from the front line.

"The Russians actually surrendered? How is this possible?" Qin Tian was also very shocked when he learned that the Russian army stationed in Chelm had surrendered to the German 17th Army. After all, although the combat effectiveness of the Russian army is not very good, their will to fight in this war is still very admirable.

"Perhaps it is because of the hopelessness of victory. Now that the Russian army has surrendered, the combat mission of the 17th Army has undoubtedly been completed ahead of schedule. Your Highness, what should we do next?" Brigadier General Manstein asked.

Qin Tian's eyes fell on the map hanging on the wall.

"General Manstein, what's your opinion?" Qin Tian asked.

"Your Highness, I think the 11th Army can be dispatched. Let Colonel Rommel lead the remaining tanks, support the 11th Army, and directly attack Lvov. If we win there, we will surely win the battle!" Brigadier General Manstein said.

Lvov is the most important strategic node for the defense of the Russian 4th Army, where it is an important material distribution point for the Russian Southwest Front Army. It can be said that 60% of the supplies of the entire Southwest Front Army of the Russian Army arrived here first, and then distributed to the various troops. If the German army can capture Lviv, it means that the Russian Southwest Front Army will face a shortage of supplies. Maybe in less than half a month, the German army and the Austrian army will be able to defeat the Russian Southwest Front Army together.

"Is the 11th Army ready?" Qin Tian asked.

"Your Highness, these days, the 11th Army has been secretly moving to the front line. For the 11th Army, we have assembled more than two thousand trucks. Including their original transformed trucks, it is enough for the 11th Army to move as fast as possible. They rushed to Lviv as soon as possible. If they are not intercepted by the Russian army, they can arrive in Lviv and launch an attack in just one day," Brigadier General Manstein said.

Qin Tian nodded, although the 11th Army is now more than 100 kilometers away from Lviv. But if the whole crew travels in a truck, it is not a problem to march more than 100 kilometers a day. And after arriving, the soldiers can still devote themselves to the battle with full energy.

"Well, let General François act! Attack Lviv directly. Within three days, Lviv must be taken!" Qin Tian ordered.

"Yes, Your Highness."