

Jagged 351

Chapter 351: Big win

Berzani is just a small town. However, after the 32nd Infantry Division of the 11th Army of the German Army entered here, the whole town became a strong fortress under the construction of the German Army overnight. An infantry division plus more than twenty tanks from the 8th Armored Division made them extremely powerful.

This is an important node for the Russian army to retreat eastward. If the Russian army wanted to make a detour, it would have to climb over the mountains with difficult roads, or take away hundreds of kilometers. This is undoubtedly very difficult for the Russian army who wants to escape.

On October 14, the main force of the Russian 8th Army arrived in Berzani. However, the storm still took a detour, which made Admiral Brushinov a little undecided. Although there were not many German troops in Berzani, Bruschinov did not dare to underestimate him at all. In this battle, the combat effectiveness of the German army has already been tested in actual combat. Even though the Russian 8th Army still has more than 200,000 people, Bruschinov has no confidence in defeating the Germans and capturing Berzani. Especially under the fierce pursuit of the Austrian 3rd Army. If he delays here for a day or two, maybe the Austro-Hungarian Army will catch up. At that time, he will have to face the unfavorable situation of a dilemma.

"Order the ministries to launch an attack in half an hour. Find a way to take Berzani. Otherwise, we will be finished." Admiral Brushinov ordered.

"Yes, General." The adjutant gave the order.

Half an hour later, the 26th Infantry Army under the Russian 8th Army, as the vanguard, took the lead in launching an attack on Berzani.

The Russian army prepared for a period of firepower before attacking. However, because many of their cannons and shells were discarded, their firepower preparation only lasted for ten minutes, and they barely fired two or three hundred shells. This kind of firepower preparation is not a threat at all to the solid position of the German 32nd Infantry Division.

"Ulla! Ulla!"

After the firepower was prepared, more than 20,000 Russian soldiers charged directly at the defense line of the German 32nd Infantry Division. These Russian soldiers shouted slogans loudly and charged forward fiercely, as if they were not afraid of death at all.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The artillery of the 32nd Infantry Division of the German Army started shelling, and the howitzers and field guns poured shells into the Russian army's formation. Shells exploded in the ranks of the Russian army, taking away fresh lives. At the same time, gaps were left in the queue of the Russian army.

However, the large number of Russian troops makes it easy for them to fill these gaps.

"Da da da!"

When the Russian army approached to only a hundred meters away from the German defense line, the machine guns on the German positions began to shoot. A pair of general-purpose machine guns and squad machine guns formed a cross-fire force, blocking the way forward for the Russian army. The dense bullets, like a steel storm, tore the soldiers of the Russian army to pieces.

"Ulla! Ulla!"

The charging Russian army directly hit the intensive firepower of the German army, as if hitting an invisible wall. The Russian army was bloodied and suffered heavy losses.

"Damn! Continue to attack!" Although, the losses of the Russian army began to soar. However, the generals of the Russian army, as if ignoring the huge casualties, still demanded that the troops launch a fierce attack. In the eyes of these Russian generals, the lives of these Russian soldiers are not important at all, they are nothing but cannon fodder. No matter how many people die, they will be replenished soon. Therefore, there is no need to feel sorry for the death of these cannon fodder.

The 8th Army of the Russian Army launched multiple rounds of attacks in Berzani. However, it still failed to break through the Russian army's defense line, and instead suffered heavy losses. At the same time, the Austrian Third Army gradually caught up.

On October 15, the Austrian 3rd Army completed the encirclement of the Russian 8th Army. There was the German army in the front and the Austrian army in the back, which made the Russian 3rd Army fall into a desperate situation.

After the 8th Army of the Russian Army was surrounded, it launched several breakouts. However, except for a very small number of troops, the rest of the Russian army failed to break through.

Finally, on the afternoon of October 16, the hundreds of thousands of Russian troops in the encirclement put down their weapons and surrendered to the German-Austrian coalition forces. Of course, General Brushinov, commander of the Russian Eighth Army, was not among the surrendered Russian generals. In fact, it was precisely because General Brushinov, who had a tough attitude, broke through the encirclement that the other Russian generals who remained in the encirclement no longer had to be afraid and

chose to surrender. If Admiral Bruschinov was still within the encirclement, they wouldn't have dared to surrender to the German-Austrian coalition with their courage.

The surrender of the main force of the Russian 8th Army made the main force of the Russian Army already exist in name only. They originally had 300,000 troops, but now the remaining troops will not exceed 10,000.

Even if Admiral Brushinov waited for a group of generals of the Russian 8th Army to flee back and was supplemented, it would take a long time for the 8th Army to regain its combat effectiveness.

The 8th Army of the Russian Army was almost wiped out, which was undoubtedly a heavy blow to the Southwest Front Army of the Russian Army. Among the four subordinate armies, two are already dead in name only. Moreover, the remaining two are also at stake.

The 3rd Army of the Russian Army, because the deployment position is relatively north. Therefore, their retreat routes are almost always under the threat of the German army. The main force of the German 8th Army and the 2nd Austrian Army flanked the 3rd Russian Army.

Under unavoidable circumstances, General Rusky, the commander of the Russian Third Army, had to choose to retreat in small groups to avoid being blocked by the main force of the German-Austrian coalition forces.

However, even with this method, the main force of the Russian Third Army still did not escape the pursuit of the German and Austrian coalition forces. During the battle, the reconnaissance planes of the 8th Air Force of the German army provided intelligence support for the German and Austrian allied forces throughout the process, making it impossible for the Austrian army to escape.

In the end, the Russian Third Army only escaped tens of thousands of people.

The 11th Army of the Russian Army had better luck. Because they were deployed in the southernmost place, and at the same time pursuing their Austrian 4th Army, their combat effectiveness was the worst. Therefore, the remaining 200,000 people of the Russian 11th Army basically escaped the pursuit and fled back to Russia. But even so, the German-Austrian coalition forces wiped out millions of Russian troops in this battle and won an extremely brilliant victory.

Chapter 352: Tsar's helplessness

Belarus, Stevka, Russian Army Command.

The commander-in-chief of the Russian army, Grand Duke Nicholas, looked at the telegram in his hand and said nothing. This is the battle damage report sent by General Ivanov, commander of the Russian Southwest Front. The heavy loss made Grand Duke Nicholas feel very sad.

According to Admiral Ivanov's report, the main force of the Russian Southwest Front Army has been wiped out in this battle. Originally, the Southwest Front Army had 1.2 million people. But now, the Southwest Front Army has only 250,000 people left, and has lost a full 950,000 people, which is almost one million. If you count the previous losses of the Russian Northwest Front Army, Russia has lost nearly two million troops on the Eastern Front. Even if Russia has a huge army, it can't afford such a loss!

What's more, the lost troops are almost all their elite troops. In this case, they will be at a serious disadvantage in the next battle!

"Perhaps, we were wrong from the beginning. This war is no longer something that the Russian Empire can participate in. The strength of the Russian Empire is too weak, and there is no possibility of winning this war." Grand Duke Nicholas A look of bitterness.

Originally, Tsar Nicholas II, the commanders of the Russian army, and senior government officials all believed that with the strength of the Allied Powers, defeating the Allied Powers was a certainty. Especially after Italy betrayed the Allies and fell to the Allies, the Allies became even weaker. However, the victory they had hoped for had not been able to come. Instead, failures followed one after another.

The Russian army suffered such heavy losses in this war, which directly made them hopeless on the Eastern Front. In the eyes of Grand Duke Nicholas, the next role of the Russian Empire in this war is probably to play soy sauce! The only role they can play is nothing more than to contain some of the German-Austrian coalition forces. Moreover, a large amount of territory will be lost. Unless the Allied Powers can win this war, otherwise, the territories lost by Russia may never be regained.

However, can the Allied Powers win this war? If it was before the war broke out, Grand Duke Nicholas would definitely think that the Allied Powers would definitely win the final victory. But now, he didn't dare to be so sure. Among other things, the explosion of Germany's military strength in this war alone is enough to shock everyone. The German Army is worthy of the title of number one in the world. Even if it is a two-front battle, it still has an advantage in the battle. Even the German Navy gained an advantage over the British Navy in naval battles. In the eyes of Grand Duke Nicholas, this is really incredible. But the fact is the fact, even if he thinks it is unlikely, it will not change because of it.

"May God bless the Russian Empire, and hope that we can win this war!" Grand Duke Nicholas murmured. It seems that praying for the blessing of the illusory God has become their only way.

"Your Excellency, how should I report the specific situation of the Southwest Front Army to His Majesty?" a Russian general asked.

After all, as the Russian army lost on the battlefield one after another, this made Tsar Nicholas II very angry. If Nicholas II learned that the Southwest Front Army had also experienced a disastrous defeat, the consequences might be very serious. These military generals, none of them can afford to walk around.

"Report the truth to His Majesty! It is impossible to conceal it for a long time. Once His Majesty knows the truth, the consequences will be more serious." Grand Duke Nicholas said.

Grand Duke Nicholas was very clear about the character of his nephew, Nicholas II. Not only headstrong and conceited, but also irritable. In particular, you can't suffer losses, and you can't bear others' deception.

Although the Grand Duke Nicholas was very guilty of fighting like this, he knew that there was no way to do it. If he concealed it, the consequences would be even more serious. At that time, even if he is Nicholas II's uncle, Nicholas II will probably not let him go easily. Therefore, Grand Duke Nicholas was unwilling to do that.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Grand Duke." The general nodded, and immediately went to prepare to send a telegram.

St. Petersburg, the capital of the Russian Empire, the Hermitage.

Tsar Nicholas II sat behind his desk expressionlessly. Several telegrams were scattered on the desk. That was the telegram from Grand Duke Nicholas. The content of the telegram is the battle damage of the Russian Southwest Front Army.

After Nicholas II saw this telegram, he flew into a rage. Although, he seems to be used to failure. However, repeated failures made him almost numb.

In front of Nicholas II's desk stood a group of generals of the Russian army and senior government officials. However, everyone remained silent, as if they were sinners waiting to be judged.

"First, the Northwest Front Army was annihilated, and then the Southwest Front Army was almost wiped out. So far, we have lost nearly two million troops. You know, before the war broke out, our standing army was only one hundred It's only 400,000! What's more terrible is that the troops lost are all our elite troops. If so, how can we continue this battle?" Nicholas II looked at it with red eyes. Generals of the Russian army and senior officials of the government.

Everyone is silent, everyone knows that the current situation is too bad for Russia. The performance of the Russian army in this war can be described as abysmal.

It can be said that it is precisely because of this that many senior officials of the Russian government and military generals are very negative about this war, thinking that it is difficult for them to win.

Tsar Nicholas II, watching the reactions of these ministers and generals, was also very helpless. Just like the current battle situation.

"Everyone, what do you think of the current battle situation? What should we do next?" Nicholas II asked.

"Your Majesty, in view of the heavy losses of the troops, it is best not to launch an offensive until our newly mobilized troops are ready. Otherwise, we are very likely to be defeated again." Minister of War Sukhomli Nove said.

Nicholas II nodded with a sullen face. Even if a large number of troops were mobilized again, those mobs obviously couldn't be sent to the battlefield! Letting them go to the battlefield is simply letting them die.

Chapter 353: space for time

"How long will it take for our newly formed troops to form combat effectiveness?" Nicholas II asked.

"Your Majesty, it will take about a year." Sukhomlinov said.

"One year? No, one year is too long!" Nicholas II shook his head. A year from now, the war may be over. If the Russian army had formed combat effectiveness at that time, it would be of no use at all.

"Half a year, Your Majesty, half a year is enough. However, we need Britain, France and other countries to provide us with weapons and equipment. With our own military production capacity, it is undoubtedly very difficult to arm millions of troops. said Sukhomlinov.

Nicholas II hesitated for a moment, but nodded. Although, asking for help from the British and French made him a little embarrassed. But as long as the Russian Imperial Army can regain its strong combat effectiveness and defeat the Germans on the battlefield, even if it loses a little face, it is completely worth it. Besides, this time the Russian Empire is helping the British and the French to fight the war. It is reasonable for them to provide reinforcements to the Russian Empire in terms of weapons and equipment.

"Isivorski, you are in charge of communicating with the British and the French, and let them find a way to provide us with a batch of arms. Otherwise, our army will not be able to support the Eastern Front. If something happens because of this If there are adverse effects, all the consequences will be borne by them." Nicholas II said.

"Yes, Your Majesty. However, the British Navy is now suppressed by the German Navy. Even if they are willing to transport arms to us, they cannot reach our port!" Izvorski said.

Nicholas II touched his mustache: "This is indeed a problem. However, we should not worry about this problem? Shouldn't we? I think the British and the French can definitely find a way to solve this problem of."

"Yes, Your Majesty." Izvorski nodded helplessly. He knew what Nicholas II meant, which was to leave the problem to the British and French. As for Britain and France, in order for the Russian Empire to survive this war, they have no other choice. It can only provide arms to the Russian Empire as much as possible, so that the Russian Empire's army can be rearmed. Otherwise, once the German and Austrian troops on the eastern front enter the western or southern front, this will cause the Allied Powers to face failure again in these two directions. By that time, the situation will really be beyond control.

"Your Majesty, the current war situation is very unfavorable to us. Why can't we consider making peace with the Germans and ending this war?" Prime Minister Vyacheslav Previ suggested.

"Peace? Make peace with the Germans?" Tsar Nicholas II's face suddenly turned black as if it was the bottom of a pot.

"I will never bow to that proud guy, never!" Nicholas II resolutely objected.

The proud guy in the mouth of Nicholas II naturally refers to William II. In fact, the King of England, the Emperor of Germany and the Tsar of Russia, they are cousins, they are all relatives. However, they fought to the death in this war. The empire commanded by William II was thriving. However, the huge empire commanded by Nicholas II was gradually declining. Such a result made Nicholas II, who was also extremely proud, unacceptable. Therefore, even if the Russian army suffered an unprecedented defeat, he would never bow to William II. Unless, one day the German army hit St. Petersburg, he became a prisoner.

"But Your Majesty, in this war, we are already in an extremely disadvantageous situation. At the same time, the domestic situation is also very bad. Various forces are contributing to the flames. If we cannot handle it properly, the empire will fall into a crisis In the midst of a great crisis." Vyacheslav Previ said solemnly.

"You mean, does someone want to oppose my rule? Send out the army, suppress those guys, send them all to Siberia to mine, or hang them all." Nicholas II ordered coldly .

Vyacheslav Previ saw that William II's attitude was so firm, so he had no choice but to say no more. He knew very well that William II's character was inherently paranoid, and no one could change his decision about what he must decide. If he is persuaded again and again, it may even arouse his extreme disgust.

Another reason why Nicholas II was unwilling to make peace with Germany was that he knew that there was no free lunch in the world. When the situation is extremely unfavorable to them, if they propose a peace to Germany, Germany will definitely open its mouth and put forward very harsh conditions. Even, let them cede a large area of territory and pay huge war reparations. Nicholas II was unwilling to pay such a heavy price. Even, he still had a little luck in his heart. That is, if Russia wins this war, not only can they keep those interests, but they can even cut a piece of meat from the Germans. Even if it is a tie, it is a very good result for the Russian Empire. At least, you don't have to lose those benefits anymore.

"In the next battle, we must find a way to resist the German attack." Nicholas II looked at the Minister of War Sukhomlinov.

"Your Majesty, Grand Duke Nicholas suggested that we shrink the line of defense. Give up part of the territory in the west and shorten our logistics supply line. At the same time, lengthen the enemy's logistics supply line. In

this way, we can buy us a lot of time and let our troops get Rest and arm more troops," Sukhomlinov said.

Nicholas II nodded, even though he was heartbroken to give up a large area of territory. However, these territories are only temporarily abandoned. If peace is made with the Germans, those territories will have to be given up forever. This is unacceptable to him.

"Well, I agree with Grand Duke Nicholas' suggestion to trade space for time!" Nicholas II said. The reason why he is willing to pay these prices has only one purpose, and that is to win this war.

"Yes, Your Majesty." Sukhomlinov replied.

Immediately, Nicholas II issued an order to reorganize the Northwest Front Army and the Southwest Front Army. The 1st Guards Army was transferred to the front line as the main force of the Northwest Front Army, and the 1st Army, 2nd Army, 9th Army and 2nd Guards Army were rebuilt, bringing the strength of the Northwest Front Army to 1.5 million people. The 3rd Army, 4th Army, 8th Army, and 11th Army of the Southwest Front Army will also be rebuilt, plus the 13th Army, there will also be five armies with 1.5 million people.

Chapter 354: All Quiet on the Eastern Front

"Your Excellency Marshal, the Russian Southwest Front Army is almost completely wiped out. In the next six months, Russia is unlikely to pose a threat to the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Therefore, the next battlefield on the Eastern Front is up to you to maintain. I am going to lead the 8th Army and return to Germany." In Uzhhorod, Qin Tian bid farewell to Marshal Herzendorf, chief of the Austrian general staff.

"His Royal Highness, should we just stop attacking like this? Now that the Russian Southwest Front Army has suffered a disastrous defeat, it is a great opportunity for us to launch an attack on Russia! As long as we launch an

attack, we can easily capture a large area of western Russia." Hehe Marshal Baron Zendorf said.

Indeed, in the eyes of many Austrian generals, it would be a pity to stop the offensive now. The main force of the Russian army has been wiped out by them, which means that the territories in western Russia will easily fall into their hands like ripe peaches. And what they have to do is just tiptoe to pick it.

During this war, the Austro-Hungarian Empire has always been suppressed by Russia, which also made the generals of the Austro-Hungarian Empire hate Russia very much when they feared Russia. Given the opportunity to kill the Russians, it is naturally difficult for them to give up such an opportunity.

For Qin Tian, it was also difficult to make such a decision. Inside the German army, there are also many people who hope to take the opportunity to launch an offensive and occupy Russian territory. After all, a series of previous battles have proved that the Russian army is not an opponent of the powerful German army at all, even if the Russian army has completed its mobilization and sent a large number of troops to attack them. With the strength of the German army, there is absolutely no need to be afraid.

However, Qin Tian still had to suppress the greed in his heart and reject the suggestions of the generals. Among other things, it's late October now. Soon, the cold winter will come. And the winter in Russia is frightening. Before and after Napoleon, then there was Hitler, they are all role models for Qin Tian! Qin Tian would never easily launch an attack on the hinterland of Russia before he was fully prepared. Even if one day he will go to war with Russia, he will take a gradual approach to gradually encroach on Russia's territory, and he will never hope to defeat Russia in one or two battles. Because, Qin Tian knew that it was simply impossible. Russia's terrifying strategic depth and

huge population base will be the greatest enemy of all countries that attempt to destroy it.

In addition, Qin Tian was looking forward to the outbreak of civil strife in Russia. If Russia's serious defeat on the battlefield can cause a revolution in Russia, then Qin Tian can easily get everything he wants. Qin Tian remembered that in another time and space, the Russian cloth party paid a price in order to withdraw from the First World War and make peace with Germany. Of course, when Germany was defeated, the Budapest party immediately tore up the treaty and reoccupied all the ceded territories. In this time and space, if everything continues to develop, Germany may also be able to obtain those benefits without any effort. If Germany wins this world war, the Russian cloth party will naturally have no way to tear up the treaty like in another time and space. At that time, those territories will become German territories. Because of these territories, Germany will develop stronger and become the true hegemon of Europe.

Of course, these cannot be disclosed to the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

"Your Excellency Marshal, although we have severely damaged the Russian army, their main force is still there. After mobilization, Russia can still arm millions of troops. Therefore, their strength should not be underestimated. In addition, the Western Front has fallen into a crisis. The stalemate, the strength of the Anglo-French coalition forces is constantly growing, which will be very unfavorable to us. Therefore, I must bring the 8th Army back to China, and then put it into the Western Front, and strive to win the Western Front in one fell swoop. Breakthrough progress." Qin Tian said.

"Okay, Your Royal Highness, then I wish your Highness a successful start on the Western Front." Baron Herzendorf's eyes flashed an inexplicable emotion. In his heart, there is undoubtedly some entanglement. He hoped that Qin Tian would agree to cooperate with them in launching a new round of

attack, but he hoped that Qin Tian would refuse. If there is the cooperation of the German 8th Army, after they launch a new round of offensive, the chance of winning will be greater and the risk will be smaller. However, in the same way, Germany will also share a lot of benefits from it, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire will only be able to pick up a little leftovers. This is completely unacceptable to the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

At the same time, as the main force against the Allies, the victory or defeat of the German army on the Western Front is directly related to whether the Allies can win this war. Therefore, Baron Herzendorf, Marshal and even the entire Austro-Hungarian Empire also hope that Germany can win on the Western Front. Only in this way can they keep their own victory. Otherwise, once Germany fails, the Austro-Hungarian Empire will not end well.

In late October, Qin Tian left Uzhhorod. At the same time, the 8th Army also began to go north, returning to East Prussia for rest. The newly formed Ninth Army will be stationed in the Kingdom of Poland. Once the Eighth Army advances west next year and participates in the Great War on the Western Front, East Prussia and the Kingdom of Poland will have to rely on the Ninth Army for defense. Of course, if possible, Qin Tian would also like to form a new legion to strengthen the defense on the eastern front. Although Austria-Hungary is a staunch ally of Germany. However, they also have their own interests. So, not so Karp!

When the German 8th Army went north, the Austro-Hungarian Empire was also actively supplementing the three armies deployed on the Eastern Front. They also lost a large number of troops in this war. After supplementation, strength will soon be restored. Even, a newly formed army group of the Austro-Hungarian Empire will go to the Eastern Front. In this case, the Austrian Army would have four armies with 1.2 million soldiers on the Eastern Front. Such a huge army is obviously not just for defense. With

the victory on the Eastern Front, the ambitions of the Austro-Hungarian Empire were gradually revealed.

Of course, this is the Austro-Hungarian Empire's own calculation, and all of this has nothing to do with Germany and Qin Tian. After the Russian Southwest Front Army was almost completely wiped out, the crisis on the Eastern Front in Germany could basically be resolved. This allowed Germany to ignore the threat of Russia and concentrate on accumulating strength to prepare for the challenge on the Western Front. Defeating the British and French allied forces on the Western Front is directly related to the outcome of this war.

Chapter 355: Austro-Hungarian ambitions

Austro-Hungarian Empire, Vienna, Schönbrunn Palace.

The Chief of the Austrian General Staff, Baron Herzendorf, Marshal Herzendorf, returned from the front line to report to the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph I and report on the battle situation on the front line.

"Your Majesty, we worked closely with our allies to nearly completely annihilate the Russian Southwest Front on the front line. The Russian Southwest Front had a strength of 1.2 million soldiers before, but now there are probably only more than 200,000 who fled back to Russia. Plus If Germany had wiped out the Russian Northwest Front Army before, we would have wiped out two million Russian troops in the future." Baron Herzendorf said proudly.

Franz Joseph I also showed a long-lost smile on his face. This is undoubtedly good news for him and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After the outbreak of the war, the Austrian army has been at a disadvantage on the battlefield. Well now, the situation is finally reversed.

"Our allies did not let us down! At the critical moment, they helped us win!" Franz Joseph I said with a smile.

"The combat power of the German allies is definitely the best in the world!" Archduke Friedrich, commander-in-chief of the Austrian Army, also said.

Other important ministers and military generals of the Austro-Hungarian Empire agreed one after another, praising the strong combat effectiveness of the German Empire.

However, after hearing these praises, Crown Prince Karl's expression was not very good. Although, the Austria-Hungary Empire won the victory on the Eastern Front, which is very beneficial to the Austria-Hungary Empire and his crown prince. However, he couldn't hear everyone's praise for Germany, and these important ministers and generals of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, who pretended to be Germany's younger brothers.

In the eyes of Crown Prince Karl, Austria is the orthodoxy of Germany. If it hadn't been for Prussia's powerful force to defeat Austria, they would not have withdrawn from the German Federation. Perhaps, the current Austrian Empire has completed the unification of Germany, and with the current territory, it has already become the hegemon of Europe.

Crown Prince Karl hopes that even if the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the German Empire are allied, the two parties should be equal allies rather than affiliations. In that case, it would be very unfair to the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Of course, the most critical factor is that Crown Prince Karl does not want himself to be inferior to Qin Tian. He hoped that he and Qin Tian would have an equal relationship. Of course, it would be great if he could overwhelm Qin Tian.

"Your Excellency Chief of Staff, the military is on the Eastern Front, what is the next step? Since the main force of the Russians has been eliminated by

us, this is undoubtedly our good opportunity! If we can launch an attack on Russia, we can definitely take the opportunity to capture it. A large number of Russian territories." Crown Prince Karl said.

Suddenly, all eyes were on Crown Prince Karl. Many people's eyes lit up and they nodded in agreement with Crown Prince Karl's point of view. Indeed, for them, this is undoubtedly a good opportunity to expand the territory of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Wasn't Austria-Hungary participating in the World War just to gain more benefits? Now, the benefits are already in front of him, so naturally he can't give up.

"His Royal Highness, I have made this suggestion to His Highness the German Crown Prince. However, His Highness Oscar has other considerations. His Eighth Army will return to Germany, and it is very likely that it will be involved in the battle on the Western Front. After all, for Germany it is said that the battle on the western front is the most critical." Baron Herzendorf said.

Frantz Joseph I nodded: "His Royal Highness Oscar should consider it."

"That's just right, without Germany's participation, we don't have to share their interests with them. As long as our army fights over and defeats the Russians, we will be able to occupy the vast territory of western Russia." Crown Prince Karl said excitedly.

Baron Marshal Herzendorf couldn't help but frowned, although, leaving Germany alone, the Austro-Hungarian Empire could gain greater benefits. However, I am afraid that in the future, I will face the counterattack of the Russians alone. With the strength of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, it may be difficult to resist at that time.

But the other important ministers and generals of the Austro-Hungarian Empire all had bright eyes. Sharing those benefits with Germany is naturally better than obtaining those benefits alone.

In the cloudy eyes of Joseph Franz I, a trace of disappointment flashed. He was a little dissatisfied with Karl, the Crown Prince. The layout is too small, and it is too easy to be blinded by immediate interests. If he had extra time, he would definitely choose a crown prince carefully. But unfortunately, his physical condition no longer allowed him to make these choices.

"I will think about this question carefully. I will give you an answer in a few days!" Franz Joseph I said.

"Yes, Your Majesty." Everyone replied.

It's just that they, who were caught up in excitement, didn't seem to understand the meaning of Franz Joseph I's words. They have all been blinded by the benefits of the upcoming blockbuster. Only Archduke Friedrich and Baron Marshal Herzendorf noticed this. However, they also know that it is almost impossible for everyone to give up the idea of continuing to attack Russia and expand the territory with Crown Prince Karl taking the lead, and with the help of other people.

The essence of the First World War was still a war between the great powers in order to compete for more interests and re-divide the world. Therefore, all countries participating in this world war have their own interests. The Austro-Hungarian Empire originally hoped to complete its expansion in the Balkan direction. However, since they were able to expand on the Eastern Front, of course they would not give up this opportunity.

Crown Prince Karl does not think there is anything wrong with the choice of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. They won the war, so naturally they deserved corresponding benefits. If Germany is willing to participate,

Germany will naturally be able to share the benefits. Since the Germans themselves refused, then of course they must accept all of these benefits as their duty.

"Let the Germans go to fight with Britain and France to the death! We are taking advantage of Russia. If we can bite off a large piece of fat from the Russians, this will make the strength of the Austro-Hungarian Empire further It has been improved. At that time, we will have the strength to make the Germans have to face us. I did this for the sake of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, not for my personal self-interest. I think His Majesty the Emperor should understand me , will also support me. Crown Prince Karl thought secretly.

He thought that doing so would be praised by Franz Joseph I. It never occurred to him that he was completely self-defeating.

Chapter 356: Do it alone

"Your Excellency the Grand Duke, Your Excellency the Marshal. This is a great opportunity for us! If we seize this opportunity and launch an attack on Russia, it is conservatively estimated that we will also be able to obtain a territory of millions of square kilometers! Western Ukraine, southwestern Belarus , will fall into our hands. This will play a huge role in enhancing the strength of the Austro-Hungarian Empire!" Crown Prince Karl said happily to Archduke Friedrich and Baron Marshal Herzendorf.

In order to persuade Franz Joseph I to agree to their plan, Crown Prince Karl has already won the support of many senior government officials and military generals. However, Archduke Friedrich and Baron Marshal Herzendorf, the two giants of the military, have never made a statement, which made Crown Prince Karl very anxious. So, can't wait to get their support.

"Your Excellency the Grand Duke, Your Excellency the Marshal. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! If we miss this opportunity, we will definitely regret it." Crown Prince Karl said.

"His Royal Highness, in the past battle, although we won the victory on the Eastern Front and wiped out millions of Russian troops. But, don't forget, we didn't beat the Russian army to the ground. Russia The army still has millions of troops." Archduke Friedrich said.

"Those Russians are just new recruits. How much combat power can they have? Even if they dare to come, we can still defeat them!" Crown Prince Karl said vigorously. It's as if after winning this battle, the German army has become the defeated general of the Austrian army. He seemed to have completely forgotten that when the war first started, they were always suppressed and beaten by the Russians. If it weren't for Germany's timely action, the Carpathian Mountains might have been captured by the Russian army. Now the Russians are looting wantonly on the Hungarian plain on the platform.

"His Royal Highness, I also think that you seem to be too optimistic. The support of the German allies is very important for us to defeat the Russian Southwestern Front. Otherwise, it will be difficult for us to win. Now, the German allies are not involved In the further attack on Russia. Therefore, it is better for us to be more cautious." Baron Herzendorf said.

"Your Excellency, Marshal, I can't agree with your point of view. Although the Germans are very powerful, they played a vital role in this battle. However, if you want to exaggerate their combat effectiveness because of this, I would I disagree. When the German 8th Army attacked the Russian 4th Army, would the German Army have successfully defeated the Russian 4th Army without us resisting the fierce attack of the Russian 4th Army? That is impossible Yes. Therefore, our role is equally irreplaceable!" said Crown Prince Karl.

"Even if the mobilization of the Russians is completed, their recruits are definitely not the opponents of our troops who have experienced the baptism of war. What's more, our mobilization has also been completed. Isn't the 7th Army already dispatched to the Eastern Front? Have you gone? If necessary, we can also send the 8th Army and the 9th Army to the Eastern Front. Now we are not afraid of the Russians. On the contrary, we still have this strength stronger than them!" Crown Prince Karl appeared confident.

Archduke Friedrich and Baron Marshal Herzendorf both believed that Crown Prince Karl was too optimistic. However, they also know that blindly blocking it will not have any effect. On the contrary, it will also arouse the resentment of Crown Prince Karl. At the same time, don't forget that there are countless people with the same thoughts in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. This is already a very powerful force. Even the two of them couldn't forcefully stop them.

"Your Excellency the Grand Duke, Your Excellency the Marshal, this opportunity is really not to be missed! Once we miss it, we will never have such an opportunity again." Crown Prince Karl said.

"Your Excellency, how about we launch a small-scale attack on the Russians first. During the attack, stay vigilant to avoid being attacked by the Russians." Baron Herzendorf said.

Marshal Herzendorf, Baron, does not want to have any grudges with Crown Prince Karl. After all, Austrian Emperor Joseph Franz I was already very old, and he might go to see God sometime. At that time, Crown Prince Karl will be the emperor of the empire. It is undoubtedly very uneconomical to offend the future emperor of the empire because of this.

Besides, Baron Herzendorf, Marshal Herzendorf, also longs for the expansion of the empire. As Crown Prince Karl said, this opportunity is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Russia has been hit hard and will be powerless to withstand their attack. And the Germans were busy fighting a decisive battle with the British and French forces on the Western Front. Therefore, if the Austro-Hungarian Empire wants to gain benefits in this war, this is the best opportunity. Once Germany and the Anglo-French allied forces decide the outcome on the Western Front, no matter who wins or loses, the Austro-Hungarian Empire will never have such a good chance.

Archduke Friedrich glanced at Baron Marshal Herzendorf and understood what he meant.

"If we do this, will it cause dissatisfaction among the German allies?" Archduke Friedrich asked. In his view, Germany's attitude is very important. If the Austro-Hungarian Empire is defeated in the battle to attack Russia, it will need Germany to save its life. Or, once Germany wins the World War, if Germany is dissatisfied with the Austro-Hungarian Empire's attack on Russia, it will also cause very bad consequences.

"Your Excellency, why are the Germans dissatisfied? Even if they are dissatisfied, they will not do anything to us. The Austro-Hungarian Empire is one of the most powerful countries in the world. In the current war, the Germans need our help, and it will definitely not be because of us. Attacking Russia will cause dissatisfaction," said Crown Prince Karl.

"Your Excellency the Grand Duke, I have tested His Royal Highness Oscar, and he has not expressed any objection to our attack on Russia. Therefore, I don't think he will be dissatisfied with us for this." Baron Herzendorf said. .

"Okay, so be it, I will go to convince His Majesty!" Archduke Friedrich said.

"Then I will leave everything to His Majesty the Grand Duke!" Crown Prince Karl suddenly looked ecstatic.

Baron Marshal Herzendorf also had a smile on his face.

Two days later, the Austrian Emperor Joseph Franz I approved the plan of the Austrian army to continue to attack Russia. However, without the help of Germany this time, the Austrian army's offensive did not go smoothly, and soon tasted the taste of failure again.

Chapter 357: The Brit's Dilemma

London, England. As the capital of the world's most powerful country, this place should have been the center of the world. The former London was indeed the center of the world, and commodities from all over the world can be found here.

However, it has only been three months since the war started, and London is already in a state of depression. On the street, there are very few pedestrians, and they are in a hurry. The shops on both sides have been closed long ago. Because they simply have nothing to sell. Because of the blockade of the British Isles by the German Navy's breaking fleet and submarine forces, there has been a shortage of supplies in the UK.

Although merchant ships from the United States brought in a lot of supplies, almost all of them were food and various mineral resources. As for the rest of the merchandise, it never arrived at all. In other words, the British simply don't have the energy to manage other commodities. What they have to do now is to store war supplies as much as possible so that Britain can last longer in this war until it finally wins the war.

A car, driving on a deserted street. This is the car of Sir Edward Gray, Foreign Secretary. Originally, his car was a luxurious Daimler A-class car. However, after the war began, especially after the British Royal Navy suffered heavy losses under the attack of the German Navy, Sir Edward Gray stopped riding in that car and replaced it with his own British brand. Although, the cars made by Britain's own car brands are not very good at all, not only ugly in

appearance, but also terrible in comfort. But at least you don't have to worry about being mobbed by angry mobs.

Not only Sir Edward Gray changed his car, but other members of the British cabinet also changed their cars to local brands. When the war is unfavorable and the people are angry, they dare not provoke the people anymore. If the anger of the people is aroused, the consequences will be very bad. These cabinet ministers don't want this government to be overthrown by angry people because of their stupid actions.

"Oh! It's only been three months, and London has become like this. This battle is getting worse and worse for us!" Sir Edward Gray looked at the deserted streets and couldn't help sighing.

"Sir, will we lose this war?" asked the secretary sitting in the front row.

"Will you lose?" Sir Edward Gray didn't know himself. However, he clearly knew that they could not lose. If you lose, the consequences will be very serious.

But immediately, Sir Edward Gray's eyes became firm. As a British cabinet minister, while enjoying power, his responsibility is to lead the development to become stronger. Although, Britain is now facing a great crisis. But he believes that they will be able to survive this crisis and win future wars.

"We will not lose! In the hundreds of years since the rise of the British Empire, what challenges have we not encountered? This time, the German challenge to us is nothing more than a small challenge that the British Empire has encountered for hundreds of years. We They can definitely be defeated! Victory will belong to the British Empire. The British Empire will continue to lead the world!" Sir Edward Gray said firmly.

The secretary's eyes immediately became firm.

"Yes, Your Excellency. We can definitely defeat the Germans and win this war!"

After the war lasted for three months, the beliefs of many British people were inevitably affected. Because, they suddenly discovered that the British Empire did not seem to be as powerful as they imagined! They used to think that the British Empire could easily win the war. But now, reality slapped them hard.

Fortunately, the determination of the British cabinet is relatively firm. This allowed Britain to continue participating in the war. However, as the situation becomes more and more unfavorable to them, how long can those senior officials of the British cabinet last?

Although, in front of the secretary, Sir Edward Gray looked confident. But in reality, it was just a show.

He went to the Prime Minister's Office this time to discuss Russian issues with the Prime Minister. The Russian Southwestern Front suffered a crushing defeat, with losses of more than one million men. This made the main force of the Russian army already annihilated by the German-Austrian coalition forces. This has minimized the threat to Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire on the Eastern Front. It is foreseeable that in the future, the British and French allied forces on the Western Front will inevitably bear greater pressure. This is undoubtedly very bad news for the United Kingdom.

From the standpoint of the United Kingdom, they certainly hope that Russia can continue the war. It is best to invest more troops on the Eastern Front so that it can pose a greater threat to Germany.

After Sir Edward Gray arrived at the Prime Minister's Office, he found that in the Prime Minister's Office, apart from Prime Minister Asquith, there were

Richard Haldane, Secretary of State for War, and Churchill, Secretary of State for the Navy.

Sir Edward Gray greeted them and sat down at a random place. This is not a cabinet meeting, so there is not so much attention to it, and there is no need to go to a fixed position.

"Okay, everyone is here. Then, let's have a meeting!" Prime Minister Asquith glanced at everyone, and then said.

"Everyone, our Russian allies are in trouble again. Their army has just lost one million troops. Adding up the previous losses, they have already lost two million troops in this war. This is It is too hard to believe. The war has only started three months, and they have lost so many troops. However, this has also led to problems. The Russian army, which has lost a large number of main forces, has already They are no longer able to launch attacks on the Eastern Front. Therefore, the Germans hardly have to worry about the Eastern Front. They can send all the main forces to the Western Front. Soon, our troops on the Western Front may be There will be enormous pressure," Prime Minister Asquith said.

"The Russians lost two million troops in three months, which is indeed very shocking. This is undoubtedly a heavy blow to the entire Allied Powers. It is foreseeable that the Germans will soon launch a powerful offensive on the Western Front .In order to reduce our pressure, we need to urge the Russians to continue to launch offensives on the Eastern Front. Although their losses are large, they also have a lot of soldiers. Although the loss of two million people is a bit traumatic for them . But it doesn't knock them down." Richard Haldane said.

Chapter 358: pay for weapons

"With Russia's military force, the loss of two million people is indeed not a big problem. However, the problem is that Russia's industrial level is really

terrible. They have mobilized millions of troops, but they don't have so many weapons. Arm these troops. If the Russians themselves slowly arm these troops and complete their training, it may take two or three years. By then, the battle will be over long ago. And it is obviously impossible for the Russians to return those troops. Unarmed and untrained troops are sent to the battlefield. Therefore, the Russians hope that we can provide them with a batch of weapons and equipment so that they can arm their troops. In this way, the preparations can be completed in half a year, and they can resume operations in the East. The line is attacking," said Sir Edward Gray.

"Provide them with weapons and equipment? Our own weapons and equipment are not enough!" Richard Haldane shook his head.

As the British and French coalition forces slowly gained a foothold on the Western Front, they had to send more expeditionary forces to fight on the European continent. Coupled with the fact that the Royal Navy is at a disadvantage in naval battles, the British Army has to worry if the Royal Navy cannot resist the German Navy. Then, they may have to face the landing of the German navy on the British mainland. Therefore, the local troops of the British Army are also mobilizing.

This also makes the British Army urgently need a lot of weapons and equipment. When the arsenal in the UK could not meet their needs, they even had to turn to the United States to order a large amount of arms. However, as a neutral country, the United States can sell various materials to both warring parties. But arms are an exception. Even if the Americans intend to help the United Kingdom, they can only quietly transport weapons and equipment for them. Under such circumstances, their own weapons and equipment are not enough, let alone for the Russians.

"Are we going to reject the Russians? In that case, I'm afraid they will be dissatisfied with us. It may even lead to a complete defeat on the Eastern Front!" Sir Edward Gray said.

"Gentlemen, if we don't provide support to Russia, then they will have nothing to do on the Eastern Front. This will be very bad for us." Prime Minister Asquith frowned Said with a frown.

"Once the Russians stopped attacking on the Eastern Front, will the British and French allied forces be able to withstand the German attack on the Western Front?" asked Churchill, Secretary of the Navy.

"This..." Richard Haldane looked embarrassed, as if he didn't know how to answer. Although, he wanted to give an affirmative answer. However, he wasn't really sure. After all, the German army still has an advantage on the Western Front. If the German army transferred troops from the Eastern Front to the Western Front, they would face even greater pressure. It is really hard to say whether it can withstand the German attack.

"The Russians' offensive on the Eastern Front is indispensable. We must use their strength to contain part of the Germans' strength on the Eastern Front. Otherwise, our pressure will be even greater. So , I propose to provide arms to the Russians on their terms. This is helping the Russians as well as ourselves. If we reject the Russians' demands, it may destabilize them about the war. If they withdraw If there is a war, the consequences will be even more catastrophic!" Churchill continued.

"In any case, Russia cannot be allowed to withdraw from the war!" Prime Minister Asquith said.

"Well, I agree to provide arms to Russia. But where do those arms come from?" Richard Haldane asked.

"We are short of arms. Even if we can squeeze out some of them, there is still a big gap between the needs of the Russians. What's more, the blockade of the German navy makes it impossible for us to transport the arms to Russia. So, this is a very troublesome question," Churchill said.

"Order from the Americans! At the same time, let the Americans be responsible for transporting those arms to Russia. In this way, these problems can be avoided." Sir Edward Gray said.

Prime Minister Asquith nodded: "Now, we have only this way. Once again, order a batch of arms from the Americans and let them find a way to ship them to Russia. However, tell the Russian side that this batch of weapons will equip us. It can be provided to them. But at the same time, we require them to complete the training of the troops as soon as possible after getting the weapons and equipment, and then launch an attack on Germany."

"Yes, Your Excellency Prime Minister. According to various information we have obtained, the Germans are also preparing for the next round of offensive. We expect that the next round of German offensive will be launched in the spring of next year. Therefore, the Russians must launch the next round of offensive next year. Launch an attack on the Germans' Eastern Front in the spring to contain part of the Germans' strength. Otherwise, the British and French allied forces may find it difficult to resist the Germans' attack." Richard Haldane said.

"This can be used as a condition for us to agree to the Russians. I don't think the Russians will refuse." Sir Edward Gray said.

"Gentlemen, I think that this batch of weapons and equipment cannot be provided by us alone. It seems that our French allies should share half of it. After all, they are the main force on the Western Front. If Russia is unable to If the Eastern Front launches an attack and the Germans attack the Western

Front with all their strength, they will bear the brunt of the enormous pressure from the Germans," Churchill said suddenly.

"That's right, the French should also bear half of it." Prime Minister Asquith nodded repeatedly. Originally, he was ready to bleed heavily. But after listening to Churchill's words, I suddenly felt that it was a good opportunity to reduce losses.

"Okay, Your Excellency, I will communicate with the French. I think they will definitely not refuse." Sir Edward Gray said.

"Your Excellency Prime Minister, I suggest that we provide another loan to Russia to give them confidence in continuing the war." Churchill suggested.

Prime Minister Asquith thought for a while and nodded: "I will suggest it to Parliament."

Britain and France, after discussions, decided to provide Russia with a batch of arms to help Russia arm two million troops. At the same time, the two countries each provided Russia with a loan of 20 million pounds, allowing Russia to strengthen the training of the army so that they can play a greater role in the war.

For their own benefit, Britain and France can only spend money and weapons to arm the Russian army and let them attack Russia to share the pressure of Britain and France.

Chapter 359: undercurrent

Russia, St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg at the end of October has already entered winter. The north wind howled and the temperature plummeted.

Because of the heavy losses suffered in the war, Russia's economy has also encountered difficulties. All kinds of materials are given priority to the army, which inevitably affects the lives of the people. Food prices continued to

rise, as did fuel. In order to raise huge military expenditures, the tsarist government borrowed heavily and at the same time issued excessive banknotes, causing the ruble to continue to depreciate. The living conditions of St. Petersburg and the entire Russian people have become more and more embarrassing. Countless Russians died of starvation and freezing because they could not afford food and fuel.

However, Tsar Nicholas II, who was affectionately called "little daddy" by the Russian people, turned a blind eye to this at all. In his eyes, there is only the army, only war. In Nicholas II's view, the suffering of the people is no big deal. Only winning the current war is the most important thing, and that is related to the future of Russia.

Tsar Nicholas II, although his talent is mediocre. However, he is very experienced in suppressing popular riots, and he often gives cruel orders, causing countless Russians to bleed to death during the suppression.

In an unremarkable farmhouse on the outskirts of St. Petersburg, a group of people are plotting in a dark and simple room. Among this group of people, the most conspicuous one is undoubtedly Ulyanov, who is talking loudly and promoting his views to others.

"Comrades, the tsar's rule has become increasingly unpopular. He has involved our country in imperialist wars. This has brought endless disasters to the country and the people. In the just-concluded In the Battle of the Southwest, the Southwest Front Army suffered a disastrous defeat, the entire army was annihilated, and millions of troops were lost. This made us lose more than two million people in this war. Two million families were torn apart because of this. But However, the Tsar seemed to have never seen it at all. He was still mobilizing troops and sending more and more young men to the battlefield to die. The lives of the people in the country were also affected by the war. It is extremely difficult. The anger in the hearts of the people has

accumulated to its peak. As long as we release the anger of the people, it will surely erupt like a volcanic eruption. At that time, the brutal rule of the Tsar will definitely be overthrown." Uri Yanov looked excited.

"Yes! Comrades, now is undoubtedly an excellent opportunity for us. The 1st Russian Guards Army stationed around St. Petersburg has already been transferred to the front line. The entire St. Petersburg perimeter is empty. If we take the opportunity to launch an uprising, you will definitely win!" Joseph also said excitedly.

Joseph, as Ulyanov's envoy, contacted the German side. After the German army won a decisive victory on the Eastern Front, he rushed back to Russia. In his view, the time has come. If an armed uprising can be launched, the rule of the tsar will definitely be overthrown in one fell swoop. And isn't this what they have been striving for for many years?

"Will it be too violent to launch an armed uprising? Will the people support us? If it fails, the consequences will be disastrous." Kamenev, who was sitting next to Ulyanov, frowned.

"It will not fail. The anger of the people has been suppressed for too long. This time, we will succeed. Besides, even if it fails, the most we can do is escape from Russia." Joseph said nonchalantly.

For the leaders of the Russian cloth party like them, it is already commonplace for them to escape from Russia, and they are already very experienced.

The other leaders of the cloth party also looked at Ulyanov, waiting for him to make the final decision.

In this time and space, because Ulyanov and others have received strong support from Germany, their power has developed rapidly. Among the Burundi Party, it is undoubtedly the largest faction and has absolute power. Compared

with another time and space, the strength and power of Ulyanov and others are much greater. Therefore, they have the strength to have the opportunity to launch an uprising in the first year of the war.

Of course, there is one main factor in this, that is, Russia suffered an unprecedented defeat in the war. Under such circumstances, the Russian cloth party had the opportunity to launch an uprising earlier than in another time and space.

"Joseph, can our connection with Germany remain open?" Ulyanov asked.

"Leader, we have been in touch with the German side. They have just provided us with two million marks in financial support and a batch of weapons and equipment for us to launch an uprising." Joseph said.

Many leaders of the cloth party could not help short of breath when they heard that they had received another sum of funds from the Germans. Their life was already very embarrassing. Otherwise, they would not have joined the cloth party. Thanks to the support from Germany, their living conditions have been greatly improved. Otherwise, their lives will be even worse.

"It doesn't seem too good for us to accept the help of the Germans for so long! Anyway, they are our enemies." Kamenev frowned.

There was a flash of displeasure in Ulyanov's eyes, thinking that Kamenev was questioning that he should not accept help from Germany. But who else in the world will support them besides Germany? Although, Ulyanov also knows that the Germans are not good birds. They support Russia because they have bigger plans. However, as the saying goes, the enemy of an enemy is a friend. It is undoubtedly a very good thing and an excellent opportunity for them to use the power of the Germans to overthrow the tsar's rule. Ulyanov, of course, would not miss this opportunity.

"We are just using the Germans. After we overthrow the tsar's rule, we don't have to rely on their support anymore." Ulyanov said expressionlessly.

Kamenev saw that Ulyanov was a little unhappy, so he had to keep silent. The current cloth party has become the voice of Ulyanov and others, and there is no so-called democracy at all.

"Since the time is ripe, let's do it! Whether our revolution in Russia can be successful depends on this time!" Ulyanov said.

"Yes, leader. We will definitely succeed." Joseph and the others all looked excited, as if they had seen the success of the revolution and the moment when they became the rulers of Russia.

Chapter 360: Uprising

In November 1914, the activities of the Russian cloth party became more and more frequent. They were active among the factory workers and peasants in and around St. Petersburg. The activities of the cloth party have attracted the attention of the Russian government. It's just that the tsar's attention was all on the army and he ignored it. In other words, he has long been numb to these riots and uprisings, and he is no stranger to them.

On November 3, large-scale strike demonstrations broke out across Russia to commemorate the "Bloody Sunday" in 1905. Workers in St. Petersburg, the capital, responded to the call of the cloth party and held strikes and demonstrations. They: Shouted the slogans "Down with war!" and "Bread and peace!"

Subsequently, about 130,000 male and female workers in 50 factories in St. Petersburg went on strike and marched, which opened the prelude to the February Revolution. The next day, the number of people participating in the strike demonstration increased to 200,000.

Under the leadership of the cloth party, almost the entire St. Petersburg workers joined the strike. This makes the scale of the strike further expanded. And this also attracted the attention of the Tsar.

"Your Majesty, the situation in St. Petersburg is already very bad. A large number of workers have participated in the strike under the instigation of those rebellious parties. The order in the entire capital is already in chaos. If we don't want to stop them, there will be riots. It may expand to the whole country. This will be very unfavorable to us!" The Minister of Internal Affairs, P. A. Stolypin, looked flustered.

"Bastards! Those damned chaotic parties. They shouldn't have been let go in the first place. When the country was in crisis, not only did they not want to serve the country, but they also made trouble for us again and again. This time, I will never let it go. They are gone. Tell the chief of police in St. Petersburg to arrest all those rebels and hang them all if they dare to resist! In addition, all those untouchables will be dispersed. Their task is to work hard and produce for our army. More war materials, instead of listening to the demagoguery of those chaotic parties and opposing the government and the country. If the situation is out of control, I authorize you to use the army to suppress it!" Nicholas II said viciously.

The disastrous defeat of the army on the front line has already caused a fire in his stomach, and there is no place to vent it. Now, someone actually conspired to rebel against the country, which made him even more unbearable. The angry Nicholas II had murderous intentions in his heart. After capturing those guys from the cloth party, he planned to hang them all to deter other people who opposed his rule.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Stolypin nodded. Although, he believes that Nicholas II's order may further intensify the relationship with the people.

However, at such a critical juncture, there is no other way except to adopt strong measures.

On November 5, the St. Petersburg Police Department dispatched a large number of police forces to raid the headquarters of the striking workers, arresting hundreds of members of the Burundi Party and the backbone of the strike in one fell swoop.

That night, the angry Nicholas II ordered the execution of a group of people. Dozens were hanged without any trial. Their bodies were hung on Nevsky Prospekt.

Nicholas II's original intention was to take this opportunity to warn those workers who were on strike, so as to have the effect of killing chickens and monkeys, so that they would retreat in spite of difficulties. This approach has been tried and tested in the past few years. When the workers on strike saw that Tsar Nicholas II was killing people, they all hid in fright, not daring to continue the strike. Nicholas II believed that this time it would be business as usual.

It is a pity that Nicholas II made a wrong calculation this time. The death of those cloth party members and strike activists not only did not frighten them, but further aroused their anger.

Ulyanov and other leaders of the Burundi Party stood up at the right time, calling on the workers and the people to take up arms and overthrow the brutal rule of the tsar. And this further intensified the conflict between the workers and the Tsarist Russian government.

On November 7th, tens of thousands of workers gathered on Nevsky Prospekt. They shouted the names of the arrested Burundi Party members and strike activists, and demanded that the government release them unconditionally.

However, the tsarist government was simply unmoved. The troops of the St. Petersburg Military District even set up a blockade on Nevsky Avenue and set up machine guns to prevent the striking workers from taking further radical actions.

"Let people go! Let people go!" The workers shouted slogans with anger on their faces.

"Crack!" Suddenly, there was a clear gunshot, and the chest of a worker leader was immediately stained red with blood.

"Ah! Killed. The army killed!" Someone in the crowd immediately shouted.

The angry workers rushed towards the military police immediately.

"Stand back! Back off! Otherwise, you'll shoot!" A Russian officer shouted loudly. Sweat had already appeared on his forehead.

"Crack!" There was another gunshot. A bullet hole the size of a thumb appeared on the officer's forehead. Blood mixed with white matter flowed out. His body fell to the ground all of a sudden.

Russian officers were shot, as if a ladle of water had been poured into a frying pan. Suddenly, a violent explosion sounded.

"Fire! Kill the mob."

"Da da da!" The machine guns of the army began to fire, and the dense bullets shot at the crowd. Countless workers fell to the ground under the shooting of the Russian army. The entire Nevsky Prospekt was filled with blood.

Under the fire of the Russian army, the workers who participated in the march and strike suffered heavy casualties and had to retreat.

However, if the Tsarist Russian government thought that this would suppress the workers' uprising, it would be a big mistake.

Ulyanov, Joseph and others were all very excited after hearing that the army had shot at the workers on the march.

"Very good, very good. This time, the Tsarist Russian government is even more unpopular. Tonight, let our people act! This time, we must overthrow the brutal rule of Tsar Nicholas II in one fell swoop!" In Ulyanov's eyes, the light of ambition shone. They seemed to have seen that victory was just around the corner. This huge country will change its owner, and he will have the final say in the future.

"Yes, leader." Joseph also had a smile on his face. As Ulyanov's main assistant, if this uprising succeeds, his status will also rise.

That afternoon, the workers in St. Petersburg launched an armed uprising. They stormed the police station, seized the arsenal, and distributed weapons to the revolting workers. The gathered insurgents attacked government agencies directly and seized these strategic locations. At night, the situation in St. Petersburg was already very bad.