

## Jagged 381

### Chapter 381: Confidence to win

On February 15, 1915, Kaiser Wilhelm II held a routine imperial meeting. Although, the cold winter is not over yet. However, preparations for German military operations have already begun. Once spring arrives, a new offensive will begin. Wilhelm II was looking forward to the German army, which had been preparing for a winter, to once again gain an advantage on the Western Front.

"Everyone, the German Empire has achieved brilliant victories in the past six months. However, the war is not over yet, and there are still powerful enemies waiting for us to conquer. I hope that within this year, there will be a major breakthrough in the battle situation ' said William II.

"Your Majesty, the Navy plans to conduct a decisive battle with the British Navy between March and April this year. Try to completely defeat the British Royal Navy in this decisive battle and gain sea dominance in the Eastern Atlantic Ocean and even the entire Atlantic Ocean. Landing in the British mainland in the future Combat, get ready." Marshal Earl Tirpitz, Minister of the Navy, said first.

Qin Tian had already communicated with Marshal Count Tirpitz and von Falkenhain in private. He proposed that the decisive battle of the navy should precede the decisive battle between the army and the British and French forces on the western front. After all, the strength of the British and French coalition forces is now constantly increasing. The French are desperately mobilizing troops, arming French men and sending them to the front. Whether they are old people or children, they are all included in the mobilization process. Similarly, the British Expeditionary Force continued to transport troops to France. The British also realized that if the British and French allied forces could not resist the German attack, the consequences would be

disastrous, which would directly affect their victory or defeat in this war. Therefore, both Britain and France are desperately trying.

If the German Navy can defeat the Royal Navy in a decisive battle, it may be able to enter the English Channel and block it. In this case, Britain will no longer be able to send troops to France. This will make it easier for the Army to win on the Western Front.

King William II nodded: "Tirpitz, the Imperial Navy is ready to defeat the British in one fell swoop?"

"Your Majesty, the Imperial Navy is ready. We have been preparing for this decisive battle for a long time. This time, we will definitely win." Marshal Earl Tirpitz was extremely sure.

"Well, this couldn't be better. I hope that you can win a brilliant victory!" William II undoubtedly had great expectations for the navy. At the beginning, it was precisely because of his strong support that the German Navy was able to develop rapidly and have the current scale.

"Please rest assured, Your Majesty, the Imperial Navy will definitely win!" Marshal Earl Tirpitz was also full of expectations for the victory. At the same time, he was extremely convinced that he would definitely win.

"Your Majesty, the various legions of the Imperial Army are almost ready. This time, we have assembled eight legions on the Western Front. Except for the 8th Legion, the strength of the other seven legions has been improved to varying degrees. We have added machine guns, grenades, mortars and other weapons, and at the same time, each legion has also formed an armored division. This time, we are confident that we will tear through the defense lines of the British and French allied forces in one fell swoop and take Paris!" Feng? Falkenhain also said ambitiously. This is a large-scale battle launched after he served as the chief of the general staff. Of course, he hopes that the German

army can win a large-scale victory cleanly. In that case, it will also greatly improve his personal prestige.

"Falkenhain, is the Army really ready this time? I don't want the same situation as last year." William II said. Last year, the German army failed to defeat the British and French allied forces in a short period of time, so that the war continued. This has always made William II dissatisfied. Of course, Mao Qi, the chief of the German general staff, also paid the price for this.

"Your Majesty, please rest assured that the Imperial Army will definitely win this time." Von Falkenhain was also full of confidence.

This time the German army assembled eight legions on the Western Front, with a total strength of 1.7 million. Among them, there are eight armored divisions and more than two thousand tanks. There are more than 10,000 guns of various calibers. The number of machine guns is even more numerous. Although, the British and French allied forces already have the upper hand in terms of strength. However, von Falkenhain still believed that they would win this time. Among other things, the 8th Armored Division has already proved the powerful assault capability of the armored forces on the Eastern Front. Although the entire Western Front has become a trench warfare. However, the tracks of the tank must be able to easily crush the enemy's defense line composed of barbed wire and machine gun fortresses.

"Very well. When is the army ready to attack?" William II asked.

"Your Majesty, the army plans to launch an attack in mid-April this year. By then, the navy has already won. If it goes well, the navy may have entered the English Channel and controlled it. In that case, the supply and replenishment of the British and French coalition forces will be being cut off will be more conducive to our defeat of the British and French forces." Von Falkenhain said.

William II nodded again and again, and he also believed that this was the safest tactic. Let the navy lead the way. After the navy wins, supplies can weaken the strength of the British and French coalition forces, and at the same time can further suppress their morale. These are of great help to defeat the British and French allied forces and win the victory.

"It seems that the imperial army and navy are fully prepared this time. May God bless the German Empire and win the final victory of this war!" William II said.

"God bless the German Empire!" everyone said. Everyone's eyes were full of enthusiasm. As if the winning ticket is really in hand.

"Everyone, if our two military operations are successful, will the British surrender to us?" William II asked suddenly.

Although King George V is his cousin. However, William II was more than happy to defeat his cousin himself.

"Your Majesty, if the British choose to surrender, it will be a good thing for the empire, and we can reduce casualties. However, if the British refuse to surrender, then the imperial army will land on the British Isles and let the British Knowing that it would be a very stupid thing to reject the goodwill of the empire!" Marshal Earl Tirpitz said with a smile.

William II nodded, very satisfied with the answer of Marshal Earl Tirpitz.

#### **Chapter 382: Warn the United States**

"Father, the current situation is very beneficial to the empire. However, there are despicable and shameless villains who are attacking the empire." Qin Tian said to William II.

"Oh? Oscar, what's going on?" William II couldn't help but frowned.

Although Germany has not yet won the war, this does not prevent William II from calling himself the sovereign of the world. He absolutely cannot accept that kind of behavior that provokes Germany.

"Father, the Americans have always supported the British and the French under the cloak of strict neutrality. The support for the British in particular has reached an outrageous level. According to the information we have obtained, the Americans are A large number of merchant ships are used to transport various resources to the UK, including weapons and ammunition. This has undoubtedly violated the law of neutrality. The Americans do this for nothing more than two purposes. The first purpose is to start a war Cai, take advantage of this opportunity to plunder the wealth of Britain. Another purpose, I am afraid, is to use the hands of Britain and France to weaken our strength. If Britain and France can persist in this war for a long time, it will be for the empire. In other words, it is undoubtedly more unfavorable. Because this will make the empire pay more casualties in the war. At that time, the Americans can reap the benefits. Don't forget, the United States is the world's largest industrial power. The status of world hegemony is also coveted. At the beginning of this century, they have already put forward the slogan that America is the America of Americans. It can be seen that their ambitions. If the strength of the United States further increases, no one can guarantee , Will they come up with the slogan that the world belongs to Americans!" Qin Tian said.

After hearing Qin Tian's words, King William II's face immediately became ugly. William II was not unaware that the Americans were secretly violating the neutrality law and transporting weapons and other war materials to Britain. However, because Germany's situation was not very good before, and they didn't want to offend a powerful country like the United States at that juncture, they could only turn a blind eye and close one eye. But now, the situation

seems to be different. After solving the troubles on the Eastern Front, Germany seems to have no need to continue to endure.

"The Americans are indeed provoking the empire by doing this. We can't let them continue to behave like this. In that case, many young men from the empire will lose their lives on the battlefield. Our blockade of Britain was originally It has worked. However, the Americans have made our blockade useless. This is absolutely unacceptable to the German Empire." Wilhelm II said.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Everyone replied.

"It's just, Your Majesty. What should we do? If we take a tough attitude, will the United States be forced to the side of the Allies?" Foreign Minister von Kidren Wachter was a little worried.

The reason why the Americans dared to unscrupulously transport weapons and equipment to Britain and France was not because of their strength. Whether it was the Allies or the Allies, they dared not offend them easily, but could only win them over? But now, Germany seems to have the strength to stop worrying about the Americans.

"Your Excellency, Minister of Foreign Affairs, don't worry. The United States is indeed one of the world's most powerful countries. But unfortunately, although the United States' industrial strength is strong, their military strength is very weak. Even if they start to expand their armaments, it will not be for a while. It can be done in a while. When they expand their military strength, we have already won the victory in the European battlefield. At that time, will the Americans still have the courage to continue to confront us? I personally have serious doubts about this Yes." Qin Tian said.

"Well, what Oscar said is right. As long as the Imperial Navy and the Imperial Army win the next two decisive battles, then the Americans will not dare to do

anything to us. Even if they are allowed to participate in the war, they will not have that Courage!" William II looked contemptuous. For William II, a powerful empire is undoubtedly his confidence. The strong strength of the German Empire made him not care whether the Americans would hold resentment at all.

"Your Majesty, the behavior of the Americans is indeed very detrimental to the empire. However, if the United States is involved in the war, it will make the empire spend more energy and pay a higher price to win the war. Therefore, you can It is undoubtedly the best thing not to force the United States into the camp of the Allied Powers." Prime Minister Bernhard von Bülow said.

"If the Americans are sensible and stop transporting weapons and other war materials to the UK, that would be the best. Otherwise, they will be responsible for their actions." William II's attitude seemed very tough.

"Let the foreign ministries warn the Americans first! If the Americans can stop this, then we can let the past go. Otherwise, we have to take relative measures. We need to let the Americans see that the German Reich is not soft. Persimmons are not something they can provoke. Even if the empire goes to war with other great powers at the same time, they are not afraid of them!" Qin Tian said.

"Let's do it according to Oscar's opinion! I hope this time, the Americans can understand each other." William II said.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Prime Minister Bernhard von Bülow and Minister of Foreign Affairs von Kidren Wacht nodded repeatedly. With William II and Qin Tian having made up their minds, they could only follow the orders.

Immediately after the imperial meeting ended, the Imperial Foreign Minister von Kidren Wachter sent a telegram to the Imperial Embassy in the United States, requesting that the Imperial Ambassador to the United States protest

to the United States and warn them not to send any further inquiries to the British embassy. Transport weapons and other combat supplies.

Glass, the imperial ambassador to the United States, immediately sent someone to meet with the US Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan regardless of whether it was still morning in the United States.

When William Jennings Bryan entered the office, he found that Ambassador Glass was already waiting there. This made him feel tense, feeling that something bad was about to happen.

With the turmoil in Russia, withdraw from the war. Germany's advantage in this war has also become more and more obvious, which has also caused fierce debates in the US cabinet. Some cabinet ministers believed that it would be quite unwise for the United States to continue to support Britain and France, and it would offend Germany to the death. However, President Woodrow Wilson still failed to change his attitude.

### **Chapter 383: Difficult Choices**

"Good morning, Ambassador!" William Jennings Bryan had a smile on his face.

Although, the United States also hopes to become a world hegemon one day. However, judging from the current situation, the United States is still a long way from being a world hegemon. And the German Empire seems to be only one step away from the world hegemony. Therefore, even if he was only facing an ambassador of the German Empire, Secretary Brian did not dare to put on airs.

"Hello, Your Excellency Secretary of State. Sorry to disturb you so early in the morning!" Ambassador Glass said coldly. Although he said sorry. However, there was no apology on his face.



"Your Excellency, it's all for official business, I can understand. I don't know if your Excellency is meeting me this time, what's the matter?" Bryan asked. The attitude of Ambassador Glass made him even more worried. The other party seemed to be a bad visitor!

"Your Excellency, Secretary of State, on behalf of the German Empire, I express my protest to your country. Your country's violation of the law of neutrality by transporting weapons, equipment and war supplies to Britain and France has caused serious damage to the interests of the German Empire. The empire absolutely cannot be tolerated that this situation will continue to happen. Therefore, the Empire requires the United States to stop transporting weapons, equipment and combat supplies to Britain and France from now on, so as not to damage the relationship between our two countries!" Ambassador Glass said.

Secretary of State Bryan's complexion suddenly turned a little ugly. As the Secretary of State, the United States transported supplies to the Allies, so he naturally knew it clearly. What's more, that was a strategy formulated by the US cabinet, using the hands of Britain, France and other countries to weaken Germany's power and prepare for the future competition between the United States and Germany for world hegemony.

It's just that the Germans have always turned a blind eye to this before. Unexpectedly, now the Germans have directly disclosed this point. Obviously, after winning the Eastern Front, Germany began to inflate its self-confidence, and it no longer feared that the United States would fall to the side of the Allies.

"Damn it, it seems that the balance has been broken. The Germans thought they had won the victory, and they didn't pay attention to us at all." Secretary of State Bryan thought about it all at once. However, this is obviously not good news for the United States.

"Your Excellency, I think there must be some misunderstanding. The United States has always been strictly neutral. We have never done anything that violates the neutrality law." Brian denied Ambassador Glass's accusation.

Such a thing, of course, cannot be admitted. Once admitted, this will not only have a great impact on the reputation of the United States, but will also make the relationship between the United States and Germany immediately hostile. Although, the Americans have been trying to find ways to stumbling Germany. But if they are asked to stand uprightly and confront Germany, they dare not. At least, now they dare not, they are not ready yet.

"Your Excellency, if it is a misunderstanding, it would be the best. However, the German Empire will never tolerate the misunderstanding becoming reality. We will take corresponding measures. But if it is proved that it is not a misunderstanding, but a reality. If not, then everyone's face will look ugly." Glass reminded.

"Your Excellency, please rest assured that the United States will strictly abide by the law of neutrality. We have always regarded Germany as our friend, and we will never damage the relationship between the two countries." Secretary of State Bryan said.

After the two of them said some polite words without any nutrition, Ambassador Glass left.

When the door of the office was closed, Secretary Brian's expression suddenly became very ugly.

"Damn the Germans, don't they think they have won the war and become the world's hegemony?" Secretary of State Brian cursed.

After venting his anger, Brian called his secretary to come in.

"Pack up and prepare the car. I'm going to the White House. At the same time, inform the other cabinet ministers who are still in Washington to go to the White House." Bryan ordered.

"Yes, Your Excellency Secretary of State." The secretary nodded, and immediately went out to make arrangements.

Ten minutes later, Secretary of State Brian got into the car and headed to the White House. At the same time, other cabinet ministers also rushed to the White House by car. They all knew that something important had happened.

Half an hour later, U.S. President Woodling Wilson, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, and a group of cabinet ministers all gathered in the White House conference room. Cigars were smoked one by one, and the meeting room soon became smoky.

"Secretary of State, what happened?" President Woodrow Wilson asked, and he still hadn't figured out what happened.

"Your Excellency, ministers. The Germans already know about our secret support for Britain and France." Bryan said.

"Didn't they know about this a long time ago?" Vice President Marshall was a little surprised. It can be said that with the capabilities of German intelligence agencies, it is almost impossible for the United States to completely conceal it.

Woodling? President Wilson frowned.

"Yes, the Germans did know about it a long time ago. However, they have always pretended not to know before. But the problem now is that the German ambassador to the United States has officially warned us and asked us not to report to the Allies. We have provided weapons, equipment and war materials. Otherwise, they will take action! It can be seen that the attitude of the Germans has undergone a fundamental change." Bryan said. ,

"What? The Germans dare to warn us? Don't they know that what they do is very likely to force us into the Allied Powers? In that case, it will not be of any benefit to them." Treasury Secretary McAdoo exclaimed.

You know, the war broke out only half a year ago, but the United States has further accelerated its economic development because of selling various war materials to the Allied Powers. If it is affected by this, it will have a serious adverse effect on the US economy.

"Everyone, it seems that we have to face a difficult choice again this time. The Germans have already shown us their cards, and they don't want us to engage in small tricks in private. So, what should we do?" Wood Ro Wilson sighed. If possible, he certainly hoped that the war could continue as long as possible. In this case, the United States will be able to reap enough benefits from it. After the old continent is completely smashed, the United States will be able to seize the opportunity to seize the leadership of the world.

#### **Chapter 384: Tough attitude**

"Gentlemen, as far as the Germans are concerned, if we continue to support the British and the French, the Germans will definitely be dissatisfied with us. This may directly lead to a breakdown in the relationship between our two countries!" Secretary of State Bryan said .

"Do the Germans still dare to use force against us? Even if their military strength far exceeds ours. However, the Atlantic Ocean is our safest barrier. It is impossible for the Germans to hit our east coast." Woodrow Wilson said the president.

Indeed, the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, as two natural barriers, have greatly guaranteed the security of the United States. In addition, there are no big countries around the United States, which makes it easy for them to dominate the Americas behind closed doors. Even if Germany is very strong, it is absolutely impossible to conquer the United States. The

transportation lines on the thousands of kilometers of ocean alone are enough to cause headaches for the Germans.

The U.S. cabinet ministers present nodded their heads one after another. This is undoubtedly the advantage of the United States.

"Your Excellency, the Germans may not be able to threaten our homeland. But what if they attack our merchant ships? Then what should we do?" Secretary of the Navy Daniels was a little worried. The strength of the U.S. Navy, although second only to Germany and the United Kingdom, belongs to the third place in the world. However, compared with the previous two naval powers, their gap is still very large. Although, under the influence of the German Navy, the United States has also strengthened its naval construction. However, the construction of the navy has never been something that can be done in a short period of time, and it takes time to accumulate slowly. If Germany did attack U.S. merchant shipping, the U.S. Navy simply couldn't do anything about it. They didn't even have the guts to take on the German Navy in the Atlantic. Because that means that there is no doubt that they will lose. At least, Daniels, the Secretary of the Navy of the United States, has no confidence.

"Will the Germans attack our merchant ships? We are a neutral country. If they do that, they will be condemned by the whole world, and they will even force us into the arms of the Allies. As long as the Germans are not fools, they will certainly not be so Do it," exclaimed Vice President Marshall. After all, attacking a merchant ship of a neutral country is something that can only be done after the extreme madness!

"In order to win, the Germans can do anything." Minister Daniels said.

"Are the Germans really sure of winning this war? Britain and France are the world's top powers, so they shouldn't be so careless!" President Woodrow Wilson seemed a little unwilling to accept this. result.

"Your Excellency, the Germans have indeed gained a great advantage in this war. Especially in the case of civil strife in Russia and withdrawal from the war. The Germans can already withdraw from the Eastern Front. This allows them to Mobilize the main force to attack the west and fight the British and French allied forces. As for the battlefield in southern Europe, it was completely taken over by the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The strength of the Kingdom of Italy is too bad, so even if they joined the Allied Powers, they did not play much at all. role. This war has almost completely evolved into a contest between Germany and Britain and France. Judging from the current situation, Germany has an absolute upper hand in this contest. The military strength they have shown makes all People are in shock," Secretary of War Garrison said.

Indeed, Germany's military strength in this war shocked everyone. It is well known that the German army is number one in the world. However, before the outbreak of the war, no one would think that the German Army had the strength to win in the two-front battle. However, the result was an eye-opener for everyone. The German Army really gained an advantage on both the Eastern and Western Fronts. Especially on the Eastern Front, with an army of less than 200,000 people, with the cooperation of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, it actually defeated two million Russian troops, which directly led to the collapse of Russia. Such strength cannot be compared with other countries.

As for the German Navy, it is even more experienced. Germany vigorously develops its navy and catches up with the British Royal Navy, which is known to all countries. For this reason, the whole world has entered a naval arms race. However, almost all countries believe that the German Navy is the one catching up. However, after the outbreak of the war, the German navy completely suppressed the British navy. The performance of the British Navy is very bad, as if the German Navy is the sea supremacy.

Whether it is the navy or the army, Germany has an advantage. This undoubtedly makes them very likely to win in future wars. Although, the war is still going on, unless some miracle happens. Otherwise, it is estimated that no one can stop Germany from winning. Even the United States can't do it. Even if the United States joins the war now, I'm afraid it won't be able to threaten Germany, at most it can contain part of Germany's power. The Americans are not fools, and naturally they will not be involved in the war at this time. Even if they want to join the war, they will choose the winner's camp instead of being a loser.

"Everyone, what do you mean, are we going to follow the advice of the Germans and stop supporting the Allies?" President Woodrow Wilson asked.

Most of the cabinet ministers nodded repeatedly. After all, it would be very uneconomical to fight against the victor. What's more, if we continue to provide support to the Allies now, how will they recover these investments once the Allies are defeated?

"Everyone, my thoughts are different from yours. First of all, regardless of whether we continue to support the Allied Powers, Germany poses no threat to our homeland!" President Woodrow Wilson said looking at everyone.

The cabinet ministers nodded one after another.

"Secondly, if Germany wins the war, their strength will increase explosively. At that time, even if we want to hold the Americas, it will be very difficult.

Therefore, we must use this war to further expand Weaken the power of the Germans. Only in this way can we maintain an evenly matched situation and even gain an advantage in the future competition with the Germans. We have not directly participated in this war. Therefore, even if the Germans are against the Germans We are dissatisfied, and we can't do anything to us. I think this is an excellent opportunity. If you miss it, you will never have such an opportunity in the future." Woodrow Wilson said.

Although other cabinet ministers think that the president is a bit too risky, they know that President Wilson is indeed for the interests of the United States.

"So, reply to the Germans, we did not transport weapons and equipment to the Allies. As a neutral country, the United States of America has the right to trade with any country!" President Woodrow Wilson said.

#### Chapter 385: Countermeasures

Germany, Berlin, Foreign Office.

Imperial Foreign Minister von Kidren Wachter is in a very good mood recently. He is optimistic that the war is likely to end this year. Even if the progress is a little slower, it will definitely end next year. At that time, as the foreign minister of the empire, he will be very busy. He will represent the empire, negotiate with those defeated countries, and slaughter them well. Every time I think of these things, von Kidren Wascht gets very excited.

"Your Excellency, this is a telegram from the embassy in the United States." The secretary put a newly translated telegram on von Kidren Wachter's desk.

Von Kidren Wachter picked up the telegram and looked at it, but soon his expression became unsightly.

"Shameless Americans, they don't dare to admit it. At this time, do they still want to deny it? Besides, their attitude is still very tough. Could it be that they still want to make an enemy of the empire at this juncture?" Feng Ke Deren Wachter said coldly.

According to von Kidren Wachter, it is undoubtedly very unwise for Americans to do so. After all, anyone with a discerning eye can see that Germany's victory in the war is almost a certainty. The Americans chose to



offend the German Empire, simply because their brains were kicked by a donkey.

"Prepare the car, go to the palace immediately, and report to His Majesty. In addition, inform His Excellency the Prime Minister, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, His Excellency the Minister of the Navy and the Minister of the Army." Von Kidren Wachter ordered. The Americans chose to be the enemy of the Empire, which is undoubtedly a big event for the whole of Germany. Especially now that the war is not over yet, although Germany has an advantage, it has not really won the final victory after all. If the United States joins in and joins the war on the side of the Allied Powers, it may cause another significant change in the balance of strength between the two sides. This is undoubtedly not a good thing for the German Empire.

Twenty minutes later, a group of senior officials from the German government and military gathered in the office of Wilhelm II.

"Your Excellency, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is the attitude of the Americans really tough?" William II asked. In his thinking, he also believed that the Americans should stop supporting the Allies. In that case, all problems will undoubtedly be solved. However, it is a pity that the choice of the Americans once again exceeded everyone's expectations.

"Yes, Your Majesty. The Americans claim that they have not violated the law of neutrality. At the same time, they also claim that they have the right to trade with any country, and other countries have no right to make irresponsible remarks on their trade." Von Kidd Len Waschter said.

"Asshole! The Americans are deliberately provoking the empire! Everyone knows what they transported to the Allied Powers. They have the courage to do it, but they don't have the courage to admit it. It is really shameless!" William II was furious.

"Your Majesty, the Americans have made it clear that they are going to be enemies of the Empire. Then we don't care so much and attack their merchant ships directly. If we can prevent the Americans from transporting supplies to the Allied Powers, we will defeat Britain and France." The possibility will be further improved. This will be very beneficial for us to win the next war!" Marshal Earl Tirpitz said.

The current imperial navy is full of confidence. With a large number of cutting-edge warships in service, the German Navy has become a well-deserved number one in the world. Especially when the British Royal Navy was also attacked by the German Navy, it suffered heavy losses, which further strengthened the confidence of the Imperial Navy. Marshal Earl Tirpitz is even confident that even if the U.S. Navy joins in, the German Navy will have enough strength to deal with it.

"Attacking American merchant ships? This is not very good. I am afraid it will directly force the Americans to the side of the Allies. In this case, it will be very detrimental to the empire. Besides, attacking merchant ships will affect the international image of the empire. It will have a very adverse impact." Prime Minister Billow raised objections.

"Your Majesty, even if the United States joins the Allied Powers, it will not be able to change the outcome of the war. Our army and navy will soon launch large-scale attacks. At that time, once we win on these two fronts, we will be far from the final battle." Victory is not far away. Even if the Americans join the war, it is impossible to send troops to Europe in a short time. Therefore, we do not need to be afraid of them at all!" Minister of War and Chief of the General Staff von Falkenhay Because also said.

King William II nodded. The war has been fought like this, and the dawn of victory has undoubtedly appeared. Therefore, Germany does not have to be as timid as before. However, he still didn't make a decision right away.

"Oscar, what do you think?" William II asked.

Although Qin Tian is still young, William II has long stopped treating Qin Tian as a child. He often attached great importance to Qin Tian's many suggestions. Among the countless previous examples, it has undoubtedly been proved that Qin Tian has amazing foresight on many issues.

"Father, what the Americans do is indeed very detrimental to the empire. Now it is almost certain that the Americans want to use the British and the French to weaken our strength. Therefore, they will maintain Tough attitude. Naturally, the empire cannot turn a blind eye to the actions of the Americans. Otherwise, it will not only damage the interests of the empire, but also increase the losses of the empire in this war. For the empire to maintain its future world dominance, It will be very unfavorable. Therefore, I think we must not back down this time, we must adopt a tough attitude to respond to the Americans." Qin Tian said.

King William II pondered for a few seconds, and then said: "If the United States takes the opportunity to join the war and join the Allied Powers, it won't have a big impact on the future war situation, right?"

What William II was most worried about was undoubtedly the victory that was about to be achieved, but failed due to those reasons. In that case, it would be too cost-effective. Rather than that, William II would rather ensure that the empire wins future wars even if it pays more losses. Winning is the most important thing.

"Father, even if the Americans join the war, it will have no impact on the overall situation. It will be inevitable for us to defeat Britain and France. The Americans will not be able to save them. Of course, at this stage, we have nothing to do with the United States. Threat. However, as long as we occupy the entire European continent and integrate the strength of the entire Europe,

we will definitely be able to defeat the United States!" Qin Tian said confidently.

#### Chapter 386: no-fly zone

"Your Majesty, is the empire going to launch an attack on those merchant ships of the Americans? As long as His Majesty gives the order, we can leave and start operations." Marshal Earl Tirpitz said excitedly.

You know, whether it is the Imperial Navy's breaking fleet or the submarine force, those American merchant ships in the Atlantic Ocean are all coveted. In particular, these American merchant ships transported to Britain were almost all war supplies. This obviously caused great damage to the interests of the German Empire. The officers and soldiers of the Imperial Navy have long wanted to deal with these American merchant ships.

However, because of the international situation, the Imperial Navy has never dared to act rashly. But now, the time has come. The empire no longer has to worry about the Americans. Then, the Imperial Navy will naturally not have to endure it anymore.

"No, directly attacking American merchant ships is an extreme way. This will have a certain impact on the reputation of the empire. Even if the empire doesn't care about these reputations, there is still no need to make excuses." William II has not yet What to say, Qin Tian opened his mouth.

"Oscar, is there any way you can teach these Americans a lesson?" William II asked.

"Your Majesty, I suggest that the empire declare a no-navigation zone in the western and southern waters of the British Isles. Ships from other countries are prohibited from entering that sea area. If they need to enter, they must apply to Germany. Otherwise, , will be regarded as an enemy of Germany. The German Navy can sink any ship that has not been reported to the Empire. In addition, ships from any country are prohibited from transporting war

materials to Britain and France. The specific types of war materials are listed by the Ministry of the Navy Come out. The warships of the Imperial Navy will be inspected in the Atlantic Ocean. Once any ships are found that violate the German order, they can be impounded. If they encounter resistance, they can be sunk directly!" Qin Tian said.

Everyone was shocked, and they couldn't help thinking that Qin Tian's words were too arrogant. This is simply to use the power of Germany as a country to face other countries! Of course, they all believed that doing so would be very beneficial to Germany.

"Your Highness, isn't our attitude a little too arrogant? If this is the case, I'm afraid it will cause strong opposition from other countries." Prime Minister Bilo said.

"If you oppose it, just oppose it! It has nothing to do with it. It will not cause any loss to the empire. As long as we can win this war and become the hegemon of the world, then everything is worth it." Qin Tian Said.

"Your Highness, we are obviously deliberately targeting the Americans by doing this. Will this arouse the dissatisfaction of the Americans and directly start a war with us?" Von Kidren Wachter also said.

"They don't have the guts. Of course, this may bring the relationship between us and the United States to a freezing point. However, I don't think it has any relationship. Anyway, after we win this war, we will also have relations with the United States." The Americans are heading for confrontation. We need to win this war with the least cost, so that we can gain an advantage in the future confrontation with the United States." Qin Tian said.

"No sailing zone, this name is very good. Since the Americans want to transport supplies to Britain and France, they will cheat the empire. Then, the empire directly prohibits their ships from going to these two countries. All war

supplies are prohibited from entering these two countries. The country. Only in this way can the empire win the war. Very good, let's do it like this!" William II finally made a decision.

On February 18, 1915, the German government officially issued a notice. In view of the fact that the British coast has become a warring area, in order to avoid fratricide, a no-fly zone was delineated along the British coast. Vessels from any country shall not appear in the no-navigation zone. Once you break in, you will bear the consequences. In addition, any country is prohibited from transporting food, oil, steel, aluminum ingots and other non-ferrous metals, as well as weapons and ammunition to Britain and France. Once discovered, it will be regarded as an enemy of Germany. Germany will take all means to defend the interests of the German Empire!

The announcement made by the German government immediately caused an uproar all over the world. Britain and France, Germany's hostile countries, have accused Germany of making such an arrogant announcement, believing that Germany has no right to do so at all. You know, even when the British Empire was at its strongest, they were never so arrogant! What's more, Germany did this to target these two countries, and wanted to completely cut off their overseas trade, directly trapping them to death. Especially the United Kingdom, once overseas trade is completely cut off, they are really not far from death. Of course they would strongly object. It's just that the German Empire never cared about their opposition.

The U.S. government was also furious with Germany's tit-for-tat response. They knew that this was Germany's answer to their earlier reply. The Germans did this entirely to prohibit the United States from transporting supplies to Britain and France. Germany has taken a tough attitude, which naturally caused some people in the US cabinet to shake their positions. They are undoubtedly afraid that if they do so, it will lead to the involvement of the

United States in the war. Although, senior officials of the US government all want to replace Britain and become the future world hegemon. However, they may have to think twice if it costs them to participate in the war.

However, under the strong promotion of President Woodrow Wilson, the US government was still not intimidated by the Germans. The U.S. government publicly issued a statement that the German government's outrageous and unreasonable actions are blatantly undermining free trade and trampling on freedom and human rights. The United States will never abide by the so-called no-fly zone designated by Germany. The United States has the right to trade with any country, and other countries have no right to interfere. At the same time, the US government also stated that the US has sufficient military strength to safeguard their interests. If their interests are damaged, the United States will take all measures and means to protect their interests, including war.

The response of the US government undoubtedly made the international situation more complicated and confusing. Many countries are not fools, so they naturally understand why the United States and Germany are confronting each other. However, they are also speculating whether the United States will be involved in the war because of this.

Germany's designation of no-flight zones has also somewhat affected other countries. However, due to the strong strength of Germany, they dare not speak out, and can only wait to see the reactions of other countries before deciding what to do next.

#### **Chapter 387: ecstatic british**

"Gentlemen, God bless the British Empire! The Germans are so arrogant that they have made a foolish move now. Could it be that they really think that their military strength is strong enough to be an enemy of the whole world at the

same time?" Prime Minister Asquith, with a smile on his face. It was as if the great pressure of the previous period had disappeared all of a sudden.

With Germany increasingly gaining an advantage in the war, Britain is under increasing pressure. In order to send more expeditionary forces to the European continent, the mobilization of the British mainland is also increasing. Many young men were forced to serve in the military. This makes the strength of the expeditionary force constantly rising. Of course, the defense of the British mainland has also begun to be strengthened. The British government is still worried that if the British and French allied forces fail to withstand the German attack in France, then a large number of troops will be needed to defend the mainland. In this way, they will be able to continue to persevere in the war.

"Yes! Your Excellency the Prime Minister, God must be protecting the British Empire!" Sir Edward Gray, the Foreign Secretary, also said.

The current occupation has become very unfavorable to Britain. However, if the United States can join the Allied Powers to fight, this will undoubtedly bring about a new change in Britain's difficult situation, and even winning the war is not impossible.

Just as the German army believed that they would definitely win the next two crucial battles, the British government also believed that their army would be able to withstand the German attack. In this case, although the situation is very unfavorable to them, they also have a great chance of winning.

"Gentlemen, do you think that the Americans will be provoked by the Germans and join the war?" Prime Minister Asquith asked.

"Your Excellency, this may be very difficult. Although the United States and the Germans are now at war, it is undoubtedly difficult to say whether the Americans have the confidence to join the war. The Germans have shown in



this war The military strength is really too strong. Americans have never been good at fighting. Their industrial strength is very strong, but their military strength is not strong. It will also take a long time for industrial strength to be transformed into military strength. Therefore, the United States Maybe people will compromise this time." Churchill was not as optimistic as Prime Minister Asquith.

"Mr. Churchill, you are too negative. The military strength of the Americans is indeed not strong. However, if they are given enough time, their industrial strength can definitely be transformed into military strength. As long as we can resist the Germans Attack, and when the military strength of the United States explodes, we will be able to win." Prime Minister Asquith said.

Although, these senior officials of the British cabinet all look down on upstarts like the United States. But the ridiculous thing is that now the United States has become their life-saving straw. They all hope that the United States can join the Allied Powers at this time to help them win the war. Obviously, they no longer have the confidence to win this war on their own.

"Your Excellency, this is exactly the case, so we have to be more careful about the Germans. In order to prevent the United States from joining the war, which will have an impact on the war situation. The Germans will definitely launch an attack in a short time and try to defeat us. In this case, even if the United States Joining the war will not pose much threat to them." Churchill was still a little worried.

"The Germans will launch an attack this spring. Isn't this what we have long concluded? At the same time, we have been preparing for the German attack. The expeditionary force we have sent to France has reached as many as half a million Yes. The mainland has an army of 500,000. And our French allies, their army has expanded to 2.5 million. Just to deal with the German troops in the north, there are as many as 2 million People. The Anglo-French coalition

forces with a total of 2.5 million people will certainly be able to withstand the German attack. And the Royal Navy, after the 'Queen Elizabeth-class' battleships and the 'Revenge-class' battleships have successively served, their strength has also improved a lot. Perhaps, still unable to compete head-on with the Germans. However, it is still no problem to persist until the United States completes its armed forces? So, if the United States can join the war, the outcome of this war will be rewritten. The British Empire will win the war in history. The most powerful enemy, win the final victory of the war!" Richard Haldane, the Minister of War, seemed very confident.

"Then, the most critical question now is how the Americans will join the war. Can we contribute to it?" Prime Minister Asquith said.

"Your Excellency, this is actually very simple. Didn't the Germans want to ban all ships from arriving in the UK and prohibit other countries from transporting supplies to us? We can just take this opportunity to place more orders with the United States so that American merchant ships will bring the supplies to us. For the sake of profit, those American merchant ships will definitely enter the no-sail zone designated by the Germans forcibly. At that time, once an American merchant ship is seized or sunk, what will the U.S. government do? One can imagine the reaction. I think that if the price paid by the United States is high enough, then the possibility of them going to war with Germany will undoubtedly be very high." Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd George said.

"Well, let's do this. Give the Americans as many orders as possible, so that American industry and commerce will go crazy. Only in this way, they will ignore the warnings of the Germans." Prime Minister Asquith said.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." Everyone replied.

"Your Excellency, Prime Minister, if we can, we can borrow more money from the United States. In this way, as long as the Americans don't want those

loans to be paid back, they can only support us. This will make us and the United States share common interests. "Sir Edward Gray, Foreign Secretary, also said.

"Very well, your Excellency will handle this matter!" Prime Minister Asquith nodded.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." Sir Edward Gray said hastily. "Gentlemen, the current situation is developing in our favor. Maybe, the tide of battle will be reversed soon. Therefore, we must seize this opportunity to win this great battle that concerns the survival of the British Empire Whether the British Empire can survive for a long time depends on this battle!" Prime Minister Asquith said.

"The British Empire will win!" All the British cabinet ministers shouted. They are full of desire for victory, but also full of confidence.

#### **Chapter 388: Check**

"Your Highness, the western seas of England are too vast. It is almost impossible for us to completely form a tight blockade in this sea area. Especially at night, the sight is affected, which is not conducive to our blockade." Imperial Navy Minister Marshal Earl Tirpitz said to Qin Tian.

Qin Tian nodded, there is no radar in this era. When warships search for sea targets, they can only rely more on sight. A battleship can monitor the sea area with a radius of tens of kilometers at most. To ensure that the no-navigation zone is not in name only, this requires the German Navy to invest a lot of power. Otherwise, no-fly zones would be useless.

"What about the High Seas Fleet's opinion?" Qin Tian asked.

"The opinion of the High Seas Fleet is that the break-off fleet is the main one, and then a large number of destroyers and light cruisers are dispatched to monitor that sea area. The destroyers and light cruisers are fast and can

search large areas of the sea. Those battleships of the break-off fleet Cruisers are used to deal with enemy warships. If the Americans are not so bold as to dispatch warships, destroyers and light cruisers are enough to deal with all problems. Of course, we also need to guard against the British. Their 'Queen Elizabeth The "Revenge-class" battleships and the "Revenge-class" battleships are both powerful battleships equipped with 381mm main guns, and they pose a great threat to our breaching fleet." Marshal Count Tirpitz said.

"Let's do it according to the opinions of the High Seas Fleet! However, remind the submarine force that they only need to provide information to the Breaking Fleet, and there is no need to intercept those merchant ships." Qin Tian said.

Last time, the trap set by the British against German submarines caused them heavy losses. Qin Tian didn't want such an accident to happen again. The submarine force is undoubtedly very precious, and Qin Tian absolutely does not allow it to be wasted on these aspects.

Although, the major shipyards in Germany have received orders from the Ministry of the Navy and have begun to build more submarines. However, those submarine soldiers are undoubtedly the most precious. Especially experienced submariners who have participated in actual combat are precious assets. Qin Tian didn't want these precious treasures to be lost like this.

"Yes, Your Highness." Marshal Earl Tirpitz nodded.

The German Navy's breaking fleet originally had nine battlecruisers. After the "Mackenson-class" battlecruisers entered service, they were also strengthened to the breaching fleet, so that the number of battlecruisers owned by the breaching fleet reached 12. Among them, six are powerful battleships equipped with 380mm main guns. The strength of the German Navy's break-through fleet alone is estimated to be second only to Britain and

Germany. Even the U.S. Navy must concentrate its main force in order to be able to confront it. It can be seen that the German Navy is strong.

In addition to these battlecruisers, the Breakthrough Fleet also has a group of cruisers and destroyers. The total number of warships has reached more than fifty. Although there are a lot of them, it is undoubtedly very difficult to completely block the western waters of Britain. Therefore, the High Seas Fleet deployed more than 20 light cruisers and destroyers to strengthen the destroyer fleet. Make sure that after the no-sail zone is established, it is not empty, but it can really intercept merchant ships from other countries going to Britain, France and other countries. In particular, U.S. merchant ships will be their key targets for interception. For other countries, Qin Tian did not believe that they really had the guts to confront the German Empire.

Lieutenant General Maximilian von Spee was appointed as the commander in charge of intercepting merchant ships from various countries in the no-sail zone. Lieutenant General Franz von Hipper was transferred back to the High Seas Fleet Headquarters. After all, the decisive battle between the German Navy and the British Navy is about to begin. Admiral Reinhard Scheer is also very busy. Lieutenant General Hipper, as the assistant of Admiral Reinhardt Scheer, formulated various combat plans to ensure that the German Navy can win this decisive battle.

A large number of German warships gathered in the western waters of the United Kingdom, forming an impenetrable blockade. It is impossible for ships from other countries to enter the United Kingdom.

However, the British were not intimidated by the no-fly zone set by the German army. The British government placed a large number of orders to the United States, from food to oil, to minerals, weapons and equipment, etc., which made the American industry begin to develop rapidly. At the same time,

the British government also hired American merchant ships to transport these materials.

Although many American merchant ship owners were frightened by the no-sail zone set by Germany, they dared not take any more risks. But there are still many people who would risk their lives for money, not to mention just breaking into the no-fly zone designated by the Germans. Besides, they are all Americans, and the United States is a neutral country. These merchant ship owners are not worried about what the Germans will do to them. In other words, what did the Germans dare to do to them. Big deal, after being intercepted by the Germans, it turned around and returned. In that case, it's just a loss of some gas money. For these merchant ship owners, the gas money is nothing at all. If you can break out a safe route, that is a way of making money!

The "Statue of Liberty" is a large cruise ship. If the entire cruise ship is fully loaded, it can carry 12,000 tons of crude oil. After the war broke out, Britain's consumption of oil began to soar. Although Britain has oil fields in the Middle East, many warships of the Royal Navy have been replaced with oil-fired boilers, which makes Britain consume a lot of oil.

The largest oil-producing country in the world is undoubtedly the United States. American oil has also become the key oil imported by the United Kingdom. Almost all tankers plying the Atlantic are American tankers.

It's just that after Germany delineated a no-sail zone, there are not many tankers who dare to continue to transport oil to the UK.

"Captain, tomorrow we will enter the no-sail zone designated by the Germans. What should we do if we are intercepted by the Germans?" A sailor asked.

"Stupid! We are all Americans, what can the Germans do to us? The boss has already said that if our tanker of oil can be safely sent to England, everyone will get an extra bonus." The captain had a smile on his face.

"Don't worry, God will bless us, the Germans will not find us. Even if they find us, we will return at most. We will be very safe." The captain looked confident.

It's just that this is too absolute.

The next day, the oil tanker "Statue of Liberty" sailed into the no-sail zone designated by Germany. However, in less than two hours, they were discovered by a destroyer of the German Navy.

"Stop the ship and accept inspection!" The German destroyer immediately notified the oil tanker "Statue of Liberty" by radio.

#### **Chapter 389: Seizure**

"Captain, what should we do? The German warship is coming."

At the moment when the destroyer of the German Navy appeared, the sailors on the tanker "Statue of Liberty" panicked.

Though, tankers are very large. Compared with him, the destroyer is simply a small one. However, if it is about combat power, then it has to be reversed. The tanker is big, but it is slow, has low defense, and has little attack power. Destroyers are small, but whether they use naval guns or torpedoes, they can easily tear tankers into pieces. At the same time, facing the destroyer's speed of more than 30 knots, even if the tanker wanted to escape, it would have no chance.

"Captain, the Germans radioed us to stop the ship for inspection immediately!" Said a sailor.

"Asshole! Damn the Germans, this is the high seas, not their territorial waters, and we are American tankers, when is it their turn to check?" the captain said angrily.

"Captain, do we want to resist? What should we do if the Germans use force?" said a timid sailor.

The captain hesitated for a moment: "I didn't expect the Germans to deploy warships. It seems that Britain will not be able to go. Send a telegram to the Germans, we are on the wrong route, and we will return immediately!"

"Yes, Captain." The sailor immediately went to send a telegram. However, they soon received a reply from the German warship, and their attitude was still very tough, demanding that the "Statue of Liberty" tanker must stop immediately for inspection.

"What to do, Captain. The Germans demand that we stop the ship immediately, or they will open fire."

"Ignore them, we will return immediately. They are just scaring us, they may not really dare to fire. After all, we are Americans. If something happens to us, it will cause diplomatic disputes between the two countries." said the captain. He said this not only to cheer for the crew, but also to cheer for himself.

The oil tanker "Statue of Liberty" ignored the warning of the German destroyer and turned around directly, preparing to leave this sea area. However, their behavior obviously could not satisfy the German warships.

"Captain! The Americans said they took the wrong route and leave immediately." The signalman reported to Captain Smile. Captain Smile was the commander of the German destroyer.

"Hmph! What the Americans said is a lie. How could they take the wrong route for such a big oil tanker. What if we let them go and they continue to sail to the UK after we leave? What to do?" Captain Smile sneered.



"Sir, are we going to open fire? But, it is an oil tanker. If it is hit, it may catch fire and cause the entire oil tanker to burn." The gunner said.

"Warning shot, don't really hit it. Such a large oil tanker, plus the oil they carry, is not a small amount. If we can capture this oil tanker, we will all make merit for it." Captain Meyer smiled.

The Ministry of the Navy gave them an order to immediately seize a ship transporting prohibited materials to the UK once it was discovered. These ships will all be sent to German ports. As for whether it will be returned in the future, it is very difficult to say. Among other things, if the German Army wants to land in the British Isles, it will also need a large number of ships to transport troops and guarantee their supplies. Therefore, this naturally requires a large number of ships. If part of the shipping capacity can be resolved by detaining American ships, this will greatly reduce the pressure on German merchant ships.

"Yes, sir!" The gunnery commander nodded.

Two minutes later, the destroyer's two twin 105mm main guns began firing.

"Boom! Boom!"

Four 105mm artillery shells roared towards the "Statue of Liberty".

"My God! The Germans are firing, they want to kill us!"

"Damn, don't they know we're a tanker? How dare they open fire on us. That's murder!"

The American sailors on the "Statue of Liberty" oil tanker all screamed. They all knew that if they were hit, they would surely die!

Even the captain of the oil tanker "Statue of Liberty" was frightened, and his face had turned pale, with no blood left.

"Boom! Boom!"

The shell exploded in front of the "Statue of Liberty" tanker, splashing jets of water. This made the sailors on the ship, in addition to being frightened, breathe a sigh of relief. If the German warship hits directly, then they will be dead!

"Damn, the Germans are warning us. Captain, we should stop the ship immediately. Otherwise, we will all die here!" said the first mate.

"Okay, stop the ship." The captain said helplessly. He knew that if he did not give the order to stop the ship, even if the German warship would not hit them, the frightened sailors would definitely not let him go.

The oil tanker 'Statue of Liberty'. Slowly stopped. The German destroyer immediately leaned against it.

Soon, Captain Smile personally led more than a dozen marines to board the oil tanker 'Statue of Liberty'.

After the no-navigation zone was delineated, in order to have strong force when inspecting those merchant ships, Marshal Earl Tirpitz specifically asked the Marine Corps to send additional personnel to the warships. On each battleship, one or two squads is enough.

"Sir, hello, we are Americans. We really lost our way accidentally. I promise, we will return immediately and will never violate your country's ban." The captain stood in front of Captain Smile, nodded and bowed, Hope to escape this. However, he will soon discover that this has no effect at all.

"Search the entire ship and find the logbook." Captain Smile ordered.

Suddenly, the captain's face became very ugly. Their destinations are recorded in the logbook.

"Sir, this is really a misunderstanding." The captain wanted to explain, but what responded to him was a black muzzle. He immediately raised his hand in fright, not daring to talk nonsense anymore.

"Sir, I found the logbook. They are going to Manchester." A German soldier reported.

"Now, do you have anything else to say?" Captain Smile turned and stared at the captain.

At this moment, the captain's face was pale, and he didn't know what to say.

"Hmph! On behalf of the German Empire, I am announcing that this ship has violated the prohibition of the German Empire. From now on, it will be detained indefinitely by the Imperial Navy!" Captain Smile said coldly.

"No, you can't do this. We are Americans!" shouted the captain.

However, what responded to him was a ruthless \*\*\*\* of the gun.

### **Chapter 390: Diplomatic turmoil**

After Germany delineated the no-sail zone, due to various reasons, there were a lot of ships from other countries forcibly breaking into the no-sail zone. Among them, the most are undoubtedly American ships. A large number of American merchant ships and tankers, regardless of the German ban, wanted to transport the urgently needed supplies of the British for huge profits.

The British made great efforts for these materials, and of course, more importantly, they provoked disputes between the United States and Germany. The prices they charge Americans are very high. The price of a shipment of copper ingots or other non-ferrous metals has tripled before the war broke out.

It can be seen how crazy those American businessmen will be under the influence of such a large profit. For these profits, they are not even afraid of beheading.

Of course, the consequence of the Americans doing this is that the breaking fleet has reaped a lot. During the first day of operations, more than fifty American merchant ships were seized. On the second day, it directly rose to more than 80 ships. Three days later, the number of American merchant ships forcibly seized by the German Navy had reached 200.

Even if the United States is a maritime power, losing so many merchant ships at once is enough to make them feel bad. Not to mention, in the face of the pursuit of the German navy, many Americans resisted. In the process of escaping, several merchant ships were directly sunk, resulting in the death of hundreds of Americans.

The harsh measures taken by the German Navy undoubtedly shocked all countries in the world. Many people have realized that the Germans are not just talking. Although the huge profits make them tempted, no matter how much money they earn, they still have to spend it! Otherwise, it is useless to make more money.

This made many merchant ships who originally planned to forcibly break into the no-sail zone had to give up such an idea. For the sake of your own life, let's make less money!

"Your Highness, the phenomenon of merchant ships from various countries forcibly breaking into the no-go zone has basically been controlled by us. Under our strong pressure, those guys are honest. However, I want to let those guys break in for a few more days, In this way, we will be able to get more merchant ships. Maybe even the merchant ships needed by the army to land in the British Isles in the future can be enough." Marshal Earl Tirpitz smiled.

"Oh? So many? How many ships have we seized these days?" Qin Tian asked.

It would be great if Britain could be completely trapped to death because of this. After being cut off from overseas trade, how long can the British survive? Maybe when the German army lands in the British Isles, it will be able to destroy Britain without any effort. As for the seized American merchant ships and the materials transported on them, it was a complete surprise.

"Your Highness, in just three days, we have detained more than 200 American merchant ships. Including merchant ships from other countries, the number is more than 250. The value of those merchant ships alone is an astronomical figure. Not to mention, those merchant ships also transported a lot of supplies we need." Marshal Earl Tirpitz smiled very happily. According to the usual practice, those merchant ships and the goods on the merchant ships belong to the navy after they are sold. The Navy is free to spend that money. Not only can it be used to improve the treatment of officers and soldiers, but it can also build more warships, bringing the strength of the German navy to a higher level.

"Well, the harvest is indeed good. However, so many merchant ships have been lost. The Americans will definitely not let it go. The foreign minister must be busy." Qin Tian said with a smile.

"Your Highness, no matter what, these merchant ships are already in our hands, and they will never be returned to the Americans, right?" Earl and Marshal Tirpitz asked, he was a little worried that the cooked duck would fly away.

"Don't worry, Marshal. Since those merchant ships have been seized by us, it is absolutely impossible to return them to the Americans. Anyway, they violated our ban first. Even if they protest, it is just a war of words with them. That's all. Anyway, we won't back down this time." Qin Tian said. The Americans have repeatedly challenged Germany in defiance of the German

ban. Then, they will naturally have to pay for it. The seized merchant ships are considered the price paid by the Americans for this.

"What if the Americans refuse?" said Marshal Earl Tirpitz.

"Your Excellency, Marshal, I think you want the Americans to join the Allied Powers because of this, right? In that case, it will be the turn of the Navy to show its talents. At that time, the Imperial Navy can naturally teach the Americans how to behave!" Qin Tian Said.

"Haha!" Earl Tirpitz, who had been guessed by Qin Tian, couldn't help laughing.

In fact, the U.S. government was indeed furious about the fact that the German Navy forcibly seized the U.S. merchant ship. Even with the capacity of the United States, the loss of so many merchant ships at once caused them a great headache. Those merchant ship owners are all rich! They joined forces to put pressure on the government, which immediately put the US government under tremendous pressure.

In addition, the German navy not only detained American merchant ships, but also opened fire and killed many Americans, which made the U.S. government unacceptable. After all, this can already be regarded as Germany's ignorance and slap in the face of the United States.

The U.S. ambassador to Germany went to the German Foreign Ministry as soon as possible, and urgently met with German Foreign Minister von Kidren Wachter, expressing the U.S. protest to him.

"Your Excellency, the Foreign Secretary, your country's navy brazenly attacked American merchant ships, causing a large number of casualties of innocent American civilians. This behavior is completely an act of war. Your country's unreasonable seizure of American merchant ships has caused a lot of losses to the United States. The U.S. government demands that the

German government immediately stop this behavior, and at the same time, apologize to the U.S. government and compensate for the loss!" The U.S. ambassador looked indignant.

However, von Kidren Wachter looked indifferent, as if he didn't pay attention to the protests of the Americans.

"Your Excellency, the merchant ships of your country ignored the ban of the German Empire, forcibly broke into the no-sail zone designated by us, and transported prohibited war supplies to the UK. That's why the Imperial Navy detained those merchant ships. As for the sunk merchant ships , then I'm sorry. They tried to escape, and the Imperial Navy had to open fire. So, all this is because your country's merchant ships were at fault first, and the Imperial Navy had to do that." Von Kidren? Wahit pushed the blame completely, and also blamed all the responsibilities on the Americans.