

Jagged 401

Chapter 401: Confidence to win

"General, Washington's order. His Excellency the President personally sent it." Admiral Fletcher's secretary sent the telegram to him.

Admiral Fletcher took the telegram and read it quickly.

"It's time to end this farce!" Admiral Fletcher sighed.

Indeed, in his opinion, this is simply a farce. All the elite forces of the U.S. Navy were mobilized just to give an explanation to the domestic people. This is undoubtedly difficult for these admirals to accept. As a soldier, their bounden duty is to fight for the benefit of the country. But now, they are acting like clowns. This is undoubtedly very distressing.

However, Admiral Fletcher can also understand President Woodrow Wilson's choice. Who made the current U.S. Navy so weak? Although, their navy is already considered a world-class powerful navy. However, in front of the German Navy, it undoubtedly appeared very weak. If they start a war now, they have no chance of winning at all. In order to preserve strength, this had no choice but to retreat.

"Command the fleet to prepare to retreat. After twenty minutes, start turning." Admiral Fletcher ordered.

"Yes, General." The staff officer couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief after hearing that Admiral Fletcher had finally issued such an order. Obviously, within the U.S. Navy, those officers were unwilling to really fight the German Navy. Because they know that there is no chance of winning at all.

The German Navy broke through the fleet and has always been vigilant against the US fleet. Naturally, the changes of the US fleet cannot be hidden from them.

"General, there is a change in the Americans." A staff officer said.

"What?" Lieutenant General Spee immediately grabbed the binoculars and looked at the US fleet. But then he breathed a sigh of relief. Originally, he thought that the Americans wanted to make a dangerous move and launched an attack on them. But now it seems that the Americans don't seem to have this meaning.

"Don't worry, the Americans seem to be unable to hold on and are about to retreat. We still won this battle." Lieutenant General Spee smiled.

Indeed, in this confrontation, Germany still won. After all, the Americans are not Germany's opponents, and they dare not continue the confrontation like this. He didn't even have the courage to help the British hold back part of the German navy. Not dare, Lieutenant General Spee can also understand. After all, if the Americans really did that. Once the main force of the German Navy has eliminated the Royal Navy, the next target to attack must be the US Navy. With such a little strength of the U.S. Navy, it simply cannot withstand the attack of the German Navy.

"Report to the country!" Lieutenant General Spee ordered.

"Yes, General." The staff officer immediately went to send a telegram.

When Qin Tian, Marshal Count Tirpitz and others received the news of the retreat of the American fleet, they couldn't help laughing.

"His Royal Highness, it seems that the Americans have made their choice. The British have been abandoned. Therefore, we only need to deal with the British." Marshal Count Tirpitz said with a smile. However, there was obvious regret on his face.

Qin Tian knew that Marshal Earl Tirpitz was regretting that the Americans had no courage to fight the German navy. In that case, maybe they will be able to achieve greater results.

"Your Excellency Marshal, although we have no chance to fight the Americans this time, we will definitely have a chance to beat them down next time. The Americans will not just sit and watch the empire become the world's hegemon. The empire launched a challenge. Similarly, if the empire's world dominance wants to be stable, it must suppress the United States. Therefore, the contradiction between our two countries is irreconcilable. In the future, we will inevitably have a war. Moreover, the scale of future wars may be larger than the present one," Qin Tian said.

"Your Highness, I believe that under your leadership, the Empire will be able to win the final victory. Even the Americans are absolutely impossible to resist the advance of the Empire." Marshal Count Tirpitz said to Qin Tian, I am very confident.

Qin Tian nodded. Although Marshal Earl Tirpitz had great confidence in him, the key point was that he didn't have that much confidence in himself! Although, he is the crown prince of the empire, the future heir to the throne of the empire. However, Qin Tian knew very well that William II lived a very long life. If it is not possible, after the next war, William II will still sit on the throne of the emperor. And he is still the crown prince of the empire.

"Your Excellency Marshal, now that the Americans have retreated, the Navy's plan against the British can begin to be implemented. I believe that after the Americans retreat, no one in our no-fly zone will dare to challenge again. The British People are blocked, it will be something that no one can change. Perhaps, the British can't help themselves and want to fight us. In that case, our chances of winning will be much greater." Qin Tian said.

"Yes, Your Royal Highness. There are only two ways for the British to die now. One is to be surrounded and dragged to death by our blockade. The other is to fight us at all costs and try to reverse the situation. However, With

such a large gap in strength, the final outcome is still doomed." Marshal Earl Tirpitz seemed very confident about the future war.

Qin Tian nodded. According to the information they have received now, the number of capital ships of the British Navy has been completely suppressed by the Imperial Navy. The existing capital ships of the British Navy include 5 'Revenge-class' battleships, 5 'Queen Elizabeth-class' battleships, 1 'King George V-class' battleships, 4 'Orion-class' battleships, and 2 'Giants' class' battleships, one 'Neptune' battleship, four 'St. Although in terms of number, there are two more battleships than the German Navy. But in terms of performance, I am afraid there is nothing comparable. Especially the first eleven ships are all battleships equipped with 305mm main guns. The German Navy has only 4 battleships equipped with 305mm main guns.

In terms of battlecruisers, the British Navy has only one 'Tiger' battlecruiser, two 'Lion-class' battlecruisers, one 'Indefatigable-class' battlecruiser and two 'Invincible-class' battlecruisers. There are only six ships, equivalent to half of the battlecruisers of the German Navy. Moreover, its performance was completely suppressed by the German Navy.

Therefore, no matter how you look at it, the Royal Navy has no chance of winning. What's more, the German Navy also has a powerful submarine force and aircraft carriers to assist in the battle, which will make them have a higher chance of winning.

Chapter 402: Crisis of Empire

The war crisis between the United States and Germany was resolved so easily, which left everyone in the country stunned. Especially the British, who had great expectations for the United States, were even more disappointed. Originally, they were waiting for the further intensification of the conflict between Germany and the United States and the outbreak of war. In that case, the pressure on Britain would be much less.

Even some people in the Royal Navy believe that if the Royal Navy and the U.S. Navy act together, it is not impossible to defeat the German Navy. The performance of the German Navy is undoubtedly very good. Among the warships of the same level, the Royal Navy cannot compare with it. However, if the numerical advantage is large enough, they are not without a chance of winning.

But unfortunately, in the end the Americans retreated directly. In the face of the great strength shown by the German navy, the Americans were terrified, worried about being defeated, and retreated directly. This has undoubtedly made the current situation in the UK even worse.

The Americans stopped attacking the no-fly zone designated by Germany, which undoubtedly shows that they have acquiesced in the behavior of the Germans. Even the Americans have acquiesced. Do other countries have other options? It is foreseeable that Britain's overseas trade will be cut off as a result. Unless, the British are willing to risk huge losses and use their own merchant ships to continue transporting various supplies. Otherwise, Britain will not get any supplies. What kind of consequences this will have, can naturally be imagined.

It will be very easy for the Germans to defeat Britain. Or even do nothing, just keep besieging Britain. At that time, Britain itself will collapse.

Prime Minister Asquith has been in a very bad mood these two days. The current situation is undoubtedly very critical for Britain. Even Prime Minister Asquith believed that the British Empire might not be able to pass this hurdle. No one thought that Germany would be so powerful that it would push the mighty British Empire to this point within only half a year since the war started.

In view of the current situation, King George V summoned Prime Minister Asquith and asked him about the situation of the war. Throughout the

conversation, King George V of England was very pessimistic about the current war situation. Obviously, His Majesty the King, who has just ascended the throne not long ago, no longer has much confidence in defeating Germany.

Although, Prime Minister Asquith kept reassuring King George V that the British Empire was far from reaching its end, and they still had enough strength to continue fighting. But apparently, King George V didn't believe that much at all. Even Prime Minister Asquith felt that his guarantee was so feeble.

After returning from Buckingham Palace, Prime Minister Asquith immediately called a cabinet meeting.

"Gentlemen, what should we do now? The Americans have retreated. It is impossible to expect them to join the war and help us defeat the Germans. Next, what should we do?" Asquith asked the prime minister.

"Your Excellency, this is too unbelievable. The Germans seized so many merchant ships from the Americans, and even killed many American civilians, but the Americans dare not even fart. Send the fleet to sea, just made a show, and then fled back. Are they still a powerful country in the world?" Sir Edward Gray, the foreign secretary, shook his head helplessly, obviously disappointed with the actions of the US government.

"After all, the Americans have not fought any major battles. They have strong industrial strength, but their military strength is in a mess. It is understandable that the Germans retreated after being so frightened." Secretary of the Navy Churchill said.

"Did we scare them by notifying them that the main force of the German navy was out?" asked Lloyd George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"Of course not. Even if we don't inform them. With their own intelligence capabilities, the Americans will know soon. At that time, they may still

complain about why we didn't inform them, which will affect our possible cooperation. .It's just that I didn't expect Americans to be so timid and to be scared so easily." Churchill's face was also full of helplessness.

In Churchill's view, the United States is now the only country that can help them out of their predicament. However, the Americans are now retreating, which undoubtedly directly shows that they have no foreign aid. Next, they had to deal with the Germans on their own. And their own strength is really choking!

"Everyone, the Americans have retreated. So, it is useless to talk about this now. The most critical question is, what should we do now?" Prime Minister Asquith asked.

Indeed, the question before everyone is undoubtedly what to do next. These cabinet ministers are undoubtedly very shrewd. Otherwise, they would not have had the chance to get to this point. The current situation is indeed very bad for the British Empire. Although it is not that there is no chance of winning at all, what they have to admit is that the chance of winning is very slim.

"Mr. Churchill, without the help of the Americans, is the Royal Navy not at all sure of defeating the Germans?" Prime Minister Asquith asked.

All eyes were on Churchill. Who made the Royal Navy always the pillar of the British Empire? The hegemony of the British Empire has always been based on the strength of the Royal Navy. Without a powerful Royal Navy, the hegemony of the British Empire is like a rootless tree.

"Your Excellency, with the current strength of the Royal Navy, it is very difficult to defeat the Germans. All of our battleships add up, and there are 26 ships, two more than the Germans. All of our battlecruisers add up, and Six ships, six fewer than the Germans. What's more, our cutting-edge warships are so

small that they cannot be compared with the Germans. I believe that everyone is already very clear about the performance of German warships. Therefore, I Needless to say. I can tell you frankly that unless the Germans made an unforgivable mistake in the naval battle. In other words, our luck is overwhelming. Otherwise, we have no chance of winning at all. said Churchill.

Churchill's words, like a basin of ice water, made the hearts of these ministers in the British cabinet poured cold. Everyone can understand what Churchill means, that is, the Royal Navy has almost no chance of winning. Such a result is naturally a bad news for everyone. It can be said that from now on, the British Empire will face the biggest life-and-death crisis in hundreds of years.

Chapter 403: war or peace

"Your Excellency Churchill, don't we have no chance at all?" asked Sir Edward Gray, the Foreign Secretary.

Churchill's answer made everyone feel heavy. They naturally didn't want the British Empire, which had dominated the world for hundreds of years, to decline in their hands. Although, judging from the current situation, this seems to be inevitable.

"Unless we can delay the decisive battle with the Germans until our subsequent battleships serve. At that time, we will have a better chance of winning. However, the Germans obviously will not give us so much time. said Churchill.

In the Royal Navy's shipbuilding plan, construction of subsequent battleships has already started. Including the new 'Iron Duke'-class battleship, the new 'King George V-class' battleship and the 'Lion-class' battleship, a total of twelve ships. There are also three tiers of ten battlecruisers, three 'Prestige-class' battlecruisers, three 'Glory-class' battlecruisers, and four 'Hood-class' battlecruisers. Among them, the caliber of the main guns of the "Lion-class"

battleship and the "Hood-class" battlecruiser has been increased to 406 mm. In terms of defense, it has also been greatly improved compared to the previous warships. It is precisely because of this that the Royal Navy has placed great hopes on these cutting-edge warships.

However, distant water cannot quench near thirst. Even with overtime, it will take at least the middle or even the end of 1916 before these warships will enter service one after another. This is still under the condition that various resources can be guaranteed. Now, the Germans have completed the blockade of the United Kingdom, and even the Americans have retreated in front of the Germans' no-flight zone, which undoubtedly makes it difficult for the United Kingdom to obtain resources from abroad. Without the support of external resources, it will be very difficult for the British Navy to rely on local resources to build those warships.

More importantly, the German Navy obviously could not wait until 1916. Judging from the various information obtained so far, the German Navy is expected to do it this year. Therefore, the time left for the British Navy is running out.

"Your Excellency, the Prime Minister, if the war situation is really not good for us, can we make peace with the Germans? In that case, we may be able to minimize losses." Lloyd George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, suggested.

In the British cabinet, the vast majority of people were originally from the main combat faction with a firm stand. However, as the situation of the war became more and more unfavorable to them, the German army was winning on the battlefield. Whether it is the German army or navy, they have already gained an advantage. At least from the current situation, the British Empire's chances of winning are not great. This also made some cabinet ministers start to have other considerations.

"Peace?" This is undoubtedly an extremely heavy topic for the ministers of the British cabinet. The British Empire is the overlord of the world. As the rulers of the empire, they have always held their heads proudly and pointed their nostrils at people. Now, they are actually asked to bow their noble heads to the Germans and pray for peace, which naturally makes them unacceptable.

"Impossible, the British Empire must not seek peace with the Germans! The Germans are very ambitious. Unless we give up all overseas colonies and interests, otherwise, they will never let us go easily." Churchill shook his head.

"Yes! This time, the Germans originally wanted to use war to pull us down from the throne of world hegemony. If this goal is not achieved, they will never give up." Minister of War Richard Haldane Said.

"Maybe we can get in touch with the Germans. If the Germans' appetite is not so big, we can pay a certain price and end this war. In this way, we may be able to pay less losses." Sir Edward Gray, the foreign secretary also said Said. In the case of not being able to beat the Germans, seeking peace is undoubtedly the best way.

Prime Minister Asquith couldn't help being a little moved. Although, seeking peace from the Germans is a bit embarrassing. More importantly, the world dominance of the British Empire may also be lost as a result. The Germans will inevitably take advantage of this opportunity to blackmail them severely. But at least this **** war can be brought to an end. Prime Minister Asquith worried that if the war was lost, they would lose even worse.

"Gentlemen, if we do make peace with the Germans, how much appetite will they have?" Prime Minister Asquith asked.

"Your Excellency, the Germans have been coveting our overseas colonies for a long time. I think if we ask for peace, they will definitely open their mouths in this regard. The colonies of India, Australia and Africa may not be kept. Canada, it is estimated that the Americans will strongly oppose it, so it can be retained. I am afraid that the rest of the colonies will have to be lost. In addition, the appetite of the Germans will not be so small in terms of war reparations. They are on the Russians , all extorted 10 billion marks in war reparations. If they faced us, their demands would probably be several times that amount. After all, in the eyes of the Germans, we are much richer than the Russians. said Churchill.

Prime Minister Asquith's complexion suddenly became ugly. The colonial system painstakingly maintained by the British Empire is undoubtedly their lifeblood and the basis for Britain to continue to be strong. Without the vast colonies as their market and source of raw materials, British industry would have suffered a fatal blow. At the same time, it is also because there are vast colonies that can be exploited that this allows Britain to maintain a strong military strength. Otherwise, only the hundreds of thousands of square kilometers of the British mainland. How could it be possible to support a world-class hegemony power?

Among the many British colonies, India is undoubtedly the top priority. Britain can obtain huge wealth from India every year. It is for this reason that India is known as the brightest jewel in the crown of the British King.

If those colonies are lost, Britain will be completely over, and will only be reduced to a second-rate country.

What's more, the huge war reparations are also unbearable for Britain. Although Britain has accumulated a lot of wealth in the past, the war in the past six months has already consumed a lot of wealth. If they are burdened with huge war reparations, it will be unbearable for them.

This also made Prime Minister Asquith very entangled. It was also difficult for him to make a decision on how to choose. Similarly, other British cabinet ministers are equally entangled.

Chapter 404: Ready with both hands

"Everyone, let's stop here for today's meeting. Regarding your suggestions, I will carefully consider them." Prime Minister Asquith said with a tired face. It is obviously impossible to make a decision at once on such a major decision related to the destiny of the country. Especially the current situation is very unfavorable to them, and it is very likely that they will lose the war.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." The other cabinet members said one after another, and then everyone got up and prepared to leave.

"Churchill and Edward stay!" Prime Minister Asquith said.

Secretary of the Navy Winston Churchill and Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Gray? Leng, then nodded. They knew that Prime Minister Asquith had specially kept them, so he must have something important to discuss with them.

After everyone left, Prime Minister Asquith, Churchill and Sir Edward Gray also left the conference room and went directly to the Prime Minister's office.

"If we seek peace with the Germans, how likely is it to preserve the fundamental interests of the British Empire?" Prime Minister Asquith asked directly.

Both Churchill and Sir Edward Gray knew that if the conditions of the Germans were not too harsh, Prime Minister Asquith might really seek peace. After all, the odds of winning this war are already very small, and even, they have a great possibility of losing the war. Once the war is lost, the British

Empire is completely over. It's better to seek peace now. In this case, you may be able to pay a little less loss.

As for the fundamental interests of the British Empire, apart from the mainland, I am afraid that India is the only one. In other words, if the British Empire loses other places in the war, even if only the mainland and India are left, then they can still recover their strength quickly and become a powerful country. India has a large population and abundant resources. More importantly, those Indians have been tamed by the British. Therefore, they can exploit and oppress India at will, and plunder huge amounts of wealth from India. However, if it is changed to other places, I am afraid it will not work.

It's just that everyone knows the wealth of India and the nature of Indians, which makes all countries salivate at India. If it is said that because of the strength of the British Empire before, everyone did not dare to act rashly. So, after Germany puts the UK down this time, will it leave India to the UK again, so that they have a chance to rise again? That is obviously impossible.

"Your Excellency Prime Minister, we may not be able to keep India. The Germans will definitely ask us to cede India to them. Even all the overseas colonies will not be left much. The appetite of the Germans may be greater than we imagined. They Isn't it for our overseas colonies to deliberately challenge our hegemony?" Sir Edward Gray said.

Prime Minister Asquith nodded. If it were him, I am afraid that he would not hesitate to take India away from Britain. Without India, the foundation of Britain has undoubtedly been shaken. It is impossible to pose a threat to Germany in the future.

"After all, we have not lost the war. Although the Germans have gained an advantage, they have not won after all. If we negotiate with them, it may be possible to keep India." Prime Minister Asquith said.

Sir Edward Gray nodded, but he had to admit that this possibility is really very, very small.

"Then the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should contact the Germans. If they agree to the truce, the British Empire can give them all the colonies in Africa and the Middle East. In addition, in terms of war reparations, you can also give them 100 million pounds. The conditions are not bad. If the Germans can agree, it will be very beneficial to them." Prime Minister Asquith said.

Although, the price paid is not small. However, for the United Kingdom, this is not yet a traumatic loss. As long as they develop their minds for a period of time, their national strength will be restored and they will have the strength to confront Germany again.

"Yes, Your Excellency, I will arrange it." Sir Edward Gray said.

Prime Minister Asquith nodded and looked at Churchill.

"If we let go and fight the Germans, what are our chances of winning?" Prime Minister Asquith asked. Although, in his heart, he is already inclined to negotiate peace with the Germans. However, for the victory, he still did not give up. If you can win, it is naturally the best. In that case, the British Empire would not only be able to keep these existing interests, but at the same time be able to ruthlessly slaughter the Germans and cut off a large piece of fat. The losses paid during the war can almost be made up for. Of course, Prime Minister Asquith also knew that the chances of winning were very small.

"The Prime Minister said that it is very difficult to defeat the Germans now. Unless, in the naval battle, God is on our side. Otherwise, it will be difficult for us to defeat them. The design ideas of our warships, A fundamental mistake has occurred, which has made our warships far inferior to the Germans in terms of performance. This has led to a great possibility that we will be at a disadvantage in naval battles. Of course, there are many factors that

determine the outcome of a naval battle, not only just that. For example, if we get lucky in a naval battle, we also have a chance of winning," Churchill explained.

Prime Minister Asquith nodded. Although Churchill did not say it clearly, he knew that in reality, the chances of the British navy winning were very small. So much so that Churchill could only place his hopes on illusory luck. It is obviously unrealistic to expect Britain to have better luck in naval battles and thus defeat the German navy.

"If we lose the war, the British Empire will be completely over." Prime Minister Asquith said.

"Yes, Your Excellency Prime Minister. If we lose the war, then we will have to agree to the harshest conditions of the Germans, and even let the Germans slaughter them. If we refuse them, the Germans will even land on our homeland and let the Germans. The whole country is caught in the flames of war. At that time, our country will be destroyed." Churchill said.

Prime Minister Asquith's complexion couldn't help but become even uglier. As the Prime Minister of the British Empire, the actual leader of the country, he certainly does not want to see such a day.

"Edward, I authorize you to negotiate with the Germans. If the conditions of the Germans are not harsh, then end the war." Prime Minister Asquith said.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." Sir Edward Gray nodded.

"Churchill, if diplomatic negotiations fail, then the only way we can go is war." Prime Minister Asquith continued.

"Your Excellency, Prime Minister, I will do my best to win!" Churchill said.

Chapter 405: Armistice conditions

"Hahaha! Have the proud British finally decided to lower their noble heads?" William II's face was full of smiles, and his complexion was also very good, flushed.

It is undoubtedly a matter of pride for William II to be able to make the former British Empire compromise and seek peace. After all, he has always set his goal of pulling Britain down from the throne of the world's hegemony. Originally, he thought that this goal might never be realized. However, it now appears that the realization of this goal is simply too simple. The British are so strong outsiders!

The other top executives in Germany also had smiles on their faces. Being able to push Britain to this extent is undoubtedly a great victory for them. You know, that's the British Empire! The former world overlord! They have the largest and most numerous colonies in the world. Their fleets are cruising in the oceans all over the world, shocking the whole world.

However, the war has only started for half a year, and the British are about to be overthrown by them. This result surprised and delighted the top German officials.

Qin Tian was also in a good mood. The British took the initiative to ask for peace, which undoubtedly showed that they were about to fail. For Germany, this is undoubtedly a good thing. Of course, Qin Tian did not advocate peace talks with the British. After all, no matter how much you negotiate, the benefits you will get are extremely limited before you really defeat Britain. Only when the German Navy defeated the British Navy, the German Army landed on the British mainland. At that time, the British will be really afraid, and will be slaughtered by Germany like a weak sheep.

Although Britain and Germany are at war, the ambassadors of both sides have already returned home, and the diplomatic channel of direct

communication has been interrupted. However, this does not mean that the two countries cannot be contacted.

Win and the two countries have their own embassies in other neutral countries, and they can completely send messages through these embassies, so as to ensure that the negotiations between the two parties can continue.

This time, the British government communicated with Germany through the embassy in Switzerland. The British expressed their willingness to end the war, and claimed that if Germany was willing to cease the war, Britain could pay enough and so on.

It was precisely because of this move by the British that William II was very satisfied. After all, apart from Germany, there is probably no other country that can make the British Empire so humble.

"Everyone, should we accept the British proposal?" William II asked.

"Your Majesty, the British should be very sincere this time. No, if we want to fully realize our intended goal, I am afraid we still need to defeat the British to get what we want. Otherwise, the British People will never agree to our terms," said Foreign Minister von Kiedren Waschter.

"Yes, Your Majesty. At this juncture, the British must have no chance of winning the future war, so they asked us for peace. Otherwise, with the British way of doing things, it would be impossible to ask for peace. Rather than negotiating with the British, it is better to completely defeat the British through war. Only in this way can we get more and slaughter the British wantonly." Imperial Prime Minister Bernhard von Bülow also said.

The government is obviously not willing to negotiate peace with the British at this time. As for the military, even if William II didn't ask, he knew that they wanted to continue the war. Those guys are all war madmen, wishing that the war would last as long as possible.

King William II looked at Qin Tian, wanting to ask his opinion.

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

"Father, my opinion is the same as that of the ministers. The reason why the British asked us for peace was completely out of necessity. They also knew that if the war continued, they might have no chance of winning. In order to avoid After losing a complete defeat and being slaughtered by us, they planned to ask us for peace. In the hope that in this way, they can pay less losses. However, such words are obviously not in our interests. Our goal is to want In this war, Britain will be completely defeated. Not only must we **** the status of world hegemony from the British. At the same time, we also need to eliminate the threat to us from the British. Therefore, we must do our best Slaughtering the British. In the negotiation, it is obviously impossible to obtain those benefits. Therefore, I think the war still needs to continue and strive to completely defeat the British." Qin Tian said.

William II nodded: "So, are we going to reject the British this time?"

"Father, that's not necessary. However, we can put forward some conditions that the British cannot accept. At that time, they will naturally retreat in spite of the difficulties." Qin Tian said with a smile.

"Well, you will be responsible for this matter." William II said.

As Qin Tian grows older, although Qin Tian is still very young. However, it has become more and more mature and sophisticated in dealing with national affairs and international relations. In this regard, William II also completely trusted Qin Tian, and was willing to let Qin Tian display his talent.

"Yes, Father!" Qin Tian accepted the task without hesitation.

After the meeting, Qin Tian discussed with Foreign Minister von Kidren Wachter and listed several conditions that the British could not accept. These conditions not only include land cession and indemnity, but also limit Britain's

military power. Unless the minds of the British are caught by the door, otherwise, they will never accept such conditions.

In terms of land cession, Qin Tian demanded that Britain hand over all its colonies to Germany. In addition, the independence of Ireland is allowed, and the independence movement of the island of Ireland has always been supported by Germany.

In terms of compensation, Qin Tian directly opened his mouth, asking Britain to compensate Germany for the loss of 50 billion marks. If converted into pounds, this huge sum is already equivalent to 2 billion pounds. Britain, which suffered heavy losses during the war, simply could not afford so much money, and it was impossible to spend so much money for compensation.

Finally, Qin Tian also asked for restrictions on Britain's military power. Britain was no longer allowed to build warships with a displacement greater than 10,000 tons, and it was forbidden to own submarines and aircraft. The existing warships with a displacement of more than 10,000 tons, as well as the warships under construction, must be transferred to Germany. Only then will Germany grant peace to England.

Chapter 406: Fight to the death

"Bastard! It's disgusting and arrogant. The Germans actually put forward such a condition. Do they think that we have lost the war? Their army has already occupied the whole of Britain, so we can only let them kill us?" Aspen Prime Minister Quess roared angrily.

When the conditions put forward by Germany were sent to Prime Minister Asquith, he completely extinguished his desire for peace. In his view, the German side has no sincerity at all. It is completely to slaughter Britain as a defeated country. If they accepted the conditions offered by the Germans, the British Empire would really die without a place to die. In the future, the British Empire will not only no longer be the hegemon of the world, but it will not even

be considered a powerful country. It will be completely reduced to a second- and third-rate country. How could Prime Minister Asquith agree to such a condition?

"Your Excellency, the conditions put forward by the Germans are indeed very harsh. It is impossible for us to accept such conditions. Therefore, the Germans really have no idea of peace talks with them. They are very confident in their military power, intends to directly defeat us with powerful military force." Sir Edward Gray also had a dejected expression on his face. He could vaguely feel that the Germans closed the door to the peace talks, probably because they wanted to make Britain pay a higher price. Once Britain loses the war, they are completely finished.

Prime Minister Asquith nodded: "From now on, no one is allowed to talk about peace talks with the Germans. We have no choice but to continue the war. Unless we can Defeat the Germans, or at least be able to withstand the German attack. Otherwise, the British Empire will have no future."

"Yes, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." All the British cabinet ministers said. Through this contact with Germany, they also know that it is impossible to keep the British Empire through peace talks. In this case, there is only the last way left, and that is war.

"Your Excellency Churchill, the Royal Navy must be prepared for a decisive battle with the Germans. If the Royal Navy can win the decisive battle, the crisis of the British Empire can be lifted. If the Royal Navy cannot win, then our mainland will have to Ready to fight the German landings," Prime Minister Asquith said.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." Churchill nodded. He knew that the task of the Royal Navy was very heavy now, and whether they could withstand the German attack was directly related to the life and death of the British Empire. He also promised that he would do his best to win this war.

However, he didn't dare to guarantee whether he could win. After all, the opponent this time is really too strong.

"Your Excellency, Minister of War, next, the army must be fully mobilized. Not only must the strength of the expeditionary force be maximized, but at the same time, the homeland must also have enough troops to defend. If the navy is not able to withstand the German attack, then everything It depends on the army." Prime Minister Asquith said solemnly.

He knew that once the flames of war reached the mainland of Britain, it would bring disaster to Britain and even all the British people. However, the Germans were unwilling to engage in peace talks. This also left them with no other choice but to prepare for the battle with all their strength. If you want to keep Britain from perishing, you have to resist the German attack. Even if the war is carried out on the mainland, the Germans must be resisted, otherwise, Britain will be completely finished.

"Yes, Your Excellency Prime Minister. The army has already planned to mobilize the third batch. At that time, in addition to the expeditionary force sent to France will increase to one million, there will be an army of 1.5 million in the mainland. If there is enough time, we will carry out the fourth batch of mobilization. In that case, our troop strength will be further improved." Richard Haldane, Secretary of State for War, said.

"Yes!" Prime Minister Asquith nodded with satisfaction: "However, in addition to the further expansion of the army's strength, the innovation of weaponry and equipment must also hurry up. Before the German army landed on the mainland of the empire Before that, we developed equipment capable of restraining German tanks and other advanced weapons. Otherwise, our homeland may not be able to defend. German tanks shined brilliantly on the Eastern Front, and they beat Russia People are in a panic. According to the information obtained, the Germans will also deploy a large number of tank

troops on the Western Front this time. We must be prepared. I hope that once the war is carried out on the mainland of the Empire, we will fight to fight The land is scorched, and the Germans must be defeated!"

"Yes, Your Excellency Prime Minister. Regarding the tanks used by the Germans, we have already started to develop them. The arsenal has produced samples. After demonstration, they will be mass-produced. In addition, we are also developing tanks that can destroy the Germans. Tank weapons. After research, it was found that small-caliber cannons can be directly used as anti-tank guns, and have great lethality against German tanks. If the German Army dares to land on the British mainland, we can definitely let them in Blood is shed here!" Richard Haldane looked resolute.

For the British, if the navy fails, then only the army is left to defend the homeland. If the army has not been able to withstand the British attack during the home war. The demise of Great Britain, then, was inevitable. Naturally, everyone does not want the UK to go to that point. But whenever possible, they all hope that the British Empire can continue to exist.

"Very well, everyone, I believe that with the concerted efforts of everyone, the British Empire will be able to overcome this difficulty and win the final victory!" Prime Minister Asquith said.

Although, the current situation is very critical. However, fortunately, everyone has not completely lost their fighting spirit. And this gave Britain a glimmer of hope of winning. Prime Minister Asquith couldn't help feeling a little more hopeful: "Perhaps, God can bless the British Empire and win this war!"

Subsequently, Prime Minister Asquith rushed to Buckingham Palace to report the situation to King George V. Although King George V was full of worries about the future of the British Empire, he also expressed support for Prime Minister Asquith's decisive battle with them. King George V claimed that the royal family will do everything possible to support the government and the

army. After all, if Britain ceased to exist, he, the king, would naturally not be able to continue to be king.

Chapter 407: The future of the Navy

Wilhelmshaven, the headquarters of the German Navy's High Seas Fleet. The current German navy can be described as strong and strong. The strength of the High Seas Fleet has reached its peak. 24 advanced battleships, plus 12 advanced battlecruisers, brought the total number of capital ships of the German Navy to 36. That's still not counting those pre-dreadnoughts. If the former dreadnoughts are counted, the total number of capital ships of the German Navy will reach sixty.

Of course, those pre-dreadnought ships are not very useful in naval battles, which is already recognized. If the number of pre-dreadnought ships is to be counted among the capital ships, the British Navy has an absolute advantage. After all, Britain built dozens of pre-dreadnought ships before the war. It's just that the combat power of those former dreadnoughts is very rubbish. Once on the battlefield, they can only be slaughtered. Even for the sake of the lives of the sailors, these former dreadnoughts cannot be easily sent to the battlefield.

German Navy High Seas Fleet Commander Reinhardt? Scheer Admiral is with the Fleet Chief of Staff Franz? Von Hipper Lieutenant General talk. Sitting in the office, the two were filled with emotion as they watched the warships in the port.

"General Hipper, I really didn't expect it! In just over ten years, our navy has developed to the point it is now. Purely in terms of strength, we have surpassed the United Kingdom and become the veritable No. 1 navy. A naval power." Admiral Reinhard Scheer said. Catching up with the Royal Navy has always been their goal. Although, the decisive battle has not yet begun. However, this goal appears to have been achieved ahead of schedule.

Admiral Reinhard Scheer also believed that even if the decisive battle broke out now, they would still be sure to defeat the British.

"Yes! This is thanks to the wise leadership of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince. If it weren't for His Royal Highness, and relying on the guys from the Naval Technical Committee to develop step by step, we would not be able to surpass the British even if we died." Fran Lieutenant General Z von Hipper highly praised Qin Tian. There are countless people similar to Lieutenant General Hipper in the German Navy. It can be said that with his own ability, Qin Tian already has a lot of die-hard supporters in the navy.

Admiral Reinhard Scheer nodded, he was also very convinced of Qin Tian.

"However, we have stopped building new capital ships since the 'Bavaria-class' battleships and the 'Mackenson-class' battlecruisers. If this continues, can our advantage be maintained? According to the information we have obtained, the British People are frantically building new capital ships. The Americans on the other side of the ocean, after being slapped in the face by us last time, have also started to build ships frantically. In the future, our pressure will be even greater." Lieutenant General Hipper Then he said.

"His Royal Highness the Crown Prince does not intend to build any more battleships. However, I think His Royal Highness is right. Although capital ships are the main force of naval warfare now, they will no longer be the main force soon. Therefore, if we build the main force again It is a complete waste of resources. If the Imperial Navy wants to continue to maintain its position as the world's hegemon in the future, it must continue to innovate. His Royal Highness's vision is farther than ours!" Reinhard Sher Admiral Er sighed.

"Battleships and battlecruisers and other capital ships will no longer be the main force? How is that possible?" Lieutenant General Franz von Hipper seemed a little unbelievable. As the chief of staff of the High Seas Fleet and

an excellent naval commander, he is undoubtedly a believer in large ships and cannons.

"Yes, they will be obsolete soon." Admiral Reinhard Scheer assured.

"Then what will be the main force of future naval warfare? Submarines, or aircraft carriers as secret weapons?" Lieutenant General Hipper asked.

"Your Excellency Chief of Staff, last week, I personally observed the actual combat exercise of our two aircraft carriers. It was held in the Baltic Sea. The carrier-based aircraft that took off from the two aircraft carriers launched an attack on the target ship. It is hard for you to imagine I saw how shocking the scene of the overwhelming attack by carrier-based aircraft is. The warships on the sea are completely under siege. Although, the carrier-based aircraft on board the aircraft carrier can only use light aviation torpedoes and 200 However, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince claimed that with the advancement of technology, the aircraft carrier in service at the next level will be able to carry carrier-based aircraft capable of carrying medium-sized aerial torpedoes and aerial bombs weighing up to 500 kilograms At that time, the attack power of the aircraft carrier will be further enhanced, and there will be a fatal threat to the capital ship." Admiral Reinhardt Scheer said.

Although Lieutenant General Hipper had some difficulty accepting such a result, he couldn't help but nodded. If the armor of a battleship can resist light torpedoes, then medium torpedoes can undoubtedly pose a great threat to it. Not to mention, it may be equipped with carrier-based aircraft capable of carrying heavy torpedoes in the future. At that time, it will be the time to really challenge the status of the battleship.

"It seems that the big guns we have been insisting on will not wait long." Hipper shook his head with a wry smile.

"Yes, this decisive battle between us and the British Navy may be the pinnacle battle of the era of big ships and cannons, and it will also be the end battle. In the next naval battle, the main force will no longer be these battleships, but it is aircraft carriers and carrier-based aircraft. I am very fortunate that in the era of big ships and giant guns, we surpassed the British. In the next era of aircraft carriers and carrier-based aircraft, we will continue to surpass other countries and lead the world's navy. This will make our navy as strong as ever. The imperial navy in the future will still be the most powerful navy in the world." Admiral Reinhard Scheer is full of enthusiasm for the future confidence.

"General, your words are very good. Whether it is the era of large ships and giant guns or the era of aircraft carriers and carrier-based aircraft, as long as we can continue to lead the world, that is our victory. In the future, the Imperial Navy will still be able to dominate the world," Lieutenant General Hipper said.

"Well, the construction of the next four aircraft carriers has already started. The research and development of carrier-based aircraft has also entered a critical period. In the future, the Imperial Navy will be even stronger. Of course, before the new aircraft carrier enters service, we have to defeat the British. I hope that we can use a brilliant victory to draw a successful end to the era of big ships and cannons!"

Chapter 408: Sneak Attack Plan

"In addition to aircraft carriers, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince also attaches great importance to submarines. In his conversation with His Excellency Count Tirpitz, he proposed that there will be only three types of warships in the future navy, namely aircraft carriers, destroyers and submarines. At most, some other professional warship." Admiral Reinhard Scheer continued.

Lieutenant General Hipper was undoubtedly the first to hear such a secret, and he was stunned. Qin Tian's remarks were too unbelievable for him. You know, there are many types of warships in the navy now. If there are only three left, what will future naval warfare be like? Lieutenant General Hipper is really unimaginable.

However, he was very lucky afterwards. His Royal Highness, the genius Crown Prince, is German. It is precisely because of this that Germany was able to defeat a powerful enemy in this war.

"The foresight of His Highness the Crown Prince is not something we can guess. Since His Highness is so sure, there must be a reason for him. I believe that His Highness is correct. Because His Highness did not make any mistakes at all." Lieutenant General Hipper also said Said.

Lieutenant General Reinhardt Scheer nodded: "In terms of naval development, we are nothing more than mortals. However, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince is definitely a god. He has a vision like a god."

Lieutenant General Hipper agreed with this point of view.

Similarly, this also makes them more confident about future wars. With the correct leadership of His Royal Highness, who is almost like a god, how could the Imperial Navy lose?

"By the way, Commander. Speaking of submarines, a submarine officer submitted a very interesting battle plan. Perhaps, you can take a look." Lieutenant General Hipper said suddenly.

"Oh? What is the battle plan?" Admiral Reinhard Scheer asked. Although, submarines are not very powerful yet. However, since submarines will become one of the three types of warships that Qin Tian is optimistic about in the future navy, this also makes Admiral Reinhard Scheer attach great importance to submarines.

"This battle plan was proposed by a submarine captain named Doenitz. He is now a lieutenant colonel. His submarines, during the war, sank many British merchant ships. In terms of submarine warfare, he really He has great talent," Lieutenant General Hipper said.

"Oh?" Lieutenant General Hipper's words made General Reinhard Scheer more interested in this.

"Lieutenant General Doenitz proposed that he hoped to drive his submarine into Scapa Flow and launch an attack on the submarines of the Royal Navy anchored there. The main battleship of the navy will constitute a fatal blow. It is definitely a good opportunity to weaken the strength of the Royal Navy." Lieutenant General Hipper said.

"What? Sneak into Scapa Flow for a sneak attack. God! I have to admit, Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz is really a bold guy. But if it succeeds, it is indeed a very good victory." Reinhardt ? Admiral Scheer said.

The main force of the Royal Navy is now assembled in Scapa Flow. There, almost 70% of the capital ships of the Royal Navy were assembled. If the submarines of the German Navy can be mixed in, wouldn't it be easy to use torpedoes to sink the capital ship of the British Navy? Even if a submarine carries limited torpedoes, even if it sinks two or three capital ships of the British Navy, the British Navy will suffer heavy losses. After all, for the severely damaged Royal Navy, every capital ship is very precious. If the "Queen Elizabeth-class" battleship or the "Revenge-class" battleship were sunk, it would be a major victory. Now, it is undoubtedly the two battleships of the British Navy that can pose a threat to the German Navy. If they can be destroyed before the decisive battle, the High Seas Fleet's chances of winning will be further improved.

"Yes, Your Excellency, Commander. This is a very risky plan. The British have assembled the main force of the Royal Navy in Scapa Flow, and its defense

must be extremely strict. In addition, we have no idea about the hydrological conditions there. Unfamiliar. Therefore, it is definitely not a simple matter to sneak into Scapa Flow." Lieutenant General Hipper said.

Admiral Reinhard Scheer nodded. Indeed, the whole plan is very risky, and if you are not careful, it may fail. And once it fails, it will inevitably die.

"Why did Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz submit such a risky battle plan?" Admiral Reinhard Scheer asked.

"I heard that one of his friends, who was also our submarine captain, was sunk by the British during the British bait plan. Therefore, he wanted to avenge his friend, so he proposed this battle plan." The staff also believes that this plan is too risky. However, Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz has been insisting." Lieutenant General Hipper said.

"The British bait plan caused us to lose so many submarines. No wonder Dönitz wanted to avenge his friend. However, as an officer, how could he be so impulsive? This battle plan is really too good. Take a risk." Admiral Reinhard Scheer wanted to veto this battle plan.

"Your Excellency, this battle plan is risky. However, if it succeeds, the results will be very fruitful. I think we can try it." Lieutenant General Hipper had different opinions.

"Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz is our best submarine commander. It would be a pity to let him carry out such a risky plan if it fails." Lieutenant General Reinhard Scheer shook his head.

"Your Excellency, Commander, it is precisely because Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz is our most outstanding submarine commander. Therefore, we should have confidence in him. I believe that he will definitely win." Lieutenant General Hipper Said.

Admiral Reinhard Scheer and Lieutenant General Hipper could not reach an agreement on this issue. No way, they can only report this battle plan to the Ministry of the Navy.

Qin Tian also learned about this battle plan from Marshal Count Tirpitz. He is very interested in this. Qin Tian clearly remembered that in another time and space, at the beginning of World War II, an ace captain of the Third Reich sneaked into Scapa Flow with a submarine and carried out a sneak attack on the British navy. In this time and space, the defense of the British in Scapa Flow is far from being comparable to another time and space. Therefore, if the submarine attacks, there is a greater possibility of success.

Therefore, Qin Tian directly approved this battle plan, and asked the navy to provide Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz with as much preparation and support as possible!

Chapter 409: infiltration

Berlin, Qin Tian's office. Qin Tian is summoning Denitz. He was very interested in Dönitz's plan to attack Scapa Flow. After approving Doenitz's plan, Qin Tian summoned Doenitz a week later.

"Lieutenant Colonel, is the performance of our new submarine not bad?" Qin Tian asked.

"Your Highness, very good, very good! Compared with the U-100 submarine we used before, it is much better!" Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz looked excited.

Originally, he didn't think that his plan would be approved. After all, his plan is too risky, and the possibility of success is very small. However, it turned out that the Crown Prince of the Empire personally approved his plan and provided him with sufficient support, which made him more confident in this plan.

The new submarine Qin Tiankou is talking about is the U-200 submarine built by Deutsche Shipyard. This is an improved version of the U-100 submarine, which not only has a larger displacement, but is also faster and carries more torpedoes. The overall combat power has been greatly improved. The U-200 submarine has just started mass production, and the equipment for Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz is a previously built sample.

"Lieutenant Colonel, your plan is very risky. Originally, I didn't intend to approve it. But then I thought, maybe you can really create a miracle. I have asked the Ministry of the Navy to provide you with all the It helped, I hope you can succeed this time." Qin Tian said.

"His Royal Highness, I will succeed this time!" Doenitz was equally confident.

Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz and his crew prepared for ten days before leaving Wilhelmshaven and sailing into the North Sea. During these ten days, they not only had to be familiar with the new U-200 submarine, but also had to study tactics, as well as ocean currents and other hydrological conditions in Scapa Flow, etc., to ensure the success of this plan.

Germany's intelligence agencies have also started to collect detailed information on Scapa Flow for them. What excited Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz and the others was that the British did not seem to be aware of the underwater threat, so they did not install underwater anti-submarine nets in Scapa Flow.

On the night of March 12, Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz and his crew, driving the new U-037 submarine, left the Wilhelmshaven Naval Base and sailed into the North Sea. They are not expected to reach Scapa Flow until tomorrow night. And it must go smoothly, without encountering the ships of the British Navy. Otherwise, you need to spend more time on the road.

The North Sea is too narrow. Now the warships of Britain and Germany often meet and fight in the North Sea. Although there are very few battles at the capital ship level, battles between small and medium warships are happening almost every day. Therefore, the U-037 submarine needs to evade British warships so that it can sneak into Scapa Flow secretly.

"Boss, this submarine is really good. It is much better than our previous one." The first officer said to Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz.

"Of course, this is the latest type of submarine. It has not yet started to equip troops. For this operation, His Highness the Crown Prince specially handed over the built samples to us. Therefore, this time we will definitely not be able to live up to the expectations of His Highness the Crown Prince. We must kill a few more British battleships," said Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz.

"Boss, how many British capital ships do you plan to kill this time?" A submarine soldier asked.

Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz thought for a while, and then said: "Our submarine has a total of six torpedo tubes, plus the reserve torpedoes, a total of 18 torpedoes. This time, I plan to launch at least 12 torpedoes out. At such a short distance, there will be no problem in getting a hit. With 12 torpedoes, there will be no problem in killing three British battleships, right?"

"Three battleships? No problem at all, these are all heavy torpedoes. British warships have always had weak defenses. The warheads of 533 mm heavy torpedoes are enough to tear their weak armor."

"However, sir. It takes a lot of time for us to load the torpedo. Once we hit the target, the whole of Scapa Flow will be in chaos. Will the British give us so much time?"

Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz couldn't help but frowned. It would take at least three minutes for the six torpedo tubes to be reloaded. Once an

explosion occurs, the British will definitely come to their senses. Therefore, it is very difficult to shoot 12 torpedoes in a short period of time.

"I think we can make preparations for loading before launching. After the torpedo is launched, load it immediately. After loading, launch it immediately and then flee. In this way, the British will not easily find us." Gun the gunner suggested.

Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz nodded: "That's it. This is the only way we can launch 12 torpedoes in the shortest time. At that time, everyone will have to work hard. In addition, in order to ensure our hit rate. During the first salvo, you must find a good position to ensure that all six torpedoes hit the target. In this case, the second round of salvo will be much easier."

"Yes, sir." Everyone replied.

"God bless us! This time, we will definitely succeed!" Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz said.

"God bless us! Victory!"

Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz and the others were lucky. They were not hit by a British warship along the way, which allowed them to reach a place less than 50 kilometers away from Scapa Flow in the evening of the next day. This is already a high-risk zone, so the submarine has been staying underwater, with at most a periscope sticking out.

"Everyone take a break, after dark, we will enter Scapa Flow!" Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz ordered.

The crew began to eat, or sleep, they all know that there will be a fierce battle tonight. If successful, they will be heroes. But if they fail, their end will be buried in Scapa Flow with this submarine. Although, after participating in this operation, they are tantamount to disregarding life and death. However,

people all have the desire to survive and want to live. Being able to be a hero, being able to live, no one would choose to die.

At 8 o'clock in the evening, the sky has completely dimmed down.

U-037 submarine, like a ghost in the sea, slowly sailed towards Scapa Flow.

Ten kilometers away from Scapa Flow, the submarine dived underwater. Next, they will sneak all the way. Fortunately, the U-200 submarine has an underwater endurance of 100 nautical miles, allowing them to easily complete this mission.

The British did not know about this. They never thought that the submarines of the German Navy would slip directly into their main military port.

Chapter 410: Launch

Scapa Flow is an important base of the Royal Navy and the home port of the Grand Fleet. After Germany became the primary threat to the United Kingdom, the British Navy formed a large fleet, the purpose of which was to deal with the German Navy.

It's just that the large fleet, which suffered heavy losses, now seems to be unable to deal with the German navy. Although the strength of the Grand Fleet is not bad, overall, it is far inferior to the German Navy.

In Scapa Flow, a total of 24 capital ships of the Royal Navy were moored, including 18 battleships and the remaining six battlecruisers. Among them, the "Queen Elizabeth-class" battleship and the "Revenge-class" battleship, the ten absolute main battleships, are all anchored here. In addition, there are the remaining "King George V-class" battleships, four "Orion-class" battleships, two "Giant-class" battleships and the "Neptune" battleship.

As for the three "St. Vincent-class" battleships and the three "Bellerophon-class" battleships, they are moored at Wake Harbor and form horns with the main force of the large fleet in Scapa Flow. As for the battleship 'Dreadnought', the pioneer of the dreadnought era, it remained in the southern waters.

Inside the headquarters of the Grand Fleet, the lights are bright. Although it is already night, there are still many officers on duty. Admiral John Jellicoe, commander of the Grand Fleet, and Lieutenant General David Beatty, chief of staff, even stayed in the office.

The current situation is very unfavorable for Britain. As the commander and chief of staff of the Grand Fleet, one can imagine the pressure the two of them endured. In particular, Vice Admiral David Beatty, the fleet he commanded was defeated by the German Navy twice, with heavy losses, which made him feel ashamed. If it wasn't for Churchill's trust in him, and my previous failures were not because of him, but because of the huge gap in strength, maybe his Chief of Staff of the Grand Fleet would have been retired long ago.

"Your Excellency, the German warships are mobilizing more and more frequently. According to the information sent back by our agents, their 'Derfflinger-class' battlecruisers and 'Mackensen-class' battlecruisers are both They have already returned to the mainland for rest. Now in the Atlantic Ocean, only the 'Moltke-class' battlecruisers and the 'Blücher-class' battlecruisers are left. I have a hunch that the Germans are trying to fight us We are ready for the decisive battle." Lieutenant General David Beatty said.

General John Jellicoe nodded, and he could also feel that the situation seemed to be getting more and more critical. It was as if some kind of threat was constantly approaching them. The powerful German navy really put too much pressure on them.

"The German navy is too strong. It will take a long time for our new battleships to be built. His Excellency Churchill is right, the Germans will not give us any more time." John Jellicoe The admiral sighed.

"However, even if the Germans are far stronger than us. However, we have no way out. This time, we must fight with all our strength. Otherwise, the British Empire will be over." Admiral John Jellicoe said .

"Yes, Your Excellency Commander. This time we have to fight to the death." Lieutenant General David Betty's eyes were full of determination.

For Lieutenant General David Beatty, the previous failure was like the shame imposed on him, making him feel ashamed all the time. And if you want to wash away the shame, you have to defeat the Germans. Even if you can't defeat the Germans, you have to fight to the end. Even if you die in battle, it will be much better than now.

"Your Excellency Chief of Staff, once the war breaks out, I need you to lead the battlecruiser formation and entangle the German battlecruisers. Buy time for our battleship formation to defeat the Germans. I know, this is very difficult. But, we did not There are other ways," said Admiral John Jellicoe.

"Your Excellency, Commander, I can understand. When the time comes, I will definitely do my best to complete the task." Lieutenant General David Betty said.

If he can entangle the battlecruiser formation of the German Navy, this will undoubtedly give the battleship formation a fair chance to fight the battlecruisers of the German Navy. If luck is good enough and the battleship formation can win the decisive battle, then they still have a slight chance of winning. Otherwise, you will lose.

John? Admiral Jellicoe nodded. He knew how difficult the task of Lieutenant General David Beatty was. They are already very clear about the

combat effectiveness of the battlecruisers of the German Navy. Even if the other six battlecruisers of the German Navy do not go to battle, Lieutenant General David Beatty has no chance of winning. If it doesn't work, it will end up being sunk in the end. If possible, he certainly didn't want to choose this tactic. However, this was considered impossible.

At this moment, in the narrow waterway of Scapa Flow, a German submarine is sailing slowly. In order to avoid hitting reefs or rocks, the speed of the submarine has dropped to 3 knots. But even so, it is still dangerous.

Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz, his forehead and face were covered with sweat. Even the military uniform on his body was already wet with sweat.

Fortunately, after two hours of low-speed sailing, they finally passed the waterway and entered Scapa Flow.

"Sir, we have successfully slipped in."

"Very good, now slowly raise the periscope and observe the surroundings!" Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz ordered.

After the periscope was raised, Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz began to observe the surroundings. He could clearly see that the battleships of the British Navy were quietly moored in the berth. However, because of the dark sky, it is difficult to see clearly, only a little blurry shadow can be seen, and the specific model cannot be distinguished at all.

"The 'Queen Elizabeth-class' battleships and the 'Revenge-class' battleships have the largest displacement, so let's launch torpedoes at the largest." Afterwards, Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz made a decision.

The U-037 submarine began to move forward, choosing the most suitable attack position.

Half an hour later, Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz was ready. The bow of the submarine was aimed at the two huge battleships. The two torpedo tubes behind were aimed at a battleship.

In such a short distance, even if two torpedoes attack a target, as long as they hit, they will be seriously injured if they don't die. Therefore, Lieutenant Colonel Dönitz planned to attack three targets in the first salvo.

"Get ready for loading!" Lieutenant Colonel Doenitz ordered.

Except for the gunner, everyone went to help reload. They need to be loaded in the shortest possible time after the torpedo is fired.

"Launch!"

"Boom! Boom"

The torpedoes shot out of the torpedo tubes and rushed towards the target at high speed.