

Jagged 491

Chapter 491: Devastated

At two o'clock in the afternoon on March 31, when the 41st Fighter Brigade of the 4th Air Force was covering the mission of the 42nd Bomber Brigade, it suddenly noticed a large number of planes flying from the southern sky.

Those planes, slow and clumsy. It is even more obviously different from the single-seat aircraft of the German army.

"I found the aircraft of the British and French coalition forces. I don't know if it is the French Farmant F.20 or the British F.E.2b." The captain of the 41st Fighter Battalion said.

Because the shapes of these two aircrafts are so similar. In the face of strong pressure from the German air force, Britain and France chose

Immediately, he took out the flare gun and fired the flare. The meaning of this signal flare is to let the bomber drop the bomb immediately and then evacuate.

Although, the German aircraft are more advanced than those of the Anglo-French allied forces. However, the bomber is undoubtedly very clumsy. It is obviously unwise to use bombers to deal with enemy fighters.

After receiving the order, the bombers of the 42nd Bomber Group immediately dropped their bombs and then withdrew from the battlefield. At this time, they no longer care whether they can hit the target accurately. The most important thing is to evacuate the battlefield, free up the airspace and hand it over to fighter jets.

After the bomber group began to evacuate, the captain of the 41st Fighter Group fired another flare. It means to get all the pilots of the fighter brigade ready for the battle.

In the absence of radio miniaturization technology, the only way to command air combat is to use this old-fashioned method. Although a bit crude, it is sufficient.

More than forty F2 fighter jets of the German army rushed towards the incoming enemy plane.

Although, the fleet dispatched by the British and French allied forces is as high as hundreds of aircraft, which is more than twice that of the German 41st Fighter Brigade. However, these pilots not only have no fear, but are full of fighting spirit.

In an air battle, a large number of aircraft cannot win. The pilot's flying skills and the performance of the aircraft play the most critical role. In front of the pilots of the German army, these planes of the British and French allied forces were undoubtedly the targets of their massacre.

The soldiers of the British and French allied forces on the ground couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief when they saw their own plane coming, and some even started to cheer. After all, the previous violent bombing by the German army cost them a lot.

"Kill the German planes, shoot them all down!"

"Come on! Warriors of the British Empire, shoot down the German plane cleanly!"

The soldiers of the British and French allied forces on the ground even cheered for their own air force, hoping that they could defeat the German planes. After all, at least in terms of numbers, the fleet of the British and French coalition forces has an absolute advantage.

Because of the distance of the battle, it was just over the south bank of the Marne River. On the German side, it can also be clearly seen.

"Boys of the German Empire, come on! Shoot down those French and British planes."

"Kill them, brave German pilots!"

The soldiers of the German army are also cheering for their own pilots.

Even Qin Tian and other high-level German troops used binoculars to stare intently at the air battle that was about to break out.

For the pilots on both sides, they couldn't see or hear the cheers on the ground. Now they have only one task, and that is to shoot down the opponent's plane and win the air battle.

The F2 fighter jets of the German army are very fast, with a maximum speed of more than 200 kilometers per hour. This speed is much faster than the fighter jets equipped by Britain and France. This makes them often have a great advantage over you in battle.

As the distance between the two sides got closer, the German F2 fighter jets took the lead in climbing. Although Qin Tian is not a soldier, as a professional military enthusiast, he is undoubtedly very clear about some commonly used tactics. In the absence of precision-guided weapons, the most common tactic in air combat is undoubtedly to climb, seize the altitude, then dive to attack, then climb again, and then launch an attack, and so on. Especially when dealing with enemy aircraft with poor maneuverability, such tactics are very effective. Even in another time and space, the Japanese-style zero battle with excellent dog fighting ability was defeated under such tactics.

The plane that fought the German army was the French Air Force. The Farmand F.20 fighter jets they equipped cannot compare with the German F2 fighter jets in performance. However, after seeing the German planes begin to climb, they immediately followed suit. But because of the difference in climb rate, they fell far behind.

"Comparing our climb with us is simply asking for trouble. Our aircraft is the most advanced aircraft in the world." A German pilot said disdainfully after looking down at the French aircraft.

Sure enough, as the altitude got higher and higher, the performance of the French aircraft became more and more difficult. Some aircraft even had power failures because of the high altitude. After the engine stopped, they fell directly from high altitude to the ground.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Several French planes fell to the ground and exploded. The soldiers on both sides were stunned.

"My God! What's going on? Why did our plane fall down by itself?"

"Haha! The French plane is too bad, isn't it? It fell down like this, how could they fight us?" The German soldiers were already cheering.

Qin Tian also had a smile on the corner of his mouth, and felt a sense of accomplishment in his heart. With his help, the German army equipped the world's most advanced aircraft. Now, these advanced aircraft are helping Germany gain an advantage on the battlefield and win the war step by step.

Facing the plane that was climbing continuously, the French Air Force was powerless and had to stop the climb. If they continue to climb, I am afraid that all their fighter planes will have to fall.

It's just that the German pilots would not let this opportunity go, and immediately launched an attack.

Dozens of aircraft attacked from high altitude, and aviation machine guns started firing.

"Da da da!"

Dense aviation machine gun bullets shot towards the French aircraft below.

The powerful bullets easily penetrated the wooden body and skin of the French aircraft, leaving large holes in the body.

There were even some French aircraft that were directly broken up and fell from a high altitude.

In this era, except for the German pilots, pilots from other countries are not equipped with parachutes, which means that after they are shot down twice, there is only one consequence, that is, they are directly smashed into meatloaf.

Under this round of attacks by German aircraft, more than a dozen French aircraft were shot down.

Chapter 492: Heavy damage

"Da da da!" The German pilots fully utilized the performance of their own aircraft. They were flying planes, chasing and killing these planes of the French army.

After an F2 fighter bit the French Army's Farmand F.20 fighter jet, it opened fire immediately, pouring a string of bullets from the aviation machine gun into the tail of the French Army's F.20 aircraft.

The structure of the wooden body is so fragile that the tail of this French military aircraft was torn to pieces immediately. Afterwards, the French aircraft plummeted into the ground with billowing smoke, and the two pilots were all killed.

"God! Why are these German planes so fast? They are much faster than our planes." A French pilot shouted in horror.

"Yeah! Compared with the German aircraft we fought against last year, these aircraft seem to be more advanced." The observer and shooter sitting in the front seat also agreed.

Although the aircraft equipped by the German Air Force are still F2 fighters, they are also constantly improving. In particular, the shape and structure are constantly being optimized, and the engine is also being updated, enabling the aircraft to have greater speed and maneuverability. Under such circumstances, the aircraft equipped by Britain and France were naturally thrown farther and farther by the German aircraft.

"God! There is a German plane overhead." The observer and shooter yelled in horror.

The pilot looked up immediately, just in time to see a German plane coming towards them from the sky. He immediately piloted the plane, trying to escape. However, it was too late. The German plane has already opened fire. "Da da da!"

The aviation machine guns of the German aircraft began to fire, and the bullets directly hit the cockpit of the French aircraft. Aircraft in this era do not have a glass cockpit, and the pilot is directly exposed to the outside.

The bullets of the aviation machine gun easily killed the pilots and observers on the French aircraft. After losing its pilot, the plane plummeted to the ground, hitting the ground and exploding in a ball of fire.

Facing the attack of the German planes, the French planes had no power to fight back. The entire air battle has shown a one-sided situation. The planes of the French army were shot down one after another, like burning firebirds, falling to the ground continuously.

In contrast to the German aircraft, although some were shot down. However, the number is very small. Often, more than ten French aircraft were

shot down, and only one German aircraft was shot down. Such a battle loss ratio is undoubtedly very large.

The pilots of both sides watching the battle on the ground were undoubtedly stunned. Usually, those pilots who wear handsome uniforms, receive generous salaries, and enjoy the best food are undoubtedly the objects of their envy. But, now it seems that they are not so good! Once shot down, there will be no bones left.

Of course, the ones with no bones left mainly refer to the pilots of the French Air Force, and the pilots of the German army, as long as they were not killed on the spot in an air battle, they would choose to parachute. Compared with airplanes, these pilots are the most precious wealth.

However, because the fighting area is located in the sky above the British and French coalition forces, once those pilots parachute, they are likely to fall into the control area of the British and French coalition forces. In that case, they will obviously not end well. Therefore, these pilots often choose to continue flying the plane after being hit, and then parachute until they fly to the north bank of the Marne River. Only in this way can their safety be guaranteed. After all, in the previous battles, it was not without pilots who were directly killed by the enemy after being captured by the enemy.

Although, some pilots who were shot down inevitably suffered casualties. However, on the whole, the casualties of the German army were much smaller than those of the French army.

Watching our own planes being shot down one after another, the morale of the British and French allied forces continued to drop.

Marshal Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French army, was also watching the battle in the sky. However, as the planes of the French army

were continuously shot down, his complexion couldn't help turning black like the bottom of a pot.

"Oh my God! Is there such a big gap between our aircraft performance and the Germans?" Marshal Joffre couldn't believe such a result. You know, in order to ensure victory, he mobilized hundreds of fighter jets to participate in the battle. However, with less than half of the number of German aircraft, they directly made them pay such a heavy loss, which Marshal Xia Fei never thought of before.

"Your Excellency Marshal, the performance of the German aircraft is indeed more advanced than ours. However, the Farmand Company is already developing a newer Farmand F.30 fighter jet. By that time, we will definitely have an aircraft that is not inferior to the Germans. Yes," said a French air force general.

"Farmand F.30 fighter jet? What's the use of that? What I want is an aircraft that can fight against the German aircraft now." Marshal Joffre said angrily.

Suddenly, the generals fell silent and said nothing. Obviously, the result of the current battle made them all very ashamed. It's just that they have no other way to do it! Who made them not only seriously inferior to the German army in the performance of their aircraft, but also seriously inferior to the German army in the quality of their pilots? So if it is like this, there is no other way.

"Give me an order to mobilize more planes to the front, and we must defeat the Germans!" Marshal Joffre ordered.

This is the only way he can think of. Since the performance is not good, he can only make up for it with the advantage of quantity. Marshal Xiafei also saw that during the air battle, some German planes were still shot down. This

also means that the German aircraft is not immune to being shot down. As long as they have the opportunity, or if the conditions are ripe, they can also shoot down the German planes.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Marshal!"

The battle in the sky will soon end. The German 41st Fighter Group, with the loss of five aircraft, shot down more than seventy French aircraft. Seeing that the situation was not good, the rest of the French planes fled away one after another. Otherwise, the results of the German air force would be even greater.

However, even so, the French army did not admit defeat easily. On the afternoon of March 31, many battles broke out between the two sides in the airspace on the south bank of the Marne River. The French army dispatched a large number of fighter planes in an attempt to prevent the German army from bombing the French defense line.

In the fierce air battle this afternoon, the German army lost more than fifty fighter planes. The number of fighter planes lost by the French army is even more. According to preliminary statistics, they also lost more than 600 planes. This is definitely a serious blow to the newly established French Air Force.

Chapter 493: Attack preparation

The heavy losses of the French Air Force also made Marshal Joffre give up the idea of competing with the German army for air supremacy. With such a large battle loss ratio between the two sides, even if all the strength of the French Air Force is lost, it is probably not the opponent of the German army.

Without the interference of the French Air Force, the German Air Force also fully joined the bombing of the French positions.

By the evening of March 31, the 100-kilometer-long French defense line was almost plowed by the German artillery shells and bombs. There is almost

no intact place in the entire position. There are bombed trenches and scattered barbed wire everywhere. Many of the landmines that were originally planted were detonated during the shelling and bombing, and obviously they would not be able to play any role in the ensuing battle. The firepower points built by the French army on the position are even more rare. Even the strongest anti-blasting holes that were built, many of them were bombed down. During the shelling and bombing of the German army on this day alone, the British and French allied forces on the entire defense line suffered tens of thousands of casualties.

This is also the reason why the British and French allied forces withdrew their main forces from the front-line positions after the battle began. Otherwise, their casualties will definitely increase exponentially.

"The effect is not bad. The defense line of the British and French allied forces is already dilapidated. Even if they rush to repair it tonight, it is impossible to build a solid defense line. Tomorrow morning, another hour of bombardment will almost launch the attack. Bi Luo General, General Howson, Your Excellency the Duke, it will be up to you tomorrow!" Qin Tian said.

"Yes, Your Highness." All three legion commanders replied.

After a whole day of firepower preparations, the German army almost destroyed the defense lines of the British and French allied forces. This will undoubtedly reduce a lot of pressure for tomorrow's offense. Among other things, the casualties of the troops must be effectively controlled. Therefore, Admiral Bilow and others were very satisfied.

Of course, in order to do all this, the German artillery was exhausted. The pilots thought that they were exhausted after fighting continuously. However, after a night's rest, they had to continue fighting tomorrow. At least until the German army broke through the Marne River defense line of the British and French allied forces, they could really relax.

"Your Highness, the position of the Anglo-French coalition forces on the opposite side has been almost destroyed. Tomorrow we will definitely be able to cross the Marne River and tear apart the defense lines of the British and French coalition forces." The Duke of Württemberg said.

"Well, but still don't take it lightly. After all, there are more than one million British and French allied troops on the other side of the river." Qin Tian nodded.

If he was facing more than one million Russian troops, Qin Tian would naturally not be worried. But the British and French allied forces are different. Their combat effectiveness is much stronger than that of the Russian army.

"Yes, Your Highness." The Duke of Württemberg replied, but the expression on his face obviously didn't care. The Duke of Württemberg is not only the commander of the 4th Army of the German Army, but also the Grand Duke of the Kingdom of Württemberg. He has a high position in the entire German Empire. Even William II treated him with courtesy. In front of him, Qin Tian, the crown prince of the empire, was nothing more than a junior. The Duke of Württemberg disdained Qin Tianlai as the commander of the western front. Of course, with Qin Tian's current status, the Duke of Württemberg would certainly not offend him. However, it is an indisputable fact that he has a close relationship with Crown Prince William.

"Everyone, get ready! Tomorrow's battle will be our real test." Qin Tian said.

"Yes, Your Highness."

April 1st, today is April Fool's Day. However, people in the middle of the war have no time to take care of this festival. The two sides in the war are looking forward to doing their best to defeat the opponent.

After dawn, the German army could observe that the positions of the British and French allied forces on the opposite bank had been repaired. It's just that, compared with the solid position before, the position built hastily overnight is undoubtedly much simpler. Presumably, the soldiers of the British and French coalition forces didn't even sleep last night!

At 8 o'clock in the morning, the German artillery started shelling again. More than 5,000 cannons once again used powerful artillery fire to pour shells on the positions of the British and French allied forces. The fortifications rebuilt with great difficulty by the British and French allied forces were once again destroyed by the fierce German shelling. I don't know how many soldiers of the British and French allied forces would scold the German army for this.

Everyone knows that after yesterday's heavy shelling, the German army will definitely launch an attack today. After those fortifications were destroyed, how did this allow them to resist the German attack?

"God! Damn the Germans, how many times are they planning to destroy our position!" Marshal Lian Xiafei couldn't help but scolded the Germans. It can be seen that the German army's violent bombardment regardless of cost has given them What a loss.

"Order the troops on the front line to prepare for battle. This time, the German bombardment will definitely not last long." Marshal Joffre ordered.

After all, the high-intensity shelling like yesterday would consume a terrible amount of shells. Marshal Joffre did not believe that the German army would store so many shells. Besides, you can't just shoot all the shells at the beginning of the battle. In that case, how will the follow-up battle continue? In addition, the artillery has been firing at a high intensity, which is obviously unstoppable.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Marshal."

In fact, the frontline commanders of the British and French allied forces also knew that the German army would probably launch an attack today without the order from Marshal Joffre. Therefore, they also prepared for battle early in the morning.

Though, their fortifications were destroyed. The soldiers were also very tired. But they are still very confident in resisting the German attack. After all, there is the Marne River, and if the German army wants to attack them, they need to cross the river first. It also takes a certain amount of time for a river surface that is tens of meters wide. During this time, it happened to be the time when they gave full play to their powerful firepower and caused great damage to the German army. Maybe, we can take this opportunity to inflict heavy damage on the German army, and let their blood dye the water of the Marne River red.

The shelling of the German army is still continuing, and the artillerymen are struggling to smash the shells one after another into the positions of the British and French coalition forces on the opposite bank.

On the frontline positions of the German army, the infantry had already had breakfast and were resting. The quartermaster has distributed the ammunition, and soon it will be their turn to attack.

At the rear airport, the 4 air teams of the German army are all ready to take off. They are about to take off to provide fire support for the attacking infantry.

Chapter 494: Crossing the river

The time passed by one minute and one second, and it will be eight o'clock in the morning in five minutes.

"When will the aviation team arrive at the battlefield?" Qin Tian asked.

"Your Highness, each of the four air teams has dispatched a fighter brigade and a bomber brigade, and the planes have already taken off. Calculate the time, they should not be far from the battlefield, and they will arrive at the battlefield in a few minutes at most." Manstein Major General Yin reported.

In order to minimize the casualties caused by the troops when crossing the Marne River, and to ensure that the crossing operation can successfully break through the defense lines of the British and French allied forces, the German army has made careful planning. Not only has adequate firepower preparation been made, but it is also planned that when crossing the river, the fighter planes of the air force can fly in time to support. In this case, it can undoubtedly effectively reduce the casualties of the troops.

Qin Tian nodded: "We are ready for what we should do. Next, it's up to the warriors. I hope God can bless us!"

"Your Highness, we will definitely win this time." Major General Manstein was convinced of this.

When the hour hand on the watch pointed to eight o'clock, the German bombardment began to extend to the deep positions of the British and French allied forces. At the same time, on the front line, mortars, grenade launchers, and light and heavy machine guns were set up door by door, ready to fire at any time. More German soldiers, carrying the boats that had been prepared long ago, rushed to the Marne River.

Although the Marne is not wide, the river is not deep. However, if you want to wade directly across the river, it will undoubtedly be very difficult. Therefore, in the past two months, the engineers of the German army have prepared a large number of small boats for the army to use to cross the river in advance.

The British and French allied forces on the other side of the river also noticed the change in the German shelling.

"Quick, enter the position, the Germans are about to attack!" The officers of the British and French allied forces ordered loudly.

A large number of soldiers of the British and French allied forces drilled out of the anti-gun holes and entered the position, preparing to resist the German attack. At the same time, soldiers deployed in the rear also moved to the front line through the communication trenches. It's just that the soldiers of these British and French allied forces must first go through the German artillery blockade. Under the fierce shelling of the German army, it is unknown how many soldiers of the British and French allied forces died under the heavy shelling of the German army before reaching the front line.

"Your Excellency, the German attack has begun." A general reported to Marshal Joffre.

"May God bless the French Republic, and hope that we can resist the German attack!" Marshal Joffre closed his eyes and prayed to God.

On the front line of the Marne River, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th armies of the German Central Group launched an attack on the positions of the British and French coalition forces on a line of defense that was hundreds of kilometers long. In the first wave of offensive, the German army chose six landing points and invested as many as 150,000 people to launch the attack. This is not counting the troops who provide fire support for them on the ground.

"Fire!"

Following the order of the frontline commander, the German defense line began to shoot violently. A bunch of heavy machine guns, light machine guns, mortars, and grenades all began to fire crazily at the positions of the British and French coalition forces on the other side of the river.

Intensive artillery shells slammed into the positions of the British and French coalition forces like rain, and many shells fell directly into the trenches, causing heavy losses to the British and French coalition forces who hurried into the trenches.

The dense machine gun bullets hit the soldiers of the British and French allied forces so that they couldn't even raise their heads. Everyone could only shrink their heads into the trenches and act as turtles. No matter how scolded by the officers, they were unwilling to stick their heads out to fight. After all, those bodies that have fallen in the trenches and are still warm are the best role models.

"Cowards, you cowards, raise your heads and fire! Otherwise, the Germans will fight across the Marne River. At that time, everyone will have a dead end!" A French second lieutenant officer scolded loudly.

But the next second, his roar stopped abruptly. A stray bullet hit his head and shattered his entire head, just like a watermelon shattered.

On the north bank of the Marne, many German soldiers have rushed down the Marne carrying wooden boats. These tall German soldiers can carry a small wooden boat with two people. After the wooden boat was placed on the river, the soldiers jumped on it immediately, then vigorously rowed the oars, and rushed to the other side of the river. The Marne River is only a few tens of meters wide, and the current is not too fast. If there is no disturbance, the river can be crossed in a minute.

Although facing the powerful firepower of the German army, there are still many soldiers of the British and French allied forces resisting. Especially those firepower points that were not destroyed by the German shelling and bombing began to shoot violently.

"Da da da!"

The French Hotchkiss machine guns and the British Brent machine guns deployed in the firepower point were all firing. The dense bullets hit the river surface, splashing one after another.

The small wooden boat has almost no defense. Once the wooden hull is hit, it will be easily pierced. Therefore, many German soldiers were hit by bullets from the British and French allied forces, and fell into the Marne Hanoi screaming. Their bodies flowed down the river, and finally flowed to the Seine, and then to Paris. Blood flowed from these corpses, staining the waters of the Marne red.

"Fire and destroy the French firepower!" A German officer ordered.

A 120mm heavy mortar aimed at a French bunker on the other side of the river.

"Boom! Boom!"

Two shells flew out. Although one shell missed, it fell into the trench and killed many French soldiers. Another shell hit the French bunker and blew up the whole bunker.

The German soldiers are undoubtedly the most vulnerable when they are crossing the river. Facing the fierce firepower of the British and French allied forces, they could only bear it silently. At this time, there is no doubt that they can only count on the firepower from the rear, which can suppress the firepower of the British and French coalition forces and provide them with protection.

"Order the artillery to fire immediately!"

French 2nd Army Commander General Decasy Terno ordered with a dark face.

The firepower of the German army is very strong, beyond their expectations. So much so that their line of defense was completely suppressed by the powerful firepower of the German army. If there is no other way, the German army will rush across the Marne River. At that time, it will be even more difficult to drive the German army into the river.

Although, the battle has only just begun. But in order to stabilize the line of defense, Admiral Decasy Terno had no choice but to dispatch the artillery that had been hidden before.

Almost all the other British and French coalition armies have issued such orders. The German attack brought great pressure to them.

Chapter 495: Tragic

On the position of the French army, a series of 75mm field guns and a small number of 105mm howitzers were pulled out again and deployed to the position. The artillery battle between the two sides yesterday, as well as the bombing of the German air force, caused heavy losses to the French artillery.

Now, in order to strengthen the defense of the front line, they also have to pull these artillery out again.

"Fire!"

Under the command of the commander, the artillery of the French army started shelling. One after another, the shells slammed into the Marne River and the German defense line on the north bank of the Marne River.

"Boom! Boom!"

The shell exploded in the Marne River, splashing a high column of water. The rate of fire advantage of the French 75mm field gun was brought into play. Although the artillery fire of the French army suffered heavy losses, the artillery fire was still very strong.

Shells continued to fall into the Marne River, and the German troops who were crossing the river were inevitably shelled. Even the shells of the 75mm field gun are not very powerful. However, that is definitely not something that wooden boats can resist.

"Boom!"

A small boat was hit, and the hull was instantly torn apart. The German soldiers on board also suffered heavy casualties and fell into the river.

On the German position, a heavy machine gun that was firing was hit, the machine gunner was killed on the spot, and the machine gun was also blown into parts.

The fierce shelling of the French army caused the German army to pay a lot of casualties. At the same time, it also eased the pressure on the defense line of the British and French allied forces, allowing the soldiers of the British and French allied forces who were suppressed to poke their heads out and pour firepower on the German troops who were crossing the river, further increasing the casualties of the German troops.

Seeing this scene, Qin Tian couldn't help frowning.

"Order the artillery to suppress the artillery of the British and French allied forces. Why hasn't the aviation team arrived yet?" Qin Tian asked.

"Your Highness, the aviation team should be arriving soon." Major General Manstein said.

The artillery of the German army once again began to suppress the artillery of the British and French allied forces, providing fire support for their own infantry. It's just that the artillery of the British and French allied forces seemed to be desperate. They ignored the shells falling from the sky and just fired desperately, as if they wanted to shoot as many shells as possible before being killed by German shells. .

"Boom! Boom!"

Two consecutive 150mm artillery shells fell on the artillery positions of the French army. This artillery position with six 75mm field guns was blown up like a typhoon passing through the border. Several field artillery were blown up, and those artillerymen suffered heavy casualties.

At the same time, the German air force finally arrived on the battlefield. Fighters and bombers rushed directly towards the artillery positions of the French army. Among the attack targets of the air force, attacking the enemy's artillery is always the first.

"Da da da!"

The aviation machine guns of the fighter jets fired, and many French soldiers fell to the ground screaming.

The bomber lowered its altitude, opened the magazine, and bombs fell like raindrops one after another, instantly destroying an artillery position of the British and French coalition forces.

Although, the anti-aircraft machine guns of the British and French allied forces fired crazily, trying to drive these fighters away. But their firing often had no results at all, except for attracting more violent attacks from the German army. There were very few German fighter planes destroyed by the anti-aircraft firepower of the British and French forces.

Under the joint attack of the German artillery and air force, the artillery of the British and French allied forces was suppressed. The casualties they caused to the German infantry who were crossing the river were also very limited.

Without the interference of artillery from the British and French allied forces, the German infantry crossed the river faster.

"Da da da!"

A wooden boat rushed to a place not far from the south bank of the Marne River, but the oncoming bullets smashed the entire wooden boat into a sieve, and the German soldiers in the small wooden boat suffered heavy casualties.

"Manstein, the defense of wooden boats is too bad. The next time there is a similar battle, wrap a layer of iron on the wooden boat. It doesn't matter if it can withstand the enemy's shelling, as long as it can withstand machine gun fire, then That's good too." Seeing that the casualties of his own soldiers began to soar, Qin Tian couldn't help but sighed.

"Yes, Your Highness." Major General Manstein nodded. Although doing it according to Qin Tian's request would result in an increase in cost and man-hours. But if it can reduce the casualties of the troops, these are all worth it.

The fierce battle continued, and the casualties on both sides continued to rise. However, judging from the situation on the battlefield, the British and French coalition forces still suffered the greater casualties. When the firepower is completely at a disadvantage and the fortifications are almost destroyed, it is naturally difficult for them to resist the German attack.

A small German boat rushed to the south bank of the Marne River. The soldiers just jumped off the boat when they were shot by the French army. A Hotchkiss heavy machine gun fired at them frantically. The German soldiers who jumped from the small boat were beaten into a sieve and fell on the river beach.

But the next moment, the heavy machine gun of the French army was destroyed.

An F2 fighter jet skimmed the trenches of the British and French allied forces, and the aviation machine guns fired wildly. Immediately, the coalition

soldiers in the trench were beaten into sieves, and many fell to the ground after being shot.

Although, the British and French allied forces tried their best to prevent the German army from crossing the Marne River. However, the narrow Marne River is not a natural barrier after all. More and more small boats rushed to the south bank of the Marne River. The German soldiers jumped off the boat, lying on the river beach, and fired at the British and French allied forces.

However, because they are at a disadvantage in terms of strength, they are often suppressed.

"Whizzing!"

Bullets fly overhead, if you don't pay attention, you may be blown in the head. This is undoubtedly a great test for human will.

Many German soldiers could only hold their heads, lying on the ground, praying not to be hit.

"Grenade, destroy the French machine gun." An officer ordered.

A grenadier was set up immediately, but before it could fire, it was vented by the French machine gun, and a shuttle of bullets came over, immediately smashing the grenadier into a sieve.

But then, the substitute grenadier opened fire immediately, and a grenade accurately hit the machine gun, destroying it.

More and more small boats rushed to the south of the Marne River. With the support of their own fierce firepower, the German soldiers began to gain a firm foothold on the south bank of the Marne River, and even began to use their weapons to shoot at the German army.

Both sides come and go, fighting with great joy.

However, the brutality of this battle has not changed at all. The two sides were on the south bank of the Marne River, and blood flowed like a river. Whether it is the German army or the British and French allied forces, they have paid great casualties.

Chapter 496: pontoon

"Da da da!" A general-purpose German machine gun was firing at the French position. The dense bullets made the French soldiers defending this line of defense completely unable to raise their heads and could only shrink in the trenches.

After several opportunities, several small boats successfully rushed to the river beach on the south bank of the Marne River, and almost a platoon of soldiers successfully crossed the river. They lay on the river beach, further suppressing the French army's position, and creating conditions for the subsequent troops to cross the river.

As more and more German soldiers crossed the Marne River, they gradually established a solid beachhead on the south bank of the Marne River. And tentatively launched an attack on the French army's position, trying to tear through the French army's defense line.

The French army's line of defense is too close to the Marne River. If they can't break through their first line of defense, it is almost impossible for the engineers to erect a pontoon bridge. They will suffer heavy casualties under the firepower of the French army.

Therefore, the German army needs to break through another line of defense of the French army and establish a solid position before the engineers can be dispatched.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

On the German positions, mortars and grenades of various calibers were firing to provide fire support for the German soldiers who had successfully crossed the river. The shells fell on the French army's position like raindrops, causing heavy losses to the French army stationed on this line of defense.

"Your Highness, the soldiers fought very hard, and the casualties were relatively heavy. However, it was within our expectations. I believe that the casualties of the French will definitely not be much smaller than ours. When we cross the river, more and more troops The more they have, the more they will be able to attack the defense lines of the British and French allied forces and take their defense lines in one fell swoop." Major General Manstein said.

Qin Tian nodded: "Well, let the engineers get ready. Once we take down the first line of defense of the British and French allied forces, we will immediately start building the pontoon bridge."

Using small boats to transport soldiers was too slow after all, and at the same time, under the firepower of the French, the losses were also great. If weapons can be built, soldiers and various combat materials can directly cross the river. In that case, the efficiency will be greatly improved. After spending a little more time, let the engineers build a pontoon bridge that can pass tanks, and they can directly use armored troops to assault the defense lines of the British and French allied forces. Qin Tian believed that the British and French allied forces would absolutely be unable to withstand their attack.

"Yes, Your Highness." Major General Manstein replied.

In this battle, crossing the Marne River is the most critical battle. As long as the Marne River is hit, the problem is easily solved. The armored forces will rampage on the French land and completely beat the British and French allied forces to the ground.

The battle continued, and the German army and the British and French allied forces fought desperately on the south bank of the Marne River. Although the British and French allied forces have a great advantage in strength. However, they suffered heavy losses under the attack of the German army. Even the line of defense they held on to became precarious.

Marshal Xia Fei, who was sitting in the rear, was also very nervous after learning of the predicament at the front.

The battle has only started for half a day, are they about to lose the first line of defense? At this speed, the line of defense they built on the south bank of the Marne River would not last for a few days in total! Once the Marne River defense line fell, the German army could not be stopped in the future. At that time, the German army will probably fight all the way to Paris. In that case, France will be finished.

"Marshal, the first-line positions of the several armies on the front line have suffered heavy losses. They have already started to use the reserves. But even so, it is not known how long they can last." A French general reported to Marshal Joffre.

"Tell the frontline departments that the battle has just begun. The two army groups serving as reserves cannot be used. They must find their own way to resist the German attack." Marshal Xiafei said.

Although, he prepared two group armies and a reserve force of more than 400,000 people for the coalition forces on the front line. However, it is not possible to invest a large number of reserves at the beginning of the battle, right? In that case, how can this battle continue?

"Yes, Your Excellency Marshal." The general nodded, and immediately went to convey the order.

"Oh!" After the general left, Marshal Xiafei couldn't help but sighed.

"Those Germans, after half a year of rest, have their strength become so strong? The four front-line armies, with more than 800,000 people, couldn't hold on shortly after the battle started. If this is the case, how can it be possible? ?" Marshal Xia Fei became even more worried about the upcoming battle situation.

Although, compared with half a year ago, the British and French allied forces are stronger. But obviously, the progress of the German army is greater than theirs. In this case, it would be even more impossible for the British and French allied forces to resist the German attack, or to defeat the German army.

French Second Army Command, Admiral Decasy Terno is in a state of desperation. The fierce attack of the German army caused great losses to the 2nd Army. The front line of defense is even more precarious. On the more than 20-kilometer defense line in charge of the Second Army, the infantry army he deployed had suffered more than half of its casualties. If the deployment dispatched another infantry army to replace it in time, the line of defense would have been breached long ago.

"General, a telegram from the headquarters." A staff officer reported to Admiral Decasy Turno.

Admiral Decasy Terno took the telegram and looked at it, and his face immediately became even uglier.

"Damn it, let us figure out a way for ourselves. Are we going to lose all of my 2nd Army here? Then, how will this battle go on?" Admiral Decasy Terno said dissatisfied. I am very dissatisfied with this order of Marshal Xia Fei.

However, he has no choice but to issue stricter orders to the frontline troops, asking them to stick to their positions.

The French have never been people who will fight to the end. In the case of heavy losses, the fighting will of many French soldiers is already very fragile.

On the afternoon of April 1, the German 2nd Army took the lead in breaking through the first line of defense of the French 2nd Army. The French army, which suffered heavy casualties, retreated to the second line of defense.

The 2nd Army Corps of the German Army launched an attack on the second line of defense of the French Army while dispatching engineers to start building pontoon bridges.

By the evening of April 1st, the first line of defense of the British and French coalition forces on the south bank of the Marne River had been broken by the Germans one after another. The German army has established a solid position on the south bank of the Marne River. The engineers and soldiers of each legion began to move and began to build pontoon bridges. Be prepared for the subsequent rapid crossing of the main force and combat supplies.

For engineers, it is very easy to build a pontoon bridge on a river tens of meters wide, and it can be completed in at most two hours.

Chapter 497: Counterattack

"Your Highness, the pontoon bridge of the 2nd Legion has already started to be built. In an hour, the first pontoon bridge will be built successfully. By then, our main force will be able to cross the Marne River and participate in the attack on the British and French coalition forces. " General Bilo, commander of the 2nd Corps, looked excited.

Originally, they expected that this time the Battle of the Marne would cause heavy losses to the troops again. But unexpectedly, the Marne River defense line of the British and French allied forces did not cause them much trouble. Under the onslaught of the German army, it can now be regarded as

a successful crossing of the river. Next, it is only necessary to build a pontoon bridge and send more troops to the south bank of the Marne River, and then the British and French allied forces can be defeated according to the predetermined plan.

"Your Highness, the pontoon bridge of the 3rd Army has also begun to be built. Soon, our main force will be able to cross the river." Major General Howson, the commander of the 3rd Army, said.

Immediately, the Duke of Württemberg, commander of the 4th Army, also stated that at most at night, their main force could also cross the river.

Qin Tian is also very happy. Judging from the current situation, the development of the war situation is very beneficial to the German army. Although, the official attack has only just begun the first day. However, the German army has achieved great results in today's offensive. The Marne River defense line painstakingly built by the British and French allied forces seemed vulnerable to the German attack.

Of course, all of this is based on the fact that the German army used strong fire support when they attacked. Not only assembled a large number of heavy artillery, but also received the support of a large number of aircraft. Directly in terms of firepower, the British and French allied forces were severely damaged, and their fortifications were blown to pieces. And relying on strong firepower to support the infantry to cross the river, thus breaking through the first line of defense of the British and French allied forces.

Without the half-year preparations of the German army, which greatly strengthened the firepower of the troops, none of this would have been possible. In addition, the consumption of logistics supplies is also an astronomical figure.

Although the German army paid a high price for this, in Qin Tian's view, it was all worth it. As long as the British and French allied forces can be defeated and the war won, then all efforts will be rewarded.

"Well, generals. Next, we need to prevent the counterattack of the British and French allied forces. They will not be willing to let us break through the defense line like this. Once our main force crosses the Marne River, they will not be able to resist it at all." Qin Tian reminded road.

"Yes, Your Highness." All three legion commanders replied.

Floating bridges appeared on the Marne River with the efforts of German engineers. The German soldiers of the brigade passed the pontoon bridge smoothly and arrived at the south bank of the Marne River. They immediately invested in the attack on the defense line of the British and French allied forces, which made the British and French allied forces feel more pressure.

The situation on the battlefield has become more and more unfavorable to the British and French allied forces. Admiral Decasy Turnau, Commander of the 2nd French Army, Robert George Nevel, Commander of the 4th Army, General Charles Dazed, Commander of the 6th Army, 2nd Army of the British Expeditionary Force The commander, Admiral Roy, rushed to the headquarters to report the unfavorable situation on the front line to Marshal Joffre.

"Marshal, our first-line position has been lost. The second-line position has begun to be attacked by the Germans. Now, the Germans are crossing the river in a big way. Once they successfully cross the river, our pressure will be even greater. At that time, our The defense line is very likely to be completely broken by the Germans." Admiral Roy said with a dark face.

Marshal Xiafei's complexion is also very ugly. The four armies on the front line, more than 800,000 people, can't even last a day? If so, how can this battle go on?

"Gentlemen, this is only the first day of the German offensive. Could it be that we can't resist it? If that's the case, we should simply withdraw from the Marne River defense line." Marshal Joffre said angrily.

"Your Excellency Marshal, although the Germans only started their offensive today, their firepower preparations started yesterday. Under the powerful German artillery fire and aircraft bombing, our defense line has been destroyed. The soldiers had to fight fiercely with the Germans within the dilapidated defense line, and it was the result of their desperation to be able to persist until this point." Admiral Roy was a little dissatisfied. He obviously couldn't accept Marshal Xia Fei's accusation.

Several other French generals were also somewhat dissatisfied, but they were not easy to argue with their immediate superiors. Admiral Roy is the army commander of the British Expeditionary Force, so there is no need to worry about this.

"Yes! Marshal. When our soldiers were fighting, the German planes were still hovering over their heads. I don't know how many soldiers were killed or killed by the German planes. Under such circumstances, it is naturally difficult for us to resist the German attack." Admiral Decasy Turno also said.

"Okay, what do you want to do? Evacuate the Marne River defense line? The Marne River defense line is already our best line of defense. If you abandon this place, then from here to Paris, there will be no danger to defend." Xia Xia Marshal Fei said.

"Marshal, of course we will not ask to evacuate the Marne. What is the difference between that and surrendering to the Germans? Given the fierce

German offensive, we hope to get more reinforcements to launch a counterattack against the Germans and drive them off. Go to the river and rush back to the north bank of the Marne. Otherwise, we won't last long at all." Admiral Roy said.

"Is it necessary to put the 8th and 9th armies into battle now? Everyone should think about it. These two armies are the last reserves in our hands." Marshal Xia Fei's face was livid.

"Marshal, if the German attack can be repelled, then the 8th Army and the 9th Army can immediately withdraw to rest and continue to serve as the reserve team. If the German attack cannot be repelled, then it seems that it is necessary to keep a strong reserve force. It's useless." Admiral Roy said.

Marshal Xiafei thought about it, and finally accepted the suggestion. Indeed, the strength of the German army is so strong, if it can't even hold on to the front line of defense, it is meaningless to keep a strong reserve team.

After some discussions, the French army decided to invest in the reserves of the two armies tomorrow morning to launch an attack on the German army crossing the Marne River, driving the German army back to the north of the Marne River in one fell swoop. The four group armies on the front line will also invest in the main force in this counterattack, and fight the German army to the death!

Chapter 498: Desperate

On the night of April 1, the main forces of the German 2nd Army, 3rd Army and 4th Army had crossed the Marne River. On the hundreds of kilometers of river, German engineers successively built more than twenty pontoon bridges. The appearance of these pontoon bridges allowed the main force of the German army and various combat materials to be easily transported to the south bank of the Marne River.

At the same time, the troops crossing the river also seized the time to build a defensive position, and built a fortification on the dilapidated position of the French army that had been destroyed. Due to the limited time, the fortifications built by the German army can only be regarded as simple fortifications. But the various firepower points are still arranged in an orderly manner. Coupled with the powerful artillery support from the rear, if the British and French allied forces want to launch an attack, they will definitely be hit with blood.

In addition, if the British and French allied forces launched an offensive that night, it would undoubtedly pose a greater threat to the German army. After all, at that time, the German army was not firmly established and its combat power could not be fully utilized. But the British and French allied forces gave the German army one night, which enabled the German army to successfully gain a firm foothold on the south bank of the Marne River. At this time, the British and French allied forces launched an offensive, and the consequences can be imagined.

At the same time, the German engineers continued to be busy. Although, normal pontoons are more than enough. But they also need to build a pontoon bridge that can pass through tanks and trucks. In this way, the powerful German armored forces can cross the Marne River and further attack the British and French defense lines.

On the morning of April 2, most of the German soldiers who had worked hard all night were still resting. In the trenches on the front line, officers and soldiers were lying in disorder. Although the weather is still a bit cold now, the German officers and soldiers who were wearing blankets slept soundly because they were too tired.

It's just that at 7 o'clock in the morning, they were woken up by the officers.

"Everyone get up immediately and prepare to fight. The enemy is about to launch an attack!" The officers shouted loudly to wake up the soldiers.

The reconnaissance plane of the German air force discovered that the British and French allied forces were gathering in large numbers. Obviously, the British and French allied forces were not reconciled to the breakthrough of the defense line and wanted to regain the defense line. Qin Tian immediately ordered that all frontline departments be prepared to resist the counterattack of the British and French allied forces. As long as it succeeds this time, the German army will truly cross the Marne River. It will be impossible for the British and French allied forces to drive the Germans back to the north bank of the Marne. Therefore, Qin Tian and the generals of the German army attached great importance to this battle.

Although, after only two hours of sleep, many soldiers were not in good spirits. But they were quickly ready for battle. Some people even washed their faces with the cold water of the Marne River to cheer themselves up. Although there are many dead bodies in Marne Hanoi at this moment, no one cares about them at all.

The cooking soldiers sent breakfast to the troops on the front line, so that the soldiers could have a full stomach and have the strength to fight against the British and French coalition forces. Quartermasters were also distributing ammunition. It can be foreseen that the battle this time will be very fierce, so when the quartermaster distributed ammunition, he did not forget to provide sufficient ammunition to the frontline troops.

Before the offensive of the British and French allied forces began, the German army was already ready to fight.

On the positions of the British and French allied forces, the two new forces of the French Eighth Army and the Ninth Army also entered the battlefield. In addition to the troops drawn from the four front-line armies, for

this counterattack, Marshal Xiafei invested all his money in it. This undoubtedly shows his determination. At the same time, there is also a sense of desperateness.

The cannons are being pushed into the artillery positions. Although the artillery of the four armies on the front line of the British and French allied forces suffered heavy losses under the shelling and bombing of the German army, there are hundreds of remaining cannons in total. Including all the artillery of the French Eighth Army and Ninth Army, there are more than two thousand cannons in total. Although this scale cannot be compared with the German army, it is also not weak.

"General Foch, this time, we invested more than 600,000 people in a counterattack. Can we drive the Germans back to the north bank of the Marne?" Marshal Joffre was still a little uncertain about this battle. Although, he believes that with so many troops invested by the British and French allied forces, the Germans will absolutely not be able to resist. However, in this battle, the strength shown by the German army was so strong that he couldn't help feeling a little worried.

"Your Excellency, Marshal, I have to admit that the Germans are very powerful. They are stronger than they were half a year ago. It was absolutely impossible for the German army half a year ago to cross the Marne River in one day. At the same time, their losses are still very small. This is undoubtedly very unreasonable." Admiral Foch said.

Marshal Joffre nodded: "The Germans have become bigger and stronger in this war. I have a feeling that if we fail to defeat the Germans this time, maybe we will never have a chance to defeat them again."

General Foch also deeply agrees with this, Germany has already occupied an absolute advantage in this war. Among other things, the disastrous defeat of the Royal Navy alone was enough to give the Germans

an advantage in this war. It can be said that if the German army wins on land again, it will be over for Britain and France. On the contrary, if Britain and France can win, then they still have a chance, at least they can get a relatively decent peace.

This shows how much pressure the British and French allied forces have endured in this battle. This is probably why Marshal Joffre rushed to the front from Paris.

"Your Excellency the President and Your Excellency the Prime Minister both sent telegrams yesterday. They are also paying attention to the Battle of the Marne. Obviously, we are very dissatisfied with letting the Germans cross the Marne on the first day. Your Excellency the President and the Prime Minister both demand We must defeat the Germans in this battle. But what they don't know is that defeating the Germans is not just about talking. We will do our best in this battle. But can we defeat Germany? People, maybe only God knows." Marshal Joffre sighed.

Admiral Foch heard the words and didn't know what to say. Even he himself felt a deep powerlessness in this war. It is also hard for him to believe that after half a year, the Germans will become much stronger than before. Not only the strength of firepower, but also the tenacious will to fight. These are all unmatched by the British and French allied forces.

"No matter what, we will fight to the end. God bless the French Republic!" Admiral Foch said.

Chapter 499: Guild Wars

At eight o'clock in the morning on April 2, the counterattack of the British and French allied forces finally kicked off. In order to drive the German troops who crossed the Marne River back to the north of the Marne River, the British and French allied forces can be said to have invested their main force in the Marne River defense line. Not only did they mobilize new forces such as the

8th and 9th armies of the French army, but the four armies on the front line also mobilized the main force to launch an attack, in order to win this battle in one fell swoop.

"Order all ministries to launch an attack according to the predetermined plan. Warriors of the French Republic, God bless us, attack!" Marshal Joffre gave an order to counterattack in high spirits. Although, he is personally full of worries about this counterattack. However, in front of other people, he still looks full of confidence, as if only in this way can he infect others.

"Fire!"

The artillery commander of the British and French coalition forces gave the order to fire.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

More than two thousand 75mm field guns, 105mm howitzers, 83.8mm field guns and 114mm howitzers on the artillery positions of the British and French allied forces began to roar, and smashed shells one by one at the German army.

The positions of the German army on the south bank of the Marne River and the pontoon bridges erected on the surface of the Marne River became the focus of shelling by the British and French allied forces.

The German army's previous strong firepower preparations taught the British and French allied forces a good lesson. It can be said that the reason why the German army was able to easily cross the Marne River has a great relationship with its strong firepower preparations. Otherwise, the German army would not have crossed the Marne so easily, and at the same time, the casualties would definitely increase exponentially.

It is a pity that the British and French allied forces do not have strong air power and cannot replicate the powerful firepower of the German army. At the

same time, once their artillery positions are fired, they will inevitably be suppressed by German firepower.

It is precisely because of this that the artillerymen of the British and French coalition forces were ordered to fire as many shells as possible in the shortest possible time. Otherwise, once the German army suppressed them with firepower, they would have no way to continue firing.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Shells fell from the sky one after another and landed on the German positions. After the shell exploded, earth and rocks flew. The German soldiers huddled in the trenches, letting the mud or stones hit their helmets.

Because the time was so close, they simply didn't have time to dig the blast holes. Therefore, they could only hide in bunkers such as trenches and endure the fierce shelling of the British and French allied forces.

"Boom!"

A 105mm howitzer shell hits a trench. After the shell exploded, it not only collapsed the trench, but the shrapnel also set off a **** storm inside.

"Boom!"

A 114mm howitzer shell fell on the Marne River and hit a pontoon bridge. The wooden pontoon bridge couldn't withstand such a violent explosion at all, and was instantly blown up for a section.

The fierce shelling by the British and French allied forces not only caused the German troops on the front line to suffer huge casualties. At the same time, the pontoon bridges on the Marne River were destroyed one after another.

When Qin Tian saw this scene, his face turned livid.

"Damn, I didn't expect the French and the French to hide so many artillery. It seems that our firepower preparation yesterday was not sufficient! Order the artillery to immediately suppress the artillery of the British and French coalition forces. At the same time, let the air force immediately dispatch, Destroy their artillery." Qin Tian ordered.

"Yes, Your Highness." Major General Manstein immediately went to give the order.

"In addition, let the engineers get ready to repair the pontoon bridge immediately after the artillery of the British and French coalition forces is suppressed. In any case, the ammunition needs in front must be ensured." Qin Tian continued to order.

It can be foreseen that after the fierce shelling by the British and French allied forces, it was the infantry who launched a large-scale offensive. At that time, the consumption of ammunition on the front line will undoubtedly become very alarming. If the needs of the front line cannot be guaranteed, this will cause great casualties to the German army, and even cause them to be defeated in this battle.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

A few minutes later, the German artillery launched a counterattack. Those 150mm heavy howitzers and 105mm howitzers began to suppress the artillery of the British and French allied forces. As for the 75mm field gun, it is temporarily on standby. Their task is that once the British and French allied forces invest in infantry to launch an attack, they need to provide fire support for the front line, and use powerful artillery fire to kill and injure the vital forces of the British and French allied forces.

The German air force also arrived at the battlefield ten minutes later. Thousands of fighter jets and bombers rushed towards the artillery positions of the British and French allied forces.

"Da da da!"

The aviation machine guns of the fighter jets fired, killing the artillerymen. The bombers dropped their bombs directly, leveling the artillery positions.

Under the heavy artillery suppression and bombing of the German army, the artillery losses of the British and French allied forces began to soar. Artillery positions one after another were destroyed by the Germans.

The pressure on the front-line German troops also began to decrease.

"Your Excellency, Marshal, the Germans counterattacked very violently. They dispatched a large number of fighter planes to deal with us. Our artillery suffered heavy casualties." An artillery general reported to Marshal Joffre.

Marshal Xiafei looked at the German fighter planes circling in the sky, his eyes were full of hatred. Indeed, in this battle, the German aircraft caused great losses to the British and French allied forces. If it weren't for these fighters, they might not be in such a mess.

"Order the artillery to hold on. Twenty minutes later, the infantry will attack." Marshal Xiafei ordered.

"Yes, Marshal!"

Although it only lasted 20 minutes, it was a complete torment for the artillery of the British and French allied forces. They can only pray to God, and pray that the German shells or bombs will not fall on their heads. Otherwise, there is only a dead end.

Twenty minutes passed quickly. It took only an hour from when they fired their guns to when they withdrew from their positions. However, the British

and French allied forces lost more than half of their artillery. There are no more than a thousand cannons of various calibers remaining. The number seems to be quite a lot, but if it is scattered over a defense line of hundreds of kilometers, it is undoubtedly nothing at all.

"Come on!"

After the bombardment by the British and French allied forces ended, the infantry who had already been prepared jumped out of their positions and attacked the German defense line hundreds of meters away.

Countless soldiers of the British and French allied forces ran forward desperately, holding rifles and shouting slogans. The order they received was to rush into the German defense line in the shortest possible time. Otherwise, what awaits them is the slaughter of the German army's intensive firepower.

Chapter 500: Mountain of corpses and sea of blood

"Get into position and prepare to fight!" The officers on the German front line shouted loudly.

Countless British and French allied forces began to attack, which undoubtedly brought great pressure to the German troops on the front line. However, they were not intimidated by it. Yesterday, facing the powerful firepower of the British and French allied forces, they were able to launch an offensive and defeated the British and French allied forces in one fell swoop. Not to mention now, they are defending, and the British and French allied forces are attacking.

"Machine gunners are ready, put them closer before firing. Let the British and French allied forces have a good taste of our powerful firepower!"

A series of general-purpose machine guns and squad machine guns have been erected on the trenches. The long ammunition chain extends all the way into the ammunition box.

"Fire!"

On the artillery position behind the German army, the muzzles of the 75mm field guns have been raised. With the commander's order, the 75mm field guns started shelling.

The dense shells roared and smashed at the soldiers of the British and French coalition forces who were attacking, like raindrops falling from the sky.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Intensive explosions sounded in the queue of the British and French coalition forces, and shrapnel shot out, easily harvesting the lives of the soldiers of the British and French coalition forces. The air wave from the explosion of the shell even swept many people directly into the sky. At this moment, the human body appears so fragile.

The German army used more than two thousand 75mm field guns to open fire on the British and French allied forces. The powerful shelling directly caused the attacking British and French allied forces to pay a great price. I don't know how many soldiers of the British and French allied forces fell on the way to attack and were torn to pieces.

However, the British and French allied forces used a large number of troops to launch an offensive, which enabled them to hold on even in the face of heavy German shelling. But their morale inevitably began to drain.

"Marshal, the German artillery fire was too fierce, and the attacking troops suffered a lot of losses." Admiral Foch said.

Marshal Xiafei nodded: "If we can win this battle, our army must also carry out reforms. Strengthen the artillery and machine gun firepower of the troops. The strength of the troops is no longer the only factor that determines the outcome of the battlefield. ."

General Foch nodded, but it is undoubtedly very, very difficult for them to defeat the German army and win this time. Perhaps, what awaits them is another failure!

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The mortars and grenades on the German frontline also started firing, and more dense shells and grenades fell into the queue of the British and French allied forces, further increasing their casualties.

Although, the power of mortars and grenades is not great. But dealing with ordinary soldiers, there is still no problem. The explosion of a shell can often take the lives of several soldiers.

"Damn it, how many artillery pieces did the Germans have? Do they want to wipe us all out with these bombardments?" A French officer cursed.

However, in the face of the fierce German shelling, they still had no choice but to bite the bullet and continue to attack.

"Da da da!"

The machine guns on the German positions also began to fire, and the intensive firepower immediately dealt a greater blow to the attacking British and French allied forces. The German troops are equipped with machine guns with significantly higher firepower than the British and French allied forces. At the same time, the rate of fire of the machine gun is also faster. The crossfire formed by these machine guns directly blocked the attack direction of the British and French allied forces.

Countless soldiers of the British and French coalition forces were directly blocked there as if they had hit an invisible wall, and their heads were broken. A large number of soldiers, hit by machine gun bullets, fell to the ground screaming. Their corpses were piled on the ground layer upon layer, and blood flowed from these corpses, soaking the soil.

"Da da da!"

A machine gunner of the German army numbly pulled the trigger. A belt with 250 rounds of bullets was shot out in less than half a minute. The deputy shooter immediately replaced the ammunition belt so that the machine gun could continue shooting. The whole process was smooth and smooth, and it only took a few seconds. This allowed the German machine guns to form almost uninterrupted powerful firepower. And this naturally caused great casualties to the British and French allied forces.

"Mortar? What about the 10,000-square-meter mortar? Kill the German heavy machine guns, otherwise, we will be suppressed here forever." A British officer shouted loudly.

But the next second, a mortar shell exploded beside him, tearing the British officer to pieces.

"God! What should we do if the officer is dead?" A group of British soldiers suddenly didn't know what to do. If they could, they would definitely choose to run away immediately, escaping from this battlefield like Shura's hell.

However, retreating without an order is tantamount to desertion. What awaits them is a trial by a military court, and they may even lose their lives. This allowed these British soldiers to bite the bullet and continue to attack behind other troops.

"Da da da!"

A general-purpose machine gun and a squad machine gun of the German army formed a crossfire. The British and French soldiers who attacked here have already paid an extremely heavy price.

But they still have nothing to do with it.

A few minutes later, a mortar moved up, and the gunner was ready to fire after aiming at the target.

But the German machine gunners also seemed to be aware of the threat, and immediately turned their guns and fired at the enemy. The gunners of the British and French allied forces were sieved before even the shells could be put into the mortar.

Another British-French soldier tried to pick up the shell and put it into the barrel.

"Snapped!"

A clear gunshot sounded, and the soldier's neck had been knocked off, and blood was oozing out.

After changing several people in a row, the coalition mortars successfully fired.

Perhaps because of their better luck, the first shot of this mortar destroyed a general-purpose machine gun of the German army, not only blowing the machine gun into parts. At the same time, the machine gunner was also killed.

"Good job! Attack, attack immediately, and break through the German defense line." A British officer ordered loudly.

But in less than a minute, another machine gun started firing. The dense bullets shot over, directly causing the soldiers of the British and French coalition forces to fall to the ground like cutting wheat. The rest of the coalition soldiers also had to lie on the ground, not daring to raise their heads. The bullets flew over their heads with a 'whoosh, whoosh', making people's scalp numb, for fear of being hit by bullets.

Although the British and French allied forces organized a powerful offensive, they were still smashed in front of the solid German defense line.