

Jagged 571

Chapter 571: Ascension to the throne and proclaiming the emperor

A vanguard of the German 9th Army arrived in Stuttgart first. Originally, they were ordered to protect those important factories. However, it was only after arriving in Stuttgart that the angry people had surrounded the palace of Württemberg, and most members of the guard had surrendered. Only a few people were entrenched in the kingdom, trying to resist.

The head of the regiment immediately changed the target of the battle and led the troops to the palace. When a large number of elite German troops arrived and surrounded the palace, this immediately made the two brothers Fortunatus and Gregor in the palace very nervous. Those guard soldiers also turned pale. Obviously, they all know that the consequences of confronting the elite army will inevitably be very miserable.

"Order the surrender in the palace, otherwise, we will launch an attack!" The regiment leader ordered.

Although, the royal palace is solemn. However, during this rebellion, fighting broke out even in the palace of Berlin, let alone the palace of the Kingdom of Württemberg in front of them.

When the cannons were erected and aimed at the palace, the artillerymen were ready to fire. Those guys who were stubbornly resisting in the palace couldn't hold on loyally anymore. Immediately they laid down their weapons, opened the palace gates, and surrendered to the Germans. Brothers Fortunatus and Gregor were also arrested. This time, the rebellion of the Kingdom of Württemberg came to an end. The entire rebellion had almost no substantial adverse effects on Germany. It was like a farce, which ended just after it started.

Of course, this rebellion also had an extremely profound impact on Germany. Taking advantage of this opportunity, Germany began to take back the power of local governments and further strengthened centralization. To ensure that the rule of the entire German Empire can be more effectively established.

As for the two brothers Fortunatus and Gregor, they naturally did not end well. They were tried by a special court, and in the end, the two were sentenced to hang for the crime of endangering national security and sabotage of war, following in the footsteps of their father. The Württemberg royal family, after being hit hard by this, was even more devastated. When faced with the central government's request to revoke the Kingdom of Württemberg and change it to the state of Württemberg, it was even more powerless to resist.

The rebellion in the Kingdom of Württemberg was easily suppressed, which allowed the internal problems of the German Empire to be temporarily resolved. Although, there are more or less some remaining problems, but generally speaking, it will not have any impact on the empire. Under such circumstances, Qin Tian's enthronement ceremony was naturally on the agenda.

After the death of William II, Qin Tian, as the Crown Prince of the German Empire, was naturally the only heir to the German Empire's throne. If it wasn't for this rebellion that led to the death of William II, Qin Tian probably would have to ascend the throne for another 20 years if he wanted to inherit the

throne. Therefore, to a certain extent, Qin Tian should also thank Crown Prince William for allowing him to become Emperor of the Empire more than twenty years earlier.

Of course, Crown Prince William has long been hanged. Even if I want to express my gratitude, I can't find someone to thank.

"Your Highness, the cabinet has discussed it. It is necessary to slow down temporarily when the kingdom of the Duke of Württemberg is changed to a state. It is best to wait until the empire wins this war. With the opportunity of a big victory, no one can oppose us. Yes. At that time, it will naturally be able to get twice the result with half the effort." Prime Minister Bilo suggested.

Qin Tian nodded. If Germany won the war, it would indeed save a lot of trouble. It is also conducive to ensuring the social stability of the empire. Although the current empire has already won a key victory in the war. But there is undoubtedly still a long way to go before the final victory. France has not yet surrendered, the British are even more persistent, and Italy is still lingering. Therefore, next, Germany needs to work hard to defeat all these enemies. Only in this way can Germany win the war without any variables.

"Well, let's put it after the war." Qin Tian said.

"Your Highness, the next most important thing is your enthronement ceremony. The empire cannot be without an emperor for a long time. You are the crown prince of the empire, so you are naturally the sole legal heir to the imperial throne. We all believe that the enthronement ceremony of your highness, it needs to be held as soon as possible to stabilize people's hearts," Prime Minister Bilo said.

"Well, I have no objection. You can hold it whenever you want. However, I only have one request, and that is to keep everything simple." Qin Tian said. He didn't want to make it too troublesome, just like when William I was crowned emperor of the German Empire, it was very troublesome. Now is the war period, Qin Tian doesn't want to waste too much time on these aspects.

"Yes, Your Highness. The enthronement ceremony of His Highness will be held in three days!" Prime Minister Bilo said.

Qin Tian nodded in agreement.

On the morning of May 6, 1015, in the main hall of the Berlin Imperial Palace. The military and political officials of the empire, princes and nobles, representatives of big capitalists, big factory owners and big landlords, representatives of the scientific and cultural circles, and other celebrities all gathered together to participate in Qin Tian's enthronement ceremony.

The archbishop of the German diocese presided over the ceremony. Originally, the Pope intended to preside over the enthronement ceremony himself. After all, the possibility of Germany winning the war is very high, which makes theocracy have to bow to secular power. But it is a pity that the Pope is surrounded by the Kingdom of Italy, and the Kingdom of Italy is a country that is hostile to the Empire. This makes it impossible for the Pope to arrive in Berlin to attend Qin Tian's enthronement ceremony in person. God's blessing.

The archbishop told the people attending the enthronement ceremony that Qin Tian is a monarch blessed by God. His succession as the emperor of the German Empire will be expected by all, and God will allow it.

"Under the witness of God, Crown Prince Oscar, from now on, becomes the emperor of the German Empire!" The archbishop finally announced.

"Long live! Long live His Majesty the Emperor!" Everyone who participated in the enthronement ceremony shouted loudly. They were sincerely happy that Qin Tian could become the emperor of the empire.

When the bishop picked up the crown and was about to put it on for Qin Tian, Qin Tian took the crown and put it on himself, which made the archbishop feel a little embarrassed. But no one noticed it.

Afterwards, Qin Tian picked up a smaller crown and put it on Princess Gundlind, which represented that Gundlind would officially become the queen of the German Empire.

After Qin Tian succeeded to the throne, he became His Majesty Emperor William III, or His Majesty Oscar the Great!

Chapter 572: missed opportunity

7-9 minutes

Qin Tian succeeded to the throne and became Emperor William III. This was undoubtedly a sensational event for the whole world. After all, Germany is now faintly the number one power in the world. Their army was invincible on the battlefield, and the army of the Allied Powers was retreating steadily, in a panic. Once Germany wins this world war, they will be able to replace Britain and become the world hegemon.

Moreover, after Germany became the world hegemon, their strength is stronger than that of the former hegemony, the British Empire. When the British Empire dominated the world, its navy was of course the number one in the world. However, the Army is not flattered. But the German Empire is different. They will have the world's largest army, the world's largest navy, and the world's largest air force. Although the German Air Force has not yet been formed, it can only be regarded as an air force. But after the war, the formation of the Air Force will be inevitable. This would give Germany the strongest armed force in the world. Compared with Germany, other countries can only follow behind and catch up hard.

In terms of industrial strength, of course the United States is number one in the world. However, once Germany integrates the industrial strength of the entire Europe, it is just around the corner to surpass the United States. What's more, in terms of technological strength, Germany is not a star ahead of the United States. If the United States wants to compete with Germany for world hegemony, it will be very, very difficult.

It can be said that Germany dominates the world, and no one can stop it unless God shows up.

At Qin Tian's enthronement ceremony, the envoys of other countries stationed in Germany sent their blessings. Of course, most of their blessings are probably not sincere. No country is willing to see the rise of a superpower like Germany. This will seriously threaten their interests and suppress their living space.

However, when there was no other way, I had no choice but to send blessings hypocritically.

If Qin Tian's enthronement ceremony was not too hasty, I am afraid that more representatives from various countries will come to participate in the enthronement ceremony. And, the level is also higher. But because the situation is urgent now, and Qin Tian doesn't pay much attention to those empty etiquettes, that's why this enthronement ceremony is a bit hasty. But even so, no country can be underestimated. After all, the strength of the German Empire was achieved by their powerful army. Instead of relying on these so-called virtual etiquette. Only a strong army is the guarantee of everything.

The American Republic on the other side of the ocean is full of helplessness for the rise of the German Empire. Although, among the current world powers, the United States cannot be ranked at the top. However, their ambitions are not small. Originally, they wanted to take advantage of this world war to achieve leapfrog development. So that after the old European continent was smashed, they took the opportunity to rise and become the new hegemon of the world.

But Germany's performance in this world war surprised them. Germany defeated the opponent so quickly that they had no chance to intervene in this war. The great strength displayed by the German army also made them a little timid, afraid to participate in it, for fear that they would also be defeated. There is no way to do that. Who let the United States have a strong industrial strength, but no military strength to match it?

White House, President Woodrow Wilson and Secretary of State Brian are talking. The content of their conversation was, of course, the enthronement of the new emperor of the German Empire.

"Your Excellency, Secretary of State, why do I have the feeling that I am already old? It is hard to imagine that a young man who is not yet 27 years old will become the emperor of the most powerful country in the world. Moreover, it is still the kind of person who monopolizes power Emperor," exclaimed President Woodrow Wilson.

Indeed, after Qin Tian became the German emperor, he was too young. This undoubtedly looks too young in a wave of national leaders who are middle-aged or even elderly.

"Your Excellency, although the Kaiser is young, his behavior style is not immature at all! Thinking about it now, his development in the past few years can be called a legend." Secretary of State Bryan sighed.

President Woodrow Wilson nodded: "Indeed! His Majesty William III, it's not easy!"

As Qin Tian's performance became more and more dazzling, those things he did were also dug out, which naturally shocked the whole world. Especially those young people, they regard Qin Tian as the object of their worship. After all, it is undoubtedly commendable to be able to make such a career at such a young age.

When Qin Tian was young, his performance was not astonishing. However, before going to the Naval Academy to study, it seemed that he had suddenly opened up. Not only started a business and made a lot of profits, but also used these profits to help Germany develop its military strength, making the German navy quickly surpass the United Kingdom in just a few years and become the most powerful navy in the world. The strength of the German Army has also made great progress. This enabled the

German army to quickly achieve major victories at sea and on the Eastern Front during the war, establishing the victory.

As Qin Tian personally commanded the troops to defeat the British and French allied forces on the Western Front, it further established Germany's victory. It is almost impossible for the Allies to reverse the situation. Even at this time, the United States joined the war, but it will not help. After all, they have used all their strength to support Britain and France. Even the capital ships in active service were all sold to the United Kingdom. This kind of support is not unprecedented, at least it is unprecedented.

If the navy of the Allied Powers can win the final battle at sea, there may be a chance. If it fails this time, then everything is over. However, the U.S. government still does not have much confidence in the Allies. Because their enemies are too powerful.

"Originally, the outbreak of rebellion in Germany this time was a great opportunity for the Allied Powers to turn defeat into victory. But unfortunately, they failed to seize this opportunity. In other words, His Majesty William III's luck was so good that others had not yet reacted. By then, the rebellion had already been suppressed. This made it impossible for other countries to intervene." President Woodrow Wilson said with emotion.

"Yes, Your Excellency. After suppressing the internal rebellion and winning the external war, no one can stop the rise of the German Empire. They will dominate the world for a long time to come. Other countries, it is simply impossible to compete with them." Secretary of State Bryan said.

President Woodrow Wilson nodded. He knew what Secretary of State Brian meant. Among those countries, the Republic of America was also included. From now on, their national policy needs to undergo some changes.

Chapter 573: last-ditch

7-9 minutes

UK, London, Downing Street, Prime Minister's Office, Prime Minister Asquith's office.

At this moment, Prime Minister Asquith is still sitting on the throne of Prime Minister. However, compared with before, the current Prime Minister Asquith looks much older. He originally wanted to resign early and hand over this mess to others. But others are not fools, at such a critical juncture, naturally no one wants to replace him.

Of course, the Prime Minister of the British Empire is a very powerful position. When the British Empire dominated the world, it was hailed as the most powerful person in the world. But now, the British Empire has become shaky, and the position of Prime Minister has become a hot potato. Under such circumstances, naturally no one wants to take over the position of prime minister.

So, there is no way, Prime Minister Asquith had to continue to serve as the Prime Minister of the British Empire. until the defeat of the British Empire. In this case, it can be regarded as a beginning and an end.

In this cabinet meeting, there was only one main topic of discussion. That is how the British Empire will fight back in view of the current situation. How can we reverse the current predicament and allow the British Empire to regain its advantage in one fell swoop, and even turn defeat into victory.

Of course, it seems that this possibility is very small. However, this does not prevent the leaders of the British Empire from working in this direction. Among them, the one with the most firm belief in counterattack is undoubtedly the Secretary of the Navy Churchill.

When the Royal Navy suffered a disastrous defeat, Churchill was not discouraged, but went to the United States and made an incredible request for the purchase of ships. Other members of the original British cabinet thought this was too whimsical. However, I didn't expect Churchill to actually accomplish this. Although, the price paid is a bit high. But overall, this is of great benefit to the British Empire. With the fleet, this means that they once again have a chance to turn defeat into victory.

Churchill stayed in the United States, waiting for the British warship to secretly send a large number of Royal Navy officers and soldiers to the United States, and then started training before returning home secretly. He was also lucky. He traveled between the United Kingdom and the United States at high speed on a destroyer, and he was not bumped into by the German Navy's breaking fleet. If he is caught, all his ambitions will sink to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean with him.

Of course, if that is the case, perhaps the British Empire will pay less losses in this war. After all, Churchill, who was a representative of the war faction, was gone. Then, I am afraid that the war will not continue.

If Britain can accept the reality of failure, pay a huge price, and end the war, then the war will naturally not continue. In that case, not so many people would die.

It's a pity that there are no such ifs. Churchill is still jumping, so the war has to go on.

"Your Excellency Prime Minister, we have sent enough naval officers and soldiers to the United States, and various trainings have already begun. It is expected that the officers and soldiers will be able to master the warships of the US Navy soon. Lieutenant General Martin is responsible for the training of that fleet. , and the task of returning home. According to the combat plan drawn up by the Admiralty, we will be able to complete the preparations in at most half a month!" Churchill looked excited.

Purchased 12 battleships from the United States, which restored the strength of the British Royal Navy at once. Although it can't be compared with the period of complete victory, at least it is much stronger than the period of disastrous defeat. If the main fleet of the French Navy and the main fleet of the Royal Italian Navy are added, they have the opportunity to compete with the German Navy. If you are lucky, it is not impossible to defeat the German navy. It is precisely because of this belief that Churchill is full of energy.

Prime Minister Asquith nodded: "Very good, well done, Churchill. If the Royal Navy can defeat the Germans in one fell swoop in future naval battles, you will be our biggest contributor."

"Your Excellency, for the British Empire, I will fight to the end!" Churchill said.

"Everyone, the British Empire is in danger. Our enemy is very powerful. However, I believe that the British Empire will definitely have a chance to turn defeat into victory. As long as we persevere, God will

bless the British Empire and we will definitely be able to defeat it." Germans," said Prime Minister Asquith confidently.

"Yes, Your Excellency the Prime Minister." A group of cabinet ministers said one after another. However, it is hard to say whether they are also so optimistic in their hearts.

"Your Excellency, the main fleet of the French Navy and the Kingdom of Italy have also secretly arrived in the UK. They are conducting joint training with our fleet. When our fleet returns from the United States, we can conduct the final battle with the Germans. It's a decisive battle. If we can win this time, the situation of the battle will be rewritten accordingly. If we fail, then the British Empire may have to perish." Churchill said.

The cabinet ministers present couldn't help but tremble in their hearts. Although, no one wants to see that day come. However, everyone knows that such a situation is entirely possible. And, judging from the current situation, the possibility is not small. It's a pity that they have nothing to do about it, they can only bear it passively.

"Oh, it would be great if the scale of the civil strife in Germany could be further expanded this time!" Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Gray sighed.

"Yes! It's a pity that the Crown Prince of Germany, no, now it should be said that it is Emperor William III, who suppressed the rebellion with lightning speed, and now even uprooted the royal family of Württemberg. Personal prestige In Germany, it can be said to have reached its peak. The whole country is under his control. His power is even greater than when William II was in power. I have to admit that under the rule of William III , the German Empire may become even stronger," Churchill said.

This topic is undoubtedly relatively heavy for the British. In comparison, the stronger Germany is, the less likely they are to turn defeat into victory. This is undoubtedly of no benefit to the British Empire.

"Everyone, may God bless the British Empire! If we can defeat the Germans in one fell swoop in the next decisive battle, then we still have hope." Prime Minister Asquith said.

"May God bless the British Empire!" The other cabinet ministers also prayed devoutly to God, praying that God could save their country.

Chapter 574: Le Havre

7-9 minutes

Le Havre, located at the mouth of the Seine River. Since ancient times, it has been an important shipbuilding base and naval base in France. When France and Britain competed for maritime supremacy, the main force of the French navy gathered here.

It's a pity that with the failure of France and Spain in the decisive sea battle against Britain, France completely lost its ambition to compete with Britain for maritime supremacy. After entering the 20th century, the French navy can be regarded as one of the few world maritime powers. But compared with before, there is already a huge gap. Even the main force of the French navy had to withdraw from the

Atlantic coast and go to the small pond in the Mediterranean Sea to dominate. They simply didn't have the courage to fight for maritime supremacy.

This also made Le Havre, the naval base, deserted.

It's just that now Le Havre has become lively again. Because almost all the defeated soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force in France retreated here. The British Expeditionary Force has a total of 5 armies on the French battlefield. The 1st Army was severely damaged in Rouen, losing more than half. The Second Army suffered extremely heavy losses on the Marne River defense line, almost on the verge of collapse, and is currently withdrawing to southern France with the main force of the French army. The 3rd Army was surrounded and wiped out on the Rouen front, and the 4th Army surrendered in Paris. Only the 5th Army, which had just arrived in France, was still in full strength. It's just that the 5th Army is a newly formed army with limited combat effectiveness. Now it is only hiding in Le Havre with the remnants of the 1st Army.

Sir French, the commander of the British Expeditionary Force, also rushed to Le Havre. However, the current situation is already very critical for the British and French coalition forces. The German army has already occupied an absolute advantage on the French battlefield. The British and French allied forces are being pressed step by step. It can be said that defeating them is only a matter of time.

"Your Excellency, the French's tentative attack just launched has failed. They once again lost a lot of troops. The Germans are continuing to attack them south. The French are not far from defeat. Therefore, I think we can no longer stay in France. This is tantamount to waiting to die here. If we can return to the UK, we can also participate in the defense of the homeland. The 300,000 troops will play a vital role in the defense of the homeland role." Admiral Haig, commander of the 1st Army of the British Expeditionary Force, suggested.

"General Haig, I know what you mean. However, neither the Cabinet nor the War Department gave us an order to evacuate. Therefore, we cannot evacuate at all now." Sir French sighed.

If possible, he certainly hopes to lead his army back to the British mainland. However, the order to retreat was not issued, so he obviously couldn't order the troops to retreat without authorization, right? In that case, there is a problem.

"Your Excellency, the time is critical now, and we cannot delay any longer. Otherwise, the consequences will be very serious. The Germans are already mobilizing troops to come to Le Havre. Those who appeared outside Le Havre The German army is their 1st Army. The strength is almost the same as ours. The 8th Army, which appeared before, disappeared later. However, it has reappeared now. It can be predicted that the Germans have solved their internal problems and began to withdraw Troops are coming against us. It's going to be very bad for us," Admiral Haig said.

According to the German troops that appeared on the outskirts of Le Havre, Admiral Haig could feel that the German attack might be imminent. It is obviously impossible for the troops stationed in Le Havre by the British Expeditionary Force to resist the attack of the two elite German armies.

"General Haig, I will ask the country for instructions. However, you should also know that the possibility of the country allowing us to retreat is probably very small. Our navy will also join forces with the French navy to fight the German navy again. If we can If we win, the situation of the battle will be rewritten accordingly. If we fail, then we will really lose completely." Sir French said.

"That is to say, we have to wait until the navy and the Germans decide the outcome again before we can determine whether we can withdraw to the country?" Admiral Haig said.

Sir French nodded. Although, this feeling of handing over his life and death to others made him very uncomfortable. But Sir French had no other choice. For the sake of the overall situation, this is impossible.

"General Haig, now we are all in Le Havre under your command. I only have one request, and that is to persist as long as possible until our navy and the German navy decide the outcome!" Sir French said.

"Okay, sir, I will try my best!" Admiral Haig nodded.

When the British army was preparing to resist the German attack in Le Havre, the German 1st Army and 8th Army had already arrived in Le Havre. Originally, the 8th Army went north to monitor the 4th Army that had changed. This made the 1st Army not launch an attack immediately after arriving, but waited for the opportunity.

Now, the Kingdom of Wurttemberg has put down the rebellion, and the royal family of Wurttemberg has also been uprooted. The German offensive can naturally continue.

In Qin Tian's previous plan, he used two group armies to deal with the remaining troops of the British Expeditionary Force, eliminate them, and create favorable conditions for the subsequent landing in the British mainland.

On May 6, the day Qin Tian ascended the throne in Berlin and proclaimed himself emperor, the German 1st Army and 8th Army began to discuss the attack on Le Havre.

"Today is the day when His Royal Highness the Crown Prince ascended the throne in Berlin. Since we have no chance to return to Berlin to attend the ceremony, then, let's use a victory to celebrate His Majesty's enthronement ceremony!" Admiral Crook said.

The death of William II was a big blow to veterans like them. Fortunately, the rebellion has subsided. His Majesty William III, who is more outstanding than William II, will also ascend the throne and proclaim himself emperor. This means that Germany will have a brighter future. The generals on the front line are also more confident.

"Yes! If we can eat the 300,000 British Expeditionary Force, then the British Expeditionary Force is finished. The next French will surely surrender. We just need to prepare for the last battle. "' Lieutenant General Ludendorff said. The last battle he talked about was naturally the battle to land on the British mainland. The various regiments of the German Army are eagerly looking forward to becoming troops landing in the British mainland. This will be a great honor for them.

Chapter 575: Violent shelling

7-9 minutes

"General, according to the information we have received, the British Expeditionary Force has less than 300,000 troops in Le Havre. Our two armies combined have 50% more troops than them. At the same time, our Morale and weaponry are far ahead of them. If we launch an attack, they will definitely not be our opponents." Lieutenant General Ludendorff was full of confidence in this battle.

The two armies of the British Expeditionary Force in Le Havre, the 5th Army with the largest number of troops, is just a new army that has just been formed. Such a new army that has never experienced the baptism of war, how strong can they be expected to have? That is obviously unlikely. Facing the elite German Army, how could the British Expeditionary Force resist it.

Admiral Crook nodded: "The only thing we need to pay attention to is probably the attack from the sea. The British navy can send some warships to provide fire support for them. Although the Royal Navy is controlled by our high seas The fleet has been severely damaged. However, they still have some combat effectiveness. Among other things, the main guns of the large number of pre-dreadnoughts, armored cruisers, and heavy cruisers are extremely powerful. The flesh and blood of our infantry The body is simply unable to resist."

Lieutenant General Ludendorff's expression became serious involuntarily. The main fleet of the British Navy was indeed severely damaged by the High Seas Fleet. But this does not mean that the Royal Navy has no threat. As Admiral Crook said, the naval guns of the warships of the British Navy are undoubtedly devastating to ground targets.

The former dreadnoughts of the British Navy are generally equipped with 305mm main guns and 280mm secondary guns. Armored cruisers also have 280mm main guns, and heavy cruisers also have 203mm main guns. And the artillery of the army is already very powerful. But the largest caliber cannon they equip is only 150mm. Compared with the main guns on the British Navy warships, it is undoubtedly a big difference. As long as the British deploy a few warships in Le Havre, it is enough to cause great losses to the German army. Even if the fall of Le Havre cannot be prevented, at least it can make the German army pay an unbearable price.

"God! It seems that we need the help of the navy. Without the navy to help us clean up the sea in Le Havre, we have to be prepared for heavy losses here." Lieutenant General Ludendorff said.

"Yes, I have already requested support from the Admiralty. It is expected that naval reinforcements will arrive soon. At that time, they can also cooperate with us to bombard Le Havre and reinforce our operations. In this case, We will be able to win the victory with the least cost!" Admiral Crook said.

"Yes, General." Lieutenant General Ludendorff nodded. In this case, it is undoubtedly the safest.

"However, in order to speed up the progress, our attack should start tomorrow! If you find a British warship, stop the attack immediately and wait for the reinforcements of the navy." Admiral Crook continued.

"Yes, General, I have absolutely no objection!" Lieutenant General Ludendorff nodded repeatedly.

"Then let's do this! I hope that after we take Le Havre, the French will have surrendered. In this case, we have already won more than half of this battle." Admiral Crook smiled.

"France is resolved, and the rest of Britain will be left alone. The Empire will win this battle!" Lieutenant General Ludendorff is also full of confidence in this battle.

Of course, both of them automatically ignored the Kingdom of Italy.

Early in the morning on May 7, the German 1st Army and 8th Army were ready to attack Le Havre. The artillery of each infantry division has already pushed the cannons into the artillery positions. At a distance of a few kilometers from Le Havre, ferocious muzzles were raised.

Ammunition vehicles are transporting shells to the artillery positions. The reconnaissance plane of the air force found that there were no warships of the British Navy in the nearby sea. Therefore, the artillerymen can fire unscrupulously without worrying about being suppressed by the British Navy's naval guns.

At 8 am, everything is ready. The artillery commander gave the order to fire. The German cannons began to roar.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Orange red flames shone at the muzzle, and the shells, under the action of kinetic energy, flew towards Le Havre at high speed.

As for the infantry, they hid in the trenches and watched the artillery performance. According to the news they got, the firepower preparation this time will last for a whole day. In view of the great battle at Le Havre, it was probably the fiercest battle on the European battlefield. Therefore, the German army will not discount its firepower preparation. The commanders of the German army also hoped to use powerful shelling to wipe out the British Expeditionary Force entrenched in Le Havre as much as possible, to attack their will to fight, and to reduce the casualties of the troops during the attack as much as possible.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Shells fell like raindrops, and dense explosions sounded in Le Havre. The defensive position of the British Women's Expeditionary Force on the outskirts of Le Havre was completely shrouded in gunpowder smoke and flames. Huge craters appeared one after another on the positions of the British Expeditionary Force. The fortifications they painstakingly built were destroyed at a speed visible to the naked eye.

Although, when the German shelling had just begun, the British Expeditionary Force withdrew from the front-line positions. However, seeing such violent shelling by the German army still scared the officers and soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force enough.

"Damn it, the overwhelming German bombardment has started again, saying that the German army's combat effectiveness is the best in the world, I think it is simply piled up with shells." An officer of the British Expeditionary Force looked resentful.

"Never mind whether the number one in the world of the Germans is piled up with shells. At least, we have nothing to do with them!" Another expeditionary officer said.

Indeed, the British Expeditionary Force was at a complete disadvantage in the face of such heavy German shelling. They could only watch helplessly as their fortifications were destroyed by German shelling. The BEF's own artillery, on the other hand, remained silent. The 1st Army of the British Expeditionary Force did not have much artillery left. When they evacuated Rouen, they almost lost their

heavy weapons. Although the 5th Army of the British Expeditionary Force has a lot of cannons, it is obviously not comparable to the German Army. In order to avoid losing these cannons in the tragic artillery battle, the commander of the British Expeditionary Force ordered all the cannons to be hidden so that they could be used at the most critical time.

Chapter 576: Waste utilization

7-9 minutes

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The whole of Le Havre groaned and wailed under the heavy shelling of the German army. The defense line of the British Expeditionary Force on the outskirts of Le Havre has been repeatedly plowed several times by the German artillery. The fortifications they built were almost destroyed under the heavy shelling of the German army. The trenches were blown up, the barbed wire fences were blown to pieces, and all kinds of firepower points were destroyed almost completely.

Under such circumstances, it is almost hopeless to expect these fortifications to play a big role in the next battle. It can be foreseen that once the German attack officially begins, it will be almost impossible for the British Expeditionary Force to use these fortifications to resist the German attack. They will suffer extremely heavy casualties under the fierce attack of the German army.

As if to ensure the effect of the shelling, the German artillery shelled the British Expeditionary Force's outer line of defense for a full morning. After that, the artillery commander asked Admiral Crook whether the artillery fire could be extended to the city of Le Havre.

Admiral Crook immediately stated that he could shell the city of Le Havre. The thousands of cannons of the German army continued to bombard violently.

For a while, under the heavy bombardment of the German army, the city of Le Havre began to be turned into ruins little by little.

The shells of the German army, as if they didn't want money at all, smashed towards Le Havre violently.

Streets and houses were all destroyed under the heavy shelling of the German army. The British and French allied forces stationed in the city were also under the heavy shelling of the German army, and their casualties began to increase.

The residents of Le Havre almost escaped when the German army was trapping Le Havre. The rest of the city are almost all British soldiers. This made the German army have no worries at all when they started shelling, and only needed to fire violently.

"Damn! The German bombardment is endless. Do they really want to blow up the whole of Le Havre into ruins?" Admiral Haig sat in the office of the headquarters, feeling the ceiling explode. It trembled in the middle, and the dust kept falling, which quickly made the entire commander's officers feel ashamed.

"General, the Germans have already destroyed our defense line outside Le Havre with artillery shells. Now, they probably want to use artillery shells to make us pay a higher price!" an officer said.

General Haig nodded. When he fought against the German army in Rouen, he was greatly shocked by the powerful artillery fire of the German army. It stands to reason that this style of play by the German army will consume a lot of shells and put a lot of pressure on logistics. However, the Germans have tried everything. Almost every attack will be adequately prepared for artillery fire. The reason is that a large number of shells can be used to cause damage to the enemy, which will help the troops reduce casualties in the next attack.

However, this is not a good thing for the British Expeditionary Force. Because they happened to be the target of being ravaged by the Germans with fierce artillery fire.

"No, we can't go on like this. If the Germans bombard us endlessly like this, we will suffer heavy losses under their bombardment. This will be very, very detrimental to our defense of Le Havre!" Black Admiral Ge said.

After finishing speaking, he got up directly and went to Sir French's office.

"General Haig, what's the matter?" Sir French's situation is not very good now. In his office, the same dust was flying. The cup of coffee on the table was covered with a thick layer of dust, which made people lose their appetite after looking at it.

"My lord, the Germans bombarded too hard. We lost a lot under their heavy bombardment. I don't think the Germans can be allowed to go on like this. Otherwise, the battle would never have been fought. The Germans can wipe out all our troops directly with shells." Admiral Haig said.

"But, General Haig, there is nothing we can do about it? Although we still have a certain amount of artillery. However, compared with the powerful artillery of the Germans, the gap is not generally large. If we rashly use artillery to launch a counterattack, it will make us The artillery is quickly lost. If this is the case, it is quite uneconomical." Sir French said.

"Yes, Sir. Our artillery can't act rashly. But that doesn't mean we have nothing to do with the Germans." Admiral Hum said. ,

"Oh? General Haig, is there anything else you can do?" If there were other ways to curb the heavy German shelling, he would of course be willing to try it. After all, this is also very beneficial for the British Expeditionary Force to defend Le Havre.

"My lord, the artillery of the expeditionary force cannot fight the Germans. But we can find a way from other places. Le Havre is located at the mouth of the Seine River. We can ask the navy for help. Let the navy send warships to attack the Germans. The troops of Le Havre launched shelling. I believe that no matter how powerful the German artillery is, it will never be an opponent of the navy's large-caliber main guns." Admiral Haig said.

"The navy's large-caliber main gun?" Sir French couldn't help but his eyes lit up. Indeed, the main gun of the navy has a firing rate of more than 300 mm, which undoubtedly possesses devastating power for ground targets. If the British Navy dispatches capital ships to bombard the German Army, it will definitely deal a heavy blow to the German Army.

But then, Sir French thought of it. The main fleet of the Royal Navy is depleted. The remaining capital ships are all preparing for the final decisive battle with the German navy. Where is there any extra force to reinforce them?

"General Haig, the Royal Navy probably doesn't have any warships to reinforce us," Sir French said.

"No, my lord. I think you have misunderstood me. I am not asking the Royal Navy to send those cutting-edge capital ships to reinforce us. There is no need for that at all. As long as the Royal Navy sends some old-fashioned pre-dreadnoughts or armored cruisers, it is enough to give us enough fire support. Those former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers are no longer suitable for decisive battles with the German Navy. Their large-caliber main guns can provide us with powerful fire support. Anyway, those former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers are not of much use anymore, why not come to support us, this is also considered waste!" Admiral Haig said.

After hearing this, Sir French nodded repeatedly.

Chapter 577: call for navy

7-9 minutes

The British Admiralty, the British Minister of War Richard Haldane rushed here immediately after receiving the telegram from the Expeditionary Force Command, and called on the Secretary of the Navy Churchill. Churchill had to give the nod to the Navy to send pre-dreadnoughts and armored cruisers to reinforce Le Havre.

Although, the strength of the Royal Navy is not as good as before. However, the last hope of the British Empire still lies with the Royal Navy. Therefore, Churchill's position in the British cabinet is still very important.

Churchill was a little surprised by Richard Haldane's visit. After all, the contradiction between the Royal Navy and the Army has always existed. Especially when competing for annual military expenditures, the Army was firmly suppressed by the Royal Navy. Of course, the current situation is different. Britain is in a great crisis, so the Royal Navy and Army have to work together. If the ship of the British Empire sinks, both the Army and the Royal Navy will suffer.

"Hello, Your Excellency, Minister of War, please take a seat. Come, make a cup of black tea sent by the Governor of India!" Churchill ordered.

"Minister of the Navy, you are too polite." Richard Haldane said politely.

"His Excellency, Minister of War, we are not only colleagues, but also comrades in arms fighting side by side. Why are you so polite?" Churchill smiled. He also had to prepare for future situations. Although, Minister of War Richard Haldane, like him, is also a main combat faction. However, Churchill worried that if the Royal Navy failed to defeat the German Navy in the next decisive battle, it would deal a heavy blow to the main combat faction. Therefore, when the time comes, he hopes to get the support of Richard Haldane. In that case, even if the Royal Navy fails to succeed, the war can continue.

Yes, even if the Royal Navy fails in the next decisive battle, Churchill still hopes to continue the war. Even if it is a decisive battle on the homeland and the homeland is smashed into scorched earth, it will never let the Germans win so easily. The big deal is to wait until after the fall of the mainland, then go to other colonies and continue to lead the war with Germany. For example, Canada, India or Australia can continue to fight. Churchill is determined now and wants to fight a protracted war.

"Okay, Your Excellency the Secretary of the Navy. Then I won't go around in circles with you. This time, I hope the navy can send some warships to reinforce the expeditionary force. Now, the expeditionary force is trapped in Le Havre by the German army, and the Germans mobilize. They fired thousands of cannons and bombarded them heavily. The expeditionary force suffered heavy losses under the heavy German bombardment. They would not have lasted long at Le Havre without reinforcements." Richard Haldane said.

The expression on Churchill's face suddenly became serious. The British Expeditionary Force's persistence in Le Havre is of great importance. It was Churchill who asked them to persist until the decisive battle between the combined fleet of the three countries and the German navy was over. If the expeditionary force can't last that long, it will seriously shake the faith of the French. If it is serious, it will also affect the subsequent decisive battle with the German Navy.

"His Excellency, Minister of War, do you mean that the expeditionary force will be brought back to the mainland?" Churchill asked.

"No, Your Excellency Churchill. The expeditionary force does not need to return to the mainland for the time being, and can continue to fight in Le Havre. However, we need to provide them with more support, such as artillery fire. Only in this way can they be able to fight in Le Havre." Last longer," said Richard Haldane.

"However, the current capital ships of the Royal Navy are all used to prepare for a decisive battle with the Germans. We simply cannot spare many warships to reinforce Le Havre." Churchill said. After all, the current Royal Navy has suffered heavy losses, and it is not as good as before. If the Royal Navy was still in its prime, this would have been nothing at all. In other words, other countries simply did not dare to provoke the Royal Navy in its heyday.

"Your Excellency Churchill, we know this. Therefore, we don't need the navy to dispatch new warships to reinforce us. We only need to use the former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers. Although the former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers are outdated. However, their main guns are still very powerful. At least infantry artillery is far from being able to fight against it. If the expeditionary force can get naval artillery support in Le Havre, I think they will be able to last longer." Reason Chad Haldane said.

"Yes, the Royal Navy still has a lot of former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers. These warships are outdated. If they are sent to fight the German Navy, it is simply to let them die. However, to support the expeditionary force, to provide them with fire support, that's perfectly fine," Churchill said.

If the main fleet is not dispatched, then there is no problem for the Royal Navy. If these pre-dreadnoughts and armored cruisers can be used to cause huge losses to the Germans, then he will undoubtedly be happy to see it.

"Minister of the Navy, the battle in Le Havre is very urgent now. If possible, I hope that the Navy can send a fleet to reinforce the expeditionary force in the shortest possible time." Richard Haldane said.

"Okay, Your Excellency the Minister of War. I will call Portsmouth Naval Port immediately and ask them to send the fleet out immediately. Tomorrow morning at the latest, they will be able to participate in the shelling of the Germans. Let those damned Germans, take care of yourself." Taste our power!" Churchill said.

Richard Haldane also nodded again and again, with a flash of excitement in his eyes. In any case, as long as the navy can take action, then the crisis in Le Havre can be regarded as temporarily lifted. This will be very beneficial to the expeditionary force. Maybe, with the cooperation of naval guns, the expeditionary force can teach the German Army a lesson and make the German Army pay a heavy price in Le Havre. Even, the expeditionary force may still be able to win a battle there.

You know, since the British Army entered the war, its performance has been poor. On the French battlefield, there were even more losses. Especially since this year, he has been defeated many times. The loss of troops has exceeded 70%. If this continues, the people will soon lose confidence in the Army. At that time, how will they defend the mainland?

"Hope, God can bless us this time!" Richard Haldane secretly prayed to God.

Chapter 578: huge fleet

7-9 minutes

Before entering the era of dreadnoughts, Britain built a large number of pre-dreadnoughts. Although the German Navy has already begun to catch up with the British Navy in terms of capital ships. However, in terms of the number of former dreadnoughts, the British Navy still has about twice the advantage. It can be seen how many pre-dreadnought ships the UK has built in total.

After the battleship "Dreadnought" of the British Navy entered service, it immediately placed the pre-dreadnought ships that were being built or had already been built in various countries, and it became obsolete in an instant. Equally obsolete are the Royal Navy's own pre-dreadnoughts. It's just that the Royal Navy is rich and powerful and doesn't care. They believe that as long as they always occupy the leading trend of naval development, the British Navy can always be the number one in the world.

It's just that the subsequent development of the facts made the faces of the British swollen. In the era of dreadnoughts, the German Navy successfully achieved corner overtaking, surpassing the Royal Navy in one fell swoop. And in one naval battle after another, the British Navy was knocked down from the altar. Under such circumstances, the situation of the British Navy is undoubtedly very bad. If they are still unable to defeat the German navy, then it seems inevitable that Britain will lose this war.

Portsmouth Naval Port was originally one of the most important naval ports of the British Navy. However, after the military port at Scapa Flow was put into use, in order to prevent the German navy

from entering the Atlantic Ocean, the Royal Navy deployed almost all its capital ships there. What remained in Portsmouth Naval Port were nothing but old and weak warships. Among them, there are a large number of pre-dreadnought ships.

"General, the order of the Lord of the Navy!" A communications officer hurriedly rushed into the office of the commander of the Royal Navy's Portsmouth base.

Commander Lieutenant General Cavison took the telegram disapprovingly. He thought that there would be no important tasks for him anyway. After all, the entire Portsmouth Naval Port is in a state of neglect.

However, when Lieutenant General Cavison read the telegram, he seemed to be a different person. As a senior general of the Royal Navy, he is undoubtedly full of fighting spirit. However, due to helplessness, there is no other way but to muddle through. Now, with a new combat mission issued, it naturally gave him a lot of confidence.

"Order the base, sound the alarm, and everyone return to the ship immediately!" Lieutenant General Cavison ordered.

"Yes, General." A staff officer immediately went to give the order.

"Woo!"

The shrill siren sounded over the military port, and the sailors immediately put down what they were doing and rushed to their warships. Good training enabled these officers and soldiers of the Royal Navy to react immediately.

"Commanding all eight 'Edward-class' battleships, two 'Fast-class' battleships, six 'Duncan-class' battleships and five 'London-class' battleships, and 'Minotaur-class' armored cruisers, 'Warriors Class' armored cruiser, 'Devonshire-class' armored cruiser, get ready. One hour later, leave the port and prepare for battle!" Lieutenant General Cavison ordered.

"General, are we going to fight the Germans?" an officer asked. After all, this time they dispatched as many as 21 battleships and 13 armored cruisers. Although these warships are all old-fashioned warships. However, the performance is still good, accounting for about half of all warships in the Portsmouth Naval Port. With so many warships dispatched, it is obvious that something big is about to happen.

"A decisive battle with the Germans? Did you get kicked by a donkey? We are all warships. If we go to a decisive battle with the Germans, it will be death!" Lieutenant General Cavison said coldly.

Ten years ago, Lieutenant General Cavison still had the confidence to lead such a powerful fleet and sweep away the navies of other countries in the world. But now? He didn't dare to say such an answer again. The fleet he led seemed huge. But these old dreadnoughts and armored cruisers are simply vulnerable to the new dreadnoughts.

Even the most cutting-edge battleships of the Royal Navy were sunk in the decisive battle with the German Navy, not to mention their old dreadnoughts and armored cruisers. sunk.

"General, what are we going to do?" Another officer asked.

After all, they dispatched 21 battleships and 13 armored cruisers this time, plus other small and medium-sized warships, there are more than 60 mighty ships. In terms of the number of fleets alone, this is undoubtedly a very large fleet. Obviously, Lieutenant General Cavison organized such a huge fleet to go for a joyride.

"His Excellency Churchill issued an order to go to Le Havre. The Germans are storming Le Havre, and those **** of the expeditionary force are about to be unable to hold on under the heavy shelling of the Germans. So, Your Excellency Churchill I hope we will go to reinforce them immediately. This is also good, our warships are not the opponents of the German warships. However, it is not a problem to bully the German infantry with a huge main gun. I want to see , What will it look like when the Germans are torn to pieces by the shells fired by our huge naval guns!" Lieutenant General Cavison flashed a ferocious smile on his face.

It has been almost a year since this war broke out. The British Empire, which dominated the world in the past, is about to be beaten to the ground in this war. This makes many British people blame all this on the Germans. Think that all this is caused by the Germans and that the Germans are to blame. The British Empire would not have come to this state if the Germans had not started the war. This naturally caused many British people to hate the Germans.

For the soldiers of the British Empire, whether it is the army or the navy, they all hope to defeat the Germans, or cause them more casualties, and avenge their dead comrades.

This time, Lieutenant General Cavison naturally had this purpose in mind.

For them, shelling the German army besieging Le Havre is undoubtedly a very simple and easy task. They just need to keep firing based on the coordinates provided by the British Expeditionary Force. The powerful shells of the battleship's main guns would tear all the German soldiers into pieces.

At four o'clock in the afternoon on May 7, a large fleet of the Royal Navy left Portsmouth Naval Port. This fleet crossed the English Channel straight to Le Havre on the other side of the Channel.

Chapter 579: Trap

7-9 minutes

On the evening of May 7, the German artillery stopped the shelling of Le Havre. After a whole day of heavy shelling, the whole of Le Havre has been bombed into a mess. Under the bombardment of more than 2,000 cannons by the German army, there is hardly a single intact building in the entire city. This important city at the mouth of the Seine River has been reduced to ruins.

The British Expeditionary Force stationed in Le Havre paid a lot for this. More than 10,000 people died directly in the shelling of the German army. Not to mention there are many injured people. In the port of Le Havre, there are wounded soldiers waiting to return home due to injuries. It can be seen that the heavy shelling by the German army caused many casualties to the British Expeditionary Force.

However, fortunately, the German shelling finally ended. This made the officers and soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force who survived the fierce shelling couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief. As

for what will happen tomorrow, they don't know. All they wanted was a good night's sleep and a rest without the fear of being killed by German shelling.

The artillerymen of the German army were also exhausted. During today's shelling, they fired at least 300,000 shells. Although the high-intensity shooting was not maintained all the time, at the end of the shelling, many artillerymen were too tired to lift their hands.

"General, Le Havre has been almost destroyed by us. Although it is not certain how many casualties have been caused to the British, what is certain is that the casualties must not be small. More importantly, to their The morale of the troops has been dealt a devastating blow. When we launch an offensive tomorrow, the difficulty will be relatively less." Lieutenant General Ludendorff is undoubtedly very satisfied with the performance of the artillery today.

"Well! If nothing else, the British will to resist has almost been eliminated under our fierce shelling." Admiral Crook nodded.

The morale of the British Expeditionary Force under siege was already very low. After encountering such heavy shelling again, it is naturally conceivable how low morale will be.

However, Admiral Crook and Admiral Ludendorff will soon know that they are a little too optimistic. Of course, the heavy shelling by the German army caused a lot of casualties to the British Expeditionary Force. However, the British Expeditionary Force did not collapse because of this. Because, on the evening of May 7, the reinforcements of the British Navy officially arrived in Le Havre.

Sir French, Commander of the British Expeditionary Force, Admiral Haig, Commander of the 1st Army of the Expeditionary Force, and Admiral Gough, Commander of the 5th Army of the Expeditionary Force, greeted the British Navy Portsmouth on the pier of Le Havre Naval Base Commander Lieutenant General Caveson.

Although, it was completely dark. Can't see those huge warships clearly. But vaguely able to see those battleships are like giant beasts lurking under the night sky. This feeling is very shocking.

"Your Excellency, Commander, the Royal Navy really did a great job this time! They actually sent so many warships here. If the Germans want to bombard Le Havre again, it will definitely be a dead end." Admiral Haig was very excited .

A total of twenty-one pre-dreadnought ships, thirteen armored cruisers, and other small and medium-sized warships undoubtedly provided the British Expeditionary Force with a fairly powerful artillery. Each pre-dreadnought is equipped with two twin 305mm main guns and other secondary guns of different calibers. Those armored cruisers are also equipped with main guns over 9 inches. There is no doubt how amazing the power of these main guns will be when they launch shells on ground targets.

Sir French nodded: "This time, we must let the Germans know how powerful we are. Although the British Empire is at a disadvantage in this war, it is far from being bullied by them!"

Although, these battleships have not yet begun to show their power. But this does not prevent them from imagining how powerful these warships will explode in tomorrow's battle.

"Your Excellency, General Haig, General Gough, hello!" Lieutenant General Caveson arrived at the pier in a transportation boat.

"General Cavison, welcome to Le Havre. Unfortunately, this place has become a ruin. Otherwise, this place is really a beautiful place." Sir French said with a smile.

"All of this was done by the **** Germans. Tomorrow, my sailors will use shells to make those Germans pay for what they did!" Lieutenant General Cavison said firmly.

"Yes, they are all **** Germans. If there is no them, the world will be peaceful." Admiral Haig said.

Afterwards, they began to discuss how to divide labor in tomorrow's battle.

Admiral Haig proposed that in order to ensure the suddenness of the fleet's naval gun strikes, the fleet will temporarily withdraw. After the German army launched an offensive, they appeared in the sea off Le Havre, and then launched a violent shelling, taking this opportunity to cause heavy losses to the German army.

Lieutenant General Cavison is very satisfied with this plan. They also didn't want to be exposed in the first place. In that case, the German army will definitely retreat. Their powerful naval gun firepower is useless. After all, no matter how powerful the battleship is, it is impossible to drive it to the shore, right?

After reaching a consensus, Lieutenant General Cavison led the fleet and temporarily evacuated Le Havre, hiding in an area dozens of kilometers away from the coastline. Once the Germans officially attacked Le Havre, they would be there in two hours. Both Admiral Haig and Lieutenant General Cavison believed that no matter how powerful the German army was, it would be impossible to defeat the British Expeditionary Force stationed in Le Havre within two hours. At that time, the Royal Navy, which suddenly burst out, can use powerful naval guns to severely ravage the German troops participating in the attack.

It is conceivable that the salvos of the main guns and secondary guns of the 21 former dreadnoughts and 13 armored cruisers of the British Navy will be so powerful. The attacking German army will inevitably suffer heavy losses under the powerful firepower of the British navy.

"Hopefully, the Germans can be severely damaged tomorrow. It is best to let them all die under the naval guns. In that case, we will win!" Admiral Haig watched the fleet leave and murmured.

"God will bless the British Empire. Just as God has been on our side for hundreds of years!" said Sir French.

Other generals and officers of the British Expeditionary Force regained their lost confidence because of the arrival of the Royal Navy fleet.

Chapter 580: The roar of the naval guns

7-9 minutes

On May 8, the weather was fine. Although, the weather is getting hotter day by day. However, Le Havre is located by the sea, so it doesn't feel too hot.

At 6 o'clock in the morning, Lieutenant General Ludendorff was already fully dressed. Today is the day of the German attack on Le Havre, and he also takes it very seriously.

After a simple breakfast, Lieutenant General Ludendorff went to the battlefield. The artillerymen are also already busy. Although yesterday's shelling has made these artillerymen very tired. But after a night's rest, they were alive and well again.

According to the German plan, before the infantry launches an attack, the artillery will conduct another round of fire strikes. It's just that, because the shells stored before were almost consumed in yesterday's shelling. Therefore, they need to save some of the remaining shells. The logistics department of the German army is also desperately transporting shells and other materials to the front line. However, that takes time.

"General!" Wherever Lieutenant General Ludendorff passed, there were soldiers and officers saluting him everywhere.

Lieutenant General Ludendorff took the trouble to return the salute. Although, when he was marching and fighting, he was very serious. However, in private, it is still very approachable. This makes him have a great influence in the minds of these officers and soldiers.

"Boys, are you ready? In half an hour, you will have to fire again. Use your shells to destroy all the defensive positions that the British sneakily built last night!" Lieutenant General Ludendorff turned. After arriving at the artillery position, he said to the artillerymen.

"General, don't worry, we are ready. Soon, we will use our shells to kill those British guys."

"Let those British guys, either go back to their small islands, or die here. This is the European continent, not a place where they can come!"

The artillerymen all answered, and it can be seen that their nature is very good.

Lieutenant General Ludendorff nodded and stayed here for a while before leaving.

When Lieutenant General Ludendorff returned to the headquarters, General Crook had already gotten up and was eating breakfast.

"General Ludendorff, would you like some?" Admiral Crook asked.

"General, please take it slowly, I have already eaten it." Lieutenant General Ludendorff said.

"I really envy you young people! Back then, during the Franco-Prussian War, I was still in command of an infantry company. At that time, I was as young as you. During the war, you can stay up all night. But, not now. Already old!" Admiral Crook sighed.

"General, you are still young. Your Majesty has said many times that without the efforts of generals like General, the empire would not be as powerful as it is now." Lieutenant General Ludendorff said.

Admiral Crook couldn't help laughing, it was also a great honor for them to be approved by His Majesty the Emperor. Especially now that the new emperor is on the throne, it is undoubtedly very important to have a good impression of the new emperor.

Time passed bit by bit, and soon it was eight o'clock in the morning.

"Report, the reconnaissance plane scouted the surrounding sea area of 30 kilometers, and found no problems!" An officer reported to Admiral Crook and Lieutenant General Ludendorff.

"If there is no problem, let's implement it according to the original plan!" Admiral Crook said.

"Yes, General. Order the artillery to start shelling. An hour later, the infantry will attack." Lieutenant General Ludendorff ordered.

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

"General, if all goes well, our troops will be able to enter Le Havre today. Within three days, we can eliminate the British Expeditionary Force here and take the whole of Le Havre. There is still no problem." Ludendorff said Will speak confidently.

General Crook didn't say much, but he undoubtedly had great confidence in his troops.

Although, the German 8th Army is known as the most capable army in the German Army. But Admiral Crook was still a little unconvinced. He thought his 1st Army was not bad either. Of course, the reason why the 8th Army is so powerful is entirely because His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, now His Majesty the Emperor, invested a lot regardless of cost, so that the troops were equipped with a large number of advanced weapons. If other legions can also be reorganized in this way, their combat effectiveness can be further improved.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The artillerymen of the German army, after being silent all night, started roaring again.

One after another, under the action of huge kinetic energy, they slammed into the position of the British Expeditionary Force.

Last night, the British Expeditionary Force tried to restore some of the fortifications after the German shelling stopped, so that they could use these fortifications to resist the German attack in today's battle. However, it is a pity that these fortifications have not yet been able to play a role, and they were completely destroyed under the heavy shelling of the German army.

"The German shelling has begun, and soon their infantry will launch an attack. Send a telegram to General Cavison, telling them they can act." Admiral Haig ordered excitedly.

Although, the German shelling continued. But it will take time for the Royal Navy's fleet to arrive at Le Havre. Counting the time, when the fleet arrived, it was time for the German infantry to attack with all their strength. At that time, it will be the time when the warships of the British Royal Navy can open their firepower and wantonly kill the German infantry.

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

After receiving the telegram from Admiral Haig, Lieutenant General Caveson gave the order on the fleet flagship "Edward VII" battleship. The fleet started sailing towards Le Havre.

One hour passed quickly. The German artillery fire finally ceased. The infantry, who had already been prepared, began to attack.

In the first round of the attack, the 1st Army invested four infantry divisions, while the 8th Army invested two infantry divisions. Six infantry divisions, more than 100,000 men, launched the attack. In one fell swoop, the defense line of the British Expeditionary Force was torn apart and their posture was severely damaged.

The German attack was very violent. The British Expeditionary Force, which suffered heavy losses, was indeed irresistible. In just two rounds of attack, the British Expeditionary Force lost all the defenses around Le Havre.

However, Admiral Haig and the others did not panic at all.

At 9:30 in the morning, the fleet of the Royal Navy arrived. Admiral Haig immediately ordered that the British Expeditionary Force on the front line break away from contact with the German army.

Subsequently, the warships of the Royal Navy that were cruising off the coast of Le Havre began shelling.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

The large-caliber naval guns of each ship began to roar, and shells weighing hundreds of kilograms flew fiercely towards the German army.