

Jagged 581

Chapter 581: Heavy losses

"Whoo! Whoo!"

Sharp and piercing whistles sounded above the heads of the German army. As veterans who have experienced the baptism of war, these soldiers naturally know what this means. However, this whistling sound was very sharp, as if it was going to pierce a person's eardrum. This caused quite a few soldiers to change their faces drastically.

"God! What's going on? How could the British have such a large-caliber cannon?" A German officer said with a look of horror.

"Boom!"

There was a violent explosion, and the whole ground seemed to be shaking. Bricks, rubble, and dust, under the influence of the shock wave, splashed all around.

A shell lands on a dilapidated street. After the explosion, half the street was blown up. Many German soldiers who were on this street were all blown to death.

"No, this is definitely not the army's cannon, but the navy's naval gun. Only the navy's large-caliber main gun has such great power!"

"Damn, did the British use the navy? How could they be so shameless?"

The field artillery of the German army is very powerful. But the caliber is only 150mm. This is already the largest caliber cannon that can accompany infantry in combat. Although when attacking the Liege Fortress, the German army used a larger caliber siege cannon. But that kind of cannon is too heavy, and it is not suitable for accompanying infantry combat at all.

Now, the British actually directly invested large-caliber naval guns in the Battle of Le Havre. It is conceivable how powerful this will be.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

On the sea, 21 former dreadnoughts and 13 armored cruisers of the British Navy are firing fiercely. Among those former dreadnoughts, except for the two "fast-class" battleships equipped with 254mm main guns, the remaining 19 former dreadnoughts were equipped with twin 305mm main guns. In addition, these pre-dreadnought ships are also equipped with a large number of secondary guns. Although the caliber of the secondary guns is different, most of them are 152mm, 190mm or 233mm. For the infantry, these secondary guns alone are not something the Army's artillery can fight.

The 13 armored cruisers of the British Navy, the 'Minotaur-class' and the 'Warrior-class' are equipped with 233mm main guns. Among them, the 'Minotaur class' is equipped with two twin 233mm main guns and ten 190mm secondary guns. The "Warrior Class" is equipped with three dual-mounted 233mm main guns and four 190mm secondary guns. The "Devonshire-class" armored cruiser is equipped with two twin 190mm main guns and six 152mm secondary guns.

Now, these former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers of the British Navy are frantically pouring shells at the position of the German army on the coast according to the coordinates provided by the British Expeditionary Force. Each shell is a large-caliber heavy artillery compared to the army. This naturally put the attacking German army in the midst of devastating shelling by the British navy.

"Boom! Boom!"

Two consecutive 305mm shells hit a street corner. Entire street corners were leveled. A German infantry platoon hiding in this corner was blown to pieces on the spot. On the ground, only huge craters were left. After that, there is nothing.

The German army attacking Le Havre suffered extremely heavy losses under the fierce naval gunfire of the British Navy. Even, they are the bravest soldiers. However, looking at one's own troops, under the fierce shelling of the enemy, they were torn to pieces at once. This kind of feeling is enough to make people's will completely collapse.

"Damn, retreat! Retreat immediately! Despicable British, they actually used naval guns!" A German officer ordered loudly.

Although, there is no order from the command yet. However, I can't care about anything else. If they continue to persist, they will only suffer greater losses.

As soon as the order was issued, a 233mm artillery shell fell from the sky, directly blowing up the German officer and several surrounding German soldiers to pieces. The stumps and broken arms were all gone, and all that was left were pieces of minced meat.

When the violent explosion sounded, even the German headquarters far away from the front line could hear it clearly. Admiral Crook and Lieutenant General Ludendorff suddenly changed their expressions.

"What's going on? What is this voice?" Admiral Crook frowned.

"Large caliber cannon! A very large caliber cannon. It is very likely to be the main naval gun of the British!" Lieutenant General Ludendorff's face was even more livid.

Lieutenant General Ludendorff recognized the sound on the spot. However, this made him feel a trembling from the bottom of his heart. In front of the navy's large-caliber main guns, anyone would probably have such a performance.

"Damn it, did the British use the navy? Isn't their fleet almost beaten by our navy? Why is it still here?" Admiral Crook became anxious.

Now, the German infantry are still under the ravages of the British large-caliber naval guns!

"General, you can't wait any longer. Order the troops on the front line to retreat immediately! Now, I can't care about continuing to attack. As much as I can withdraw." Lieutenant General Ludendorff ordered.

"Okay, order the troops to retreat immediately. In addition, contact the air force and let them take off the reconnaissance plane to see what's going on!" Admiral Crook ordered.

"Yes, General." Lieutenant General Ludendorff nodded.

When the order to retreat was issued, the German soldiers who entered Le Havre and were ravaged by the terrible naval guns of the British Navy retreated in a hurry. But even so, they have lost too many troops under the fierce shelling of the British navy. Many people even had expressions of horror on their faces. Obviously, what happened just now was like being in **** to them. This is a serious devastation to their spirit and will.

These soldiers, without a good recovery, may not be able to go to the battlefield again.

The bombardment of the British navy did not stop because of the retreat of the German infantry. Under the guidance of the artillery officers of the British Expeditionary Force, they also shelled the German artillery positions.

Large-caliber naval guns are not only powerful. It also has a very long range. Even the German artillery positions are far away from the coast. But it is also within the range of the main guns of the British Navy.

Under the shelling of the British Navy's main guns, the German Army's artillery positions suffered heavy losses during the shelling. So much so that these artillerymen had to withdraw from the front line. It is safe to retreat until it is out of the range of the main guns of the British Navy.

Chapter 582: Headaches

7-9 minutes

"General, the Germans are defeated. They have evacuated Le Havre. Those Germans suffered heavy losses under the bombardment of the navy and had to evacuate in embarrassment!" A staff officer approached Haig excitedly. will report.

"Okay, that's great!" Admiral Haig was also overjoyed. Originally, they had been suppressed by the German army on the battlefield and were constantly defeated. When did they ever defeat the German army? This victory is really too precious for them.

"Did we cause a lot of damage to the Germans?" Admiral Haig then asked.

"General, it is not clear yet. However, the Germans fled in embarrassment, and the losses will certainly not be small!" the staff officer reported.

Admiral Haig nodded: "Continue to pay attention! In addition, keep in touch with the navy to ensure that the shells fired by the naval warships can continue to fall on the heads of the Germans."

"Yes, General!" The staff officer replied.

There is no doubt that this is a rare opportunity for the British Expeditionary Force to severely damage the German army. Of course they will firmly seize this opportunity and will not let it go easily.

It was not until the German army completely withdrew from Le Havre and withdrew out of the range of the main guns of the British Navy warships that the British Navy warships stopped firing. Admiral Haig also went to report the results of the battle to Sir French at this time.

"Your Excellency, the Germans have been driven out of Le Havre by us. Moreover, the naval bombardment has caused considerable casualties to the Germans." Admiral Haig looked excited.

"Well, very good. This time, we have finally defeated the Germans. General Haig, can we continue to stick to Le Havre?" Sir French asked.

Although defeating the German army once made Sir French very happy. However, what he really cares about is whether the British Expeditionary Force can hold Le Havre, which is the most important thing.

"Your Excellency, with the fire support of the navy, the Germans don't want to attack Le Havre again. The naval guns will tear them all to pieces. Unless the German navy makes a big move and defeats the fleet of the Royal Navy "" Admiral Haig said.

The powerful firepower possessed by the 21 pre-dreadnought ships and 13 armored cruisers is undoubtedly extremely powerful. If the German army wants to continue to attack Le Havre, it will inevitably suffer heavy losses under the bombardment of the British navy. Even the German Navy could not bear such a loss. Therefore, it is very likely that the British Expeditionary Force, with the support of the Royal Navy, will hold Le Havre.

Of course, if the German Navy makes a big move, the British Royal Navy's fleet composed of former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers can only praise the edge. Without the support of the Royal Navy, the British Expeditionary Force wants to hold Le Havre under the attack of the German army, which is completely idiotic.

Sir French nodded: "Indeed, if the German navy is dispatched, then we have nothing to do. However, I don't think the German navy will be able to come to Le Havre for a while. The English Channel and Dover The Strait is densely covered with mines. The Royal Navy is also actively preparing for the final decisive battle with the German Navy. If the Royal Navy can win this time, then our crisis will be completely resolved. If the Royal Navy still ends in failure, Then there is no point in continuing to stick to Le Havre."

"Yes, Sir." Admiral Haig nodded.

They persisted in Le Havre just to persist until the final decisive battle between the Royal Navy and the German Navy. If the Royal Navy still fails, their best outcome is undoubtedly to withdraw to the country and prepare to stick to the homeland.

In any case, after the British Expeditionary Force defeated the first round of the German attack, the entire army fell into a carnival. The officers and soldiers rejoiced and celebrated the victory, as if Germany had been completely defeated.

Although, the battle has only just begun. However, this victory raised the morale of the British Expeditionary Force a lot. Morale, which had been sluggish, began to gradually recover. Everyone seems to have become more confident about the next battle.

On the German side, General Crook and Lieutenant General Ludendorff looked very ugly. There is an unspeakable depression in the entire headquarters.

"General Ludendorff, have our losses been counted?" Admiral Crook asked.

"General, according to preliminary statistics, we lost nearly 10,000 people in this round of attack. Among them, more than half were killed. In addition, we also lost more than 500 pieces of artillery of various calibers. It can be said that this is definitely the highest number since the outbreak of the war. , the biggest loss we have ever suffered!" Lieutenant General Ludendorff said.

Whether it is the 1st Army or the 8th Army, in the past half a year of fighting, countless enemies have been wiped out, but their own casualties are very limited. This time, in just two hours, they paid tens of thousands of casualties, and at the same time, the morale of the troops was fatally hit. This is unprecedented for these two legions.

"Damn it! When did the British navy come here? Didn't the air force detect the threat before?" Admiral Crook asked.

"General, this is obviously a conspiracy by the British. They deliberately avoided the detection of our reconnaissance plane and arrived in Le Havre after we launched an attack. The purpose is to launch a surprise attack on us and severely damage us. .Obviously, their plan succeeded!" said Lieutenant General Ludendorff.

"Report. General, the air force has identified the British Navy. They dispatched 21 pre-dreadnought ships and 13 armored cruisers. There are also a large number of small and medium warships." The staff officer reported.

"Pre-dreadnought and armored cruiser?" Admiral Crook and Lieutenant General Ludendorff were taken aback for a moment, and then they fully understood.

"Damn British guy. It turns out they used pre-dreadnoughts and armored cruisers to deal with us." Admiral Crook smiled wryly.

"Yes! General. Those former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers are vulnerable to the main fleet of the Imperial Navy. However, they are a nightmare for the Army. We want to defeat the British Expeditionary Force and take Leah For Le Havre, you have to kill the British fleet first. No matter how bad it is, you have to drive them away from Le Havre. Otherwise, there is no way to fight this battle." Lieutenant General Ludendorff said.

Admiral Crook nodded. However, how to deal with the British fleet is undoubtedly a headache.

Chapter 583: Countermeasures

7-9 minutes

German capital Berlin, Imperial Palace.

After Qin Tian succeeded to the throne and became Emperor William III, he naturally couldn't stay on the front line all the time. Fortunately, the German army on the Western Front has completely established its victory. This made Qin Tian not have to worry too much. Even if the command is transferred to the General Staff, there is no problem.

Being the emperor and being the crown prince are naturally completely different. Even if Qin Tian has fully delegated power, the government affairs are in charge of the cabinet, and the military affairs are in charge of the Ministry of the Army and the Ministry of the Navy. He only needs to know the final result. Even so, he was exhausted enough. However, this is also because he has just succeeded to the throne, and he is not familiar with many affairs. After this busy period, it will be much better relatively speaking.

At noon on May 7, when Qin Tian was still eating lunch, the waiter reported that Marshal von Falkenhain, the Minister of War and Chief of the General Staff, and General Waldzer, the Deputy Chief of the General Staff, asked to see him.

"Let them go to the office, I'll be ready soon." After Qin Tian finished speaking, he stuffed the steak into his mouth two or three times, then drank the freshly squeezed juice in the glass, wiped his mouth, and rushed to the office. He knew that von Falkenhain and Waldsee would not have come to see him at this time if the situation had not been urgent.

"Your Majesty!" After Qin Tian entered the office, both Von Falkenhain and Waldsee saluted him. Although Qin Tian is still very young, he is already the emperor of the empire after all.

"Both of you, please sit down. Have you had your lunch? If not, I'll ask someone to prepare it." Qin Tian asked.

"Your Majesty, we have already eaten." Von Falkenhain expressed his thanks.

"Okay, bring three cups of coffee." Qin Tian said one after another.

After the waiter left, Qin Cai asked, "What happened?"

"Your Majesty, something has happened in the battle between the 1st Army and the 8th Army to attack Le Havre," said von Falkenhain.

"What? How is it possible?" Qin Tian couldn't help frowning. The 1st Army and the 8th Army have nearly 500,000 troops, both of which are the most elite troops of the Imperial Army. Attacking Le Havre, where more than 300,000 British expeditionary forces are stationed, should definitely be a sure thing. How could there be problems? This really made Qin Tian a little unbelievable.

"Your Majesty, the British dispatched their navy. They dispatched a huge fleet consisting of 21 pre-dreadnoughts and 13 armored cruisers, which appeared off the coast of Le Havre to attack the 1st Army Corps attacking Le Havre. He and the 8th Army launched a fierce bombardment. Under the bombardment of the British's large-caliber naval guns, the 1st Army and the 8th Army not only failed to attack, but also paid an extremely heavy price." Von Falkenhain Marshal introduced.

Qin Tian's complexion suddenly became quite ugly. Although, he didn't see it with his own eyes. But he could fully imagine that when the German infantry attacked Le Havre, the British warships began to shell violently. A large number of large-caliber naval guns fell from the sky and exploded in the ranks of

the German army. What kind of scene would it be like? What is certain is that the German army must have suffered considerable losses under the bombardment of the British naval guns.

"How big is our loss?" Qin Tian asked.

"Your Majesty, the 1st Army and the 8th Army lost more than 10,000 people in this attack alone. In addition, hundreds of cannons were destroyed by the British naval guns. The morale of the troops, after this battle After that, it was hit hard. This will be very detrimental to our next battle." Admiral Waldsee said.

Qin Tian nodded. The setback of this round of attack is indeed something that the German Army has never experienced since the start of the war. Especially the 8th Army, whether on the Eastern Front or the Western Front, they have been winning continuously and have never failed. This time, they were beaten by the British naval guns and suffered heavy losses. This was indeed a serious blow to the 8th Army.

"General Crook and General Ludendorff, what are you going to do?" Qin Tian asked.

"Your Majesty, for the time being, the 1st Army and the 8th Army have withdrawn from the range of the British Navy's naval guns. However, if we want to attack Le Havre, we have to consider the threat of the British Navy's naval guns to us. If this threat cannot be resolved, the 1st Army and the 8th Army may not be able to take Le Havre, and may even pay a greater loss there." Marshal von Falkenhain said.

Qin Tian agreed with this. The size of the fleet assembled by the British Navy is indeed huge. This is also the strong background of the Royal Navy of the British Empire, which makes it easy for them to assemble such a powerful fleet. Other countries may not be able to do it at all. Although, those warships are outdated old warships. But it turns out that there has never been any waste in this world, only misplaced resources.

"How do you plan to solve the threat of the British fleet?" Qin Tian asked.

Admirals von Falkenhain and Waldzer looked at it, and then Marshal von Falkenhain said: "Your Majesty, I hope that the High Seas Fleet can send a fleet to the south to defeat the British fleet and relieve the British navy of threat to our Army."

Sending the fleet south to defeat the British fleet is undoubtedly the safest method. However, the German Navy cannot dispatch many warships now.

"The navy may not be able to dispatch the main fleet now. Although our navy has already severely damaged the British navy. However, the blockade of the United Kingdom has also entered the most critical moment. Most of the warships are operating in the western waters of the United Kingdom and the North Sea. In addition, the Admiralty discovered that the British Navy, the French Navy and the Italian Navy were secretly mobilizing. They judged that the British were not willing to fail and were actively preparing to counterattack the Imperial Navy. Therefore, the High Seas Fleet cannot act rashly. All the main forces Ships need to be used to deal with potential threats. In this case, I am afraid that I will not be able to provide support for you for the time being." Qin Tian said.

Naval movements of Great Britain, France and the Kingdom of Italy, albeit in secret. However, it is impossible to achieve complete secrecy. The German intelligence agency, based on clues, speculated that Britain, France and Italy are most likely preparing to deal with the German navy. This made the

German navy have to deal with it vigilantly as if it was facing a big enemy. The German Navy can have the current situation, but it has not come easily. It would be a pity if a good situation was lost due to a negligence.

Chapter 584: Solution

7-9 minutes

The reason why Germany was able to gain a decisive advantage in this war has a lot to do with the fact that the German navy defeated the British navy in many naval battles. If the German navy has no way to gain an advantage, or even win, Britain can rely on its powerful navy to blockade Germany's coastline, and then use the resources of its vast overseas colonies to directly drag Germany to death.

In another time and space, this is what the British did. The powerful Germany was directly dragged to death by the British.

However, in this time and space, everything is different. In the decisive battle with the German navy, the British navy not only did not take advantage of it, but was hit hard again and again. Now even the main battleship is running out. This allowed Germany's overseas trade to continue. At the same time, it can in turn blockade the United Kingdom, causing the United Kingdom to fall into internal and external difficulties.

So, the German Navy has become a crucial force for Germany to win this naval battle.

This is also the reason why the German Navy felt like an enemy when it learned that the British Navy had not given up its efforts. Although, in terms of strength, the German navy has completely taken advantage. But no one dares to take it lightly. In naval battles, the factor of luck is very large. Maybe if the enemy is lucky, it may cause one's own side to lose completely in the naval battle.

The High Seas Fleet is unable to draw, which is undoubtedly not good news for the Imperial Army. After all, it is impossible for the 1st Army and 8th Army of Le Havre to launch an attack despite the fierce shelling of the British Navy, right? In that case, what is the difference between courting death?

"Your Majesty, I'm afraid we have to temporarily suspend our attack on Le Havre. Otherwise, if we attack forcefully, the loss will be too great for us to bear." Marshal von Falkenhain said.

Qin Tian frowned, giving up the attack was not what he wanted to see. However, the heavy price to be paid for a forced attack was also unbearable for him.

"Your Majesty, since the British are using pre-dreadnoughts and armored cruisers, can we also use pre-dreadnoughts and armored cruisers? The main force of the High Seas Fleet is dreadnoughts and super-dreadnoughts. Ships and armored cruisers are used for offshore defense. We can completely let these former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers participate in the battle like the British!" Admiral Waldzer suggested.

Marshal von Falkenhain couldn't help but shine.

"Yes, Your Majesty. Doesn't the Imperial Navy still have so many former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers? We can use the former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers to deal with the British and solve the problem of Le Havre." Von Falken Marshal Hein said.

At the beginning of the vigorous development of the German Navy, the first battleship built was also a former dreadnought. In order to catch up with the footsteps of the British Navy, Germany built a total of 24 first five ships of five levels, including four 'Brandenburg-class' battleships, five 'Caesar? Frederick III-class' battleships, five 'Wei Chersbach class' battleships, five 'Brunschweig class' battleships and five 'Deutschland class' battleships. Although, these former dreadnoughts became obsolete before the completion of the British Navy's "HMS Dreadnought" battleship. However, in the era of dreadnoughts, the German navy advanced furiously, surpassing the British navy in one fell swoop, and finally pulled the British navy from the throne of maritime supremacy.

These 24 pre-dreadnought ships hardly played any role in naval battles. Originally, it was planned to let them form an artillery formation to provide fire support to the army when they landed on the British mainland to fight, and it was considered waste utilization.

Qin Tian frowned: "Should the navy send out the pre-dreadnoughts and armored cruisers to have a showdown with the British on the pre-dreadnoughts? Wouldn't that be unfair to the Imperial Navy?"

Marshal von Falkenhain and Admiral Waldsee couldn't help but be taken aback for a moment, then nodded.

Indeed, the Imperial Navy now has a great advantage. But now it is completely letting them give up their own advantages and use their own disadvantages to fight the British navy. In this case, it will undoubtedly make this naval battle very tragic. The Imperial Navy will also pay an unnecessary price for this.

Von Falkenhain and Waldsee couldn't help feeling a little embarrassed. They are just starting out and haven't considered this issue yet. Now that I think about it, it's really something that shouldn't be done.

"Your Majesty, why don't you attack Le Havre after the Imperial Navy resolves the crisis? In this case, it will be safer." Admiral Waldzer said.

Qin Tian shook his head: "In that case, it will take too long. Maybe the British will try their best to transport the 300,000 troops from Le Havre back to China. When we land on the British mainland to fight, There's going to be quite a bit of trouble."

Von Falkenhain and Waldsee couldn't help being dumbfounded. This problem seems to be unsolvable!

However, the serious expression on Qin Tian's face has disappeared.

"Your Majesty, you must have thought of a solution!" Von Falkenhain asked.

Qin Tian nodded: "Yes, the main fleet of the High Seas Fleet cannot be moved. In order to avoid unnecessary losses, it is best not to use the fleet composed of former dreadnoughts. In this case, we can only think of other ways .Fortunately, we're not really helpless against the British pre-dreadnoughts."

"Although the current capital ships of the Imperial Navy are still battleships and battlecruisers. However, the two aircraft carriers also showed extremely powerful attack power in the decisive battle with the British. This time, it happens that the carrier-based air force can be used To deal with the former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers of the British." Qin Tian said.

"Carrier-based aircraft unit? That's great. Doesn't this mean that the problem of Le Havre will be resolved soon?" Marshal von Falkenhain laughed.

He will solve the threat of the British Navy no matter what, as long as he can solve the threat of the British Navy. Then, he is satisfied.

"Let the 1st Army and the 8th Army rest for a while. Then pay attention to protecting the airport around Le Havre. I will give the Navy an order to mobilize their carrier-based aircraft to Le Havre and launch an attack on the British Navy's fleet. Attacking." Qin Tian said.

"Yes, Your Majesty." Von Falkenhain and Waldsee immediately lost their pressure.

Chapter 585: Carrier-based aircraft

7-9 minutes

During the decisive battle between the German Navy and the British Navy, the two aircraft carriers of the German Navy, the "Pioneer" and the "Glorious", participated in that decisive battle. The two aircraft carriers released their carrier-based aircraft and launched an attack on the capital ship of the British Navy. The carrier-based aircraft directly dropped torpedoes, causing the British Navy to pay heavy losses.

Although, due to technical limitations, the current carrier-based aircraft can only carry light torpedoes. However, the early dreadnoughts of the British Navy were too weak to resist even light torpedoes.

Of course, the reason why the German Navy defeated the British Navy played a decisive role in battleships and battlecruisers. However, the powerful strength erupted by the combination of aircraft carrier and carrier-based aircraft is still eye-catching.

Because of Qin Tian's relationship, Germany became the first country in the world to build aircraft carriers and use carrier-based aircraft. In this field, they are already at the leading level in the world. But even so, the German Navy continued to deepen the development of this field. Because, their current aircraft carrier and carrier-based aircraft are undoubtedly far from the standards and requirements proposed by Qin Tian.

After the "Pioneer-class" aircraft carrier, a total of four aircraft carriers are under construction for the German Navy. The displacement of these four aircraft carriers is much larger than that of the 'Pioneer-class' aircraft carriers, with a full load displacement of more than 26,000 tons. The aircraft carrier has a larger flight deck and a larger hangar, which can accommodate more combat aircraft. This class of aircraft carrier is named the "Wilhelm the Great Class" aircraft carrier. The first ship was named

the aircraft carrier "Wilhelm the Great", and the other three were named "Frederick III", "Wilhelm II" and "Wilhelm III".

'Wilhelm the Kaiser' aircraft carrier, capable of carrying 64 combat aircraft. Among them were 18 fighters, 24 bombers and 24 torpedo attack aircraft. The previous "Pioneer-class" aircraft carriers carried fighter jets and torpedo attack aircraft. Restricted by technical conditions, it is difficult for a bomber taking off from an aircraft carrier to hit a surface target unless it is dive bombing. Therefore, the torpedo attack, which is easier to hit the target, was chosen as a last resort. However, after the outbreak of the war, technology has also been greatly improved. The bombers equipped by the navy can barely meet the bombing of surface targets. Although the angle of the dive is not large, the hit rate is relatively low. But at least it won't be as unbearably low as before. This made it possible for bombers to board the ship. At the same time, the thickest armor of a battleship is generally the waterline armor, the front armor of the turret and the armor of the conning tower, while the deck armor is relatively weak. Once attacked from the sky, the weak armor is difficult to resist. In the future, each formation of the "Wilhelm the Great" aircraft carrier will be equipped with bombers and torpedo aircraft at the same time, further strengthening the combat effectiveness of the carrier-based air force.

Although, the four "Wilhelm the Great-class" aircraft carriers have not yet been able to serve. However, the carrier-based aircraft unit has already started training and has formed combat effectiveness. After the "Wilhelm the Great-class" aircraft carrier enters service, it will be able to board the ship immediately to form combat effectiveness.

It is these carrier-based aircraft that Qin Tian plans to use to deal with the main force of the fleet composed of the former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers of the British Navy. Letting them participate in this attack is undoubtedly an exercise similar to actual combat.

After Qin Tian's order was issued, the Imperial Navy's carrier-based aircraft unit immediately began preparations. A large number of carrier-based aircraft went to the airport near Le Havre to stand by after going through one transition after another.

Fortunately, although France's aviation industry is not as good as Germany's, French fighters were defeated by German fighters during the war. However, many airports have been built in various parts of France. Not far from Le Havre, there are two airports. This allowed the four carrier-based aircraft wings transferred from Germany to station at these airports.

Admiral Crook, Commander of the German 1st Army Corps, and Lieutenant General Ludendorff, Chief of Staff of the 8th Army Corps, rushed to the airport in person to welcome the arrival of the naval carrier-based aircraft unit. After all, these carrier-based aircraft units came to help them this time.

"Hello, General!" Lieutenant General von Ingenauer, commander of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft force, personally directed the battle.

Because the German Navy's aircraft carrier formation is still in its infancy. The various establishments are relatively chaotic. In order to ensure the training and development of the carrier-based aircraft force, a carrier-based aircraft command was established to be responsible. Lieutenant General von Ingenauer was the first commander of the carrier-based aircraft force.

"Hello, General Ingenuel. Thank you for coming to help us!" Admiral Crook also showed a smile on his face.

These days, he and Lieutenant General Ludendorff have been under tremendous pressure. Now, all these pressures have dissipated with the arrival of the carrier-based aircraft force. If the carrier-based aircraft force can eliminate the British fleet in one fell swoop, then they will have almost no problem in taking Le Havre.

"General, we are just following orders. What's more, the British used the fleet to bombard the army despicably, which is a very shameless way of fighting. Naturally, the Imperial Navy can't let them run amok like this!" Inge Lieutenant General Knoll said.

"Very well, General Ingenuel, I am looking forward to the Imperial Navy's carrier-based aircraft force to kill all the British warships and avenge the army officers and soldiers who died under their shelling." Admiral Crook said .

"Yes, General. We will definitely do it!" Lieutenant General Ingenuel was full of confidence.

The four carrier-based aircraft wings that participated in the battle this time are the most cutting-edge carrier-based aircraft equipped by the German Navy. The bomber carried an aerial bomb weighing 250 kilograms. The torpedo attack aircraft carried 450 mm heavy torpedoes. In terms of power, it is naturally much stronger than the previous light torpedoes. The defense of the former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers of the British Navy was not very good. Facing the siege of the German navy's carrier-based aircraft force, what will happen is naturally conceivable.

It is a pity that neither the British Expeditionary Force nor the Royal Navy knew that the crisis had come to them. They are still cheering for stopping the German attack on Le Havre. I thought that the German army was at the end of their rope, and there was nothing they could do about it. Soon, they will learn how wrong they were.

Chapter 586: The counterattack of the Germans

7-9 minutes

The German Navy's carrier-based aircraft units moved quickly. After arriving in Le Havre, they immediately began preparations for the attack. With the efforts of the logistics department, a large amount of aviation ammunition arrived at the front line.

On May 10, everything is ready.

"General Crook, General Ludendorff. According to the information we have, the British fleet is about 20 kilometers away from Le Havre. If Le Havre is attacked by our army, they will You can sail to Le Havre immediately, and you can start shelling in half an hour." Lieutenant General Ingenor said.

Admiral Crook and Lieutenant General Ludendorff nodded.

"Last time, we were fooled by them because of our negligence! At that time, the reconnaissance plane did not find the British fleet, thinking that there was no danger. The infantry launched the attack. But who knows, after the attack into the Le After Havre, we were bombarded by the British fleet, which caused us heavy losses." Lieutenant General Ludendorff said.

"This time, the British fleet will not have another chance to attack. Our carrier-based aircraft will sink all the British warships." Lieutenant General Ingenor said confidently.

"By the way, General, there is one more news I need to inform you. In order to show its support for the Army, the Imperial Navy has mobilized a fleet of ten former dreadnoughts, and they are on their way to Le Havre. Because The Straits of Dover and the English Channel are densely covered with mines. Therefore, the fleet needs to detour around the west of England. It is expected to arrive tomorrow morning. At that time, they will cooperate with the army to launch an artillery attack on Le Havre to eliminate the British Expeditionary Force here "' Lieutenant General Ingenuel said.

"This is really great! We have suffered so many shells from the British navy. Now, it is the turn of the British to suffer from our navy's shells." Admiral Crook said with a smile.

Lieutenant General Ludendorff's face was also full of smiles. If there is fire support from the Navy's ten former dreadnoughts, this will allow them to have more powerful firepower when attacking Le Havre. In this way, they will be able to take Le Havre at a minimum cost.

"General, our troops are already preparing. Half an hour later, the 3rd and 4th Carrier Air Wings will take off for combat. An hour later, the 5th and 6th Carrier Air Wings will also take off for combat. ...I estimate that after the four carrier-based aircraft wings launch the attack, there will not be many warships left in the British fleet. At that time, it will be almost enough to send some carrier-based aircraft to mop up the tail." Lieutenant General Ingenuel said.

"General Ingenuel, the specific command is up to you to decide. We only need one result. I believe that the Imperial Navy's carrier-based aircraft force will easily win this time!" Admiral Crook said.

"Yes, General." Lieutenant General Ingenuel said no more.

At this moment in Le Havre, the life of the British Expeditionary Force is relatively comfortable. Under the threat of the British fleet, the German Army did not dare to approach Le Havre at all, and naturally it was impossible to threaten them. They finally don't have to live in fear anymore. Although various supplies have begun to run short, at least they have not yet reached the point of starvation. This may be the most leisurely period after the expeditionary force arrived in France to fight on the battlefield.

"General Haig, how is the morale of the troops recovering?" Sir French asked.

"Your Excellency, the morale of the troops has fully recovered. The soldiers have great confidence in defending Le Havre." Admiral Haig said.

Of course, everyone knows that this is mainly because the officers and soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force believe that with the fire cover of the naval fleet, it is impossible for the German army to attack them. In this case, of course they have nothing to fear.

Sir French nodded: "However, I always feel that the Germans will not let it go. They will not let us stay in Le Havre. If not, they will plan something to deal with us conspiracy."

Admiral Haig frowned: "Your Excellency, perhaps it is true. However, what else can the Germans do in such a situation? The Royal Navy did not notice that the main German fleet was going south. What's

more , The final decisive battle between the Royal Navy and the Germans is about to begin. At this time, the Germans should not send a fleet to drive the Royal Navy's fleet."

Sir French thought for a while, then nodded: "I hope God can bless the British Empire this time and tide over the difficulties!"

"God will bless the British Empire. Our bad luck is over, and now we are getting lucky. In this war, we will definitely win." Admiral Haig seemed confident. However, it is not clear where his confidence comes from.

At 9:00 am on May 10, the German Navy carrier-based aircraft force had completed preparations for the attack.

"Order the 3rd and 4th carrier-based air wing to take off!" Lieutenant General Ingenuel ordered.

"Yes, General."

After the order was issued, the 128 combat aircraft of the 3rd and 4th Carrier Air Wings took off from the runway of the airport in sequence and rushed into the sky. After completing the formation over the airport, they flew to the waters west of Le Havre.

"My God! The plane, the German plane."

"The Germans are really powerful, and they are equipped with so many planes. They shouldn't be here to bomb us, right?"

When the German carrier-based aircraft flew over Le Havre, the officers and soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force all exclaimed. Although it is not the first time they have seen the plane. However, it is definitely the first time that such a large-scale fleet has been seen.

Sir French and Admiral Haig also saw the fleet flying over Le Havre. However, their faces became quite ugly.

"Damn it, these planes of the Germans are probably heading towards the Royal Navy. I knew that the Germans would not let it go like this." Sir French cursed.

"I heard that the German Navy also used aircraft in the decisive battle with the Royal Navy. Now it seems that they want to use aircraft to deal with our fleet." Admiral Haig's face was livid. I don't know where the previous self-confidence has gone. Obviously, the dispatch of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft force made them feel a great crisis.

"Telegram General Caveson immediately to tell him the news!" Sir French said.

As for how Lieutenant General Caveson and the British fleet should respond, or whether they can withstand the attack of German aircraft, they don't know.

Chapter 587: Hunting

7-9 minutes

On the battleship HMS Edward VII of the British Royal Navy, Lieutenant General Caveson was standing on the front deck, drinking coffee, blowing the sea breeze, and watching the sailors wipe the deck.

"Boys, you did a good job. You must polish the deck. I think back then, when I was a sailor, I had to wipe the deck like you every morning." Lieutenant General Caveson seemed to be in a good mood.

Although, the German army has not attacked Le Havre these days. But this is undoubtedly because the deterrent effect of the British fleet still exists, so the German army did not dare to act rashly. Relying on a fleet to frighten hundreds of thousands of German troops, such a feat is undoubtedly enough for Lieutenant General Caveson to brag about for a lifetime. Of course, he still hopes that the German army can launch an offensive without fear of death. In this case, he will be able to lead the fleet to cause greater losses to the German army. His boasting capital will no doubt be even richer.

The current Lieutenant General Caveson has not realized at all that the crisis is about to come to them. Otherwise, he probably wouldn't be in the mood to drink coffee and watch the sea.

"General, there is an urgent call from the Expeditionary Force Headquarters!" A staff officer shouted loudly.

"What's going on? Have the Germans started attacking again? Let the ships get ready, go to Le Havre, and use our naval gun shells to teach the Germans a lesson!" Lieutenant General Caveson yelled.

However, when the staff officer delivered the telegram to him, and after reading the telegram, Lieutenant General Caveson lost his voice all of a sudden, just like a duck squawking everywhere, its throat was pinched all of a sudden. .

There were only a few short words in the telegram, but it made Lieutenant General Caveson feel like he was struck by lightning.

The German army dispatched a large number of planes, immediately evade!

"Damn it, order the fleet to speed up and sail west immediately!" Lieutenant General Caveson roared loudly.

Although, he was not able to participate in the decisive battle between the German Navy and the British Navy. However, as a senior general of the Royal Navy, he was very clear about the course of that naval battle. Of course he knew the news that the German navy dispatched planes to sink several dreadnought ships of the British navy. Although, those dreadnought ships were all originally built dreadnought ships, and their performance was not strong. But no matter how bad it is, it is definitely much stronger than these former dreadnoughts of theirs. The planes of the German Navy can easily sink their dreadnoughts. Doesn't it mean that sinking these former dreadnoughts is as easy as killing chickens and dogs?

Lieutenant General Caveson's order made the warships of the British fleet very strange. Isn't their task to assist the expeditionary force to defend Le Havre? Why did you suddenly leave again?

Still, they left and followed orders. After all, this is the bounden duty of a soldier. Some smarter people have even thought that something must have happened. For example, the arrival of the main fleet of the German Navy? In that case, their fleet composed of former dreadnoughts and armored

cruisers may have to kill them immediately. Otherwise, what was waiting for them would probably be sunk and feed the fish.

Lieutenant General Cavison's sudden order caused some confusion in the fleet. All the battleships almost started to turn around, almost causing a collision accident.

At this time, the fighter planes of the 3rd and 4th Wings of carrier-based aircraft of the German Navy have already appeared in the eastern sky.

"Woo!"

The shrill siren rang through the entire fleet, and all the officers and soldiers of the Royal Navy were shocked and their faces changed drastically. They are all veterans, so they naturally know what this means.

"My God! Are the Germans coming? Where are they?" asked a Royal Navy officer.

"Sir, in the sky! The Germans are in the sky. Lots of their planes."

When the officer of the Royal Navy held up the binoculars and saw the planes in the sky, he was immediately speechless.

"Sir, the general ordered the ships to disperse immediately. Avoid the German attack."

The dense formation will obviously become the best target for the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft attack. Only by dispersing them can they be better avoided. However, the prerequisite is that these warships must be fast enough, and at the same time must have powerful anti-aircraft weapons. Otherwise, facing the attack of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft, they will still be like lambs staying.

After the decisive battle between the British and German navies, the British Royal Navy also realized the threat of carrier-based aircraft to surface warships. They also made some preparations, such as adding anti-aircraft machine guns or anti-aircraft guns to the battleship. However, only capital battleships underwent such modifications. These large numbers of former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers seem to have no need for modification at all. Therefore, naturally there is no need to waste resources.

"Whoo! Whoo! Whoo!"

The German carrier-based aircraft commander who was in charge of directing this attack gave the order to attack. Three red flares went into the air, and all the pilots of the carrier aircraft could see them clearly. The meaning of this signal is that each carrier-based aircraft hunts and kills freely in small groups.

After the order was issued, the formation of more than 100 carrier-based aircraft of the German army changed immediately. The original dense formation suddenly dispersed. These carrier-based aircraft launched an attack on the warships of the British Navy on the sea in units of four.

"God! Speed up, the German plane is coming." The captain of the battleship "Indian" of the British Navy roared loudly. His eyes were full of horror.

As the fifth ship of the "Edward VII-class" battleship, the "Indian" battleship has a full load displacement of only more than 16,000 tons. In front of the current battleship with a displacement of tens of thousands of tons, such a displacement is nothing more than a small head. Of course, in front of those carrier-based aircraft, the battleship "Indian" is an out-and-out behemoth.

But now, the battleship "Indian" was scared and fled in embarrassment by the German carrier-based aircraft.

Four torpedo attack aircraft targeted the battleship 'Indian'. Under the guidance of the squad leader, the four torpedo attack planes caught up with the battleship 'Indian', and then began to lower their altitude and shorten the distance.

A few minutes later, four torpedo attack aircraft launched an attack on the battleship "Indian". They dropped torpedoes within five hundred meters of the Indian.

Four 450mm medium-sized torpedoes hit the sea heavily. After the torpedo sank into the sea, they quickly surfaced and rushed towards the battleship 'Indian' at high speed. The British navy sailors on the battleship were frightened and shouted. .

"Evade, evade immediately!" the captain shouted loudly.

Chapter 588: Kill chickens and dogs

7-9 minutes

"My God! It's coming. Be prepared for impact!"

The officers and soldiers of the British Navy on the battleship 'Indian' watched the torpedo hit the side of the battleship helplessly. Although the battleship made an emergency evasion, the distance was too close, and the speed of the torpedo was too fast, so that they could not react at all.

"Boom!"

A medium torpedo hit the port side of the battleship "Indian". The waterline armor, which was only 228 mm thick, was torn apart in a violent explosion like paper.

The battleships of the British Navy have always attached importance to firepower and speed, and despised defense. Not only the dreadnought ship, but even the previous pre-dreadnought ship were built according to this design idea.

This also makes the battleships of the British Navy quite poor in carrying out strikes.

When the torpedo exploded, the sailors of the Royal Navy on the battleship "Indian" were stunned. The unlucky ones were even thrown into the sea by the shock, and their life and death were unknown.

Although, the battleship "Indian" seemed to have better luck, and was only hit by one torpedo. But even this is enough for them to drink a pot. The large hole torn open by the torpedo explosion caused seawater to pour into it crazily. The damage control personnel tried their best, but they couldn't plug

the hole. As a last resort, the watertight compartment had to be closed. However, due to too much water entering the sea, the warships were tilted to a certain extent, which affected the speed to a certain extent.

Before the captain of the battleship 'Indian' could breathe a sigh of relief, four bombers attacked them again. These four bombers carrying aerial bombs launched an attack at an altitude of thousands of meters. Due to the structure of the aircraft, the angle of the dive was not too large, and it almost swooped towards the battleship 'Indian' from the air.

At a height of about 500 meters from the sea, the four bombers dropped their bombs and then changed their attack course.

"Boom! Boom!"

Of the four bombs, only one hit the battleship 'Indian', and the other three fell into the sea. After the bomb exploded, a high column of water was splashed into the sky. However, the bomb that hit the battleship 'Indian' easily penetrated the deck armor of the battleship, exploded inside the battleship, blew up several adjacent compartments, caused a raging fire, and further damaged the 'Indian'. The battleship inflicted damage.

Facing the attack of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft force, these former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers of the Royal Navy desperately fled. They rushed left and right, trying to avoid the blow from the air. However, this made their formation even more chaotic.

Warships were constantly hit by bombs or torpedoes dropped by German Navy carrier-based aircraft. The weak defense made these warships of the British Navy bad luck.

Once hit by a torpedo, the waterline armor can hardly resist it. Once the sea water pours into the battleship, it will further cause greater losses to their battleship.

"General, the battleship 'Indian' was severely damaged." A staff officer reported to Lieutenant General Cavison.

Lieutenant General Cavison's face was already dark as if it was the bottom of a pot. It's only been ten minutes since the battle started, and some of their warships were severely damaged. This shows how powerful the attack power of these German aircraft is.

"Let them decide for themselves!" Lieutenant General Cavison said. In his words, there was a deep unwillingness and helplessness. Facing the attack of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft, they had nothing to do. Now there is only passive beating.

"Yes, General." The officer immediately sent a telegram.

The battleship 'Indian' became the first former dreadnought ship of the British Navy to be sunk in this battle. In addition to being hit by a torpedo and a bomb at the beginning, in the ensuing battle, he was hit by two more torpedoes and a bomb. This is already a fatal injury for a battleship with a displacement of more than 16,000 tons.

Although the structure of the hull was relatively complete, the battleship was flooded with too much water, which eventually caused the battleship to suffer from insufficient buoyancy and sank into the sea.

"God! The 'Indian' was killed by the Germans. It's hard to imagine that those things like toys have such great power."

"Yes! The Germans are so powerful that they actually developed such a terrifying weapon!"

Originally, many officers and soldiers of the Royal Navy sneered at the fact that the German Navy used planes to sink a huge warship. Thinking that in front of a huge battleship like a hill, the plane is like a child's toy, how could it have such a strong attack power? However, now that the facts are in front of them, they can't help but not believe it! The huge battleship looked so vulnerable in front of those small planes. The German Navy used those planes to kill their huge warships easily, just like killing chickens and dogs.

The battleship 'Montague' is the fifth ship of the 'Duncan-class' battleships. The full-load displacement of this battleship is more than 14,000 tons, and it is equipped with two twin 305mm main guns and twelve 152mm secondary guns. This kind of firepower makes it an absolute capital ship in the era of pre-dreadnought ships.

It's just that now the battleship is fleeing in embarrassment under the pursuit of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft.

"Hurry up, speed up, the German planes are catching up!" The captain of the battleship 'Montague' ordered.

"Sir, we have already ventilated the boiler with forced ventilation. Further forced ventilation will make the boiler of the battleship unbearable." The chief engineer reported.

The battleship "Montague" was designed with a maximum speed of only 19 knots. After serving for more than ten years, the maximum speed is only 16 or 17 knots left, which is why it has been maintained. Otherwise, the speed of the battleship may drop further. Even though the battleship has undergone forced ventilation, the speed has barely increased to 18 knots. Such a speed is undoubtedly not enough in front of a plane of up to 200 kilometers per hour.

"Damn! Why didn't our warships install anti-aircraft machine guns and anti-aircraft guns? Otherwise, we wouldn't just be beaten passively!" The gunner's face was unwilling.

British warships lacking anti-aircraft weapons can only be beaten passively, or pray to God that the German bombs and torpedoes will not hit their warships. Other than that, there seemed to be no other way.

Although the battleship "Montagu" fled frantically, it still failed to escape, and was soon sent to the bottom of the sea by the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft.

Chapter 589: wipe out

7-9 minutes

"General, the current situation is very pessimistic. The 'Indian' and the 'Montague' were sunk successively. In addition, many battleships were sunk. As for the armored cruisers, the 'Minotaur' and the 'North' were sunk. Gill is sunk." On the bridge of the battleship Edward VII, a staff officer reported to Lieutenant Admiral Caveson.

The battleship "Edward VII" was relatively lucky. Although they were the flagship of the fleet, they were not attacked by the carrier-based aircraft of the German Navy. Not because of anything else, but because the flagship flag of the 'Edward VII' was lowered before the battle started. The Germans did not know that this battleship was the flagship of the British fleet.

After all, there are a total of eight 'Edward VII-class' battleships, and they are all similar in appearance.

After listening to the report, Lieutenant General Cavisson didn't say a word. Now, the carrier-based aircraft of the German Navy are massacring their fleet. Huge warships, one after another, were being shot and set ablaze before being sunk.

The current Royal Navy fleet is no longer as arrogant as before. A few days ago, they were still firing fiercely at the German infantry in Le Havre, tearing the German infantry into pieces with powerful naval guns. But now, it seems that they have been re-tuned one by one, and it is their turn to be massacred by the German army.

"Order the ships to continue sailing westward. The German planes took off from the land. If you want to avoid their attacks, you have to stay as far away from the land as possible." Lieutenant General Cavisson said.

"Yes, General." The staff officer nodded.

When there was no way to deal with the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft, blindly fleeing became the only way. However, Lieutenant General Cavisson is not sure whether he can escape in the end.

"General, those planes of the Germans dropped torpedoes and bombs. But I observed that the German planes seemed to carry only one torpedo or one bomb. After dropping, they all flew away. It can be seen that the Germans Although the attack power of human planes is very strong, it has great limitations. As long as they persist until their ammunition is exhausted, we will be saved." An officer said.

Lieutenant General Cavisson was taken aback for a moment, but then nodded: "That is indeed the case! Maybe we still have a chance to escape!"

Of course, it is impossible to get out of the body. But if most of the warships can be kept, that would be a rare victory. That's much better than being sunk here! As for providing support to the infantry and helping them hold Le Havre, Lieutenant General Cavisson dared not mention a word. Now they can't even protect themselves, let alone support the army. The British Expeditionary Force can only rely on itself.

"Tell the news to all the ships and let them find a way to persist. As long as we persist until the end, we will be able to safely withdraw to the British mainland!" Lieutenant General Caveson ordered.

When the fleet encountered a frenzied massacre by the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft, the morale of the fleet was also rapidly declining. If the morale of the fleet can be stabilized, or even improved, it will undoubtedly be of great help to continue fighting.

Sure enough, the officers and soldiers of the Royal Navy breathed a sigh of relief after learning that the German aircraft would soon have to return due to the exhaustion of ammunition. They just had to pray to God that the German bombs and torpedoes would not fall on their heads. Then, it is entirely possible for them to escape this disaster.

"Boom! Boom!"

A violent explosion sounded on the armored cruiser "Devonshire" of the British Navy. I saw that this huge battleship with a displacement of more than 10,000 tons was completely shrouded in flames and gunpowder smoke. When the fire and smoke cleared, there was nothing left on the sea.

In the explosion just now, after an aerial bomb penetrated the deck armor, it penetrated the armor of the ammunition depot under the turret one after another, and then exploded. Hundreds of 190mm artillery shells exploded, and the huge power directly shattered the armored cruiser 'Devonshire' into pieces.

Seeing that another warship on his side had been sunk, Lieutenant General Cavisson couldn't help but twitched his mouth.

"This is the last one, and soon the German planes will run out of ammunition. By then, we will have no more losses!" Lieutenant General Cavisson told himself in his heart.

Of course, this is not the first time he has said this to himself. Almost every time he said this, one of their warships was sunk not long after.

The 3rd and 4th Wings of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft quickly finished dropping all the bombs and torpedoes, and had to return to the field to reload the ammunition. They inflicted heavy casualties on the British Navy, with five battleships and four armored cruisers sunk. Of course, this is nothing to the huge British fleet.

"God bless, the German plane has left! We are safe!" Lieutenant General Cavisson showed a relieved expression on his face.

"Long live! God bless the British Empire!" The officers and soldiers of the other British navy also cheered.

However, after a few minutes, their cheers froze on their faces. Because, from the sky in the east, hundreds of planes flew again.

"Bastard, how is this possible? Didn't the German plane fly away? Why did it come again? Even if it is to reload the ammunition, it will take time!" Lieutenant General Cavisson roared angrily.

It was naturally the 5th and 6th Wings of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft that reappeared on the battlefield. They set out later than the 3rd and 4th Wings, and the timing was just right. After the 3rd and 4th Wings had completed their attacks, they arrived on the battlefield and launched an attack on the British Navy, just in time.

However, this is not good news for the British Navy. They had to face the attack of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft again. Moreover, it is still an attack that cannot be resisted at all.

The morale of the British fleet, under such a blow, began to decline rapidly, and fell to freezing point.

The 5th and 6th Wings of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft, like the 3rd and 4th Wings returning to the field to mount ammunition and refuel, began to slaughter the British fleet.

One British warship after another was sunk in despair. No matter how they escape, they cannot escape the pursuit of the carrier-based aircraft. Under the siege of these carrier-based aircraft, the only natural end is to be sunk.

When the 5th and 6th Wings of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft dropped all the bombs and torpedoes, there were not many warships left on the sea.

The 3rd and 4th Wings of the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft also rushed to the battlefield to do the final cleaning of the battlefield, and sent all the struggling warships to the bottom of the sea.

Chapter 590: Desperate

7-8 minutes

On a light cruiser of the British Royal Navy, Lieutenant General Caveson looked at the sea in the east without tears. There, countless ships of the Royal Navy are sinking in that sea area. I don't know how many souls of Royal Navy officers and soldiers are crying in that sea area.

The main force of the fleet, 21 former dreadnoughts and 13 armored cruisers, have all been sunk by the German Navy's carrier-based aircraft force. Other small and medium-sized warships suffered little loss. But such a heavy loss is undoubtedly another heavy blow to the British Navy. Although, these former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers are all outdated old battleships. But it is undoubtedly very distressing to lose so much at one time. What's more, although the battleships are outdated, the sailors of the Royal Navy are not outdated! The loss of so many sailors can be regarded as traumatic for the Royal Navy.

"It's over, the British Empire is completely over. The German planes are so powerful, can the Royal Navy really defeat them?" Lieutenant General Caveson murmured.

This battle completely crushed his confidence. In his mind, the German navy had become invincible.

Although, the Royal Navy is still actively preparing for the last decisive battle with the German Navy, and pins its hopes on this decisive battle. If the Royal Navy can turn defeat into victory, then Britain may still win. No matter how bad it is, it can reach a decent peace with the Germans on the premise of preserving most of its core interests. In that case, the British Empire would not collapse. There is still a chance to win again in the future. But in the eyes of Lieutenant General Caveson, the German navy is so

powerful. Not only has the world's most powerful main fleet, but also so many aircraft capable of attacking sea targets. Compared with the Royal Navy, there is no comparison at all!

The fleet led by Lieutenant General Cavisson this time returned with a disastrous defeat. All the former dreadnoughts and armored cruisers were sunk by the German Navy's carrier-based air force. Although the remaining small and medium-sized warships escaped a lot, they no longer had the courage to go to Le Havre. Lieutenant General Caveson is not sure, if he goes to Le Havre again, will the German Navy's planes also deal with all of their small and medium-sized warships. By that time, their losses will undoubtedly increase further.

What's more, the remaining small and medium-sized warships are no longer able to provide decent fire support to the British Expeditionary Force in Le Havre. This mission was a complete failure.

"General, a telegram from the Expeditionary Force Headquarters, asking how our situation is?" A staff officer reported to Lieutenant General Cavisson.

"Tell them sir that the fleet has suffered heavy losses. We have lost all our pre-dreadnoughts and armored cruisers, and now the few remaining small and medium-sized battleships are withdrawing. Tell them, I am sorry that we can no longer provide fire support for them. Next They can only rely on themselves. May God bless them!" Lieutenant General Cavisson said.

Although, he really wanted to help the expeditionary force resist the German attack. And they used their naval guns to further cause greater casualties to the German army. However, now they can't even protect themselves, so naturally they have no way to help the expeditionary army. The expeditionary force could only find a way to resist the German attack. Of course, Lieutenant General Cavisson also knew that this meant that the fate of the expeditionary force had been decided. They will be wiped out under the German attack.

"May God bless you!" Lieutenant General Cavisson said secretly in his heart.

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

Le Havre, British Expeditionary Force Headquarters. Sir French, Admiral Haig, and Admiral Gough were waiting for the Royal Navy's call back with ashen faces. The atmosphere in the entire headquarters became very solemn. All the previous confidence seemed to evaporate at this moment.

When the fleet of the Royal Navy arrived and used naval guns to severely teach the German Army, they paid a heavy price. All the expeditionary forces rejoiced, thinking that they would be able to withstand the German attack in Le Havre. But now, the German counterattack slapped them hard, pulling them back from fantasy to reality.

"General Haig, can the Royal Navy withstand the attack of the German planes?" Sir French asked. He really doesn't have much confidence now. If the Royal Navy were defeated, he really didn't know how to hold on.

"Perhaps...should be able to withstand it!" Admiral Haig said. In fact, he didn't have much confidence. The German fleet flew over Le Havre, and the overwhelming posture caused a great shock to everyone's psychology.

Actually, the German fleet could have bypassed Le Havre. In that case, it could be kept a little bit more secret. However, in the end, Admiral Crook and Lieutenant General Ludendorff chose to let the fleet fly over Le Havre in order to deter the British Expeditionary Force. After hitting their morale, it will be easier to defeat the British Expeditionary Force and take Le Havre in the next battle.

"Damn the Germans! How could they have such powerful aircraft? Compared with them, the British Empire has no achievements in this regard." Sir French complained.

In fact, in the field of aviation, the British Empire has been far surpassed by Germany. Otherwise, they would not have been suppressed so miserably.

"Your Excellency, General, a telegram from the fleet!" a communications officer reported.

Sir French took the telegram, but then his face turned pale.

"What's the matter, sir?" Admiral Haig asked.

"Lieutenant General Caveson reported that they suffered extremely heavy losses under the attack of German aircraft. 21 pre-dreadnought ships and 13 armored cruisers were all sunk." Sir French said.

"What?" General Haig and General Goff were stunned. They also realized the meaning of this sentence, which undoubtedly means that the fleet may no longer be able to provide them with fire support. In the ensuing battle, the only thing they can rely on is themselves.

"Without the fire support of the navy, the Germans will definitely launch an attack on Le Havre soon. Can we resist the German attack?" Sir French asked.

But neither Admiral Haig nor Admiral Gough said a word. Obviously, none of them had confidence.