

Impulse 7 (Axis) Russia's pain continues

Weather dr = 1 Fair, Fair, Fair, Fair, Fair, Fair (1)

As July ends, Chinese observers all along the front report the same astonishing news – the Japanese are pulling back. The city of Si-An awakes to the sound of marching feet as the IJA garrison moves out and the defenders of ChungKing find the mountains surrounding the capital empty. Obviously the Japanese High Command has decided that there are insufficient forces to mount a major offensive against the Commonwealth as well as attempting to finally crush the Chinese.

This is not to say that the Japanese are ignoring their Chinese possessions. The rebels holding the rail junction city of Cheng-Sha (and severely inhibiting communications and supply links) are hit by several infantry corps with air support from squadrons of Ki-27 "Nates". The battle is a foregone conclusion, with hardened veterans against lightly armed partisans, but the city fighting does lead to unexpectedly high casualties for the 1st Infantry Corps (2BP).



A Staffel of Stukas heads towards the 9th Guards Banner Army which is holding Minsk, the defending MiGs having been seen off by escorting Fw 190s. The Luftwaffe generally holds air superiority due to the higher quality of its aircraft, and the loss of aircraft caught on the ground is further weakening the VVS.

On the Russian Front, the defenders of Stalin's new Hero-city, Minsk, are hit by waves of Stukas which have been cleared through after an inconclusive battle between Fw 190s and MiG 1s. The 9th Guards Banner Army is severely shaken by the attack. Other "softening-up" air attacks see more Stukas terrorise the 2nd Siberian and 14th Armies at the port city of Nikolayev and the 4th Guard Tank Army (and an accompanying artillery division) becoming demoralised southwest of Kiev.

Less success is achieved in the Caucasus – Bf 110C fighter bombers have no effect on the 7th Guards who are entrenched in their mountain fastness. As a result the planned attack (to be spearheaded by the IX SS Mechanised Corps which has finally arrived at the front) is called off.

With the Luftwaffe's preliminary work complete, General von Rundstedt asks for and receives a massive amount of additional supplies for his next offensive (13OPs). This will be sufficient to double the effectiveness of eight key units in Army Group South.



The first assault, however, is in the north. Although squadrons of TB-3 bombers from Kalinin manage to push past some Hungarian "Hejja" fighters and lend support to the defenders, Minsk is a scene of devastation after the German attack. The 2nd Motorised Army is completely eliminated (despite attempting a mobile defence), as are hundreds of MiG 1 fighters (and their pilots) trapped on the ground. The 9th Guards Banner Army fights well but is forced to retreat to the southeast. But victory is not without cost. The 6th Panzer Engineer Motorised Division which led the assault on the city (and provided a much needed boost to the attack) has vanished and half the units involved are no longer capable of offensive action. *(Danny's confidence in his dice rolling has returned – although base odds are only 49:18 a dr of 17 (base +12) sees him continue to move forward).*

The centre of Minsk, Stalin's first "Hero City", is devastated after the successful if risky attack.

The shipbuilding centre of Nikolayev is the next Russian city to fall. Messerschmitt Bf 109E4 fighters quickly drive off some Pe-2 bombers and Bf 110 fighter-bombers sweep in. Although strongly held, the port is attacked by massive forces pumped up by the surge in supplies. Finally STAVKA allows frontline units to attempt to retreat but it is too late for the crack 2nd Siberian Army and the less famous 14th. The German spearhead scythes through the Russians as they pull back – there are no survivors. *(Base +29, dr = 22)*

Wehrmacht success continues southwest of Kiev. TB-3s from Vitebsk are forced to abort after attacks by Messerschmitts, despite the efforts of some Yak 7DI heavy fighters, and then troops move in. Russian losses are colossal (7BPs), with an 85mm artillery unit taking most of the damage. Timoshenko's own headquarters takes heavy casualties (3BP) and is withdrawn to Kalinin for rebuilding. The 4th Tank Army is virtually untouched but its morale is so low that it must retire to Kharkov to recover. There are no German losses. *(Base +32, dr = 25).*



The last attack of the von Rundstedt offensive sees the VVS finally get through in strength. TB-3 bombers from Rostov allow the 39th Infantry to pull back to join the headquarters unit of General Koniev, although a 75mm anti-tank unit is lost. The gunners have their vengeance – it is unlikely the 10th SS Panzer Division will forget this day (2BPs). *(Base attack 11, dr = 17).*

A Panzer IVE of the 10th SS Panzer Division shows multiple hits from 75mm anti-tank guns

At the conclusion of the offensive, von Rundstedt sees no point in using his stockpiles to resupply his ground troops, nearly all of which are still in good condition. Instead he decides to divert fuel and ammunition to Luftwaffe units that have been exhausted in the fighting.

Perhaps responding to the Allied landings on mainland Europe (even if in faraway Portugal), General Antonescu is ordered to leave his beloved Rumania and rail to northeast France, near Nantes. It is expected he will organise supply for units holding the Bay of Biscay coast line.

An evaluation of progress by OKH indicates that Army Group North's progress is slowing, probably due to a lack of infantry. As a result, XLV Infantry Corps is railed from AGS to Riga.

The overstretched Commonwealth can only watch as Portugal orders a Guards Corps from Angola into an undefended South-West Africa, where it occupies the port-city of Windhoek.

Turn ends on a 1, 3 rolled

Impulse 8 (Allies) Chinese advance as Russians retreat

The Red Army frantically tries to stem the German tide. The Far East is stripped of troops to deny Army Group South an unopposed entry to Sevastopol – the 2nd Cavalry Corps is railed from all the way from Harbin, Manchuria to the Black Sea port.

Elsewhere, any unit that can move pulls back to Dnepropetrovsk and Vitebsk, but the numbers are pitifully few. In what could be seen as a sign of desperation, STAVKA releases some of its reserves to replace the losses of the 9th Guards Banner Army (2OPs).

Amid scenes of jubilation, Communist units enter Si-An, only to find all manufacturing capacity destroyed. There are no engineers available to Mao to repair the damage – he may have to ask for assistance from the Kuomintang. All along the front Chinese forces move forward to take possession of the newly liberated countryside.



Although the Italians hold Teheran, Persia has not yet surrendered and the inhabitants of Bushehr welcome the arrival of the 13th Indian Corps. A small number of merchantmen enter the Persian Gulf to keep the Indians in supply.

The 4th Indian Motorised Corps enters Laureno Marques in Mozambique – there have been rumours of a Japanese task force getting ready to land an army in the Portuguese colony.

Men of the 13th Indian Infantry Corps line up on the dock after disembarking at the Persian Gulf port of Bushehr. They hope to hold off the Italian push towards India



Marshal of Romania Antonescu breaks his train journey to his new command in France to meet with Hitler in Munich.

In Portugal, a British Motorised Corps is landed from troopships offshore. A Belgian Territorial unit cannot land in Lisbon due to command conflict with US engineers repairing the harbour installations. The dock facilities in the Portuguese capital make it likely that it will become a major US naval base.

Turn ends on a 2, 6 rolled

Impulse 9 (Axis) More victories in Russia

Weather dr = 6 Fair, Fair, Fair, Storm. Fair, Fair (1)

Italian submarines from Egypt respond quickly to the threat in the Persian Gulf. Scores of precious tankers are lost. Unfortunately the Bombay fleet had no ships left to guard them.

The Luftwaffe is still struggling to keep up with the racing armoured spearheads of the Wehrmacht. Only a few softening up raids are mounted, but some success is achieved. Southeast of Dnepropetrovsk Stukas punish the 4th Guards Mechanised Army, and north of the city the 39th Infantry Army is demoralised by waves of Bf 110 fighter-bombers.



Army Group Turkisch has at last managed to get itself organised for an attack on Tiflis. The attack is always going to be difficult as the Russians are holding the city in force. But the Axis attackers have a bit of luck (*dr*= 21) and force the 1st Siberian Army to pull back to mountains in the northeast. It has been a bloody battle, however, and the Turkish Guards and the Russian 1st Mountain Army are destroyed in the bitter street fighting.

The Caucasus Front after the fall of Tiflis. Both II Para (2BP) and the Alpini Mountain Corps (3BP) have taken severe casualties in the recent fighting.

Southeast of Minsk, the Army Group North tries to eliminate the 9th Guards Banner Army, but a brave rearguard defence by the 1st Army allows the GBA to escape to Kharkov, although with some casualties (1BP and shattered). The 1st, however, is lost entirely.

More alarming is an attack in the south, where German units cross the Dniepr. The east shore is held by the 39th Army, but it is no match for the heavy armour thrown against it, led by the 1st SS Armour Corps, even though MiG 3 fighters successfully hold off Bf 110E fighter-bombers. A counter-attack fails to blunt the German spearhead (*base 14, but dr* = 25) and soon the 1st SS, the 1st

Armour Division and the 4th Motorised Division are across the Dniepr and racing for Kharkov. While supply links to the trailing headquarters units are not yet in place, the 1st Armour Corps holds the bridgehead securely.



Under heavy fire, German troops construct a makeshift bridge across the Dniepr. Armour units will break the Russian lines and threaten the production areas of Kharkov and Kursk.

The fate of Kiev seems sealed, as northwest of the city the 50th Infantry is overwhelmed. The VIII Mechanised Corps breaks through and overruns hundreds of new Yak 7DI fighters in their forest runways, killing or capturing the aircrew. The effort leaves its vehicles out of fuel and they will take no further part in the offensive until resupplied.

The epic rail journey of the 2nd Cavalry has been in vain, as Sevastopol is hit by two armoured corps and a mechanised and a motorised corps, supported by an anti-tank division. There are no German casualties when they easily seize the port, although the fleet escapes to Rostov. No cavalry survive.



Although the outcome is certain, there is still serious fighting before Sevastopol falls. This 3.7mm anti-tank gun has achieved a hit on a light vehicle of the 2nd Cavalry Corps. The onlooking Panzer grenadiers wait patiently – the overwhelming German superiority in numbers and heavy armour combined with local air superiority will mean casualties will be light for the attackers.

With Mozambique now denied to them, the Imperial Guard, 1st SNLF Division and II Infantry Corps are escorted into Tamatave harbour in Madagascar by the light cruisers “Maya” and “Kiru”. The amphibious landing craft and troopships remain in the harbour, perhaps ready for future operations.

In response to the Indian landings in Bushehr, Italian Alpini rail from Rumania, where they have been apparently forgotten, to Bandar in southern Persia.

Turn ends on 3, 6 rolled

Impulse 10 (Allies) World watches Russia’s struggles



In the Ukraine, the situation for the Red Army appears desperate. Kursk and Kharkov are undefended and at the mercy of the Panzer spearheads that have created a bridgehead 100 kilometres wide over the Dnieper. Can the few mobile defenders block the advance, and when will the Germans need to stop to reorganise?

The Allied High Command is aghast at the non-stop stream of German victories in Barbarossa, particularly in the Ukraine. STAVKA advises that its last resources have been used – there are no reserves. More than one million men have been lost in combat. Another week of fighting could see the Red Army virtually eliminated. It is decided that the Allied efforts must be concentrated on the Russian theatre in an attempt to force the German to pause. This will mean that no Commonwealth, US or Chinese operations will take place, but with the situation so grim, there is no alternative.

Stalin accepts that his forces are no longer strong enough to hold a continuous line against the invaders. Orders go out to the front line commanders to save every man possible and to pull back to cities or more easily defensible positions. The emphasis must be on slowing the German advance.

Every unit that is able to move leaves the Kiev and Dnepropetrovsk areas (other than the garrison of the heavily fortified city of Dnepropetrovsk itself) and heads east to help defend Kharkov and Kursk. Luckily most casualties have been the slow moving infantry units so the survivors have the mobility to swing around the German spearheads and reach the cities. A motorised unit reaches Krasnodar but is not able to block the Kerch Straits. Shortly after, trains carrying engineers from Harbin pull into Krasnodar station – while they are pitifully few number, the skills of the combat engineers will make the city harder to capture.



Army Group North has not made the progress anticipated, although the Baltic States have been liberated. The quality of the Russian defenders has been higher than expected, and a severe shortage of armour units is reducing the opportunities available for breakthroughs. The Finns have been exhausted by the assault on Murmansk, and many German units cannot move until resupplied.

The world holds its breath to see whether the gamble has paid off and there are cheers in the Allied camp (and curses in Berlin, Rome and Tokyo) when the news comes in that the German spearheads have halted for resupply and reinforcement. Will this be enough to save Russia from annihilation?

Turns ends on 5 (dr minus 1 as all but one major power passed), 4 rolled!! Initiative remains +1 Allies

Partisans

Lord Linlithgow, the Viceroy of India, is understandably nervous when he hears rumours of rebellion in the British Raj. With only two army units operational in the subcontinent (due to Indian Army commitments in Persia, Mozambique and Burma), an uprising is likely to succeed. He still has memories of July 1941 when the Ghadar Party activists in Islamabad seized the city – it was February 1942 before the 3rd Indian Corps stormed the city and eliminated the rebels. Luckily the discontent fizzles out with no lasting damage.

Partisans in the occupied counties of Europe are cowed by the enormous garrisons posted. There is no hope of armed resistance at the moment.

Partisan dr = 8	Greece	Partisan number = 6	Garrison = 6	Auto fail
	France	Partisan number = 15	Garrison = 19	Auto fail
	Yugoslavia	Partisan number = 9	Garrison = 9	Auto fail
	India	Partisan number = 6	Garrison = 2	dr = 10 Fails

Return to base

With all eyes concentrated on the massive land battles in Russia, most national navies have elected to re-organise fleets. In particular, in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, fleet commanders are getting prepared for the clash of the Japanese/Italian and US/Commonwealth navies. With that in mind, rebasing of fleets has increased importance.

Germany

The Kriegsmarine is now gathered in Kiel where it can be protected against British air attacks by 88mm flak and a network of fighter groups. The three battleships, seven cruisers and four light cruisers still pose a real threat to Allied shipping. Only one operational commerce raider, the "Hansa", remains in Kiel, together with one submarine group. The damaged cruiser "Blucher" remains in dry dock.

At Stettin, the only ships present are all awaiting repair. It would seem improbable that scarce resources will be spent on the World War 1 dreadnought "Schleswig-Holstein", and the day of the commerce raider appears over, so the "Komet" and "Thor" are unlikely to be readied for sea. At some stage, however, the light cruiser "Königsberg" could be made operational.

The one German ship remaining at sea, the light cruiser "Emden", is keeping a watchful eye on the Baltic.



Leichte Kruezer "Emden" on patrol in the Baltic Sea, probably watching the Russian port of Leningrad

The bulk of the Unterseesbooten are now based in Cadiz, their safety guaranteed by General Franco. More than 300 front line submarines (11xSUB) are ready for action, but increased convoy escorts have severely reduced their effectiveness in recent months.

Italy

Virtually all the Regia Marina (5 battleships, 9 cruisers, 5 light cruisers and 5 submarine flotillas) is now based at Port Said, with only a few light cruisers left in Italy itself. It seems that the Italians believe that air power can control the Med while they expand their sphere of influence into the Indian Ocean. Two light cruisers have rebased to Bandar in southern Persia.

The only vessels at sea are a small group of submarines on sentry duty in the Arabian Sea.

There is protection for Italian cargo shipping, however, with two cruisers and two anti-submarine escort groups on convoy duty in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Japan



The Imperial Japanese Navy has left some ships at sea to provide early warning of any US ship movement, and to force the USN to be wary when entering Japanese controlled waters. The light cruiser "Natori" patrols the Marianas, the cruiser "Aoba" the Timor Sea and the light cruiser "Isuzu" the Bismark Sea. The battleship "Fuso" has responsibility for the East Indian Ocean.

The unusually high superstructure of the "Fuso" is clearly visible as she cruises the East Indian Ocean.

The newly seized harbour at Tamatave in Madagascar, holds the cruiser "Maya", the light cruiser "Kinu" and some amphibious landing craft and troopships.

In the Netherlands East Indies, the main port at Batavia has been repaired by the 1st Engineer Division. It now serves as the base for the small light carrier fleet that achieved such success in the attack on Commonwealth shipping in Perth. The flagships are the "Zuiho" with her B5N1 torpedo bombers and the "Shoho" with her D3A1 dive bombers. The two carriers are protected by four cruisers and two light cruisers. A light cruiser, the "Tama" is berthed further up the Javanese coast at the still badly damaged port of Surabaya.

Also still damaged is the great British naval base at Singapore. As a result, only one fleet carrier, the "Ryujo", loaded with B5N1 "Kates", and two battleships and a light cruiser can dock there. This has forced two other battleships to move north to the small port near Kuala Lumpur.

Canton, although fully operational, holds only a battleship and a light cruiser, presumably present to escort some troopships that also occupy the port.

The power of the IJN is on display in Truk harbour. Three battleships (including the mighty "Yamato"), eight cruisers, a light cruiser and three submarine groups take advantage of the sheltered main lagoon, but Japan's strike power is embodied in the six fleet carriers. The "Zuikaku", "Akagi", "Kaga" and Hiryu" are equipped with B5N1 torpedo bombers, while the "Shokaku" and "Soryu" carry D3A1 "Val" dive bombers. The atoll's airfields are packed with A6M5 "Reisen-kai" fighters and G3M2 "Nell" land based bombers.



Sitting on the tarmac at Truk airfield, this A6M5 "Nell" is ready to react should the US Pacific fleet come within range.

Back in Tokyo, the light carrier "Hosho" (also with "Vals") together with five cruisers and three light cruisers is ready for any raids on coastal shipping.

On convoy duty in the China Sea are a cruiser and two light cruisers of the IJN, supported by a cruiser and light cruiser of the Siamese Navy and a captured Chinese light cruiser. The important convoy route through the South China Sea is protected by the light carrier "Ryuhō" and her "Kates", together with a cruiser and a light cruiser. The East Indian Ocean and the Bismark Sea have two light cruisers each on patrol.

Commonwealth

The Royal Navy has drastically cut down the size of the Home Fleet based at Scapa Flow. The flagship is the fleet carrier "Illustrious", armed with "Albacore" bi-plane torpedo bombers, supported by the light carrier "Eagle" with "Nimrod" fighters. While the Fleet Air Arm is well aware that the 9 year old "Nimrods" are a death trap, there are no other carrier planes that can land on the elderly (commissioned in 1924) "Eagle". With limited air attack, the main potency of the Home Fleet, as always, rests with the guns of the five battleships, assisted by a cruiser and two light cruisers. If necessary, the damaged battleship "Rodney" and Danish light cruiser "Peder Skram" could be sent to sea, but this would be risky.

On patrol in the North Sea, ready for a break out by the Kriegsmarine, is the Queen Elizabeth class battleship "Malaya".



HMS "Malaya" in the North Sea, alert to a break out from Kiel by the Kriegsmarine.

Also left at sea (to limit the effectiveness of any German surface raid) are the light cruiser "Dauntless" off the Faeroes and the cruiser "York" in the Bay of Biscay.

Two battleships, the newly constructed "King George V" and the just repaired "Resolution" are awaiting orders in Glasgow, as is a brand new group of anti-submarine corvettes in Southampton.

In Belfast, dwarfed by the carriers and battleships of the freshly arrived US Atlantic Fleet, are the light cruiser "Dunedin" and some Dutch troop ships.

Plymouth has been converted into the main base for the Royal Navy. From here anti-submarine escorts and anti-commerce raider patrols can guard convoys across the Atlantic and down the coast of Africa, while simultaneously keeping an eye on Admiral Raeder's strike fleet. Despite the losses of the past few years (the two fleet carriers "Formidable" and "Glorious" being particularly missed) the Royal Navy is still immensely powerful. There are five carriers available, the "Ark Royal" providing fighter cover with her Fairey Fulmars, the "Victorious", "Courageous" and "Furious" able to launch nearly 250 "Swordfish" torpedo bombers between them and the "Indomitable" still awaiting replacements for her squadrons of antiquated Gloster Gladiators. There are also two battleships

present, but the bulk of the firepower is provided by no less than 16 cruisers and 9 light cruisers (with another damaged light cruiser in port).



The once mighty Gibraltar fleet has been reduced to a cruiser, the monitor "Erebus" and a light cruiser. Only the presence of two submarine flotillas causes any concern to the Italians.

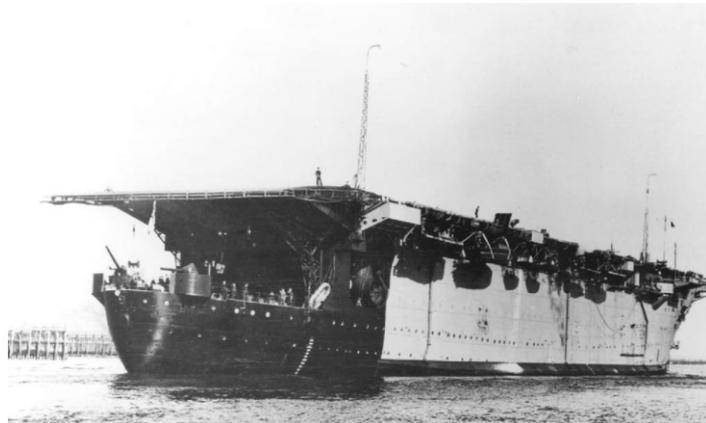
HMS "Erebus" – while armed with two 15" guns, she is woefully unprepared for naval warfare in the 1940s

Admiral Cunningham's Bombay fleet has been slowly whittled down by two years of fighting the Italians. It now consists of one light carrier (the "Hermes" equipped with nearly useless "Nimrod" fighters), four battleships (two badly damaged), five cruisers and six light cruisers. Also in Bombay port is a group of troopships, presumably waiting for an opportunity to escape the blockading Italians.

The only other vessels available for the British to defend the Indian Ocean against the twin threats of the Regia Marina and the IJN are the cruiser "Cornwall", currently on patrol in the Arabian Sea, the light cruiser "Adelaide", having survived a port strike in the port Tricomalee in Ceylon, and, still licking their wounds from a more successful port attack on Fremantle, south of Perth, 4 light cruisers, two badly damaged.

The damaged light cruiser "Neptune" has been languishing in Capetown for more than 18 months after taking a torpedo from an Italian submarine off Cape Verde in early January 1941.

In the Americas, the light cruiser "Enterprise" is the sole warship in St Johns, Newfoundland. The veteran light carrier "Argus" with her "Nimrods" is with two cruisers and a Dutch light cruiser in Bermuda. A cruiser and two light cruisers are in the Free French port of Martinique, together with a Dutch submarine. Georgetown, British Guyana, holds a solitary cruiser. The "Queens" and some other troopships are in New York harbour, doubtless ready to carry reinforcements to Portugal. On the Pacific Coast, two damaged ships, the cruiser "London" and the light cruiser "Aurora", are nearly ready for action.



The "Argus" sits at dock in Bermuda. Although outdated, the loss of two fleet carriers and the threat from U-boats means she remains a key element of the Royal Navy

Even though the submarine threat has eased, convoy protection is still important. Two light cruisers are on duty in the Gulf of Guinea, one in the Mouths of the Amazon and two more off Cape Verde. A cruiser guards shipping in the Caribbean, while in the North Atlantic and the Faeroes up to a hundred destroyers, corvettes and destroyer escorts (5 ASW) maintain a constant watch.

USA



Douglas TBD "Devastators" on the USS "Yorktown".

Admiral Nimitz is reluctant to take on the IJN head-on, primarily because his Pacific fleet is still outnumbered in carriers. He has four carriers at Pearl Harbour: the "Wasp" with SBD-4 dive-bombers, the "Enterprise" and "Lexington" with F4F-3 "Wildcat" fighters and the "Yorktown" with TBD torpedo bombers. Ten battleships line Battleship Row, while the Naval Base also holds another ten cruisers, eleven light cruisers and three submarine groups (although one group is damaged and is on its way to the East Coast for repair).

2 groups of troopships wait for their cargo in Annapolis, 29 miles east of Washington DC, a major US Army recruiting and mobilisation centre. They are escorted by the carrier "Hornet" (with her "Wildcats") and the battleship "Washington". A further two groups of troopships sit in Boston, also waiting to be loaded with troops bound for Europe.



USS "Hornet" (CV-8) off the coast of Maryland, waiting to escort troopships to Portugal

In occupied Portugal, a fleet of three battleships and some troopships is in the nearly fully functional Lisbon harbour, with a similar fleet further north up the coast in the smaller facility at Porto.

The Atlantic fleet has rebased to Belfast. Its two carriers, the "Ranger" and "Saratoga", have squadrons of SBD-4 and SBD-5 dive-bomber respectively. It also contains three battleships, eight cruisers and ten light cruisers.

On convoy detail off the Faeroes Islands is the US Navy's first carrier, the converted collier "Langley", armed with SBD-1 dive-bombers, assisted by an anti-submarine group. Another group of destroyers and corvettes is at sea off the east coast of the USA, with a further two groups in the North Atlantic.

Production

	Base (Resource/Oil)	Imports	PPs	Multiple	BPs	Stored Oil	Trade	Losses/Enemy*	Total BPs
Germany	27/10 (34Fact)	+1	34	1.25	40	+4			40
Italy	9/2 (11Fact)		10	1.25	13	+1			13
Japan	12/5 (18Fact)	+1	16	1.25	20	+2			20
UK	11/7 (17Fact)	+2	17	1.25		+3			21
Canada	2		2	1.25	3				3
Australia	1		1	1.25	1				1
India	2		2	1.25	3				3
France									
China	4		4	.75	3			-/1	4
USA	24/20 (40Fact)		40	1	40	+4			40
USSR	20/10 (28Fact)	+1	28	1	28	+3		43/1	72

*Losses: in Home Country, receive 1/2 of all BPS lost defending, 1/4 of all BPS lost attacking
 *Enemy: receive 1BP if an enemy unit in Home Country at Production phase

Germany
(40BP)

OKW finally exerts some authority over Germany's new allies. A review of the Axis air forces reveals some ageing airframes that cannot be justified in 1942. The outdated models are withdrawn from production immediately, although existing squadrons remain in action.



A Finnish Fokker C.X light bomber on a makeshift airbase outside Murmansk. There will be no replacement aircraft ordered

Although casualties on the Eastern Front have been comparatively light, they are building up. 25% of all factory output is diverted from creating new units to replacing losses in existing formations.

Scrap	Finnish LND2 Turkish FTR2	Fokker C.X (1-*-2-*)/4 PZL P.24 (3-*-2-*)/4		
On map	Repair	PARA 2xINF MECH MTN	II (2) X (1), XVII (2) X SS (2) Alpine (3)	(10BP)
On chart	Magdeburg Stettin Berlin Essen Dusseldorf Hamburg Munich Konigsberg Breslau Hannover Prague Cologne Kiel	MIL MIL BB MOT FTR3 MOT FTR2 LND4 FTR3 MTN CAV MECH MECH ARM MOT SUB 3xPilot	Magdeburg Stettin "von Moltke" LXVI Bf 110G 8 th Division Bf 109G2 Ju 290A Me 210 6 th SS Division SS Maria Therese Division L 7 th Division XXIV 1 st Division (.5BP)	(18.5BP)
Start	Berlin Dusseldorf Nurnberg Essen Prague Kiel Hamburg	FTR2 MOT FTR2 ENG LND4 MECH 2xSUB 3xSUB 3xPilot	Bf 109G1 VI SS (1BP) Fw 190A5 6 th Panzer Motorised Division (1BP) He 177 LVI (1BP) from construction pool (1BP) from construction pool (1.5BP)	(11.5BP)

Italy (13BP)	On chart	Rome	ARM INF	Corrazata XXVI "Albanian"	
		Taranto Milan Naples	TRS LND4 LND3 Territorial Pilot	P 108B "Piaggio" Z108 "Leone" Kenya	(7BP)
	Start	La Spezia Genoa Milan Rome	BB SUB HQ INF Pilot	"Roma" from repair from construction pool Cavallero (1BP) I (2BP)	(6BP)



A Semovente 105/25 leaves the factory on its way to join the Corrazata Armoured Corps. Unfortunately few of these magnificent self propelled guns have been produced to date – but the more common 90/53 is still an effective support weapon.

Japan (20BP)	On map	Repair Hiroshima	INF TRS Shipyard	1 st (2BP)	(3BP)
	On chart	Fukuoka Tokyo Kyoto Osaka	2xCV CA 2xCL MAR INF INF 2xPilot	"Amagi", "Katsuragi" (1BP) "Oyoda" (.5BP) "Yahagi", "Noshiro" (1BP) LG 14 th 2 nd	(7.5BP)
	Start	Fukuoka Tokyo Kyoto Osaka Sapporo	2xCVL CA INF NAV4 CAV Tanker CP 2xPilot	"Chitose", "Taiyo" from const (1BP) "Kinugasa" from repair (.5BP) 17 th (2BP) H8K2 Seiko "Emily" Combined	(9.5BP)

In the shallow waters off Kyoto, a Kawanishi H8K Large Flying Boat successfully completes an evaluation program. As a result, full production is started on the replacement for the H6K (which is now seen to be too slow and to have insufficient range). The "Emily" will be able to strike targets more than 7,000 km away.



C/wealth (23BP)	On chart	London	NAV3 BB HQ(A) MTN	“Beaufighter” “Barham” Wavell XVIII	(8.5BP)
		Manchester	INF ART	V 4.5”	
		Belfast	BB CV Pilot	“Nelson” (.5BP) “Audacious”	



At a training range outside Manchester, artillerymen practice firing the 4.5” medium field gun. Production of this weapon was actually begun in June 1940 but lack of production capacity due to convoy losses meant that it was put on hold. With supplies now flowing freely to the armaments factories and with a new build up of land forces, the weapon is ready to be commissioned and issued to the army for combat duty.

Start	Cape Town	CL	“Neptune” (from repair)
	Plymouth	CL	“Colombo” (from repair)
Start	Belfast	CL	“Sirius” (from start) (.5BP)
		TRS	(from start)
Start	London	HQ(I) 2xFTR3	Alexander (3BP) Mosquito Mk II, Mk VI (2BP)
	Birmingham	INF	II (2BP)
Start	Manchester	2xLND4 2xPilot	Lancaster, Halifax (2BP)
			(14.5BP)

Australia	On chart	Melbourne	INF	2 nd Australian
India (3BP)	On chart	Bombay	HQ(I) Territorial	Mountbatten India
	Start	Bombay	BB	“Royal Oak” (from repair)
Canada (3BP)	On chart	Ottawa	INF	4 th Canadian
	Start	Halifax	TRS	(from construction) (2BP)
China (4BP)	On chart	Lan Chow	CAV	Cavalry Division
	Start	ChungKing	ENG MIL	8 th Division SiAn

HQ(I) Chiang Kai Shek 5(1)2 upgraded to HQ(I)(h) Chiang Kai Shek 6(1)2

USSR
(70BP)

Reeling from the colossal losses of the past few months, the USSR struggles to form new armies to hold, if not throw back, the invaders of the Rodina. Hundreds of thousands of men who have escaped the great Kesselschlachts of the past few months are rapidly incorporated into new or reformed units. Production of anything other than ground forces is put on hold. But will it be enough?

On chart	Dnep	MOT	1 st	
		MOT	4 th Guards	
	Stalino	ART	152mm	
		MECH	3 rd Guards	
	Kalinin	HQ(I)	Timoshenko	
	Kharkov	INF	9 th Guards Banner Army	
	Moscow	LND4	Pe-8	
		HQ(I)	Vatutin	
		ARM	3 rd	
		HQ(A)	Rokossovsky	
		ARM	3 rd Guards	
		ART	Su-76	
	Krasnodar	LND3	Il-4	
		MTN	Mountain Division	
		Pilot		(15BP)



With casualties mounting, women replace men in Russian armaments factories. Production increases markedly, particularly for infantry weapons such as these sub-machine guns. It has been decided that the PPD-40 is too difficult to mass produce and many factories change to manufacture of the new PPSH-41, which is not only cheaper to produce but is a far superior weapon.

Start	Moscow	3xINF	2 nd Siberian, 4 th Siberian	
			9 th Guards	
			MOT	3 rd Guards
	Stalino	INF	12 th	
	Stalingrad	2xINF	1 st , 11 th	
	Saratov	INF	29 th	
	Yaroslavl	INF	6 th	
	Kalinin	INF	2 nd	
	Leningrad	INF	39 th	
	Vladivostok	INF	33rd	
	Gorki	INF	30th	
		12xMIL	Kharkov, Sverdlovsk, Saratov, Gorki, Dnepropetrovsk, Rostov, Stalingrad, Irkursk, Tashkent, Astrakhan, Stalino, Bryansk	
		6xGARR	40 th , 3 rd Guards, 2 nd Guards, 1 st Guards, 54 th , 61 st	
		TERR	Manchuria (1BP)	(55BP)

USA (40BP)	On chart	Washington	CAV MTN	2 nd Cavalry IV (2.5BP)
		Boston	5xTRS 2xAMPH	
		New York	ART HQ(A)	4.5" Eisenhower
		Chicago	MOT	IX
		Minneapolis	2xATR	C-47 "Dakota" (UK) C-46 "Commando" B-24D "Liberator"
		Los Angeles	LND4 2xCV	"Intrepid", "Essex" (1BP)
		San Francisco	2xBB 4xPilot	"Massachusetts", "Iowa" (1BP) (18.5BP)
	Start	Boston	TRS	(from construction) (.5BP)
		Los Angeles	3xCV	"Bunker Hill", "Lexington II" (const) "Hornet II" (start) (1.5BP)
			3xCVL	"Cowpens", "Monterey" (const) "Belleau Wood" (start) (1.5BP)
		San Francisco	2xCA	"Canberra", "Boston" (const) (1BP)
		New York	HQ(A) FTR2	Bradley (5BP) P-47B "Thunderbolt"
		Detroit	ARM	XIX (3BP)
		Washington	PARA MTN	XXXX (2BP) XXIX (2BP)
		Minneapolis	FTR2 LND4 2xPilot	P-39L "Airacobra" B-24D "Liberator" (21.5BP)



In the USA, mass production techniques are applied as never before. A line of B-24 "Liberators" (above left) is under construction in a vast Consolidated Aircraft facility at Minneapolis, while fitters in Detroit assemble an M3 tank (above right) destined for the XIX Armoured Corps.



Conquest

Persia

With Italian troops occupying Teheran and the Russians thrown out of the country, Mussolini announces the liberation of Persia (despite the presence of Indian troops in the southern port of Bushehr). Reza Shah Pahlavi is released from house arrest (he has been detained since April 1941) and immediately announces that Persia will ally with its liberators in the fight against Communism. Plans are made to ship oil to boost the Italian economy, and recruitment for the army begins.

Portugal

The Salazar Government flees to Angola, from where it hopes to continue the struggle for independence. Resistance in Portugal itself is over, with tens of thousands of Allied troops present. Japan pledges to assist in any way possible.

July/August Losses

Germany	INF	XXXIII (6-4)	3BP
	ENG	6 th Panzer Motorised Division (2-5)	3BP
	INF (Turkish)	Guards (5-3)	3BP
	FTR2	Bf 109F2 (6-* -2-*)/3	2BP
	Pilot		2BP
	CX (sunk)	“Kormoran” (2-10-0-0)9/9	3BP
Battlefield replacements			
	INF	X (1BP), XVII (2BP)	3BP
	PARA	II Para (2BP)	2BP
	MTN	Alpini (3BP)	3BP
	MECH	10 th SS Division (2BP)	2BP
	ARM	III (1BP – 1OP paid to repair during turn)	1BP
	Von Rundstedt spent 13OPs for offensive		13BP
	Total German losses = 40BP		
Italy	BB (sunk)	“Andrea Doria” (6-5-1-3)6/2	4BP
	BB (damaged)	“Roma”	2BP
	CA (sunk)	“Duca D’Aosta” (3-6-1-1)5/2	3BP
	Territorial	Ethiopian (2-3)	2BP
	Total Italian losses = 11BP		
Japan	CP		1BP
	Tanker		1BP
	2xSUB (damaged)		2BP
Battlefield replacements			
	INF	I (2BP)	2BP
	Total Japanese losses = 6BP		
Portugal	GARR	1 st	2BP
	Lisbon MIL caught while mobilising		2BP
	Total Portuguese losses = 4BP		

Total Axis losses = 61BP

