

September/October 1939

Reinforcements: Nil

Resource Lending: Nil (other than set-up requirements)

Initiative: +2 Axis (Automatic)

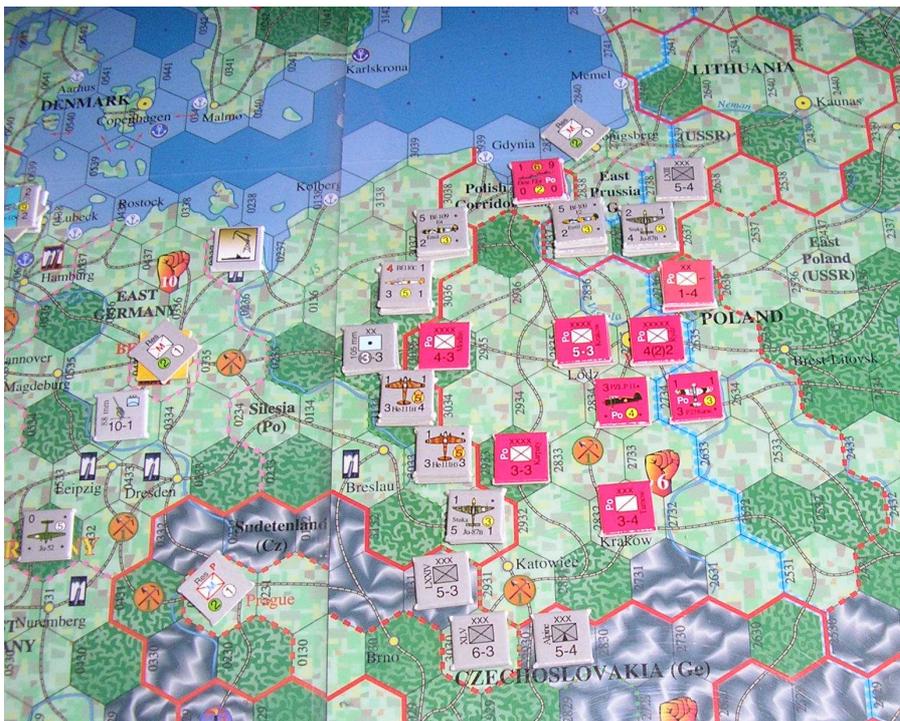
Weather rolls for turn: 4, 1, 7, 6 – a fine start to autumn but becoming wet

Impulse 1 (Axis) The Conflict Begins

Weather dr = 4 F, F, F, F, F, F (1)

Declarations of War: Germany – v – Poland
US Entry 12 dr = 3 so 1 chit to Ge/It pool

The US Congress is alarmed at German aggression, but not overly so.



The Poles decide to hold Lodz and Warsaw strongly, with a substantial force to the north east threatening any advance on the capital from East Prussia. The rest of the army is scattered along the frontier and in Krakow and Poznan. Marshal of Poland Rydz-Smigly apparently hopes to buy time for full mobilisation and support from his western allies.

Hundreds of Ju87B Stukas begin hostilities by hammering the defenders of the two major cities: due to total surprise Lodz is completely demoralised and, in Warsaw, Rydz-Smigly's own headquarters is thrown into chaos.

Unopposed, a Panzerjag division (equipped with the already outdated PzJag1) sweeps through Danzig. The Poles are prepared however and all ships in port escape – a destroyer squadron to join the Home Fleet at Scapa Flow and a group of cargo ships makes it to Plymouth.



*TK3 tanks of the Pomorze Army
in the vain counter-attack*

General von Bock decides to eliminate the threat to his flank and commits his mechanised units to quickly smash the Poles out of the way. Outnumbered, the Pomorze Army launches a desperate counter-attack. The defenders are overwhelmed, but the LXIII Korps takes heavy casualties (2BPs).

The rest of the Polish Army, however, shows less resistance. Both Krakow and Poznan fall to assaults, and the Karpaty army is encircled and wiped out. No losses are taken by the attackers.



*Through the front lines
and onto Warsaw*

Clearly indicating an intention to escalate the Chinese conflict, Yamamoto's army with 2 marine corps and the Tokyo militia land in and around Canton. Large numbers of troops cross from Hainan to south west China.

Italian transports are spotted heading across the Mediterranean to East Africa.

Impulse 2 (Allies) France and the Commonwealth back Poland

Declarations of War: France and CW – v – Germany
US Entry 9 dr = 2 so -1 chit from Ge/It pool

With both the Commonwealth and France at war with Germany, across Europe young men rush to join their units as each country calls up its reserves as part of full mobilisation. The US public loses some of its enthusiasm for conflict with the European Axis as a result of the joint Commonwealth French action.

The Admiralty orders a group of corvettes and destroyers to commence anti-submarine action in the Faeroes. Several light cruisers are sent to assist.

Transports carry Gort and the XV Mechanised Corps to Calais, and the XIV Motorised Corps to Boulogne. They then head for home, but are unable to make port.

A strong naval force heads for the North Sea to deter any attempt by the Kriegsmarine to target the vulnerable troopships. At the same time, a joint Commonwealth/French fleet heads into the Baltic to stop the transfer of Swedish iron ore to the factories of the Ruhr. Despite their most strenuous efforts, (9 ships flipped for maximum -3 search roll) they cannot locate a single ship.

The French Army, taking advantage of the German concentration in the East, launches a surprise attack on the Siegfried Line. Facing annihilation, the LXVIII Garrison Corps attempts to withdraw but is overwhelmed by the French assault, inflicting only slight casualties on the attackers (1BP). The French V Corps advances into Germany.



V Corps finally sees the rear view of a Siegfried Line bunker

The Polish Air Force flies to internment in Rumania – the pilots immediately begin their long journey to join the RAF.

Impulse 3 (Axis) Lodz falls

Weather dr = 1 F, F, F, F, F, F (1)

Responding to the French attack, a large number of units, particularly armour and motorised, as well as nearly all of the Luftwaffe, head west. This does not affect a massive assault on the city of Lodz. Hit from 3 sides, with artillery and long range air bombardment, the defenders are wiped out, together with the partially mobilised Lodz militia. LXIV Korps takes heavy casualties in the attack (2BPs).

Italian ships land military supplies in Libya. Is Balbo planning major operations?

In southern China, Japanese troops manoeuvre along the coast to threaten undefended Nanning.

Impulse 4 (Allies) Russia seizes Eastern Poland

Chinese forces move all along the southern front, attempting to both occupy Nanning and bolster the defence against the anticipated onslaught.

In the Baltic, the combined fleet again fails to find the elusive iron ore convoys.



The converted luxury liners “Queen Mary” and “Queen Elizabeth” deliver the Sydney militia to General Wavell in Egypt. The ships are quickly prepared to sail again after being resupplied by Wavell’s headquarters.

The “Queen Elizabeth” in wartime colours carrying militia to Wavell

Aware of the movement to the west of large numbers of German units, V Corps pulls back to the relative safety of the Maginot Line. Fresh troops in the form of the Niger territorials arrive in Marseilles.

Russian cavalry enter Poland, the first indication to the world of the secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact. The USA becomes even less concerned with events in Europe. (*Needed 7, dr = 2 so -1 chit from Ge/It pool*).

Impulse 5 (Axis) Warsaw falls

Weather dr = 7 R, R, F, R, F, F (2)

In driving rain, von Bock launches the final assault of the Polish campaign. The attack is flawless and despite an attempt at a counter attack, Warsaw falls without loss to the attacker.



Von Bock's troops make their final careful assault on Warsaw

South east of Kwei-Yang, Yamamoto mounts a full scale assault on the defenders of the resource rich area. The local commanders attempt a mobile defence but are brushed aside. 1 Cavalry Corps is eliminated and 14 Army is severely mauled and must be withdrawn (*2BPs and shattered*). Japanese losses are minimal: 3 Division takes some casualties but remains in action (*1BP*).

Impulse 7 (Allies) China in panic

The Chinese 6th Army rushes to garrison Kwei-Yang which has been threatened by the collapse of the front.

The German coastal steamers still manage to evade the best efforts of the Allied Baltic fleet – questions are being asked at the Admiralty about the level of training for spotter aircraft and speculation is high that perhaps the new-fangled ship based radar could be worth looking at.

The Queens steam for Nigeria to pick up some local volunteers.

Turn ends on a 1: 2 rolled

Impulse 9 (Axis) Another victory for Yamamoto

Weather dr = 6 R, F, F, R, F, F (2)

Declarations of War Germany – v- Denmark
 US Entry 3 dr = 6 so no effect



Admiral Yamamoto

Yamamoto encourages his armies to further efforts and his generals encircle the 13(Res) Army in the mountains east of Kwei-Yang. No Chinese manage to escape and again only minimal damage is taken by an infantry division (1BP).

Alarmed by the Allied incursion into the Baltic, Germany invades Denmark. This aggression is ignored by the US Congress. LXII Corps races to Copenhagen where the Danish Army is caught still mobilising. The Danish Navy is better prepared with all combat ships at Frederikshavn and most of the cargo vessels based in Iceland.

Other than a large garrison in Poland, the Wehrmacht is now back in Western Europe.

Turn ends on a 3: 5 rolled

Impulse 11 (Allies) Baltic evacuated

The combined fleets leave the Baltic before the Germans can close the Denmark Straits, while the Queens unload the Nigerian territorials in Plymouth.

In France, the Niger territorials take up defensive positions in the Alps – it is not known what they think of the sudden climate change. This frees the Alpine Corps to move north.

Turn ends on a 5: 3 rolled Initiative remains +2 Axis

Partisans

A tentative attempt at partisan activity in Poland never gets off the ground due to the presence of several hundred thousand combat troops.

US Entry 1 chit to Ge/It pool

No activity in Congress

Return to Base

All units return to base other than some Commonwealth ships: escorts in the Faeroes and the light cruisers “Penelope” and “Aurora” which remain on patrol in the North Sea.

Production

To improve the quality of aircraft available for the Armee de l'Air, production of the D510 fighter (FTR2 (3-*-*-*)/3) is discontinued.

| | Base (Resource/Oil) | Imports | Less Oil | PPs | Multiple | BPs | Trade | Losses/ Enemy* | Total BPs |
|-----------|------------------------|---------|-------------|-----|----------|-----|-------|-------------------|--------------|
| Germany | 15/6 | +1 | -2 | 20 | .75 | 15 | -2 | +1 | 14 |
| Italy | 4/1 | | -1 | 4 | .5 | 2 | | | 2 |
| Japan | 12/4 | +1 | -3 | 14 | .75 | 11 | -1 | | 10 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| UK | 11/8 | +3 | -3 | 19 | .5 | 10 | | | 10 |
| Canada | 2 | | | 2 | .5 | 1 | | | 1 |
| Australia | 1 | | | 1 | .5 | 1 | | | 1 |
| India | 2 | | | 2 | .5 | 1 | | | 1 |
| France | 8/1 | | -1 | 8 | .5 | 4 | | | 4 |
| China | 6 | | | 6 | .25 | 2 | | +2/+1 | 5 |
| USA | 22/18 | | -4 | 36 | .25 | 9 | +1 | | 10 |
| USSR | 15/8 | | | 23 | .25 | 6 | +2 | | 8 |

*Losses: in Home Country, receive ½ of all BPs lost defending, ¼ of all BPs lost attacking

*Enemy: receive 1BP if an enemy unit in Home Country at Production phase

- Germany: Repair on-map land units (2)
LND3 Ju88A1 (1) *Cologne*, 2xRaiders "Pinguin", "Michel" (1) *Stettin*, MOT DIV 4 (1) *Essen*, 2xSUB (2) *Hamburg*, AA (1) *Hannover*, LND3 Ju86G (1) *Vienna*, MIL Munich (1), Pilot (1), FTR3 Bf 110C (1) *Dusseldorf*, INF VI (1) *Hannover*, MOT V (1) *Essen*
- Japan: Repair on map land units (2)
CV Shipyard (1) *Fukuoka*, MIL Nanking (1), CL "Kashima" (1) *Tokyo*, MTN DIV 1 (1) *Osaka*, 2xCA "Kinagusa", "Aoba" (1) *Tokyo*, 2xWarlords (2) *Shanghai and Peking*
- Italy: MAR Marine (1) *Milan*, 2xCL "Silla", "Magro" (1) *La Spezia*
- C/Wealth: MOT XI (2) *London*, AA (1), 2xCVPO 2xNimrod (0) *Southampton and Coventry*, Synthetic Oil plant (3) *North East of Liverpool*, INF 1SA (2) *Pretoria*, CV "Formidable" (1) *Plymouth*, SCS Shipyard (1) *Belfast*
- Canada ASW (1) *Halifax*
- Australia CP (1) *Sydney*
- India INF 13 Indian (1) *Bombay*
- France: Repair on-map land units (1)
HQ(I) Pretelat (3) *Paris*
- China Repair shattered INF 14 (1) *Kunming*
GARR 13(Res) (1) *Cheng-Tu*, 2xCAV 1(Nat) (2) *Chungking*, 1(Comm) (1) *Si-An*
- USA NAV3 "Hudson" A29 (1) *Seattle*, 2xBB "Maryland", "Indiana" (1) *San Francisco*,

TRS (1) *Boston*, SUB (1) *San Francisco*, CVP1 SBD-4 (1) *New York*, CV "Hornet" (1) *Los Angeles*, FTR2 "Buffalo" F2A *New York*, Pilot (1), INF XXXXV (2) *Washington*, LND3 "Bolo" B18A (1) *New York*

USSR 2xINF 5 (2) *Vitebsk*, 12 (2) *Odessa*, MOT 6 (3) *Kiev*, Pilot (1)

Conquest

Poland is completely conquered.

Denmark is incompletely conquered. The Danish Government flees to London, though King Christian X elects to remain with his people. The fleet, comprising the cruiser "Niels Luel" and light cruiser "Peder Skram" slip anchor from Frederikshavn and head for Scapa Flow. More than a hundred cargo ships are available for use by the Merchant Marine.

Losses - Sep/Oct 39

| | | |
|---------|--|------|
| China | CAV 1 (3-4) GARR 13(Res) (3-1) | |
| | INF 14 takes 2BP loss and shatters | 6BPs |
| Germany | GARR LXXXVII (3-1) | |
| | 2xINF LXIII and LXIV take 2BP loss each | 4BPs |
| Japan | 2xINF DIV 2 and 3 take 1BP loss each | 2BPs |
| France | INF IX takes 1BP loss | 1BP |
| Poland | HQ(I) Rydz (4(3)2) 6xINF Karpaty (3-3), Pomorze (4-4), Modlin(4-3), Poznan (5-3), Prusy (6-3), Krakow (5-3) INF Div 1 (1-4) CAV Tarnow (3-4) | |



The last charge of the Tarnow cavalry corps

FTR2 PZL.P11 (3-*-*-*) and LND2 PZL.23 "Karas" (1-1-3-*) interned in Rumania (pilots to UK)



PZL P11c lands in Rumania



Inspecting an interned PZL.23 light bomber

2xMIL Lodz (3-2) and Warsaw (4-2) overrun while mobilising