

January/February 1942

Reinforcements

C/wealth	Birmingham	INF	15 th Army (5-3)	
	Plymouth	LND2	Battle Sub-hunter	
	Edinburgh	ASW (CV)		
	Glasgow	BB	"Anson"	
		CA	"Devonshire"	
	Sheffield	2xCVP1	"Swordfish", "Albacore" (to reserve)	
	Belfast	2xCA	"Norfolk", "Sheffield"	
		CV	"Indefatigable" (to const)	
	Halifax	ASW		
		CP		
Cape Town	CA	"Belfast"		
	Pilot			
China	Lan Chow	GARR	7 th Army (5-1)	
USSR	Vitebsk	FTR2	MiG-1 (to reserve)	
	Kiev	FTR2	MiG-3 (to reserve)	
	Moscow	MOT	2 nd Corps (6-4)	
		ART	"Katyusha" (4-3)	
USA	Washington	CP		
	New Orleans	CP		
	Boston	3xTRS	(to construction pool)	
	Houston	CP		
	Indianapolis	FTR2	P-40C "Tomahawk II" (UK) to reserve	
	Chicago	HQ(I)	Clark (6(2)2)	
		MOT	XXVII (5-5)	
		INF	XXXXI (4-3)	
	Minneapolis	INF	XXXXI (4-3)	
		San Francisco	BB	"Iowa" (to construction"
			CL	"Cleveland"
		2xPilots		
Germany	Munich	LND2	Ju 87D	
	Kiel	2xSUB	(one completed, one to construction pool)	
	Berlin	INF	XX (8-4)	
	Essen	2xFTR2	Bf 109F2, Bf 109F3	
	Bremen	MIL	Bremen (2-2)	
	Nurnberg	FTR3	Bf 110G	
	Dresden	ARM	1 st Division (3-5)	
	Stettin	CL	"Karlsruhe"	
		CX	"Orion"	



One of the new MG42 light machine guns issued to the Berlin based XX Infantry Corps. With a fire rate of 1200 rpm it should prove to be a devastating weapon. As all new units will be similarly equipped, they will have considerably more firepower.

Japan	Tokyo	CL	“Agano”
	Kyoto	NAV3	G4M1 “Betty”
	Osaka	INF	2 nd Division (2-3)
		TRS	(to construction)
	Fukuoka	2xCV	“Shokaku”, “Zuiho”
	Hiroshima	MAR	SNLF (4-4)
		CVP1	D1A1
	Sapporo	CVP1	D3A1



The “Shokaku” finishes her sea trials and heads to join Carrier Force 1. She is carrying 15 Zero fighters, 27 D3A dive bombers and 27 B5N torpedo bombers.

Italy	Naples	CP	“Silla”, “Tiberio”
	Genoa	SUB	
	Taranto	ASW	
	La Spezia	2xCL	

Resource lending

Albert Speer again releases all excess raw materials and the Bremer Pass is congested with trucks heading to Italy.

Initiative Axis dr = 2 Allies dr = 8(+1) Allies decide that Axis should go first

Impulse 1 (Axis) Suez Line Breached

Weather dr = 8(+1) Blizzard, Snow, Snow, Fair, Storm, Rain (3)**

Taking advantage of the horrendous weather, the “Hansa” quietly leaves Lisbon harbour and heads for Kiel.

Italian troop transports successfully carry the German I Infantry Corps from Greece to North Africa. With the Royal Navy effectively cut off from the Eastern Mediterranean, such missions by the pitifully few Italian transports are now safe.

“Condor” and “Gabbiano” long range aircraft finally manage to sink the freighters in the Red Sea that have so bravely managed to keep Egypt (and General Wavell) supplied.

In response to the success of the naval bombers, six hundred Ju 88A4 bombers head for the Suez Line, their targets Wavell’s headquarters and an Indian motorised corps, while hundreds of Ju 87D dive bombers and Bf 110D fighter bombers hit the 1st Canadian Motorised Corps and the Anglo

Ethiopian Territorials who support them. After the bombardment, only the Canadians show any cohesion – the rest of the British defence is in tatters as they have no supply link overseas.

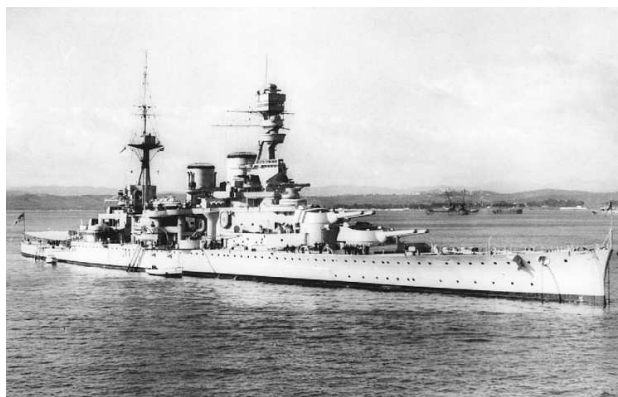


A Bf 110D3 of Fliegerfuhrer Afrika prepares to take off on another mission in the Axis ruled skies of Egypt.

The Italians then sweep forward across the southern section of the Suez Canal. Wavell tries to hold his ground but the combination of lack of supply and disruption from the earlier bombing makes his position hopeless. Nevertheless, the attack is carried out with the ineptness that has characterised Axis operations in North Africa. Although the position is lost, Wavell's headquarters (while taking severe casualties (5BP)) and the Indian motorised corps evacuate back to England and India respectively. Once again the "Libia" mechanised corps takes the brunt of the Axis losses (2BP).

Impulse 4 (Allies) Route to South Africa re-opens

After receiving an urgent radio transmission from the Enigma team at Bletchley Park, the battleship "Repulse" and the light cruiser "Calcutta" leave their base in the West Indies and head to map co-ordinates provided by the code breakers. For once the British locate their targets and a group of Doenitz's best U-boats are caught on the surface resupplying from Type XIV "Milchkuhe" submarines. All (both combat and supply) submarines are sunk with no damage to the British.



The "Repulse" (above left) and the "Calcutta" (above right) respond to the information sent by the code-breakers of Station X, quietly slipping out their base in Bermuda. For once the U-boats will be surprised, thanks to the ability of the MI6 to crack the Enigma codes that are used to transmit orders to Doenitz's Kapitan.

Desperate to help the embattled remnants of the Army of Egypt, Admiral Cunningham sends his newly renamed “Bombay/Aden” taskforce to re-establish supply through the Red Sea, despite the risk of air attack.

The Admiralty obviously feels that it now can handle the combined U-boat, raider, Brest fleet menace. The order goes out that convoys will be re-established between Cape Town and Plymouth, via the Central Atlantic. Cargo ships that have been sheltering in ports all along the African Coast immediately head to sea, as do dozens of escorts.

The USA sends bomber squadrons to patrol the East Coast, as well as surface ships to protect shipping in the North Atlantic.

Impulse 7 (Axis) Afrika Korps victory

Weather dr = 1(+2) Storm, Rain, Fair, Fair, Rain, Fair (2)



General Erwin Rommel watches the collapse of the Suez Line from his command SdKfz 250/3. Sent to North Africa as part of “Unternehmen Sonnenblume”, he has rapidly turned the stalemate into an Axis victory. Mussolini is not pleased that his forces have been demonstrated to be second class.

Italian and German motorised units sweep around Port Said and cut off supply from the Red Sea. The defenders now appear doomed – there is no retreat path and no supply. Making sure of the success of the final attack, Ju 87B dive bombers soften up the Canadians who are then hit by the IX SS Mechanised Corps supported by 2nd Mechanised division and a mass of Italian infantry. There is no hope – the survivors surrender and North Africa (and most of the Middle East) is now free of Commonwealth forces. Only Aden remains garrisoned.

U-boat wolf-packs leave Brest, easily avoiding the new sub-hunter aircraft operating in the Bay of Biscay. They are wary of the massive escort shields in the Atlantic, and instead move to the area of Cape St Vincent. This confuses the British, as there are no convoys currently routed through that area.

Turn ends on a 1, 6 rolled

Impulse 9 (Allies) Islamabad rebellion crushed

At last the Indian Army launches an attack on rebels holding the northern city of Islamabad. The 3rd Indian Corps with support from locally raised and trained troops wipes out the Ghadar Party supporters who have held the city since June 1941. Reports indicate that no prisoners were taken – the Raj will not tolerate any support for the Nationalist movement at this critical time.

Turn ends on a 3, 7 rolled

Impulse 11 (Axis) German forces enter Damascus

Weather dr = 3 Storm, Rain, Fair, Fair, Rain, Fair (2)

The 2nd Mechanised division races north from Port Said, reaching Damascus. Churchill now realises that Hitler intends to persuade Turkey to enter the war on the Axis side. If sufficient German forces are on the Turkish/Syrian border, Turkey will bow to German diplomatic pressure and join the Axis. Stalin is very concerned – the Red Army is already unsure of its capacity to hold the Germans – the opening of a southern front would make Russia's defensive position even more difficult.



The situation in the Middle East following the Afrika Korps' crushing of General Wavell's plucky Army of Egypt. The British forces fought well but lack of reinforcements and the complete absence of air cover meant that Axis victory was inevitable. With German forces streaming north through Palestine and Syria, it seems that Hitler is determined to consolidate his grip on the Eastern Mediterranean. Can it be long before Turkey enters the war on the Axis side?

Another warning comes from China. Communist forces report the Japanese pulling back from exposed positions into more easily defended areas. The conclusion reached by the War Office is that Japan is planning a major offensive – and not in China.

Turn ends on a 5, 7 rolled

Impulse 13 (Allies) Russia reacts

With a Turkish surprise attack a real possibility, STAVKA rails one of its best units, the 3rd Guard Garrison Army, to Batum in Georgia, only 20 kilometres from the Turkish border.

The two converted liners, the Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary, sail from Australian and pick up the 1st Australian Motorised Corps from Karachi.

Chinese Communists move forward to fill the vacuum left by the retreating Japanese.



The Japanese withdraw crack marine and headquarters units from China for other, as yet undisclosed missions. British diplomats in Asia hear rumours of Japanese plans to secure sources of raw materials, especially oil, and naval attaches report increased Japanese naval activity. Mao Tse-tung orders the People's Liberation Army to take advantage of the Japanese pull back and seize territory in the north of the country. The Kuomintang is still too weak to react.

Turn ends on 7, 5 rolled. No change in initiative, remains +1 Allies.

Partisans

Partisan dr = 5

Poland

Garrison = Extremely large

Auto fail

Yugoslavia

Garrison = 9

Partisan No. = 9

Auto fail



There is no hope of Polish resistance mounting any sort of uprising, due to the presence of hundreds of thousands of German troops. Stalin is getting increasingly worried about the build up on his western border, although Count von Ribbentrop assures his fellow Foreign Minister Molotov that the 1939 Non-Aggression Pact is still firmly in place. With the Middle East now controlled by the Axis, Russia could be facing a two front war in a matter of weeks.

US Entry

2 chits to German pool

It appears as though President Roosevelt has finally decided that the US must become involved in the war. In a move that increases tension with Germany (*USE needs 13, 6 rolled so 1 chit to German tension pool*) he announces that the USA has adopted a war footing. Production of military equipment increases, recruitment is massively increased and indications are that this will increase annually until the war is over. In addition, Congress has sent a clear message to the President that a declaration of war would be far more likely to succeed.

Production Phase

	Base (Resource/Oil)	Imports	PPs	Multiple	BPs	Less Oil	Trade	Losses/ Enemy*	Total BPs
Germany	7/25	+1	33	1.25			-2		39
Italy	3/8		11	1.25	14	-1			13
Japan	3/11	+1	15	1.25	19	-2			17
UK	9/7	+2	18	1.25	23	-2			21
Canada	2			1.25					3
Australia	1			1.25					1
India	2			1.25					2
France									
China	4			.75	3			-/+1	4
USA	20/20			1	40				40
USSR	21/9	+1		1	31		+2		33

*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

Scrapped

As a new year begins, across the world the various War Departments review production plans and decide where the scarce resources will be spent. Despite the move to a war footing, the USA does not have a clear out– Senator Truman still wages his one-man war against inefficiency and waste.

Germany LND3 Do-17Z (2-1-2-2)/5
 2xCVP1 Ju 87B (2-2-1-*)/2 Level 2



No more “Flying Pencils” will leave the Dornier Flugzeugwerke, as the Do 17Z light bomber is to be replaced by more powerful models such as the Do 217

Italy ART 20mm AA (2-3)
 FTR2 Cr-42 “Falco” (4-*- *-*)/3
 Re-200 “Falco I” (4-*-1-*)/6
 LND3 Ca 313 (1-*-2-1)/5
 Ca 313 (2-*-2-1)/5
 SM79 “Sparviero” (2-2-3-2)/8
 CA “Pisa” (3-6-1-2)4/2
 TRS 1938 (0-10-0-0) 4/3

Japan ART 20mm AA (2-3)
 LND2 Ki-30 “Ann” (1-2-*-1)/8
 Ki-51 “Sonia” (2-1-1-*)/5
 CV “Unyo” (0-8-1-1) 4/3
 “Chuyo” (0-8-1-1) 4/3
 AMPH 1938 (0-10-1-0) 4/2

C/wealth MECH XV (6-6)
 ART AA “Bofors” (2-4)
 LND3 Battle (0-1-2-*)/6
 Blenheim Mk1 (1-*-2-
 NAV3 Vildebeest (0-2-1-*)/9
 TRS 1935 (0-10-1-0) 4/3



The Bofors 40mm/L60 anti-aircraft gun does not have the hitting power required to knock down the new, more robust Luftwaffe bombers and no more orders will be placed with the Swedish manufacturers.

China INF 8th (3-3)

USSR With war looming, Stavka decides that every man and piece of equipment will be needed. In any case, some of the weakest units are already in the front line.

Production

Germany (39BP)	On map	Dresden	Synthetic Oil plant (1)		
	On chart	Berlin	INF	XV (1)	
			MOT	XXVII (1)	
		Cologne	LND3	He111H6 (1)	
			Prague	MECH	XVIII (1)
				ARM	3 rd (1)
		Breslau	MECH	LII (1)	
			Liepzig	MIL	(1)
					INF
				ENG	Panzer Engineer Division (1)
			Vienna	ARM	LVII (1)
			Munich	FTR3	Bf 110D (1)



A new Panzer IV AusF2 destined for 3rd Armour Corps which is currently being assembled in Prague. Reports from agents in Russia about the secret development of improved medium and heavy tanks have prompted the rush production of a heavier gun, the 75 mm KwK 40L/43

Start	Essen	Air speciality (1)	
		FTR3	BF 110G (1)
	Stettin	CX	"Hansa" from repair (1)
		Kiel	2xSUB
			SUB
	Hamburg	4xSUB	from start (2)
			SUB
	Stettin	CL	"Bremen" (.5)
		CA	"Derfflinger" (.5)
	Munich	NAV3	Do 217K (1)
	Cologne	FTR2	FW 190G3 (1)
	Hannover	LND4	Ju 290A (1)
		LND3	Do 217M (1)
	Bucharest	FTR2	IAR 90 (Rumanian) (1)
	Dusseldorf	ART	105mm AA (1)
	Nurnberg	MTN	V SS (2)
	Dresden	HQ(I)	Kesselring (3)
	Prague	ARM	1 st (4)
		4xPilots(4)	

Italy (13BP)	On map	Repair	MECH	"Libia" (2)
	On chart	Milan La Spezia	LND4 ASW	"Piaggio" P108B (1) (1)



Annoyed at the poor performance of Italian light bombers in North Africa, the Regia Aeronautica has ordered a heavy bomber from Piaggio. The P.108B can carry up to 3,500kg of bombs and has 5x12.7mm and 2x7.7mm machine guns for defence. With a range of over 3,500 kilometres it is hoped that the new bomber will consolidate Axis air superiority in the Mediterranean.

Start	Taranto	TRS	from start (1)
		ASW	from start (1)
	Genoa	SUB	from start (1)
	Naples	CV	"Aquila" from start (1)
	La Spezia	2xCA	"Venezia", "Constable Ciano" from start (1)
	Milan	FTR2	Macchi C205V (1)
		GARR	"Lucca"
		2xPilot	(2)

Japan (17BP)	On map	Fukuoka Hiroshima	Synthetic Oil plant (1) TRS Shipyard (1)
	On chart	Kyoto	NAV2 D3A1 "Val" (1) FTR2 A6M2 "Zero" (1) ATR4 H6K "Mavis" (1)
		Nagoya	2xINF 1, 11 (2)
		Hiroshima	HQ(I) Yamashita (1) MECH 2 nd Div (1)



The 2nd Mechanised Division will have several squadrons of the new Type 98 Ke-Ni tanks. The Type 98 has been designed to replace the Ha-Go light tank which is thought to be too lightly armoured for combat against modern fighting vehicles. Despite improvements, its main armament is only the Type 100 37mm gun. This may not be sufficient to destroy tanks currently being introduced by the major powers, though it is probably enough for pre 1942 models.

Start	Hiroshima	AMPH (1)	TRS (1)
	Sapporo	ASW (1)	CVP1 D3A1 (1)
	Tokyo	CA "Kurama" (.5)	CL "Sakawa" (.5)
	Fukuoka	2xCV "Shinano", "Unryu" (1)	2xPilot (2)



The divisional shoulder flash of the British Army's airborne units. With the Royal Navy finally able to protect the sea lanes, at least partially, some resources can be used to build up the Commonwealth's offensive capacity. The formation of an airborne force is seen as vital if the battle is to be taken back to mainland Europe.

C/wealth (20BP)	On chart	London	FTR3 Mosquito Mk II (1)	
			PARA 1 Airborne (1)	
		Southampton	HQ(I) Wavell (1)	
		Glasgow	GARR XL (1)	
		Belfast	2xBB "Howe", "Duke of York" (1)	
			NAV4 Sunderland (1)	
	Start		2xPilot (2)	
		London	BB "Barham" from repair (1)	
			FTR3 Beaufighter (1)	
		Plymouth	CL "Calypso" from repair (1)	
		Southampton	ASW from const (1)	
		Glasgow	BB "Resolution" from repair (.5)	
			CA "Kenya" from repair (.5)	
			2xCL "Spartan", "Bellona" from construction (1)	
		Belfast	CV "Indefatigable" from construction (1)	
			BB "Nelson" from construction (.5)	
			CL "Caradoc" from construction (0)	
			CL "Curacoa" from repair (.5)	
		Scapa Flow	CA "Hawkins" from repair (1)	
			Terr Anglo-E Sudan(1)	
			2xPilots(2)	
Canada	On chart		MIL Montreal (1)	
	Start	Halifax	CV "Canada" (1)	
			TRS (1)	
Australia	On chart	Perth	TRS (1)	
India	On chart	Bombay	FTR2 Hurricane XII (1)	
	Start		HQ(I) Montgomery (2)	
China	On chart	Lan Chow	CAV Cavalry (1)	
		ChungKing	MTN 3 rd Division (1)	
	Start	Lan Chow	MTN 3 rd (1)	

USSR
(33BP)

With factory production increasing and better equipment available, STAVKA decides to upgrade a large number of units in the field.

On map HQ(A) Zhukov (8(5)4) upgrades to (10(5)4)
 3rd Motorised (5-5) upgrades to (7-5)
 1st Mountain (5-4) upgrades to (6-4)
 51st Infantry (6-3) upgrades to (7-3)
 2nd Mechanised (7-5) upgrades to (10-5)
 40th Garrison (5-1) upgrades to (6-1)
 2nd Armour upgrades (7-6) to (10-6)
 39th Infantry (6-4) upgrades to (7-4) (8BP)



The introduction of new equipment to existing units greatly increases their firepower and general effectiveness. The BA-64 light armoured car (left) is available not only for mechanised units such as the 2nd Mechanised Army, but is also provided to other units for inclusion in reconnaissance detachments.

On chart Leningrad FTR3 Pe-3
 Odessa INF 8th
 Kiev MECH 4th Guard
 MOT 4th
 Dnep ART 85mm AA
 Moscow ARM 1st
 ARM 4th Guard
 2xPilot (9BP)

Start Krasnodar MTN 4th Guard
 Vitebsk INF 8th Guard
 Leningrad INF 6th Guard
 GARR 1st Guard
 Moscow CAV 1st Guard
 LND4 TB-7
 INF 7th Guard
 FTR2 Pe-3bis
 Stalino LND2 IL-2M3 "Sturmovik"
 Dnep FTR2 LaGG-1
 2xPilot (16BP)

USA (40)	On chart	Boston	3xTRS	
		New York	ASW	
			ENG	CBs Division
		Chicago	2xFTR2	P-38 "Lightning", P-39D "AiraCobra"
			PARA	XXXIV
		Los Angeles	SUB	
	San Francisco	2xBB	"New Jersey", "Alabama"	
		2xPilot		(10.5BP)



A brand new "AiraCobra" on its way to join its new unit. While the factories of the USA are capable of producing thousands of such first rate aircraft, pilot training is proving to be a bottleneck.

Start	New York	Air Specialisation	
		4xCVP1 2xTBF-1, 2xSBD-5	
		SUB	(Dutch) from repair
	Chicago	ART	3" Motorised
		INF	XXXIX
		MOT	XXI
	Boston	TRS	from start
		2xTRS	from construction
	Houston	2xTanker	
		2xCP	
	Los Angeles	2xCV	"Franklin", "Bennington" from start
		2xCVL	"Princeton", "San Jacinto" from start
	San Francisco	2xBB	"Massachusetts", "Iowa" from const
		2xBB	"Alaska", "Guam" from start
4xCL		"Birmingham", "Flint", "Mobile", "Juneau" all from start	
Washington	2xFTR	P-39L "AiraCobra", F6F-3 "Hellcat"	
Seattle	SUB	from const	
	2xPilot		(29.5BP)

Conquest

With the entry of German troops into Damascus, the Free French administration abandons the country. Syria is now another country conquered by the Axis.

January/February 1942 Losses

C/wealth	HQ(I)	Wavell takes 5BP		5BP
	Territorial	Anglo-Ethiopian	(2-3)	2BP
	MOT	1 st Canadian	(7-4)	3BP
	CP			1BP

Total Commonwealth losses = 11BP

Total Allied losses = 11BP

German	SUB		(2-7-0-0) 6/3	2BP
	SUB	Milch Cow	(0-10-0-0) 5/5	3BP

Total German losses = 5BP

Italy	MECH	"Libia" takes 2BP		2BP
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Total Italian losses 2BP

Total Axis losses = 7BP