

## March/April 1940

### Reinforcements

USSR	Leningrad	CA	"Zhelezniakov"*
	Vitebsk	INF	5 (5-3)
	Odessa	INF	12 (4-4)
	Kiev	MOT(h ) Pilot	6 (5-5)
C/wealth	London	MOT	XI (6-5)
	Plymouth	CP	
	Manchester	FTR2	Hurricane
	Southampton	INF	V (5-4)
	Glasgow	BB	"Howe"*
		CA	"Trinidad"*
	Belfast	CV	"Indomitable"*
	Newcastle	CL	"Cleopatra"*
	Halifax	ASW*	
	Bombay	INF Pilot	13 Ind (4-3)
France	Paris	HQ(I)	Pretelat (6(2)2)
		MECH	XIV (6-6)
		3xMIL	Senegal (5-3), Bordeaux (2-2), Marseilles (4-2)
	Bordeaux	BB	"Jean Bart II"*
	Brest	CP	
China	ChungKing	INF	1 (5-3)
	Si-An	CAV	Cav (3-4)
		MIL	Lan Chow (4-2)
USA	Washington	CP	
	Boston	TRS*	
	Los Angeles	CV	"Wasp"
		CVP1	SBD-4



*The newly commissioned USS "Wasp" (CV-7) heads out of Los Angeles harbour to join the Pacific fleet.*



*Fresh from the factory, an SBD-4 "Dauntless" practices take-off and landing on the "Wasp"*

	San Francisco	SUB* Pilot	
Japan	Osaka Hiroshima	MTN CL	1 Div (1-3) "Katori"
Italy	La Spezia	BB	"Vittorio Veneto"



*The "Vittorio Veneto" with her 3 turrets each mounting three 15in guns, joins the Regia Marina. Italy is staking her claim to the Mediterranean*

Germany	Essen	MOT	4 Div (1-5)
		MOT	V (6-5)
	Cologne	LND3	Ju 88A1
	Dusseldorf	FTR3	Bf 110C
		PARA	II Para (4-3)
	Hanover	INF	VI (7-3)
	Kiel	2xSUB* Pilot	

\*To construction pool

The Peking warlord, still marching north in search of the elusive partisans, reports that the local inhabitants are slowing movement by a variety of means – no casualties but progress is inhibited.

**Lending Resources**      At last the British government recognises the need of the French and agrees to send vitally need oil.

**Initiative**                      Axis dr = 9(+1)   Allies dr = 9      Axis elect to take the initiative

Weather rolls are 7, 2, 5 – a fairly average late winter

**Impulse 1 (Axis)**

Kwei Yang falls/ First blood to the Royal Navy

Weather dr = 4(+3) R, R, F, F, R, F (2)



*The situation in China before the final assault on Kwei Yang*



*Maintenance crew work on an Aichi D3A "Val" dive bomber. Constant missions over Kwei Yang are taking their toll on equipment*

For once the Vals fail to destroy the morale of the defenders of Kwei Yang. Perhaps the forces of the ChungKing warlord are heartened by the presence of regular troops (the Kuomintang's 1<sup>st</sup> Division) or perhaps Japanese air power has lost its surprise effect. In any event, this failure has no impact on the result, as the assault is overwhelming. The Japanese have at least an eight to one advantage in numbers, and this superiority is increased by the quality of their troops, artillery support and the ever present air power. In addition, Yamamoto once again uses his headquarters reserve supplies to boost the impact of the attack.

Not one defender escapes alive: Japanese losses are negligible (1BP from 2 Div). The US Congress is aghast at the slaughter as the city falls. (US Entry dr = 2, 4 needed).

The raiders "Penguin" and Michel" do not need the cover of the rain as they leave Lisbon and head south, evading the carrier fleets in the Bay of Biscay and off Cape St Vincent. They head down the coast of Africa, searching for ships on the Cape Town to Plymouth route. A lone cruiser does not deter their search, but in a brief clash, HMS "Birmingham" sinks the auxiliary cruiser "Michel". The "Penguin" manages to break contact and remains in the area, hoping to find less dangerous prey next time.



*HMS "Birmingham" at full speed in pursuit of the raiders "Michel" and "Penguin". She will claim the first naval success of the war.*

**Impulse 3 (Allies)**      Nanning evacuated

Chiang Kai Shek orders the evacuation of Nanning – the troops, poor as they are, are needed urgently in the mountains north west of Kwei Yang.

Wary of the presence of the "Penguin", a massive French fleet escorts troop ships to the coast of Senegal, where local militia are waiting to be shipped to France.

As more British ships enter the area, the "Penguin" again clashes with the "Birmingham" and again comes off second best, being forced to flee to Portuguese Angola to recover.

1 South African Corps moves to Alexandria to dramatically strengthen General Wavell's Army of Egypt.

**Impulse 5 (Axis)**      Italians reinforce North Africa

Weather dr = 2      Bl, Sn, St, R, St, St (3)\*

Japanese cargo ships enter the Sea of Japan – more Chinese resources head for Japan.

In response to the British Empire troops flooding into Egypt (tens of thousands of Australians and South Africans are now bolstering Wavell's local territorials), Italy sends reinforcements to Graziani. An Italian motorised corps has landed in Benghazi and hundreds of the new Macchi fighters rebase to North Africa.

**Impulse 8 (Allies)** Allied convoys increase

With the raider threat nullified (at least temporarily), French and British freighters head to sea, hoping that an increase in raw materials will further accelerate armament production.

*Turn ends on 2, 7 rolled*

**Impulse 11 (Axis)** Nanning occupied

Weather dr = 4(+1) St, St, R, F, R, F

Japanese units march into Nanning unopposed: the peaceful occupation is in contrast to the bloodshed that occurred on the fall of Kwei Yang. The US public does not react. (*US Entry dr = 1, 4 needed*).

*Turn ends on 5, 7 rolled*

**Impulse 13 (Allies)** Chinese strengthen the South

More Chinese units move to shield Kunming. The entire air force rebases to the city, intending to drive off the ubiquitous Japanese bombers.



*A Kuomintang I-16 at Kunming air field, having arrived from ChungKing*

Commonwealth troopships leave Britain for the Middle East, loaded with the II Infantry Corps.

*Turn ends on 8, 5 rolled. No change to initiative – remains +1 Axis.*

**Partisans**

Partisan dr = 6 (China) Garrison = 12 Partisan no. = 20 Existing partisans = 2

A fresh partisan uprising takes place – the forest area near Foo Chow is seized by the insurgents.

**US Entry** Chit to Ge/It pool

Senator Truman sets up a Committee to investigate and root out corruption and inefficiency in the issue and management of military contracts.

As the world conflict slowly escalates, the US Congress passes several critical Bills.

The first piece of legislation recognises the plight of China and authorises economic support to the Nationalist Government. The Commonwealth also pledges to assist, allowing access to Burmese ports and roads and indicating that it too would attempt to send supplies. The “Burma Road” is now in existence. This action seems to have been expected as there is no increase in tension. (*dr = 10, 5 needed*)

In response to the increase in size and activity of the IJN, President Roosevelt orders the Pacific Fleet to move its headquarters from San Francisco to Honolulu. Obviously such a move will take time, but naval commanders prepare for the departure of the first ships. This does attract the attention of the Japanese, and tension increases. (*dr = 3, 5 needed*)

Finally, although Germany has not as yet attacked any Allied shipping, Congress authorises the US Navy to escort Allied convoys off the east coast of the USA. The number of ships involved is limited, and the rules of engagement limit actual combat to clashes involving merchant shipping. Germany ignores the Bill. (*dr = 8, 7 needed*).



*President Roosevelt’s “Neutrality Patrol” swings into action as the USS “Reuben James” (DD 245) heads out of the Hudson River to begin escort duties off the eastern seaboard and Gulf ports of the USA*

### Production

	Base (Resource/Oil)	Imports	Less Oil	PPs	Multiple	BPs	Trade	Losses/ Enemy*	Total BPs
Germany	18/6	+1	-1	24	.75	18	-2		16
Italy	4/1			5	.75	4			4
Japan	13/4	+1	-1	17	1	17	-1		16
UK	11/7	+3	-1	20	.75	15			15
Canada	2			2	.75	2			2
Australia	1			1	.75	1			1
India	2			2	.75	2			2
France	8/2		-1	9	.75	7			7
China	5			5	.5	3		+2/+1	6
USA	22/18		-1	39	.25	10	+1		11
USSR	15/8			23	.5	12	+2		14

\*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 (16BP)	On map	SE of Berlin	Synthetic Oil plant (1)		
		SW of Berlin	Synthetic Oil plant (1)		
		Kiel	SUB shipyard (1)	(3)	
	In production	Berlin	HQ(A)	Rommel (1)	
		Dusseldorf	FTR2	Bf109 F1 (1)	
			HQ(A)	Guderian (1)	
	Start prod'n	Munich	LND3	Ju88 A4 (1)	
			2xPilot	(2)	(6)
		Stettin	2xRaider	"Hause", "Stier" (1)	
		Hamburg	2xSUB	(from const pool) (2)	
Vienna		NAV4	FW 300C "Condor" (1)		
	Dusseldorf	FTR2	Bf109 E7 (1)		
	Essen	MECH	2 Div (1)		
		Pilot	(1)	(7)	

Japan (16BP)	On map	Repair 2 INF Div (1)		
		Fukuoka	CV Shipyard (1)	
		Osaka	Synthetic Oil plant (1)	(3)
	In production	Fukuoka	INF	11 (1)
		Hiroshima	INF	27 (1)
		Osaka	MTN	1 (1)
			CV	"Shokaku" (1)
	MAR	1 SNLF Div (1)	(5)	



*Marines of the Special Naval Landing Forces in training off Osaka*

Start prod'n	Tokyo	BB	"Hiei" (from const pool)	
		CL	"Kashi" (1)	
		CP	(1)	
	Sapporo	NAV2	B5N2 "Kate" (1)	
	Osaka	GARR	27 (1)	
		MECH	3 Div (1)	
	Kyoto	CVPO	D1A2 (0)	
	Tokyo	SCS specialisation (1)		
	MIL	Seoul (2)	(8)	

Italy (4BP)	On map	Milan	Synthetic Oil plant (1)
	In production	Milan	MAR Marine (1)
		La Spezia	BB "Impero" (1)
Start prod'n	La Spezia	SUB (from const pool) (1)	

USSR (14BP)	In production	Leningrad Odessa	INF FTR2	6 (1) I-16 (1)
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*In the bitter cold of April 1940, T20 artillery tractors towing 45mm anti-tank guns arrive in Kiev to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mechanised Corps*

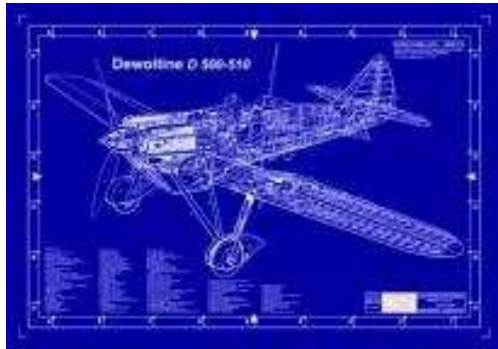
		Kiev	MECH	2 (1)	
			INF	29 (1)	
		Moscow	HQ(I)	Yeremenko (1)	
			Pilot	(1)	(6)
	Start prod'n	Moscow	ARM	2 (3)	
		Odessa	LND2	Pe-2 (1)	
		Kiev	INF	2 (2)	
		Vitebsk	FTR2	I-17 (1)	
			Pilot	(1)	(8)
C/Wealth (16BP)	On map	Belfast	SCS Shipyard	(1)	
		NE Liverpool	Synthetic Oil plant	(1)	(2)
	In production	London	HQ(I)	Alexander (1)	
		Glasgow	FTR2	Hurricane (1)	
			2xCA	"Mauritius", "Kenya" (1)	
		Leeds	LND2	Battle (1)	
		Belfast	CV	"Victorious" (1)	
			NAV3	Beaufort (1)	
			2xPilot	(2)	(8)
	Start prod'n	London	LND3	Hampden (1)	
		Edinburgh	Synthetic Oil plant	(3)	
			2xPilot	(2)	(6)
Canada	In production	Ottawa	MOT	1 Canadian (1)	
	Start prod'n	Halifax	ASW (from const pool)	(1)	



*A "Flower" class corvette prepares to leave for sea trials at Halifax in Nova Scotia, Canada. These ships will be the backbone of the Anti-Submarine Warfare groups that the Royal Navy hopes will break the looming U-boat menace.*



India	In production	Bombay	GARR	7 Indian (1)
	Start prod'n	Calcutta	CP	(1)
Australia	Start prod'n	Perth	CP	(1)
France (7BP)	In production	Paris	MTN FTR2	Morocco (1) D510 (1)



*Blue prints for the already hopelessly outclassed D510 fighter. Although its top speed of 400km/hr means that it is no match for the German Messerschmitts, desperation for defence against the Luftwaffe forces the French Government to authorise the completion of several hundred new planes in Dewoitine's Paris factory*

	Start prod'n	Paris	INF GARR MIL	X (2) VI (1) Nice (2)
China (6BP)	In production	ChungKing	INF AA	6 (1) 40mm (1)
	Start prod'n		MIL 2xWarlord	ChungKing (2) Kunming, ChungKing (2)

USA  
(11BP)

The Truman Committee's first action is to tell Boeing that the United States Army Air Corps will no longer take delivery of the obsolete P-26 "Peashooters". The Committee reports that while the all-metal skin P-26 was a breakthrough in 1931, its open cockpit, fixed landing gear and externally braced wings mean it is not realistic competition for the new European fighters.  
*(P-26 (2-\*-\*-\*))/4 scrapped*

*The USAAC's last operational squadron of "Peashooters" in a ceremonial flypast after Boeing closes its production line.*



In production	Washington New York	CV LND2 NAV3	"Saratoga" (1) B18A "Bolo" (1) Martin PBM "Mariner" (1)
	Los Angeles Seattle	CV (from const pool) NAV3	"Langley" (1) "Hudson" (1)

		TERR	Philippines (1)	
		Pilot	(1)	(7)
Start prod'n	Chicago	MOT	XXXVIII (2)	
	San Francisco	SUB (from construction pool)		
		Pilot	(1)	(4)

**Losses: March/April 1940**

China	Warlord	ChungKing (4-2)	2BP	
	INF	2 Div (1-3)	2BP	4BP
Japan	1 INF Div takes 1BP			1BP
Germany	Raider	"Michel" (1-10-0-1)6/6	2BP	2BP