

# Dublin Chronicle

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Issue 29

## RUSSIA RISES FROM THE ASHES



**Z h u k o v   b r i n g s   e n d   t o   C o m m u n i s t   e r a .**

### **G r e a t e r   R u s s i a   r i s e s   f r o m   d e b r i s   o f   S o v i e t   U n i o n**

**General Zhukov has acted quickly to follow up his political success of last month by taking total and absolute control for the Military in Russia.**

Not only has he taken control from the Communists he has totally purged them from the government and the military, throwing his own and his neighbours lives into turmoil, no one expecting the raft of changes that came out of Moscow over the following days.

The key change was the announcement that the nation would return to its roots, taking the name of Greater Russia and reclaiming the Russian Flag as the national flag, the red banner of the Soviet Union being cast to history.

Next the General announced a full purge of the military and civil administrations, from the events that followed it appeared that these

changes were well prepared. Part of this purge involved many divisions pulling back from contact with the German army in order to complete their purge.

Then the shock of the day was the invasion of Russia, a declaration of hostilities being announced and the elite forces, long loyal to Zhukov, being thrown into the invasion of Manchuria and Korea, as well as launching an invasion of Japan.

Further moves have included the formal joining of the Allied alliance with the Western Powers, the acceptance of the Polish state in its original form, the claiming of the Baltic States and Finland as regions of Greater Russia and the creation of an independent Air Force.

News from Germany was swift, Herr Hitler announcing "The German Peoples care not what the Russians call themselves or their mili-

tary, we care only for their total and utter destruction, that day has not been altered, soon Zhukov will pass the same way as the Tzar , Lenin and Stalin, only the Reich will stand the test of time."

Such talk may well rally his own troops but commentators have been quick to note that with the loss of political constraints and news that promotions within the Russian military will go to those who display military competence rather than loyalty to the party, it is highly likely that the Russians will have to all intents and purposes doubled the efficiency of their military machine. If this is the case then the Germans truly will be fighting a new enemy.

Time will tell if Zhokov can turn the tide of the Fascist powers, though one must wonder at his desire to take his nation to war with Japan, a long standing enemy.

## British force Germans back

**German lines have been pulled back towards Madrid in an effort to stabilise the lines after the withdrawal of the Spanish Army and the successful attacks of the Allies last month.**

The British continue to throw troops in the theatre in an effort to maintain their last bastion on the continent, most recently the capture of Cartagena has allowed them to land troops to the German rear.

The Axis in turn have managed to continue to supply the region with some of their best divisions, most recently being supplemented by the Italians, who have so far deployed 2 corps to the region. Yet still the Germans have been unable to make the final push that would turn the Allies out of the Peninsular, Iberia proving to be the first place on the continent that the British and their allied friends have managed to hold with any level of success.

## Prince of Wales Sunk

**German submarine attacks have had little success against the British merchant fleet this month, but they did manage to sink a British Capital Ship.**

The battleship, Prince of Wales, one of the newest of the Royal Navy's King George V class ships, was caught off the Portuguese coast by German submarines who managed to score a number of hits on her and then escape. The Royal Navy has stated that it is surprised the Germans could manage the attack in the weather conditions and it was due to these high seas that the escorts were unable to prosecute an attack upon the enemy.

## German Advance halted

**With Russian forces pulling back in the east the question was asked as to why the Germans have not taken up the pursuit.**

The answer may well be the shortage of fuel oil and aviation fuel that the German Army and Airforce are currently experiencing, with what supplies there are being passed with priority to the Submarine Fleet the Wehrmacht and Luftwaffe get what is left of a dwindling reserve.

It may be that the German advances in the east will pick-up in the spring, but this seems unlikely if they do not have the diesel to drive their great tanks forward towards the Russian lines.

## Rabaul falls to Japanese

**The Australian and New Zealand Troops on Rabaul are reported to have eventually succumbed to the IJN Marines early in the month.**

The Australian government announced that aircraft of the Australians navy had attacked the Combined Japanese fleet off the coast of Rabaul early on the 4th shooting down at least 100 carrier aircraft and strafing the Japanese land troops.

However, by the 10th they had to admit that the 1st ANZAC division had surrendered to the Japanese after bitter jungle fighting. In all the Japanese have reported around only 1,500 prisoners taken from the entire garrison on the island, believed to have been around 8,000 servicemen. If this is the case then it shows the world that the ANZACs are no pushovers!

## Italians invade Greece

**With the Greek military hard pressed to hold the Turks, the Italians launched a surprise attack upon their rear and flank, supported by the other Axis powers.**

Italian troops supported by limited air power managed to break the Greek lines in the north in bitter hill and mountain fighting during some horrendous weather conditions, many casualties on both sides being taken from troops losing their footing. To the north the Turks held their advance as they realised they would be outpaced by the Axis powers and being unwilling to come into contact with German, Hungarian or Italian formations.

The Greeks managed to use a combination of good tactics and the weather to pull their lines south towards Athens, forming a blocking line that is likely to cause the Italians some heavy losses. This tactic may also allow the arrival of relief, the Greeks having made an urgent request over radio and diplomatic channels for allied support. Although this may be difficult to accomplish with the Italians having gained local naval supremacy, with the sinking of the Greek fleet.

One notable occurrence has been the lack of German forces advancing over the border, the Germans having provided artillery support but not taken part in the general southern advance, in fact to date Germany has not declared war upon Greece, although Italy, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria have done so (Lithuania and Finland have not declared war upon Greece either). This is the first shift in tactics by the Axis alliance, until now each nation has followed the party line. It will be interesting to see if this is the start of an Axis rift.

## The situation in Spain



## The situation in Greece



## Japanese Bring China to heal

After weeks of bitter fighting in cities throughout China, Tokyo has reported that they are finally managing to bring the insurgency to an end.

With the Japanese military hard pressed on all fronts, it is seen as vital that the Chinese uprisings are brought to an end quickly, this month seeing a further 4 cities brought back under military curfew, leaving only 4 cities still in the hands of the rebels. At a time when Japan is under attack on all flanks, the divisions being used to quell the uprising are an expensive use of manpower reserves.

### INTERNATIONAL WEATHER

**N. America** - Heavy snow fall in north east, cold across the central and western regions, high seas off Pacific coast..

**C. America / Caribbean** - Light winds, heavy risk of heavy rain fall throughout course of the month.

**S. America** - Warm, weather good to favourable off the southern cape.

**Atlantic** - Heavy winds and sheet ice from the north, high swells in all regions of the north, lighter in south.

**W. Europe** - continued heavy snow, moving deep into Med. Low level cloud cover through the month, freezing conditions away from the coast.

**E. Europe** - heavy snow coming down from Scandinavia, freezing conditions, ice sheeting, Baltic expected to freeze all posts closed or closing.

**Balkans** - High seas in Adriatic, heavy snow falls worsening as month continues, freezing conditions in high ground.

**N. Africa / Med** - cold weather persists, rain throughout the region

**C Africa / S. Africa** - warm and dry in most regions.

**Russia** - freezing conditions throughout region, snow sheets and high winds with limited if any clear spells. Conditions expected to deteriorate as month continues.

**Arabia / Turkey** - cold with snow in the north, becoming warmer as you move south.

**India** - occasional rain throughout the region, generally dry and warm

**Central Russian Empire** - Freezing conditions.

**Eastern Russia** - Freezing conditions, deteriorating as month continues, zero visibility by end of month.

**N. China / Manchuria** - Cold, conditions deteriorating as the month progresses.

**N. Pacific / Japan** - High winds, with possible ice flows form the north, cold throughout, opportunities for snow.

**S.China** - Dry, high winds though and heavy seas.

**Indo China / East Indies** - Wet weather persists, chances of heavy storms coming up from the south and west, islands warned for flooding.

**S. Pacific** - Continued high swells in north, light winds in south and generally good conditions.

**Australia** - dry and warm throughout.

## World War II – Open Warfare Bulletin 29

1. National newspapers should be with me as soon as possible please.
2. Game turn for January 1942 is due back with me for:  
**Thursday, 9th of March (17:00 GMT).**
3. Funds for Openwar, if paying by Paypal, should be directed to  
openwar@wargaming.org.uk
4. Web site will be totally up to date by the end of next weekend—sorry!!!