

# Dublin Chronicle

May 31st 1941

Issue 22

## BELGIUM SURRENDERS AND DUTCH COLLAPSE

The short war for the Lowland Nations is now over, with both being overrun by German forces, the final outpost of Brussels was surrendered to the Germans on the 15th.

**Another short campaign for the Germans finished as the Belgium Government totally collapses and the Dutch sail into exile.**

Both Brussels and Amsterdam were spared the horrors of modern war as the Lowland governments opted to allow the German army free access to the city, a move that will ensure that these two great cities continue to stand as beacons of light in the glowing darkness of Europe, neither of them facing the fate that was dealt to Arnhem.

The Allies appear to have all but left the Lowland countries to their fate, the RAF having provided little if any air support and no efforts to evacuate the stricken Belgium troops at Dunkerque.

In their turn the Germans have been able to march their battalions through both cities (the picture opposite was taken in Brussels) as a show of strength.

The only remaining foothold for the Alleis now remains Portugal, this can not surely last long as the whole of the German western Army



seems to swing south in an effort to get at the British and her allies, who have failed to make any headway against the Spanish.

## German drive in the East continues Odessa, Kiev and Smolensk at risk

**German forces moved the main thrust of their drive towards three key cities this month, pushing towards Kiev, Smolensk and Odessa, in three independent drives through the hear of the Russian lines.**



German infantry cross under heavy fire from Russian Infantry

The northern of the assaults, aimed at Smolensk was by far the largest operation, involving the greater part of an entire Army Group, the German advance, stalled initially by Soviet set defences eventually dislodged the Russian tanks and infantry and looked as if it would result in a general breakout, however the lead forces encountered a reserve Soviet Armoured Army which successfully held the German advance in check.

To the south of the city a second advance was made, this time towards the river, supported by air and engineers, the Germans managed to throw an armoured group

of some 4 divisions across the Dvina, with what appears to be little in the way of support or reserves in the region this group could effectively break our towards the Russian interior.

With more German troops poised to follow up the successes and the Soviet reserves apparently engaged around Vitebsk the Russians appear to have lost the edge in this phase of the war, their defenses circumnavigated to the south.

Further down the line the Germans launched a second attack aimed towards the city of Kiev, the Ukrainian capital. (cont. p3)

## Spanish pull back

As expected the Spanish Army has been unable to hold its ground against the British Army's advance out of Portugal and Gibraltar.

The British have however failed to top capitalize on the situation and occupy the city of Seville. Time may well run out for the British as reports of German armour in the Spanish interior arrive in Lisbon.

## Stettin bombed by RAF

The RAF is reported to have launched a raid on the port facilities of Stettin, in northern Germany.

After some months of quiet, following the disasters of the northern France air raids, the RAF has returned to attack son German shipping facilities

Again the British have violated neutral airspace and again the Danes have demanded that such practices stop, stating that in future their fighters will engage any aircraft of Allied or Axis nations that violates their airspace.

## Greeks pull back

Following the withdrawal for Turkish forces from the Greek border, the Greeks have pulled back their divisions..

With the Greeks keeping a close eye on the Italians, this move will support the Greeks need for securing their border with Albania.

Meanwhile the Turks are believed to have added to their east defence.

## Siam bites the bullet

Siam's war has also been a short one, having declared for the Japanese only a few months ago, the Siamese government has fled the capital and the provisional government has ended their treaty with Japan.

As troops of the British Empire stood on the doorsteps of Bangkok the Siamese king fled the country with his cabinet. Reports now coming in indicate that the actions of the Allies around the city were no more than the usual patrols and combat lines, expected in a war zone, however the Siamese were so convinced that a major assault was coming that panic swept through not only the government but the military and the population.

Within 9 hours of the King's departure, local British commanders were accepting the surrender of the Siamese garrison of Bangkok, whilst reports were coming in from Phnom Penn that the Siamese troops on the outskirts of the city had flown the white flag and lain down their arms.

## Sabotage in Nagoya

Although unconfirmed, the Russian ambassador in Tokyo has reported that the IJN Hiei has been destroyed.

In what is believed to be an act of extreme sabotage the battleship, coming near to the completion of her refit and laying alongside the jetty, exploded, breaking her back into 4 pieces.

The ship is beyond repair but is the scene of a major investigation to find the cause.

## Hanoi holds again

Another month of desperate actions in northern Indo-China has left the stalemate moving towards the Allies.

Japanese troops once again attempted to take the city from the entrenched French and Chinese troops, and again with no success.

The situation for the Japanese deteriorates on a weekly basis as the Chinese move more and more troops into the theatre, whilst the Japanese attempt to rely on those troops landed three months ago.

Having wasted the opportunity to take the city without opposition two months ago the Japanese have been determined to occupy this strategic linch-pin with any means at their disposal.

But now things look bad for the local Japanese troops, at least 4 divisions failed to reform by the close of the month, with street and hand to hand fighting taking a heavy toll on the Elite Japanese formations, it appears the Chinese and French may well have the upper hand.

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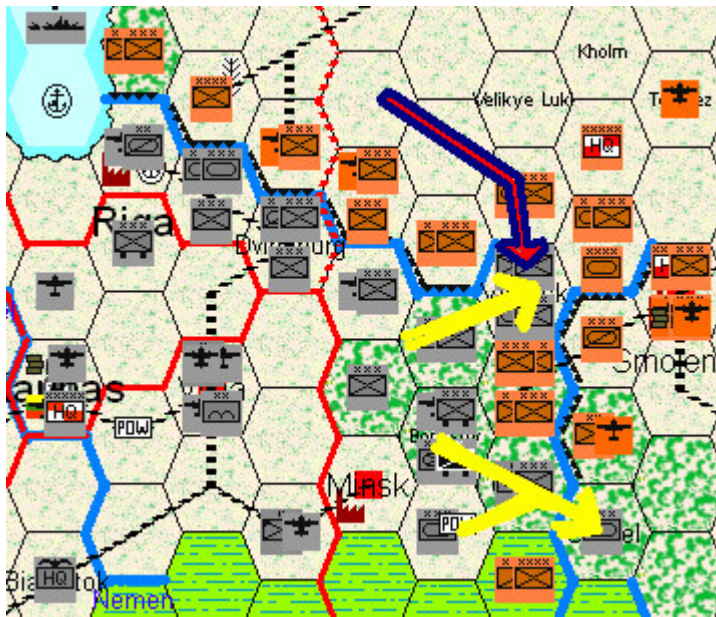
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## Eastern European Front



**Germans  
Push  
towards  
Smolensk**

(from Page 1)

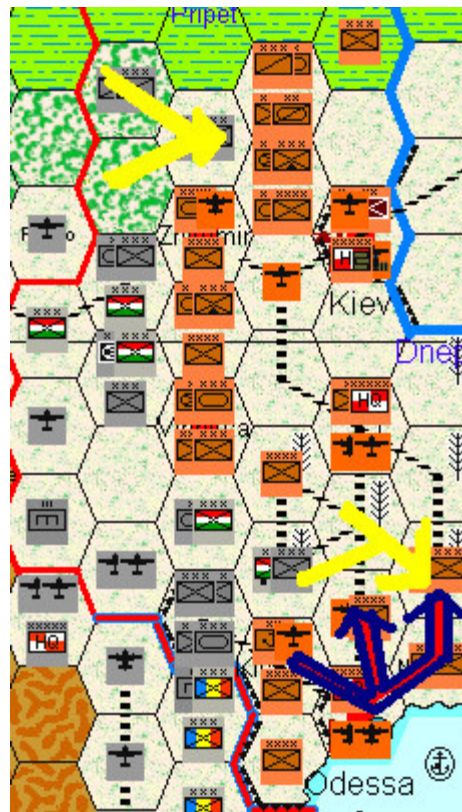
This drive was far more of an infantry slug than the expected armoured thrust, the Germans using their weight for force the Soviet Army back some 60 or so miles.

The most exciting actions centered to the south, around the city of Odessa, where a German force of Panzer II tanks attempted to outflank the city's defenses.

Supported by a lone German infantry corps the advance element of the light armour soon ran into a group of Soviet KV1 tanks, supported by over 6 divisions of infantry, the actions was short, but bitter, the Germans unable to bring themselves into the action soon found themselves outflanked, a fighting withdrawal towards the west by the infantry could not save the remnants of the Panzer force as each of the light tanks was taken out in turn by the superior firepower of the Russian Armour.

By the close of the month the Soviets have managed to prevent 3 possible breakouts, but have a German armoured group sitting on the eastern side of the Dvina.

The air war continues with both



sides of this conflict using their aircraft sparingly. Where it was used to support ground units bombers usually would encounter growing numbers of fighters.

An additional positive note for the Russians was their ability to defeat an attempted assault by the Romanians to the west of Odessa, with the defensive works holding up well to a massed infantry assault.

## Italians Seek to turn the tide

**The unexpected advance of the Italians in north Africa continued this month, with the British forced to continue their withdrawals towards Tripoli.**

With the new German designed armour that the Italians have deployed it would seem that a new confidence has swept through the Italian army.

Even an attack to the north, in the Bone region, by the Free French formations failed to make any progress against a lone Italian division, although it must be noted that the Italian Navy was a key player in this month's actions.

The heavy guns of the Italian battle-fleet provided valued support to the set defenses of the Italian armour, before sweeping south to aid the advance of the main body of the Italian army.

On route the battleships found the time to engage a squadron of British cruisers that had found themselves in the wrong part of the Med at the wrong time of the year, a moment in time when the Italians are stamping their presence in the region.

## Scheer on the prowl

**The KMS Scheer has continued her destruction of the Caribbean.**

This month the American fleet shadowed the German Cruiser as she shelled Kingston and the Bahamas, taking fuel on board during a raid on Kingston Harbour, many are asking why the Americans don't intervene.