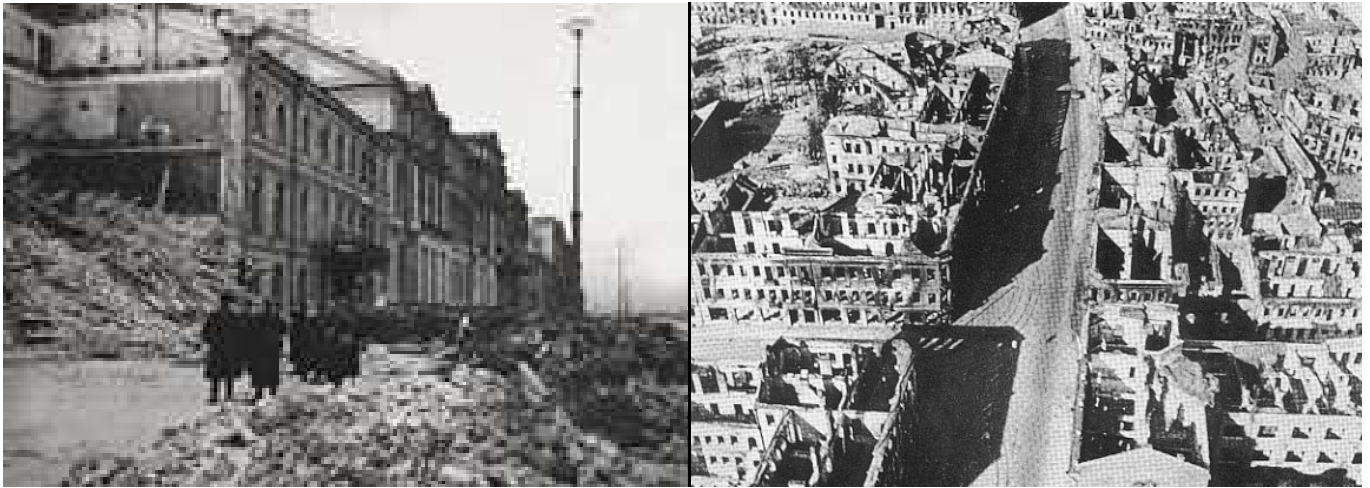


Dublin Chronicle

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LENINGRAD FALLS TO GERMANS



The face of Leningrad today.

Soviet Troops disintegrate in Northern Russia as German Army Group A and the Finnish Army move south in force.

It has taken three months of solid fighting, but the city of Leningrad has fallen to the Axis powers.

With the Soviets unable or unwilling to put additional troops into the defence of Leningrad the Finish and German forces dispatched to take the city were able to continue to grind away at the city's defenders until they could take no more. The Germans gaining control of the second most important city in the Soviet Union must now be ready to strike to the heart — Moscow.

With all around him falling to pieces General Zhukov has stepped forward and disbanded the Polit, the whereabouts of Beria and the rest of the leadership remains unknown, what is clear is that the General has established full military control of the Soviet Union and its satellites.

With this new leadership, the second coupe in the year, Zhukov has proclaimed that he will not rest until Russia has cleared her self of the invading Axis hords, he also went on to proclaim the Russia had no military intentions towards Latvia, Poland or Estonia, and that all three regions were now proclaimed independent of Russia.

In itself this may do little to aid the Russians, although it does now mean that Estonia and Latvia are under occupation from the Germans, rather than "liberated", whilst this announcement is sure to have improved relations with the British and their Polish allies.

Further orders seem to have ended the state police's control over the major cities, Zhukov calling on all Russians to stand and fight against one enemy, rather than hide from their own kind.

Whilst all of this was going on though, the German Army Groups C and Army Group South, extended their control over the central Ukraine, pushing back the Soviet defences, whilst the Murmansk garrison now appears particularly isolated.

Will Zhukov have acted quickly enough, only time will tell, will he manage to force a hold in the German onslaught long enough to muster his troops, we think unlikely and await the next coupe!



Zhukov west of Moscow.

China continues to flame

The Japanese army has found life in China becoming more and more difficult as the Chinese civil population rise up and seek to dispel the myth of harmony behind the Japanese line.

With continued pressure from the home regime, the Army has been forced to transfer troops from other duties in order to bring the cities into line, so far Hsian and Tsinan in the north are reported to have been subdued, whilst Chingkiang is also reported as quiet. This is not the case in Wuhan however, the latest city to rise up against the invaders, a city that is also at the centre of the Japanese supply and command networks.

Luckily the KMT and CCP forces appear to have done little in the way of offensive operations, allowing the Japanese to worry only about their rear area and leave troops on the front to rest and recover after one of the most successful military advances in the nation's history.



Japanese troops behead a Chinese rebel leader outside of Tsinan.

Spain pulls back from war.

In a shocking move, the Spanish army and airforce has been ordered to withdraw away from the front lines, a move that has cost the German army dearly.

There has been no official line out of the Spanish government to indicate why the Spanish have pulled out of the war, or so it seems, but it is clear that they are no longer operating alongside the German forces, with Italian infantry being seen moving into Spain, possibly to take up the positions in the line left by the withdrawing Spanish forces.

The move has however left the Germans horribly exposed in Iberia, with their formations taking two heavy hammerings from the Allies, who now control most of the South and West of the Peninsular.

RAF hits at Northern Europe

Using upwards of 2,000 aircraft the RAF launched a massive fighter and bomber raid on northern Europe, capturing the Lutwaffe by complete surprise.

The German air defences were completely overwhelmed by the Spitfires of the Royal Airforce, who supported bombers as they attacked ground stations, radar and airbases in Belgium, France and Holland, causing extremely heavy losses to the Germans.

News of an air raid on Scapa Flow was met with little excitement, the Royal Navy reporting that the Fleet had been at sea at the time.

Greeks give Ground

Turkish forces have found the going hard in northern Greece, with their troops fighting a hard battle to secure Komotini before the Greeks withdrew to new lines around Xanthi.

Greek formations are believed to have held their movement north following the deployment of a number of Italian divisions onto their northern border.



Greek infantry take up positions to the east of Xanthi.

Japanese Fleet hit hard by RN

Reports from northern Australia point to a substantial naval victory for the Allied Pacific Fleet.

It remains unclear how the Japanese had managed to leave their landing force defended by only one small group of destroyers, but the British were able to take full advantage, using their cruisers from the Pacific Fleet.

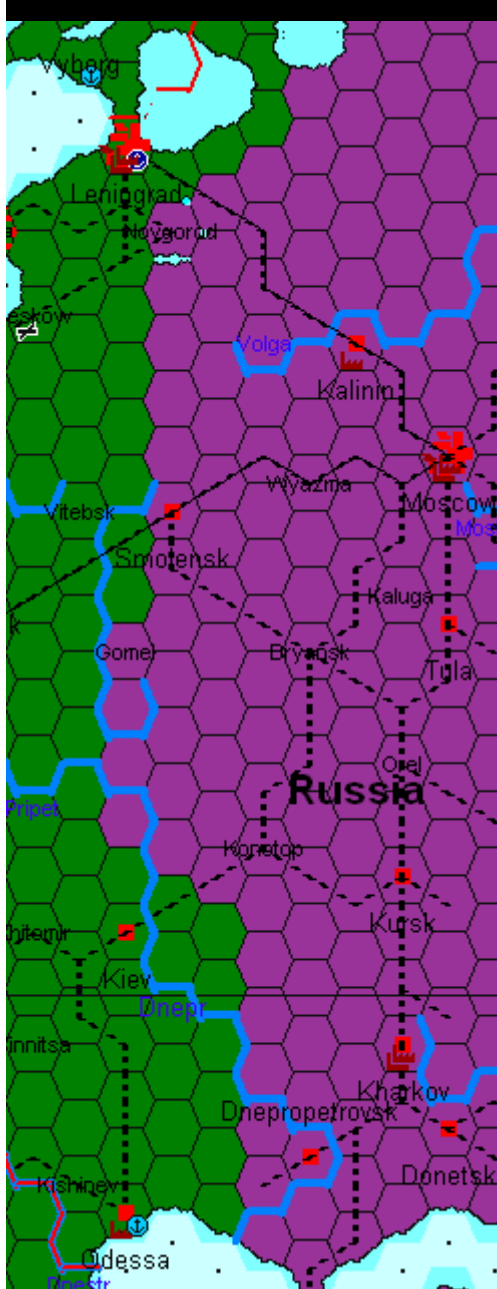
The British managed to close on the destroyers and remove the threat quickly before shelling and sinking both of the transport flotillas that had only just finished off loading Japanese marines to the Ra-baul. The British did not get away scot free, the Japanese did succeed in sinking some 8 British destroyers in a massed air attack, but the RN will be happy with the exchange.

INTERNATIONAL WEATHER

N. America - Cold, possibility of snow, high winds throughout the costal regions, with morning mists along coast.
C. America / Caribbean - Light winds, risk of heavy rain fall throughout course of the month.
S. America - Warm, with heavy rain fall in northern climbs. Extreme weather conditions of the Cape.
Atlantic - Heavy winds and sheet ice from the north.
W. Europe - continued wet weather, with high risk of snow. Low level cloud cover through the month, freezing conditions away from the coast.
E. Europe - heavy snow coming down from Scandinavia, extremely cold, ice sheets and heavy snow fall increasing as the month continues.

Balkans - High winds through the Adriatic, with low cloud inland, cold with snow coming from the east.
N. Africa / Med - cold weather persists, light rain throughout the region
C Africa / S. Africa - warm and dry in most regions.
Russia - Continued snow falls, becoming increasingly heavy as the winter continues, ice sheets expected by mid month, with temps well below zero.
Arabia / Turkey - cold with snow in the north, becoming warmer as you move south with light winds.
India - occasional rain throughout the region, drying out as the month moves on, becoming warmer.
Central Russian Empire - Very cold, freezing winds throughout the month.

Eastern Russia - Ice sheets from the north, conditions below ,minus 5°C
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 - Wet for much of the month, with low winds throughout.
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.
Australia - dry and warm in south, north should expect high winds.



World War II – Open Warfare Bulletin 28

1. National newspapers should be with me as soon as possible please.
2. Game turn for December 1941 is due back with me for **Monday, 24th of January** (17:00 GMT).
3. Funds for Openwar, if paying by Paypal, should be directed to openwar@wargaming.org.uk
4. We are currently running at our lowest number of players since the game began.
5. For open positions see the web site.
6. A new look to the back page of the Dublin Chronicle - as you'll have discovered, because you are reading this.
7. Still having issues with getting the atlas back on the web site.

