

Strategic overview

Turn 20: Strategic Considerations

Situational analysis

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-	Vehicle Repair	A	-	3799	163469	0
-	Port	74	1	0	0	0
-	Railyard	181	1	0	0	0
-	Manpower	2507	39	53431	2742300	0
-	Vehicle	114	0	226202	285750	0
-	Heavy Industry	195	8	0	1655500	0
-	Oil Production	128	0	0	1216000	0
-	Fuel Production	149	0	0	679440	0
-	Resource Production	160	0	0	3336000	0
-	Armaments Production	288	0	64112	1269500	0

I will run out of Armament Points reserve come next turn, so for the rest of 1941 at least, I will be short of armaments. Come 1942 I will have a 130% modifier to my production, and that should help a little. Unfortunately, the Germans will also get the same modifier, and that will help them as much as it does me.

The weather is truly strange this fall. While the Kharkov pocket has been covered in snow this turn, the rest of the front has been knee deep in mud. Moreover, the weather forecast for next week, the first week of november, states that the temperature will remain above freezing, which means the mud will continue.

The Germans has used the snow to reduce the Kharkov Pocket greatly, although a few units still endure the onslaught. I am actually wondering if this is a smart move, as the divisions I lose this way will come back to me later, saving me a lot of Admin Points to reconstruct. However, with the emilination of the pocket, the Germans can free up a lot of units they need for maintaining their front lines.

Axis VP advantage is 2.8 to 1 and Kharkov has fallen.

The North

In this area, the Germans and the Finns have been entirely focused on digging in, and no attacks have occurred.

My mud efforts are directed at digging in as well as moving a few fresh divisions into position along the front.

The Center

Few attacks have occurred, and the German Panzers are still in place outside Voronezh. Further fuel drops by the Luftwaffe has occurred, including one drop of 170 transport planes just outside the city.

I continue to bomb the German Panzers and conduct a few two attacks.

I also continue to establish my reserves for whatever the Germans may have planned to do with their massive Panzer force outside Voronezh. One reserve army is the 3rd Army of the Western Front and another is the 12th of the Southwestern. Once the winter begins in earnest, this army will be moved southwards to the main area of the Southwestern Front.

The South

Obviously, the reduction of the Kharkov pocket is big news, but it is hardly unexpected in anything but timing. I still have 100.000 troops encircled in the pocket, that has now been split into several smaller pockets. Those troops are doomed at the latest when the snow starts and possibly before, if the Germans feel the need for relieving their Panzers holding the line at Voronezh.

Apart from massive attacks in the pocketed area, the Germans have also conducted a few attacks on the main front, including one against my forward cavalry division of the North Caucasus Front (it survived). More interesting, the Germans have also conducted a couple of attacks in the Rostov sector, and I now have five more divisions threatened with encirclement.

I continue to attack the German airfields in the area, and inflict another 12 transport losses for a total of 27 German Transport aircraft lost this turn.

I also conduct two attacks against the German Motorized division south of Voronezh. That division continues to beat back the attacks against it, but its stocks of supplies and ammunition must be getting low.

Outside Rostov, I am obliged to pull back one hex in the salient, but otherwise I continue to strengthen the front. Along the Don, my "digging" army of infantry regiments is now more or less in position and six sapper battalions have been assigned to the army to help with the construction of fortifications.

At the North Caucasus MD, I have moved to encircle a lone Hungarian Motorized Regiment. I hope to be able to destroy it come next turn, as my recon can spot no Axis units capable of breaking through to it next turn. In order to prepare for the coming winter offensive, I have begun shipping two cavalry divisions to this area. Hopefully, I will be able to inflict some heavy casualties on the Axis and break out into the open with my cavalry. However, the Rumanians from Odessa must be going somewhere, and it seems an obvious choice to send them here. Today's image is of this area, where you can see the Hungarian Regiment in the easternmost section of the image

