

## Strategic overview

Turn 33: Strategic Considerations

## Situational analysis

____ SPECIAL ____						
-	Vehicle Repair	A	-	5206	350235	0
-	Port	76	3	0	0	0
-	Railyard	181	0	0	0	0
-	Manpower	2545	70	58309	4216220	0
-	Vehicle	114	0	192443	303918	0
-	Heavy Industry	195	0	0	2752050	0
-	Oil Production	128	0	0	2048000	0
-	Fuel Production	149	0	0	1144320	0
-	Resource Production	168	8	0	5444000	0
-	Armaments Production	288	0	0	2216450	0

The Germans are getting stronger around Moscow every turn. Even though I destroyed the line of German fortifications south of Moscow last turn, their defensive CV values are just as high or even higher this turn. With February coming, I fear I must put a halt to my offensive operations come next turn.

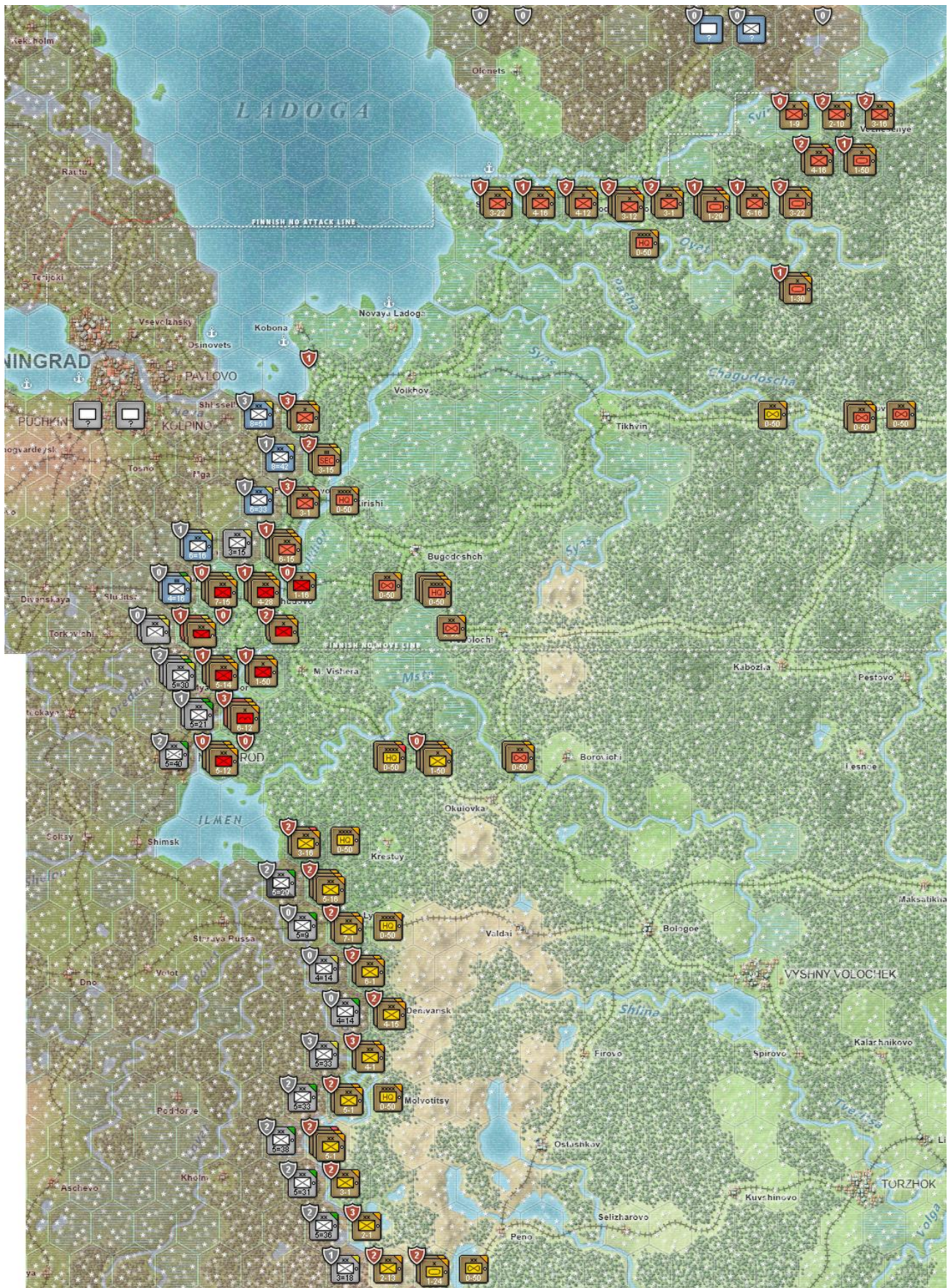
The weather forecast promises mud next turn in the South Soviet Zone, meaning that all areas south of Stalino will be mud next turn if the forecast is true.

Axis losses are ok, with them losing som 91 AFV +SP/AC's this turn.

Axis VP advantage is 3.7 to 1.

**The North**







### *Situational Assessment*

At Novgorod, the Germans have pulled their Panzer division off the line. The Germans now have seven infantry divisions and a motorized division north of Lake Ilmen.

South of the lake, the Germans have moved their units back up to the Soviet line, but as my divisions here are static, I can not attack.

### *Planning*

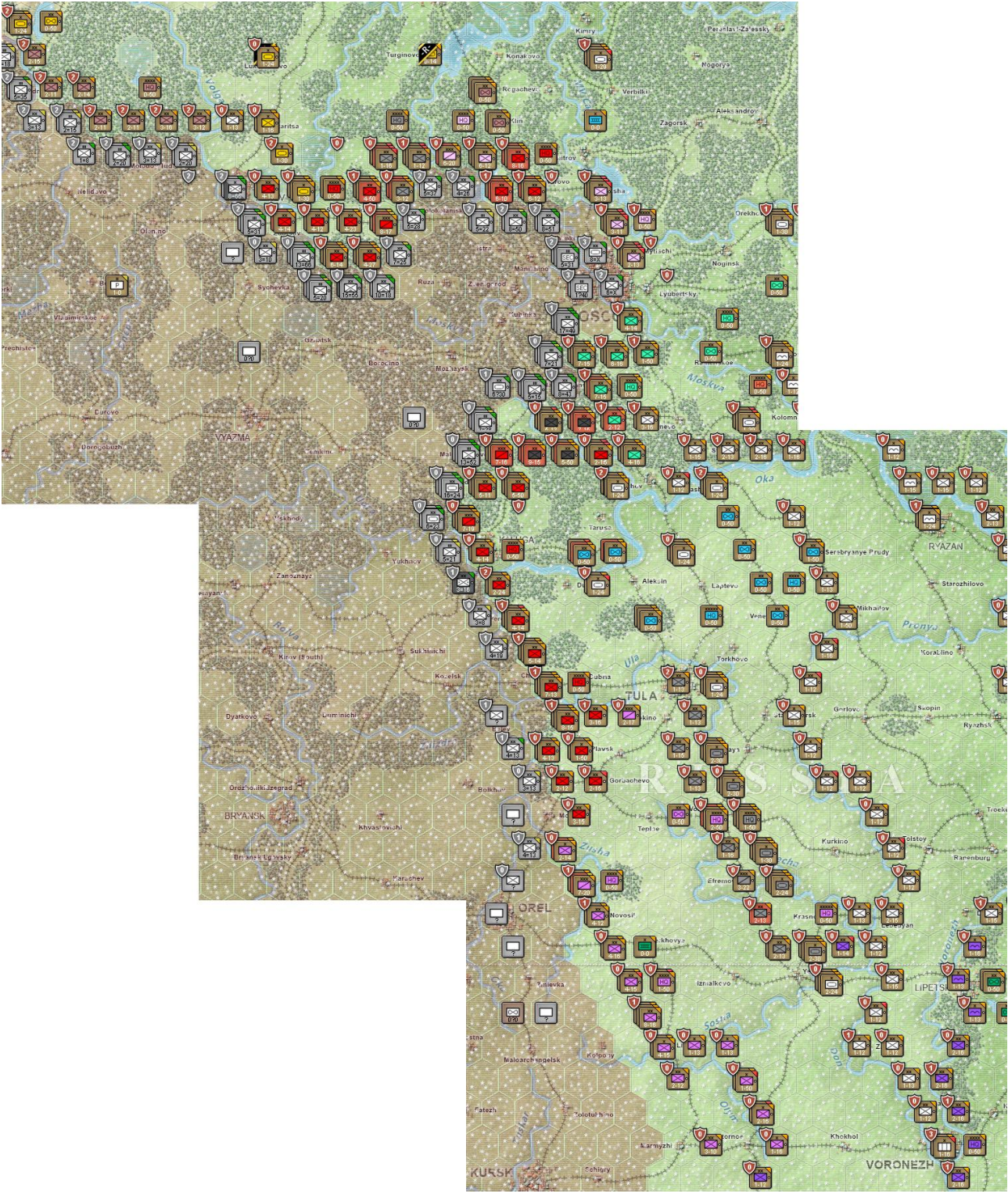
Assuming the German Panzer will be moved south by rail, I have decided to try and spot it using Recons and, if successful, see if I can bomb it while loaded on rail transport. I doubt this will succeed, but I will try.

Other than that, I will do little in the north but dig a little deeper.

### *Execution*

I failed to spot the German Panzer division, and so there is absolutely nothing to report from the north.

The Center





### Situation Assessment

At Moscow, it seems my main attack is getting stuck on ever increasing stacks of German units with high CV's. I can still attack, but unless some real progress is made, I will probably have to call of my attacks come next turn.

North of the city, I have a little more punch still, and the Germans are not as strong, so if progress is to be made, this sector will have to be successful.

From Kaluga stretching south, nothing is happening, and I have some weak fortifications in place along parts of the line by now.

### Planning

North of Moscow, I will attack trying to dislocate a few German divisions and if I am extremely lucky even encircling one. Even if successful, the encirclement will be easily broken come the German turn, so the effect will be mainly in the ground I hope to take.

South of the city, I can also attack a little, hoping to push the Germans back in a few hexes.

At Kaluga stretching south, I will be focusing on strengthening my lines.

### Execution

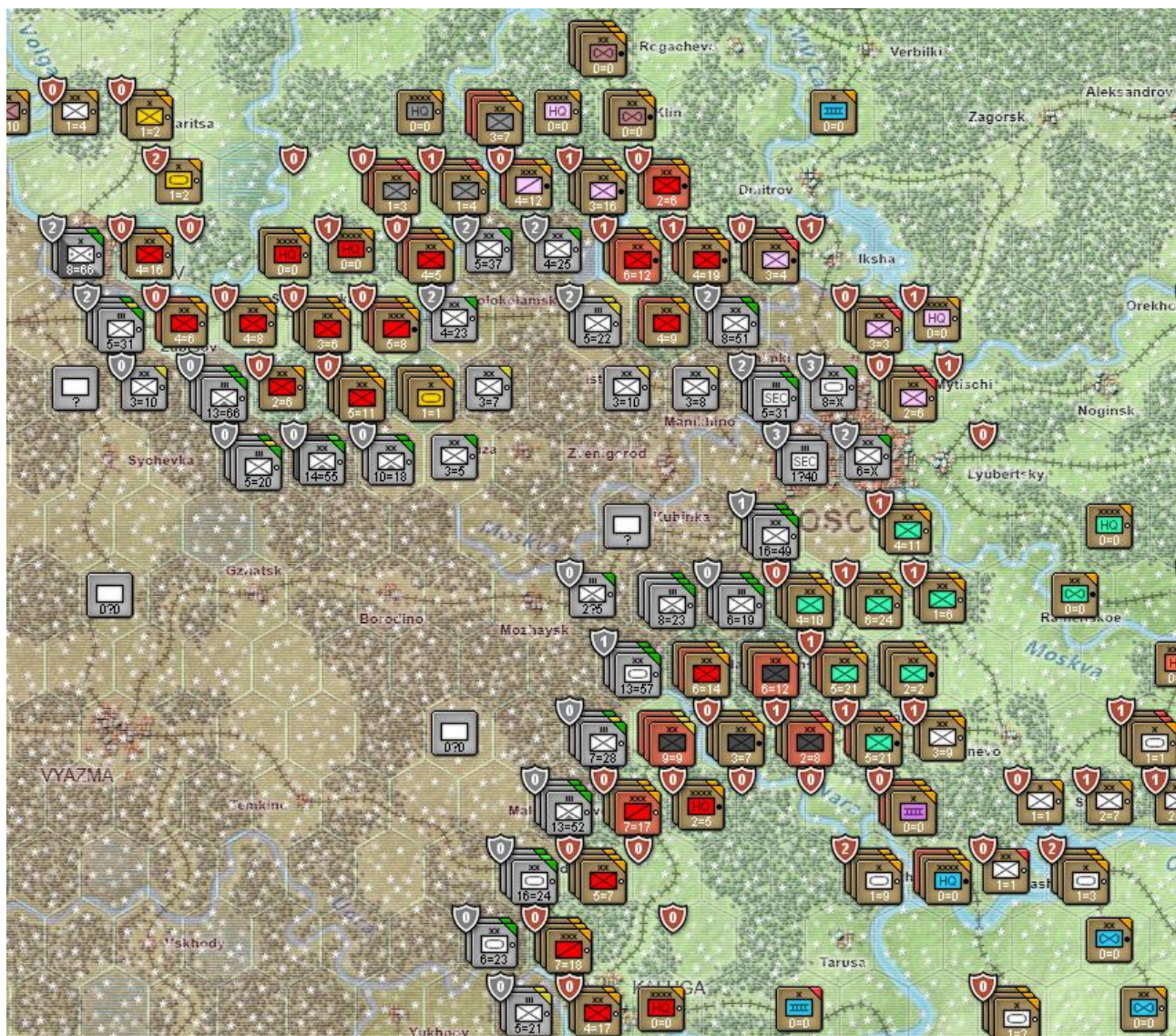
The Moscow attacks have been a mixed pleasure. Even though I have taken a few hexes more from the Germans, I think it likely that my offensive is coming to an end with the arrival of February. This is frustrating, as there is now as little as three hexes connecting Moscow to the German lines.

I also feel quite frustrated by another 1:1.00 loss in this area this turn. By now I think I have had three of those in the close vicinity of Moscow this winter. That's just the way it is, I guess.

1 of 4 > 104,47 - Light Woods - Blizzard Turn:33 1942-01-29		
<b>Axis Forces Defending:</b> LIII Corps 112th Infantry Division (105) XXXIV Corps -16% 3/167th Infantry Division (26) XXXV Corps -16% 1/101st Lt Inf Div (51)	<b>Forces Engaged</b> DEF: men 24511, art 272, afv 0 DAM: men 279, art 4, afv 0 LOST: men 210, art 5, afv 0 DEF: ftr 0, bmr 0, utl 0 LOST: ftr 0, bmr 0, utl 0 ATK: men 60316, art 728, afv 60 DAM: men 984, art 15, afv 0 LOST: men 1106, art 5, afv 0 ATK: ftr 84, bmr 55, utl 0 LOST: ftr 0, bmr 0, utl 0	<b>Soviet Forces Attacking:</b> 20th Army 18th Rifle Division (23) 24th Guards Rifle Division (32) 35th Guards Rifle Division (25) 1st Light Gun Brigade (0) 1st Light Howitzer Brigade (0) 106th Gds Lt Rckt Rgt (1) 60th Army -30%
Defending Forces HELD [v]		
CV: 182->253.8 Fort: 0.30->0.28 Comm HQ: LIII Corps G Karl Weisenberger	Show Details Odds 1 : 1.00 Exit	CV: 126->252.3 Eng Val: 2 Comm HQ: 20th Army GM Fyodor Tolbukhin

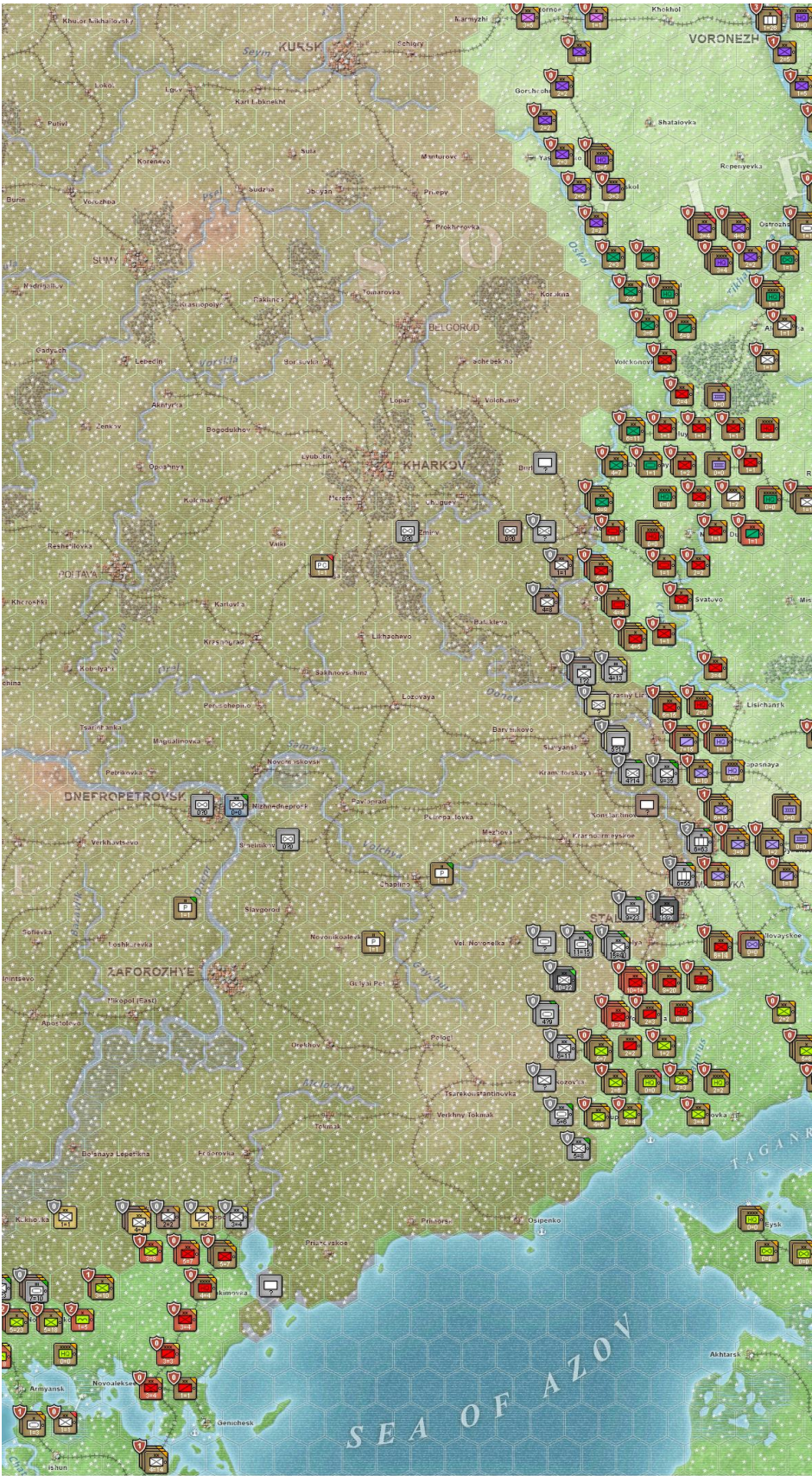
South of Kaluga, I have simply been strengthening my lines, digging in a little deeper.

Below is an image of the Front around Moscow as I give the turn to Pelton.





The South





### *Situational Assessment*

At the Kharkov Bend, and all the way down to Stalino, no interesting German moves has been made this turn.

However, south of Stalino, the Germans now have no less than eight Panzer divisions and five Motorized divisions. The weather forecast promises mud for this area, but the forecast has been proven wrong in the past and weather might become snow. If it does, my forward divisions in this area are very vulnerable.

North of the Crimea, the Germans now have infantry at the western end of the line ready to strike at my line of fortifications. To the east, the Axis minors have followed my withdrawing units.

### *Planning*

At the Kharkov Bend, I will extract the last army of the Volkhov Front that is one the line. By doing so, I hope to create a substantial fighting force as a strategic Reserve. I will conduct no attacks in the area, but focus on my defenses.

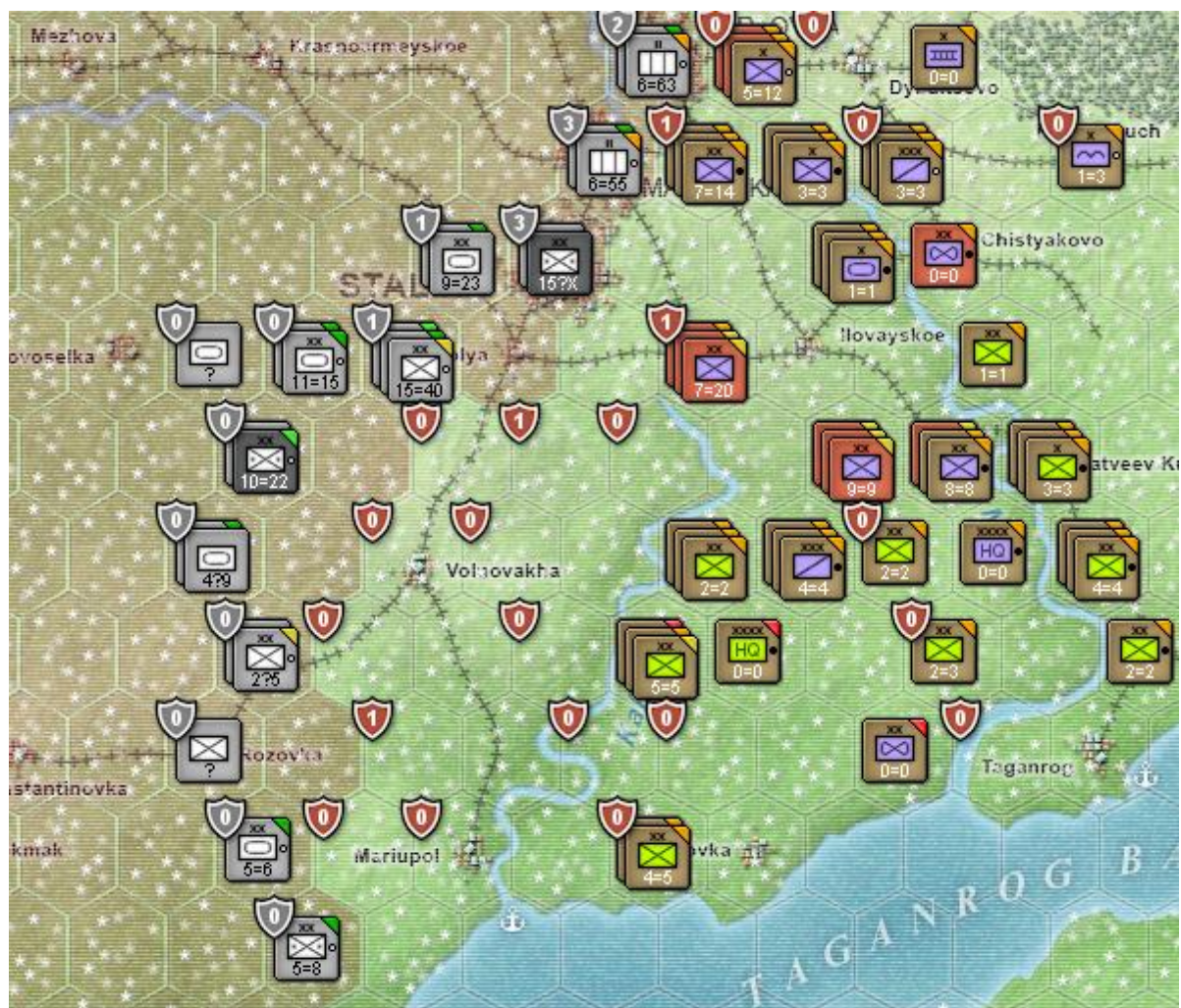
South of Stalino, I will pull back. I have no wish for a German push straight east from Stalino and then south to the Sea of Azov cutting off some of my best formations. The plan is to establish a defensive line on the Mius river.

At the Crimea, I will also continue to pull back my eastern forces. I will temporarily strengthen the western positions, so that the Germans may not be able to punch through here just yet.

### *Execution*

South of Stalino and north of the Crimea, I have continued to run. There is little to say of this area, as neither side actually does any attacking.

Below is an image of my final lines south of Stalino, as I give the turn to Pelton.





## **Conclusion**

Next turn will be February. The Germans will be gaining ever more strength and my attacks are coming to an end for this winter. It is possible, that I can continue to attack in the vicinity of Moscow for a while longer, but on the southern end of the front, I am back on the defense.

I am anxiously waiting to find out exactly how strong the German panzers will become, once they start receiving replacements before the summer attacks.