

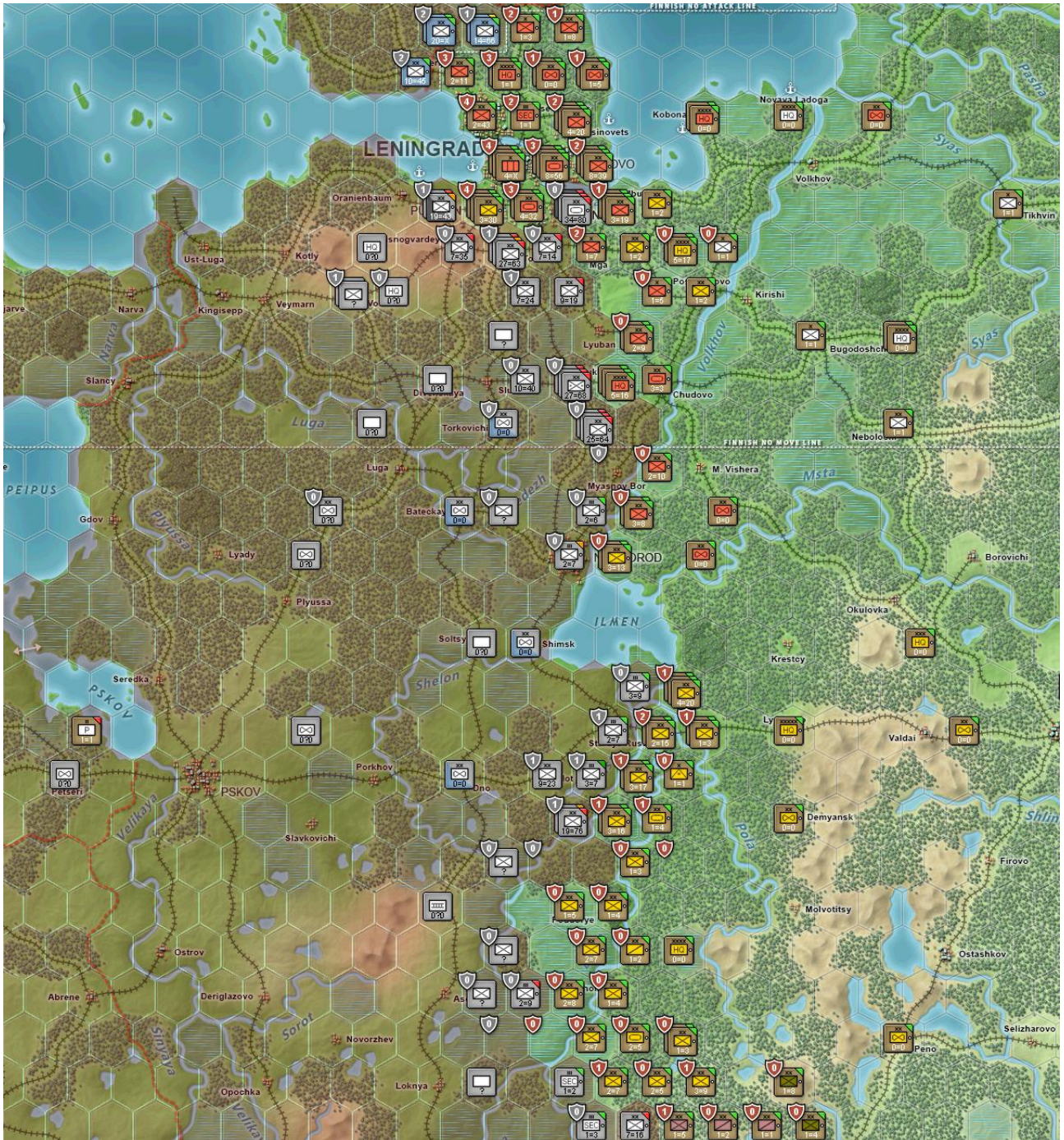
## Turn 11, Strategic Considerations

| ____ SPECIAL ____ |                      |      |   |        |         |   |
|-------------------|----------------------|------|---|--------|---------|---|
| -                 | Vehicle Repair       | A    | - | 2602   | 88289   | 0 |
| -                 | Port                 | 121  | 0 | 0      | 0       | 0 |
| -                 | Railyard             | 280  | 0 | 0      | 0       | 0 |
| -                 | Manpower             | 3064 | 3 | 67849  | 1640936 | 0 |
| -                 | Vehicle              | 140  | 0 | 234992 | 274900  | 0 |
| -                 | Heavy Industry       | 232  | 0 | 0      | 1076500 | 0 |
| -                 | Oil Production       | 128  | 0 | 0      | 640000  | 0 |
| -                 | Fuel Production      | 149  | 0 | 0      | 357600  | 0 |
| -                 | Resource Production  | 182  | 0 | 0      | 1920000 | 0 |
| -                 | Armaments Production | 366  | 2 | 600494 | 850250  | 0 |

The Germans are building up and positioning themselves for a major attack on my defenses at Leningrad. Further south, at Moscow, the German attacks are slowly grinding forward, luckily without any major breakthroughs. At Kiev, the German Panzers have moved up east of the city and encircled a few Soviet units.

Axis VP's are 181, which would mean a minor Axis win should the game end here.

## The North



### *Situational Assessment*

The Germans Panzers are now attacking my defenses in Schlisselburg with heavy Panzer forces under Erich von Manstein. This turn alone, the defenders of that swamp held out against four ground attacks, destroying 22 German AFV in the process. As the Germans attack from just south of the Neva river, my defenses north of the river may begin to build again.



Unfortunately, those BM howitzers I have assigned to the fortified zones are not able to do any firing on the Germans south of the Neva.

I am also steadily being pushed back towards the Volkhov river south of the city. If the Germans decide on a real attack here, I will not be able to hold the line for long.

Further south, my partisans have managed to do what the Northwestern Front has failed to do: They have severed the German supply lines at Pskov. Even better, the Partisan unit is still in position, which means it may even do further attacks next turn.

The impact on the German supply situation in the north is not immense though. The Panzers at Schlisselburg will have an estimated 26MP next turn, which is enough to do one deliberate attack on Schlisselburg. Two hexes further south, the remainder of the German mobile forces will have around 28MP next turn.

In the air, the Luftwaffe has sent some 220 JU 88A's, 110 He 111H's, 50 Dorniers and 80 Ju 87's to Leningrad. These bombers are covered by 50 Bf109 F's and 160 Bf110's. In Leningrad itself, I have 330 LaGG-3's, 60 Yak-1's and 110 IL-2's. Southeast of the city, I have another 60 MiG-3's, 110 Pe-2's and some 260 I-Type fighters. I can easily increase those forces by another 230 I-Types and about 100 Long range bombers.

### *Planning*

In the air, I plan to use Leningrad as the next great trial of strength between the Luftwaffe and the Red Army Aviation. For that reason I will move the I-Types in the Northwestern Front to Leningrad and try my hand at a massive 500+ machine I-Type attack on the Luftwaffe bases. This may not be very wise, but the Germans have just arrived, and those I-Types are not really any good anyways. Besides, I have never tried such an attack, and am curious to see what will happen.

I will also strengthen the Red Army aviation forces outside Leningrad by adding one Pe-2 airfield, one Mixed SU-2 and IL-2 airfield and one U2-VS airfield to the area.

I realize that if I lose the position at Schlisseburg, the defenders will be pushed east rather than into Leningrad, but there is little that can be done about that, and I am certainly not giving up that position without a fight.

In order to strengthen my positions on the Volkhov, I will begin the withdrawal of the 7<sup>th</sup> Independent Army from its positions northeast of Lake Ladoga. In time, the line against the Finns will be held by a series of STAVKA infantry brigades. I need that army at the Volkhov.

The Northwestern Front south of Lake Ilmen will simply hold on to its positions.

### *Execution*

I ended up placing some of my I-Types under the Northwestern Front Air Command, as that will leave me the option of only selecting good aircraft for missions flown under the Northern Front Air Command, and poor ones (I-Types) when flying under the Northwestern Front Air Command.

The first attack on the Luftwaffe airfields proved that the Germans have placed a lot of flak on those airfields. The losses below were all incurred by flak

|                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Axis Forces Defending:</b><br><br>I Fliegerkorps<br>4 Bf 109F-2<br><br>4 : 4 Ju 88A<br>30 : 31 Ju 88A<br>32 : 32 Ju 88A<br>4 : 4 Ju 88A<br><div>[v]</div> | <div>1 of 1 81.22 - Light Woods(Torkovich) - Clear Turn:11 1941-08-28</div> <div> <b>Forces Engaged</b><br/>           DEF: men 0, art 0, afv 0<br/>           DAM: men 0, art 0, afv 0<br/>           LOST: men 0, art 0, afv 0<br/>           DEF: ftr 4, bmr 0, utl 0<br/>           LOST: ftr 0, bmr 1, utl 0         </div> <div>           ATK: men 0, art 0, afv 0<br/>           DAM: men 0, art 0, afv 0<br/>           LOST: men 0, art 0, afv 0<br/>           ATK: ftr 147, bmr 38, utl 0<br/>           LOST: ftr 6, bmr 18, utl 0         </div> <div>airfield was BOMBED</div> | <b>Soviet Forces Attacking:</b><br><br>Northern Air Command<br>57 I-15bis<br>82 I-16 Type 24<br>8 MiG-3<br>38 Pe-2 |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <div>Show Details</div> <div>Exit</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                    |

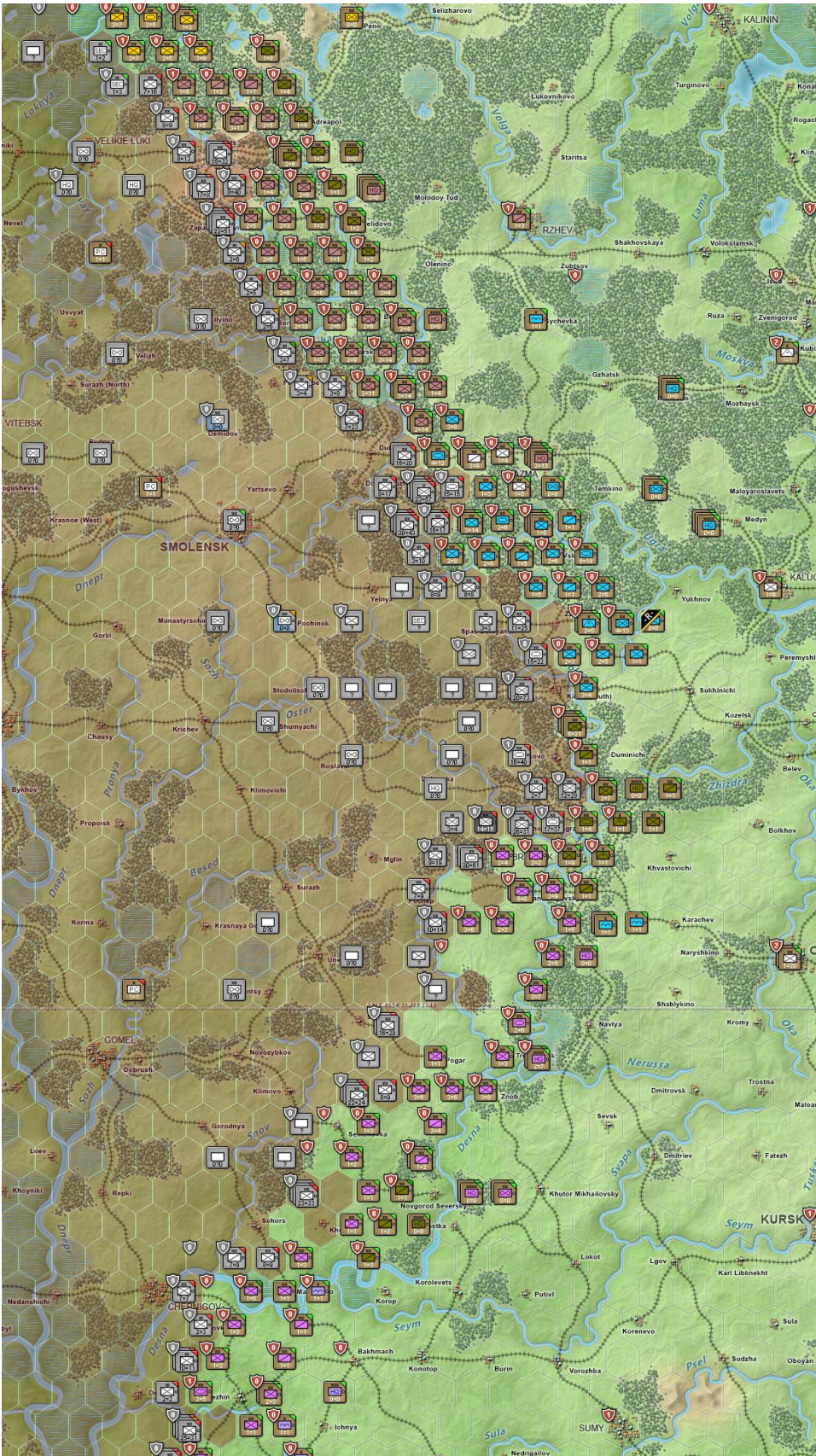
Other than that, there is little to say. I have begun pulling back the 7<sup>th</sup> Independent Army at Lake ladoga, and have assigned some new airfields to the area.

Below is an Image of the situation south of Leningrad, as I give the turn to Hermann.





The Center



### *Situation Assessment*

The German center is pushing slowly eastwards in a number of wedges.

- The Northernmost is made up of infantry attacking east of Velikie Luki
- East of Smolensk, a German Panzer Corps is heading east towards Vyazma
- At Bryansk a wide front of German Panzers are wearing my defenses thin, threatening a breakthrough and encirclement of some Soviet forces.

I can expect the Panzers to have high allotment of MP come next turn (up to 40 MP or so).

Behind the front, the Germans still have some 120 single seat fighters ready to battle it out with my own airforces.

### *Planning*

I will continue the strategy of creating a multilayered defense in the center. In the north, the Reserve Front will do so, aided by the single STAVKA Army sent to its help. In the center, I will use the Western Front to create a defense some hexes deep, with at least some of the defensive strongpoints holding decent CV's.

Further south, I am a little concerned about the Bryansk Front's ability to do the same. This front is somewhat stretched already, and does not really have enough manpower to cover its entire sector in a multilayered defense.

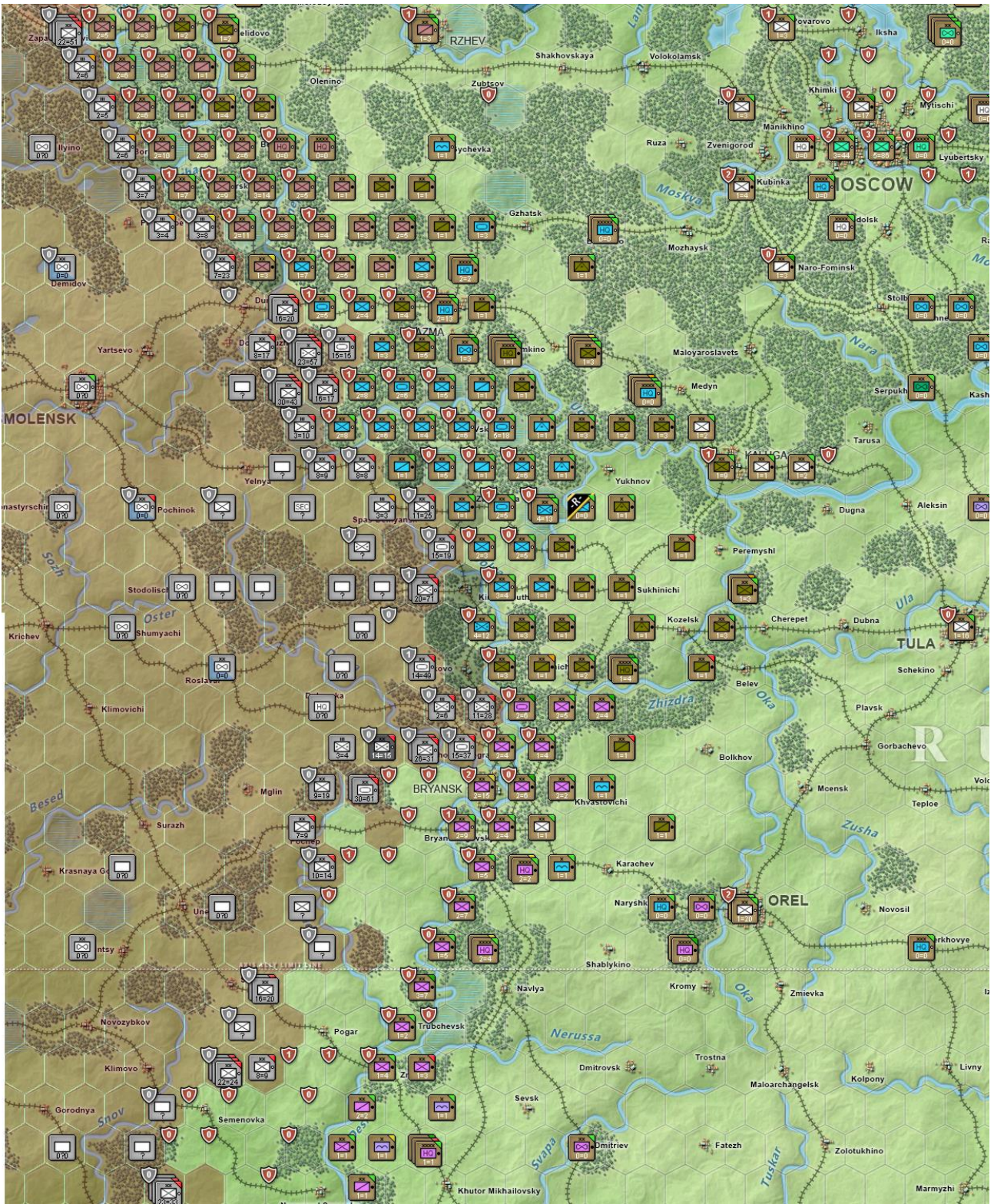
Because of this, I will relocate some of the Bryansk Front forces northwards, while also moving up yet another STAVKA Army to create a new line along the Oka river. I am expecting a German breakthrough on this sector, and I wish to be able to hold the Germans from swinging northeast across the Oka.

### *Execution*

Having done a few Air attacks on the German Panzers, most of the movement this turn has been concerned with setting up multilayered defenses for the expected German offensive.

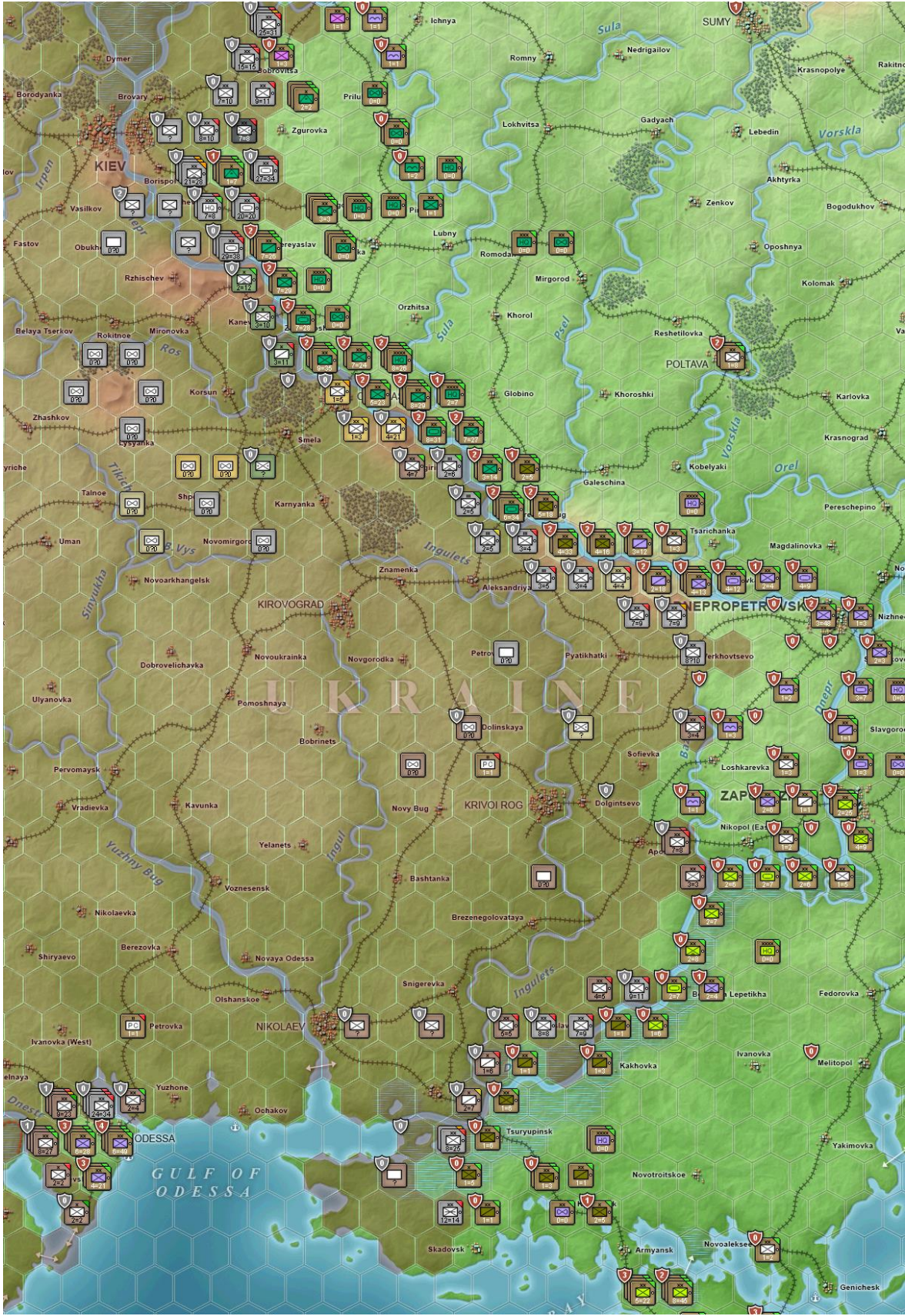
Below is an image of the central front, as I give the turn to Hermann:







The South





### Situational Assessment

At Kiev, the German Panzers have crossed the river and encircled three of my units. I must admit I had not considered the possibility of encirclements this turn, so the coming loss of three units is annoying. The German Panzers are close to their supply lines, and I can expect some 35 to 40 MP from those units next turn.

Further south, all along the river to the Black Sea, I basically hold the line everywhere I choose to. The Germans have no Panzers here, and thus little attack potential.

At Odessa, my defenses are getting squeezed together in a smaller pocket.

## Planning

The southwestern Front will continue to pull back shortening its front in the process. It will also begin establishing a multilined defensive position, hoping to delay the German attacks this way.

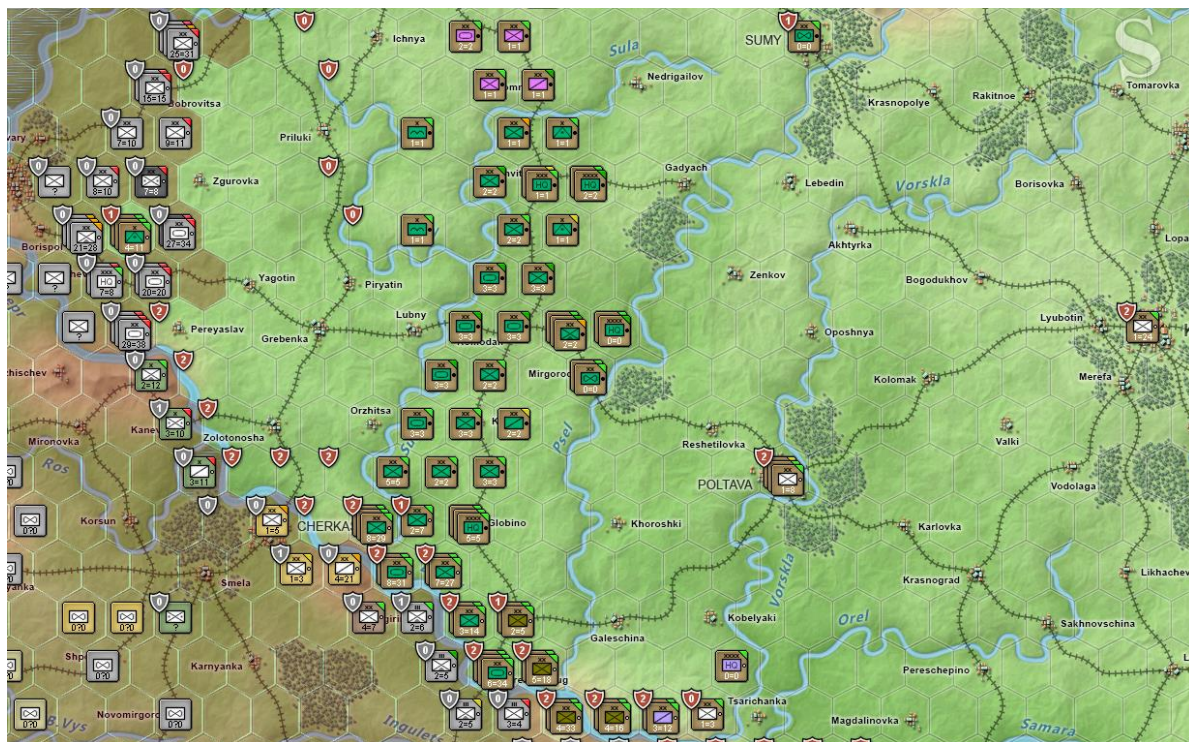
At Odessa, I will begin evacuating the forces in the city, as I will eventually be needing them on the front near Zaporozhye.

### Execution

Once again, there is little to say of the execution of my plans, as they have been mainly concerned with moving units around.

One thing is the situation at Odessa, where my shipping pool was insufficient at anything but evacuating the Army HQ from Odessa. It seems the battle there will last a little longer than I had planned.

Below an image of the situation east of Kiev, as I give the turn to Hermann:





## **Conclusion**

I have evacuated the Armaments industries from Tula this turn. Next turn, I expect I will have to prioritize Poltava and Kharkov.

I think a rather interesting situation is evolving around Leningrad. I simply can not say if the city will fall or not. The good news are that the autumn mud is now only eight turns away, and if I can cling on to Leningrad until then, things will begin to look brighter.