

Turn 17, Strategic Considerations

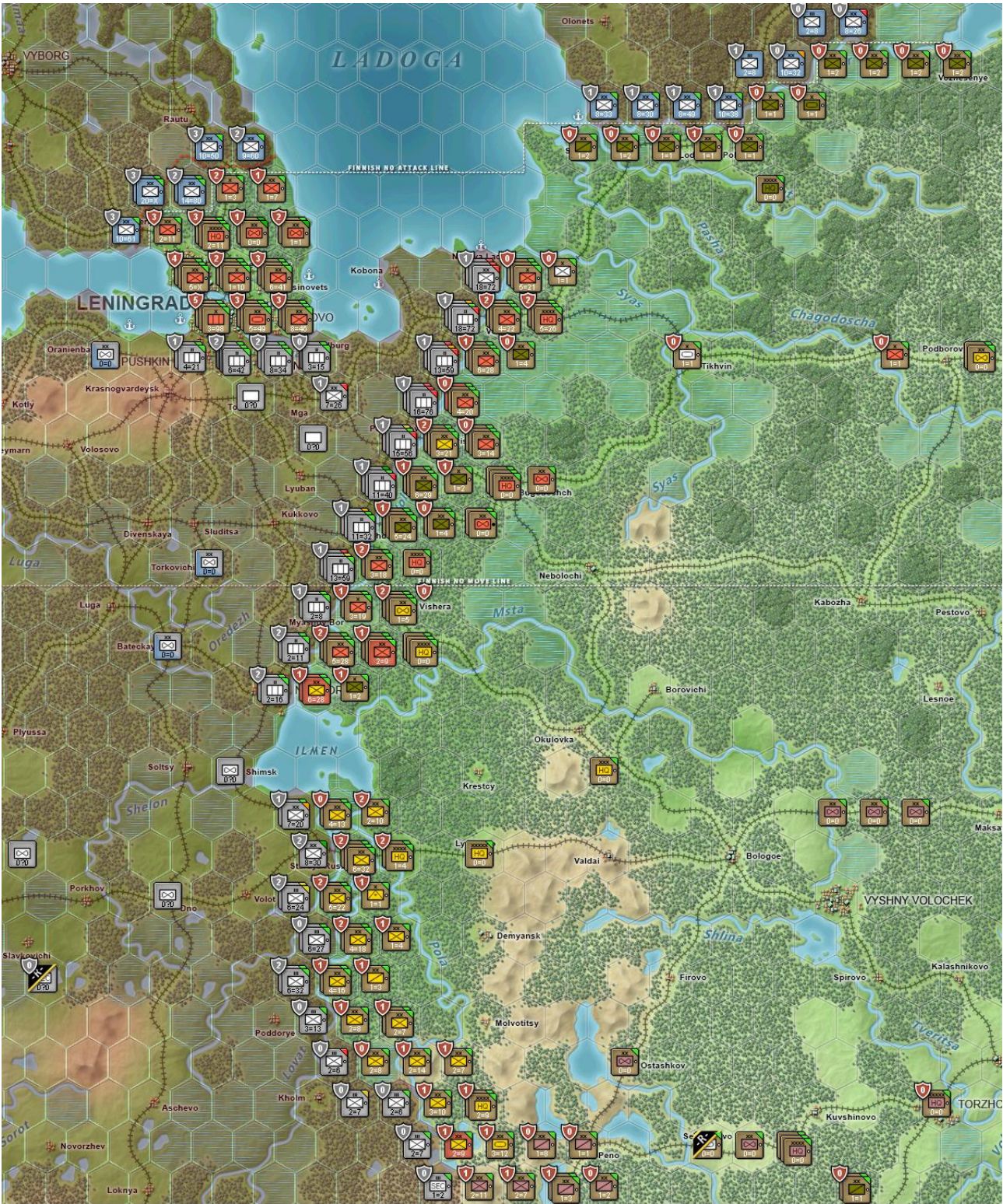
PRODUCTION		CAPACITY	DAMAGED	POOL	BUILT	UNITS
____ AIR ____						
SU	P-40B	15	0	30	30	0
SU	I-153	0	0	900	0	15
SU	I-15bis	0	0	167	0	6
SU	I-16 Type 18	0	0	198	0	8
SU	I-16 Type 24	0	0	427	0	32
SU	I-16 Type 29	0	0	428	0	1
SU	I-16 Type 5	0	0	22	0	1
SU	MiG-3	72	0	199	1152	44
SU	Yak-1	61	0	174	568	18
SU	LaGG-3 '11 Series'	22	0	121	217	5
SU	LaGG-3	66	0	180	1053	41
SU	Pe-3	5	0	20	50	2
SU	Hurricane IIB	28	0	56	56	0
SU	I-153BS	0	0	283	0	0
SU	Su-2	12	0	109	192	9
SU	IL-2	88	0	149	800	29
SU	U-2VS	79	0	383	720	39
SU	SB-2	0	0	1443	0	43
SU	Ar-2	0	0	44	0	2
SU	Pe-2	60	0	135	888	34
SU	Yer-2	0	0	49	0	1
SU	DB-3B	0	0	665	0	17
SU	IL-4	15	0	585	237	20
SU	TB-3	0	0	140	0	5
SU	Pe-8	1	0	25	16	0
SU	SB-2 Rcn	0	0	339	0	6
SU	U-2 Rcn	6	0	96	96	0
SU	Pe-2R	6	0	58	58	0
SU	U-2 (transp)	12	0	744	183	0
SU	TB-3G-2	0	0	65	0	0
SU	Li-2	9	0	81	120	6
____ GROUND ____						
SU	T-60 M1941	72	0	5	121	26
SU	Matilda II	10	0	20	20	0
SU	T-34 M1941	140	0	68	1456	82
SU	Valentine III	8	0	5	10	1
SU	KV-1 M1941	46	0	14	320	80
SU	BT-7M M1939	-	-	50	0	23
SU	ZIS-30	13	0	78	78	0
SU	GAZ-AA MG	30	0	46	480	348
SU	BM-13-16 Rocket Launcher	28	0	183	183	0
SU	BA-20 Armored Car	10	0	22	160	93

As can be seen above, my production is looking increasingly good. While some of the production facilities above have been damaged due to relocation, I have lost none of my initial “named” production and every factory I have evacuated was evacuated in full, meaning only 50% damage was sustained.

The weather forecast for next turn is Mud in all areas of the Eastern Front. As the German supply lines are extended to say the least, I expect this will have a severe impact on the amount of supplies delivered to their front line units.

The Axis VP are now 192, which would be a minor Axis victory, should the game end here.

The North



Situational Assessment

The Germans have settled in for the coming winter, having constructed Fortified Zones almost all along the Volkhov river.

The Luftwaffe has been pulled back to Germany, and there is no German air presence in the area whatsoever.

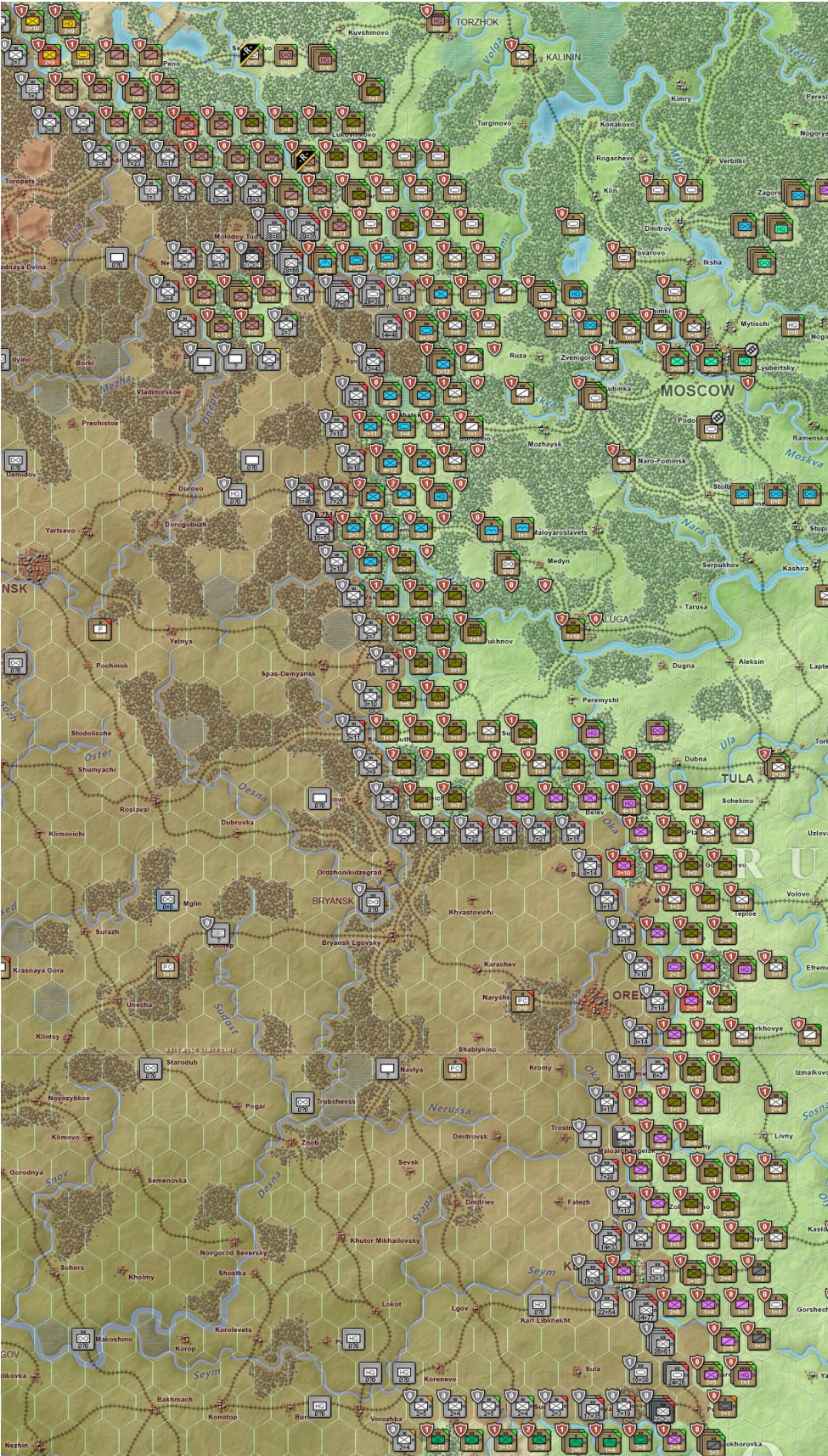
Planning

I intend to do little in this area, except a number of bombing attacks on the Germans along the Volkhov.

Execution

With the Soviets doing nothing but bombing, and the Luftwaffe having gone back to the German National Reserve, there is really nothing to say about the events in the north.

The Center



Situation Assessment

The Germans have reclosed the pocket around my nine divisions of the Kalinin Front. There are heavy German Panzerforces present to keep the trap shut.

Those Panzers should find receiving supplies hard, as my continued partisan attacks seems to have cut the German supply lines to the center. That, combined with next turns mud, should mean that the German Panzers will have only between 25 and 30 MP's. Those will probably not be used for attacks anyway.

Further south, the Germans have encircled Kursk.

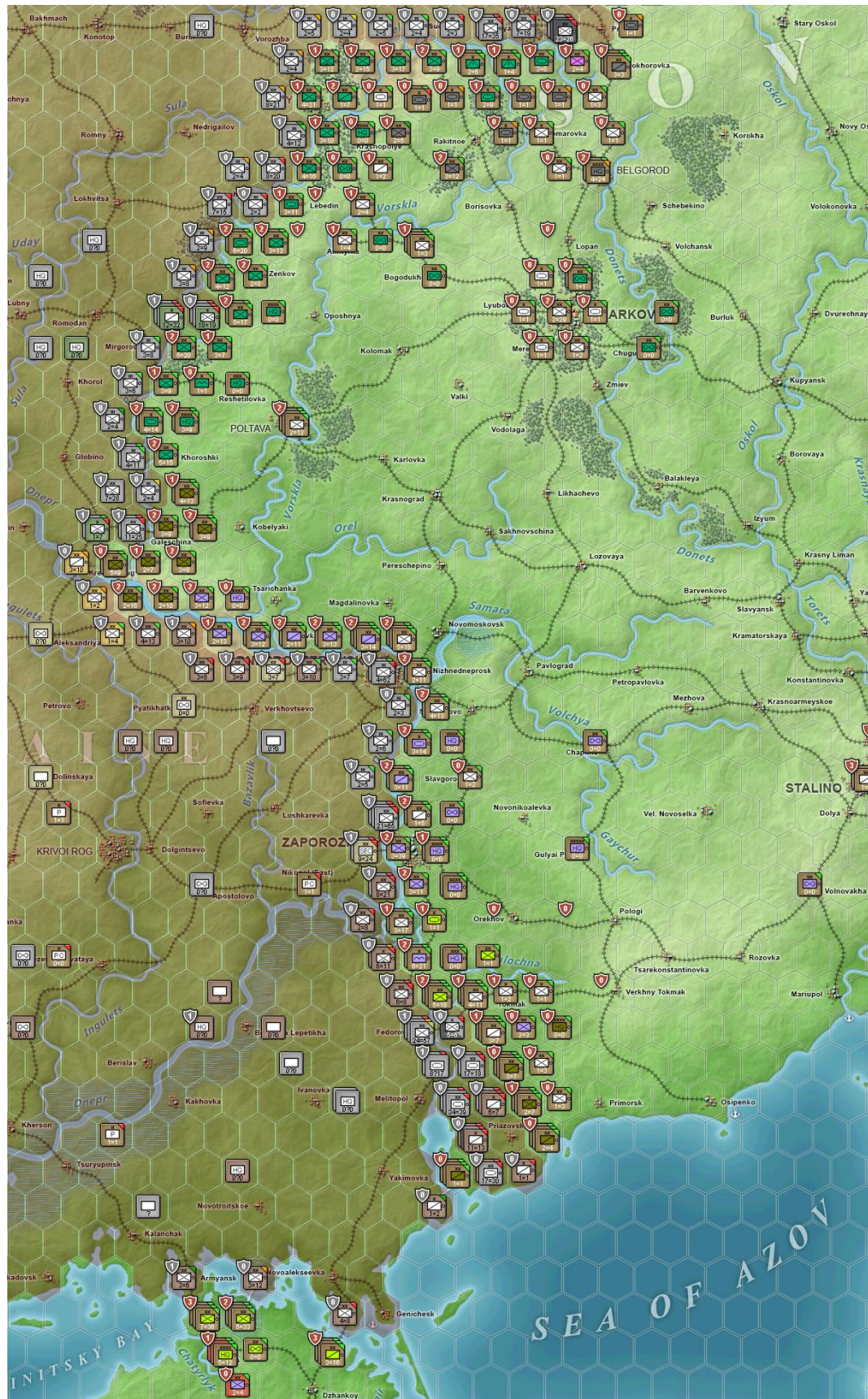
Planning

I will do little but create a deep defensive line and bomb as many Germans as I can this turn.

Execution

I have done what I can to strengthen my defenses and flown in supplies to the encircled units.

The South



Situational Assessment

The Germans and hungarians have crossed the Psel river once more, and this time I will not have the strength to throw them all back.

In the far south, at Melitopol, the German Panzers have been thrown forward to rescue the encircled Rumanians. Those Panzers are now up to 30 hexes and 50MP from their supply lines, so what will happen next turn when the mud will bring an extra cost of four MP/hex to supplies is an interesting thought.

The cost for this will probably be the three cavalry divisions I have encircled near the bay of Melitopol.

Planning

Once again, my main effort this turn will be to bomb every German I can find.

Execution

I have moved my divisions around a little, in order to improve their positions, but there really is nothing much to say.

Conclusion

The bombing campaign this turn has cost the Soviets 82 airplanes. The Germans, not flying, has lost none. On the ground, the Axis have lost some 154 guns.

This has probably been the most uneventful turn, I have ever done a full AAR over. Come the mud, I will probably write one AAR chapter covering all the mud turns.