

November 30, 1939

The Winter War

Population of Finland: 3,700,000 people

Population of nearby Leningrad: 3,000,000 people

Population of USSR: 168,000,000 people

The Finnish troops were hiding in trenches, shooting at the Russians running in the middle of the field. Russians were in red/black uniforms in the middle of the white-blanketed snow, and it was easy to spot them, while the Finns were in their white camouflage suits.

At first, it was a disadvantage for the Finns because of their crappy guns, but as they started winning more battles, they gained strength. The Finns were also more prepared than the Soviets. Behind the trenches were kitchens, always preparing hot meals for the soldiers after battles. The Soviets did not have that capability, because they were invading in a foreign land.

The Finns were taught to fight anything in an emergency situation. If a tank comes, they grab a burning Molotov cocktail and throw it at the tank. The tank burns the Soviets inside, and the engines break. Or, they carry a log and jam it into the tank's wheels, so the tank loses its ability to move. Once the tank is vulnerable, they open the lid and kill the Soviets inside. The Russians started losing more people, faster than the Finns.

After 4 months of defending, Finland won the war, forcing the Russians to retreat. Russia has gained some land: Karelia, Petsamo, Salla, Gulf of Finland Islands, and Porkkala. Even though the USSR annexed parts of Finland's land, Finland was still able to defend and survive their country.