

Force Z Surface Action *Victory at Sea* Scenario

The sinking of Force Z, the core British fleet in the Far East, by Japanese aircraft was a crippling blow to Allied attempts to slow the Japanese advance in Southeast Asia.

What is less well known is that Force Z came very close to engaging in surface combat with the Japanese naval forces covering the invasion of Malaya. Force Z was a formidable surface opponent, and it could have given the Japanese Navy quite a fight.

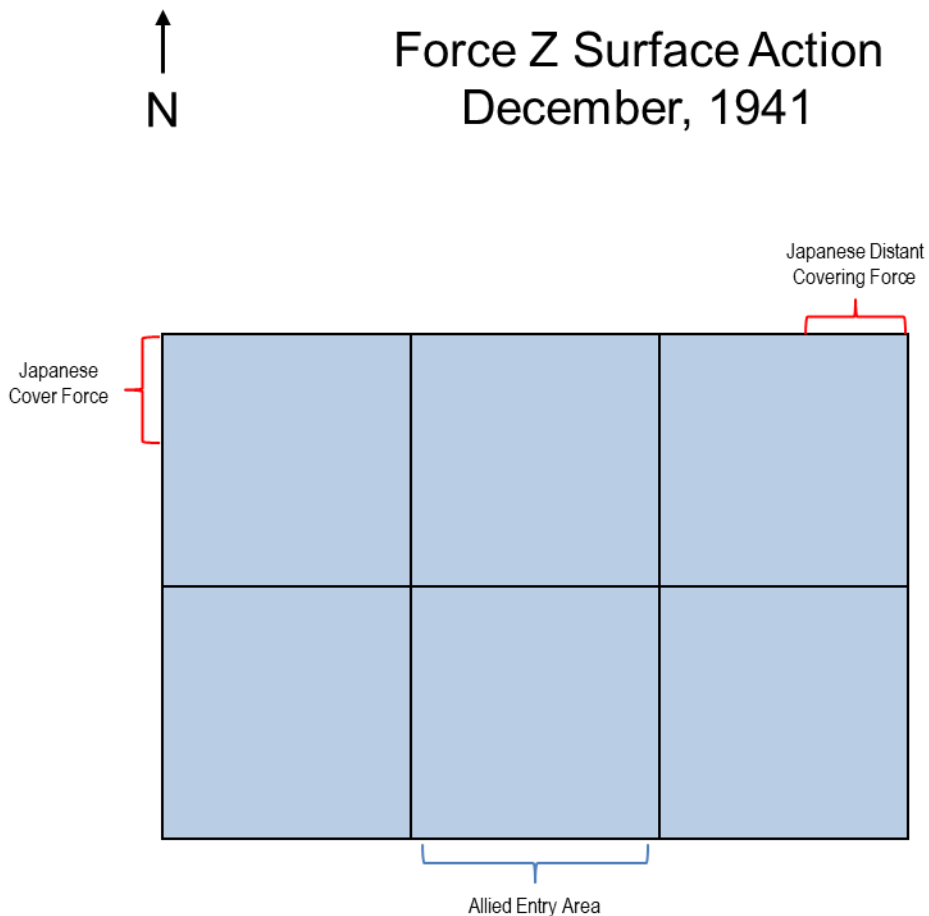
Special rules:

- Night Battle
- Radar (Prince of Wales, Electra)
- Covering Force (Ozawa's Force)

Weather:

The weather is normal for this scenario.

Map:



Allied Force (Force Z / Phillips) –

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Notes</u>
HMS Prince of Wales	BB	1941 refit applied
HMS Repulse	BC	1940 and 1941 refits applied
Tenedos (S-class)	DD	
Vampire (RAN / V-class)	DD	1940 refit applied
Express (E-class)	DD	1940 refit applied
Electra (E-class)	DD	1940 and 1941 refits applied

Allied Deployment –

The Allied force enters on the first turn from the area noted on the map.

Japanese Forces –

Distant Covering Force / Kondo

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Kongo	BB	
Haruna	BB	
Takao	CA	
Atago	CA	
4x Fubuki class	DD	

Covering Force / Ozawa

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Chokai	CA	
Kumano	CA	
Suzuya	CA	
Mogami	CA	
Mikuma	CA	
Sendai	CL	
4x Fubuki class	DD	

Japanese Deployment –

The Japanese forces enter on the first turn from the area noted on the map for that force.

Covering Force –

The Covering Force's mission was to prevent the Allied fleet from breaking through to the Japanese transport lane to the north. The Covering Force must remain within 6" of the northern edge of the table.

Alternately, players can dispense with the Covering Force entirely.

Winning the Game –

The Allied objective was to break through to the north to attack the Japanese transport lanes. If one or more non-crippled capital ships exit the north table edge the Allies have won a strategic victory.

Alternatively, the Allies wanted to cripple the main Japanese fleet in the area (the Distant Covering Force). If the Allies sink or cripple both Japanese Battleships, they win a tactical victory.

Any other result is a Japanese strategic victory.