

Battle of Jarama

The battle of Jarama of February 12-14, 1937 marked the Nationalist Army's third, final and unsuccessful attempt to capture the Spanish capital, by cutting the vital road linking Madrid with Valencia. In three days of desperate fighting the Republican Army, including the Dimitrov and British battalions of the International Brigades managed, against overwhelming odds, to hold off Franco's army, which had advanced over the Jarama River to the south of Madrid.

Both sides dug defensive fortifications and despite several attempts to break the stalemate (including a virtually suicidal attack by American and British International brigadiers on February 27th), the positions remained virtually static for the rest of the war.

More information: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Jarama