

Battle of the Ebro

Under the command of Juan Modesto, Republican forces moved up to the River Ebro during the nights of July 23 and 24, 1938 and, during the following night, began the river crossing at 16 separate points along a 50 mile front.

Nationalist reconnaissance established how and where the Republicans were crossing the river and allowed German and Italian units of the Nationalist air-force to bomb the advancing troops. The battle increasingly became a struggle between Republican engineers attempting to construct river crossings, and aircraft hampering their efforts.

However, as Matthew Hughes and Enriqueta Garrido pointed out, "The courage of the Army of the Ebro, fighting in stifling summer heat, could not overcome entrenched, properly supported and equally determined opposition."

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