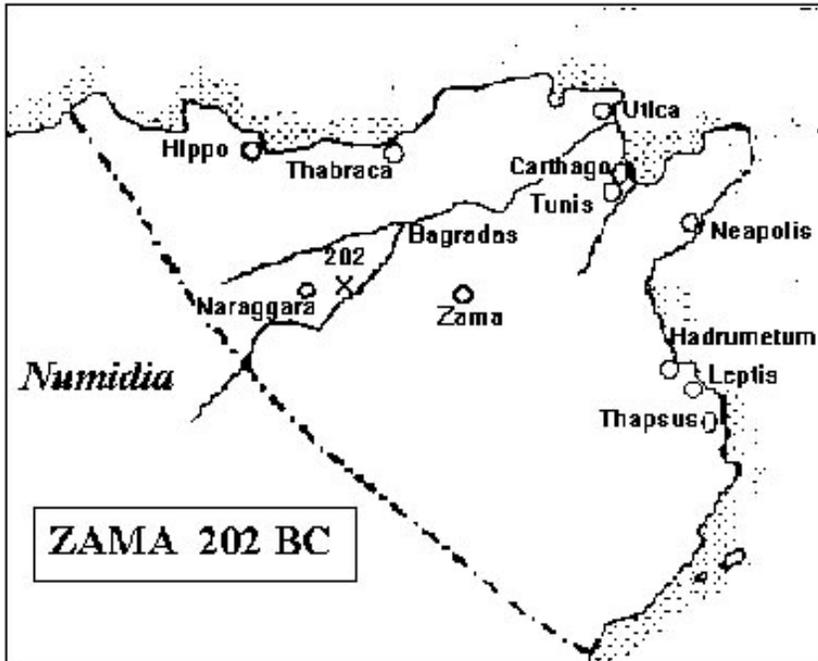


ZAMA - 202 BC

Scipio, the youth that had witnessed Hannibal's first battle on Roman soil, now controlled Rome's most powerful asset - her army! Having defeated the Carthaginians in Spain, he now moved directly to Africa to strike at the very heart of Carthage! Upon landing, he defeated the armies of Syphax and Hasdrubal at the Battle of the Great Plains. This caused great alarm, and Hannibal was recalled to defend his homeland against the Roman invader!

Perhaps Livy best tells us how Hannibal must have felt when he left Italy. Having received the delegation demanding his return to Carthage, Livy states that Hannibal says, "For years they have been trying to force me back by refusing me reinforcements and money; but now they recall me no longer by indirect means, but in plain words. Hannibal has been conquered not by the Roman people whom he defeated so many times in battle and put to flight, but by the envy and continual disparagement of the Carthaginian Senate. At this unlovely and shameful return of mine it will not be Scipio who will be wild with triumph and delight, but rather Hanno, whose only way of ruining me and my house has been by ruining Carthage".



Hannibal landed his army at Leptis and proceeded to mobilize additional troops that would be needed to fight Scipio. Aside from veterans that he brought from Italy he obtained 2,000 Numidians commanded by Tychaeus and 4,000 pikemen from Philip of Macedonia¹. Added to this were numerous light troops and 80 Elephants. Overall, Hannibal commanded over 30,000 infantry, 3,000 cavalry, and 80 elephants.

Scipio on the other hand, commanded an army of approximately 23,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry. To his 17,000 Romans were added 6,000 Numidian infantry of Masinissa, and who's cavalry tripled the normally numerically weak Italian cavalry. This gave Scipio a most formidable force.

Hannibal had received reports of Scipio's strength and had sent word that he wished to discuss the war with him. Hannibal must have realized that the fortunes of war had changed. He had lost two brothers now, two of his best generals that had help lead the Carthaginians to the great victory at Cannae, and it is possible that Hannibal had now grown weary of the fight as well. One last attempt at peace would be made. Scipio and Hannibal met at a place between the two army's camps that were about four miles from one another.

They saluted each other and spoke through interpreters. Scipio listened, but Hannibal words fell on deafened ears. This Scipio is the one who had grown up in Rome during one of her darkest hours, had seen disaster after disaster befall his beloved country. Never to give in, he saw Rome lift herself up above the carnage and destruction that Hannibal alone had wrought; and now this man wanted peace? Scipio and Rome would accept nothing short of unconditional surrender and this thought, Hannibal would not entertain! The fate of all would hinge in tomorrow's

¹It is questionable whether or not these troops actually took part in this battle. It is quite probable that these troops were actually Carthaginian Citizens or Libyan Spearmen.

battle!

The exact site of the Battle of ZAMA is not known. The battlefield was probably typical of many ancient battlefields and would be relatively flat and unimpeded. The "X" on the map below is one site that historians believe the battle might have been fought at.

Hannibal's Army

Army Commander: Hannibal (Excellent/Charismatic)

The First Line

The first line consisted of Hannibal's mercenary and light troops. They were approximately 12,000 men made up of Ligurians, Celts, Balearics, and Moors.

Command 1 Three Tactical Units of 9 figures each of Gallic Warriors (Morale Grade 13).
 Three Tactical Units of 9 figures each of Ligurian Warriors (Morale Grade 13)
 Two Tactical Unit of 8 figures of African Lt. Inf. (morale Grade 13)
 One MU Commander.

Command 2 Three Tactical Units of 9 figures each of Spanish Scutarius (Morale Grade 16)
 One Tactical Unit of 6 figures of Spanish Caetrati (Morale Grade 14)
 One Tactical Unit of 6 figures of Balearic slingers (Morale Grade 16)
 One MU Commander.

The Second Line

The second line also consisted of approximately 12,000 men. These forces were made up of Carthaginian Citizen spearmen, Libyan spearmen, and either Carthaginian Citizen spearmen, or some sources say Macedonian phalangites.

Command 3 Four Tactical Units, each of 12 figures of Libyan Spearmen (Morale Grade 16).
 One MU Commander.

Command 4 Four Tactical Units, each of 12 figures, of Carthaginian Citizen Spearmen (morale Grade 16).
 One MU Commander.

The 3rd Line

Consisted of those veteran troops Hannibal had brought from Italy. Mostly Bruttians, these troops are said to have numbered between 6,000 to 24,000 men. I have chosen to represent these troops at the lower end of possibilities, approximately 6,000 men.

Command 5 Eight Tactical Units at 8 figures each of Bruttian (Italians) infantry (Morale Grade 16).
 One MU Commander.

The arm in which Hannibal had always had the upper hand was in his cavalry. Unfortunately for Hannibal, Syphax had been previously defeated and then captured by the Romans. Massinissa had then taken over the Numidian Kingdom and his allegiance was to Scipio. The result was that Hannibal was left with perhaps 3,000 cavalry.

Command 6 Two Tactical units of 6 figures each of Liby-Phonician Cav (Morale Grade 16).
 One MU Commander.

Command 7 Four Tactical Units at 6 figures each of Numidian Lt. Cav (Morale Grade 16).
One MU Commander (Tychaeus)

The Elephants

Command 8 Two Tactical Units of 4 models each of African War elephants. (At the discretion of the Carthaginian commander, either or both Tactical Units of elephants may be 'attached' to an MU of cavalry).

Scipio's Army

Army Commander-Scipio (Superior/Prudent)

Scipio's army is estimated to have consisted of a maximum of 35,000 men, which included 10,000 Numidians.

The Center - (Scipio Commanding)

Commands 1,2,3, and 4 - EACH consist of:

Four Tactical units of Hastati, each at 4 figures (Morale Grade 16).
Four Tactical Units of Principes, each at 4 figures (Morale Grade 16).
Two Tactical Units of Triarii, each at 4 figures (Morale Grade 18).
Three Tactical Units of Velites, each at 4 figures (Morale Grade 14).
One MU Commander

The above gives a total of some 20,000 infantry in the army.

The Right Flank

Wing Commander - Massinissa (Good)

Command 5 Three Tactical Units of Numidian Lt. Cavalry, each at 6 figures (Morale Grade 16).
Four Tactical Units of African Lt. Infantry, each at 8 figures (Morale Grade 13).
One MU Commander.

Command 6 Three Tactical Units of Numidian Lt Cavalry, each at 6 figures (Morale Grade 16)
Four Tactical Units of African Lt. Infantry, each at 8 figures (Morale Grade 13).
One Mu Commander.

The Left Flank

Wing Commander Laelius (Good)

Command 7 Two Tactical Units of Roman Heavy cavalry, at 6 figures each (Morale grade 16).
Two Tactical Units of Allied light Cavalry, each at 6 figures (morale Grade 16).
One MU commander.

The above forces constitute the army of Scipio at Zama and total some 31,000 men to Hannibal's 36,000 men, plus elephants for the scenario.

The illustration below gives the deployment of each army for this battle. Players may opt for a free set up at the

mutual consent of both army commanders.

Hannibal was in a must win situation. If he could defeat Scipio, Carthage would be able to continue the war or would have perhaps been in a very good position to sue for peace. Rome would have very probably accepted a negotiated peace had Scipio been destroyed and this could have drastically altered history's course as we know it,

As it was, everything went wrong for Hannibal. His elephants panicked and tore into his own lines, stripping his left wing of cavalry. His first line withdrew and disrupted his second line, which allowed Scipio to take advantage of their disorder by the use of flank and frontal assault. Finally, when Scipio's cavalry returned to the field, after pursuing the defeated Carthaginian cavalry, the result was the complete and utter destruction of Hannibal's army. Both Livy and Polybius list Hannibal's dead at 20,000.

