

(MS) Italian Military History Round 1

Regulation Tossups

(1) Major Harold Mors led this operation, also known as Operation Oak. This operation found its target in a ski resort called Hotel Campo Imperatore in the Apennine Mountains of Central Italy. To prepare for this operation, Hauptsturmführer Otto Skorzeny was sent by Adolf Hitler to track down this raid's main target. For the point, name this 1943 raid which rescued Benito Mussolini from prison.

ANSWER: **Gran Sasso** Raid (accept **Operation Eiche** or **Operation Oak** before "Oak" is mentioned; prompt on partial answers)

(2) Gaston of Foix [[FWAH]], the Duke of Nemours, was killed in a battle in this city which resulted in the Sforzas being returned to power in Milan. That battle in this city resulted in a victory for Louis the Twelfth over the combined Spanish and Papal State forces during the War of the League of Cambrai. Augustus made this Adriatic city's port of Classe [[KLAH-seh]] a major base for the Roman navy. For the point, name this final capital of the Western Roman Empire.

ANSWER: **Ravenna** (accept Monster of **Ravenna**; accept Battle of **Ravenna**)

(3) One offensive named for this location failed to capture Mount Saint Gabriel and Mount Hermada and left the Second Army divided ahead of a gas-led counterattack by German troops under Otto von Below. Paolo Boselli resigned as prime minister following another battle which is named for this physical feature. The government of Luigi Cardona led frontal assaults across the Julian Alps in twelve battles named for, for the point, what Slovenian river?

ANSWER: **Isonzo** River (or **Soča** [[SOH-chah]] River; accept Battle(s) of the **Isonzo**; accept **Isonzo** Front)

(4) This man died in Egypt, but his remains were transferred to the sanctuary of Vicoforte in 2017. Benito Mussolini once said that this man was "too diminutive for an Italy destined to greatness." This man was crowned emperor of Ethiopia during the Second Italo-Abyssinian War, and after the assassination of his father, Umberto the First, this man ascended the throne of Italy. For the point, name this man who abdicated the monarchy in 1946.

ANSWER: **Victor Emmanuel the Third** (or **Vittorio Emanuele** Ferdinando Maria Gennaro di **Savoia**; prompt on partial answers)

(5) In the Battle of Pljevlja [[PLYEV-lyah]], a town in this territory, Giovanni Esposito led the 5th Alpine Division Pusteria to victory. The capital of this territory was Cetinje [[SET-eeen-yeh]], at which the Italian military met with a loyalist group called the "Greens." It took the Italian force only six weeks to suppress a rebellion in this territory in an event known as the 13 July Uprising. For the point, name this governorate of Italy, which was also a socialist republic of Yugoslavia led from Titograd.

ANSWER: Italian Governorate of **Montenegro** (accept Socialist Republic of **Montenegro**)

(6) This man declined an expansion into the Papal Legations in favor of installing garrisons at Comacchio and Ferrara. This statesman organized the Congress of Laibach [[LYE-bahk]], which authorized the intervention of Johann Frimont to restore the king of the Two Sicilies. This statesman referred to Italy as merely a "geographical expression" and was forced to resign after the 1848 revolutions. For the point, name this Austrian statesman who dominated continental politics following the Congress of Vienna.

ANSWER: Klemens von **Metternich** (or Klemens Wenzel Nepomuk Lothar, Prince of **Metternich-Winneburg zu Beilstein**)

(7) Abbot Bruno of Chiaravalle [[kee-ah-rah-VAH-leh]] died of grief three days after this man destroyed the city of Tortona due to a bribe. Adrian the Fourth allied with this ruler to expel Arnold of Brescia from Rome. This emperor stripped Henry the Lion of the duchies of Bavaria and Saxony in vengeance for Henry's failure to assist him at Legnano. This ruler supported Antipope Victor the Fourth in opposition to Alexander the Third, who allied with Milan in the Lombard League. For the point, name this Holy Roman Emperor, the first of the Hohenstaufen dynasty.

ANSWER: **Frederick Barbarossa** (or **Frederick the First** Hohenstaufen; prompt on "Frederick")

(8) The Battle of Hill 731 has been described as the "Verdun of [this conflict]." The failure of the Julia division to capture Metsovo during this conflict led to their encirclement and defeat at the Battle of Pindus. Overconcentration of forces at the Haliacmon line during this conflict allowed the outflanking of the Metaxas line, leading to the fall of Thessaloniki. For the point, name this conflict in which Mussolini had to request Hitler's assistance after his army was forced to retreat to Albania.

ANSWER: **Greco-Italian** War (or **Italo-Greek** War; or **Italian Campaign in Greece**; or War of **40**)

(9) Cardinal Fabrizio Ruffo organized the Sanfedismo movement in this kingdom to counter the Parthenopaeian Republic. Masaniello led a republican revolt in this kingdom, and Gennaro Annese was executed for his part in inviting Henry the Second of Guise to become "doge of [this kingdom]." Queen Maria Carolina of this kingdom refused to speak French following Marie Antoinette's execution. For the point, name this kingdom, also known as the Kingdom of Sicily, in which Napoleon installed Joachim Murat as king.

ANSWER: Kingdom of **Naples** (accept Kingdom of **Sicily** before mentioned; accept Doge of **Naples**; accept King of **Naples**)

(10) During this conflict, the execution of Tarrentine hostages at the Tarpeian Rock triggered Tarentum's defection. Masinissa and Syphax switched allegiances in the prelude to the Battle of Zama during this conflict. During this war, following an ambush by Claudius Nero at the Metaurus, the head of Hasdrubal Barca was tossed into the camp of his brother, Hannibal. For the point, name this war in which Carthaginian forces crossed the Alps to invade Rome.

ANSWER: **Second Punic** War (prompt on "Punic")

(11) This agreement had a secret protocol in which the two countries in the agreement were to work together on "matters of press, the news service, and the propaganda." Article Seven of this agreement states that the alliance was to last ten years, but it ended swiftly in 1943, after the overthrow of Benito Mussolini. Agreed upon in 1939 and formalizing the 1936 Rome-Berlin Agreement, for the point, what is this military alliance between Nazi Germany and Italy?

ANSWER: **Pact of Steel** (or the **Pact of Friendship and Alliance between Germany and Italy**; prompt on partial answers)

(12) This company produced the standard machine gun of World War One, the Revelli Modello 1914, as well as the G.55 Centauro aircraft. The Agnelli family was removed from the leadership of this company by the National Liberation Committee, although a member of that family named Gianni was later reinstated as its largest shareholder. Merging with Chrysler in 2014, for the point, what is this largest automobile manufacturer in Italy?

ANSWER: **Fiat** Automobili S.p.A.

(13) Due to having been deployed for this event, the cruiser *Vettor Pisani* received one of the first long-range radio transmissions made to a ship. In the leadup to this event, a combined British-Italian force captured the North Taku Fort. In the aftermath of this event, Italy gained rights to occupy the Shanhai Pass Fort as well as a 151-acre concession in Tianjin. Put down by an Eight-Nation Alliance, including Italy, for the point, what was this anti-Western uprising of the late Qing [[CHING]] Dynasty?

ANSWER: **Boxer** Rebellion (or **Yihetuan** Movement; accept synonyms for "rebellion")

(14) On an *oenochoe* [[eh-NAH-koh-eh]] from the 6th Century BC, this figure is depicted in full armor carrying his father, Anchises [[an-KY-sees]]. This figure, who defeated the Rutuli king Turnus while fighting for the hand of Lavinia, is featured in a work whose first line begins, "I sing of arms and the man." A lover of Queen Dido [[DIE-doh]] of Carthage who fled across the Mediterranean, for the point, who is this Trojan hero, the namesake of an epic by Virgil?

ANSWER: **Aeneas** (prompt on "Aeneid")

(15) This mission was led by Luigi Durand de la Penne and Junio Borghese, the commander of the submarine *Scirè*. During this mission, manned torpedoes badly damaged the HMS *Jervis*. Having attached a torpedo below the keel of the HMS *Queen Elizabeth* as part of this mission, Antonio Marceglia and Spartaco Schergat [[SKEHR-gaht]] were imprisoned following their capture at Rosetta. For the point, name this World War Two raid of the second-largest city in Egypt.

ANSWER: Raid on **Alexandria** (accept clear-knowledge equivalents involving **Alexandria**)

(16) Along with the US Fourth Corps, soldiers from this country were victorious at the Battle of Monte Castello, and a cemetery dedicated to soldiers from this country is in the Tuscan city of Pistoia. One joke about this country's forces was that they were more likely to see a snake smoking a pipe than see combat, which inspired their insignia. Led through World War Two under Getulio Vargas's Estado Novo regime, for the point, what is this Allied South American power?

ANSWER: Federative Republic of **Brazil** (or República Federativa do **Brasil**)

(17) Prior to the Fascist takeover, this colony was de facto independent after the Treaty of Acroma. A so-called pacification of this colony involved a war between Italy and the Senussi order. This African colony was formed from the union of Italian Cyrenaica and Italian Tripolitania. For the point, name this colony which, along with Egypt was the primary site of early stages of the British North African Campaign.

ANSWER: Italian **Libya** (accept Italian **North Africa** before "Africa" is mentioned)

(18) Fifty Italian soldiers who fought in this conflict were allegedly killed by exposure to depleted uranium munitions. Italy's Aviano Air Base was used as a primary launching point during this conflict for Operation Allied Force. The stated NATO goal of this campaign was "Serbs out, peacekeepers in, refugees back." For the point, name this conflict, which involved the placement of NATO troops in a majority Albanian region of southern Yugoslavia.

ANSWER: **Kosovo** War (accept Operation **Allied Force** before mentioned; prompt on answers such as "NATO bombing of Yugoslavia/Serbia")

(19) This man used the example of Alexander the Great conquering the Persian Empire to suggest that holding a conquered Ottoman Empire would be easier than holding a conquered France. One work by this man cites Agathocles of Syracuse and Oliverotto Euffreducci as rulers who came to power by illicit means. This writer discusses the role of *Fortuna* in a work dedicated to the Duke of Urbino, Lorenzo de' Medici. For the point, name this Renaissance writer, known for his analysis of war and politics in works such as *The Prince*.

ANSWER: Niccolò **Machiavelli** (or Niccolò di Bernardo dei **Machiavelli**)

(20) In 1215 and 1216, this state fought against Padua and Treviso in the War of the Castle of Love. This state traces its origins to twelve founding families fleeing the armies of Germanic and Hun invaders. Paolo Lucio Anafesto, who was known for repelling attacks from the Umayyads, is considered to be this state's first doge. For the point, name this former maritime republic, centered on a northeastern city in Italy characterized by its canals.

ANSWER: Republic of **Venice** (or **Venetian** Republic; or Most Serene Republic of **Venice**; accept Doge of **Venice**)

(21) These items are being held by each of the Roman emperors depicted in the sculpture *Portrait of the Four Tetrarchs*. Variants of another type of these objects included the "Fulham" and the "Mainz." Celtic mercenaries introduced to the Roman army a variety of these objects called a *spatha*. The *gladius* was a type of, for the point, what bladed weapon which can be used for thrusting or slashing?

ANSWER: **Swords** (accept **Gladius** before mentioned; accept Hispanic, Fulham, or Mainz **sword**; prompt on "Blade"; do not accept or prompt on "Knife," "Dagger," or similar small-bladed weapons)

(22) During this event, 114 soldiers were deployed in the Lombardy region to implement order, according to President Attilio Fontana. Fifteen manned army trucks transported coffins out of Bergamo due to this event, because the city's local cemeteries and crematoriums could not keep up with the rising death toll. For the point, name this event, which affected Northern Italy particularly hard in its early stages, in which Italy eventually went into lockdown in response to a viral contagious disease.

ANSWER: **COVID-19** Pandemic (accept **Coronavirus** disease 2019 Pandemic; prompt on "pandemic")

(23) Throughout this conflict, ballroom dance instructor Edward Ferrero served as a general, despite being born in Spain to Italian parents. One side in this conflict utilized units such as the 6th Regiment, European Brigade, in addition to receiving prisoners who fought against the Expedition of the Thousand, led by Chatham Wheat. For the point, name this conflict in which Italian immigrants fought in units such as the 39th New York Infantry Regiment.

ANSWER: **U.S. Civil** War (accept **USA**, **American**, or **United States** of America in place of **U.S.**; prompt on partial answers)

(24) Clodius Pulcher attempted to seduce this man's wife in the Bona Dea scandal, and at the Lucca conference this man had his term as governor extended for five years. This man used that extension to launch campaigns, including losing at Gergovia before winning a battle during which he besieged an opposing force with a massive double ring. This man is said to have quipped that "the die is cast" before crossing a river and marching against his greatest rival, whom he defeated later at Pharsalus. For the point, who was this Roman general who had himself declared dictator for life?

ANSWER: Gaius **Julius Caesar** (prompt on partial answers)

(25) On its last patrol, this vessel sunk the RMS *Empress of Canada* en route to Takoradi in West Africa. Junio Valerio Borghese started a project which involved the launch of this vessel to attack ships on New York Harbor. On May 22, 1943, this vessel was sunk after a failed depth charge attack against the HMS *Active* and the HMS *Ness*. For the point, name this Italian submarine during World War Two, named after a man who was a Renaissance military engineer, as well as a scientist, architect, and artist.

ANSWER: **Leonardo da Vinci** (prompt on partial answers)

Extra Question

(1) The name for these vehicles was first coined in 1861 from the Greek by Gustave Ponton d'Amécourt. In December 2022, the Italian army was supplied by NH Industries with the 60th and final UH-90A multirole example of these vehicles. The Italian Army is the only army to use the A129 Mangusta version of these vehicles, which is produced by a company formed from a merger between the Italian Agusta and the British Westland. For the point, name these vehicles, used by the Italian Army during MEDEVACs.

ANSWER: **Helicopters** (accept varieties such as "Military," "Attack," or "Medical" **Helicopters**)