# SCIPIO AFRICANUS DOC

I will be revisiting my analysis of Scipio in the future (Especially Battle of Zama), so expect an update to this document.

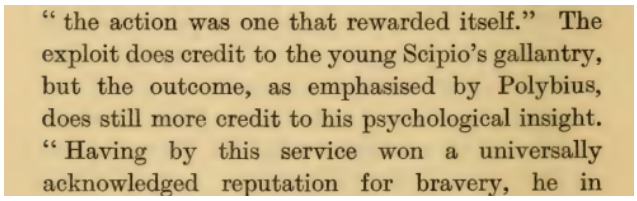


## The Early Life of Scipio

- **Scipio Saves His Father from Death**

His father placed him in command of a select cavalry troop. The father did this to ensure Publius's safety during a battle. However, when Publius saw his father surrounded by the enemy and dangerously wounded, he initially tried to persuade those with him to go to the rescue. When they hesitated due to the large number of enemies around, Publius, showing boldness, charged alone against the force surrounding him.

When they tried to reward him for his action, Scipio simply stated that the act of saving his father was reward enough, with no need for any other compensation.



" the action was one that rewarded itself." The exploit does credit to the young Scipio's gallantry, but the outcome, as emphasised by Polybius, does still more credit to his psychological insight. " Having by this service won a universally acknowledged reputation for bravery, he in

*This act demonstrates Publius's courage and loyalty, as well as his quick thinking and willingness to take risks to save his father.*

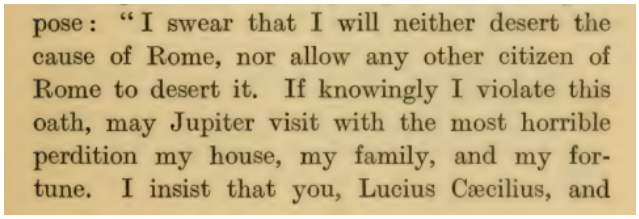
**(Stress Tolerance, Mental Fortitude, EQE)**

- **After the Defeat at Cannae**

The news of possible defections among the young patricians, led by Lucius Crecilius Metellus, plunged the Roman leaders into consternation and paralysis. However, instead of convening a council to deliberate on the situation, Scipio acted immediately.

Scipio issued a firm declaration, swearing not to abandon the cause of Rome and challenging the conspirators to do the same under the threat of death. His threat was powerful and dramatic, invoking the wrath of Jupiter upon those who would betray Rome and his family.

Scipio's threat was as follows: **"I swear that I will neither desert the cause of Rome nor allow any other citizen of Rome to abandon it. If I violate this oath, may Jupiter visit the most horrible perdition upon my house, my family, and my fortune."**


pose: "I swear that I will neither desert the cause of Rome, nor allow any other citizen of Rome to desert it. If knowingly I violate this oath, may Jupiter visit with the most horrible perdition my house, my family, and my fortune. I insist that you, Lucius Cæcilius, and

*The conspirators, stunned and frightened, were forced to swear loyalty to Rome and surrender themselves to Scipio to be kept under custody.*

**(Communication)**

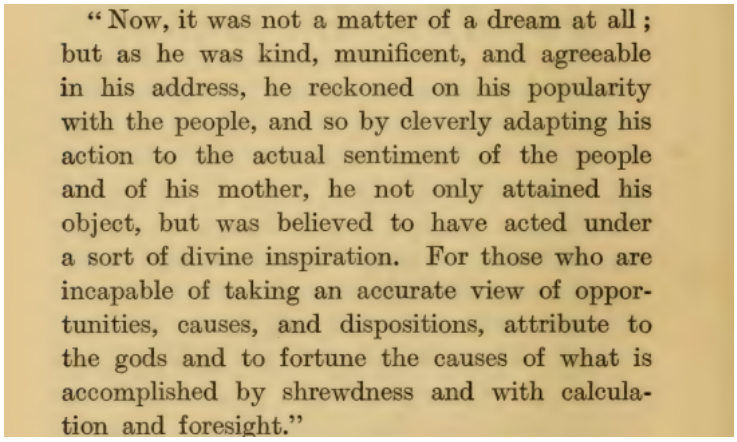
- **How Scipio Won the Election for Aedile**

At the time, Scipio was young and ineligible to run for office, despite his immense popularity among the Romans. His elder brother, Lucius, was a candidate, but he lacked popularity and seemed destined to lose. To navigate this, Scipio devised a plan to run alongside his brother. He needed a plausible reason to do so, so he concocted a story and shared it with their mother.

**He claimed that in a dream, both he and Lucius had been elected aediles, and their mother joyfully greeted them at the door of their home.** This story convinced his mother to support the idea of Scipio running as a candidate with his brother.

Scipio then prepared a white toga, the garment worn by candidates, and made a surprise appearance in the Forum. He confidently declared his readiness for the position, stating, "If the citizens wish to appoint me as aedile, I am old enough." The people, taken aback and thrilled by his unexpected candidacy, responded with overwhelming enthusiasm. Scipio's popularity was so profound that not only was he elected aedile, but his brother was also elected, largely due to Scipio's influence.

Moreover, after his victory, Scipio cleverly used the fabricated dream story to further manipulate public perception.



"Now, it was not a matter of a dream at all; but as he was kind, munificent, and agreeable in his address, he reckoned on his popularity with the people, and so by cleverly adapting his action to the actual sentiment of the people and of his mother, he not only attained his object, but was believed to have acted under a sort of divine inspiration. For those who are incapable of taking an accurate view of opportunities, causes, and dispositions, attribute to the gods and to fortune the causes of what is accomplished by shrewdness and with calculation and foresight."

*Making them believe that he had divine approval or was in contact with the gods.*

**(Mass Manipulation + Fabrication + Charisma + Communication)**

# Military Life:

- **Arrival of Scipio in Iberia: Leadership, Diplomacy, and Military Success**

In Tarraco, Scipio received embassies from various Iberian allies. He demonstrated a keen understanding of the importance of morale and personal observation in leadership. Before formulating any plans, he visited his allies and every part of his army.

*His goal was to boost confidence and dissipate the influence of past defeats, not only through his words but also through his attitude.*

**Treatment of Marcius:** Scipio's treatment of Marcius stands out as a testament to his moral stature. Although Marcius could have been seen as a potential rival, Scipio treated him with respect, indicating that he feared nothing less than someone who could overshadow his own glory.

*Compared to various generals like Napoleon, who was known for his jealousy towards subordinates and for deliberately eclipsing his marshals, Scipio's subordinate generals deeply appreciated him, indicating his leadership and charisma.*

**(Charisma + Leadership + Relation Management)**

- **Early Movements in Iberia / Conquest of New Carthage**

Upon arriving in what is now Spain, he gathers information about enemy forces.

*He learns that the Carthaginian forces are divided into three groups:*

- Mago near the Pillars of Hercules (modern-day Gibraltar)
- Hasdrubal, son of Gisco, near the mouth of the Tagus River
- Hasdrubal Barca besieging a city in central Iberia near modern-day Madrid.

*He reasons that none of the Carthaginian forces are within ten days' march of New Carthage. In contrast, he himself is only seven days' forced march away from the city.*

Scipio realizes that if he can launch a surprise attack on New Carthage, he can prevent the Carthaginians from receiving aid. Furthermore, because he controls the sea, he can ensure the safety of his troops even if the attack fails.

During the winter, Scipio conducts detailed research on **New Carthage**. He learns that it is unique among Iberian cities because it has suitable ports for naval forces and is a direct maritime crossing from Africa for the Carthaginians.

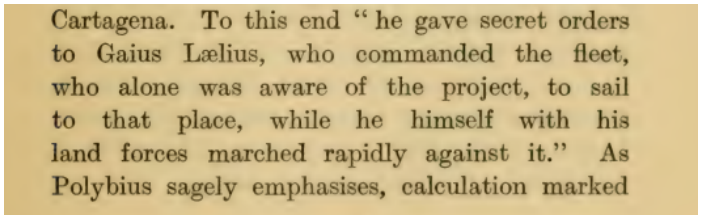
Strategic Objective: **Scipio decides to attack the main base of the Carthaginians (New Carthage)**, demonstrating his appreciation for the moral objective.

**(Analytical Thinking + Inductive Reasoning + Info Gathering + Planning Aim)**

He secretly crosses the Ebro River with the rest of his troops, 25,000 infantry soldiers and 2500 cavalrymen, keeping his plan secret even from his own men.

**(Concealment + Info Control)**

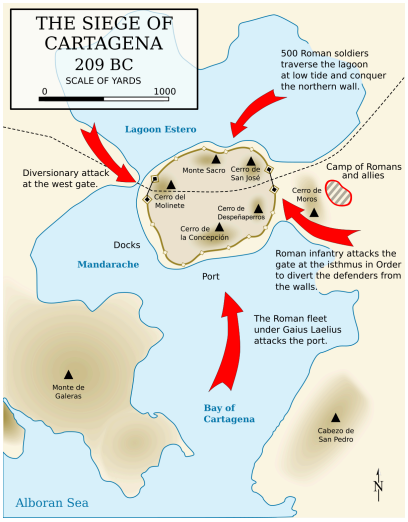
Meanwhile, he discreetly instructed Gaius Lrelius, who was in charge of the fleet and the only one privy to the plan, to sail to the same destination, while he advanced rapidly with his ground forces towards that location.


Cartagena. To this end "he gave secret orders to Gaius Lælius, who commanded the fleet, who alone was aware of the project, to sail to that place, while he himself with his land forces marched rapidly against it." As Polybius sagely emphasises, calculation marked

New Carthage receives simultaneous attacks both from the sea and from land. While Scipio advanced with his land forces towards New Carthage from the interior of Iberia, the fleet commanded by Gaius Lrelius sailed towards the city from the sea.

*This coordinated approach allowed Scipio to attack the city from multiple fronts, increasing the surprise and pressure on the Carthaginian defenders.*

The combination of attacks from land and sea could have overwhelmed the city's defenses and facilitated the capture of New Carthage by Scipio and his forces.




**(Misdirection + Planning Coverage)**

- **After the defeat of New Carthage**

After defeating the civilian population of Carthage, the Carthaginians surrender. At this point, Scipio demonstrates his diplomatic ability by establishing alliances with the inhabitants.

- He frees the citizens of the city and returns their properties, although he considers the artisans as property of Rome, with the promise of freedom after the war if they demonstrate loyalty and skill in their crafts.

- The remaining prisoners are destined for naval service, with the promise of freedom after the final fall of Carthage.

- He treats the Carthaginian leaders with courtesy and sends them to Rome as prisoners of war to boost the morale of the Romans and demonstrate victory.

*By acting in this way, Scipio gains allies and the support of the conquered people.*

**(Negotiation + Relation Management)**

Subsequently, Scipio gains the affection of the people. Instead of resorting to threats like Hannibal, Scipio adopts a different approach.

- For example, when a captive woman, the wife of Mandonio, brother of the king of the Ilergetes, kneels before him and begs with tears that he treat her people with more consideration than they received from the Carthaginians, Scipio is moved to tears and promises to take care of them as if they were his own family. This response shows his empathy and desire to protect the vulnerable even in the midst of war and conquest.

- Another example is when a group of young Romans discovered a girl of exceptional beauty and, knowing that Scipio had an interest in women, decided to present her to him. Although impressed by her beauty, Scipio thanked them for the gesture but declined the gift, recognizing that as a general, it was not appropriate to accept it. Instead, he requested the girl's father to marry her to someone he deemed suitable among the citizens. This demonstration of self-control and moderation earned him the respect of his troops.

- Scipio also shows generosity and wisdom towards his troops. He divides the loot equitably according to Roman custom and acknowledges the moral value of praise and rewards for achievements.

*This combination of generosity and recognition contributes to maintaining high morale among his troops and attracting the support of new allies, as in the case of Allucius, who joins Scipio after receiving a gesture of kindness and respect towards him and his fiancée.*

**(Social Intuition + Charisma + Social Skills + Relationship Management)**

- ***Why did Scipio attack New Carthage?***

*Although it's likely that as a reader you may not fully grasp the complexity of this siege, I'll make sure to explain it. Scipio decided to attack New Carthage because he saw it as a strategy to begin his war against the Carthaginians with an initial advantage.*

- *His plan was to weaken the morale of the Carthaginians by attacking civilians first, especially in the main city, with the intention of gaining their support and depriving the Carthaginians of their internal backing.*
  ***(Psychological Warfare: Demoralization)***

- *Additionally, due to his limited resources and troops, Scipio found it easier to confront civilians than well-trained soldiers.*

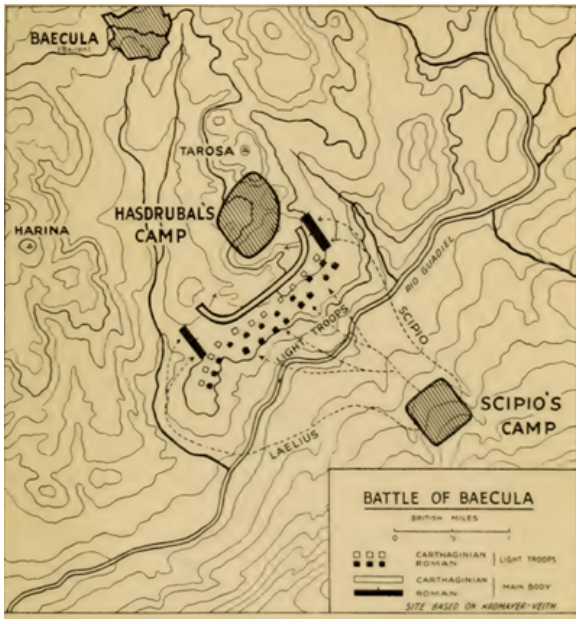
***(Strategy Building)***

- *Capturing New Carthage would provide him with control over any future Carthaginian movements, especially as it would allow him to flank the defenders of Carthage. This strategy gave Scipio time for the moral impact of capturing Carthage to spread among the Iberians and to recruit new allies who could offset his numerical inferiority.* ***(Planning Coverage)***

# Important Battles of Scipio:

**Brown (Strategy + Planning + Tactics)**
**Blue (Prediction, Anticipation, Adaptability)**
**Purple (Reasoning, Cold Reading, Observation)**
**Red (Manipulation, Deception, Trap Setting)**
**Orange (FSEQ)**

- **Battle of Baecula**




Context: Scipio finds himself facing a fortified position held by the Carthaginians. They have light troops (Numidian cavalry and Balearic slingers) positioned on a higher ridge, with their camp entrenched behind them.

*Scipio is unsure how to approach this fortified position. He knows he cannot wait for reinforcements because two other Carthaginian armies could arrive.*

Scipio's Plan: Despite the daunting task, Scipio devises a plan. He decides to send his lighter troops, called velites, to scale the first "step" of the enemy position. Despite the difficult rocky terrain and enemy bombardment of darts and stones, they manage to reach the summit due to their determination and skill. Once the velites secure a foothold, their superior weapons and close combat training give them an advantage over the Carthaginians.

**(Strategy Adaptability + Tactics)**

*By the way, before executing this tactic, Scipio deduces that Hasdrubal will not be able to send a Numidian charge due to the narrow space. Therefore, he orders the velites to advance as quickly as possible. Scipio's point is to bring the battle to Hasdrubal's base, where it would be difficult for him to control his elephants. This deduction, though simple, proves effective, and that's why Scipio's decision to send the velites was the right one.*

**(Deductive Reasoning + Associative Thinking)**

Scipio's Maneuvers: With the enemy's position weakened, Scipio springs into action. He deploys the rest of his light troops to support the frontal attack while dividing his heavy infantry into two groups.

*The Carthaginians, surprised and still in the process of organizing their defenses, are thrown into disarray by Scipio's flanking maneuver. The confusion allows Scipio's forces to gain the upper hand.*

Hasdrubal's Retreat: Upon realizing the inevitable defeat, Hasdrubal hurries to leave the hill along with his riches and elephants. During his retreat, he seeks to gather as many fugitives as possible and heads up the Tagus River towards the Pyrenees.

- Scipio detects Hasdrubal's retreat upon noticing the chests on the elephants. He quickly deduces that the elephants are not going to be used for attack but to facilitate the escape. He acts swiftly, inflicting damage with all available means to try to prevent Hasdrubal's escape. Despite his promptness, he does not completely prevent the escape, but his contingency plan manages to cause the death of many enemy soldiers, which is:

*Scipio's Prediction: From the outset of the battle, he had sent two cohorts to block the retreat lines he anticipated Hasdrubal would use, trapping most of the Carthaginian troops like in a net.*

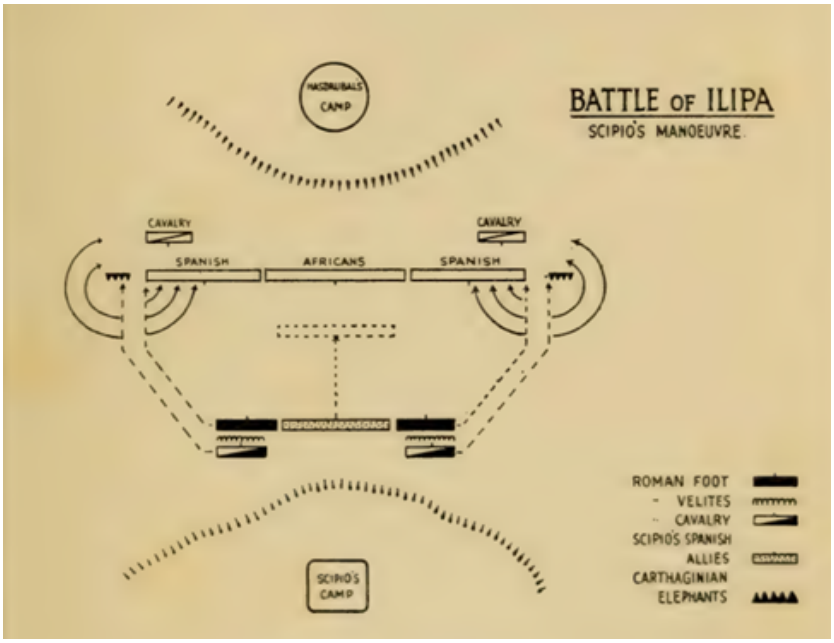
**(Deductive Reasoning, Observation, Prediction, Contingency Planning)**

Battle Outcome: The battle resulted in victory for Scipio and the death of eight thousand soldiers and the capture of twelve thousand more.

*Although Hasdrubal manages to escape, Scipio chooses not to pursue him, as he anticipates the presence of more enemy armies and military leaders. Instead, he decided to strengthen his area and continue consolidating alliances with Iberian states.*

**(Risk Assessments + Decision Making)**

- **Battle of Ilipa (Last Battle in Iberia)**




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Scipio advances towards Ilipa with a combined army of forty-five thousand infantry soldiers and three thousand cavalry (Romans and allies). He establishes himself on low hills facing the Carthaginians.

Strategic positioning: It is important to note that Scipio's advance is designed so that, in case of victory, he would cut off the Carthaginians from the nearest route to Gades, which runs along the southern side of the Bsetis River.

**(Planning Coverage)**

The Carthaginians attempt to attack while Scipio prepares his camp. However, Scipio anticipates this tactic and hides a unit of cavalry in a strategic location. When the Carthaginians launch their attack, the cavalry emerges unexpectedly and charges at them. Meanwhile, Scipio orders and

structures his army. Witnessing this organized response, the Carthaginians are forced to retreat, allowing Scipio to secure his position smoothly.

**(Anticipation, Trap Setting, Counteraction)**

- *They finish establishing their camp*

*Stalemate in front of the camps: For several consecutive days, Hasdrubal leads his army and offers battle. On each occasion, Scipio waits for the Carthaginians to begin to move before following suit. However, neither side initiates the attack, and by nightfall, both armies, tired of waiting, retreat to their respective camps.*

Scipio had noticed during the stalemate encounters that the Carthaginians advanced daily at a late hour. Scipio had identified their habits, so he himself waited even later with the aim of establishing this pattern in the mind of his adversary.

**(Observation + Indirect Manipulation)**

**Surprise Attack:**

- To surprise his enemies, one late night, Scipio gave orders throughout the camp for the troops to be fed and armed before dawn, in addition to having the cavalry horses ready. At dawn, he sent the cavalry and light troops to attack the enemy outposts, while he advanced with the legions.

*This was the first surprise maneuver, leaving the Carthaginians disoriented and with no time to adjust their usual arrangements.*

- The second surprise blow occurred when Scipio altered the order of his formation, placing the Iberians in the center and the legions on the wings.

It is important to note that Scipio not only modified his formation to confound his enemy but also did so because he had carefully studied the Carthaginian formation from the outset.

*And the alteration that Scipio implemented constituted a direct counterattack to the formation he had analyzed in the "stalemate encounters."*

For this reason, Scipio did not launch into the attack in the "stalemate encounters," but rather meticulously observed them, studying them, but not only that, also manipulating them so that the studied formation would be repeated and become a habit for the Carthaginians. All of this had been carefully planned by Scipio for this moment.

*The Carthaginians felt psychologically cornered, as they were disoriented and fearful of changing their formation, for fear of being attacked by Scipio once they attempted to do so.*

**(Indirect Manipulation, Observation, Planning Intricacies, Trap Setting)**

Strategic Waiting:

To enhance the effect of his Strategy, Scipio chose to hold back the advance of the Roman legions for a while, causing his adversaries to feel the sting of hunger. It was only when Scipio noticed that the Carthaginians were starting to bring carts with food that he decided to act.

*Then came a confrontation, more like a massacre perpetrated by the Romans due to the incredible strategic advantage that Scipio had designed. Basically, they surrounded them, broke their flanks, and brought them to the brink of defeat. At this point, Hasdrubal decided to withdraw his army to his camp. If it weren't for the rain, Scipio would have continued to advance, but he also withdrew to his camp to rest.*

Hasdrubal's Retreat: During the night, Hasdrubal evacuated his camp, but Scipio, having strategically positioned his troops blocking the retreat line towards Gades, as mentioned earlier, forced him to withdraw westward, towards the Atlantic.

*Most of Hasdrubal's Iberian allies abandoned him.*

**(Foresight)**

Pursuit of Hasdrubal: Scipio's light troops maintained contact with the enemy and informed him as soon as Hasdrubal's departure was noticed at dawn. Scipio immediately followed with the cavalry, and the pursuit was so swift that they caught up with Hasdrubal despite being deceived by guides in an attempt to take a shortcut.

**(Decision Making, Traps Evasion)**

Hasdrubal's Final Defeat: Continuously harassed by attacks from the flanks and the rear, Hasdrubal and his men suffered so many forced halts that the Roman legions were able to catch up with them. The battle turned into a massacre, and only Hasdrubal and six thousand poorly armed men managed to escape to the nearby hills, from an initial army of over seventy thousand men who had fought in Ilipa.

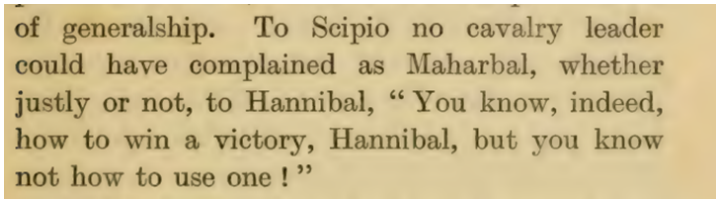
*Hasdrubal's Escape: Hasdrubal, after fortifying a camp on a hill, finally abandoned his troops and headed to the sea, where he took a boat to Gades.*

- **Strategic Perspective of Scipio**

**Scipio's Strategy:** Both in tactics and strategy, Scipio had a clear vision of the future. At this moment, after his victory in Iberia, he was looking towards Africa as the next strategic objective.

**Importance of Africa:** Scipio understood that Africa was crucial in the fight against Carthage. Just as Cartagena was the key to controlling Iberia, and Iberia the key to the situation in Italy, Africa was the key to the fight as a whole.

**Scipio's Objectives:** By attacking Africa, Scipio could achieve several objectives. Not only would he free Italy from the constant threat of Hannibal, whose ability to reinforce his troops had already diminished, but he would also undermine Carthage's power until its collapse.


of generalship. To Scipio no cavalry leader could have complained as Maharbal, whether justly or not, to Hannibal, "You know, indeed, how to win a victory, Hannibal, but you know not how to use one!"

**(Planning Aim)**

- **Battle of Zama (Hannibal vs Scipio)**

Hannibal, as he always does, sends spies to Scipio's camp to gather information.

*Then three Carthaginian spies are captured by Scipio's forces.*

Scipio's Unusual Treatment of Spies: Instead of punishing the spies, Scipio decides to treat them unusually. Instead of interrogating or punishing them, he orders a tribune to show them the Roman camp and its defensive disposition in detail.

Sending the Spies back to Hannibal: After the spies have been properly informed about the Roman camp, Scipio provides them with provisions and an escort to ensure their return to the Carthaginian lines. He instructs them to inform Hannibal about what they have seen.

Reason behind Scipio's Action: This gesture by Scipio was not simply out of kindness but was a calculated tactic to psychologically affect Hannibal and his troops. Scipio sought to demonstrate absolute confidence in his forces and sow doubts and concerns among the Carthaginians.

**(Psychological Warfare: Emotional Inducement + Bluffing)**

*Next, you will see the other purposes behind this show of confidence and how Scipio used it to manipulate Hannibal and gain a strategic advantage.*

Hannibal's Desire to Meet Scipio: Impressed by Scipio's behavior, Hannibal expresses his desire to meet and converse with him to discuss the situation in general. He sends a herald to Scipio to convey his wish for a meeting.

*Scipio accepts Hannibal's proposal and sets a time and place for the meeting.*

Scipio decides to change the location of his camp to a strategically advantageous place, near the city of Narragara and with access to water. He sends a message to Hannibal informing him that he is ready for the meeting.

Hannibal also changes the location of his camp and moves forward to meet Scipio. He chooses a hill that is secure and convenient in most aspects but is a bit distant from water, resulting in difficulties for his soldiers.

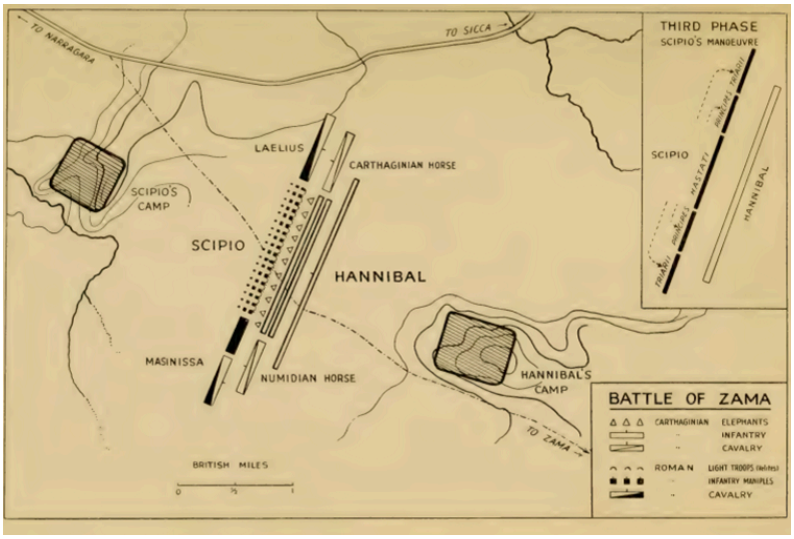
*The reasons behind Scipio's actions become clear when considering the advantages he sought to gain. His goal was to sow fear among the Carthaginians and, more crucially, manipulate Hannibal into requesting a meeting with him. Scipio had meticulously planned this, and that's why he positioned himself strategically. In this situation, Scipio has the advantage. He managed to get Hannibal to agree to a meeting on flat terrain, where the Roman cavalry could be employed with full effectiveness.*

**(Execution Strategy + Indirect Manipulation)**

It's important to note that from the beginning until now, Hannibal has been firmly focused on seeking peace and reaching an agreement to avoid armed conflict. One would expect Scipio to share the same intention. However, Scipio is secretly preparing for battle, without Hannibal's knowledge. That's why all the strategies Scipio has developed so far. Scipio has gained Hannibal's trust, and Hannibal has fallen into his trap.

**(Trap Setting)**

*Scipio rejects Hannibal's peace proposals and begins the Battle of Zama.*




Dispositions of Scipio's Forces: Before the battle, Scipio organizes his forces strategically. He places his heavy Roman infantry in the center, probably two legions in total. The Italian cavalry under Laelius's command is positioned on the left wing, while on the right wing, Masinissa leads all the Numidians, both cavalry and infantry, presumably extending the center with infantry and placing the cavalry on the outer flank.

***Formation of Infantry Lines: Scipio organizes his heavy infantry into three lines: hastati (spears), principes (main troops), and triarii (veterans).***

However, instead of adopting the usual square formation, with the maniples of the second line opposed and covering the intervals between the maniples of the first line, Scipio places the maniples of the second line directly behind those of the first line, thus forming wide corridors between each cohort.

Formation Objectives: **This arrangement has two main objectives.**

- On one hand, Scipio is seeking to address the threat posed by Hannibal's war elephants. He understands that, despite their imposing presence, elephants are creatures subject to fear and will not charge directly into spears. That's why he has arranged wide corridors between each cohort; Scipio anticipates that the elephants will choose to pass through these corridors to avoid inflicting as much damage on themselves as they would by charging directly into the spears.

**(Tactics + EQU)**

- Additionally, this also facilitates the maneuvers of the Roman skirmishers, granting them the ability to retreat and advance more fluidly.

Placement of the Velites: Scipio positions the velites (lightly armed soldiers) in the intervals of the first line, ordering them to open fire at the beginning of the battle. If they are forced to retreat by the charge of the elephants, they are instructed to withdraw in an organized manner through the corridors between the lines.

*Force economy and effectiveness: This arrangement demonstrates careful planning by Scipio. Not only does it protect his troops from the threat of enemy elephants, but it also optimizes the mobility and effectiveness of his forces, increasing their offensive capability and minimizing casualties.*

**(Planning Coverage + Overall Counteraction)**

**Hannibal's Information**

*Hannibal has eighty war elephants for this battle, which he places at the front to intimidate the enemy. His forces are diverse: the first line consists of Ligurian, Gallic, and light troops from the Balearic Islands and Africa, followed by Levantine, African, and Macedonian troops in the second line. He reserves his own troops in the third line. He places the cavalry on the flanks, with Numidian allies on the left and Carthaginian cavalry on the right. In total, Hannibal has around fifty to fifty-five thousand soldiers, while Scipio's Roman army is estimated at around thirty-six thousand troops, including his legions and Italian allies, as well as Masinissa's soldiers.*

- **Phase 1**

The First Phase: The battle begins with preliminary skirmishes between the Numidian cavalry and, under Hannibal's orders, the elephant drivers charging against the Roman line.

Scipio's Response: Scipio anticipates Hannibal's elephant charge. He orders his battle line to sound a tremendous fanfare of trumpets and horns. This loud noise disorients and terrifies the elephants, many of which turn around and retreat towards their own troops.

This is especially notable on the left wing of the formation, where the elephants disrupt the Numidian cavalry, which is Hannibal's best cavalry wing, just as they are preparing to attack.

**(Tactic)**

Masinissa, seizing this golden opportunity, launches a counterattack that inevitably routs the disorganized enemies of the left wing. With Masinissa closely pursuing them, they are driven from the battlefield, thus leaving the Carthaginian left flank exposed.

- The elephants continue to advance and cause considerable damage. However, in seeking the easiest route of penetration, they opt to enter the corridors that Scipio had prepared.

Counterattack by Laelius and Masinissa: Taking advantage of the chaos caused by the elephants, Laelius charges against the Carthaginian cavalry, forcing it to flee in disarray.

*This counterattack leaves Hannibal's flanks unprotected, repeating the decisive maneuver of the Battle of Cannae, but in the opposite direction.*

- **Phase 2**

Advance of Hannibal's second line: Both armies advance slowly and in formation. Finally, the battle lines clash, with the Romans raising their war cry.

Battle development: Initially, the Gauls and Ligurians have some advantage due to their personal skill in close combat and their superior mobility.

However, the Roman line remains firm, and its compact formation allows it to push back the enemy. Faced with constant pressure, the Gauls decide to turn around and flee.

- **Phase 3 (Final Phase)**

After repelling the first two waves, Scipio now faces men equal in armament, experience, and renown: Hannibal's "Old Guard."

*These twenty-four thousand veterans were directly inspired by Hannibal, whose dynamic personality had instilled unwavering determination in his troops.*

It is considered impossible for Scipio to have enough troops at his disposal to face this final wave.

His next step demonstrates his characteristic calm and calculation even in the midst of a battle crisis. Faced with the presence of a huge enemy human wall, Scipio orders the call of all his troops.

Troop reorganization: Scipio, facing an enemy at bowshot distance, takes decisive measures to reorganize his forces and adjust his tactical disposition.

*Recognizing that he cannot counter Hannibal with tricks or strategies, he understands that he has fallen into his trap all this time.*

However, instead of surrendering, he decides to concentrate his entire army into a unified formation. This action allows him to avoid possible tricks from Hannibal and transforms the confrontation into a direct and frontal combat. But, during this reorganization, Scipio takes his time, too much time indeed, to allow his men to rest and prepare adequately.

**(Observation + Strategy Adaptability)**

Nevertheless, this pause is also due to his prediction that his cavalry, which had departed to pursue Hannibal's retreating flank, was about to return. Therefore, Scipio does everything possible to gain time. It is for this reason that he orders his troops at the front to integrate into the main body instead of sending the main body to their aid, all in order to delay the start of the battle. Once Scipio concentrates all his forces and ensures that Hannibal cannot lay any traps for him, he initiates the battle, the fiercest yet.

At the beginning of the battle, the situation seemed to clearly favor the Carthaginians. However, just as Scipio had anticipated, the timely arrival of the cavalry led by Masinissa and Laelius, allies of the Roman general, drastically changed the course of events.

**(Foresight)**

*This surprise move from the enemy's rear tilted the balance in favor of the Romans, turning what seemed to be a sure victory for the Carthaginians into a situation where they would be overwhelmingly defeated.*

**What once appeared to be a battle that the Carthaginians could win now became one where they were destined to be slaughtered.**

The outcome of the battle: It was a complete victory for Scipio and his forces, with significant losses for the Carthaginian forces.

*It is estimated that approximately twenty thousand Carthaginians lost their lives and nearly the same amount were captured, while Roman losses are estimated at over two thousand soldiers.*



***This concludes the document—thank you for reading it all. I will be uploading an update to Scipio's document soon, as I plan to reanalyze a few battles, particularly the Battle of Zama. Stay tuned for that. Goodbye!***