

ETHIOPIA AT STAKE  
A Portfolio of Maps  
Exounding the Strategical Position  
of the Oldest Unconquered Nation  
in the West

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FROM the flat, unfruitful, fever-stricken tip of eastern Africa, where the Red Sea meets the Indian Ocean, a huge natural rampart which, if its cliffs were 8,000 to 10,000 feet high, would appear to be man-made, so definitely does it separate the coastal desert from the hinterland. The land on top of the great escarpment, which is about 15,000 feet as cool and fruitful as the seacoast is hot and barren. This Ethiopia Remote, all but impregnable, it is a land against whose cliffs the world's greatest powers have been unable to make even an independent nation among those of the West, which Homer referred to as the country in which the sun sets and the gods hold their banquets.

Ethiopia achieved its independence in the eleventh century B.C. and it conquered Egypt in the eighth to found the twenty-first Dynasty. It was the last nation to be conquered by the Roman General Gaius Petronius sacked Napata in 21 B.C., which was then the Ethiopian capital but lies in what is now the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. No other invasion was successful until 1868.

when Great Britain made war on Ethiopia, and with an expeditionary force of 30,000 men got as far as Magdala. But they did not follow up their victory.

The last and mightiest of the great Persian Camaibyes about 550 B.C. And as Africa's only native Christian people, they have with twice repelled Italy—one in 1895 when an Ethiopian army surrounded the Italian fort at Dogali, and again in 1900 when they once in 1896 when an Italian army of 14,500 men was overwhelmed by an Ethiopian force of more than 100,000 at Adowa.

From the time of the Emperor Menelik, who was the last Emperor of Ethiopia, who works at a big modern desk surrounded by modern telephones, and who is a man of great energy, Ethiopia has suddenly emerged as a man of portentous affairs. Without attempting to exhaust the intricate international politics in which he has been involved, Foreign Secretary Sir Alexander Cadogan of eight maps bearing upon the crisis he has aroused. Illustrating

every important geographical angle of the situation, these may be used as ready reference maps in following the moves of the three major chess players, Mussolini, Haile Selassie, and Downing Street. Our purpose is to let the reader judge for himself.

1. Bird's-eye view of Ethiopia (below), looking southwest from the land of Yemen on the tip of the Arabian peninsula. This map is especially designed to show the Ethiopian terrain in detail and to give a general view of the situation.

2. Africa the melon, opposite page 84, showing Ethiopia's strategic importance in the biggest of the southern continents.

3. Ethiopia in the sun, page 85, which shows the important military centers and the possible lines of attack.

4. The Mediterranean Sea, showing the powers aligned against Italy.

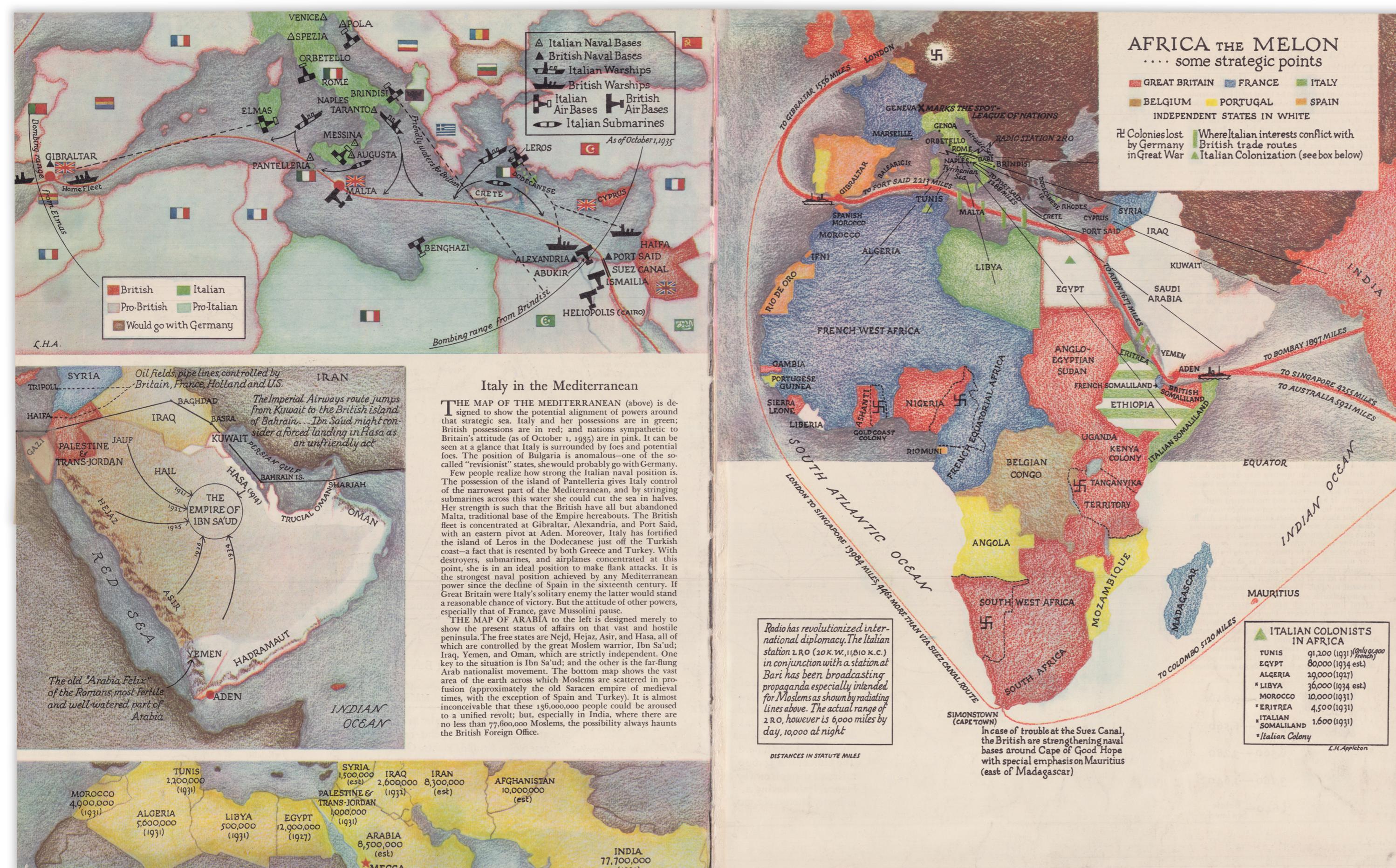
5. Arabia and the Red Sea.

6. Geographical outline of the Modern peoples.

7. Ethiopia in relation to Lake Tana.

8. Lake Tana itself.

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Abyssinian Crisis in Fortune Magazine

Top: Ethiopia at Stake (May 1935)  
New York, NY

Centre: Africa the Melon (May 1935)  
New York, NY

Bottom: An \$800,000,000 War (November 1935)  
New York, NY

The Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress,  
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