

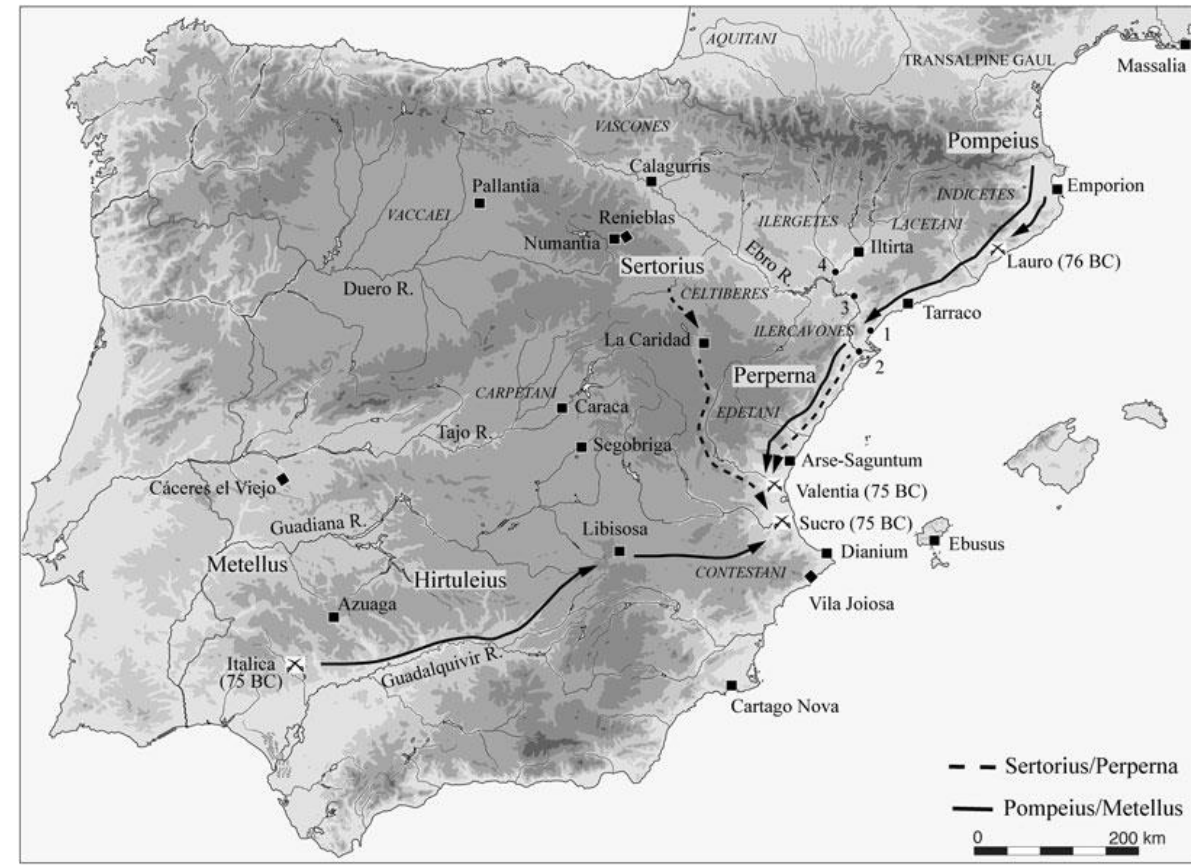
The Rise of Pompey the Great

The Life and Times of Caesar and Cicero
(HPAH5046/6046)



The Early Career of Pompey

- At age of 23 levied three legions in Picenum – defeats Brutus then Scipio Asiagenus in battle.
- Campaigns in Sicily against Perpenna and captures Carbo – defeats Domitius in Africa and invades Numidia.
 - Saluted as “Magnus”; Sulla compelled to grant him a triumph.
- Pompey campaigns with Metellus Pius against Sertorius.
- Arrives in Italy and defeats 5,000 of rebels in the Servile War – 2nd Triumph.





Mediterranean piracy

“Upon discharge by Dolabella Caesar resolved to withdraw to Rhodes... after the winter season had already begun, he was taken by pirates near the island of Pharmacussa and remained in their custody for nearly 40 days...” – **Suet. Div. Jul. 4.**



“...took the robbers out of prison, and crucified them all, just as he had often warned them on the island that he would do, when they thought he was joking...” – **Plut. Julius Caesar 2.7.**

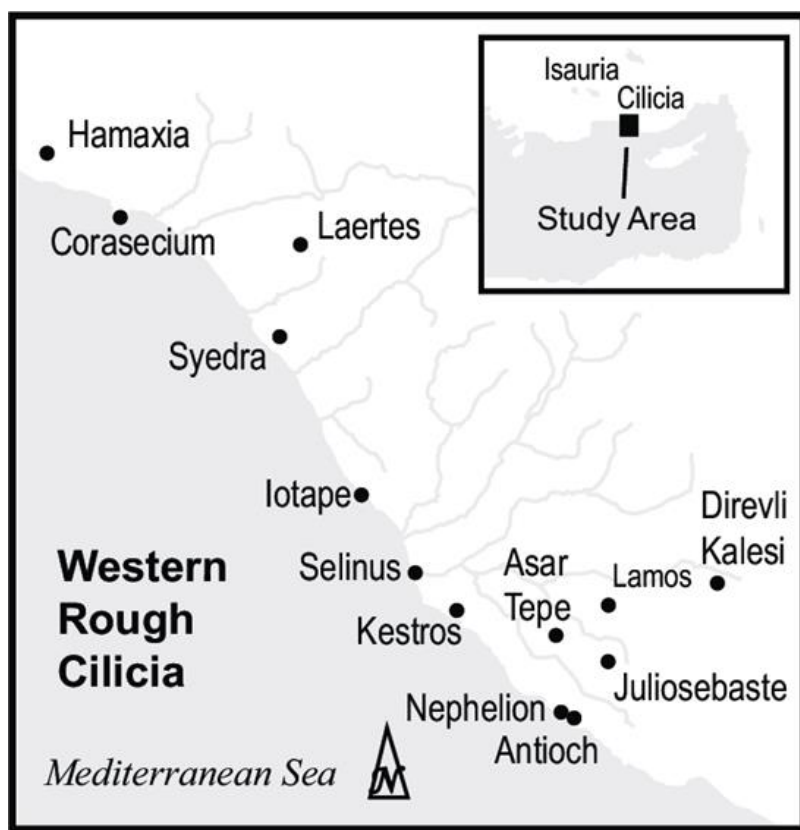


Why was piracy becoming such an issue during the Late Republic?

- Weakening of power of Eastern kingdoms / states?
- Mithridatic wars cause for development of piracy?
- Influence of the slave trade – market on Delos and Roman demand (Strabo 14.5.2).
- Degree of direct on the Romans?

- A series of piratical attacks in early 60s – capture of Delos (69 BC) – laying waste to Aigina (69 BC) – attacks on Tenos.
- Attacks on Italy: Caieta, Misenum and Ostia (Cicero *Leg. Man.* 33).





Earlier Roman action against piracy

- Marcus Antonius the orator (102 BC).
 - Campaign against the Cilician pirates.
- Inscription at Cnidus - the *lex provinciis praetoriis* (c.100 BC).
- Campaigns by Servilius Isauricus in Southern Anatolia between 78-74 BC – Pamphylia and Eastern Lycia (77-76) and Isauria (76-75).
- Marcus Antonius Creticus (74-71 BC) – failed attempt on Crete.
 - Conquest of Crete by Metellus Creticus (69-67 BC).





Piracy and invective

“If, for example, you do not hand over to pirates the amount agreed upon as the price of your life, that is not perjury, not even if you have sworn an oath and do not do so, for a pirate is not included in the category of lawful enemies, but is the common enemy of everyone. In his case good faith and sworn oaths should not be recognized.”
– **Cicero *De Officiis* 3.107.**

- Piracy a theme in the Verrine Orations.
 - Pocketing money: “While you were praetor, Sicilian soldiers were fed on the roots of palm trees, and pirates on Sicilian Corn!” – Cicero II *Verr.* 5.100.
- Allies required to provide ships for combating piracy.

Special command against the pirates

Tribune Aulus Gabinius passes law to appoint a command against the pirates (67 BC).

- “...making it unnavigable and closed to all commerce. This was what most of all inclined the Romans, who were hard put to it to get provisions and expected a great scarcity, to send out Pompey with a commission to take the sea away from the pirates.” – **Plut. *Pomp.* 24-25.**

Three-year appointment – can raise troops in all provinces.

- 24 legates granted (only 15 used) – force of 200 or 500 ships and possibility to recruit 120,000 men and 5,000 cavalry.

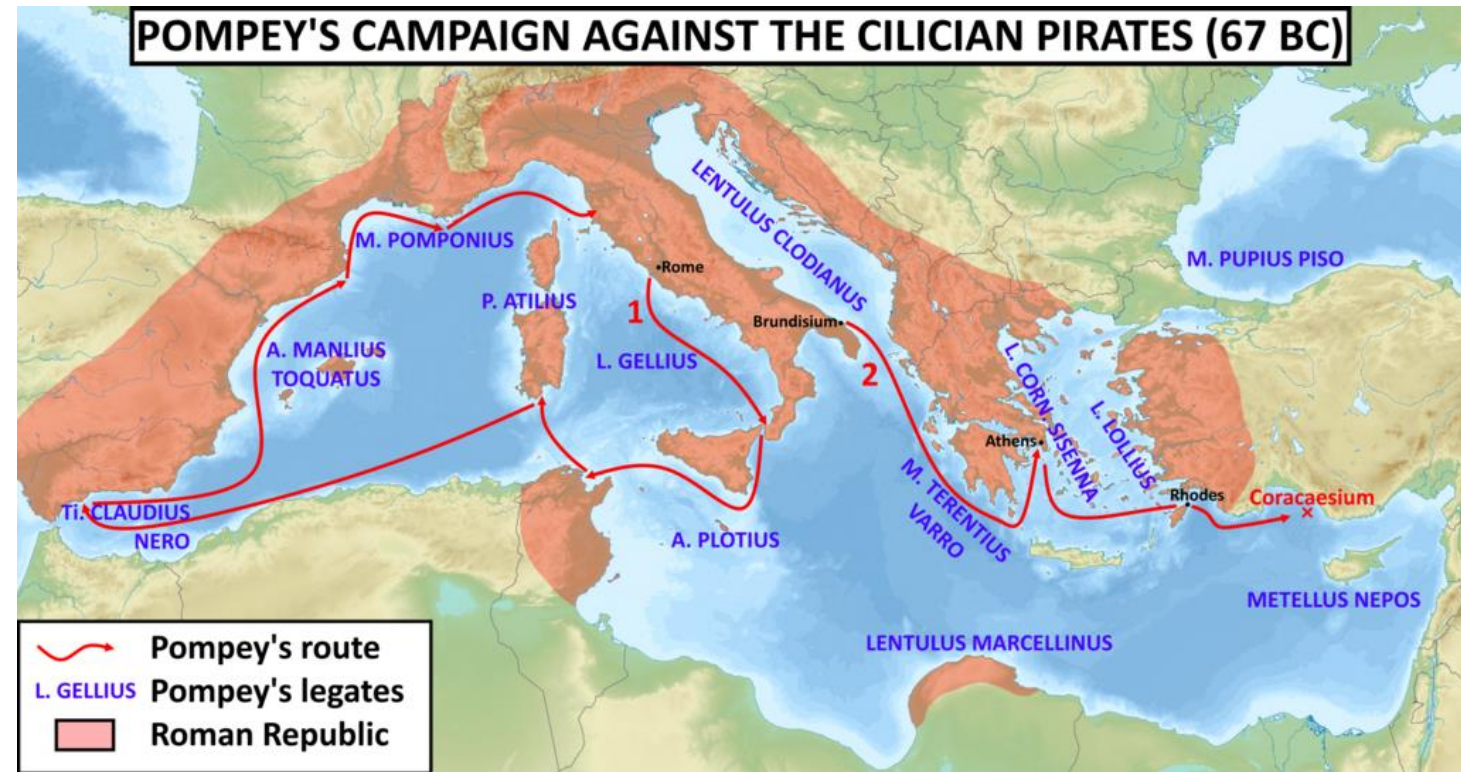
Over-ride all magistrates up to 50 miles inland.

- Some resistance – governor of Gallia Narbonensis and Metellus in Crete (Dio 36.37, 45).

Lightening Campaign

- Coasts and seas divided up into 13 regions – ships and a commander assigned to each – initial campaign 40 days.
 - Western Mediterranean “secured” quite quickly.
- More elusive pirates driven towards Cilicia like “bees to a hive”.
 - Cilicia conquered by Pompey in 49 days (Cicero *Leg. Man.* 35).

“Winning over the pirates with a policy of clemency; some settled in Cilicia, others in the city of Soli (Cyrpus) and of Dyme (Achaëa) – **Plutarch *Pompey* 28.**



A long-term success?

- Lack of commentary?
- Prosecution against Flaccus – 59 BC (Cicero *Flacc.* 29).
- Proposal for a fleet to protect Italy in 62 BC.
- Aulus Gabinius governor of Syria from 58 to 55 BC: “Gabinius had harried Syria in many ways, even to the point of inflicting far more injury upon the people than did the pirates, who were flourishing even then.” – **Cassius Dio 39.56.1.**

A silver denarius minted by
Faustus Cornelius Sulla (56 BC)

3 victory
wreaths +
a golden
crown

Globe



Aplustre

[decorative feature on
ship's bow

Ear of corn

Pompey and the Third Mithridatic War



Third Mithridatic War (73-63 BC)

- Lucullus alienating soldiers and *publicanii*.
 - Hostility in Rome – L. Quinctius.
- Mutiny agitated by P. Claudius (Clodius).
- Lucullus replaced by Manius Acilius Glabrio.



“...Publius Clodius, a man of wanton violence... he worked secretly upon the soldiers who had been commanded by Fimbria, and tried to incite them against Lucullus... For such reasons as these the army of Lucullus was demoralised, and refused to follow him either against Tigranes, or against Mithridates, who had come back into Pontus from Armenia, and was trying to restore his power there.” – **Plut. *Lucullus* 34.**

The Manilian Law (66 BC)

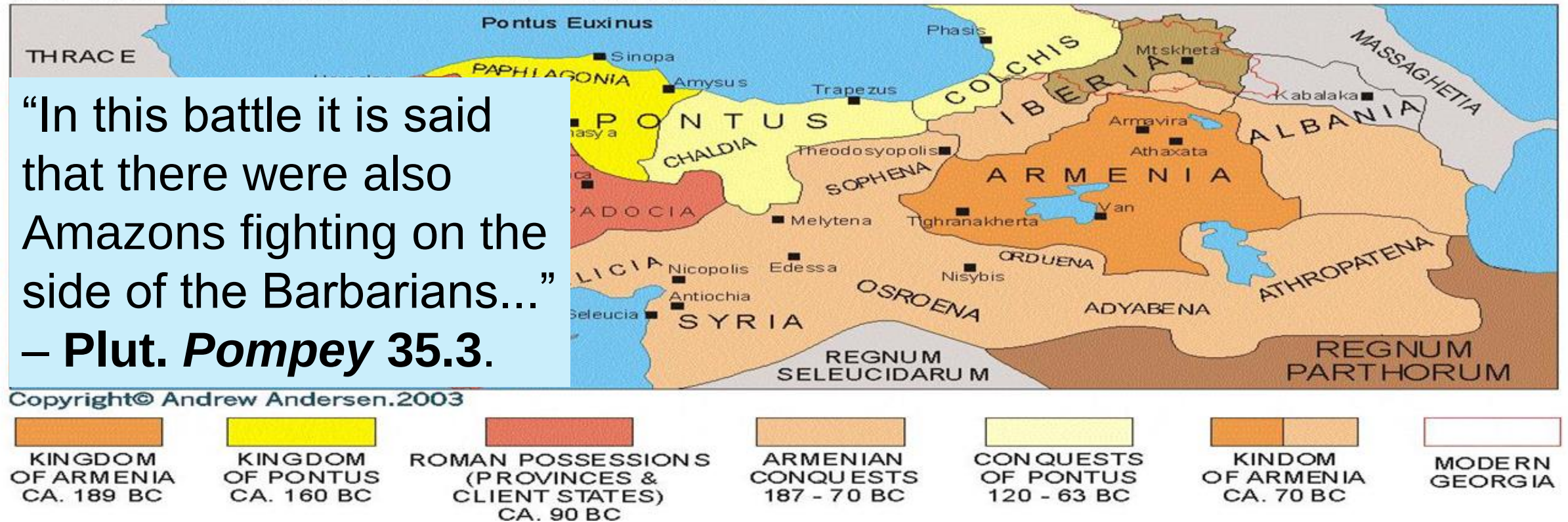
Command transferred from
M. Acilius Glabrio to Pompey.

Magnification of Pompey in
the *Pro Lege Manilia Oratio*.

Imperium maius?

EAST MEDITERRANEAN LANDS AT THE PEAK OF ARMENIAN & PONTIC MIGHT: 189 - 63 BC

“In this battle it is said that there were also Amazons fighting on the side of the Barbarians...”
– Plut. *Pompey* 35.3.



- Phraates of Parthia attacks Tigranes II.
- Mithridates flees to Colchis.
- Tigranes the younger flees to Pompey.
- Tigranes II surrenders to Pompey and becomes client king.

- Pontic campaign (65-64 BC),
 - Mithridates penned up in the Bosphorus.
- Roman annexation of Syria (64 BC).
 - Antiochus XIII Asiaticus deposed.
- Pompey's sack of Jerusalem in 63 BC.
 - Hasmonean territory restricted to Judaea – surrounding areas a Roman protectorate.
- Conflict between Hyrcanus and Aristobulos – former restored as ethnarch.



Pompey has a look inside the Great Temple – Josephus *AJ* 14.4.4.



Death of Mithridates

- Pompey hears of Mithridates death while in Jericho.
- Mithridates son left in control of the Bosphorus.
- Pontus organised into 11 communities.
 - Some territory reward to allied potentates (particularly Deiotarus).

