

WAR IN THE MOUNTAINS

By

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TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. GERMAN CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

General Ludendorff, and GERMAN FIELD MARSHALL PAUL VON HINDENBURG are having a conversation for the upcoming battle along with the German Staff Officers, but General von Armin and TWO GERMAN OFFICERS entered the Conference Room.

ERICH LUDENDORFF

(In German)

What happened?

SIXT VON ARMIN

(In German)

Our attack on the Allied Trench failed.

ERICH LUDENDORFF

(In German)

Where's Richthofen? The Red Baron, I mean.

FERDINAND VON QUAST

(In German)

He's dead, Sir.

LUDWIG VON FALKENHAUSEN

(In German)

He got shot in the chest with the help of the Allied Gunners.

PAUL VON HINDERBURG

(In German)

By whom?

SIXT VON ARMIN

(In German)

Captain Roy Brown.

ERICH LUDENDORFF

(Angrily in German)

*I want him, alive! Your job is to
dispatch our tanks to clear the
trench, not air support! You fool!
Now we're losing air power to the
Allied Squadron!*

FERDINAND VON QUAST

(In German)

*What about the Americans, General?
The Ottoman Empire lost control of
the Middle East and Bulgaria is
losing at the Macedonian Front.*

PAUL VON HINDERBURG

(In German)

*We'll deal the Americans, later.
The Ottomans and Bulgarians are no
further use of us, but, however,
one of the Central Powers
succeeded by taking over the
Eastern Front. Send the Austro-
Hungarians to the Italian Front.*

LUDWIG VON FALKENHAUSEN

Jawohl.

CUT TO:

TITLE: THE GREAT WAR: THE ANIMATED SERIES

CUT TO:

TITLE EPISODE: WAR IN THE MOUNTAINS

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT I

FADE IN:

INT. ITALIAN TRENCH DUGOUT - DAY

October 24, 1918.

It is the final battle of the Italian Front against the Austro-Hungarian Army as the Italian Soldiers are TALKING to each other in Italian Language. JASON SACCHI'S GREAT-GRANDFATHER, DOMINICK MONDI AND THREE ITALIAN SOLDIERS, COMMANDER GIOVANNI, CAPTAIN CATTANEO, AND LIEUTENANT GUERRA are inside the dugout along with the Italian Soldiers. Dominick is looking at the picture of his girlfriend, Josephine.

DOMINICK MONDI

Commander Giovanni, how is the war going?

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

We've lost the battle against the Austro-Hungarians earlier.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

How many casualties, Lieutenant Guerra?

LIEUTENANT GUERRA

We've lost Captain Arnaldo Berni and his nine soldiers at San Matteo earlier. That's why we have A NEW COMMANDER OF THE ROYAL ITALIAN ARMY NAMED MAJOR CAPO. He'll lead us to victory at Vittorio Veneto.

DOMINICK MONDI

It's a good thing Archduke Franz Ferdinand was taken care of at Serbia before the war began.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

Is that your girlfriend?

CLOSE ON: PICTURE OF JOSEPHINE.

DOMINICK MONDI

Yes, her name is Josephine.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Josephine? I didn't know you had a girlfriend.

DOMINICK MONDI

I know. That's why I came here to fight for my people.

LIEUTENANT GUERRA

Your people? You mean our people?

DOMINICK MONDI

Si. We fought Austro-Hungarians all the time in the Italian Front after the Eastern Front was fallen and now, they're starting to revolt.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

Oh. That's too bad. The defeat of the Eastern Front is a huge blow for the Allies, with the help of their own war machines, but we do have war machines of our own.

LIEUTENANT GUERRA

Like what?

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Aircraft, mortars, machine guns, artillery, and armored cars.

DOMINICK MONDI

Fantastico! The Austro-Hungarians won't know what we hit them.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

And they used up all their air support and armored vehicles at the Eastern Front.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

But they do have artillery,
machine guns, and mortars because
they build up their own defenses
in our front.

LIEUTENANT GUERRA

Then it's our chance to defeat the
Austro-Hungarians once and for
all.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

And free our people from the
Austro-Hungarians, so we all can
go home.

DOMINICK MONDI

Once we defeat the Austro-
Hungarians, Josephine and I will
get married.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Well, good luck with your
marriage, Dominick.

Major Capo arrives at the Italian Trench Dugout.

MAJOR CAPO

Soldati, our intelligence has been
reported the Austro-Hungarians
have been located at Vittorio
Veneto, but it was protected by
their artillery pieces. We will
not stop until the Austro-
Hungarian Empire is defeated.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

What about the other Central
Powers?

MAJOR CAPO

They're still fighting on the
Western Front and the Middle East.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Such as Sinai and Palestine?

MAJOR CAPO

Corretto. That's why we have our enemy in our frontline to end this war. Grab your weapons and prepare for a final assault.

All the Italian Soldiers follow Major Capo's orders.

GO TO:

EXT. ITALIAN TRENCH DUGOUT - DAY

The Italian Soldiers went outside the dugout. TWO ITALIAN COMMANDERS, CORPORAL BENITO MUSSOLINI AND GENERAL ARMANDO DIAZ are waiting for them.

ARMANDO DIAZ

Attenzione, Signori! My name is General Armando Diaz and I'm your new commanding officer of the Royal Italian Army and this is Corporal Benito Mussolini.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Ciao.

ARMANDO DIAZ

Mussolini will be your leader because he knows the location of Austro-Hungarian Trench to free our country. You'll follow his lead to attack the enemy's defenses. *Questo e tutto.*

General Diaz left, leaving Corporal Mussolini and his soldiers on their own.

DOMINICK MONDI

I thought you'll lead us to victory over Austro-Hungarians.

MAJOR CAPO

Benito Mussolini is the Italian Corporal, Dominick. He wanted to free his people and crush the Austro-Hungarians once before the war's end.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

What does he want for his people?

MAJOR CAPO

To save the Kingdom of Italy.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Are you coming with us, Guerra?

LIEUTENANT GUERRA

I'm a medic, Cattaneo. I must treat the wounded soldiers from the last battle.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Are you sure?

LIEUTENANT GUERRA

I'll be fine.

The Italian Soldiers heard the Austro-Hungarian machine gun FIRING as Benito led his troops to free Italy away from Austro-Hungarians.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Accusa!

DOMINICK MONDI

What's Benito Mussolini doing?

MAJOR CAPO

He's leading his soldiers to attack the Austro-Hungarians.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

But the Austro-Hungarians have
artillery to defend their
trenches!

MAJOR CAPO

Giovanni, use your sniper. Take
out many Austro-Hungarian Soldiers
as you can.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

Si, signore.

Commander Giovanni takes aim and fires at the Austrian-Hungarian
soldiers below. The Austro-Hungarian Soldier attempts to fire
with his Schwarzlose machine gun, but Giovanni managed to kill
the Austro-Hungarian Gunner before he had a chance to fire.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI (CON'T)

Enemy Gunner is down, *signore.*

MAJOR CAPO

Now, it's our chance. Let's move.

The Italian Soldiers advance towards Vittorio Veneto.

GO TO:

EXT. MONTE GRAPPA - DAY

On their way to Vittorio Veneto, Major Capo and his Italian
Soldiers saw Benito and his soldiers killed many Austro-
Hungarian Soldiers at Monte Grappa.

DOMINICK MONDI

Benito? How did you get here so
fast?

BENITO MUSSOLINI

The Girardi's Stable is secured.
But we still got a lot of work to
do at Monte Grappa.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Guys, look over there!

Major Capo spots the Austro-Hungarian Underground Fortress. The turret gun is aiming at Benito and his soldiers.

MAJOR CAPO

That's not good!

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

FADE IN:

EXT. MONTE GRAPPA - DAY

The enemy turret gun fires at the Italians.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Mettiti al riparo!

The Austro-Hungarian shells rained down on the Italians. Benito and his soldiers took cover from the Austro-Hungarian turret gun.

DOMINICK MONDI

Look over there!

A Squadron of Italian Caproni Ca.5 Bombers cripple the Austro-Hungarian Fortress and disabled the fortress gun.

MAJOR CAPO

Our air support has arrived!

The Austro-Hungarian Soldiers panicked, but some of the soldiers were killed by Italian Ca.5 Bombers. Then, the Italian Armored Car arrives to assist the Italian Soldiers.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

This way, *Soldati!* To the underground fortress!

The Italians pursue the Austro-Hungarians in the underground fortress.

GO TO:

INT. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN UNDERGROUND FORTRESS - CONTINUOUS

Benito and his soldiers attack the Austro-Hungarian Soldiers with bayonets and gunfire. Both sides were either killed or wounded inside the underground fortress.

MAJOR CAPO

Captain Cattaneo places the explosives on the fortress gun. We can't let them have it!

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Si, signore!

Captain Cattaneo placed the explosives on the fortress gun. He's using his matches to light the dynamite explosives before exiting the fortress.

GO TO:

EXT. MONTE GRAPPA - CONTINUOUS

The Italian Soldiers escaped from the underground fortress before the underground fortress explodes.

MAJOR CAPO

The enemy fortress is down, but we need a naval support to deal with the Austro-Hungarian Coastal Defenses.

DOMINICK MONDI

Coastal Defenses? Wouldn't that be dangerous?

MAJOR CAPO

There are lot of enemy defenses on Vittorio Veneto.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

It's risky, but we have no choice but to destroy the coastal defenses.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT II

ACT III

FADE IN:

INT. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN COASTAL FORTRESS - DAY

October 31, 1918.

At the Adriatic Coast, THREE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN COMMANDERS are in the Coastal Fortress and explained what happened at Monte Grappa Sector.

ARCHDUKE JOSEPH AUGUST

(Speaking in Austrian)

What happened out there?

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

(Speaking in Austrian)

We've lost control of Mount Grappa!

ARCHDUKE JOSEPH AUGUST

(Speaking in Austrian)

Field Marshall Boroevic, sent the reinforcements to defend Adriatic Coast.

SVETOZAR BOROEVIC

Ja.

The Austro-Hungarian Field Marshall Svetozar Boroevic deploys the Austro-Hungarian Soldiers to defend Adriatic Coast, the last sector of Vittorio Veneto.

CUT TO:

EXT. ADRIATIC COAST - DAY

At the Adriatic Coast, General Diaz is sitting on the backseat of the car.

ARMANDO DIAZ

Ben fatto, men. We're one step closer to the end of war. I'll split you up into two groups.

(MORE)

ARMANDO DIAZ (CONT'D)

Major Capo, take your men to Villa Stefano. The rest of you follow Benito's lead at the Stefano Battery. I'll send the naval support to take care of Austro-Hungarian Defenses.

General Diaz drove off.

MAJOR CAPO

You heard him, Giovanni. You and Guerra follow Benito's lead. Dominick and Cattaneo, follow me to Villa Stefano.

DOMINICK MONDI

Si, signore!

Major Capo leads his group to Villa Stefano, while Benito leads his group to the Stefano Battery.

GO TO:

EXT. VILLA STEFANO - CONTINUOUS

Major Capo and his soldiers escort the Italian Lancia 1ZM Armored Car to attack the Austro-Hungarians inside the building at Villa Stefano. The Austro-Hungarians were under heavy fire by the Italian Armored Car with two 8 mm machine guns. The Austro-Hungarians aimed at the Italian Forces with their machine gun blazing. Commander Giovanni takes out the Austro-Hungarian Gunner with his sniper.

COMMANDER GIOVANNI

You're clear to go, Major Capo.

MAJOR CAPO

Soldati, follow me inside the building!

GO TO:

INT./EXT. VILLA STEFANO - CONTINUOUS

The Italians infiltrate the Austro-Hungarians.
Both sides were either killed or wounded by gunfire.

One of the Austro-Hungarian Soldiers is about to use the bayonet charge at Major Capo, but he killed the soldier with his pistol just in time. Dominick Mondì threw the grenade at the Austro-Hungarian Soldiers. The grenade explosion killed Austro-Hungarians inside the building. Dominick Mondì spots Benito and his men fighting the Austro-Hungarians on the other side of Hill 201.

DOMINICK MONDI

Major Capo, look over there!

Major Capo looked outside of the window.

MAJOR CAPO

It's Benito! He's fighting against the Austro-Hungarians with his soldiers!

BENITO MUSSOLINI

(Calls out)

Major Capo! We need explosives right now!

MAJOR CAPO

Captain Cattaneo, give the explosives to Benito and his men.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Si, signore!

Captain Cattaneo went outside to give the explosives to Benito and his soldiers.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO (CONT'D)

Here are the explosives that we have, Benito.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Eccellente, Captain Cattaneo! Now we can destroy the fortress gun.

Captain Cattaneo rejoined with Major Capo and his soldiers.

MAJOR CAPO

Benito let's finish this!

BENITO MUSSOLINI (CONT'D)

Plant the explosives inside the
fortress.

The Italians placed the explosives inside the fortress until the
Austro-Hungarian Reinforcements arrive to stop them.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

Benito! They brought
reinforcements!

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT III

ACT IV

FADE IN:

INT. VILLA STEFANO - CONTINUOUS

The Austro-Hungarian Soldiers OPEN FIRE at the Italian Soldiers to protect the fortress gun at all costs.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

They're sending reinforcements to guard inside the fortress.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Open fire!

Benito and the Italians FIRED BACK at them. Both sides suffer casualties inside the fortress.

CAPTAIN CATTANEO

The fortress is secured, Benito.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Destroy the fortress gun.

Captain Cattaneo plants the explosives inside the fortress gun. The Italians left before the fortress gun explodes.

CUT TO:

EXT. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN COASTAL FORTRESS - DAY

The Austro-Hungarians witnessed the EXPLOSION of the fortress gun.

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

(Speaking in Austrian)

What is going on out there?

ARCHDUKE JOSEPH AUGUST

(Speaking in Austrian)

Our coastal guns are out of action, Field Marshall!

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

(Speaking in Austrian)

*Hold the Italians off! They must
not allow us to reach our line!*

SVETOZAR BOROEVIC

Ja.

The Austro-Hungarians fortified their position to prevent the Italians from crossing the bridge until the Italians brought a naval support to cut off their escape.

SFX: NAVAL GUNS FIRING SOUND

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

(Shouting in Austrian)

Take cover!

The Italians Warships open fire at the Austro-Hungarians' last defense. The Austro-Hungarians FIRE at the Italian Warships with their remaining fortress guns. Meanwhile, the Italian Ground Forces reached their final objective to take down the Austro-Hungarians. They successfully crossed the bridge on foot. The Italians weakened the Austro-Hungarians' defense, allowing the Austro-Hungarians to surrender.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

(Speaking in Italian)

*It's over, Field Marshall! You've
lost! Italy is ours!*

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

Corporal Mussolini! How did you
get here so fast?

MAJOR CAPO

Your occupation of Italy has
ended, Alexander! Surrender your
arms! There's nowhere left for you
to run!

The Austro-Hungarian Generals have their hands up as well as the Austro-Hungarian Soldiers.

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

Ok, we give up.

ARCHDUKE JOSEPH AUGUST

(stammering)

Please, don't shoot! I'll give you
what you want!

Major Capo and his soldiers surround the Austro-Hungarians
inside the coastal fortress.

MAJOR CAPO

Take them to the prison camp.

DOMINICK MONDI

Si, signore!

SVETOZAR BOROEVIC

(stammering)

No, please, don't! Anything but
the prison camp!

MAJOR CAPO

Your ruler, Franz Ferdinand, was
assassinated before the war
started.

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

(scoffs)

Assassinated? But we were loyal to
him until you got here!

MAJOR CAPO

No, you see, Alexander, before
August served as the Austro-
Hungarian Ruler, Gavrilo Princip
shot him and his wife, Sophie.
Which is the right thing to do.

JOSEPH AUGUST

That's a lie, Major Capo! Princip was guilty of his crimes against us!

ALEXANDER VON KROBATIN

He wasn't inside the fortress that you blew up. He died at Terezin Fortress.

MAJOR CAPO

What do mean?

JOSEPH AUGUST

Princip's justice is served.

MAJOR CAPO

And that's why the Serbians won their very first battle in Europe and we did the same thing for the Italian Front against you.

SVETOZAR BOROEVIC

But we took control on the Eastern Front against the Russians before the Age of Soviet Union begins. Tsar Nicholas II's reign ended with execution along with his family and the Russian Monarchy is abolished.

DOMINICK MONDI

Before you go, I want you to sign the peace treaty with us.

And the Austro-Hungarians did. They signed the Armistice of Villa Giusti with the Italians.

MAJOR CAPO

Take them away!

DOMINICK MONDI

Come on, you three. You're coming with us!

The Italians took the Austro-Hungarians away from the coastal fortress.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT IV

ACT V

FADE IN:

EXT. VILLA STEFANO - DAY

November 4, 1918.

The Austro-Hungarians laid down their weapons, and the two Italian Generals shake their hands.

ARMANDO DIAZ

Congratulations on your final
victory, Major Capo.

MAJOR CAPO

Don't thank me. Corporal Mussolini
was the only soldier who wanted to
free our people.

Corporal Mussolini salutes General Diaz.

ARMANDO DIAZ

I'm very pleased to hear about
your actions in Vittorio Veneto.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Grazie, General Diaz. I couldn't
have done it without Major Capo
and his forces.

DOMINICK MONDI

Is the war over?

ARMANDO DIAZ

The Germans are still fighting
against the Allies on the Western
Front.

MAJOR CAPO

What are you going to do with the
Austro-Hungarians?

ARMANDO DIAZ

They're preparing for the Aster
Revolution to separate into two
countries.

BENITO MUSSOLINI

Well then, it's time for a parade
to celebrate our victory.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROME - CONTINUOUS

The People of Rome CELEBRATE the victory with the showers of
confetti as the Italians MARCHED and the band PLAYED the
instruments. The Austro-Hungarian Empire has fallen and the
Italian Fighter Squadron FLY in V-shaped formation from above.

FADE OUT.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MARGARET SACCHI