

1: The British Navy, - www.enganchecubano.com

Napoleonic Wars, series of wars between Napoleonic France and shifting alliances of other European powers that produced a brief French hegemony over most of Europe with the French Revolutionary wars, the Napoleonic Wars comprise a year period of recurrent conflict that concluded only with the Battle of Waterloo and Napoleon's second abdication on June 22,

Russia Sweden against France was formed within months of the collapse of the previous coalition. In July Napoleon formed the Confederation of the Rhine out of the many tiny German states which constituted the Rhineland and most other parts of Germany. Many of the smaller states were amalgamated into larger electorates, duchies and kingdoms to make the governance of non-Prussian Germany a smoother affair. The largest states were Saxony and Bavaria, both of which had their leaders elevated to the status of kings by Napoleon. The more sensible course of action would have been to declare war the previous year and join Austria and Russia. This might have contained Napoleon and prevented the Allied disaster at Austerlitz. As it was, the Russian army, an ally of Prussia, was far away when the declaration of war was made. In September Napoleon launched all French forces east of the Rhine. Some , increasing in number as the campaign went on French went against Prussia and moved with such speed that Napoleon was able to destroy as an effective military force the entire quarter of a million strong Prussian army - which sustained 25, casualties, lost a further , prisoners and 4, artillery pieces, and over , muskets stockpiled in Berlin. In the former battle Napoleon only fought a detachment of the Prussian force. The latter battle involved a single French corps defeating the bulk of the Prussian army. By contrast Prussia had fought for three years in the War of the First Coalition with little achievement. In Berlin, Napoleon issued a series of decrees which, on November 1, brought the Continental System into effect, which aimed to eliminate the threat of the United Kingdom by closing French controlled territory to its trade. That was sufficient to ensure that France was never able to consolidate its control over Europe in peace. However, many in the French government believed that cutting the United Kingdom off from the Continent would end its economic influence over Europe and isolate it. This was what the Continental System was designed to achieve, although it never succeeded in this objective. The next stage of the war involved driving Russian forces out of Poland and creating a new Duchy of Warsaw. A tactical draw at Eylau February forced the Russians to withdraw further north. Napoleon then routed the Russian army at Friedland June Following this defeat, Alexander was forced to make peace with Napoleon at Tilsit July 7, By September, Marshal Brune completed the occupation of Swedish Pomerania allowing the Swedish army, however, to withdraw with all its munitions of war. The eastern part became the Russian Grand Duchy of Finland. Once again, the United Kingdom stood alone. British military activity was limited mostly to the sea. Because of this concentration of effort, the British Royal Navy developed into a powerful force that was just as elite, if not more so, than the well-trained and formidable French infantry. During the time of the Fifth Coalition, the Navy won a succession of victories in the French colonies and another major naval victory at the Battle of Copenhagen September 2, On land, few extensive military endeavours under the name of the Fifth Coalition were attempted. One was the Walcheren Expedition of , a dual effort of the British Army and Royal Navy to relieve Austrian forces of intense French pressure which ended in disaster after the Army commander - John Pitt, 2nd Earl of Chatham - failed to capture the objective, the naval base of French-controlled Antwerp. For the most part of the years of the Fifth Coalition, British land military operations outside of the Peninsular War were restricted to hit-and-run operations. These rapid-attack operations were a sort of exo-territorial guerrilla strikes: Often, when British allies attempted military actions within several dozen miles or so of the sea, the Royal Navy would be present and would land troops and supplies and aid the allied land forces in a concerted operation. Royal Navy ships were even known to provide artillery support against French units should fighting stray near enough to the coastline. However, these operations were limited to the ability and quality of the land forces. The struggle was also carried on in the sphere of economic warfare - the French Continental System vs. Due to military shortages and lack of organisation in French territory there were numerous breaches of the Continental System, as French dominated

states engaged in illicit, although often tolerated, trade with British smugglers. Both sides entered additional conflicts in attempts to enforce their blockade; the British fought the United States in the War of 1812, and the French engaged in the Peninsular War. The Iberian conflict began when Portugal continued trade with the United Kingdom despite French restrictions. When Spain failed to maintain the system the alliance with France came to an end and French troops gradually encroached on its territory until Madrid was occupied. British intervention soon followed. Austria, previously an ally of the French, took the opportunity to attempt to restore its German empire held prior to Austerlitz. Austria achieved a number of initial victories against the thinly spread army of Marshal Davout. The same task had been carried out in the 1800s by 1800, troops and at that time those forces were required to hold a much shorter front. Napoleon had enjoyed easy success in Spain, retaking Madrid, defeating the Spanish and British and driving the main British army from the peninsula. In his absence and the absence of his best marshals Davout remained in the east throughout the war the situation deteriorated, especially when the prodigious British general, Sir Arthur Wellesley, arrived to command British forces. The Polish army captured West Galicia following its earlier success. Napoleon assumed command in the east and bolstered the army there for his counterattack on Austria. Failure by the Austrian commander, Archduke Karl, to follow up on his small victory, meant that Napoleon was able to prepare for a renewed attempt to seize Vienna and in early July he did so. He defeated the Austrians at Wagram, on July 6. It was during this battle that Marshal Bernadotte was stripped of his title and ridiculed by Napoleon in front of other senior officers. Bernadotte was offered the vacant position of Crown Prince of Sweden and took this, thus betraying Napoleon. Later he would actively participate in wars against his former Emperor. In the east only the Tyrolese rebels led by Andreas Hofer continued to fight the French-Bavarian army until being finally demolished in November 1805, while in the west the Peninsular War continued. In the French empire reached its greatest extent. The British and Portuguese were restricted to the area around Lisbon behind their impregnable lines of Torres Vedras. Napoleon married Marie-Louise, an Austrian Archduchess in order to ensure a more stable alliance with Austria and to provide the Emperor with an heir, something his first wife, Josephine, had failed to do. Russia proclaimed a Patriotic War, while Napoleon proclaimed a Second Polish war, but against the expectations of the Poles who supplied almost 100,000 troops for the invasion force he avoided any concessions toward Poland, having in mind further negotiations with Russia. Russia maintained a scorched earth policy of retreat broken only by the Borodino on September 7, when the Russians stood and fought. This was bloody and the Russians were eventually forced to back down, thus opening the road to Moscow. Alexander I refused to capitulate and with no sign of clear victory in sight Napoleon was forced to withdraw from Moscow after the governor, Prince Rastopchin, ordered the city burnt to the ground. So the disastrous Great Retreat began, with 300,000 casualties largely as a result of starvation and the freezing weather conditions, and 100,000 captured. By November only 27,000 fit soldiers were among those who crossed the Berezina River. Napoleon now left his army to return to Paris and prepare a defence of Poland from the advancing Russians. The situation was not as dire as it might at first have seemed – the Russians had lost around 100,000 men and their army was similarly depleted. However they had the advantage of shorter supply lines and were able to replenish their armies with greater speed than the French. The French were forced to retreat out of Spain, over the Pyrenees. Napoleon vowed that he would create a new army as large as that he had sent into Russia and quickly built up his forces in the east from 30,000 to 100,000, and eventually to 200,000. Both battles involved total forces of over 1,000,000 – making them some of the largest conflicts of the wars so far. An armistice was declared from June 4 continuing until August 13 during which time both sides attempted to recover from approximately quarter of a million losses since April. It was during this time that Allied negotiations finally brought Austria out in open opposition to France. Two principal Austrian armies were deployed, adding an additional 100,000 troops to the Allied armies in Germany. In total the Allies now had around 1,000,000 frontline troops in the German theatre with a strategic reserve of 200,000, being formed to support the frontline operations. Napoleon was able to bring the total imperial forces in the region up to around 1,500,000 – although only 500,000 were under his direct command, with another 500,000 under Nicolas Charles Oudinot and 300,000 under Davout. The Confederation of the Rhine furnished Napoleon with the bulk of the remainder of the forces with Saxony and Bavaria as principal contributors. In Spain an additional 100,000 French troops were being steadily beaten back by Spanish and British forces numbering around 100,000. Thus in total around

, French troops were opposed in all theatres by somewhere around a million Allied troops not including the strategic reserve being formed in Germany. The figures are however slightly misleading as most of the German troops fighting on the side of the French were unreliable at best and on the verge of defecting to the Allies. It is reasonable to say that Napoleon could count on no more than , troops in Germany " which meant he was outnumbered by about 2 to 1. Following the end of the armistice Napoleon seemed to have regained the initiative at Dresden where he defeated a numerically superior allied army inflicting enormous casualties while the French army sustained relatively few. However the failures of his Marshals and a slow resumption of the offensive on his part cost him any advantage that this victory might have secured him. At the Battle of Leipzig in Saxony October 16"19, , also called the "Battle of the Nations", , French fought more than , Allies, and the French were defeated and forced to retreat into France. Napoleon then fought a series of battles, including the Battle of Arcis-sur-Aube, in France, but was steadily forced back against overwhelming odds. During this time his Six Days Campaign was fought, in which he won multiple battles against the enemy forces advancing towards Paris. However he never managed to field more than 70, troops during this entire campaign against more than half a million Allied troops. The Allies entered Paris on March 30, Napoleon was determined to fight on, even now, incapable of fathoming his massive fall from power. Napoleon abdicated on April 6. However, occasional military actions continued in Italy, Spain and Holland throughout the spring of The Treaty of Fontainebleau was signed and the Congress of Vienna was held to redraw the map of Europe. Gunboat War Edit Denmark-Norway originally declared itself neutral in the Napoleonic Wars, but engaged in trade that profited from the war and established a navy. After a show of intimidation in the first Battle of Copenhagen in , the British captured large portions of the entire Danish fleet in the Second Battle of Copenhagen in This ended the Danish neutrality, and the Danish engaged in a naval guerilla war in which small gunboats would attack larger British ships in Danish and Norwegian waters. The allies immediately gathered their armies to meet him again. Napoleon raised , men which were divided into several armies. To the 90, troops in the standing army he recalled well over a quarter of a million veterans from past campaigns and issued a decree for the eventual draft of around 2. This was arrayed against an initial Allied force of about , " although Allied campaign plans provided for one million frontline troops supported by around , garrison, logistics and other auxiliary personnel.

2: 9 Ways That Napoleon's Blockade of Britain Undermined His Own Empire

French Revolutionary wars, title given to the hostilities between France and one or more European powers between and it thus comprises the first seven years of the period of warfare that was continued through the Napoleonic Wars until Napoleon's abdication in 1814, with a year of interruption under the peace of Amiens (1802).

Napoleonic Wars, Impact on the U. Economy Issue Gale Encyclopedia of U. It destroyed the French monarchy and established a republic, but it also divided France and threw much of Europe into turmoil. From the chaos of the Revolution, a general, Napoleon Bonaparte emerged to lead the nation, first as a republican magistrate and finally as an emperor. The strife disrupted both French and European trade, and even the economic position of the newly formed United States began to change drastically. As the Napoleonic Wars drained the energies of Britain, France, and the rest of Europe, America was free to develop its own economic potential. From roughly 1793 till the beginning of the War of 1812, the United States went through two economic phases that were linked directly to the political factors associated with the wars in Europe. As a result of the American declaration of neutrality during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, the United States experienced a period of rapid growth in foreign trade. The declaration itself reflected domestic political divisions, since the United States was divided on whom to support. The Federalists tended to favor Britain while the Republicans favored France. As a neutral country the United States could claim unfettered trade with all countries, including Britain and France, and for the most part American ships were welcomed with open arms. American ships carried commodities from all over the world and distributed European manufactures in ports worldwide. As income from the trade boom diffused throughout the economy, the United States experienced dramatic export-led growth. Between 1793 and 1812, U. Moreover, the rate of growth in foreign trade far outstripped that of population. This boom in American export trade reflected heavy European demand for re-exports foreign goods repackaged in American ports, American cotton, used to supply the British textile industry, and American food to meet European shortages. The growth did hit several temporary slumps: After 1802, the United States again experienced another period of rapidly expanding trade. But while scholars agree that the United States experienced increased prosperity during this period, they disagree over the role that export trade played in its growth. Supporters of the position that an export-led economy led to significant increases in U. Critics challenge this position, claiming that the costs associated with neutrality and export-driven expansion have been understated, and the benefits overstated. In addition to all the shipbuilding and freight rates involved in re-exports, critics also argue that the benefits realized by industries such as banking, insurance, and shipbuilding may have been smaller than previously assumed and concentrated only in northeastern ports. At the same time both Britain and France ceased to show much respect for neutral countries or the legitimacy of international laws, and both nations reaped havoc on American shipping interests. In 1805, a British court ruled that goods from the French West Indies bound for Europe on American vessels, even though shipped by way of the United States, were subject to seizure. Meanwhile, Napoleon challenged British policy with the Berlin Decree of 1806 and Milan Decree of 1807, which closed European ports under his control to British goods and declared that neutral ships complying with British trade regulations would be confiscated. The United States was caught in the middle. Jefferson argued that Europeans, especially the British, were more dependent on U. As a result, U. Although trade did recover somewhat in the years following the embargo, it would not reach its former levels until the late 1810s. During the War of 1812, the British blockade of U. The blockade followed a general worsening of American commerce, which had declined by almost one-fifth between 1800 and 1810. The embargo was repealed in March 1812, without achieving its goal of forcing the British to reverse their policies, but it may have been a blessing in disguise. While the unemployment and economic distress especially in U. The nation realized if it were to continue to consume the products to which it had become accustomed during the recent period of heightened prosperity, the best course of action was to produce them itself. In 1813, seven new factories were opened in New England states. The next year twenty-six were chartered, eighteen of which were textile factories. The number increased steadily and accelerated during the War of 1812. The pace, however, slowed down after the war, and many of the mills went bankrupt in the

following years. As a result both industrial labor and capital sought relief from the government through tariffs on imports. Although its influence is more difficult to quantify than foreign trade and export growth, another important and perhaps more significant economic impact of the Napoleonic Wars was the Louisiana Purchase. He suffered a major disaster in the French colony of San Domingo when his troops failed to suppress a slave insurrection there, and realized the Peace of Amiens, the treaty that he had hoped would end the European war, had settled nothing. A renewal of war between France and Britain was inevitable. Because of the sustained economic drain of war, Napoleon needed money. In a wise move, he realized that selling the Louisiana Territory would raise capital for the war and avoid a concerted Anglo-American alliance between Britain and the United States. Goldin, Claudia and Lewis, Frank. *Studies in Income and Wealth*, Princeton University Press, Shephard, James, and Walton, Gary. Cite this article Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography. Retrieved November 14, from Encyclopedia. Then, copy and paste the text into your bibliography or works cited list. Because each style has its own formatting nuances that evolve over time and not all information is available for every reference entry or article, Encyclopedia.

3: Far Distant Ships: The Blockade of Brest, - www.enganchecubano.com

In France, the Napoleonic Wars are generally integrated with the French Revolutionary Wars: Les guerres de la Révolution et de l'Empire. [49] German historiography may count the War of the Second Coalition (1805), during which Napoleon seized power, as the Erster Napoleonischer Krieg ("First Napoleonic War").

Merchants from the French Empire and its dependencies were no longer allowed to trade with Britain, and French fleets would prevent others from doing so. Without commerce, it would be difficult for the British to finance and supply the fleets and armies that made them such a formidable military power. Meanwhile, a French continental trade network would take their place. This was particularly important following the British victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. The British had shown they were a force to fear. If Napoleon was to continue dominating Europe, he needed to coerce them to make peace. British Determination One of the reasons why the blockade began was also a reason why it failed. The British were determined to uphold their position of global dominance, and would not negotiate with Napoleon. British governments under Portland and Pitt refused to come to the table, digging in their heels to fight against an infringement upon British liberties. At Copenhagen, the British bombarded the city and seized the Danish fleet, depriving Napoleon of the opportunity to add it to his own naval power. It was an appalling attack in which thousands of civilians died. It was also enormously successful. The British reinforced their domination of the seas and stopped Napoleon expanding his naval power. British Diplomatic Pressure Britain applied diplomatic pressure, pushing friendly countries to ignore and break the blockade. It became a polarizing issue, pushing neutral countries closer to an anti-French stance. Hard to Enforce The blockade proved incredibly difficult to enforce. It was one thing for Napoleon to say no-one was allowed to trade with Britain. It was quite another to make that happen. Theoretically, France controlled vast swathes of Europe and its coastlines in 1805. Much of the continent was controlled by France either directly or indirectly. Some countries were friendly. Others too afraid to defy the French Emperor openly. France had a massive army with which to enforce its will, but to control on a local level was another matter. The army was active on campaigns, and so could not be used to police the coastlines effectively. What states said they would do and what they did, not necessarily matched. At sea, the dominance of the Royal Navy meant the British repeatedly undermined the intent of the blockade. Shortages and Price Rises Once the embargo was in place, shortages and price increases hit France and the countries under her control. How much this was caused by the blockade is debatable. It did not help in obtaining certain goods, but other factors were also at play. War, weather and the upheavals of post-revolutionary society all played a part. At the very least, the blockade exacerbated existing problems. Whether or not it caused the shortages, people believed it did. Destroying Maritime Industries Worst hit were the coastal industries particularly those dealing with traded products, such as tobacco and sugar processing. There were also the industries that supported trade, such as shipbuilding and rope-making. The British were effectively blockading France making it harder for them to trade anywhere. They also stopped French shipping from making the most of the opportunities that remained. The misery spread to major ports in occupied and allied European cities such as Hamburg. A policy meant to challenge British domination of the seas instead reinforced it. A French Policy for the French The deepest flaw in the blockade was that it contained a double standard. All the nations of Napoleonic Europe were meant to uphold the embargo, but it protected French interests above those of allies and satellite states. In the economic theories of the time, this made sense. Mercantilism was all about protecting home interests to build a stronger economy. Politically it was trouble. It stirred resentment against France across Europe. People who might previously have seen Napoleon as an enlightened figure bringing them liberal reforms now saw him as an invader protecting his country at their expense. It fuelled resentment and resistance against imperial France. Merchants Undermining the System Inevitably, traders sought ways to undermine the system. In France and its occupied territories, they saw their interests threatened. They turned to smugglers, intermediaries, and other methods to continue trading through the blockade. It was weakened not just by the limits of government authority but by those who sought to work around that authority. The deeply divided Spanish Court was on the verge of ending its alliance with France. It

could not be relied upon to enforce the blockade. Portugal too was a major outlet for British goods. In October , Napoleon invaded Spain and put his brother on the throne before moving on to invade Portugal. This triggered the war that would be his undoing. The French would never find peace in Spain. Spanish irregulars fought a bitter campaign of resistance against them, coining the term guerrilla. The British landed in Portugal, freeing it in . Together with the Portuguese and Spanish, they forced the French back across the Iberian Peninsula before invading France itself. Like so much about the continental blockade, it was utterly self-defeating. Geoffrey Ellis , *The Napoleonic Empire*. Alan Forrest , *Napoleon*.

4: Milestones: " - Office of the Historian

The strategic importance of the blockade was cemented during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, during which successful blockades on France were imposed by the Royal Navy, leading to major economic disruptions.

The conflict was not precipitated by actions of the European monarchies seeking to limit the extent of Revolutionary influence, but by the Revolutionary government wishing to divert attention emanating from domestic political, economic, and social crises by creating a foreign crisis. This act inaugurated twenty-three years of war between Revolutionary, and later Napoleonic, France and the rest of Europe. An invasion of Belgium in April, however, met with disastrous results. The defeat in Belgium, followed by the Prussian offensive, led to increased radicalization of the revolution and the overthrow of the monarchy on 10 August, and the founding of the French Republic. The battle was short, halted by Brunswick before a general advance was made. With his supply lines over-extended and the French determined to stand, Brunswick withdrew to the frontier. The French invaded Belgium once more, decisively defeating the Austrians at Jemappes on 6 November. By the opening of French armies had made significant territorial gains. The reluctant performance of Prussia following Valmy, and the apparent weakness of Austria, encouraged the republican government to expand its objectives. War was declared upon Great Britain and Holland on 1 February. Not wanting to be restrained by resources or economy, the revolutionaries made war on Spain on 7 March, after King Charles IV refused to entertain a French alliance. French military exploits began to erode by the spring of 1794. At Neerwinden in mid-March the French were again defeated. A Prussian army besieged Mainz the following month, and the Spanish crossed the Pyrenees into Roussillon by the summer. The Italian front, opened in by a French invasion of Piedmont, was stalemated. Compound crises led to the emergence of the Committee of Public Safety as the guardian of the Revolution. Although presented the coalition with the greatest opportunity to defeat France, it lacked coordination. Political interests and differences among the allies prevented them from pressing advantages in Belgium and southern France. French victories in Belgium at Hondschoote and Wattignies turned the tide in the north. A Prussian victory at Kaiserslautern stalled French efforts on the Lower Rhine, but there was substantial success against the Austrian and imperial forces on the Upper Rhine by the end of the year. Perhaps the most important aspect of the French war effort in was the appointment of Lazare Carnot, former captain of engineers and current member of the Committee of Public Safety, as minister of war. France now had a singular military authority who established a clear grand strategy. He continued the main effort in Belgium and along the Rhine, while holding the Alps and containing the Spanish in Perpignan. The war turned in with French offensives on virtually every front. This was followed by an invasion of Holland in the autumn. Spanish forces already overstretched were forced back over the Pyrenees and assumed a defensive posture as the French crossed into Catalonia. The rebellious cities of Lyon, Marseille, and Toulon fell to republican armies. It was in the siege of the latter city that a young captain of artillery, Napoleon Bonaparte, first made his mark. French victory was as much a result of the collapsing coalition as it was a consequence of the increasing size and experience of French armies. Prussia opened secret negotiations with the republic toward the end of 1794. On 5 April Prussia acceded to the first Treaty of Basel, concluding Prussian participation in the coalition. In short, within a year of the end of the Terror, Belgium, Holland, and Germany west of the Rhine were solidly under French occupation. Only the Upper Rhine and Italian front remained active, and Carnot could dedicate substantial forces to those theaters. The War of the First Coalition culminated in Italy in 1797. General Napoleon Bonaparte took command of the small, ill-equipped, but highly experienced French Army of Italy at the end of February. Outnumbered more than two to one by Austro-Piedmontese forces, Bonaparte broke across the Alps from Genoa, dividing the Piedmontese from the Austrians. Defeating the former at Montenotte and Dego in mid-April, he pressed on to Turin, where the Piedmontese signed an armistice at Cherasco on 28 April. Austrian attempts to push Bonaparte out of Italy through the autumn of 1797 met with defeat. In 1798 Bonaparte invaded Austria from Italy. With his army less than 100 kilometers miles from Vienna, Austria signed an armistice at Leoben in April, later formalized by the Treaty of Campo Formio in October. The War of the Second Coalition " succeeded in undoing much of what

Bonaparte had done. Austrian and Russian armies overran the French in northern Italy, while the English and Russians landed expeditionary forces in Holland. The French responded by expanding the conflict, sending expeditions to Ireland and Egypt to strike at the British. Bonaparte commanded the Egyptian expedition, defeating the Mamluks at the Battle of the Pyramids in July. Failing to take the city, he returned to Egypt in June. The following month he returned to France to participate in a coup against the government. Fortunately for Napoleon, arguments among the coalition resulted in the withdrawal of Russian troops from central Europe. Its heavy-handed policies seeking to suppress overseas commerce with France led to the formation of the League of Armed Neutrality, sponsored by Tsar Paul I of Russia and included Prussia, Sweden, and Denmark. Bonaparte exacted further pressure as Spain made common cause against Portugal, a British ally. He reaffirmed the Franco-Spanish alliance initially established at San Ildefonso in negotiations, stalled through, now moved with earnest as Britain sought to extricate itself. The Treaty of Amiens was concluded in March effectively ending the wars of the French Revolution. Amiens was the product of British exigency. Few in Parliament were confident that Bonaparte would honor his agreements. Distrust between the signatories was apparent before the ink had time to dry. Within six months of the agreement war between England and France appeared imminent, and in May it broke from London. Spain joined France in January. The specter of a French invasion of England returned, and William Pitt, the Younger, the British prime minister, attempted to cultivate a Continental alliance against France, but was initially unsuccessful. Tsar Alexander I proposed an alliance to Austria and Prussia. On 9 August the Third Coalition was established by treaty. Sweden and Naples joined officially in October and November respectively. The war began with an Austrian invasion of Bavaria, a French ally. Another army in Italy squared off against an Austrian army under the Archduke Charles. In a dramatic and decisive maneuver, Napoleon surrounded and defeated the Austrian army in Germany at Ulm, while his forces in Italy fought Charles to a draw. The naval victory saved only England, as Napoleon invaded Austria in November and seized Vienna three weeks later. On 2 December he won his greatest victory, over the Russo-Austrian army at Austerlitz. His Kingdom of Italy was enlarged and his control of the Italian peninsula was completed with an invasion of Naples in February. Prussia concluded a treaty of friendship with France in return for Hanover. In Napoleon restructured Europe, consolidating his gains of. During the summer of, the Holy Roman Empire was abolished and much of Germany reconfigured into the Confederation of the Rhine, with Napoleon as its protector. In the process, Napoleon offered Hanover to England in return for peace. Prussia was made aware of this by England and declared war on France in October. The campaign against Prussia was incredibly brief. On 14 October the Prussian army was destroyed in two battles at Jena and Auerstedt. Napoleon moved into Poland and on 8 February won a Pyrrhic victory at Eylau. In the late spring Napoleon attacked the Russians and defeated them on 14 June at Friedland. His victory led to direct negotiations with Alexander at Tilsit, and the meeting of the two emperors in July led to an alliance. During the course of to, Napoleon issued the Milan and Berlin decrees. They established a Continental blockade of English goods from Portugal to Russia. Concomitant with his desire to block English markets, Napoleon directed an invasion of Portugal. French victory was ultimately shattered by the deployment of a British expeditionary force under General Arthur Wellesley, later the Duke of Wellington. The war in Spain became problematic for Napoleon. Although British military support was insignificant at this time, there was growing resistance from Spanish regulars and guerrillas. French troops became bogged down and even met local defeat at the hands of the Spanish. Napoleon led a second invasion in October to secure Spain. The French emperor remained in Madrid until January when he returned to Paris to meet a potential threat from Austria. He was directed to strike into Germany and Italy, to reestablish the status quo ante circa. A reluctant Charles obeyed and in April launched an offensive into Bavaria, while his younger brother John invaded Italy. Charles then retreated into Bohemia while Napoleon advanced upon Vienna. In Italy, John was initially successful, but driven back in May. Napoleon, however, called his dispersed corps to Vienna, and effected another crossing in early July. This time Napoleon defeated Charles and within two weeks elicited his surrender. He determined to bring Russia directly under his control and began preparations for a massive invasion of Russia. Drawing on the resources of Europe, Napoleon assembled an army of approximately five hundred thousand men, half French, the remainder from his allied and satellite armies. In June Napoleon invaded Russia. The Russians

were forced from the field and retreated east of the city. Napoleon established his headquarters there, but Alexander refused to negotiate. With winter approaching, and no conclusion to the conflict in sight, Napoleon withdrew from Moscow at the end of October. Alexander and his army shadowed Napoleon, only occasionally chancing military engagement.

5: British Royal Navy : Nelson : Napoleonic Wars : French & Spanish : Trafalgar

The Napoleonic Wars at sea Posted on January 7, by MSW An action during the British fleet's blockade of the French port of Toulon between and , depicted by Thomas Luny.

Napoleon Bonaparte In , Napoleon issued the Berlin Decree, which forbade trade with Britain, and the British Government responded the next year with Orders in Council, which instituted a blockade of French-controlled Europe, and authorized the British navy to seize ships violating the blockade. Napoleon responded with further trade restrictions in the Milan Decree of . On June 22, , the H. Leopard bombarded and forcibly boarded the U. Chesapeake off Norfolk, Virginia in search of British navy deserters. President Jefferson responded with an embargo on all foreign trade in an effort to weaken the British economy. The embargo was extremely unpopular in New England, where the economy was heavily dependent on trade with Britain. Moreover, the British economy was not strongly affected by the embargo, which proved difficult to enforce. In early , in one of his final acts as president, Jefferson replaced the embargo with the Non-Intercourse Act, which allowed trade with other nations except Britain and France. This act also proved virtually impossible to enforce. Napoleon was the first to offer concessions, which Madison publicly accepted at face value despite his private skepticism. In doing so, Madison pushed the United States closer to war with Britain. During this period, Madison also had to address a problem created by Secretary of State, Robert Smith , who had personally stated to the British minister his pro-British sympathies. When Madison confronted Smith and offered him a graceful departure as U. Minister to Russia, Smith appeared to accept his offer, and then leaked cabinet papers as part of a smear campaign against President Madison. Relations with Great Britain continued to deteriorate. Consequently, Thomas Foster, British Minister to the United States, stated that Britain would not offer any compensation for the Chesapeake incident. By the spring of , Madison had decided upon war with Great Britain although he also considered declaring war on France as well. Congress passed a declaration of war on June 17, which Madison signed the next day. The war continued into , although diplomats signed the Treaty of Ghent on December 23, . The Napoleonic Wars marked a period of U. However, in the postwar period, British policies began to soften, leading to the Rush-Bagot agreement and the Convention of

6: French Revolutionary Wars and Napoleonic Wars | www.enganchecubano.com

The Napoleonic Wars represent a turning point in European affairs and a major break with the past. The starting point for the Napoleonic Wars is usually considered the signing of the Peace of Amiens between France and Britain in 1802, while the end point is set in the wake of Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo in 1815.

The ensuing violence and international involvement triggered more than two decades of nearly continuous warfare as various competing empires sought to reimpose their own views of balanced power. So many related military campaigns were fought over such large areas by so many different factions, that this era has wryly been called the first true world war. The Revolution and ensuing republic saw the toppling of the old French monarchy and its replacement by a series of sporadically violent civilian administrations. At the peak of the violent period, known as "The Terror," the former king and queen were cruelly put to death. The events which followed were typical in the history of revolutions; an army general seized control of the government. This general however, named Napoleon Bonaparte, was of unusual intelligence and charisma, and he had seized control of what today would be called a superpower. Napoleon himself was not of a disposition to resist playing the same power games as those around him, and so not until did the wars end with the battle of Waterloo and the return of a monarch to Paris. They were met at Valmy by a hybrid force of French regular army troops and revolutionary volunteers. The day was won for the French by their regular army artillerymen who effectively cannonaded the invading troops to a bloody halt. This was followed by gains in the Netherlands, where other French forces pushed back the Austrian army at the Battle of Jemappes. In January 1793, the revolutionary government in Paris issued the infamous orders to execute King Louis and Marie-Antoinette. This act fundamentally changed the nature of the greater conflict by raising the stakes against the other monarchs of Europe to intolerable levels. Great Britain especially was transformed at a stroke from a concerned meddler if was they who helped destabilize the French monarchy to begin with into an implacable foe of the revolution and anyone associated with it. France however, became paralyzed yet again by terror and open revolt and new Allied armies soon made gains on all fronts. They were only repulsed when a national levee en masse gradually allowed the gutted French command corps to stabilize the situation. But in Italy, 26 year old General Napoleon Buonaparte, a relatively young artillery school graduate, expelled the combined Austrian armies from Northern Italy in a lightning campaign. With a generous defensive buffer now protecting France, both the latest administration in Paris and General Bonaparte now cast their eyes outward toward the Middle East. The resulting Egyptian campaign was a strategic failure. Neither its goal of threatening British interests further east nor of establishing a permanent French colony ever materialized. By the end of 1801, half of the earlier French territorial gains had been lost, although the Russian offensive ground to a halt soon after due to internal problems. Previously, armies had rarely used formations larger than brigades and divisions, many of which were maintained only for the duration of a war. The new French corps were permanent formations with semi-permanent commanders. The benefits of this system were many; members of each corps could identify with their formation, raising morale in the process; also, a corps contained its own combined arms formations, allowing greater flexibility in combat. When it became obvious that the Egyptian campaign was stalled, Napoleon and some of his staff returned to France, where the latest civilian administration was tottering on the verge of collapse. The ensuing seizure of power by Napoleon and his political allies effectively brought the French Revolution to an end. By the end of 1804, French generals Moreau, Brune and Macdonald were repeating the earlier drive east through southern Germany and so finally the Austrian government sued for peace, officially bringing the French Revolutionary Wars to a close in early 1806. During this time, Great Britain remained openly hostile to any non-monarchical French government and for all but 14 months of that time, the Royal Navy maintained a tight commercial blockade of the continent. In 1801, British Admiral Horatio Nelson took matters into his own hands and attacked the Danish fleet in their own anchorage at Copenhagen. The Russian fleet probably would have been next had not the anti-British Tsar been killed and replaced by his son, who quickly came to an agreement with England. While Great Britain maintained every sort of pressure on France and any country who traded with her, France in turn planned an invasion of

England. Numerous newly formed French army corps were stationed in an enormous series of training camps along the English Channel. The invasion plans were finally brought to a close however, when Austria and Russia again declared war and invaded southern Germany. Thus outmaneuvered, the Austrian commander, General Karl Mack, surrendered his entire force. With their strategic center breached, the Austrians were unable to prevent the French occupation of Vienna, and in December of the remaining Allied army catastrophically lost the Battle of Austerlitz to Napoleon, knocking Austria out of the wars for several years. The French and British flagships at the Battle of Trafalgar: The Prussians had payed little attention to the previous decade of French strategic and tactical behavior, and so they also quickly fell, being decisively beaten at the twin battles of Jena and Auerstadt that October. After bloodily halting the French Army at the winter battle of Eylau, the Russians lost nearly their whole field army at the Battle of Friedland later that summer. This eventually led to the Treaty of Tilsit, which placed both Russia and Prussia out of the conflict for several years to come. Portugal had long been an ally of Great Britain, triggering repeated French and Spanish attempts to reduce the resulting British influence on the continent. The upcoming armed intervention in Iberia was but the latest in a long series of French affairs in the region. In March, , another large French army entered Spain, this time bound for Madrid. While Wellesley and his superiors returned to London to explain their actions, peninsular command devolved to Sir John Moore, who promptly invaded Spain. He was unfortunately denied vital support promised by his new Spanish allies, and faced by the main French army under Napoleon, Moore was forced into a long retreat to the Atlantic coast. He held his force together long enough to rendezvous with the Royal Navy at Corunna, but was killed during the final fighting. Wellington returned to Portugal and in May, , defeated French Marshal Soult, who had been left in overall military command of French forces in Spain. In central Europe, the Austrian war council had again decided the time was ripe to resume hostilities with France. The resulting campaign began with a surprise attack into Bavaria with the main Austrian Army under Archduke Charles. The Archduke moved too slowly to take advantage of the temporary French disorder, and so with the aid of veteran officers such as Davout and Macdonald, Napoleon was able to counter the various Austrian incursions with a newly raised force of French recruits. By May the French had pushed all the way back into Vienna for the second time in five years. The peace which followed was not satisfactory to the French Army, who felt that Napoleon had let the Austrians "off the hook" by agreeing to relatively forgiving peace terms. Napoleon however, was increasingly aware of the negative effects of the ongoing warfare which threatened stability at home and he hoped to encourage Austrian neutrality by preventing the sort of resentment which usually accompanied severe war reparations. Through the rest of and , the only land action was in Spain, where the French and English engaged in a two year sparring match with little to show for the French efforts to pacify the situation. By the beginning of , Wellington had developed a base from which to operate and took the offensive. These events were to be eclipsed by the coming Russian campaign which would be second in fame only to Waterloo. Economically powerful Great Britain eventually prevailed, and when Russia was successfully pressured into withdrawing from the Continental System, France was again virtually in the same position as it had been during the Revolution. If Russia were to successfully pull out, Britain would again be able to browbeat the other nations of Europe into taking part in the economic strangulation of France. The invasion of Russia itself was not obviously the foolhardy expedition it might have seemed. In the past, the Russians had been in the habit of giving up as soon as they lost a major field army. And since all their existing commanders had been personally beaten several times by Napoleon, it was expected that with extra men and planning, the same would occur again. The invasion officially began with the crossing of the Niemen River on June 24, . By the time the invading army fought its first major battle at Smolensk, it had shrunk by half due to detachments, death and desertion. When the Russians finally gave battle at Borodino in September, the French, including Napoleon himself, were no longer the idealistic battle hungry men who had begun the year. The battle itself was tactically unimaginative, with the French battering themselves against the Russian defenses and the Russians obligingly taking the punishment without much attempt to maneuver for position. After the bloody stalemate at Borodino, the Russians evacuated Moscow, allowing it to fall into French hands. When the French actually entered the city, groups of Russians torched every building they could reach, ironically forcing French troops

to fight to save the Russian city from its own men. Napoleon remained in Moscow in the belief that an armistice would soon be offered, but none was forthcoming, and after a month of waiting he realized that the situation had become serious. If he remained in Moscow for the winter, the political climate back in France could destabilize. If he withdrew, it would be seen as a defeat, which could result in the economic strangulation of France and the ultimate return of a monarchy. The only choice was to try to move closer to France without actually abandoning the campaign. This required that the army move as soon as possible back into western Russia, Poland and East Prussia, where there were large, well stocked French depots to support his men through the winter. The retreat from Russia: Some people were joyfully carrying enormous amounts of loot, but the more experienced men were already worried. They knew how long it would take to walk back to Poland, and there simply was not enough time to escape the coming cold. Many people could be seen carrying unusually heavy coats and furs in their baggage. After fighting a fierce battle at Maloyaroslavets, the French were forced back down the path they had marched in, further denying them the luxury of moving through unforaged lands. In the five weeks it took them to rendezvous with fresh troops east of Borisov, increasingly severe cold and privation turned half the main army into a mass of fugitives. The Berezina River crossing which followed was a catastrophe, killing half of the remaining 60,000 troops. Half of those 30,000 survivors died in the following week as temperatures plunged. By the time a few thousand remaining men abandoned their wagons and artillery at the base of an icy hill west of Vilna, the army ceased to be. Survivors of the various contingents simply deserted and walked home or wandered to the closest friendly depots. Not only had thousands of long time veterans died, but top grade horses seized from Prussia and Austria during the previous campaigns had also died, never to be replaced. Except for units tied down in Spain and Italy, the French army of was composed mostly of green, untrained youth formed into provisional infantry units. Very little in the way of cavalry was available to take advantage of continuing allied mistakes. Ironically, the cultural tables were now turned against the French. During the Revolution, it had been the French who were supposedly fighting the monolithic "system" for the good of citizens. The campaign in Germany would accordingly develop nearly religious overtones as eager German volunteers flocked to Prussian service. Austria especially had not suffered a truly significant military defeat in eight years, and her relatively intact armies were to form the backbone of the and campaigns. Despite victories at the battles of Lutzen, Bautzen and Dresden, the French Army suffered a crushing defeat at the huge three day Battle of Leipzig in October. By allied armies were advancing into France from every direction and despite continuing French resistance, Paris was surrendered on March 31, 1814. A few days later Napoleon surrendered unconditionally, and was "given" the island of Elba in the Mediterranean on which to live out his days. By the Spring of 1815, Napoleon had already become restless living in exile far from events. Finally giving in to his urges, he returned to southern France and with his Elba bodyguard, marched toward Paris, drawing most of the army to his side as he approached. Allied countries immediately declared the Seventh Coalition against France and mobilized for war. Napoleon decided to administer a quick and decisive blow by moving against the Anglo-German armies then in Belgium and Holland under the commands of Generals Wellington and Blucher. The campaign did not go according to plan however, and climaxed at the Battle of Waterloo, during which the French Army virtually disintegrated after being improperly employed in a manner disturbingly reminiscent of Borodino. This victory was to be the last required of the allied coalition, and Napoleon was sent to his final exile on the South Atlantic Island of Saint Helena, where he died in 1821. The last stand of the Guard at Waterloo: After 1815, the Allied victors continued to paint Napoleon as "The Monster" even though the wars had already been in full swing when he came on the scene, and despite their own attacks on countries large and small. Napoleon and his indomitable ego certainly lengthened the wars, and like most other leaders of that era, his actions caused the unnecessary deaths of thousands.

7: The Napoleonic Wars at sea | Weapons and Warfare

Some caveats and reservations about the Napoleonic blockade paper on the infant industry argument that's making waves. My caveat: protection persisted for decades after the blockade and may have helped keep the French cotton industry backward relative to Britain.

The Napoleonic Wars were massive in their geographic scope, ranging, as far as Britain was concerned, over all of the five continents. They were massive, too, in terms of expense. From the Battle of Waterloo in June 1815 to the Battle of Austerlitz in 1806, the wars cost the French over 100 million francs. The defeat of Austria, 1806. Though Bonaparte had to embark on the campaigns of 1805 with inadequate forces and funds, the weaknesses of allied strategy went far to offset the disadvantages under which he laboured. Austria had decided on an equal division of its strength by maintaining armies of approximately 100,000 men in both the German and Italian theatres. When in June 1805 these two forces were diverted to cooperate with the Austrians they arrived off the Italian coast too late to be of use. Nevertheless, Bonaparte was busy with the creation of an army of reserve which was to be concentrated around Dijon and was destined to act under his command in Italy. Bonaparte had hoped that Moreau would mass the Army of the Rhine in Switzerland and cross the river at Schaffhausen to turn the Austrian left in strength and obtain a decisive victory before dispatching some of his army to join the force descending on the rear of the Austrians in Italy. Moreau, however, preferred to cross the Rhine at intervals over a distance of 60 miles approximately 100 km and to encounter the Austrians before concentrating his own forces. An ill-provisioned force of 35,000 men and 40 cannons began transiting the Great Saint Bernard Pass on the night of May 14-15 and completed it on May 15. Bonaparte had had to yield ground, but French general Louis Desaix, responding to a hurried summons, returned to assault the Austrian vanguard with 6,000 men and 6 or 8 cannon. On June 15, 1806, Melas concluded a capitulation: In exchange, the Austrians received free passage of their troops to Mantua. Malta, which Bonaparte had offered to the Russian emperor Paul three months earlier, fell to the British in September. After a further reverse at Messkirch, the Austrians withdrew, reaching Ulm on May 20. Having lost his advantage in numbers through the dispatch of the contingent to Italy, Moreau rejected a direct attack on the strong positions at Ulm in favour of a turning movement on the right. Victor Moreau, lithograph, c. 1806. Moreau withdrew to muster his dispersed forces to meet an attempt to outflank him, and in the Battle of Hohenlinden December 3, 1806 the mobility of the French enabled him to rout the Austrian columns, which lost 14,000 men and 80 cannon. Many thousands more were taken prisoner in a vigorous pursuit. By the armistice of Steyr December 25 the Austrians agreed to negotiate for peace without Great Britain. In Italy the French, in contravention of the armistice, had occupied Tuscany in October on the grounds of British activity at Livorno. Brune then moved against the outnumbered Austrians late in December. Having abandoned the Adige January 1, and the Brenta January 11, the Austrians were ready to sign the armistice of Treviso January 17. For the most part it repeated the Treaty of Campo Formio. The French frontier was to be advanced to the Rhine, with the proviso that the rulers thus dispossessed should be compensated from ecclesiastical territory in Germany. Compensation was also to be found for the Habsburg grand duke Ferdinand III of Tuscany, who was also to be dispossessed. Joachim Murat, lithograph, c. 1806. The Armistice of Foligno February 18, 1806, which forced the Neapolitans to evacuate the Papal States, was followed by the Peace of Florence March 28, 1806, whereby Naples lost little territory but undertook to exclude British and Turkish trade. Great Britain, France, and the neutrals, 1806. The British, in pursuit of their primarily maritime, colonial, and commercial interests in the wars, claimed to have been serving the common cause and had moreover applied their profits to subsidizing the Continental armies, but they had adopted means that offended neutral states and former allies alike. Through their blockade, the British could virtually dictate the terms of European sea trade. Iron, hemp, timber, pitch, and corn maize were at all times to be regarded as contraband of war, and neutral ships were liable to search even when under convoy. Paul, detail of a portrait attributed to J. Merriweather Post, Hillwood, Washington, D. Courtesy of Hillwood, Washington, D. Germany and the Baltic States had witnessed much of the expansion of British trade during the previous decade of war, British exports to Bremen and Hamburg having risen percent between 1800 and 1806. Furthermore, the Baltic States and Germany also supplied most of the materials for British shipbuilding

and were the main source of the imports of grain, supplying 56 percent of British consumption. As the harvests of and were poor, the interruption in shipments was soon felt in a bread shortage. The assassination of the emperor Paul March removed the chief author of the League at a moment when its members had to reckon with British reprisals. On April 2 Horatio Nelson led a vanguard of 12 ships of the line and frigates into Copenhagen harbour. Shore batteries opened fire but, despite orders to retire and the grounding of three of his ships, Nelson continued the Battle of Copenhagen until he had overcome the stubborn resistance of the vessels and hulks anchored there. The Danes agreed to an armistice and made peace on May Sweden had already done so on May 18, and an Anglo-Russian convention followed on June The new Russian emperor, Alexander I, moreover gave up the demand for Malta. Abercromby, Ralph Sir Ralph Abercromby. The price of wheat had risen to shillings per quarter by March 1, It fell to shillings in June and to 75 shillings in December. William Pitt, whose place as prime minister had been taken by Henry Addington, approved of this overture not so much because of the collapse of Austria as because of the danger presented by the League of Armed Neutrality. The preliminaries having been concluded on October 1, the Treaty of Amiens was signed on March 27, Notwithstanding their reverses overseas, the French recovered all their colonies. The British undertook to leave Malta within three months. The island was to be handed back to the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, with its neutrality guaranteed by the powers. Redispositions in Europe Representatives of the Cisalpine Republic, summoned to Lyons at the end of to remodel their constitution, invited Bonaparte in January to accept the presidency of the republic. It was henceforth to be known as the Italian Republic. Similar arrangements were subsequently made in the Ligurian Republic and in Lucca. Piedmont was brought under direct French rule in September In Germany the compensation of the rulers dispossessed by the French was settled by the Reichsdeputationshauptschluss Principal Decree of the Imperial Deputation of February French and, to a lesser extent, Russian influence marked the negotiations by which the ecclesiastical principalities and all but six of the imperial cities were distributed among the displaced princes and the larger German states. The church in Germany lost nearly 2, subjects, while Prussia gained nearly, His achievement in this field provided the model for countries under French occupation during the following decade. The French, whose manufactures progressed less dramatically than the British and whose seaborne trade had been strangled, found it impossible to raise funds commensurate with their aggressive policy in Europe, so that Napoleon had to rely on the spoils of conquest to supplement the deficiencies of French finance. Many of the figures for British overseas trade during the period represent official values based on a scale of prices current in the s, regardless of market value. Great Britain had superior banking services, could suspend payments in gold at home, and was preponderant in the European money market. These hidden sources of income met some part of French expenditure, and foreign states made further contributions of money as well as troops and supplies, but the disparity between French and British financial resources remains clear. Yet, when at last he was in a position to do so, the military strength whereby he had enforced his will on Europe was so strained that the Continental powers could break the boycott prematurely and resume hostilities against his widely dispersed armies. There is no evidence that Napoleon ever considered withholding grain from Great Britain in an attempt to force withdrawal from the war: At other times his mercantilist views led him to export French grain to Great Britain, provided that France received cash, not goods, in return. For the mercantile marine France had had more than 2, ships employed in European and colonial trade by but possessed only ships of tons or more by, while British strength rose by one-third in ten years to number 19, vessels 2, tons in and was to reach 21, ships 2, tons in Maritime supremacy enabled the British to dominate the colonial reexport trade coffee, tea, sugar, spices, cotton and dyes to the great advantage of their national economy. Page 1 of 5.

War, weather and the upheavals of post-revolutionary society all played a part. At the very least, the blockade exacerbated existing problems. Whether or not it caused the shortages, people believed it did.

Elliot, Investment The British seizure of French colonies , notably, Tobago, Santa-Lucia and Martinique, including influence over Saint-Domingue and finally the taking of Trinidad in meant that British trade flourished “ for example, 14, merchant vessels with 1. In short, enough to pay for the largest fleet in the world. Furthermore, these British gains were French losses. Recruitment With the beginning of the war with Revolutionary France in , parliament decreed that the manpower in the Royal Navy should increase to 45, the population of England before the first census of was estimated at 8. The total number of men required for the fleets in rose to 85, in and , in , of which there were admirals, post-captains, commanders and 2, lieutenants. Three methods were used in the attempt to meet these quotas: Volunteers A man who entered the navy as a volunteer was given his shilling and two months pay in advance using which he was supposed to provide himself with a hammock and some clothes. On the other hand, it was not always clear whether a volunteer had not in fact been pressganged “ often men captured by the pressgangs were given the chance to volunteer and thus receive their pay. The Impress Service or pressgang Founded long before the Napoleonic wars, the Impress service came into high profile during the wars with Revolutionary France. The service was present in every major port in the kingdom. No-one was safe from the gang, and often the only escape route when captured was to bribe the gang or to join it. A preferred target for the pressgang was the merchant navy, so it was not infrequent to find special hiding places on merchant vessels. Also, the return of prisoners of war from France was also seen as the perfect moment to impress crewmen, such that very often the returning POWs were turned round and pressganged even before they set foot once more on home soil. The captains of merchant vessels frequently took pity on those they were repatriating and tried to let them land in places far from the ports and the pressgangs. Quota men In , prime minister William Pitt the Younger passed two bills through parliament, called the Quota acts. In conformity with these acts, every county was required to supply to the navy a quota of men, in proportion to the country population and the number of ports “ for example, London was asked to provide 5, men, whilst Yorkshire, the largest county, was obliged to offer 1, hommes. Despite promises of rewards, very few county men came forward. As a result, small time criminals were given the choice of a prison sentence or service in the Navy. Given the exceedingly rough justice prevalent in 18th-century prisons, many preferred the call of the sea. One unfortunate result however of this policy was that the criminals brought with them typhus, also known as Gaol fever, onto previously healthy ships! Modern dockyards for a growing navy British naval dockyards were the subject of investment throughout the five year period Most notably, the docks in Portsmouth were refitted “ new wet and dry docks were excavated, and the docks themselves were drained using steam engines. These developments, because they speeded up the turn around time for ships in the docks, put an end to the problem of excessive number of ships requiring refitting. Furthermore, the British sailors were renowned for their ability to perform repair work at sea. As for growth in the Royal Navy, it was shown above how many ships Britain had with respect to its rivals. In , including captured vessels, the total had risen to , of which had been French. By adding the corsairs taken from all nations, the total number of ships taken was French difficulties For France, whilst the army numbers were kept up by mass conscription, the French navy had no such advantage. And in addition to the problem of recruitment there were in fact three further problematic areas, namely: With the Revolution they left en masse. At one fell swoop, the French navy was deprived of 5, specialist in marine artillery. After , there were slightly fewer than 70, French navy prisoners in British hands. The lack of manpower and investment weighed heavily! Faced with considerable problems at home the mutinies of Spithead and The Nore and invasion threats from abroad the battles of Cape Saint Vincent and Camperdown , the navy was forced to act. The mutinies at Spithead April and The Nore May , Driven by the terrible onboard conditions, the brutal punishments and increasingly infrequent pay, the sailors of the Royal Navy mutinied twice in , once in April and then again in May, first at Spithead, off Portsmouth, and then at The Nore, a sand bank off the Kent coast

in the Thames where the fleet usually anchored. In fact the Spithead mutiny was an industrial dispute. And it would appear that the government was largely sympathetic, given the speed of the reparations the difficulties were resolved in less than two months by the passing of an act of parliament, the payment of pay arrears and the pardoning of all those involved in the mutiny. Pitt reacted harshly, sending in army and other vessels favourable to the government to force a surrender – cannons were lined up on the mainland aimed at the ships in mutiny. The prime minister was also particularly sensitive regarding the mutiny because of the perceived political overtones, given the large numbers of Irish involved. The ringleader, Richard Parker, was condemned to be hanged from the yardarm – in fact as was often the case with those thus sentenced he jumped into the sea and drowned. But above all, the mutinies revealed a fundamental weakness in defence. The government reacted quickly and brutally, passing the Incitement to Mutiny Act revoked only very recently, which made any act of disaffection in the armed forces an act of treason, and thus punishable by death. The Battle of Cape Saint Vincent, 14 February, In yet another attempt to invade Ireland, he had made a previous try in, General Hoche came up with another plan whereby an invasion would be led by the recently refitted French fleet based in from Brest together with the Batavian and Spanish fleets. The Spanish fleet was anchored at Cartagena on the east coast of Spain, and on 5 February began the attempted linkup, passing Gibraltar and heading for Cadiz. Blown off course by strong east winds, the Spanish fleet ended up in the Atlantic, far from the port of destination but more importantly to the west of the British fleet under Admiral Sir John Jervis off the Cape Saint Vincent Portugal. Commodore Nelson on board *Minerve*, on seeing the port of Cartagena empty and realising that the Spanish were trying to reach Cadiz, came at full speed to inform Jervis of what had happened. He too was forced off course by the winds and in fact because of the fog and the sleepy Spanish watch passed unnoticed through the Spanish fleet on the evening of 11 February to reach Jervis. When the winds changed, the Spanish then headed again for Cadiz. On 14 February at am, the two fleets met. The British fleet of 15 vessels formed up in line of battle and sailed towards the Spanish fleet which, because of the winds, had become split into two groups, one of 19 and the other of 6 vessels – nearly double the number of the opposition. Before Jervis managed to stop the two parts coming back together, three of the 19 had managed to join the six. These nine vessels then tried but in vain to cut the British line in front of Jervis in Victory. This gave the British fleet time to group around *Minerve* and to engage the Spanish ships. British losses ran to 73 dead and wounded. The fleet of the Royal Navy Culloden 74 Capt. Thomas Troubridge, *Blenheim* 98 Capt. John Irwin, *Orion* 74 Capt. Sir James Saumarez, *Colossus* 74 Capt. George Murray, *Irresistible* 74 Capt. Robert Calder, *Egmont* 74 Capt. John Sutton, *Goliath* 74 Capt. Thomas Foley, *Namur* 90 Capt. George Towry, *Excellent* 74 Capt. Cuthbert Collingwood, *Minerve* 38 Capt. George Cockburn, *Southampton* 32 Capt. James Macnamara, *Lively* 32 Capt. Lord Garliesc, *Niger* 32 Capt. Joined by other vessels towards the middle of June, Duncan spent the summer blockading the Texel before returning to Yarmouth on 3 October for refitting and replenishing stores. On 9 October, he received the information that the Batavian fleet had left the Texel. According to the French, de Winter was looking for the British vessels, whilst in England they said that he was attempting to link up with the French fleet with an eye to invading Ireland. Duncan left Yarmouth immediately. On arriving off the Texel on 10 October, he found 22 merchantmen but no warships. The ships which he had been blockading all summer had got away. Captain Trollope informed him that the Batavian fleet was heading south. The two fleet were as follows: Williamson, *Lancaster* 64, Captain J. Wells, *Ardent* 64, Captain R. Burgess, *Veteran* 64, Captain G. Gregory, *Director* 64, Captain W. Bligh, *Monmouth* 64, Captain J. Walker, *Isis* 50, Captain W. Mitchell, *Adamant* 50, Captain W. Hotham, *Beaulieu* 40, Captain F. Fayerman, *Circe* 28, Captain P. Halkett Duncan sailed south south and founded the Batavians off Kamperduin near Haarlem, on 11 October at 7am. Arriving in disorder, Duncan was forced to await the arrival of his rear. The British ships managed to cut the Batavian line *Onslow* in *Monarch* firstly at the rear passing between *Jupiter* and *Haarlem* and Duncan in *Venerable* in the centre, passing between *Staten-Generaal* and *Vrijheid* and began to attack the Batavians from both sides. Despite the fact that the British had greater fire power, the two Batavian 74s *Jupiter* and *Vrijheid* put up fierce resistance, causing much damage to their respective opponents. Indeed *Venerable* was so damaged that she was forced to leave off the engagement. Even when attacked by four boats simultaneously *Triumph*, *Ardent*, *Director* and

Venerable " the latter coming back around to the other side , Vrijheid did not surrender until she had lost all three masts. Even though much less experienced than the British, the Batavians fought bravely and there were large numbers of dead and wounded on both sides " Batavians killed and wounded, against British dead and wounded. Onlookers said that at the end of that battle the ships looked like they had never fought at all! Conclusion As a result of increased revenues from the colonies, huge numbers of new recruits, modernised ports, swift and summary repression of the internal problems, the relative weakness of the opposition, and victory in two key naval battles thus preventing a full scale invasion of Ireland and also greatly weakening two enemy fleets , the British Navy both psychologically and physically laid the foundations for the crucial victories of the Nile, Copenhagen and Trafalgar. Napoleonic navies on the web Broadside, the personal site run by Paul Goody.

9: The French Revolt and Empire

Importance of «weak» states during conflicts: Portuguese trade with the United States during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars. Revista de Historia Económica / Journal of Iberian and Latin American Economic History, p.

Hawke took command of the blockading fleet off Brest and extended the blockade of the French coast from Dunkirk to Marseilles. However, these plans were eventually abandoned, due to the formidable logistical challenge this would have posed. Julian Corbett and Admiral Mahan emphasized that naval operations were chiefly to be won by decisive battles and blockade. Close, distant, and loose blockades[edit] A close blockade entails placing warships within sight of the blockaded coast or port, to ensure the immediate interception of any ship entering or leaving. It is both the most effective and the most difficult form of blockade to implement. Difficulties arise because the blockading ships must remain continuously at sea, exposed to storms and hardship, usually far from any support, and vulnerable to sudden attack from the blockaded side, whose ships may stay safe in harbor until they choose to come out. In a distant blockade, the blockaders stay well away from the blockaded coast and try to intercept any ships going in or out. This may require more ships on station, but they can usually operate closer to their bases, and are at much less risk from enemy raids. This was almost impossible prior to the 16th century due to the nature of the ships used. The object of loose blockade is to lure the enemy into venturing out but to stay close enough to strike. Pacific blockade[edit] Until , blockades, as part of economic warfare , were always a part of a war. They blockaded the Turkish-occupied coast, which led to the battle of Navarino. War was never declared, however, so it is considered the first pacific " i. Part of the US response to Soviet missiles being placed in Cuba was a naval blockade of the island. Since , the UN Security Council determines the legal status of blockades and by article 42 of the UN Charter , the Council can also apply blockades. According to the not ratified document San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June , [11] a blockade is a legal method of warfare at sea but is governed by rules. The manual describes what can never be contraband. The blockading nation is free to select anything else as contraband in a list, which it must publish. The blockading nation typically establishes a blockaded area of water, but any ship can be inspected as soon as it is established that it is attempting to break the blockade. This inspection can occur inside the blockaded area or in international waters, but never inside the territorial waters of a neutral nation. A neutral ship must obey a request to stop for inspection from the blockading nation. If the situation so demands, the blockading nation can request that the ship divert to a known place or harbour for inspection. If the ship does not stop, then the ship is subject to capture. If people aboard the ship resist capture, they can be lawfully attacked. Act of war[edit] Main article: Casus belli Whether or not a blockade was seen as lawful depended on the laws of the nations whose trade was influenced by the blockade. The latter two countries announced they would actively defend their ships against Brazilian blockaders, while Britain was forced to steer for a peaceful solution between Brazil and Argentina. There are a number of protest actions with the specific aim of cutting off material, people or communications from a particular area by non-violence , either in part or totally. The effectiveness of such blockades rely on the principles of nonviolent resistance especially the participation of people and lock-on techniques. A sit-down strike is a form of civil disobedience in which an organized group of workers, usually employed at a factory or other centralized location, take possession of the workplace by "sitting down" at their stations, effectively preventing their employers from replacing them with strikebreakers. A non-violent picket is another example; it also illustrates the specificity of the blockade, non-violent pickets may demand the blocking of some traffic while allowing other traffic; e. The Mau movement was a non-violent movement for Samoan independence from colonial rule during the early s. Amongst other actions, participants formed their own "police force", picketing stores in Apia to prevent the payment of customs to the authorities. The value of the item being blockaded must warrant the need to blockade. For example, during the Cuban Missile Crisis , the items to be blockaded or " quarantined " to use the more neutral term selected by President John F. Kennedy were Medium-range ballistic missiles , capable of delivering nuclear weaponry , bound for Cuba. Their value was high, as a military threat against the United

States. The strength of the blockading force must be equal to or greater in strength than the opposition. For example, the overwhelming power of the Royal Navy allowed a successful blockade of Germany. In the case of land blockades, choosing suitable terrain. Knowing where the force will be travelling will help the blockader choose where to blockade: A blockade tends to be a long campaign requiring a long-term commitment by the blockading power. The Imperial Japanese Navy , however, made only sporadic efforts at blockade during the Pacific war , preferring to seek victory by fleet action. Blockade runner Blockade running is the practice of delivering cargo food, for example to a blockaded area. It has mainly been done by ships called blockade runners across ports under naval blockade. Blockade runners were typically the fastest ships available and often lightly armed and armored. However, it is now also been done by aircraft, forming airbridges , such as over the Berlin blockade after World War II. Part of a series on.

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