

HISTORY OF THE UNITED NETHERLANDS: FROM THE DEATH OF WILLIAM THE SILENT TO THE TWELVE YEARS . pdf

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History of the United Netherlands: from the death of William the Silent to the twelve years' truce by Motley, John Lothrop, Publication date

As a defender of the Catholic Church , he sought to suppress the rising Protestant heresy in his territories, which eventually exploded into open rebellion in . Meanwhile, relations with the regime of Elizabeth I of England continued to deteriorate, following her restoration of royal supremacy over the Church of England through the Act of Supremacy in ; this had been first instituted by her father Henry VIII and rescinded by her sister Mary I. The Act was considered by Catholics as a usurpation of papal authority. Calls by leading English Protestants to support the Protestant Dutch rebels against Philip increased tensions further as did the Catholic-Protestant disturbances in France , which saw both sides supporting the opposing French factions. This engagement soured Anglo-Spanish relations and in the following year the English detained several treasure ships sent by the Spanish to supply their army in the Netherlands. Drake and Hawkins intensified their privateering as a way to break the Spanish monopoly on Atlantic trade. Francis Drake went on a privateering voyage where he eventually circumnavigated the globe between and . Soon after the Portuguese succession crisis of , English support was provided to Prior of Crato who then fought in his struggle with Philip II for the Portuguese throne. In the Spanish Netherlands , England had secretly supported the side of the Dutch Protestant United Provinces , who were fighting for independence from Spain. In , the Prince of Orange had been assassinated, leaving a sense of alarm as well as a political vacuum. The following year was a further blow to the Dutch with the capture of Antwerp by Spanish forces led by Alexander Farnese, the Duke of Parma. The Dutch rebels sought help from England, which Elizabeth agreed to as she feared that a Spanish reconquest there would threaten England. In return the Dutch handed over four Cautionary Towns which were garrisoned by English troops. Philip took this to be an open declaration of war against his rule in the Netherlands. In response the English privy council immediately authorised a campaign against the Spanish fishing industry in Newfoundland and off the Grand Banks. When Drake arrived in England in July he became a national hero. In Spain however, the news was a disaster and this now further buoyed a Spanish invasion of England by King Philip. This however was met with fury from Elizabeth who had expressed no desire for any sovereignty over the Dutch. An English mercenary army had been present since the beginning of the war and was then under the command of veteran Sir John Norreys. They combined forces but were undermanned and under financed, and faced one of the most powerful armies in Europe led by the famed Alexander Farnese, the Duke of Parma. His political base weakened and so too did the military situation. Finally Sluis with a largely English garrison was besieged and taken by the Duke of Parma in June after the Dutch refused to help in the relief. This resulted in mutual recriminations between Leicester and the States. He resigned his post as Governor - his tenure was a military and political failure, and as a result he was financially ruined. At the same time Peregrine Bertie took over English forces in the Netherlands. Spanish Armada Main articles: In retaliation for the execution of Mary, Philip vowed to invade England to place a Catholic monarch on its throne. On 29 July, Philip obtained Papal authority to overthrow Elizabeth, who had been excommunicated by Pope Pius V , and place whomever he chose on the throne of England. He assembled a fleet of about ships, containing 8, soldiers and 18, sailors. To finance this endeavour, Pope Sixtus V had permitted Philip to collect crusade taxes. Sixtus had promised a further subsidy to the Spanish should they reach English soil. As the armada sailed through the English channel, the English navy led by Charles Howard, 1st Earl of Nottingham and Francis Drake fought a battle of attrition with the Spanish from Plymouth to Portland and then to the Solent , preventing them from securing any English harbours. While the Spanish were at anchor there in a crescent-shaped defensive formation, the English used fireships to break the formation and scatter the Spanish ships. In the subsequent Battle of Gravelines the English navy inflicted a defeat on the Armada and forced it to sail northward in more dangerous stormy waters on the long way home. As they sailed around Scotland , the

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Armada suffered severe damage and loss of life from stormy weather. As they approached the West coast of Ireland more damaging stormy conditions forced ships ashore while others were wrecked. Disease took a heavy toll as the fleet finally limped back to port. The defeat of the Armada provided valuable seafaring experience for English oceanic mariners. It was also intended to capture the incoming Spanish treasure fleet and expel the Spanish from Portugal ruled by Philip since in favour of the Prior of Crato. Drake as a result had to bypass Santander where the majority of the Spanish fleet were being refitted. On May 4, the English force eventually arrived at Corunna where the lower town was captured and plundered, and a number of merchant ships were seized. Norreys then won a modest victory over a Spanish relief militia force at Puente del Burgo. When the English pressed the attack on the citadel, however, they were repulsed. In addition a number of English ships were captured by Spanish naval forces. With the failure to capture Corunna the English departed and headed towards Lisbon, but owing to poor organisation and lack of co-ordination they had very few siege guns the invading force also failed to take Lisbon. The expected uprising by the Portuguese loyal to Crato never materialised. With Portuguese and Spanish reinforcements arriving the English retreated and headed North where Drake sacked and burned Vigo. Sickness then struck the expedition, and finally a portion of the fleet led by Drake headed towards the Azores, which was then scattered in a storm. Drake then took the best part of the fleet and plundered Porto Santo in Madeira before they limped back to Plymouth. In the end, Elizabeth sustained a severe loss to her treasury. In the autumn Parma moved his force North towards Bergen op Zoom and then attempted to besiege the English-held town with a substantial force. Sir Francis Vere assumed command of English forces thereafter - a position he retained during fifteen campaigns, with almost unbroken success. In a remarkable feat a small assault force hid in a peat barge before a successful surprise assault that captured the city. With Spanish forces in France supporting the Catholic League as well as in the Low Countries, Maurice was able to take advantage, and thus started the gradual recapture of the Netherlands. Soon after Breda the Anglo-Dutch retook Zutphen and Deventer which restored English prestige after their earlier betrayals. After defeating the Spanish under the Duke of Parma at Knodsenberg in a new confidence in the army took shape. English troops by this time composed nearly half of the Dutch army. The reconquest continued with Hulst, Nijmegen, Geertruidenberg, Steenwijk and Coevorden all being taken within the next two years. Finally the capture of Groningen in the summer of resulted in the Spanish army being forced out of the Northern provinces which led to the complete restoration of the seven provinces. English troops having been given high praise by the Dutch were kept at around 4,000 men. They were to be paid for by the States and the Queen would also be repaid on the Crown's expenses in instalments until a conclusion of peace was made. This was delayed after Huy was besieged in March but Maurice was unable to prevent its fall. Maurice then tried to make an attempt on the city of Rheinberg in September but Mondragon defeated this move at the Battle of the Lippe. Maurice was then forced to cancel further planned offensives as the bulk of his English and Scots troops were withdrawn to take part in the attack on Cadiz. The Spanish under the new commander Archduke of Austria took advantage of this lull and recaptured Hulst the following year which led to a prolonged stalemate in the campaign and delayed the reconquest. The pride of the fleet were named The Twelve Apostles - twelve massive new galleons - and the navy proved itself to be far more effective than it had been before. A sophisticated convoy system and improved intelligence networks frustrated English naval attempts on the Spanish treasure fleet during the 1620s. This was best demonstrated by the repulse of the squadron that was led by Effingham in near the Azores, who had intended to ambush the treasure fleet. It was in this battle that the Spanish captured the English flagship, the Revenge, after a stubborn resistance by its captain, Sir Richard Grenville. Throughout the 1620s, enormous convoy escorts enabled the Spanish to ship three times as much silver as in the previous decade. The Earl of Cumberland made a number of expeditions and a few did yield profit - his first being the Azores Voyage in 1621. Others failed however due to bad weather and his voyage ended in defeat with Spanish galleys off Berlengas. Cumberland with Sir Walter Raleigh and Martin Frobisher combined financial strength and force that led to the most successful English naval expedition of the war. Raleigh however exaggerated the wealth there on his return to England. Supporting Raleigh with his

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expedition was another led by Amyas Preston and George Somers known as the Preston Somers expedition to South America notable for a daring overland assault that saw the capture of Caracas. Many of the expeditions were financed by famed London merchants, the most notable of these being John Watts. An expedition Watts financed to Portuguese Brazil led by James Lancaster saw the capture and plunder of Recife and Olinda - which was highly profitable for both. By far the most successful English privateer was Christopher Newport who was backed financially by Watts. Despite this Newport continued the ventures - the blockade of Western Cuba in was the most successful English privateering venture made during the war. The allies were unable to capture the treasure, as the Spanish commander had time to torch the treasure ships in port, sending the treasure to the bottom of the harbour, from where it was later recovered. The objective was to destroy the Spanish fleet and intercept a treasure fleet in the Azores. Neither was achieved and the expedition ended in failure, and Essex on his return was scolded by the Queen for not protecting the English coast. Newport struck at Tobasco in while William Parker successfully raided Portobello in With the Spanish distracted by the siege of Amiens in France Maurice launched an offensive in the summer. This time both Rhienberg and Greonlo were finally taken. This was followed by the capture of Bredevoort , Enschede , Ootsmarsum , Oldenzaal and finally Lingen by the end of the year. The offensive success meant that most of the Republic had been recaptured and a significant barrier had been created along the Rhine river. Mendoza then attempted to take Bommelerwaard island but the Dutch and English under Maurice thwarted the attempt and defeated him at Zaltbommel. Mendoza retreated from the area and the defeat resulted in chaos in the Spanish army - mutinies took place and many deserted. The following year the Dutch senate led by Johan van Oldenbarneveldt saw the chaos in the Spanish army and decided the time was ripe for a focal point of the war to be concentrated in Catholic Flanders. Despite a bitter dispute between Maurice and van Oldenbarneveldt, the Dutch and a sizeable contingent of the English Army under Francis Vere reluctantly agreed. They used Ostend still in Dutch hands as a base to invade Flanders. Their aim was to conquer the privateer stronghold city of Dunkirk. In they advanced toward Dunkirk and in a pitched battle the Anglo-Dutch inflicted a rare defeat on the Tercio led Spanish army at the Battle of Nieuwpoort in which the English played a major part.

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2: Maurice, Prince of Orange - Wikipedia

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He was named after his maternal grandfather, the Elector Maurice of Saxony , who was also a noted general. The States of Holland and Zeeland paid for his studies, as their father had run into financial problems after spending his entire fortune in the early stages of the Dutch revolt. Maurice as a child Only 16 when his father was murdered in Delft in , he soon took over as stadtholder Stadhouder , though this title was not inheritable. The monarchs of England and France had been requested to accept sovereignty, but had refused. This had left Maurice as the only acceptable candidate for the position of Stadtholder. He became stadtholder of Holland and Zeeland in , of Guelders , Overijssel and Utrecht in and of Groningen and Drenthe in following the death of Willem Lodewijk, who had been Stadtholder there and in Friesland. However, Philip William was in the custody of Spain, remaining so until , and was thus unable to lead the Dutch independence cause. Maria of Nassau " , was a full sister of Philip William from the first marriage of William I, Prince of Orange , assassinated , to wealthy and powerful aristocrat Anna van Egmont , " , and a contender to Maurice over the estate of their father. He was appointed captain-general of the army in , bypassing the Earl of Leicester , who returned to England on hearing this news. Maurice " , Philip William " , Frederick Henry " , 2. Delft after a painting from A. He reorganised the Dutch States Army together with Willem Lodewijk , studied military history , strategy and tactics , mathematics and astronomy , and proved himself to be among the best strategists of his age. Paying special attention to the siege theories of Simon Stevin , he took valuable key fortresses and towns during a period known as the Ten Glory Years: Breda in , Zutphen , Knodsenburg in , Steenwijk and Coevorden in , Geertruidenberg in , and Groningen in In he went on a further offensive and took Rheinberg , Meurs , Groenlo , Bredevoort , Enschede , Ootmarsum , Oldenzaal and closed off the year with the capture of Lingem. These victories rounded out the borders to the Dutch Republic, solidifying the revolt and allowing a national state to develop behind secure borders. They also established Maurice as the foremost general of his time. Many of the great generals of the succeeding generation, including his brother Frederick Henry and many of the commanders of the English Civil War learned their trade under his command. His victories in the pitched battles at Turnhout and at Nieuwpoort were dependent on his innovation of cooperation between arms, with his cavalry playing a major role. The victories earned him military fame and acknowledgement throughout Europe. Despite these successes, the House of Orange did not attain great respect among European royalty, as the Stadtholdership was not inheritable. The training of his army was especially important to early modern warfare and the Military Revolution of " Previous generals had made use of drill and exercise in order to instill discipline or to keep the men physically fit, but for Maurice, they "were the fundamental postulates of tactics. It was first used in European combat at the battle of Nieuwpoort in Adam van Breen , As part of his efforts to find allies against Spain, Maurice received Moroccan envoys such as Al-Hajari. They discussed the possibility of an alliance between Holland , the Ottoman Empire , Morocco and the Moriscos, against the common enemy Spain. His reputation rests not as much on his ability to win and exploit field battles as it does on this expertise as a siege commander, military organizer and innovator. Of his two great adversaries, Alexander Farnese, Duke of Parma and Ambrogio Spinola , he cautiously never allowed himself to be brought to battle with Parma, and did not follow up chances to offer Spinola battle with forces in his favour on the Yssel in These pointed the way to the professional armies of the future by reapplying Roman tactics and innovating in the fields of logistics, training, and economics e. Many graduates of service under Maurice, such as his nephew the Marshal Turenne , or his disciples such as Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden , applied the Mauritian reforms to great effect in the remainder of the 17th century. But gradually tensions rose between these two men. The required funds to maintain the army and navy, and the general course of the war were other topics of constant struggle. With the

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religious troubles between Gomarists strict Calvinists and Arminians more liberal Calvinists , the struggle between Van Oldenbarnevelt and Maurice reached a climax. Van Oldenbarnevelt was arrested, tried and decapitated despite numerous requests for mercy. From till his death Maurice now enjoyed uncontested power over the Republic. The Maurice Tower is nowadays part of the building complex of the Senate of the Netherlands. In , he also succeeded his elder half-brother, Philip William as Prince of Orange , a title he seems rarely to have used. Maurice urged his cadet half brother, Frederick Henry to marry in order to preserve the dynasty. As noted by Israel, [11] German Protestants were not eager for an all-out confrontation with the Catholics. Maurice significantly helped precipitate such a confrontation by persuading his nephew Frederick V, Elector Palatine to accept the Bohemian Crown, as well as actively encouraging the Bohemians to confront Habsburg rule , providing them 50, Guilders as well as sending Dutch troops to fight in the doomed Battle of the White Mountain. This ill-considered decision proved disastrous to the Bohemians, who were thereby plunged into prolonged oppression, and to Frederick who lost his ancestral lands. In the war with Spain resumed after a year period of truces. Maurice died on 23 April , with the siege still underway. Justin of Nassau surrendered Breda in June after a costly eleven-month siege. Maurice at the battle of Nieuwpoort ,

3: Anglo-Spanish War (€) - Wikipedia

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