



PLOTS & REVOLTS AT HOME

1569-1588



WHAT WERE ELIZABETH'S MAIN THREATS?

Threat 1: English Catholics

English Catholics were increasingly under suspicion after the Revolt of the Northern Earls in 1569.

In 1570, the pope freed England's Catholics of their duty of obedience to Elizabeth and called for her to be overthrown.

From 1574, Catholic priests were smuggled into England from Europe to keep English Catholics true to their faith.

Threat 2: Mary, Queen of Scots

Mary had a legitimate claim to the English throne and was the focus of several plots to depose Elizabeth after fleeing to England in 1568.

Mary's French family, the Guise, was very powerful. They formed a Catholic League against Protestantism in France and supported the plots against Elizabeth.



Threat 3: Spain

Philip II of Spain was a strict Catholic who wanted to destroy Protestantism. Spain had a large and growing empire in the Americas, making it rich and powerful.

Threat 4: the Dutch Revolt

Philip II of Spain persecuted Dutch Protestants, leading to a revolt in 1566 that lasted decades.

A large Spanish army sent to the Netherlands in 1567 was seen as a grave threat to Protestant England.

Elizabeth's support for the Dutch Protestant rebels was an important reason for worsening Anglo-Spanish relations.



What can you remember?



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



CAUSES OF THE NORTHERN REBELLION 1569

Create a key for Highlight each cause matching your key eg: No.2 Religious
Political **Religious** **Mary, Queen of Scots**

1. The Earls had political grievances against Elizabeth, as she had weakened their powers in the North. The Earl of Northumberland had lost an important position as Warden of the Middle March, defending the border against Scotland. Elizabeth extended central control from London by putting her cousin, Lord Hunsdon, in charge of Berwick, and she appointed the Earl of Sussex as President of the Council of the North.

7. The Earls had already taken part in a plan to marry Mary, Queen of Scots to the Duke of Norfolk, the most powerful noble in England. They hoped this would help Mary to become Elizabeth's successor. However, nobles loyal to Elizabeth (such as the Earl of Leicester) had also been part of this plan, because they hoped this marriage would force Elizabeth to name a successor. These loyal nobles told Elizabeth about the plan.

2. The rebels wanted to re-establish Catholicism as the country's religion.

3. At the start of the revolt, the Earls stormed into Durham Cathedral and held a Catholic service.

8. After Elizabeth found out about the Norfolk plan, she summoned the Earls to court. They feared prison or execution. They may have thought their only option was to revolt.

4. Elizabeth had taken lands from these nobles, so their grievances were personal. Northumberland had lost copper mines, costing him money. Many northern nobles were facing financial hardship.

5. The Earls wanted to get rid of 'evil councillors', such as Cecil, who they blamed for religious changes and their loss of political power.

9. After the failure of the Norfolk plot, their more hot-headed followers wanted the Earls to take action. Lady Westmorland encouraged her husband not to back down.

10. The Catholic rulers, Philip II of Spain and the Pope, appeared willing to support the revolt.

6. The rebels wore Catholic badges and emblems.

11. Government of the north of England was now carried out by the Council of the North, rather than by the traditional nobility.

12. The Earls wanted Mary to be recognised as Elizabeth's successor and for her imprisonment to end.



Which of these statements do you agree with and why?

- Religion was **definitely** the main cause
- Religion was **probably** the main cause
- Religion was **possibly** the main cause
- Religion was **definitely NOT** the main cause



NORTHERN REBELLION CAUSES SUMMARY

Political Reasons

Removal of evil councillors such as Cecil who they blamed for the changes

Northern nobles felt they were losing power and influence eg: Northumberland lost his role as Warden of the Middle March and defending the border

Elizabeth set up the Council of the North to govern the north under the Earl of Sussex, further limiting the northern Noble's power

Elizabeth had taken land from the northern Nobles eg: Northumberland lost his copper mines leading to financial loss

Religious Reasons

Rebels wanted to re-establish Catholicism in the north. This can be seen by the public Catholic Mass held at Durham Cathedral. The rebels also wore Catholic badges and emblems

Philip II of Spain and The Pope appeared to support the plot

Mary, Queen of Scots

Wanted to marry Norfolk to Mary, Queen of Scots.

They would also name her Elizabeth's successor.

Wanted Mary named as successor and released from prison

Elizabeth summoned the Earls involved to court, fearing imprisonment or execution, they may have panicked and thought rebellion was the only way out. This was encouraged by Lady Westmoreland who told her husband not to back down to Elizabeth



- Fill in your info box on the Northern Rebellion using the summary sheet next to this lesson's link.

Name & Date:

Aims:

The plan:

Key people:

Key events:

Foreign support?:



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



- Westmoreland and Northumberland's **AIMS:**
 - Restore the Catholic faith & their power
 - Remove evil councillors influencing the Queen away from the true faith (Catholicism)
 - Mary was to be freed ready to marry the Duke of Norfolk
- They weren't sure if they were to overthrow Elizabeth and replace her with Mary, Queen of Scots or just free Mary and have her named as heir, Elizabeth just moved Mary to a new prison!
- Westmoreland and Northumberland were not effective, brave or decisive leaders. As soon as they heard Sussex was moving toward them with a large royal army, they panicked and fled
- Most English Catholics did not support the revolt
- Neither did the French, Spanish or Pope! Philip II didn't want Mary Queen because of her ties with France
- Elizabeth's government didn't panic, 700 people were executed for taking part – Perhaps suggesting she had been frightened?

AIMS:

- To bring Catholicism back
- To replace Elizabeth with Mary, Queen of Scots and end the uncertainty of the succession.



PEOPLE

- Thomas Percy, Earl of Northumberland
- Charles Neville, Earl of Westmoreland
- Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk
- Mary, Queen of Scots
- Jane Neville & Ann Percy



THE PLAN

- The Earls will raise forces and take Durham
- March South to join Norfolk
- Spanish troops arrive
- Elizabeth will be overthrown
- MQS freed and married to Norfolk



EVENTS

- Norfolk was arrested as soon as Elizabeth knew about the plot.
- The Earls continued with the plot and took Durham cathedral, held Catholic mass.
- The rebels gained control of much of the North, but Spanish help does not arrive and when 14,000 men fighting for Elizabeth arrive on the River Tees the rebel forces flee.



AFTERMATH

- 700 rebels executed
- Northumberland executed- head was put on a spike.
- Privy council wanted Norfolk and MQS executed but Elizabeth refused.
- 1570- PAPAL BULL- excommunicated Elizabeth and called on loyal Catholics to depose her
- 1571- the definition of treason was widened. Calling Elizabeth a heretic was treason.



Assess the danger of the Northern Rebellion on your sheet...

Plots danger rating: Northern Rebellion 1569

Were the leaders effective, powerful and dynamic?		Did they have a clear and realistic plan?		Was there a lot of support from the English people?		Was there strong foreign support?		Did the Queen make any mistakes in dealing with it	
Not a real threat	Possible / slight	Significant Threat	Not a real threat	Possible / slight	Significant Threat	Not a real threat	Possible / slight	Significant Threat	Not a real threat



HOW SIGNIFICANT WAS THE NORTHERN REBELLION?

- The first serious rebellion by English Catholics
- Treason laws became harsher and definition of treason refined
- Prompted harsher treatment of Catholics in England
- Majority of Catholics remained loyal
- Pope Pius VI excommunicated Elizabeth, his Papal Bull marked a turning point for English Catholics, their loyalty to the Queen would now always be in doubt - Loyalty to both was not possible and this was a direct order from The Pope

Choose where the Northern Rebellion should be as a danger and then in your books justify your decision.

1
The revolt
had no
chance of
success

2
This revolt
raised a slight
concern for
Elizabeth

3
This revolt
had some
chance of
success

4
This revolt
caused
serious
concern

5
This revolt
had a high
chance of
success



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



Does the Northern Rebellion help explain why Mary, Queen of Scots was executed in 1587?

Yes it can

It showed that as long as Mary was held in captivity in England there will always be Catholics who will rebel in order to free Mary & restore Catholicism

Elizabeth must have been frightened to order the execution of so many people who were involved

No it can't

The rebels did not come close to achieving their aims

It was another 18 years before Mary was executed, so it cant have been that important?



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



- A nice revision task would be to produce a detailed newspaper report on the rebellion.
- As a minimum it should include:
- Reasons for the rebellion focusing on RELIGION & POLITICS
- An interview with all key members saying why they have rebelled
- A summary of Mary Queen of Scots story and importance
- The plan for the rebellion
- Key events of the rebellion
- The papal bull
- Significance (outcome) of the rebellion