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Lecture 25  
30 Years War II & Decline of Spain

## Swedish Phase of 30 YW (1630-1635)

- King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden
  - ~ Military genius
  - Founded the Danes in the Danish phase
    - ↳ surprising
  - Mobile armies & artillery - moveable cannons
  - Cavalry charge, handheld weapons
  - "Swedish Hecate"
- Battle of Breitenfeld (1631)
  - decisive Protestant victory
- Armies on both sides - living "off the land"
  - France, soldiers plundering a farm (1620)
  - "total war"
- Siege of Magdeburg (1631)
  - Catholics sack Protestant town
  - Burn it to the ground
  - Seen as "divine providence"
- Wallenstein brought back (1632)
  - consequence of rise of Gustavus Adolphus
- Battle of Lützen (1632)
  - Protestant win, but, Gustavus Adolphus DIES
  - Tilly and Pappenheim also die at Lützen
- Heilbronn League (1633-35)
  - ~ Swedish-led alliance
  - ~ Backed by the French
  - ~ Supported by Calvinist Brandenburg & Lutheran Saxony
- 1634 - Assassination of Wallenstein
- Battle of Nördlingen (1634)
  - Crushing Spanish-Imperial victory

- Peace of Prague (1635)

- peace w/ the Protestants (esp. Saxony)
- essentially ends the internal religious war component

War of the Mantuan Succession (1628-31)

- side distraction hampering Philip IV
- France vs. Spain

Louis XIII of France (r. 1610-1643)

- regent - Marie de Medici
- Royal favorite - Cardinal Richelieu
  - chief minister
  - in office 1624-1642
  - Centralization
  - realpolitik - aggressive foreign policy

Philip IV

- not historically considered as bad a king
- Coadjutor de Olivares - royal favorite (1621-1643)

France-Swedish War

- things go well for Sweden in the beginning
- Annus Horribilis
  - Portugal + Catalonia go into all out revolt
- Battle of Rocroi (1643)
  - overwhelming French victory
- fall of Olivares in 1643, shortly before Rocroi

Peace of Westphalia - 1648, 30 years later

- beginning of the international system, probably not THAT BIG, but a fundamental change
- general end of the wars of religion

- Dutch get absolute independence
- Under Panner become Dutch Republic
- Calvinism allowed
- 8th electorate
- Swiss get recognized

17th Century:

- Gradual decline of Spain
- Rise of France
- Growing rivalry between English & Dutch

## Historiographical Debate

↳ J.H. Elliott - "The Decline of Spain"

## Why Did Spain Decline?

Earlier roots

- ↳ attitudes towards work, drain of nobility
- ↳ Cultural, intellectual, economic closing off from the world - 1550s

↳ Crisis of the 1590s

- plague
- famine, internal migration
- economic disaster
- War expenditure
- rising taxes paid disproportionately
- bankruptcy in 1596

↳ Economic change & disaster in empire

- costs ↑↑↑
- Indigenous demographic collapse (90% dead)
- Dutch & English interlopers

↳ self-perception of decline, crisis of confidence