In Caesar’s *De Bello Gallico*, he describes how the Romans were having a rough time during one of their battles against the Britons. He mentions how the Romans were having difficulties getting ashore, as they were heavily burdened by their armaments and their heavy ships would run aground if they ventured too close to shore. Another difficulty they faced was that they did not know the lay of the land. However, an Aquilifer changed the battle. He called out to his ship, saying “Jump down, soldiers, unless you want to give the eagle to the enemy”. This convinced his legion to go to shore and fight the enemy, and they ended up driving them away (lines 7-8).

In order to make the encounter more dramatic, Caesar mentions all the struggles that the romans would have to face before they fight the Britons. This makes the impact of the battle even greater. The eagle carrier’s call to action (lines 3 – 5) also creates more of a push for the Romans to fight well, making the battle even more interesting.

Historically, the Eagle carrier’s contribution likely changed the history of Britain. If his cry were not heard, the Romans likely would have lost the battle and would have been unable to land in Britain. This would have likely kept Rome from taking control of Britain, resulting in ripples throughout history.