Prompt: Why did the disaster occur? How might it have been prevented? How & what did we learn from it?

Intro: Introduce topic, state thesis, allude to evidence to be used, *outline* paper,

Body: one example per paragraph, each example and paragraph clearly linked to thesis

Sources: ?

[1]

Ship and cannon of new design, cannon imported, ericsson not happy with Peacemaker but Stockton wanted it fitted, no one help responsible, S relieved of blaim [1]

[2] letter

Robert Stockton, navy, offered sec of navy and became commodore, fought in 1812 & against slave trade and pirates, inventor John Ericsson—later designed Monitor,

First ship built with screw prop, not wheel, “Oregon” of Ericsson’s planning—“Peacemaker” similar design,

Captain Stockton at time, 2 demonstration “voyages”/days beforehand, gun was of New York Manufacture, Oregon was British and had crack fixed

*~~1 lead in note at end~~*

[3] Princeton & Peacemaker Study

“epoch making”

Wrought iron, not cast, joint effort ordered by Stockton

William Crane: chief of Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography

Oregon cracked and had hoops fitted and shrunk—switch to welding and Amer metal in Peacemaker

Stockton pushed ahead against/without oversight

Both +/- opinions

Stockton both politics and engineering

[4] Book Explosion on Potomac

Unexpected?

Tyler wanted to modernize navy

[5] Canon text &/or textbook

Heat treating wrought iron bad

Find something about welding

[6] Life of John Ericsson

Much heavier and wider in diameter, same bore, finished under E’s directions

Amer iron was supposed to be higher quality

“thoroughly tested by charges varying from twenty-five to fifty pounds”

S confident because tested on ship

Banded guns became popular

Europe asked why Amer did not cont in heavy wrought iron guns after inventing them

[7] The Man who Made the Monitor

Found navy backwards, “this country requires no navy at all, let alone a steam navy”

Stockton friend of new pres, Ericsson drew up plans and wanted bigger

Eric not remunerated, left payment for patent up to gov, Stockton praised E

Wrought iron strong lengthwise, but weak transversely

“perfect in performance and safety”

Suggests S wanted Peacemaker to outdo E on ship and Oregon “Not satisfied with . . .”

“largest mass of iron every brought under the hammer”

E did not approve, S could not make a “wheelbarrow”, improper forging weakens considerably

“Nothing in history surpasses . . except moral daring of S”

“Peacemaker, a gun that had not been given the full U.S. Navy approval, was made of iron that was three-fourths the strength of Ericsson’s British built gun and poorly welded” – Naval Affairs Committee Board of Inquiry

“disaster unparalleled in history of American naval ordinance”

Response: limit explosive charge to 15 lbs, affected *Monitor* draw, which could have handled more

S covered up and attribed to E

E didn’t want to appear, should have been subpoenaed; S used as opp to cast blame

Princeton was first w/ prop & engines below waterline