

**#700 The Defeat of the Spanish Armada – The Dutch gain their independence from Spain, part 2, The Duke of Parma**

Here is further understanding from another source surrounding the Dutch gaining their independence from Spain.



Duke of Parma – Alexander Farnese  
Portrait by Otto Vaenius (ca 1585)

The revolt in the Spanish Netherlands against King Philip II and Spain began in 1568. It was costly for Spain to keep armies in the Spanish Netherlands. The Spanish treasury stopped paying all troops in 1575. By 1577, Dutch Protestants led by William I, Prince of Orange, governed a good portion of the Netherlands, and demanded freedom of worship. This was too much for Philip II, who raised money to send his nephew the Duke of Parma with a powerful army to take control. In



William I, Prince of Orange  
(The Silent)

1581, the Duke of Parma's 'Army of Flanders' embarked on a plan to re-capture the rebel

towns one-by-one. These were professional troops, the best in Europe. The southern provinces (known today as Belgium) were soon subdued, for they were populated by loyal Catholic leaders of French-speaking towns who had been uneasy allies with the Dutch Protestants of German dialects. In 1584, William I of Orange was assassinated, dealing a blow to the Dutch resistance movement. By 1585, the Duke of Parma had captured the key port of Antwerp, and driven the Dutch rebels back to their northern strongholds.



Assassination of William of Orange by Balthasar Gérard (1584)

Here is **#700–Doc 1** (the same maps as are in the previous Unsealing), which shows **the portions of the Spanish Netherlands recaptured by the forces of the Duke of Parma in the mid-1580’s**.

[Click here](#) for #700–Doc 1

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The situation for the Protestant Dutch rebels was desperate and morale was low. Queen Elizabeth I of England sent English troops to rescue them from collapse. **This angered Philip II, who made plans for an invasion of England by the Spanish Armada.**

**Key Understanding: *Philip makes plans for the invasion.* Philip II made plans for an invasion of England by the Spanish Armada, which would include the transport of the Duke of Parma’s army from the Spanish Netherlands across the Strait of Dover to England – to put a friendly Roman Catholic on the throne. The stage was set for the Battle of the Spanish Armada.**

*Revelation 13:2 (KJV) And THE BEAST [out of the Sea] WHICH I SAW WAS LIKE UNTO A LEOPARD, and HIS FEET WERE AS THE FEET OF A BEAR, and HIS MOUTH AS THE MOUTH OF A LION: and THE DRAGON [reflected through Sir Francis Drake’s victory over the Spanish Armada] **GAVE HIM** [the Protestant Beast out of the Sea] **HIS POWER, AND HIS SEAT, AND GREAT AUTHORITY.***

<< [Previous](#)

[Main Page and List of Unsealing Summaries](#)

[Next](#) >>