

TA presentation

by Fraser Goodwin

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Was the longbow the decisive weapon at the Battle of Agincourt?

BY FRASER GOODWIN



Contents

Background

Lead up to Agincourt

The Battle of Agincourt

The Longbow and Bodkin arrowhead

Other Key Factors

My View

Questions



Background

Hundred Years War spanning from 1337- 1453

How the feud started

King Henry V

First acts as King

Lead up to Agincourt

Southampton to Harfleur

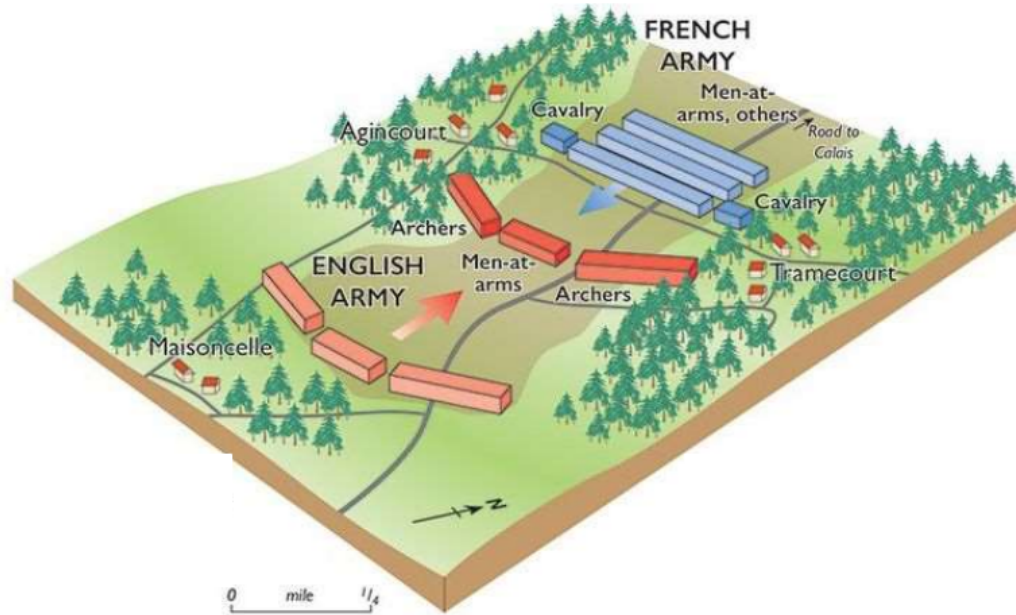
Siege lasted much longer than expected

Dysentery and casualties amongst the English army

Journey home through Calais



The Battle of Agincourt



English army arriving at the battlefield

King Henry V's men were heavily outnumbered

Heavy rain caused the battlefield to become very marshy

English tactics played to their strengths

King Henry V made the first move

French army went into disarray



The Longbow and Bodkin arrowhead

The Longbow was the most predominant missile weapon used by the English in the Hundred Years War

These longbows were used to fire arrows with Bodkin arrowheads at the Battle of Agincourt

This weapon is thought by many to be the deciding factor in the victory of the Battle of Agincourt

Much higher rate of fire than the crossbows used by the French army

Other Key Factors

The tactics and formation of the English

French mistakes

The terrain of the battlefield

My View

I believe that there was not one deciding factor in the Battle of Agincourt

Instead, I have ranked the key factors from most decisive to least decisive:

1. The terrain of the battlefield 
2. The use of the Longbow 
3. Tactics of the English 
4. French mistakes

Questions?

TA presentation

GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

31 /50

GENERAL COMMENTS

Introduced the problem with a clear contents slide. It was a good breakdown, with nice slide design to accompany, but weighting may have been out of kilter - see further comments. Spoke without notes and kept eye contact with audience. Appeared confident and managed nerves by holding hands together. Slight rocking so ground yourself if necessary. Kept explanations really simple and was therefore the best at connecting with the audience. 'lead up to Agincourt' slide was okay, but images were too small, particularly the map, when the direction of advance was described. Very heavy on the battle itself, and would have wanted to hear more about the longbow and bodkin, which was smallest element of the presentation. Some aspects of metallurgy such as 'treatment' but did not explain. Never admit that it something is not too clear on a slide as the audience will focus on that. Liked the ranking of factors at the end - terrain, longbow, tactics and the mistakes by French. This would have appeased the historian. Ran over time - 17 minutes. What sources were used? Could have used reference slide at end.

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