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THE FLEMISH CONTRIBUTION
TO EARLY PORTUGUESE OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES

by

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1 INTRODUCTION

The year 1415 marks a turning point in history. Two major battles were fought in that year, serving as the fulcrum upon which the changing stream of events turned. The first was the conquest of the Moslem city of Ceuta on 21 August by a Portuguese-English force led by King John I of Portugal. The second was the battle of Agincourt, fought on 25 October in the county of Artois, between Arras and Calais, near the border of Flanders. This second battle pitted an English-Portuguese force led by King Henry V of England against a coalition of French armies. Seemingly unrelated, the two military actions, on more detailed scrutiny, appear to have been closely coordinated, conducted in concert. The two battles, both surprisingly successful for the respective invading forces, set up a chain of events that within 20 years brought a large number of Flemish nobles and citizens into expanding Portuguese overseas adventures.

2 CEUTA

The invasion of Morocco by the Portuguese required extensive preparation. Ships were built and commandeered, troops raised, outfitted and trained, supplies gathered, intelligence of the enemy situation obtained. These preparations consumed well over a year, actually beginning in 1413. The gathering of more than 200 ships and 50,000 soldiers and seamen could not be conducted in secret.

To obtain secrecy, King John and his councillors decided on spreading confusion. The prior of the Knights Hospitalers (Knights of St. John of Jerusalem) was sent to Sicily, rumors said to arrange the marriage of Prince Peter, King John's second son, to the widowed queen of Sicily. His true mission was to ascertain the defenses of Ceuta, where he stopped twice on his voyage, once on the way to Sicily and once on the return voyage. Ferdinand Fogaça was sent as ambassador to William VI, Count of Hainault, Holland and Zeeland, to protest Dutch piracy and interference with Portuguese merchant shipping bound for the Flemish port of Sluis. John Alphonse de Alenquer, administrator of the personal estates of King John, was sent in 1414 along with two Portuguese knights, John and Peter Couceiro, to challenge three French knights in a joust at the palace of France's King Charles VI at St. Ouen (near Paris).

The most important of his embassies was sent to England, headed by John

Vaz de Almada, a confidant of King John I, a descendant of English nobility, and a knight of the English Order of the Garter. In 1405, John Vaz had gone to England to accompany King John's daughter, Beatrice, whose marriage had been arranged with Thomas FitzAlan, the Earl of Arundel.¹ This time, however, John Vaz had an assignment to obtain English military support for the Ceuta operation and to coordinate the supply of Portuguese forces for the planned English military adventures in France. Álvaro Vaz de Almada, who later became recognized as the greatest knight of Europe, accompanied his father to England on this mission; it was agreed that Álvaro Vaz would lead the Portuguese contingent that would accompany King Henry to France.² John Sodré, an English nobleman married into the house of Beaufort and a councillor to Queen Philippa of Portugal, would lead the English archers in the conquest of Ceuta.³ The outward reason for this visit to England was to pay respects to the new king of England, Henry V, whose father, Henry IV, had died in March, 1413.

Rumors flew abroad, because such a host as was gathering in the harbors of Porto and Lisbon foreshadowed a major military endeavor, obviously intended for an overseas destination due to the large number of ships being gathered and provisioned. Some said that the Portuguese would invade Normandy, in dispute at the time between England and France, but not securely held by either; some said Flanders was the objective, since Flanders was a vital Portuguese market and the Burgundian Valois dukes had seized the land from its historical counts. Some said that the Portuguese fleet was bound for Rome to support Benedict XIII, the Pope of Avignon, in his claims to the papal throne. Some whispered that King John was determined to conquer Granada, the last Moslem kingdom in the Iberian peninsula. Ambassadors from many regions came to Lisbon to seek assurance that their countries were not the objective of this growing fleet.

England supplied five ships and a body of archers to the Portuguese units assembling in the Tagus harbor fronting Lisbon. The 242-ship fleet that finally sailed from Lisbon on 23 June 1415 was composed of 27 galleys, 63 troop transports, and 120 various supply and other vessels. The fleet carried 50,000 soliders and seamen.

3 AGINCOURT

Henry V soon decided after ascending the English throne in March, 1413, to press home the English claim to the French throne by means of invasion

of France. It suited his purpose, perhaps even cloaked his intent, to join with King John I of Portugal, his uncle by marriage, in confusing all Europe while war preparations were underway. A truce with the French was in effect until 2 August 1415. Hundreds of ships, barges, and vessels of all descriptions were gathered at Southampton. Five ships with hundreds of archers, under the command of John Sodré, an English nobleman assigned to the court of Portugal, left Southampton for Lisbon in early June. The Portuguese nobleman Álvaro Vaz de Almada had arrived from Portugal with a substantial Portuguese contingent. King Henry confided in only a few select advisors that his objective was to be Normandy, in fact the most important port of Normandy, Harfleur, which he had already determined to turn into an English enclave such as Calais had become on the northern French coast.

When the 242-ship Portuguese fleet with its 50,000 soldiers and seamen rounded the Cape of St. Vincent on 26 July and put into the port of Lagos, the English at Calais poured out of the city's protective walls to overrun the surrounding country of Boulonois. These operations were put into effect on 2 August, upon the instant that the truce with France terminated.

The French Duke of Aquitaine, who now ruled France in the name of his father, Charles VI, who had been confined with a mental disorder, reinforced the garrisons in all coastal towns and castles, including Harfleur. He assembled several forces of men-at-arms and archers to be thrown against the English, if the Southampton forces should choose to land in France. He had sent a formal embassy to England, by way of Calais, to propose to King Henry handsome offers in return for peace. This embassy returned, laden with gifts but with a firm rejection of all proposals. Then, the Duke of Aquitaine ordered a contingent of 500 combatants under the Lord of Rambures and the Lord of Louroy to oppose the English marauders who were striking out from Calais.

On 7 August the Portuguese fleet set sail from their southern province of the Algarves for Ceuta. On 11 August King Henry led his armada from Southampton and landed at Quilleboeuf on the Seine estuary, just outside the the Normandy port of Harfleur. The Earl of Arundel, married to King John's daughter Beatrice, was at King Henry's side; the Portuguese contingent was well in evidence. Meanwhile, at Ceuta, the name of Valentine Payne, an

English nobleman from the house of Lancaster, emerged among the valiant English contingent that swept through Ceuta with the Portuguese host. Valentine's son, Diogo, was destined to govern the island of Terceira in the Azores Archipelago for Prince Henry of Portugal, but at this time the existence of the Azores was not yet known.

The battle of Agincourt was not planned. Harfleur, when the 30,000 English arrived, was strongly fortified with thick walls, 26 towers, and 3 fortified gateways. Even though King Henry had brought battering rams, heavy artillery (firing stone balls as heavy as 1,000 pounds), the defenders of Harfleur held out until 22 September, when on Sunday, St. Maurice's day, they surrendered.

The nobles and persons of substance were sent by Henry to England to be ransomed. The lesser persons - men, women, children - were given 5 sous each, some of their clothing, and were driven from the city. Harfleur, after it was stripped of its wealth, was repopled with English, thus becoming an English city on the Normandy coast, after the manner of Calais.

After 15 days in Harfleur, King Henry departed with 2,000 men-at-arms, 13,000 archers, and a supply train. He had determined to return to England via Calais, sending the fleet by sea but he himself marching with this smaller force overland to Calais. Passing through the countryside of Caux, he made for the County of Eu, where he was lightly resisted. He then headed for the Somme River crossing at Blanchetaque, but was blocked by a French army under John Boucicaut, the Marshal of France. King Henry marched his forces inland along the south bank of the Somme, while the French forces dispersed on the north side to defend the main fords over the river. Finally, beyond Peronne, near the town of Ham, the English crossed at unguarded fords at Bethencourt and Voyenne and headed for Calais.

After two days march toward Calais, King Henry was blocked by French forces numbering nearly 100,000 strong, outnumbering his own army by six to one. The French troops were led by the top nobility of France, the number of destroyed banners counted after the battle exceeding 200. The constable of France, dukes, counts, barons, lords of manors, and lesser nobility numbered in the hundreds; the number of knights alone were in excess of 500.

Eight Christians fell at Ceuta; the Moslems lost only a few hundred before the city was in Portuguese hands. At Agincourt, on the other hand,

1,600 English and more than 10,000 French lay dead on the field of battle. The English forces at Ceuta, led by Sodré and Payne, proved gallant; the Portuguese force under de Almada at Agincourt won for him the title of Count of Avranches, a county in Normandy, which title was confirmed by the French king years later when the tide of conquest in France once more turned against the English.

4 THE PORTUGUESE-FLEMISH RELATIONSHIP

Portugal and Flanders had had a close relationship since the times of Julius Caesar.⁴ In 55 B.C., Caesar, who had previously been governor of Lusitania, the Roman name for Portugal, led his legions across the channel from Flanders to attack Britannia. To protect his rear areas while occupied in Britannia, Caesar sent Lucius Aurunculeius Cotta, a Lusitanian general, against the Menapii and scattered Morini clans that had not yet sworn allegiance to Rome. During the ensuing Roman era, Lusitanians visited Flanders as members of the Roman legions and as traders, especially to Lugudunum (Sluis), the port for Bruges. After the creation of modern Portugal in 1143 even stronger ties began to build. Baldwin VII of Flanders became the Latin emperor of Constantinople in 1204, leaving Flanders to his 5-year old daughter, Joan. In 1212, the year of the great Christian-Moslem battle of Las Navas de Tolosa in which the Moslems in the Iberian Peninsula were decisively defeated by a combined Castilian, Portuguese, and Aragonese army, King Philip II Augustus of France arranged the marriage of Joan to Ferdinand of Portugal, a son of King Sancho I.⁵ Thus, a Portuguese prince became the Count of Flanders, effectively succeeding Baldwin VII. Trade between Flanders and Portugal continued to increase for the next two centuries.

The battle of Agincourt brought Flemish troops directly into conflict with Portuguese soldiers. John the Fearless, Duke of Burgundy and Count of Flanders, did not fight at Agincourt, though two of his brothers, Anthony, the Duke of Brabant and Philip, the Count of Nevers, died there. Though King Charles had sent ambassadors to Duke John requiring that he send soldiers for the forthcoming battle, and though John replied that he would attend the king with all his chivalry, he himself did not go, nor would he allow his son, Philip, Count of Charolais, to go in person.⁶ Lucky that he didn't. Ten thousand in the French army died that day at Agincourt, pierced by English arrows or hacked and bludgeoned to death by the fierce axes, hatchets, mallets, falconbeaks, and swords. Casualties among the nobility and their knights were

exceptionally devastating. The Dukes of Brabant, of Bar, and of Alençon died; the Counts of Nevers, Marle, Vaudemont, Blaumont, Grand-pé, Roussy, and Fauquembergh died in the mud at Agincourt. Enguerrand de Monstrelet in his Chronicles lists two pages of nobility who died on the field of battle. The family of John de Bethencourt, king of the Canary Islands, was nearly obliterated.⁷ Henry of Portugal gained from this Bethencourt disaster.

Prince Henry of Portugal, along with his brothers Edward and Peter, was knighted at Ceuta at the hands of his father, King John I. On the way back to Lisbon, while stopping in Tavira in the Algarves in September, 1415, King John created the first two dukedoms in Portugal. The first was awarded to his son, Peter, who became the Duke of Coimbra; Henry was the second, becoming the Duke of Viseu. On 18 February 1416, six months after the conquest of Ceuta, Henry, now titled the Duke of Viseu and the Lord of Covilhã, was charged to govern and defend Ceuta "in a manner as if we ourselves so ordered to be done."⁸ Thus, in 1416, Prince Henry had received the assignment which would grow into his life's work, the initiation of world discovery (see Figure 14 for the extent of Portuguese discoveries at the time of Henry's death in 1460).

The sons of King John of Portugal had always desired to perform great deeds. Henry had now been assigned the responsibility for Ceuta and whatever the Portuguese African adventure might bring. Edward had the heavier burden of future kingship and prepared himself in learning and literature. Peter, the Duke of Coimbra, had other ambitions. In 1418, after the Moslem siege of Ceuta was raised, Peter led twelve of the greatest knights of Portugal on a Galahad-type quest.⁹ Rich in trappings, well supplied with gifts, accompanied by one Garcia Ramires, who spoke Greek, Hebrew, Arabic and Turkish, supported by a bevy of shield bearers and servants, this knightly quest set off for Valladolid in Castille. From there, they passed through Aragon, northern Italy, and arrived in Hungary where they offered their services to King Sigismund, then besieged by the Turks.¹⁰ Against the Moslem Turks, Duke Peter and his "twelve disciples", as the chronicler called them, found the satisfaction of battle in their knightly cause. At Duke Peter's side fought Álvaro Vaz de Almada, the same knight, now Count of Avranches, who led the Portuguese contingent at Agincourt.

When the Turkish threat had been beaten back, Duke Peter was awarded the County or March of Treviso, a border county today found in Yugoslavia across

from Venice, and an annual pension of 20,000 Hungarian florins. Leaving one of his distinguished knights, Álvaro Gonçalves de Ataíde, who had fought at Ceuta, as governor of his new march, Duke Peter and his cavalcade continued their quest, this time to Jerusalem.¹¹

Duke Peter's wanderings were not shortlived, lasting a full ten years. In 1422, still accompanied by Álvaro Vaz de Almada, he attended the funeral ceremonies of England's King Henry V, who was his first cousin.¹² In 1425, he was back in England again, at this time honorably received by the dead Henry's brothers, the Dukes of Bedford and Gloucester. He also visited his sister, Beatrice, the widow of the Earl of Arundel. On this visit to England, Duke Peter was inducted into the highly select Order of the Garter.¹³

In December, 1425, Duke Peter embarked for Ostende in Flanders to visit the Duke of Burgundy.¹⁴ Duke Peter, being a marquis in the Holy Roman Empire as well as a duke in Portugal, was royally received by Duke Philip.¹⁵ A festival in his honor was arranged by the citizenry of Bruges, ending with a special ceremony called the "wine of honor," a traditional Flemish practice to honor great occasions or prestigious persons.¹⁶ Duke Philip was engaged at this critical period in wars in Holland, where his rule was being challenged by his niece Jacqueline and by Duke Peter's cousin, England's Duke of Gloucester. Consequently, he asked Duke Peter to stay in Flanders, lending his prestige and titles to maintaining stability in Flanders while he, Philip, was absent in Holland.¹⁷

Duke Peter stayed in Flanders for more than a year, being fêted at Bruges with two more unprecedented "wine of honor" ceremonies. He left Bruges in April, 1426, for Ghent, where he was a guest in Duke Philip's palace for the remainder of his visit to Flanders. During this stay of over a year, he met the Flemish nobility, studied the Burgundian mode of government, had his portrait painted by Jan van Eyck, and observed the ways of the Flemish people. He wrote down all these observations and sent them with his comments to his brother Prince Edward, who was ruling in Portugal for his aging father, John I. Philip also desired his continued presence in Flanders, since Duke Peter was first cousin to the Duke of Gloucester, and his mere presence was sufficient to keep Gloucester out of the war in Holland. Duke Peter, in turn, prepared the groundwork for the marriage of his sister, Elizabeth, to Duke Philip. In the spring of 1427 Duke Peter finally left Flanders for Hungary and his Marchdom of Treviso.

In 1428, the year after Duke Peter left Flanders for Treviso, Philip sent an embassy to Portugal to arrange for his marriage to Elizabeth. This was accomplished successfully after lengthy discussions and negotiations. Elizabeth, whose marriage documents were signed in Lisbon, finally arrived in Sluis, Flanders, on Christmas day, 1429.¹³ The marriage was solemnized in a religious ceremony in the city of Bruges on 9 January 1430 in the presence of a multitude of high nobility. The ceremonies, feasting, and jousting lasted for eight days.¹⁴

In September, 1435, Philip of Burgundy signed a treaty of peace with his enemy, King Charles VII of France. Also in September of this year, John, the Duke of Bedford, Philip's English ally died. John's brother, Humphrey, the Duke of Gloucester, Philip's old enemy, became the most powerful figure in the English government; he immediately set about to conquer Flanders from Philip. In November, Humphrey had himself appointed royal lieutenant in Calais, Picardy, Artois, and Flanders, even though England only controlled Calais. In early 1436 he ordered pillaging expeditions to be sent out from the city of Calais. In August, having gathered an army, Humphrey set sail from Sandwich and Dover for Calais with "all the sustaunce of lordys of this land." To counter this army, Philip attempted to raise levies from his various possessions; he even sent Elizabeth through the cities of Flanders to gather troops, but little help came from the Flemish towns. Humphrey led a raid from Calais through west Flanders, gathering booty, burning the deserted villages he encountered. He sent his fleet along the Flemish coast, raiding, burning. At Poperinge, he declared himself the Count of Flanders, then burnt the town to the ground. Taking great quantities of booty, Humphrey boarded his ships at Calais and returned to England in triumph.

Rebellions broke out in Bruges, in Ghent, and in other Flemish towns. The English invasion had been key to releasing the underlying anger and resentment of the Flemish against the Duke of Burgundy, his baillifs, and other officers who extracted taxes from the Flemish. A key element in the revolt was the old nobility, the grandsons and great grandsons of the former Counts of Flanders, who had lost inheritances and titles when the Valois dukes of Burgundy had taken possession of Flanders. The pattern of revolt throughout the country was the same. Civic authorities appointed by the Duke's administrators were accused of mismanaging funds and exercising high-handed authority. The Flemish assembled in the market places, killed some city councillors, released prisoners,

threatened the Duke's Council of Flanders, which met at Ghent to consider the situation. Philip's trusted captain Jehan de Villiers was killed in Bruges and Philip barely escaped with his life.

Philip resolved to use the force necessary to put down the Flemish revolt. Using Picard and other non-Flemish troops, he ruthlessly attacked the Flemish in open war. Locations of major conflicts are shown in Figure 16. By February, 1438, Flanders was pacified by force, an agreement with its remaining leaders being signed at Arras. The terms placed on the Flemish were harsh and humiliating. For example, Bruges had to pay a fine of 200,000 riders; their bridges, walls, and fortifications were destroyed; their leaders had to meet Philip outside of the city and were forced to kneel before him in apology, bareheaded and barefooted. A long list of other penalties were placed on the citizenry, so that all felt the pain. The port of Sluis was removed from the jurisdiction of Bruges. Ten prominent citizens of Bruges were publicly beheaded, their heads placed at all the gates of the city.

Inflation of the economy, hunger, and disease followed the peace treaty. Meanwhile in Portugal, Prince Henry's captains had rounded Cape Bojador; the Atlantic islands of Madeira and Porto Santo had been discovered and were being populated. The Azores Islands had more recently been discovered (1432). Elizabeth, in her concern for the suffering Flemish subjects, wrote to her brother, requesting that he use the displaced Flemish in his endeavors. This he agreed to, stipulating, however, conditions for their selection. First, since Henry was the grand master of the Military Order of Christ and a devout Catholic, he insisted that only practicing Catholics could come to his domain. Also, they must accept Portuguese as being the common language of communication; they could not coin money; and they had to pay their taxes, the "dízima" or tenth of all products produced.

Willem van der Hagen was an early Flemish leader in the establishment of colonies in the Azores Islands. His story illustrates the mode of expatriation of the Flemish and the manner of merging into the Portuguese culture. Van der Hagen was a grandson of a former Count of Flanders and was born in Bruges. He gathered some colonists, left Flanders, and came to the Algarves and entered Prince Henry's service. Sometime in the early 1440's, he led his colonists to the Azores Islands. Since the islands of Santa Maria and Sao Miguel had been given to the governorship of Gonçalo Velho Cabral, van der Hagen pro-

ceeded to the third island, Terceira. He founded a colony on the north coast, now known as Quatro Ribeiras ; he built the first church on the island, devoted to Saint Beatrice. In 1450, Prince Henry assigned the government of the island of Terceira to another Flemish nobleman, Jacomé de Bruges, who had also been in his service for some time, probably on voyages along the African coast and perhaps at Ceuta. When Terceira was given to de Bruges, van der Hagen left Terceira, returned to Flanders, brought new colonists to the Azores. This time he settled, however, on the island of Faial, which had not yet been occupied, near a place now called Praia do Norte. Once again van der Hagen was to be displaced; the governorship of this island, along with the island of Pico, was given to yet another Flemish nobleman, Joos van Huerter.

Van der Hagen was now requested by Duchess Beatrice, the widow of Prince Ferdinand, Henry's adopted son and heir, to colonize a newly discovered island of the group (later to be called Flores). Once again van der Hagen moved his family and a group of colonists to this island. He built several houses near a creek which he named Santa Cruz. Here he remained for seven years, then moved his family to the island of São Jorge, which had not yet been settled. Here he changed his name to the Portuguese equivalent of Willem van der Hagen (Guilherme da Silveira) and founded the town of Tôpo. He built the first church on this island, devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary. The change in name apparently was a good omen, for this time he stayed and ruled the island until his death. Further, his sons and grandsons succeeded him in this capacity. During the reign of King John II the family coat of arms, as used in Flanders, was restored in Portugal. Descendants of this first Silveira became navigators for Portugal, military commanders, government officials, and bishops in the Portuguese overseas endeavors. Manuel José de Arriaga Brum da Silveira, born on the island of Faial and elected the first President of the Portuguese Republic on 26 August 1910, was a descendant of Willem van der Hagen. Milton Silveira, a senior NASA official in the United States Space Shuttle program, is a direct descendant of van der Hagen.

A voyage from Sluis to the Azores Islands in those days, or a return voyage to Sluis, was no easy task. Assuming that a ship avoided pirates, which everywhere existed, and bad weather, navigation itself was uncertain. The ships left Sluis, the port for Bruges, proceeded to England, usually Sandwich or Dover, then followed the southern English coast to Plymouth or Falmouth, then across

the Bay of Biscay to Galicia, along the Galician and Portuguese coasts to Cascais and then to Lisbon. From Lisbon, the ships worked their way along the Portuguese coast, around Sagres to Lagos; then from Lagos they followed the Canaries Current south along the African coast to nearly the latitude of the Canaries Islands. From there, avoiding the southflowing Canaries Current and southflowing winds, they put to sea into the broad "Ocean Sea", Mar Oceano, until the longitude of the Azores was reached. Then they turned north, hoping for one of the nine islands. This voyage took months to accomplish. Duke Philip's embassy to Portugal in 1428, for example, left Sluis on 19 October 1428 and arrived at Cascais, near Lisbon, on 18 December.

The return voyage to Flanders was nearly as difficult. Ships left the Azores on a straight run for Lisbon, since prevailing currents and winds permitted this. From Lisbon, they proceeded to Cascais, to Galicia, across the Bay of Biscay to the southern coast of England, to Plymouth once they had made the coast, along the English coast to Sandwich or Dover, then finally to Sluis. Following this course from Cascais the small Portuguese fleet that carried Princess Elizabeth to Flanders in 1429 left Cascais on 17 October and arrived at Sluis on Christmas day, 25 December. The Portuguese fleet that conquered Ceuta left Lisbon on 23 June 1415 and arrived at Ceuta on 7 August. Thus, one can conclude that a voyage to Flanders from the Azores Islands and return with colonists had to take two years.

What did the Flemish receive from Prince Henry in return for their repatriation and service to his endeavors? The leaders received a new country to rule, even though they had to develop the areas from raw land as nature had provided. Jacomé de Bruges received from "Infante Dom Henrique, ruler and governor of the Military Order of Jesus Christ, Duke of Viseu, and Lord of Covilhã, and Lord of the Islands" the following: complete jurisdiction over the island of Terceira, responsibility to obtain colonists and approve who would live there; rights and privileges in the same degree that was exercised by Henry's governors, John Gonçalves Zargo and Tristan Teixeira in Madeira, and Bartholomew Perestrelo in Porto Santo; the exercise of justice in the island, both civil and criminal, except when punishment was death or dismemberment.²⁰ De Bruges was to receive a tenth of the tenth, i.e., 1%, of all that was produced on the island. He also was granted sole jurisdiction over all gristmills or other mills on the island. His jurisdiction and rights in Terceira were

hereditary, passing to his oldest child and so on, in perpetuity.

In turn, de Bruges was permitted to give grants of land to the colonists, based on the "sesmarias" or homesteads, a concept of resettlement that had developed in Portugal during the long period of the Reconquest from the Moslems. These colonists had to develop their properties within a period of five years or lose their rights. Water, certain pasturage lands, and roads were to be used in common. Taxes were simply administered: 10 percent of all that was produced was set aside for Henry; his agents gave 10 percent of this to de Bruges.

Joos van Huerter came from Flanders to Lisbon and entered the Portuguese service. In the course of time, he met and married Beatrice de Macedo, a lady in waiting to Duchess Beatrice, wife of Duke Ferdinand, Henry's heir. The Macedo family had already been given large holdings in the island of São Miguel in the Azores. Thus, when van Huerter married Beatrice, it was only natural that he should seek responsibilities and properties in the Azores. He was subsequently named captain-donatary of the islands of Faial and Pico, and thus displaced Willem van der Hagen, who at the time was living on Faial.

Well known to current scholars is Martin Behaim (Martinho de Boémia), who was German by birth but who worked in Bruges. In 1484 he came from Flanders and entered the Portuguese service, sailing on the voyage of Diogo Cão to the Congo (Zaire). Martin married Joana van Huerter, daughter of Joos van Huerter and Beatrice de Macedo. He lived on the island of Faial in the Azores. In 1490, Martin returned to Nuremberg, where he constructed the well-known globe showing the discoveries of the world. In 1495, he returned to Portugal where he died in 1507, leaving the name Boémia to his Portuguese descendants.

Many are the famous Portuguese names - in continental Portugal, in Madeira, in the Azores, in the African colonies of Portugal, in India, and in Brazil - that can claim Flemish heritage. A few of the more famous family names that have figured in Portuguese discoveries are listed in Table 1 below. With them, the Flemish brought to Portugal certain customs that still exist, such as the "wine of honor" (vinho or porto de honra), certain religious festivals, such as the Celebration of the Holy Ghost; they brought painting, carillon bells, architecture, shipbuilding knowledge, and navigation knowledge. We can state that the two great battles of Ceuta and Agincourt in 1415 created

conditions wherein the Flemish, albeit under the Portuguese flag, can claim a real mark in the discovery and colonization of the world.

Table 1. Flemish Names In Portuguese Overseas Activities

<u>Flemish Name</u>	<u>Portuguese Equivalent or Modification</u>
Behaim	Boémia
Bormans	Gusmão
van Brederode	de Brederode (Zeeland)
de Bruges	de Bruges
van der Bruyn	de Brum
de Esmeralde	de Esmeraldo
Filips	Filipe
Floris	Flores
Frank	Franco
de Gand	Grant
van der Goes	de Góes
Govaert	Goulart
Greves	Greves
de Haas	de Haas
van der Hagen	Silveira
van Huerter	Dutra
de la Lande	Terra
Louis	Luis
Maya	Maia
Rosa	Rosa
Santes	Sanches
Souvre	Souvlen
de Valines	Valim
van den Walle	de Vale
Yweyns	Ivens

NOTES

¹ Beatrice was the daughter of King John and Inês Pires Esteves. John, young and the grand master of the Military Order of Aviz, long before the battle of Aljubarrota which placed him on the Portuguese throne, had fallen in love with Inês Pires Esteves and had two children from her out of wedlock: Alphonse, who later became the Count of Barcelos and still later the Duke of Bragança, and Beatrice, whose marriage was arranged by King John with Thomas FitzAlan, the Earl of Arundel, the trusted right hand of England's King Henry IV, who in turn was King John's brother-in-law.

King John arranged another marriage in England. This bride was also a Portuguese princess named Beatrice. This Beatrice, however, was the daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Leonor Teles de Meneses. Beatrice, while still very young, had been married to King John I of Castille, but when this king died, Beatrice, still in her teens, was sent back to Portugal. King John then arranged her marriage to Sir Gilbert Talbot, an English knight and baron. The two Beatrice's are sometimes confused in writings, some authors thinking that the two were really only one.

²At Harfleur, King Henry V had the valiant services of three noblemen who had and would influence Portuguese-English-Burgundian relations. The first was Thomas FitzAlan, the Earl of Arundel, who had helped install Henry's father, Henry Bolingbroke, on the English throne as Henry IV, and who was married to Beatrice, daughter of King John of Portugal, as explained above. The other two were John Holland and Álvaro Vaz de Almada. Arundel contracted dysentery during the siege of Harfleur and returned to England where he soon died. John Holland and Álvaro Vaz de Almada accompanied Henry on his march through France to Calais and distinguished themselves at Agincourt. For this action, Álvaro Vaz was made the Count of Avranches in Normandy and John Holland was raised to the Earl of Huntingdon. In 1432, this same John Holland married Beatrice, the widow of Arundel, and thus became son-in-law to King John of Portugal, and incidentally, brother-in-law to the Princes Edward, Peter, and Henry.

³The Sodré family remained in Portugal and became involved in the Portuguese overseas activities. John's grandson, Diogo Vaz Sodré, married Branca de Correia, daughter of Peter de Correia, who was both captain-donatory (governor) of the Azorean island of Graciosa and brother-in-law to Christopher Columbus.

Thus, Diogo Vaz Sodré, through marriage, was nephew to Christopher Columbus and first cousin to Diogo Columbus, Christopher's son. At the same time, Diogo Vaz Sodre was first cousin to Vasco da Gama, since his aunt Elizabeth was Vasco da Gama's mother. Diogo Vaz had two uncles, Vincent and Bras Sodré, who were captains of ships in Vasco da Gama's second voyage to India. Both were lost at sea, during a terrible storm which they encountered on the return voyage.

⁴Hispania Ulterior (Baetica and Lusitania) had already been a Roman province for 97 years, when Julius Caesar was born in 100 B.C. Caesar's military assignments took him to Hispania Ulterior twice, first in 68 B.C. as staff officer (quaestor) for the governor Antistius Vetus, and the second time in 61 B.C. as governor (praetor). In the period 58-55 B.C. Caesar utilized troops from Hispania Ulterior in his conquest of Gaul, as he stated in his own writings, led by Lusitanian officers, such as Lucius Aurunculeius Cotta and Quintus Junius. Members of the Cotta and Quinto families still live in Portugal.

⁵Fernando was brother-in-law to Alphonse Teles de Meneses, a direct descendant of the Visigothic kings of Hispania. Alphonse Teles was a leader in the great battle of Las Navas de Tolosa (1212), founder of the castle of Albuquerque, and the first nobleman in Portugal raised to the status of Count (Conde de Barcelos). His direct descendant, in turn, Peter de Meneses, Count of Vila Real, was appointed the first captain and governor of Ceuta (1415-1437) by King John I, a fitting assignment since his Visigothic forebears were defeated near Gades (Cadiz) by the Moslem leader Tarik ibn Ziyād, who launched his invasion of Visigothic Hispania from Ceuta.

⁶Though the Portuguese had had trading relations for centuries with Flanders through the port of Sluis at Bruges, the first political interchange between Portugal, England, and Flanders began in 1411. In this year, King Henry IV dispatched the Earl of Arundel, son-in-law to King John of Portugal, to Flanders, then to France, to support John, Duke of Burgundy and Count of Flanders, in a war against the Duke of Orleans and the Armagnacs. Arundel, taking 1,000 English archers and 800 men-at-arms, joined Duke John and his army at Arras and marched across France, entering triumphantly into Paris on 23 October 1411. It may have been during this campaign, or shortly after, that the plan for Portuguese invasion of Ceuta and English concurrent invasion of Normandy began to form in the minds of the two kings. Henry IV died in March, 1413, and con-

sequently the invasion of Normandy was left to his son, Henry V.

⁷ Waleran, Count of Fauquembergh, was nephew to John de Bethencourt, governor of the Canary Islands for Castille, brother to Henry and Maciot de Bethencourt, whose descendants on the islands of Madeira and the Azores founded the large and widespread Portuguese Bettencourt lineage. John's father, also John, Baillif of Amiens, his brother Raoul, Lord of Rayneval, his brother Allain, Lord of Mailly, his nephew John, Lord of Meracourt, and his nephew, Albert, who was acting Lord of Bethencourt during his absence in the Canary Islands, were killed on the battlefield of Agincourt.

⁸ Chancelaria de D. João I, 1° 5, fl. 91 v°, Torre do Tombo, Lisboa. Henry's brother, Edward, renewed this directive when he became king in 1433, and so did the regents for King Alphonse V in 1438. In 1451, Alphonse V assumed direct control of the government of Ceuta. Peter de Meneses, who had remained in Ceuta after its capture as captain for King John I, was under Henry's rule. Peter's father, John Alphonse Teles de Meneses, had been the first Count of Viana but the family lost the title and its properties when John Alphonse was killed in 1384, a partisan of Castille against John of Aviz. Peter and his mother, Guiomar de Portocarreiro, had at that time fled to Castille and had not returned until a treaty was signed by Portugal and Castille in 1411. It was not until Peter de Meneses continued to hold Ceuta against overwhelming odds for nine years that King John I, in 1424, restored his privileges of high nobility, naming him the first Count of Vila Real.

⁹ Duke Peter had planned to leave earlier on his grand quest, but news reached Portugal that the Moslem emir of Morocco had brought more than 100,000 troops to besiege Ceuta. Henry organized two fleets with reinforcements and proceeded to Ceuta. Meanwhile, Peter and Edward gathered another army in the Algarves to serve as additional reinforcements, if needed, but the Moslem siege was broken in 1418. Duke Peter was thereupon freed to initiate his journey.

¹⁰ Sigismund was also the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire and thus was lord to the Duke of Burgundy in the latter's German provinces.

¹¹ Alvaro Gonçaves de Ataide had distinguished himself in battle at Ceuta. As late as 1445, more than 50 years of age, he armed and commanded one of 26 caravels sent by Prince Henry along the coast of Guinea in that year. On 17 December 1448 King Alphonse V raised Alvaro Gonçaves to the rank of high nobility, awarding him the title of Count of Atouguia.

¹² King Henry V died in France, but extensive ceremonies were conducted in England. This visit to England by Duke Peter was reported by Thomas Allen, History and Antiquity of London. London, undated.

¹³ John Stowe, The Annales of England, London, 1592, p. 593.

¹⁴ His companion in arms, Count Álvaro Vaz de Almada, who had helped kill two of Philip's uncles at the battle of Agincourt, did not accompany Duke Peter to Flanders, but proceeded, instead, to his County of Avranches in Normandy.

¹⁵ Duke Peter's son, John, in 1452 became a knight in the service of the then aging Duke Philip of Burgundy. Four years later, proving himself to be the Duke's strong right arm in the battle at Ghent (1452) and others to follow, he was inducted into the prized Order of the Golden Fleece (at the Hague on 2 May 1456.) Duke Peter's daughter, Beatrice, married Adolf of Cleves, a nephew of the Duke of Burgundy. James, another son of Duke Peter, in 1453 was named bishop of Arras, the capital of Duke Philip's County of Artois.

¹⁶ "Vinho de honra", starting as a Flemish tradition, later was brought by the Flemish nobility to the Azores Islands and has been handed down to this day as a Portuguese custom. One can find its practice in all countries where Azoreans have migrated.

¹⁷ The Duke of Burgundy owed allegiance to France but also to the Holy Roman Emperor, Sigismund, since he had properties subject to the Empire. The Duke of Coimbra, a Portuguese prince, also was the Marquis of Treviso, a Hungarian territory, and thus owed loyalty to Emperor Sigismund. It would be natural, then, that one Duke of the Empire ask another Duke of the Empire to perform services in his behalf.

¹⁸ Five ships carried Elizabeth and her party from Portugal to Flanders. Among the Portuguese nobility was her brother, Ferdinand, who was later given as hostage to the Moslems at Tangier (1437), and new nephew, Alphonse, son of her half-brother, Alphonse, the Count of Barcelos.

¹⁹ Chronicles of London. Ed. by C. L. Kingsford. Oxford, 1905, p. 142.

²⁰ Cordeiro, Historia Insulana, p. 243 and Martins da Silva Marques, Descobrimientos Portugueses, pp. 470-71.

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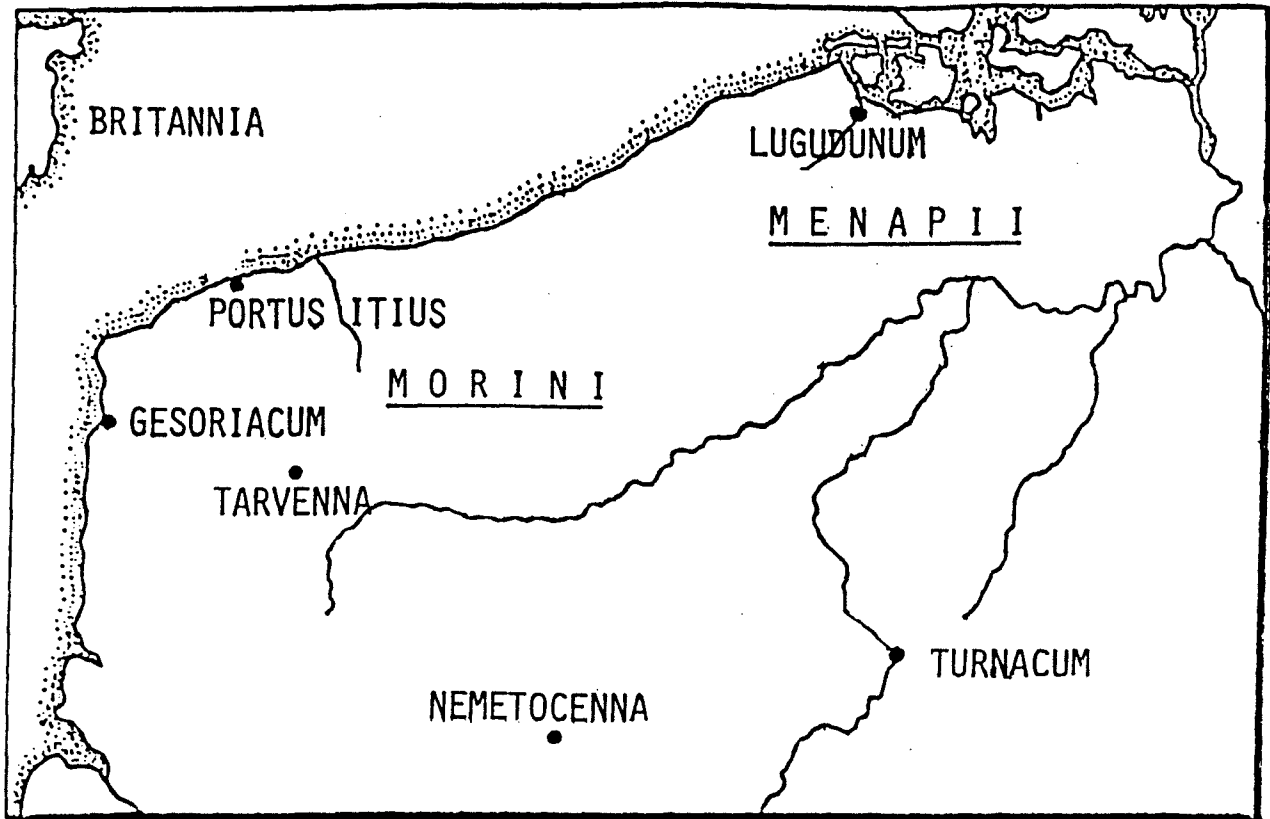
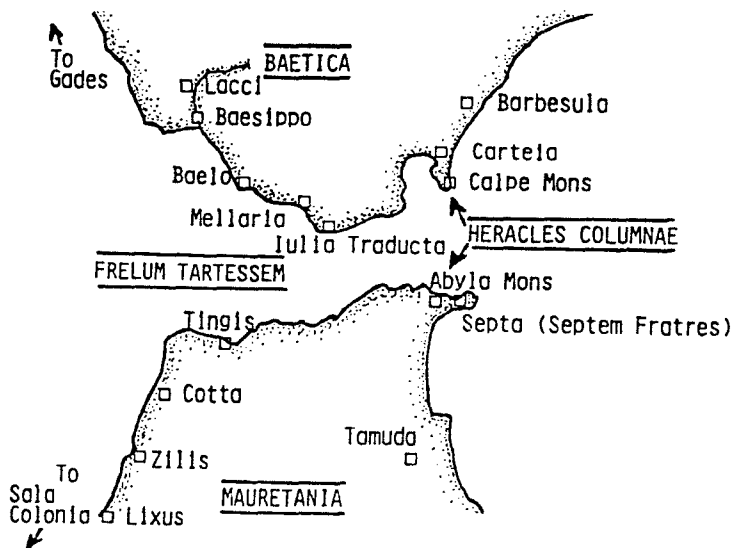


Figure 3. Lucius Aurunculeius Cotta, a Roman general of Lusitanian ancestry, commanding a Lusitanian legion, led the Roman conquest of the Menapii tribes (Flanders) in 55 B.C.

Figure 4. Cotta was from a military family. His forebears had already served in North Africa (Mauretania) and had established the Roman town of Cotta on the Atlantic coast near Tingis (Tangier).



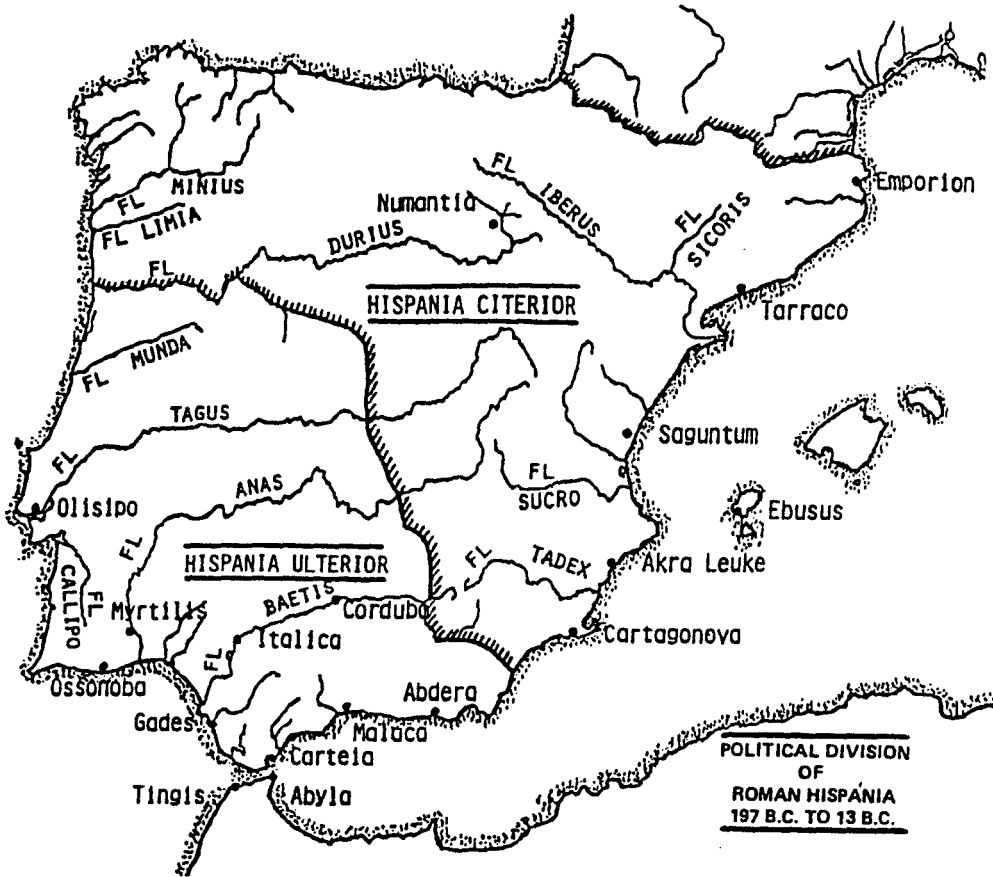
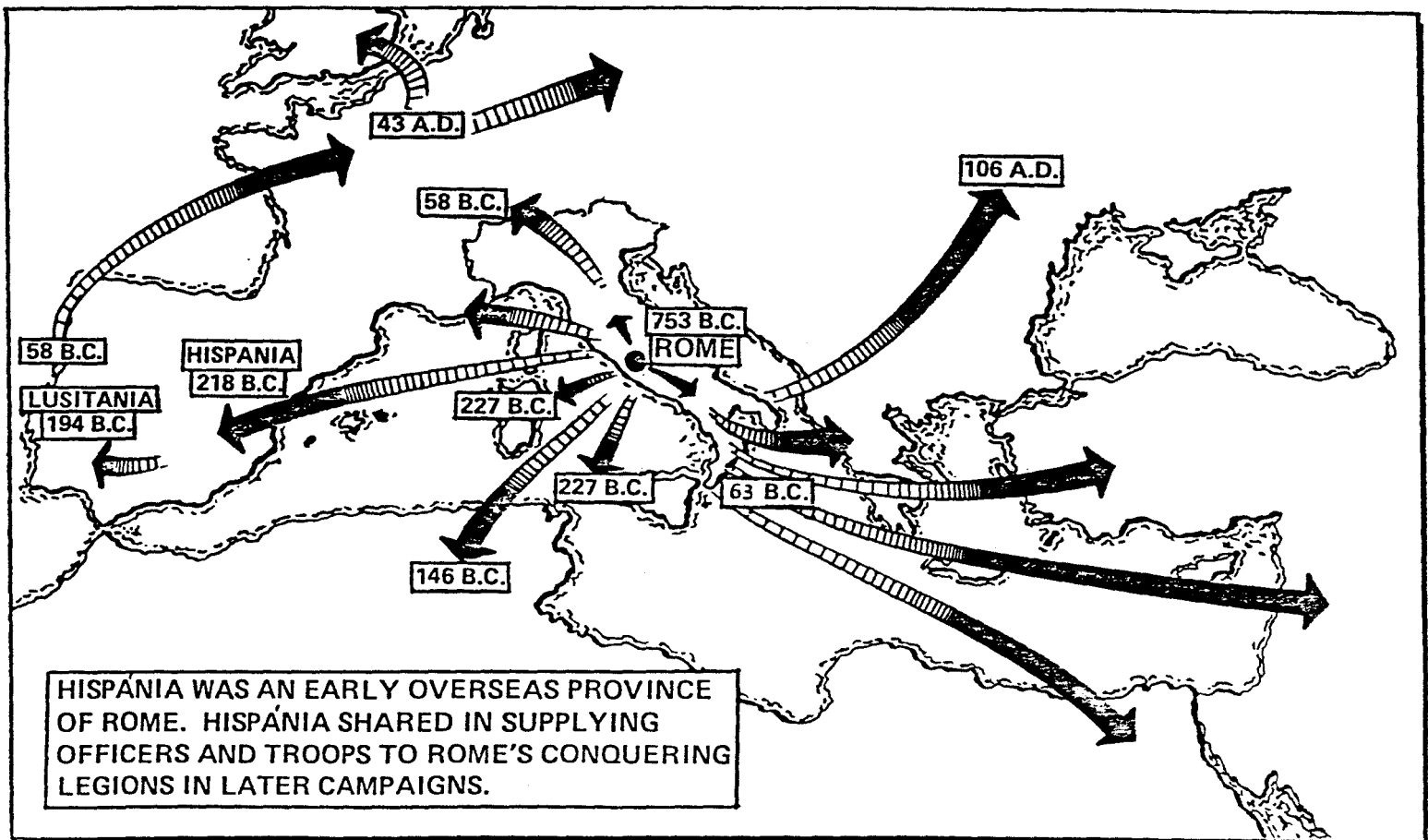


Figure 1. In 197 B.C., after the Second Punic War, the Romans divided their new province of Hispania into two parts at the Rio Almanzora (Baria): Hispania Citerior from the Pyrenees to Rio Almanzora (Baria) and Hispania Ulterior beyond this river. This division gave rise to the term sometimes found in literature to the Hispanias, rather than a single Hispania.

Figure 2. By the time of the conquest of Gaul, beginning in 58 B.C., Hispania was considered a part of Rome and was Roman in all respects.



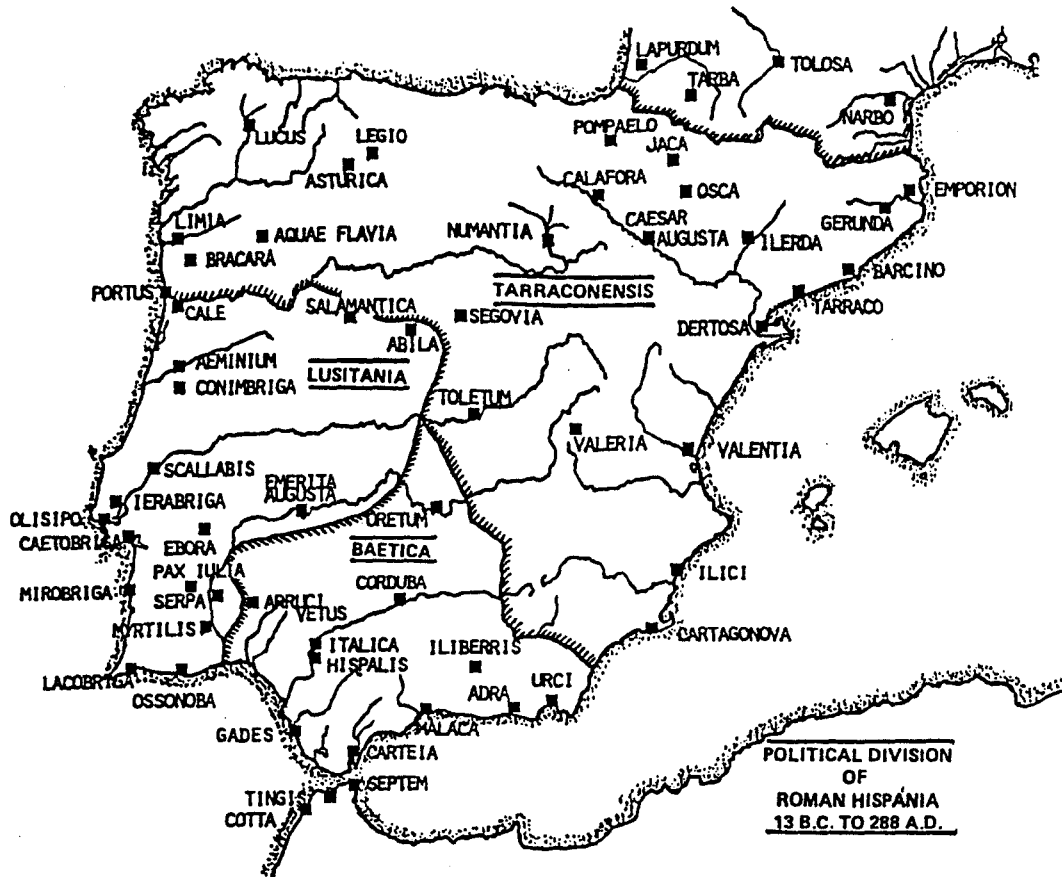


Figure 5. Augustus Caesar recognized the growing importance of Lusitania in 13 B.C. when he divided Hispania Ulterior into Lusitania and Baetica at the Guadiana River (Fluvius Ana) with its capital at Merida (Emerita Augusta).

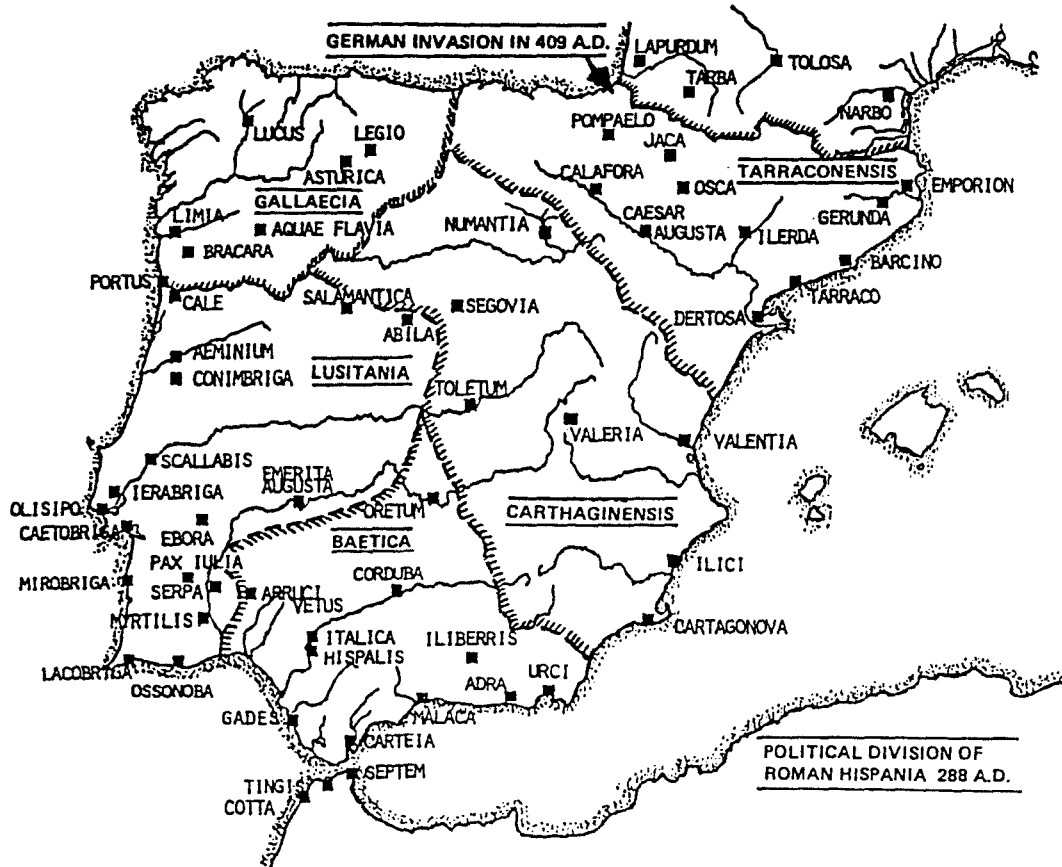


Figure 6. Romanized Suevi, Vandals, and Alans moved into Hispania in 409, followed in 412 by the Visigoths. These Germans had had contact with Roman culture for hundreds of years by the time they invaded Hispania. Consequently, they left little German influence in Hispania.

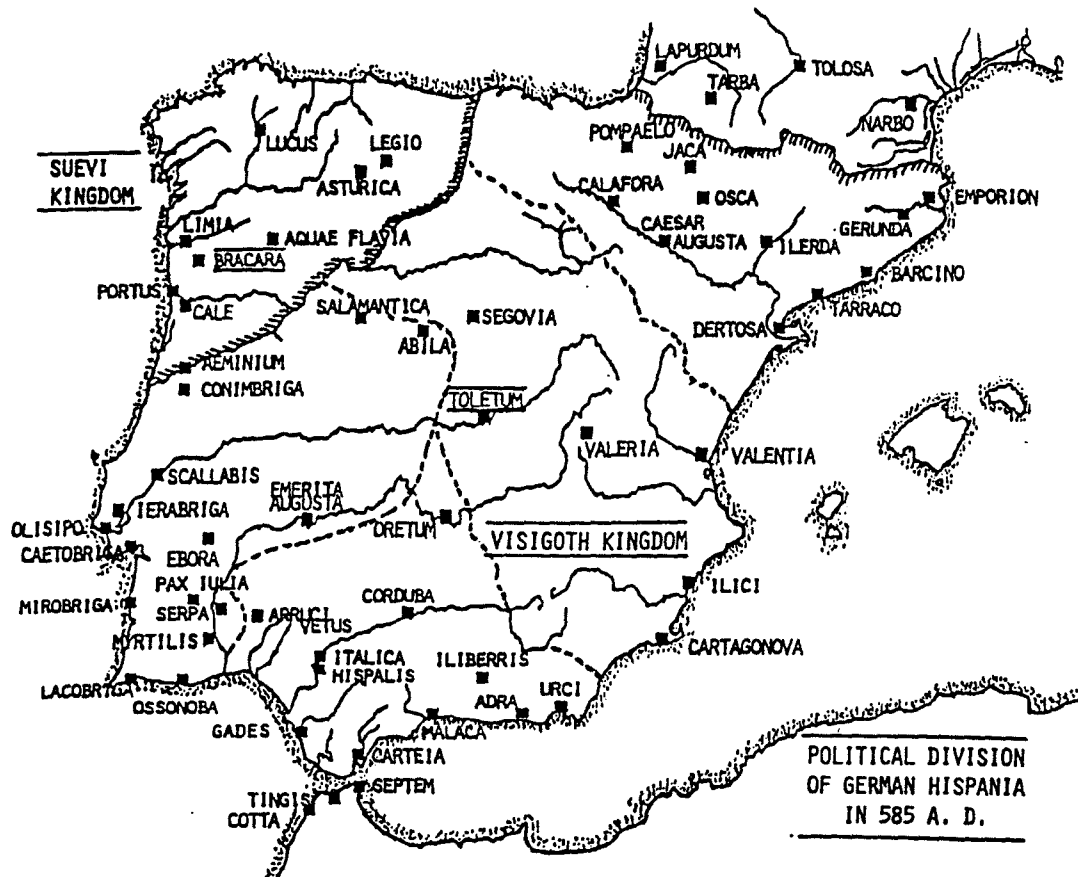


Figure 7. After 585, Hispania was under full Visigothic rule, but remained Roman in its culture, language, religion and laws.

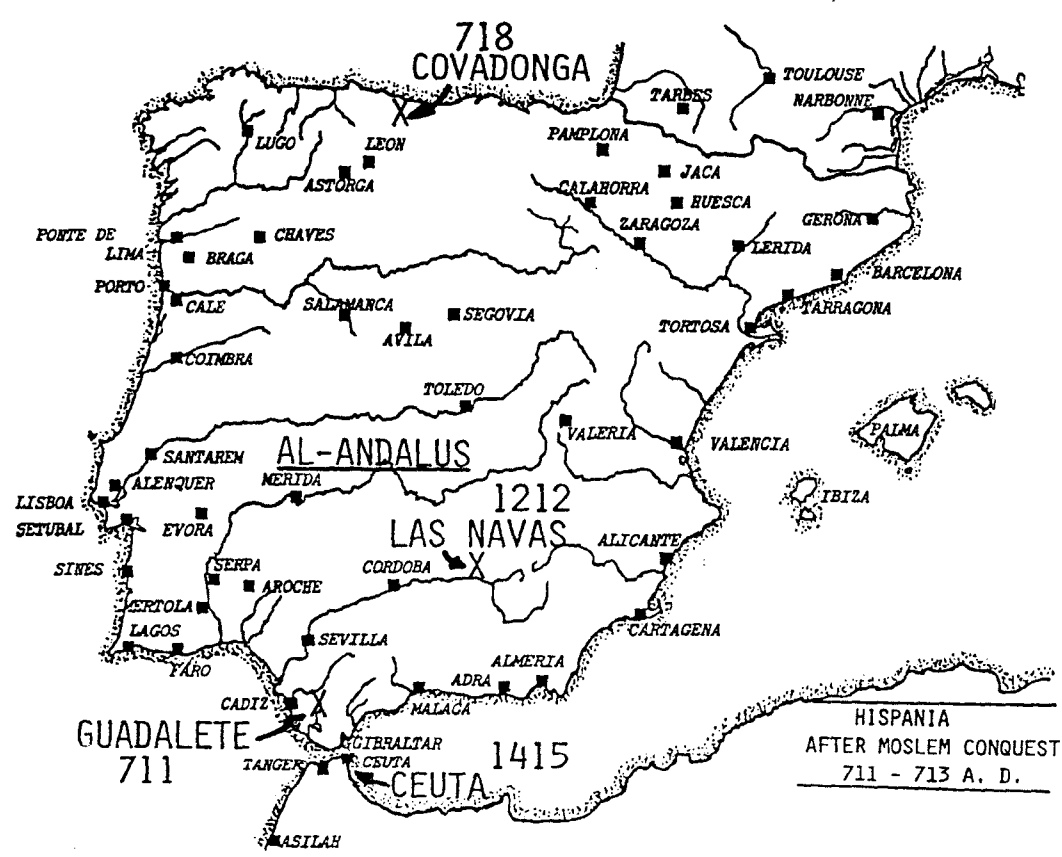


Figure 8. In two years, 711-713, Moslems conquered Hispania and changed its name to Al-Andalus, from which we today derive the name of Spanish Andalusia.

The Christian Reconquest started at the small battle of Covadonga in the mountains of Asturi. in 718. The battle of Las Navas de Tolosa was the critical battle in the centuries-long struggle to reclaim Hispania from the Moslems.

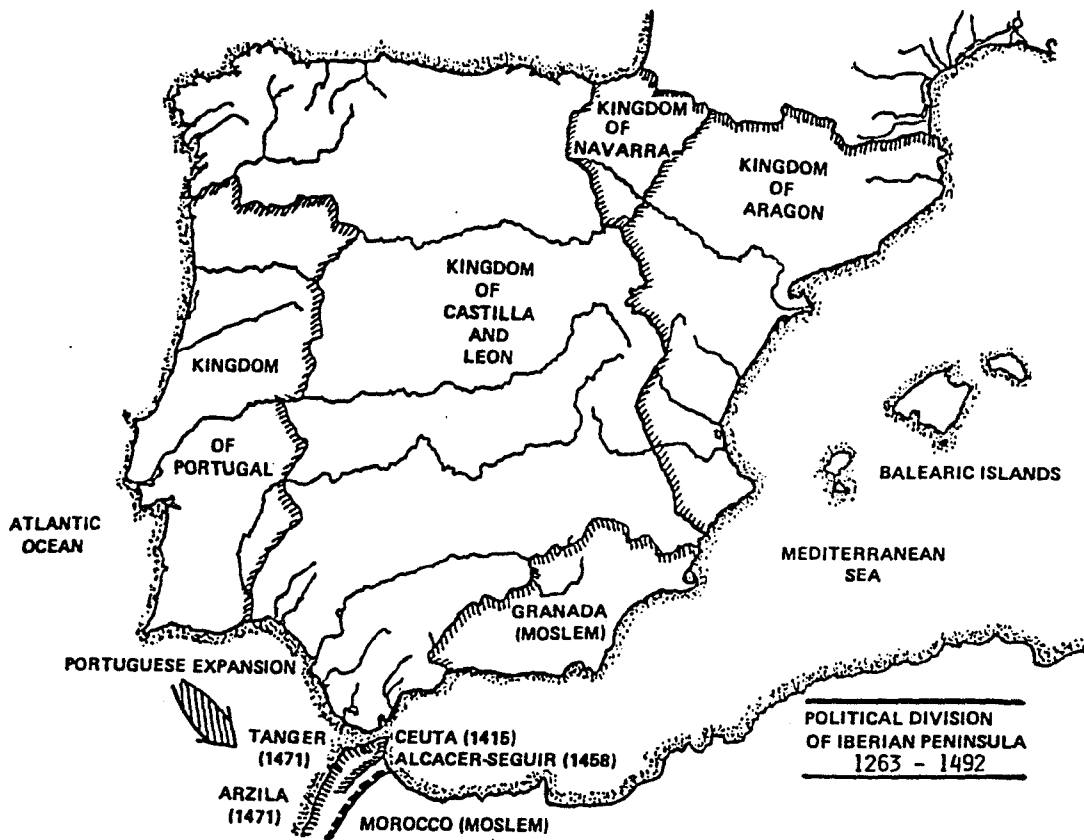


Figure 9. Led by descendants of Visigothic nobility, the Christian Reconquest had reclaimed all of Hispania, except for the Moslem kingdom of Granada, by 1415. During this Reconquest new Christian kingdoms were formed.

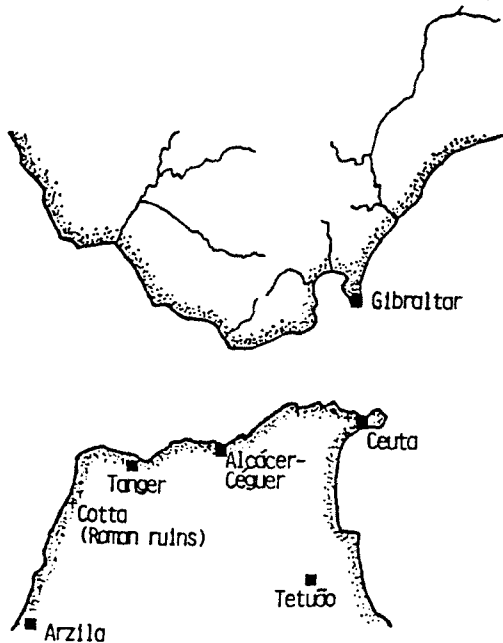


Figure 10. In 1415, Ceuta, the port city from where Tarik ibn Ziyad had launched the invasion of Hispania in 711, fell to the Portuguese. Its new governor for Prince Henry was Pedro de Meneses, a direct descendant of the Visigothic kings whose kingdom had ended at the battle of Guadalete (near Cadiz) in 711.



Figure 11. Princess Isabel, Henry's sister, became the Duchess of Burgundy and Countess of Flanders in 1429. By the mid-1430's she was sending colonists to Henry's islands.



Figure 12. The enterprise that Prince Henry set about needed large numbers of families. Consequently, he was quite pleased with the help he obtained from his sister.

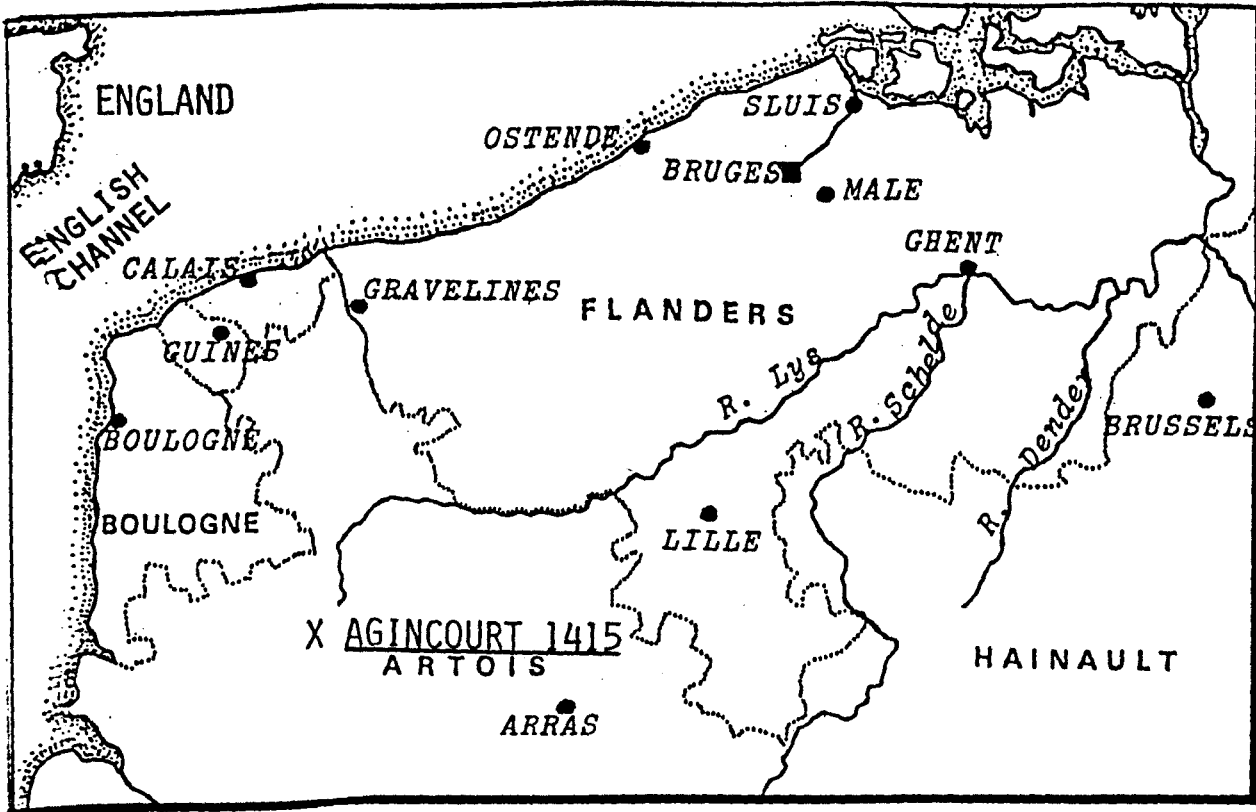


Figure 15. The Hundred Years' War had ravaged Flanders, but the battle of Agincourt (1415) initiated great dissatisfaction among the Flemish nobility.

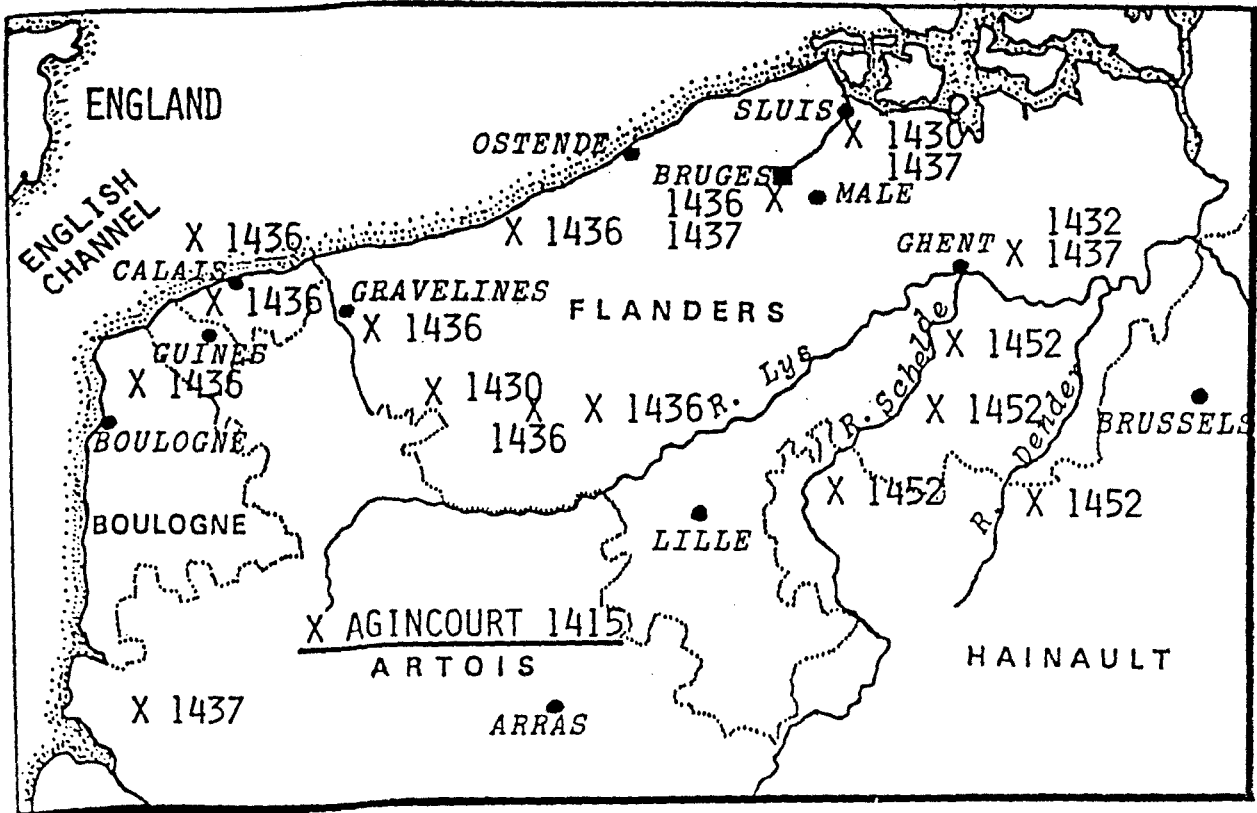


Figure 16. Unrest and dissatisfaction built into major conflict. The chart shows the major battles that took place in Flanders from 1430 through 1452.

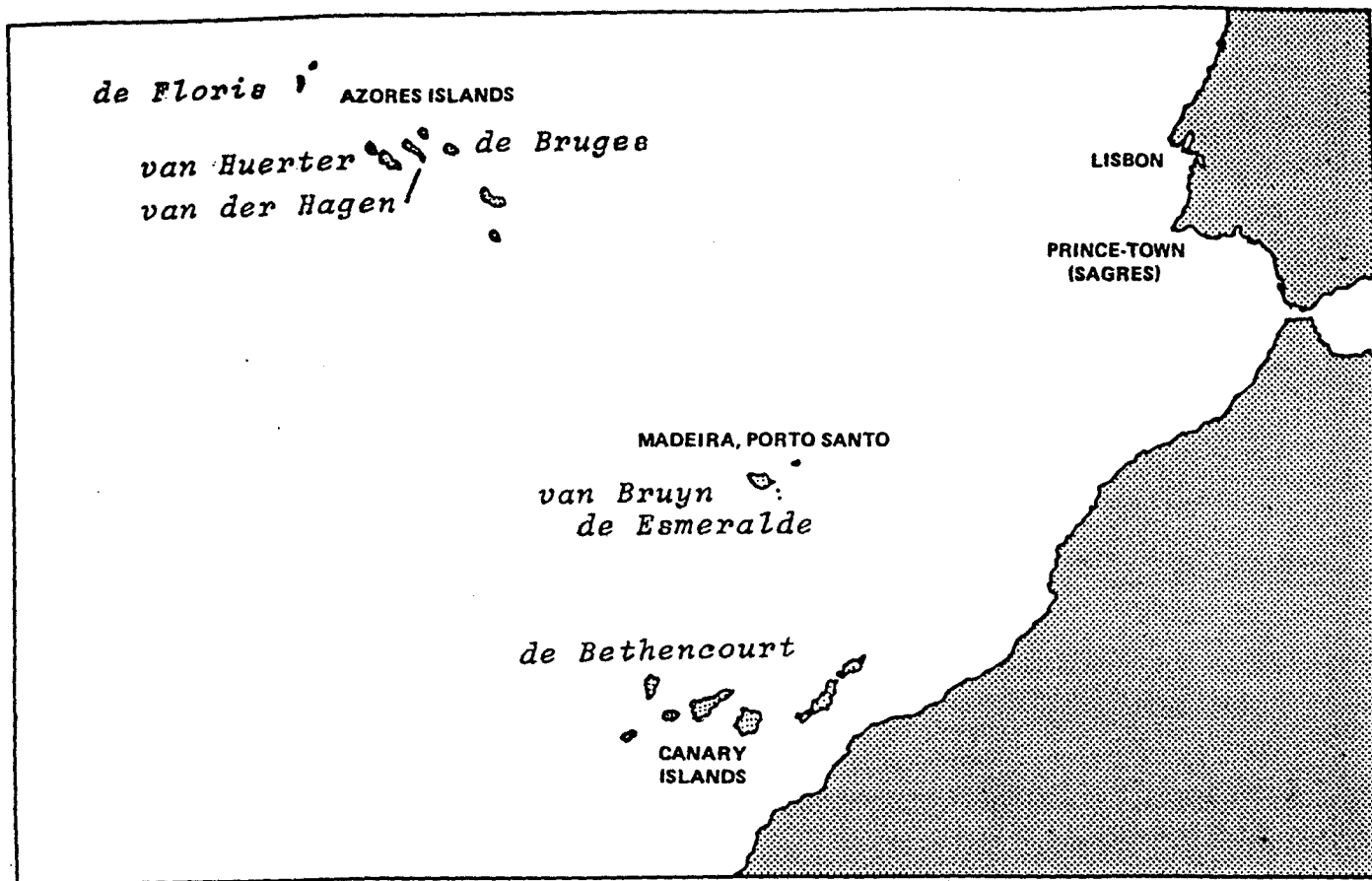


Figure 17. Leaders of Flemish colonies in Portuguese islands. Bethencourt was from Picardy, near Flanders,

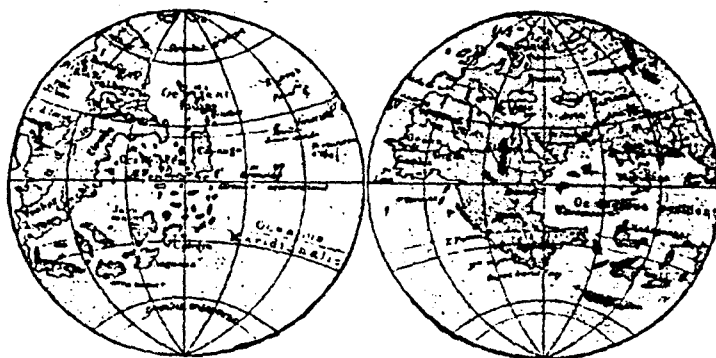


Figure 18. Martin Behaim (Martim de Boemia) came originally from Germany, lastly from Flanders. He married the daughter of Joos van Huerter, captain-donatary of Faial and Pico in the Azores Islands.