

$$58/60 = 97\% \quad (A^*)$$

Comm
M

A fantastic effort. I reckon I'll see you published as a military historian one day...

2) Source 2 is particularly valuable for revealing the attitude of Wellington to the army as it highlights his views through the description by the Duke in the letter. In addition, the source is also useful as it highlights some of the major recurring problems in the Peninsular War.

Source 2 is valuable as it highlights the attitude of Wellington to the army. Wellington was a self-proclaimed aristocrat and member of the gentry who heavily believed only the upper class gentlemen should command the lesser working class soldiers. This is evident through Wellington's description of the men to the Secretary of State for War, Lord Bathurst in his letter: 'marching on unruly soldiers'. Wellington's use of the word 'unruly' indicates his views himself about the men and that their behaviour is un-gentlemanly. This particular example highlights Wellington's class based attitude to his army and the source is useful in highlighting this through Wellington's description. In addition to this the fact that this was a letter to another noble elite, Bathurst, highlights that this attitude was common at the time, as should such descriptions be controversial to Wellington would have not wrote this to, effectively, his governmental boss. The description of the men 'unruly' however does not necessarily dictate that Wellington did not like his men. With the letter written in June 1813, it is possible Wellington is referencing the unruly behaviour over the past few years in the Peninsular War which has seen riots under Wellington's watch such as that at Badajoz and Ciudad Rodrigo. Therefore, it is possible to argue that the use of the word 'unruly' alone does not indicate any class based descriptive oppression but merely is a reference to previous circumstances in the Iberian Peninsular. However, take on in the letter Wellington states the probably most

Good.

famous words ever mentioned in Napoleonic history: 'we have in our service the scum of the earth'. This is a direct insult on the ordinary soldiers on the Peninsula which is largely founded on the premise that in 1812 nearly 60% of the army was found in serious category prisons across the Empire. Furthermore, the vast majority of the army was also illiterate and living in relative poverty. This statement from Wellington indicates a class biased perspective on the soldiers which Wellington at this time ignored. In the letter he was referring 'the scum of the Earth' in relation to discipline and how his men were behaving poorly yet I find this attitude unfair. This is because, in the Siege of Badajoz accounts suggest that Wellington endorsed mass riots and theft from the stores to solve ~~and~~ any problems in supply issues. This would indicate that Wellington was taking part in aforementioned activities. However, in the whole, source 2 is valuable as it gives an insight into Wellington's attitude to the army in the reality but does not give an honest account wholly because it is possible such statements are to only please another noble and the fact that he endorsed riots at Badajoz indicates he himself must have a contradicting personal view on the soldiers that he said in 1815 were becoming 'fine gentlemen'.

Source 2 is also useful valuable as it highlights a few of the numerous problems Wellington faced in the Peninsula War. At the start of the source, Wellington mentions the terrain and how it 'hindered communication'. This was a problem for Wellington as he largely used the terrain to advantage himself such as at the Battle of Salamanca in July 1812 which enabled him to use the Reverse Slope defence technique. At Salamanca the terrain worked in Wellington's favour yet the letter, written a month after the Battle of Vitoria, indicates that he did not have terrain in his favour. This is because in Northern Spain, the French held a strong position with three columns 'in the valley'. Wellington does

note to Bathurst however, that this problem was solved when 'they [the French] saw our determination'. Wellington also notes a 'problem of heavy fire from artillery and musketry' in the Village of Camara after the French retreat from Vittoria. This heavy fire required exceptional discipline from Wellington's army. Wellington once again highlighted that the problem was solved as they still 'advanced'. However, Wellington did appeal for help with a major problem the Northern Campaign brought about, which was 'wounded soldiers'. A lot of soldiers took 'to plunder' Wellington notes which is uncontrollable. This is a major problem as at Badajoz some 2000 men were completely out of discipline which required exceptional discipline. This was a major problem as it severely hampered operations on the Peninsula, and many officers did not avert the situation. However, it must be noted that this problem highlights the value of the source because two years later at Waterloo, Wellington had no problems with discipline in comparison so the method of solving it was a success. All in all, source 2 is useful to valuable for assessing problems Wellington encountered in the Peninsula War as it highlights how his major problem at this time was discipline. However, in some respects the source is of limited use because with the letter being addressed to his governmental boss, Wellington is hardly going to disclose any major problems that are out of his control. There include direct reference to any retreat, which did happen two to three months before Vittoria in April when the British were surrounded by a combination of French and local forces. Although solved, this major problem was not disclosed in the letter, possibly for the reason of saving his job. ~~In conclusion~~ Therefore the source is valuable but is limited actually in some respects.

In summary, source 2 is particularly useful for highlighting Wellington's attitude to the army in some aspects through the use of his terms 'surrender of the faith' in the letter. However, it does not definitely showcase Wellington's attitude because ability is not represented.

could introduce disciplinary measures in British army?

of the population and he would possibly say something else to someone else. Since 2 is also valuable for highlighting a few problems encountered in the Brian Peninsula but is also limited as the full disclosure of problems is possibly hampered because the letter is disclosed to his boss. Although the source is limited in terms of value it is still valuable as it highlights the attitudes to the army in noble circles and problems that could not be kept away from the government.

19/20

An excellent answer.

- 6) The constant debate over Allied generals continues, and none is more fierce ~~than~~ than that that surrounds Sir Douglas Haig. Haig became Commander-in-Chief of the BEF and the 'New Army' in 1915 after the failure at Ypres by John French. He became known as the 'butcher of the Somme' but arguably he was ~~had~~ more strengths than weaknesses as a commander. ✓ New intro.

Firstly, Haig was a very good strategic planner during his time as commander. Haig spent a lot of time during the fall of 1915 into 1916 to plan an attack in mid-August in Flanders that would feature a diversionary attack after a preliminary bombardment and then a full-on offensive on the front of Flanders with 'more and fewer tactics'. However, in May 1916, Joffre ordered Haig to attack ~~at~~ the Somme in July to relieve pressure from Verdun. He had little ~~for~~ but to use the same plan upon the Somme area. When the offensive began in 1916 on the 1st of July he had few successes and ~~his~~ ~~over~~ he was mainly seen as a weak leader. The mines exploded 10 minutes early, 19000 men died on the first day and his diversionary attack at Commercourt failed. To add insult to injury, Haig's only success by the 16th Ulster Division on the Swinburn Redoubt fortress was lost five hours later. The first day of the battle of the Somme was

a miserable failure for Haig and one that demonstrates that on this day in question weaknesses outweighed strengths as a commander on the battlefield. However, the Somme lasted 141 days and although on the first day Haig did not alter tactics he did introduce new methods in September. On the 15th September, Haig ordered 80 tanks onto the battlefield to reinforce ground taken near High Wood in the reinforced attack from the 16th July. Of the 80 only 24 made it past the first line and only one of the five targets was achieved, Martinpuich. The village was taken with ease and Haig ordered in an infantry division to ~~hold~~ the line, which was followed by German flame throwers around High Wood. Although still steeped in failure this does highlight a ~~tactical~~ strength of Haig, his ability to learn and adapt quickly. In just a month Haig had replaced the 'wave and flow' with 'bite and hold' tactics, which, although failed by the 18th Nov at the Somme, were crucial for later battles. Using the Somme as a case study, arguably the fact highlighted Haig as a weak leader for little contribution of the results, yet his key strength begins to outweigh his weaknesses here as he ~~has~~ adapts to a new style of attritional warfare. / **Excellent knowledge.**

In 1917, Haig's strengths begin to outweigh his weaknesses. By mid-1917, Haig had adopted 'bite and hold' as a primary tactic and he aimed for small reinforced assaults rather than large yet sporadic waves of attack. In the prelude to Passchendaele in July 1917, Haig orchestrated a spectacular assault on Messines Ridge which used aerial photography from the RFC to plan mining ditches and where to attack on the salient. When the mines erupted, 10000 Germans were killed and the British forces were ~~able~~ managed to achieve a breakthrough quickly. Haig ordered reinforcements which allowed British forces to gain advantages with timing. Although some mines failed to explode, Haig highlighted his ~~strength~~ as a commander here as he has clearly learnt from the ~~Somme~~ days and easily achieved realistic objectives, such as capturing the Ypres salient.

Faaschendale was another example of Haig's strengths though the use of 'bite and hold' tactics was overwhelmed the German forces initially. However unseasonal weather made the battleground unhealthy, and dangerous yet Haig continued. Although he was adopting new realistic methods of warfare he still did not know when to cease an attack which was a severe weakness in July 1917. Haig also learnt the lesson of coordination in ^{November} 1917. At the Battle of Cambrai in November 1917, Haig used 365 tanks to capture 3.5km in the first day with 'bite and hold' tactics with infantry support. This proved the worth of coordinated technological attacks which would prove useful in 1918. 1917 as a whole was another year of learning for Haig but overall he highlighted his strengths outweigh his weaknesses as he successfully used new ~~war~~ working tactics that would culminate in the successful offensive on Arras in 1918.

Haig's strengths do overall outweigh his weaknesses should you remove the centric attitude of the 1st of July 1916. When one looks at other offensives later on, Haig demonstrates an exemplary learning curve which culminated in 1918. On the 8th of August 1918, Haig launched the last major offensive of the war at Arras using coordination of all reserves. Using the newly formed RAF and ~~flash~~ spotting along with technological revolution such as FIVE-106, Haig achieved a successful 15min bombardment succeeded by nearly 1000 Mark V tanks advancing through enemy lines, supported by aerial pre-bombing, infantry reserve and even 56 division of cavalry behind. This superb offensive culminated from all the mistakes in 1916 and 1917 and every single one was used in a perfect assault in the Hundred Days which forced Germany to retreat to, then withdraw from, the Hindenburg Line and ultimately force them to surrender. This highlights Haig's strengths outweigh his weaknesses, because all the mistakes made were learnt and tactics adapted to culminate in a superb British led offensive in August 1918.

In summary, it is clear the strengths outweigh the weaknesses for Haig as a commander. Although mistakes were made and there were severe weaknesses at the time, there were learnt from. By August 1918 Haig had orchestrated the superb offensive using all past experiences to culminate in battle that highlighted Britain had the strongest army by 1918. As someone once said to Caesar, 'securus is not in never falling, but in rising every time you fall'. Haig had many 'falls' at the Somme, Passchendaele but these were learnt by Amiens in 1918 proving that if you disregard the certainty of the first day of the Somme, Haig was a commander whose strengths outweighed his weaknesses between 1916-1918 - something the nation obviously felt was true also by knightly him as Sir Douglas Haig.

20/20

A new job at answer!
Can you type this up +
send it to me?

a)

In the period 1790-1818, the Royal Navy went through numerous of developments to alter the conduct of war at sea, yet some argue ~~this~~ the main development was shift to steam. Although significant, this was equally not the most significant developments in this time period.

What was?

The change from sail to steam was influential as it enabled a greater presence on the seas, which is something Sir James Graham insisted on. For Graham such developments would enable more reliable assaults on enemy ships due to lack of reliance on wind direction and would also lead to greater speeds allowing for faster naval dispatches around the world and Empire. Graham pointed to the battle of Trafalgar on the 21st of October 1805, and more particularly the Great Storm in the aftermath that destroyed nearly half of all ships at Cape Trafalgar and damaged over 80%. He argued that with steam power, HMS Victory would have been able to beat the weather and her columns away from the path of the storm instead of relying on the wind. His argument, presented to the Admiralty in the 1820s, was particularly convincing. However the first Lord of the Admiralty at the time, Lord Melville argued such developments 'would undermine the Empire'. Personally, the shift from sail to steam would have not undermined

the engine but provided for more colonial security. However, although the development was significant in the change of the conduct of war, it is arguably not the most significant as the weight of the engine and the coal needed to fuel such power would weigh down a warship. Hence, the first fully steam powered ship did not be commissioned until 1873 with HMS ~~Agamemnon~~. Such ship ^{were} ~~also~~ required to be iron hulled in order to carry steam engines and therefore be powerful enough to steam through the seas. The iron clad ships were also arguably more influential ~~that~~ than the shift from sail to steam also, because not only did the development allow steam engines to be incorporated into battleships, it also allowed for Armstrong's new 110 pound guns to be used on ship which could triple shot shells to a distance of 8000 yards. This development also allowed guns to be more mobile and the iron hulls allowed guns to be placed on deck rather than below deck. This development was significant, more so than sail to steam, as it allowed for steam engines, ~~large~~ more accurate guns and greater speed and flexibility at sea.

Sir James Graham became the first head of the Admiralty and issued an extensive set of reforms in 1832 that were significant in altering the conduct of war during this period. Graham essentially modernised the navy before 'Jehovah' Fisher was born. Graham's first act was to attest the long established practice of double and triple ~~shooting~~ which allowed for multiple shells to be fired from one cannon. Although good in theory, Graham recognised it reduced the velocity of each ~~shell~~ dramatically which meant it was only useful for close range encounters. Graham agreed single shooting increased the velocity of the shell and meant targets could be hit many miles away. To train seamen for this, Graham commissioned a Royal Navy Sloop of War aboard HMS ~~Excellence~~ ^{Excellence} in Portsmouth in early 1833 at which trained every Royal Navy recruit on single shooting, engineering work and general war practices over a six week course. This ~~drastically~~ influenced the conduct of war because it trained the recruits to a high standard ready for war time. In addition to this, Graham centrally linked the Navy closer to government which had a significant effect on the conduct

Excellence

of war as it actually reduced the likelihood of it by using new powerful ships to exert British influence on areas, such as Hong Kong and Singapore. In summary, the lunham reforms were significant, more so than said to be, as it modernised the navy for naval war through intense training and new practices, however it was not as influential as Fisher's time at the admiralty. ✓ **Good.**

Fisher became First Lord of the Admiralty in 1904 yet before that he witnessed dramatic new changes/developments that were arguably the most significant during this time period. To counter the Imperial German Navy's expansion, announced in 1898 and the threat from unified Germany, the Naval Defence Act of 1889 was passed and signed by Victoria which formalised the idea of the Two Power Standard. This dictated the Royal Navy must be 'bigger than the next two largest navies combined'. This was a radical and significant move as it led to the greatest build up of ships ever leading to the Anglo-German Naval Race. This Naval Race produced the HMS Dreadnought in 1906 and the Dreadnought class of battleships, along with the Queen Elizabeth line of battleships (named after the Queen who helped fund ~~not~~ the navy) which made all battleships obsolete. The **Dreadnought** could reach a speed of 21.6 knots - twice the speed of any other ship in 1900, and could fire armour-piercing shells from 110 pound guns up to 18000 yards. This development is the most significant in terms of conduct of war as it created the perfect battleship that would modernise technological development in the Navy. Fisher also abolished the Naval Board and Office of Victualling which removed governmental influence on supplies and organisation. This enabled a much greater organisational control for the navy. In addition, Fisher reorganised the fleet to make sure the Empire was appropriately covered and that the Home Fleet kept Germany in check. Finally, Fisher exerted influence on keeping Britain's blockade fleet, to counter any German threat, whilst Fisher also balanced the budget by removing 156 ships totally or in reserve that were deemed obsolete. All in all, the reforms Fisher conducted were arguably the most significant during this time period as it enabled the modernisation of the navy ready for battle in WWI.

In conclusion, many of the reforms for the Royal Navy had influence on the conduct of war. Together, iron hulled ships and the development of steam led to modern and fast battleships. The Graham's Reforms created a more efficient navy through the training of personnel. All these together however, are not as significant as the Fisher's reforms which mechanised the navy for modern warfare and created a service fit for war.

19/20