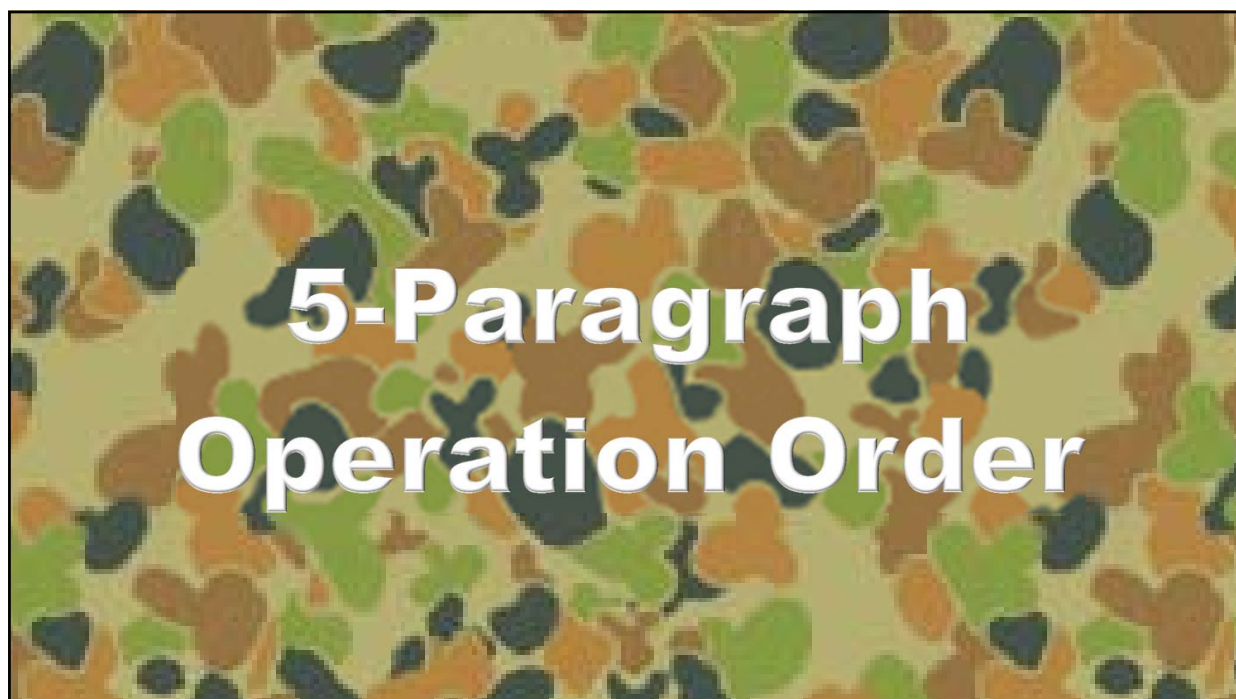


# THE BATTLE OF BANNOCKBURN



# 5-Paragraph Operation Order


## The 5 paragraph field order

- ★ Set format used by U.S. and allies.
- 📋 Ensure planning covers all facets of an operation.
- 🔄 Considers tasks, responsibilities, and logistics.
- 🕒 Plan before doing.
- 👤 All leadership levels plan and contribute



## The 5 paragraph operation order

The 5 paragraph operations order is a set format to plan a military operation in the field.



The set format allows people at all levels to understand and execute the military activity.

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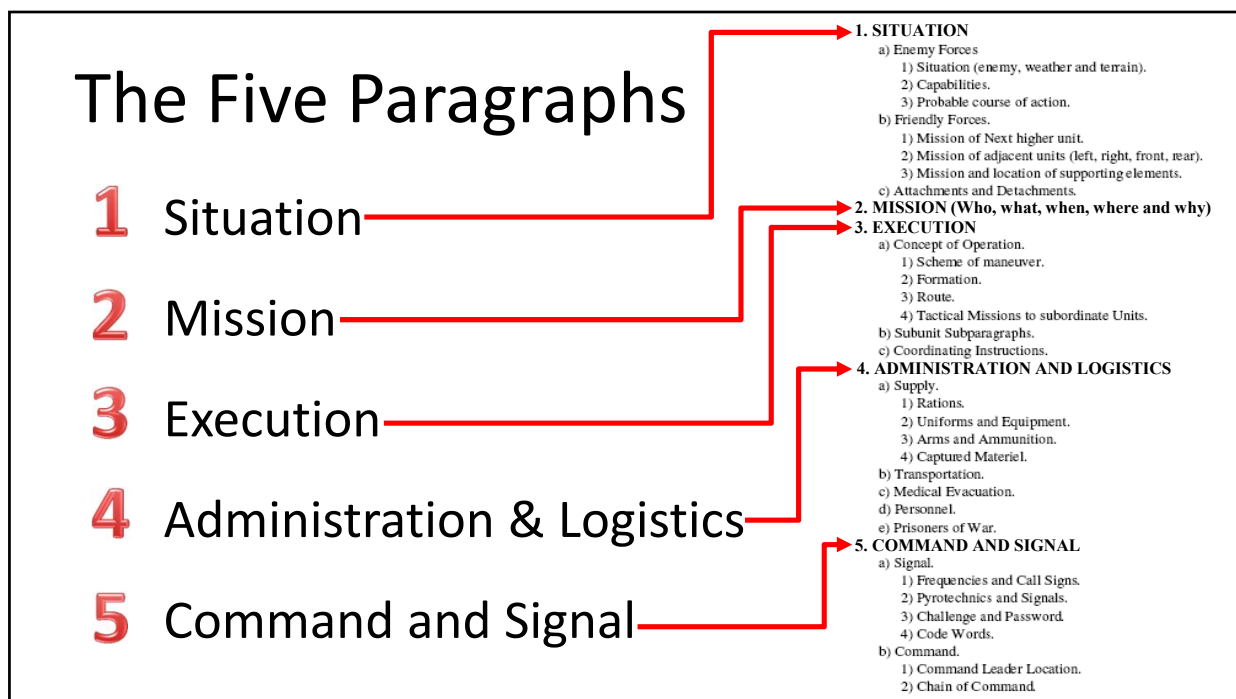
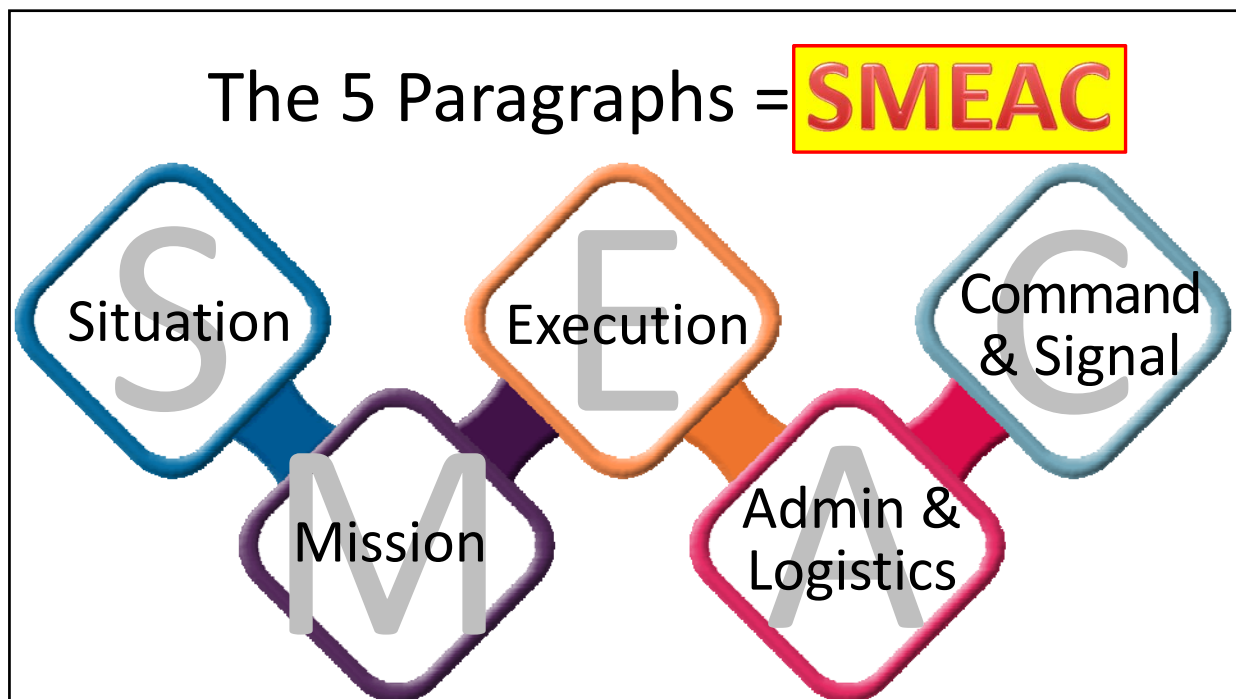
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## The 5 paragraph operation order

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## SITUATION - 3 Subparagraphs

- Enemy Forces
- Friendly Forces
- Attachments Detachments

Write one brief paragraph giving background why the event is conducted before you breaking down into subparagraphs.

## Enemy Forces

- **SIZE:** Squad, Company, Battalion, Sniper, etc.
- **ACTIVITY:** Moving, eating, digging in, attacking, etc.
- **LOCATION:** Grid, direction heading, south of Lake A, etc.
- **UNIT:** Infantry, mechanized, militia, etc.
- **TIME:** Time of last sighting.
- **EQUIPMENT:** clothing, weapons, fire support.

**Acronym =**  
**SALUTE**

## Understanding the Situation

M  
E  
T  
T

- Mission
- Enemy
- Terrain and Weather
- Troops and Support Available

M

Acronym =

**METT**

T

- Time Available

C

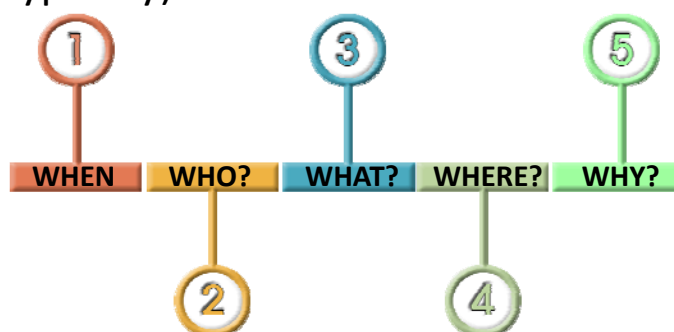
- Civil Considerations (urban areas)

## Mission

**MOST IMPORTANT!**

- One sentence (Typically) to address 5 Ws in order:

- WHEN
- WHO
- WHAT
- WHERE
- WHY



- Rest of the 5P order is HOW
- Keep it general; ask what you really need

## Execution

- Commander's Intent
- Concept of Operations
- Tasks
- Coordinating Instructions
- Other



## Administration and Logistics

- Administrative matters
  - Required reports and formats; legal; etc.
  - Medical services; decontamination: etc.
  - Personnel matters; replacement or troop rotation
- Logistics
  - Equipment/supplies required/available
  - Resupply (preset and as needed) and maintenance
- Health, Safety, and Risk Management



## Command and Signal

- Command
  - Commander/staff CP locations
  - Succession of command
- Signal
  - Reference to SOP
  - SOI or CEOI: coordinate comms within a command
  - Equipment/methods/signals unique to operation



## Five-paragraph Field Order

### Situation



- Enemy forces
- Friendly forces
- Attachments and detachments

### Mission



- Enemy forces
- Friendly forces
- Attachments and detachments

### Execution



- CO's intent
- Concept of operations
- Tasks
- Coordinating instructions

### Logistics



- Administration
  - Administrative
  - Medical
  - Personnel

- Logistics
  - Equipment/supplies
  - Resupply depots/points
  - Maintenance
  - Health, safety and risk management

### Command/Signal



- Command
  - Who commands
  - Where
  - Succession plan
- Signal (CEOI, etc.)



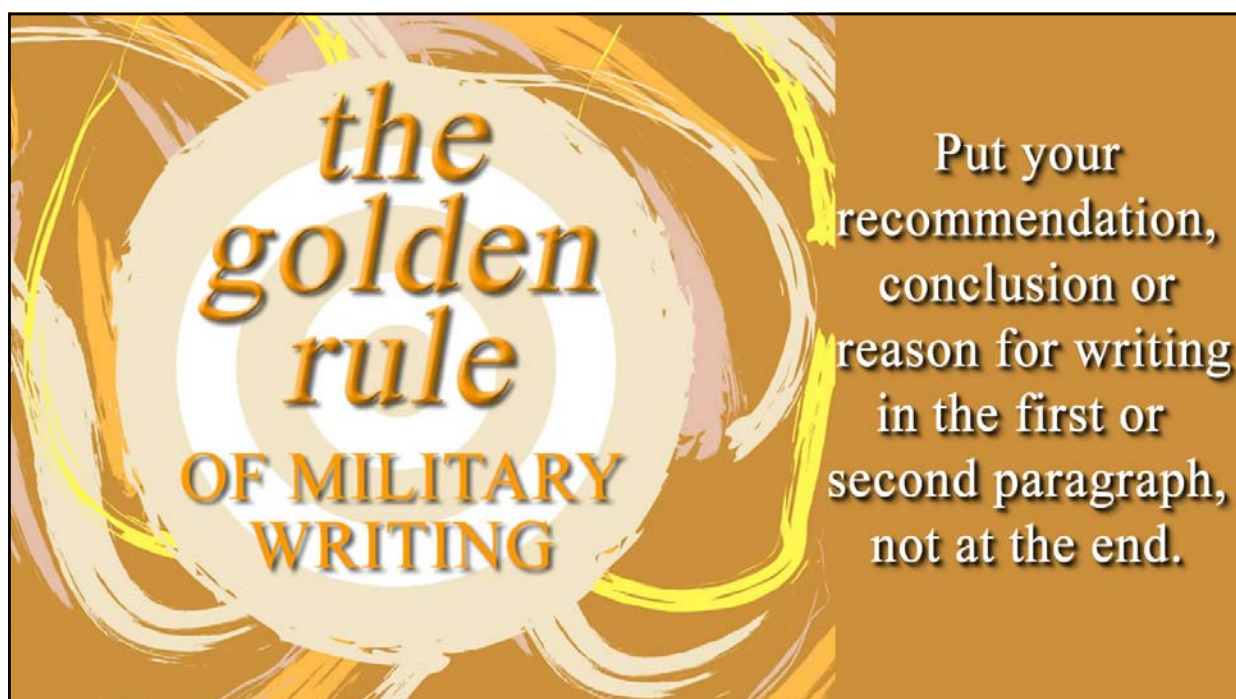
## Putting it together

Situation	Mission	Execution	Logistics	Command and Signal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enemy</li> <li>• Friendly</li> <li>• Attachments detachments</li> </ul>	<p>One sentence describes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When</li> <li>• Who</li> <li>• What</li> <li>• Where</li> <li>• Why</li> </ul> <p>The rest of the order is how.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CO's intent</li> <li>• Concept of operations</li> <li>• Tasks</li> <li>• Coordinating instructions</li> <li>• Attachments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Admin               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Administrative</li> <li>– Medical</li> <li>– Personnel</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Logistics               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Equipment/supplies</li> <li>– Resupply</li> <li>– Maintenance</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Health, safety and risk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Command               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Who</li> <li>– Where</li> <li>– Succession</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Signal               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– CEOI/SOI</li> <li>– Unique items</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



## Military History Articles

- Slightly different formats are used to write about wars (campaigns), battles or units.
- These provide reasonable checklists for your personal military history research and writing.
- These formats are not cast in bronze; they are merely guidelines. Feel free to add topics or break down topics into subsections.



*the  
golden  
rule*  
OF MILITARY  
WRITING

Put your recommendation, conclusion or reason for writing in the first or second paragraph, not at the end.

## Other helpful hints



- Use the active voice.
- Use short sentences (an average of 15 or fewer words).
- Use short words (three syllables or fewer).
- Write paragraphs that average 6 to 7 sentences in length.
- Use correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

## Military Eras

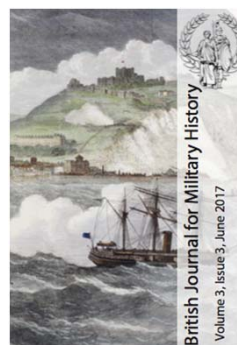
Various groups (or magazines, websites, etc.) identify military eras suitable for their needs and purposes. For example, [MilitaryHistoryOnline.com](http://MilitaryHistoryOnline.com) (an American website) uses:

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Ancient            | • World War I         |
| • Medieval           | • World War II        |
| • 17th Century       | • Korea               |
| • 18th Century       | • Vietnam             |
| • 19th Century       | • 20th - 21st Century |
| • American Civil War |                       |

## Military Themes

The British Commission for Military History prefers to group articles/submission by theme, including:

- The role of war in international relations
- War as a means or as a failure of politics
- Pre- vs post-Enlightenment perceptions of warfare
- Perceptual differences between victory and defeat
- Coping with a “lost cause” (military, politics, etc.)
- Intelligence, understanding and war
- War as a means of social change
- Insurgency, resistance and de-colonisation
- Tactical and technological change
- War and the history of science
- Gender, war and identity



**British  
Journal  
For  
Military  
History**

## Principles of War





## Wars or Campaigns

### Opening Paragraph

1. The name of the war (incl. alternate names).
2. When did it happen?
3. Who fought in it?
4. Why did it happen?
5. What was the outcome?
6. What was its significance, if any?

## The focus of articles on wars

- Historical background
- The causes of the conflict
- Summarise the conflict
- How did the war end?
- Identify the major consequences

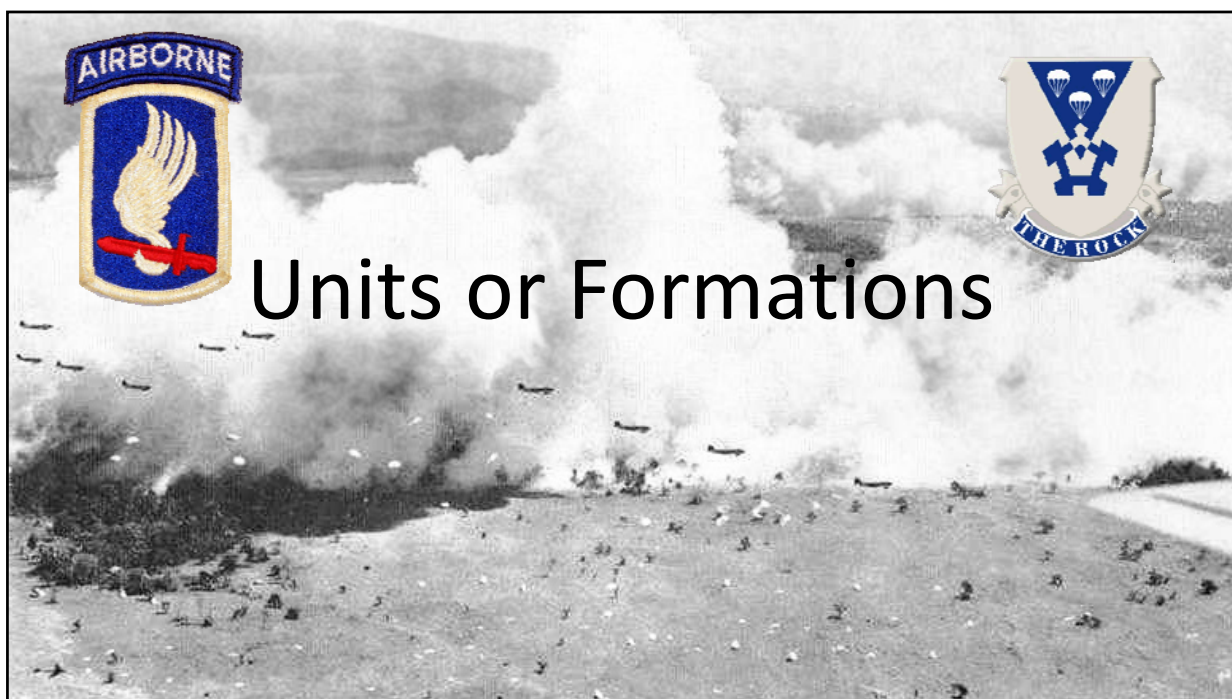


## The focus of articles on battles



1. The name of the battle  
(include alternate names).
2. When did it happen?
3. Who fought in it?
4. How it developed/evolved?
5. What was the outcome?
6. What significance, if any?

Date	Confederate	Federal
July 21, 1861	First Manassas	Bull Run
Aug. 10, 1861	Oak Hills	Wilson's Creek
Oct. 21, 1861	Leesburg	Ball's Bluff
Jan. 19, 1862	Mill Springs	Logan's Cross Roads
Mar. 7-8, 1862	Elkhorn Tavern	Pea Ridge
Apr. 6-7, 1862	Shiloh	Pittsburg Landing
June 27, 1862	Gaines's Mill	Chickahominy
Au 29-30, '62	Second Manassas	Second Bull Run
Sept. 1, 1862	Ox Hill	Chantilly
Sept. 14, 1862	Boonsboro	South Mountain
Sept. 17, 1862	Sharpsburg	Antietam
Oct. 8, 1862	Perryville	Chaplin Hills
Dec. 31, 1862- Jan 2, 1863	Murfreesboro	Stones River
Apr. 8, 1864	Mansfield	Sabine Cross Roads
Sept. 19, 1864	Winchester	Opequon Creek



## Units or Formations

## The focus of articles on units

- Name, nickname, other names of unit
- Current context (location, mission, capabilities, etc.)
- Unit brief unit history (include wars, campaigns, battles, peacetime postings, etc.)
- What sets this unit apart from others?
- Briefly describe “famous” battles or actions of the unit.
  - Focus where possible on actual battlefield occurrences, e.g., individual or small unit actions, VC or CMH earned, etc.
  - What were the outcomes and consequences of each battle?
- Summary and conclusions (e.g., future applications)

## An information briefing<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Introduction

- **Greeting.** Address the audience. Identify yourself and your organization.
- **Type and Classification of Briefing.** Identify the type and classification of the briefing. For example, “This is an information briefing. It is classified SECRET.”
- **Purpose and Scope.** Describe complex subjects from general to specific.
- **Outline or Procedure.** Briefly summarize the key points and general approach. Explain any special procedures (such as demonstrations, displays, or tours). For example, “During my briefing, I will discuss the six phases of our plan. I will refer to maps of our area of operations. Then my assistant will bring out a sand table to show you the expected flow of battle.” The key points may be placed on a chart that remains visible throughout the briefing.

### 2. Main Body

- Arrange the main ideas in a logical sequence.
- Use visual aids to emphasize main points.
- Plan effective transitions from one main point to the next.
- Be prepared to answer questions at any time.

### 3. Closing

- Ask for questions.
- Briefly recap main ideas and make a concluding statement.

Note: 1. Headquarters, Department of the Army. (2010). “Figure J-1 Information Briefing Format”, *The Operation Process* (FM 5-0).





## Wars of Scottish Independence

The Wars of Scottish Independence were a series of military campaigns between the Independent Kingdom of Scotland and the Kingdom of England during the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

- First War of Scottish Independence (1296–1328)
- Second War of Scottish Independence (1232–1357)

- At the end of each war, Scotland retained its status as an independent nation.
- The wars were also important for other reasons, such as the emergence of the longbow as a key weapon in medieval warfare.
- Both wars were noted for acts of high chivalry as well as heinous inhuman acts of bloody savagery on both sides.

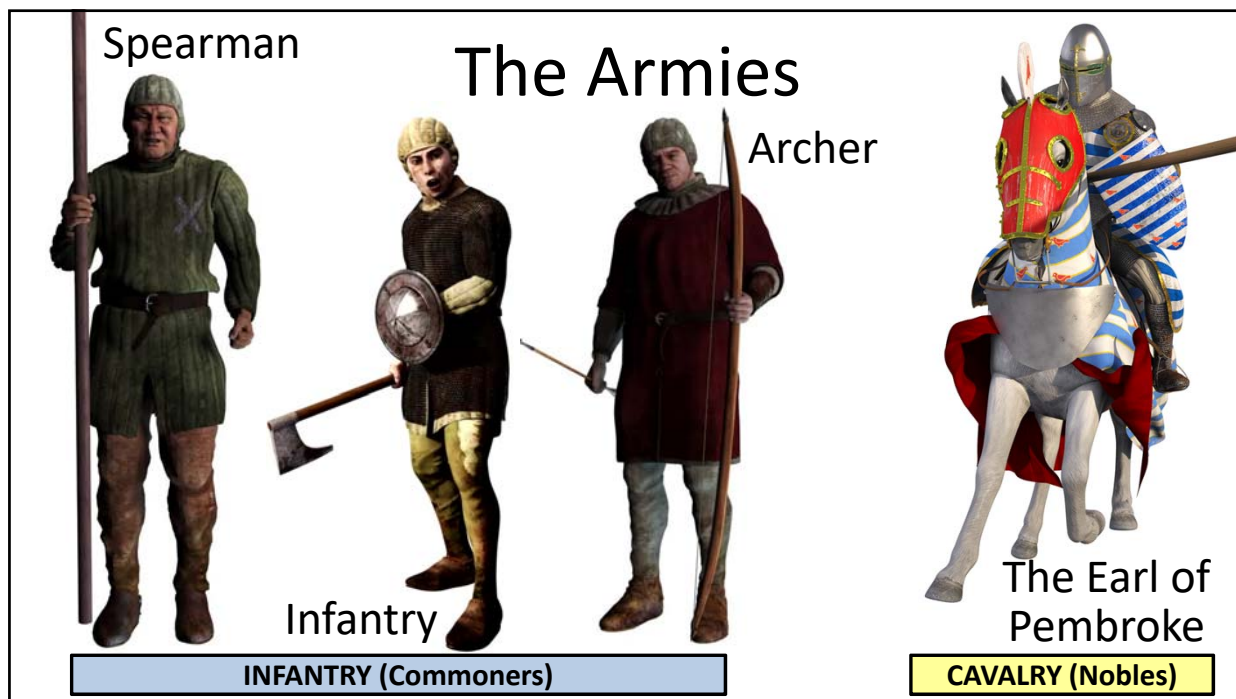
## The First War of Scottish Independence

King Robert I  
of Scotland

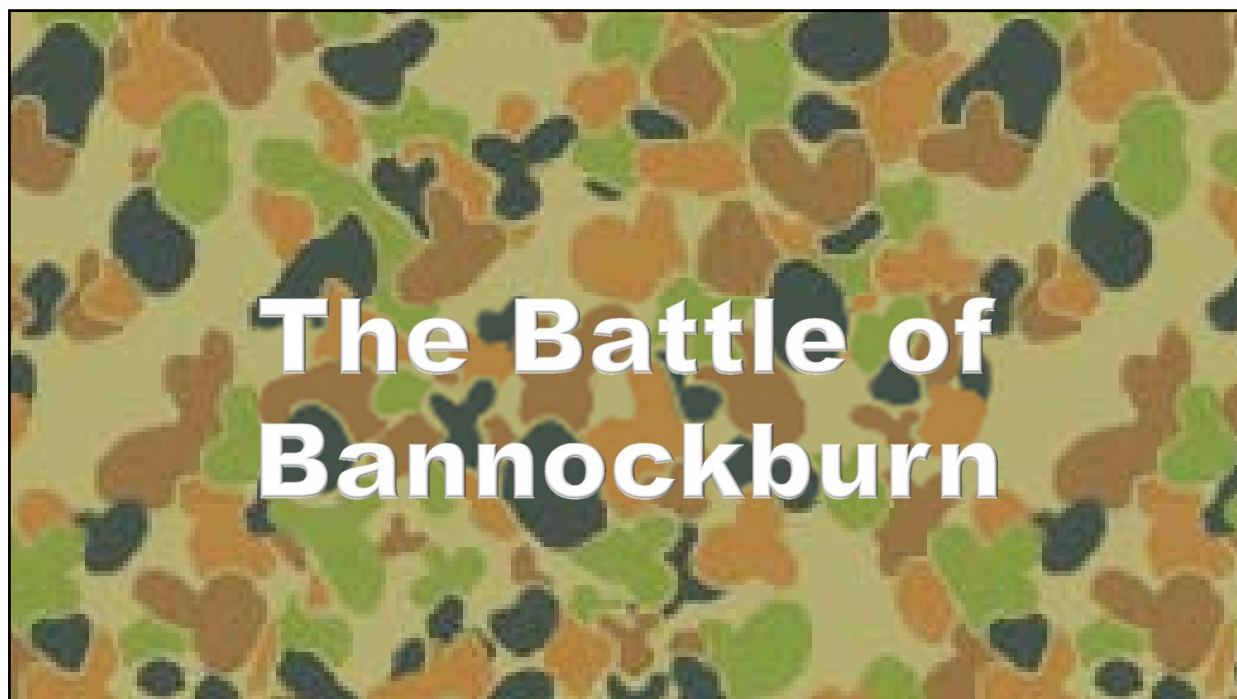


King Edward(s)  
I, II and III  
of England









# The Battle of Bannockburn



