

The Bayeux Tapestry – Panel by Panel

Details on the “Tapestry”

- The Tapestry is 70 meters long and 50 centimeters wide.
- For the most part, there is a central image with two smaller borders
- The tituli were probably added after the finished piece.
- Scenes or panels are generally separated by trees or building
- The Tapestry uses stem stitches for the outlines and couching for the fill ins.
- The Tapestry is missing its end. Scholars estimate that 1.5 meters may be missing.
- The Tapestry may have been commissioned by Bishop Odo, William’s half-brother or maybe by Queen Edith. Followers or relatives of both people are present in the Tapestry. Maybe have been commissioned by Count Eustace

Strangeness in the Tapestry

- Why does William need to send messengers twice to Guy?
- Fables in the border? What do they mean?
- Who exactly is Tuold? The artisan of the Tapestry?
- Who is Aelgifu? Emma? Harold's sister? Cnut's wife? Someone else?
- Edward dies before talking to his followers.
- Who is Wadard and why is he important?
- The arrow. Did it really happen or is this a metaphor for oathbreaking?

Panel 1: King Edward



Panel 2-3: Where Harold duke of the English and his knights ride to Bosham Church



Panel 4: Here Harold sailed by sea



Panel 5: and with sails filled with wind come to the land of Count Guy

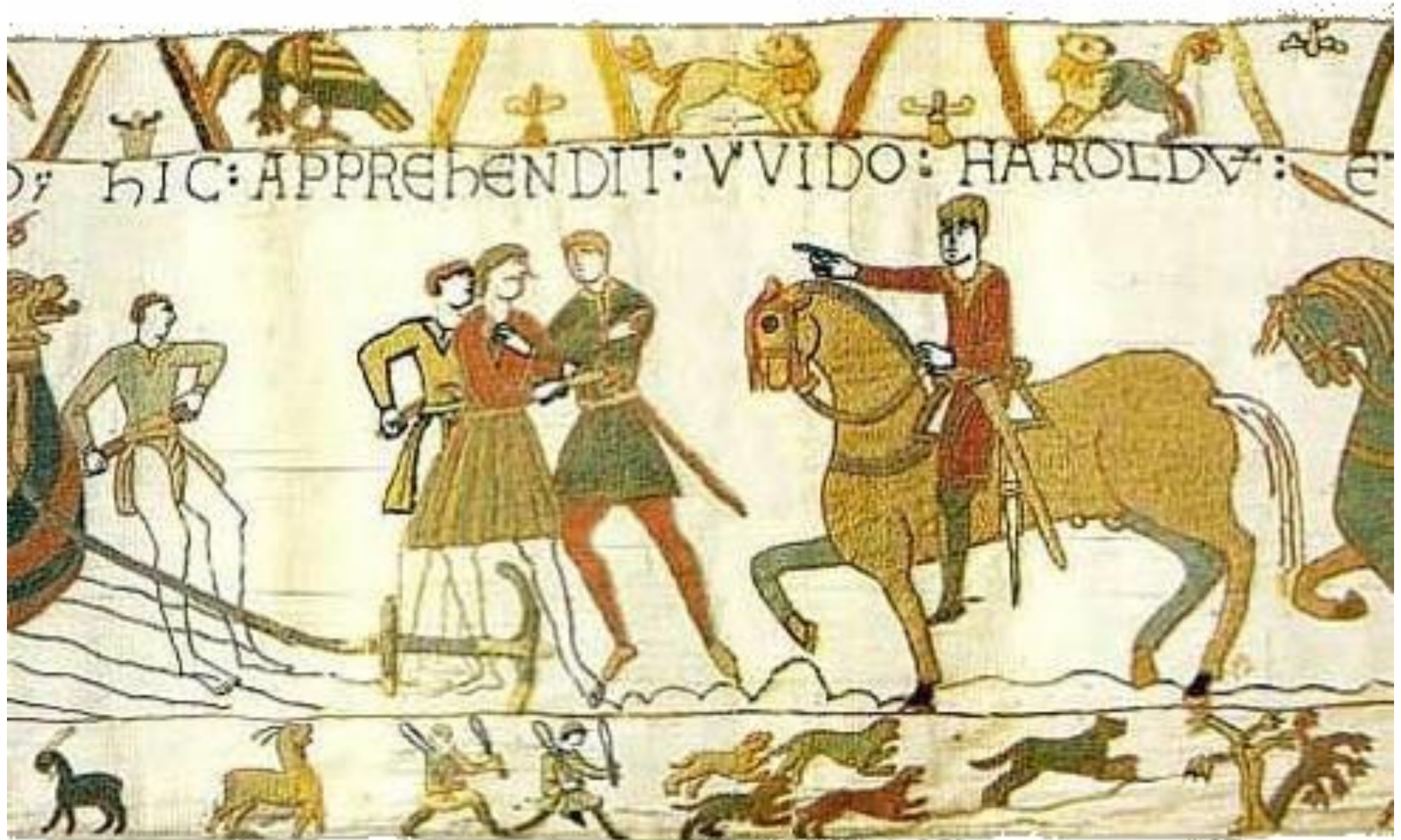


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Panel 6: Harold



Panel 7: Here Guy seized Harold



Panel 8: and led him to Beaurain and held him there



Panel 9: Where Harold and Guy confer



Panel 10: Where messengers of Duke William came to Guy



Panel 11: The messengers of William



Panel 12: Here the messenger comes to Duke William



Panel 13: Here Guy lead Harold to William Duke of Normandy



Panel 14: Here Duke William comes with Harold to his palace



Panel 15: Where a cleric and Aelgyva



Panel 16: Here Duke William and his army came to Mont St Michael



Panel 17: and here they crossed the Couesnon River. Here Duke Harold dragged them from the sand



Panel 18: and they came to Dol and Conan turned in flight



Panel 19: Rennes. Here the knights of Duke William fight against the men of Dinan



Panel 20: and Conan passed out the keys



Panel 21: Here William gave arms to Harold



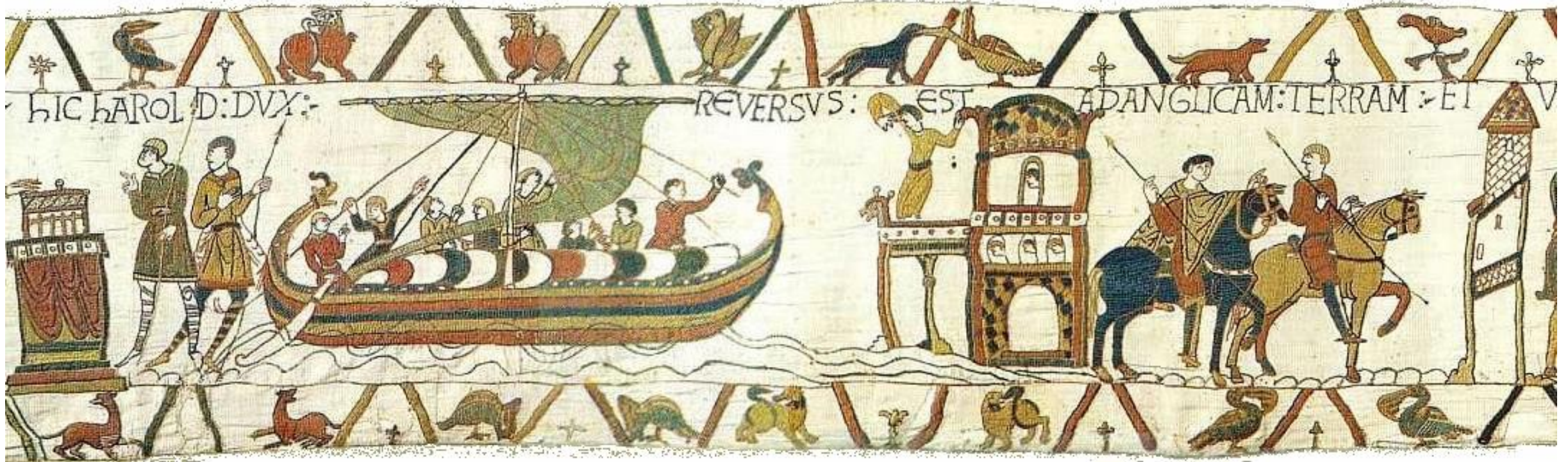
Panel 22: Here William came to Bayeux



Panel 23: Where Harold made an oath to Duke William



Panel 24: Here Duke Harold returned to English land



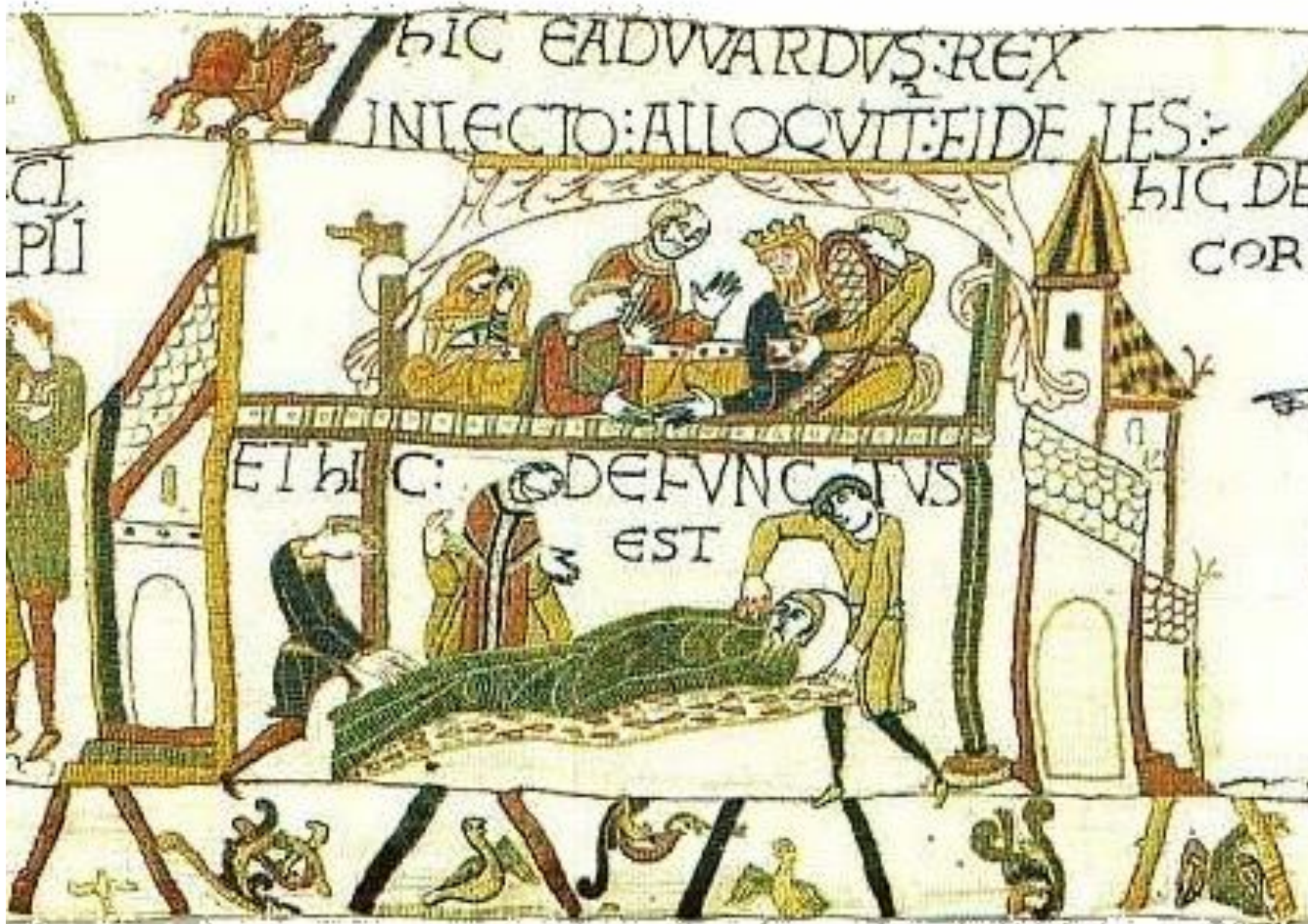
Panel 25: and he came to King Edward



Panel 26: Here the body of King Edward is carried to the Church of Saint Peter the Apostle



Panel 27: Here King Edward in bed speaks to his faithful followers and here he died



Panel 28: Here they gave the Harold the King's crown



Panel 29: Here sits Harold King of the English. Archbishop Stigand



Panel 30: These people marvel at the star.



Panel 31: Harold



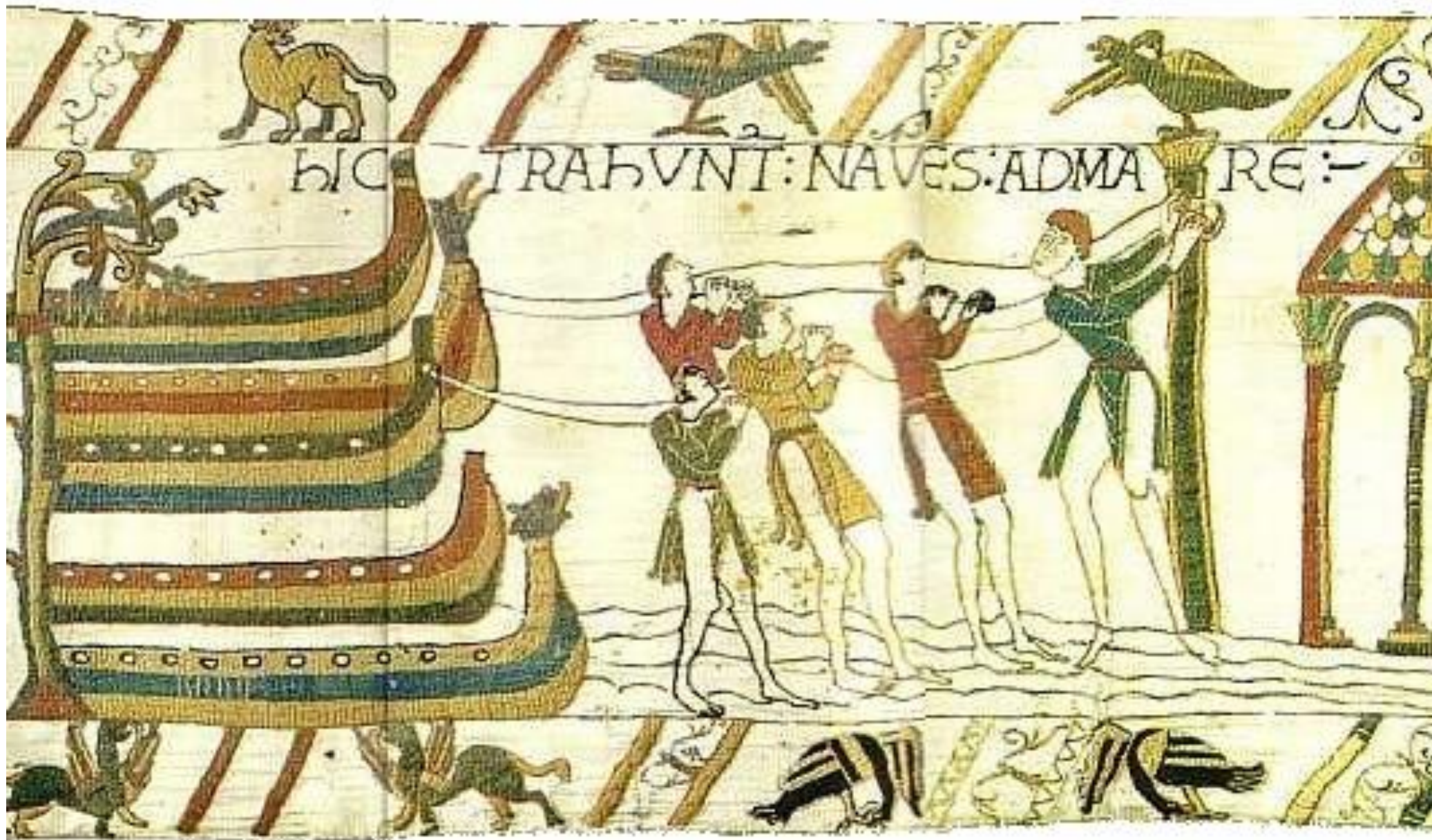
Panel 32: Here an English ship came to the land of Duke William



Panel 33: Here Duke William ordered ships to be built



Panel 34: Here they drag the ships to the sea



Panel 35: These men carry arms to the ships and here they drag a cart with wine and arms



Panel 36: Here Duke William in a great ship crossed the sea and came to Pevensey



Panel 37: Here the horses leave the ships



Panel 38: and here the knights have hurried to Hastings to seize food



Panel 39: Here is Wadard



Panel 40: Here the meat is being cooked and here the servants have served (it)



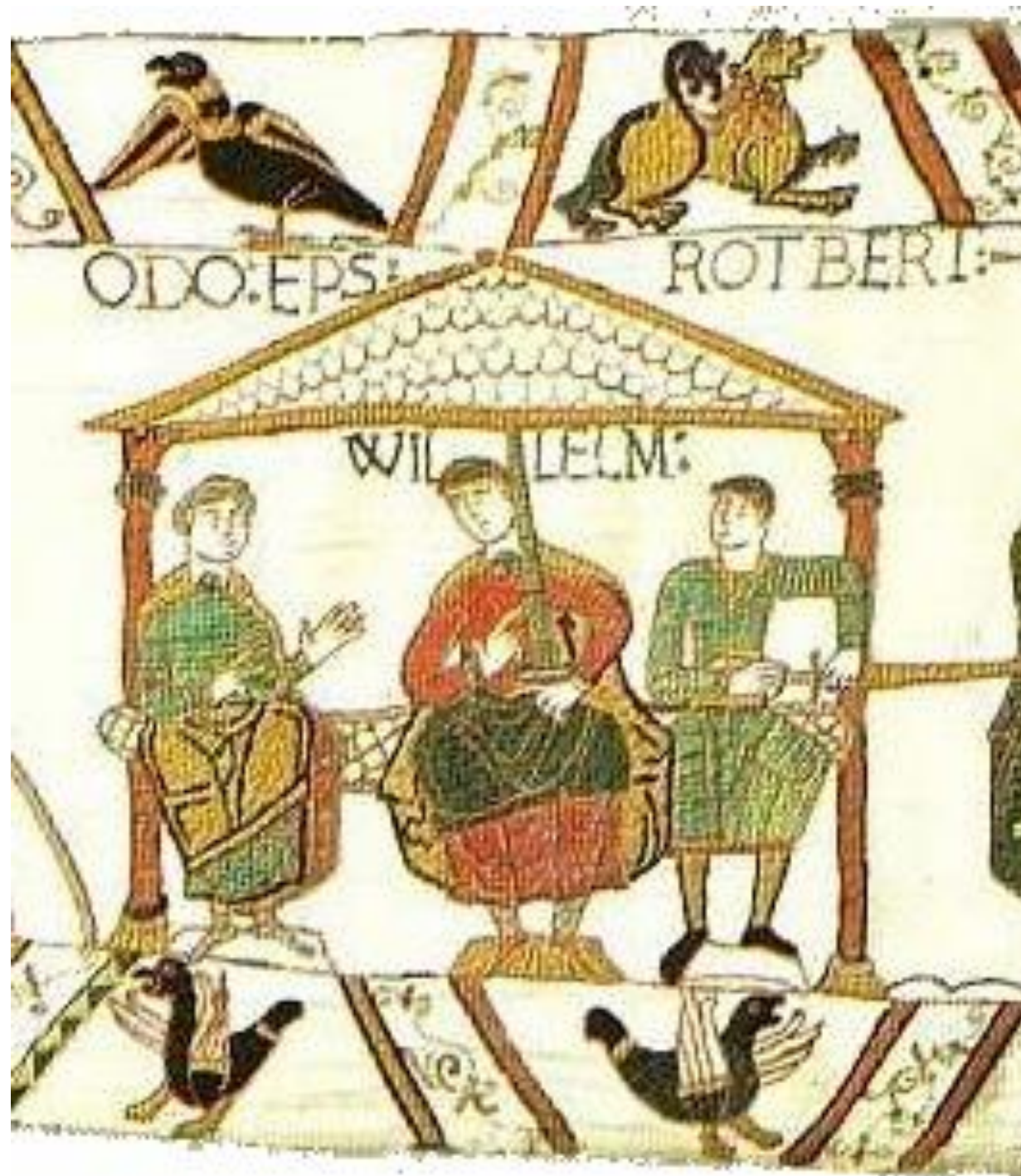
Panel 41: Here they have made breakfast



Panel 42: and here the bishop blesses the food and drink



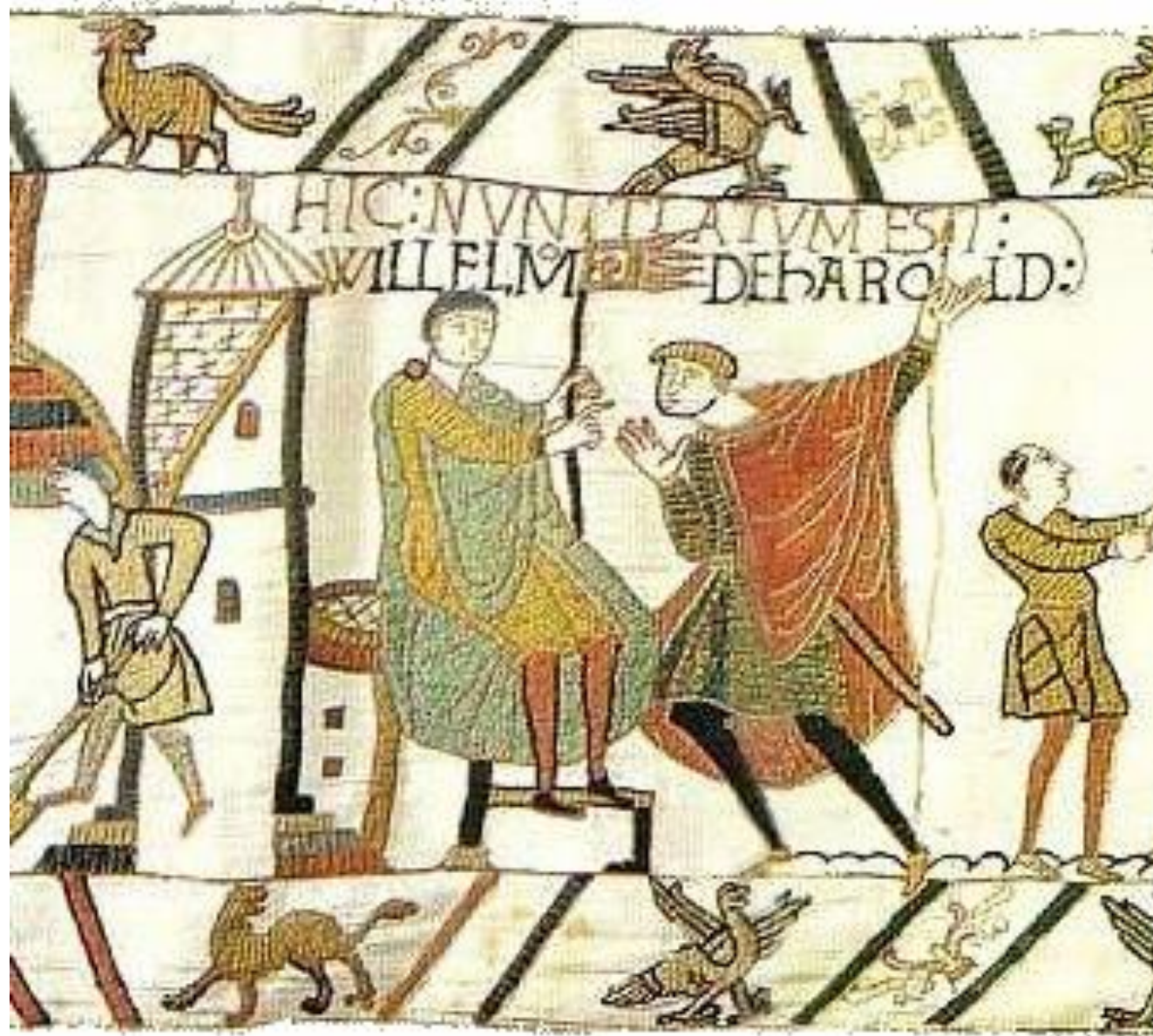
Panel 43: Bishop Odo, William, Robert



Panel 44: He ordered that a moat should be dug at Hastings. The camp



Panel 45: Here it was announced to William concerning Harold



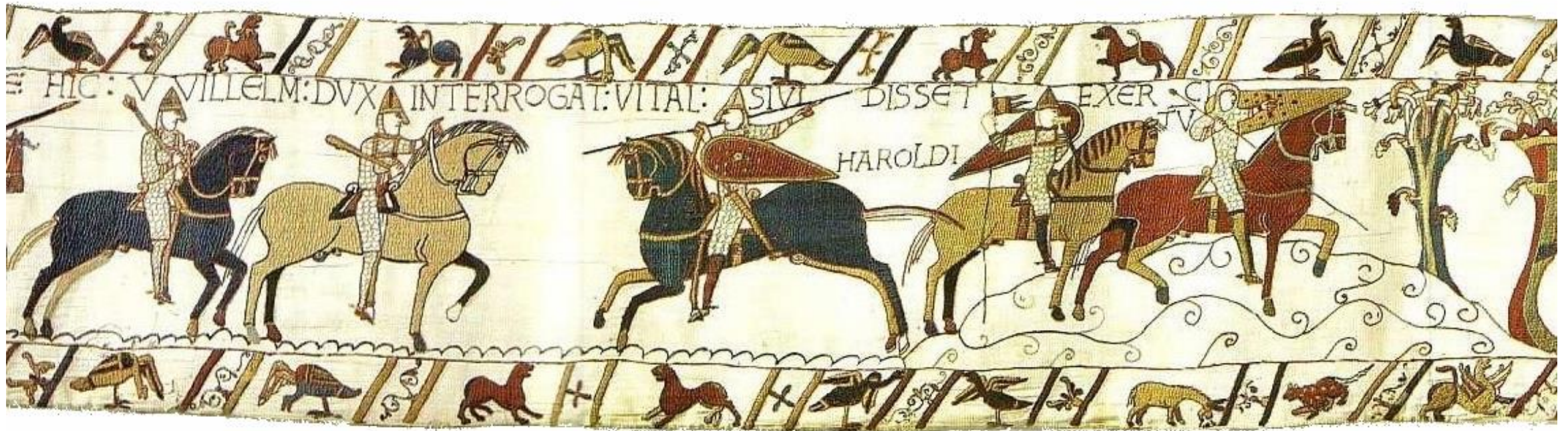
Panel 46: Here a house is burned.



Panel 47: Here the knights have left Hastings and have come to the battle against King Harold



Panel 48: Here Duke William asks Vitalis if he has seen Harold's army



Panel 49: This man tells King Harold about Duke William's army



Panel 50: Here Duke William speaks to his knights to prepare themselves manfully and wisely for the battle against the army of the English



Panel 51: Here have falled dead Leofwine and Gryth, brothers of King Harold



Panel 52: Here English and French fell at the same time in battle



Panel 53: Here Bishop Odo, holding a club, gives strength to the boys



Panel 54: Here is Duke William, Eustace



Panel 55: Here the French are fighting and have killed those who were with Harold



Panel 56: Here King Harold is slain



Panel 57: and the English have turned in flight

