

forces were triumphant and it appeared all southern Germany would fall to them. The war see-sawed back and forth and in 1626 Christian IV of Denmark entered for the Protestants and gained a few victories. But the imperial forces were marshalled under the extremely capable mercenary general, Wallenstein, and overcame Christian IV, carrying the warfare to the northern territories. Wallenstein did not want to carry the war too far lest other protestant countries be alarmed. He permitted Christian IV to come to peace at Augsburg in 1529 with the permission that Christian should keep his territories while promising not to interfere with other lands. With this peace came the infamous Edict of Restitution that asserted:

--all countries would return to the religious stance of 1552...

--protestants would be suppressed or driven from Roman territories...

--all properties anywhere taken from Catholics since 1552 would be restored.

The Roman forces had the temporal power to achieve these ends, both in goods and force, but there were ample quarrels among the Roman leaders themselves and the dividing of the spoils made men enemies even though they shared a common theology. Hence the edict could not be fully carried out although it presented itself as a very great threat to the reformation countries and protestantism in general. Thus the first phase ended with imperial victories and the protestants in disarray.

Second Phase: 1630-1634

Second Phase

Just as the peace of Augsburg was coming into effect a dramatic change occurred in the war. Gustavus Adolphus, the Swedish King, entered on the side of the protestants. He had some political interests as well but his devotion to evangelical causes was also keen. He did not find immediate acceptance among the jealous northern Germans and it took a few months until he could galvanize the northern protestant princes. He was helped by finances from France (!) and the personal assurances of Louis XIV and Cardinal Richelieu. Adolphus, once begun, quickly piled up a string of victories and rolled back the imperial successes. Roman jealousies had required the Emperor to relieve Wallenstein of command of the army and return it to the grouchy and less effective Tilly.