

Campaigns of Germanicus, 14-16 AD

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My suggested research paper for the Osnabrück Conference is to present a brief analysis of all the major military themes present in the Germanicus War in 14-16 AD as allowed by the 20 minutes timeframe. The presentation will also suggest a new theory of what really happened in the background during the war. The research paper assesses the Roman strategy from the viewpoint of Augustan German policy, Germanicus' plans, and Tiberius' internal, dynastic and foreign policies. The presentation also analyses the successes and failures of Roman tactics against the Germans as well as how the Romans attempted to adapt their military methods (policies, strategies, types of units and equipment, battle formations and tactics, stratagems etc.) to the local conditions and how successful the Romans were in this. The research paper also assesses the German political and military response to the Roman threat while taking into account variances of goals and opinions among and within the tribes, tribal groupings and families. The analysis also shows how the different Germanic tribes and groupings adapted their own military methods to the challenge posed by the Roman military. The research paper presents the material in chronological order and then suggests some tentative conclusions and further lines of inquiry.