

De Bello Gallico

Book 1, Chapters 32-35

Chapter 32: The Sequani are too terrified to speak at all!

- Diviciacus has just finished delivering a speech pleading to the Senate about Ariovistus demanding people to join him.
- The Sequani are sad :(
- Caesar asks them why they are sad, but they don't reply and continue to be sad.
- Finally, Diviciacus (the Aeduan) tells Caesar that the Sequani had a wretched fate.
- Ariovistus(German) = cruel!
 - He gave others the opportunity to escape, but the Sequani had to endure all tortures

Chapter 33: Caesar decides that the Germans are a threat to his province and to Italy.

- Caesar says he will put an end to the oppression by Ariovistus.
 - Delivers a speech, yay!
- Caesar had many reasons for wanting to defeat Ariovistus
 - First, the Aedui (allies with Rome) were being held in slavery and subjected to the Germans.
 - Also, if the Germans cross the Rhine and settled in Gaul, that could be very bad for the Roman people.
 - He also thought that they might invade the Province
- Caesar wanted to work fast!
- Ariovistus = arrogant.

Chapter 34: Ariovistus refuses Caesar's demand for a conference.

- Caesar sends ambassadors to Ariovistus to ask for an intermediate place they could have a conference.
 - Wanted to discuss the state business and important matters.
- Ariovistus replies that if he needed Caesar, he would have gone to him. If Caesar wants anything from him, he should come to him.
- Ariovistus found it strange that Caesar was in his part of Gaul (the part which he had conquered in war)

Chapter 35: Caesar makes more detailed demands.

- Caesar hears Ariovistus' reply, and sends ambassadors back to him with this message.
 - Caesar called him his "king and friend" when he was consul in 59 BC.
 - When Caesar invites him to a conference however, he refuses and doesn't think that it concerns him to advise and inform himself about an object of mutual interest.

Chapter 35: Caesar makes more detailed demands.

- Caesar sends this very clear message to Ariovistus:
 - First, don't bring anyone across the Rhine river into Gaul.
 - Release the hostages that he took from the Aedui
 - Grant the Sequani permission to restore the Aedui the hostages which they have.
 - Don't provoke the Aedui and don't wage war on them or their allies.

Chapter 35: Caesar makes more detailed demands.

- If Ariovistus does this, then Caesar and the Roman people will be friendly with him
- If Ariovistus does not do this, then Caesar will take it upon himself to make sure that no wrongs ever come to the Aedui
 - The Senate will allow him to do this.