William de la Pole

Born in 1396.
From 1443 – 1450 he dominated the government of the weak king.

Most say he was responsible for England's defeats in the late stages of the Hundred Years' War 1337 – 1453.
Served in all French campaigns of King Henry V from 1417 to 1422.

Became one of the most trusted generals of Henry VI.
June 12th 1429, defeated and taken prisoner by Joan of Arc.
Next decade: Served as Royal Councillor and Emissary.

Influence in Government by joining the faction of Henry Cardinal Beaufort who dominated the king and retired in 1443. Pole became chief advisor.
Effort to end the war and secured a 2 year truce in 1444.
Enraged his countrymen by giving up the provinces of Maine and Anjou of France.

Downfall
Came after the English treacherously captured Fougères, probably with his approval, in March 1449, which reopened behaviour.

French recaptured almost all of Normandy. Parliament bid the blame for the disaster on Suffolk.
With great reluctance, the King banished the duke from the realm for 5 years.
Suffolk left England on May 1 1450 and intercepted in the English Channel by some of his enemies and beheaded.