# Causes of WWI

# MAIN Causes of WWI

- Militarism
- Alliances
- Imperialism
- Nationalism

# Militarism

- Definition: The glorification of military power and the presence of a standing army
- Pre-WWI, emphasis on military strategy
- Arms race began to build up the strongest army and navy with the most advanced technology

# HMS Dreadnought

# Militarism



- Germany:
  - Germany's Schlieffen Plan:
    - Aimed to defend Germany from Russia, while attacking France by mobilizing through the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxemburg
    - Developed by Schlieffen almost 10 years before the Great War

# Alliances

- Definition: a union between countries created for mutual benefit
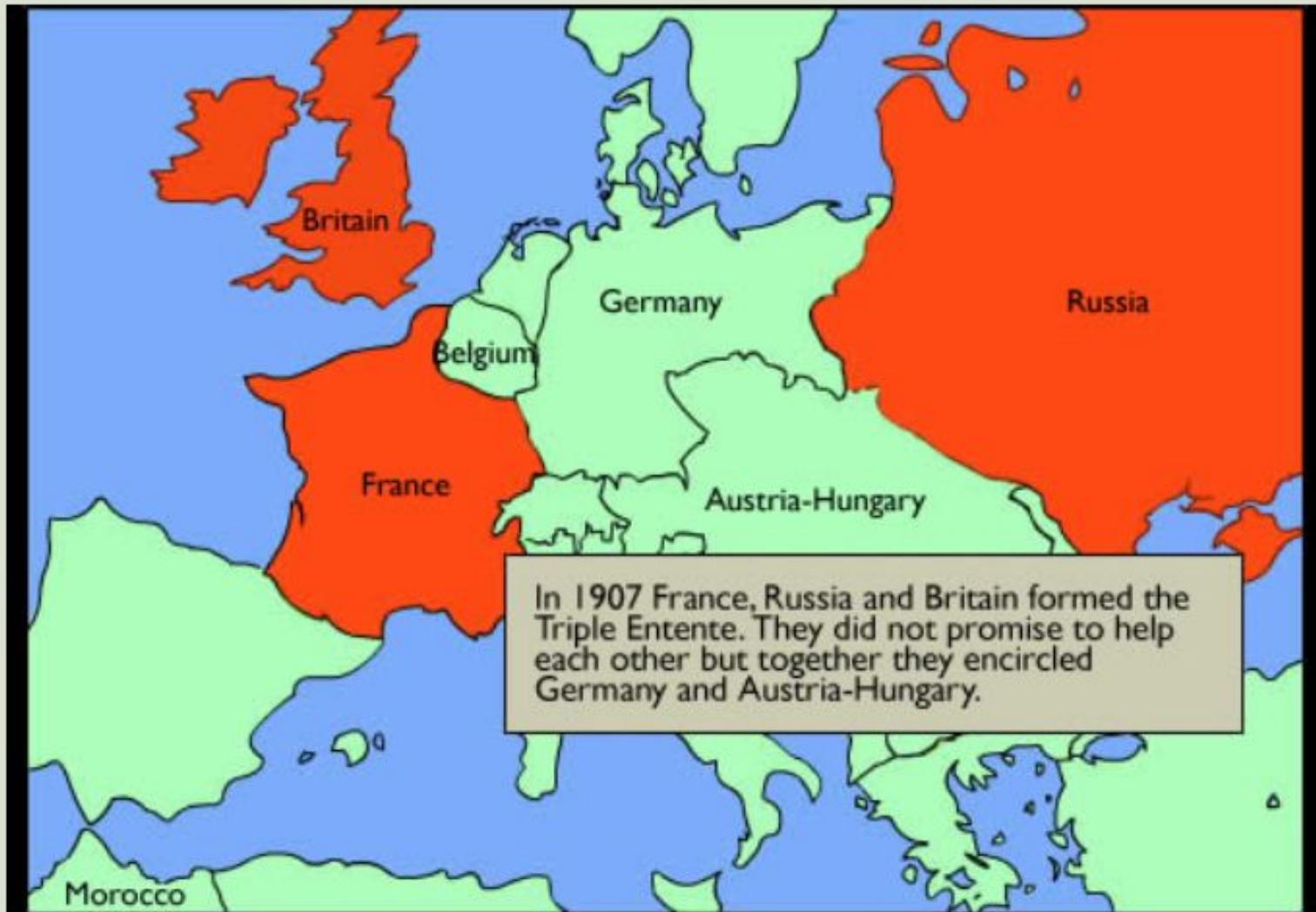- Alliance system made war unavoidable

… but why?

[Read: *Three Emperors League*]

# TAKE OUT MAP OF EUROPE

Directions:

- Choose one marker- this is for the Triple Entente
- In the top LEFT corner of your paper, write "Triple Entente" in color #1
- Choose a second marker- this is for the Triple Alliance
- Below "Triple Entente", write "Triple Alliance" in color #2

# Triple Entente (in color #1)



Britain

Germany

Russia

Belgium

France

Austria-Hungary

In 1907 France, Russia and Britain formed the Triple Entente. They did not promise to help each other but together they encircled Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Morocco

Map of Europe 1839-1914

# Triple Alliance (in color #2)



In 1882 Austria-Hungary, Germany and Italy formed the Triple Alliance. They promised to defend each other if either were attacked.

Map of Europe 1839-1914
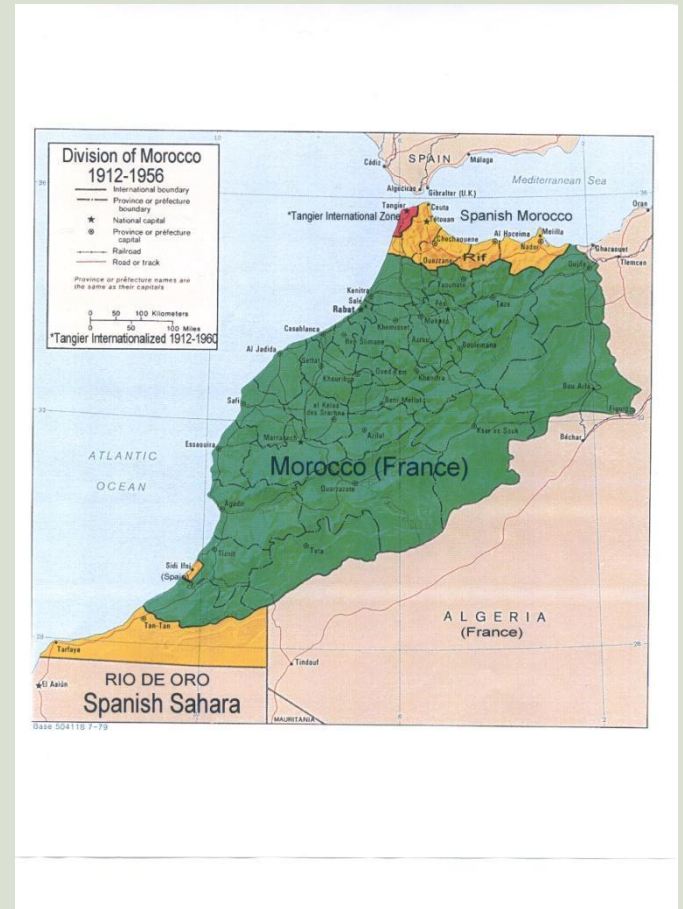
# Imperialism

- Berlin Conference (1884)
  - o Driven by the need to expand their empires, European countries divide up Africa

- The British Empire:
  - o Australia, India, Canada + African colonies
  - o "The sun never sets on the British Empire"

# Imperialism

- Germany vs. France:
  - France loses Alsace-Lorraine to Germany in Franco-Prussian War (1871)
  - 1911: fight over Morocco

AUSTRIA

HUNGARY

RUSSIA

Drava

Danube

Prut

BESSARABIA (to Russia 1812)

MOLDAVIA

Odessa

Dnieper

Don

Volga

BOSNIA (to Austria-Hungary 1878, annexed 1908)

SERBIA (aut. 1830, ind. 1878)

Olt

WALACHIA ROMANIA (ind. 1878)

(to Russia 1829)

CRIMEA

Anapa

HERZEGOVINA (to Austria-Hungary 1878, annexed 1908)

Bucharest

Danube

ABKHAZIA (to Russia 1829)

MONTENEGRO (ind. 1878)

Niš

BULGARIA (aut. 1878, ind. 1908)

BLACK SEA

CAUCASUS

Sofia

Maritsa

EAST RUMELIA (aut. 1878, to Bulgaria 1885)

POTI (to Russia 1829)

Rioni

Tiflis

ALBANIA (ind. 1913)

Adrianople (Edirne)

BATUM (to Russia 1878)

KARS (to Russia 1878)

ACHALZICH (to Russia 1829)

ITALY

MACEDONIA

THRACE

Unkiar Skelissi

Samsun

San Stefano

Istanbul (Constantinople)

Trebizond

Erzurum

Kura

Janina

Imbros

THESSALY

Dardanelles

Tenedos

Sakarya

Kizil

Ankara

Sivas

ARMENIA

Lake Van

Van

CASPIAN SEA

GREECE

AEGEAN SEA

İzmir (Smyrna)

TURKEY

Bitlis

AZERBAIJAN

Lake Urmia

Athens

MOREA

ANATOLIA

Konya

(French sphere of influence 1918–21)

Navarino

DODECANESE (Italian occupation 1912)

(Italian sphere of influence 1919–21)

CILICIA

Tehrān

CRETE (aut. 1898, ceded to Greece 1913)

Rhodes

HATAY

Euphrates

Mosul

Spinalónga

Cyprus (British admin. 1878, protectorate 1914)

Nicosia

Aleppo

SYRIA

Tripoli

Kirkūk

Tigris

IRAN

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

LEBANON

Damascus

Acre

Haifa

Baghdad

IRAQ

Al-Kūt

Benghazi

PALESTINE

Jerusalem

TRANS-JORDAN

ARABIA

Basra

Alexandria

Suez Canal

CYRENAICA (to Italy 1912)

EGYPT (British occupation 1882, Brit. protectorate 1914)

Nile

Cairo

KUWAIT

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0    75   150  225  300 mi
0    150   300    450 km

Empire boundary in 1807
Losses 1807–29
Losses 1830–78
Losses 1879–1915
Losses 1916–23
Turkey in 1924

# Domino Effect

1. Archduke Franz Ferdinand (heir to Austro-Hungarian throne) and wife are assassinated in June 28, 1914 by a Serbian nationalist
2. Austria-Hungary gives Serbia an ultimatum (list of demands) to avoid war
3. AH rejects Serbia's offer of peace and declares war on July 28, 1914.
4. Russia moves troops to Austrian and German borders.

# Domino Effect

5. Germany sees this as an act of aggression, declares war on Russia on August 1, 1914.

6. Germany declares war on France.

7. Germany invades Belgium as part of Schlieffen Plan.

8. Britain declares war on Germany on August 4, 1914

9. Italy switches sides→ leaves Alliance to join Entente