

NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORY

WORLD WAR I

Social Studies 8 – Chapter 6

Causes of World War I

- Historians have identified four major factors that led to the beginning of the first global-scaled war:
 1. Nationalism
 2. Economic Rivalry
 3. Arms Race
 4. Alliance System





NATIONALISM

1. Nationalism

- Nationalism: a deep sense of loyalty towards one's country, often leading to a sense of *superiority* over others.
- All European countries at this time believed they were *superior* to the others.
- Jealousy between countries was high.

1. Nationalism

- The most powerful and wealthy country was **Great Britain**. The British empire included many colonies all over the world.
- Ex: Africa, North America
- Other European countries want to acquire power and wealth as well – France, Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungry, Japan

1. Nationalism

- How does a country acquire power?
 - increase their land
 - acquire new colonies
 - increase their access to resources (coal, gold, diamonds, wheat)
 - improve their technology
 - increase their industry
- In order for countries to have these things, they must take it from Great Britain.

1. Nationalism

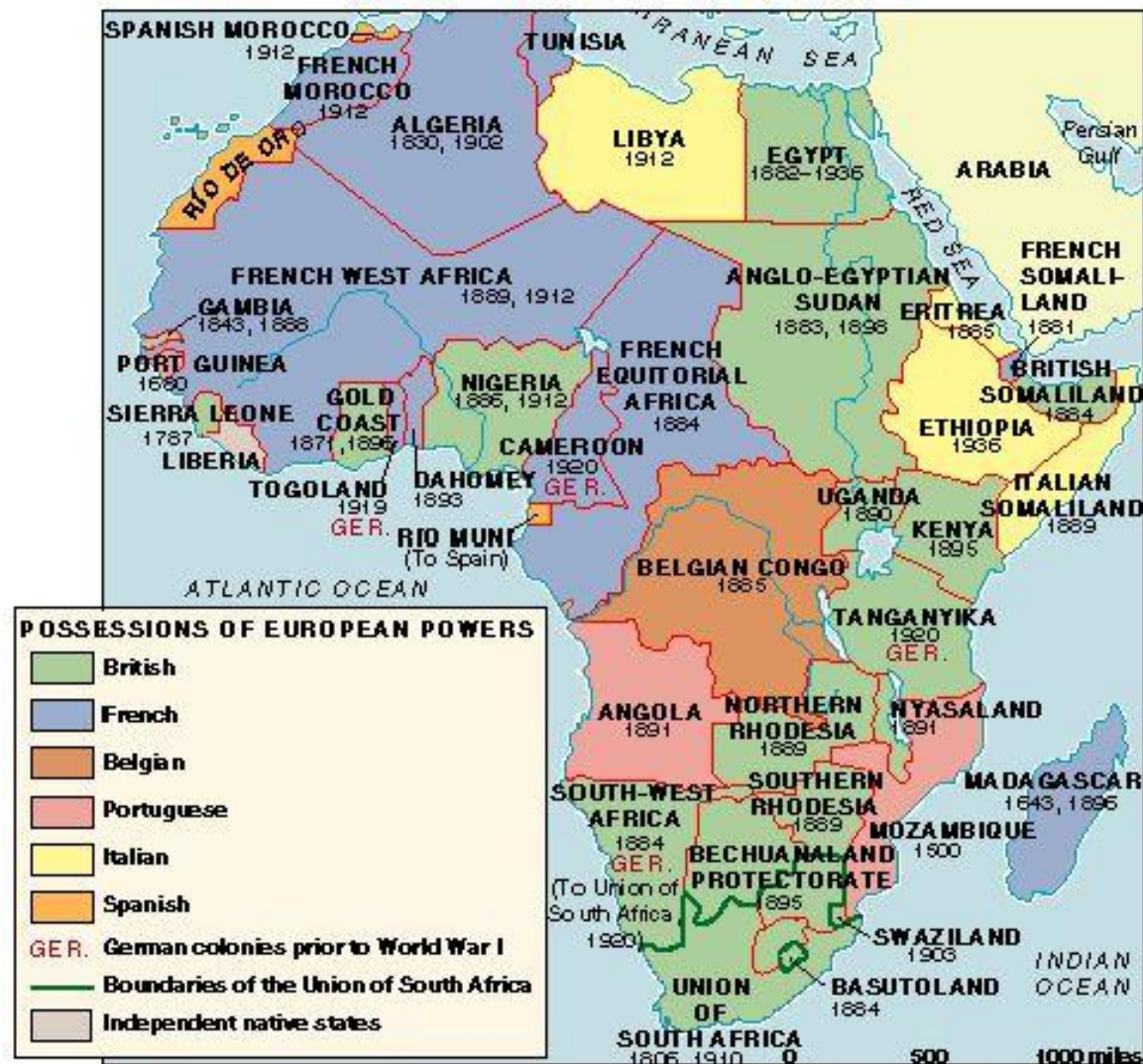
- Nationalism creates TENSION between European countries, as each country believes they are superior and deserving of more power
- This tension contributes to the beginning of the war



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Economic Rivalry

The Scramble for Africa, 1914



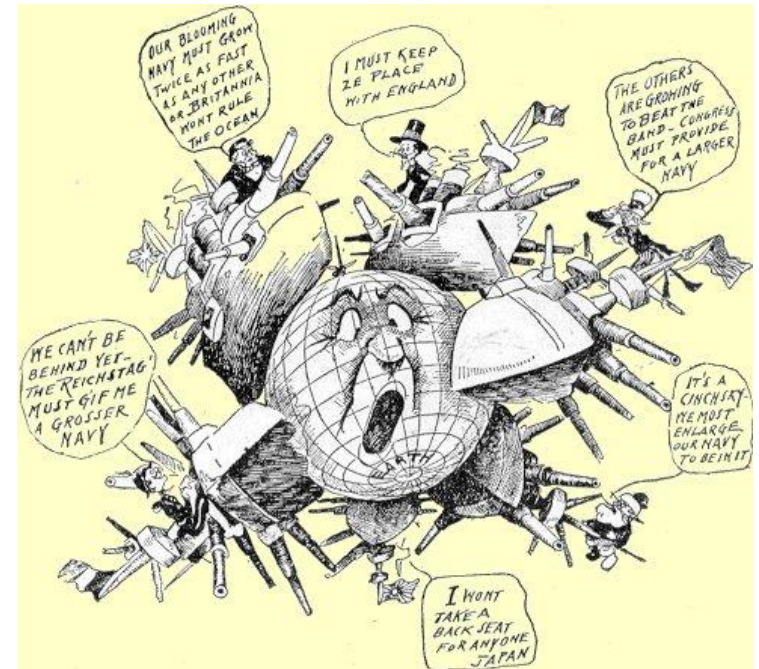


Arms Race



3. Arms Race

- In order to prove their power and to protect themselves, European countries begin to build up a huge stockpile of weapons.
- Research to develop new weapon technology increases.



3. Arms Race

- An arms race develops between Great Britain and Germany to build the largest number of warships called dreadnoughts.
- All European countries are 'armed to the teeth' and ready for war!
- This arms race increases TENSION between countries, which contributed to the beginning of the war.

HMS Dreadnought 1906





Alliance System

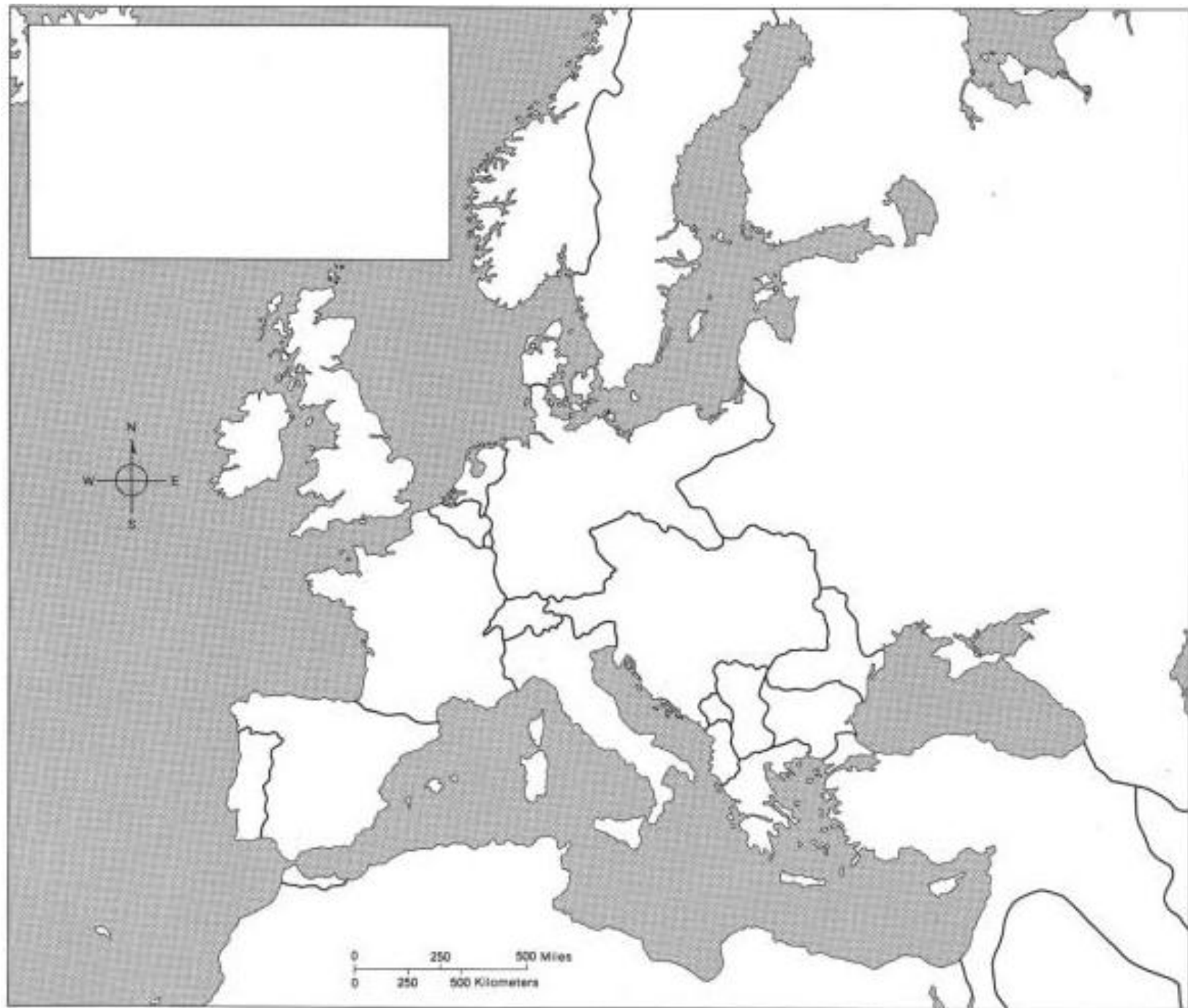
4. Alliance System

- As tensions increase in Europe, these countries attempt to create alliances amongst themselves to try to reduce tensions and establish peace.
- The alliances created are:
 - i. **The Double Alliance:** (1879) Germany and Austria-Hungry
 - ii. **The Triple Alliance:** (1882) Italy joins the Double Alliance
 - iii. **The Triple Entente:** (1907) Great Britain, France and Russia

4. Alliance System

- Instead of reducing TENSION, the alliance system increased tensions by dividing Europe into two camps.





War is welcome!

- Because of the tensions and preparations for war, all European countries easily accept the idea of a global war.
- Many see war as the only way to end the tensions in Europe.
- It will take very little to launch Europe into world war.

The Spark

- On June 28, 1914, Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary is assassinated while touring Bosnia by a Serbian nationalist/terrorist Gavrilo Princip.



War is declared!

- This increases tensions, and war is declared on **August 4, 1914.**
- All countries anticipate a short war (“the boys will be home for Christmas”).
- However, World War I does not end until **November 11, 1918.**

