


World War One was Germany's fault

because....



Weltpolitik




1898 Naval
Act



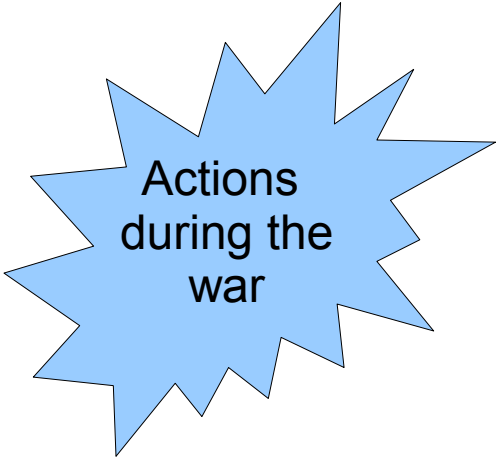
Anti British
in Boer War



Moroccan Crises



Bosnian
Crisis



Actions
during the
war

Weltpolitik



Kaiser Wilhelm II

Under Bismarck Germany had recognized the threat from Russia and France and put an effort to maintain peace with Russia.

Under Wilhelm II Bismarck was forced away and the foreign policies became much more aggressive.

Germany challenged both French and British interests with its new Colonial World Policy. "nothing must henceforth be settled in the world without the intervention of Germany"

In June 1890 Germany failed to re-new the Reinsurance act with Russia. At the same time they started an arms race with conscription.

In 1898 the Naval Act was passed

Naval act
1898



Admiral von Tirpitz

Germany set up the goal that it should have the same size of its navy as Great Britain.

This in combination with the Dreadnoughts (first set sail in 1904 in Japan) that made all old boats obsolete imposes a deadly threat to the British.



Anti British
in Boer War



Young Winston
participated in the
Boer War.

In 1899 and in 1900 Germany proposed an anti-British Continental League due to the war in South Africa.

This upset the British and further convinced them that the Germans were hostile versus the British.



Moroccan Crises

There were two Moroccan Crises.

Why Morocco?

France had finally accepted British supremacy over Egypt if the British would accept French control over Morocco.

First Moroccan Crisis 1905

A German effort to break up the Entente Cordiale. Wilhelm makes a strong worded speech in Tangier supporting Ottoman and German claims on Morocco. Directed against the French.

Result?

Algeciras Conference 1906 where the British and French recognize French supremacy over Morocco.



Moroccan Crises

The Second Moroccan Crisis 1911.

In an agreement from 1909 no European power had the right to place military personnel in Morocco.

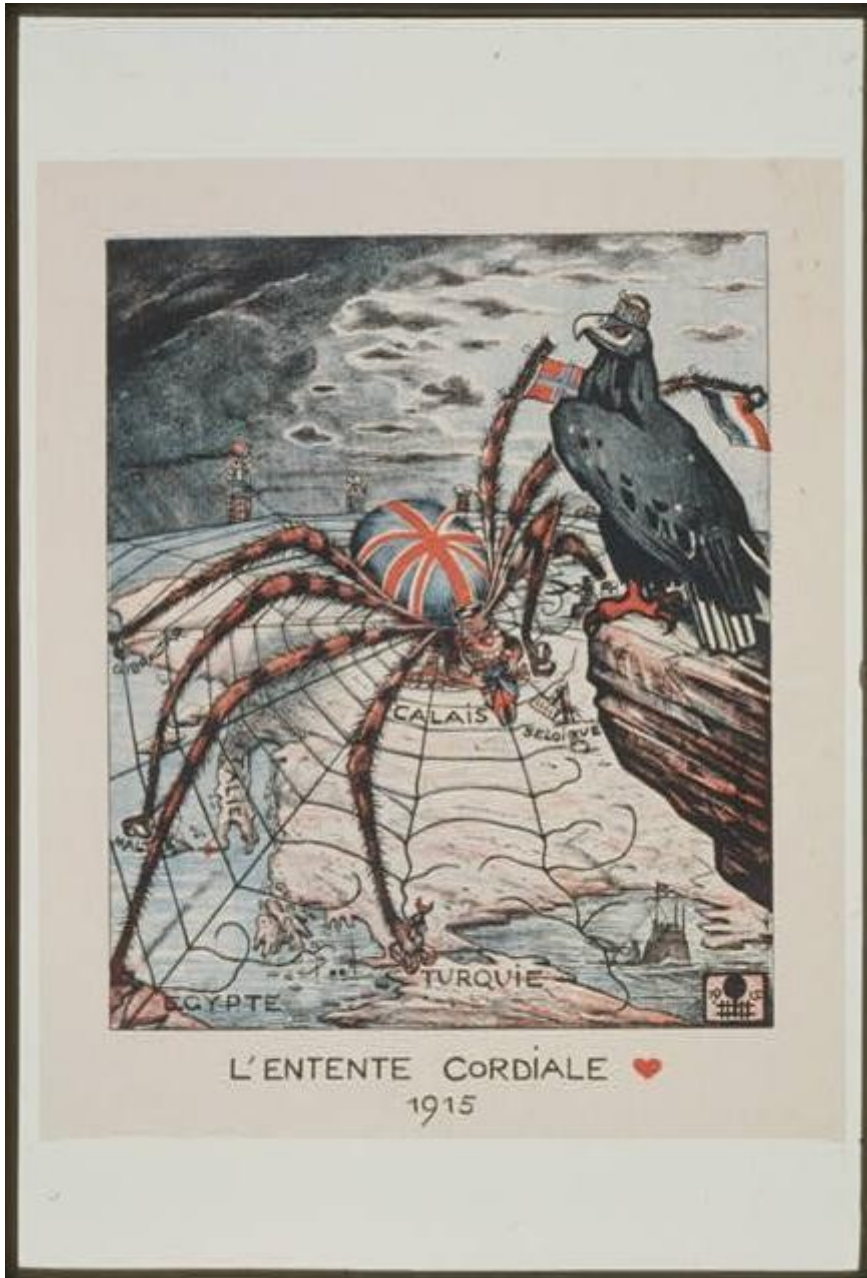
In April 1911 French sent troops and rightfully the Germans protest.

In July the German Gunboat Panther arrived to Agadir.

The British let the Germans know that they will defend French interests in Morocco at any cost. Meaning war if Germany doesn't back down.


Germany agrees to take the Panther home and gets a small part of French Congo as compensation.

German View on the Entente Cordiale



The Eagle is the German Eagle, national symbol For Germany.

Have you seen simular propaganda posters?

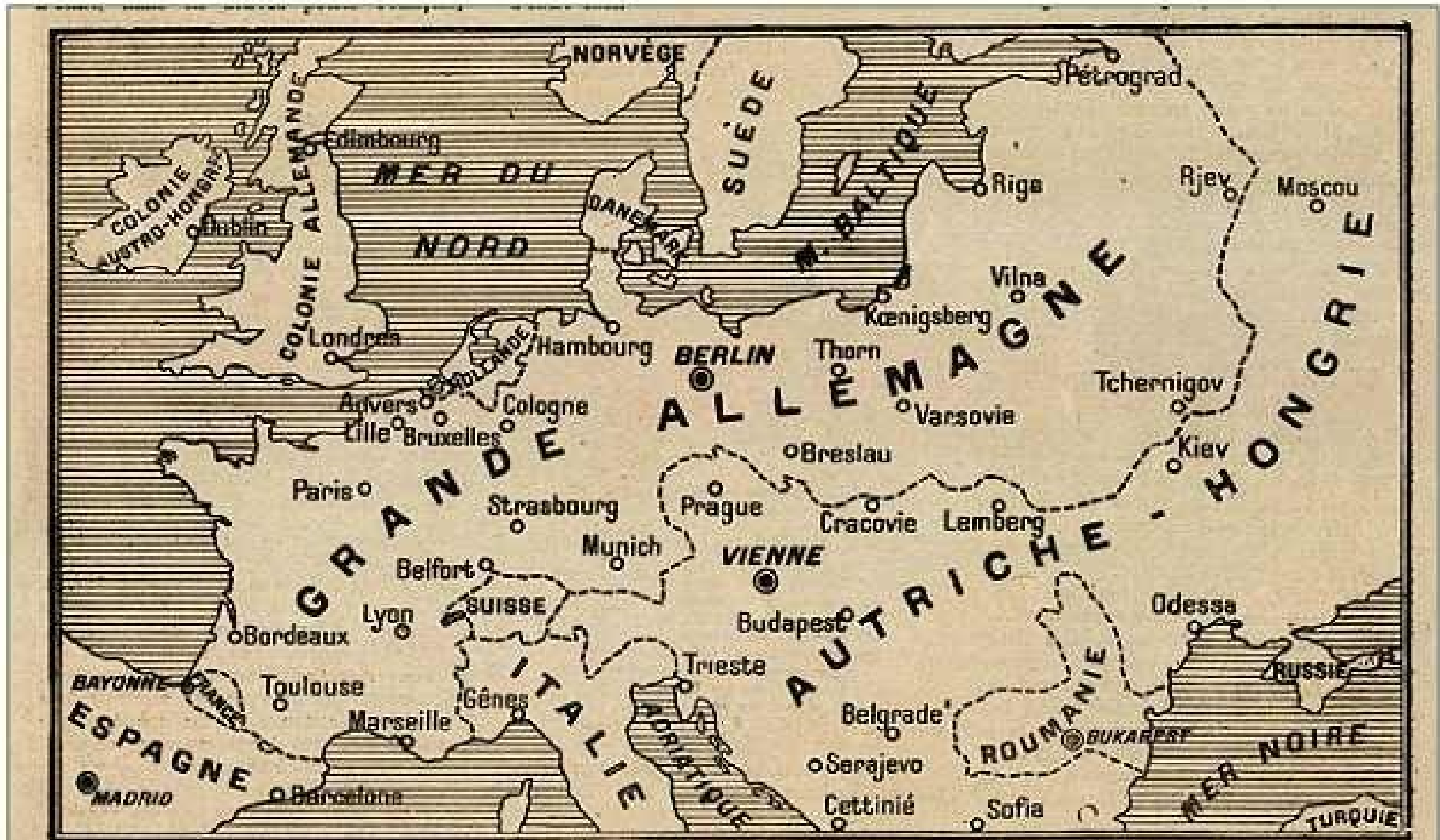


Bosnian
Crisis

”In 1908, the Bosnian or Near Eastern Crisis occurred. ...[Russia and Austria] agreed that Austria could annex Bosnia-Herzegovina (where Austria since 1878 had the right of occupation) and that **the 1841 Straits Rule** should be altered to permit Russians warships to pass even if the Ottoman Empire were not at war. However, objections from Britain and elsewhere prevented revision of the Rule (as the Austrians had calculated), whereupon the Russians insisted that the Austrians should rescind their annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina. German support for Austria forced the Russians to back down.”

(quote from <http://www.bfley.com/ecolint-history/fwwcauses.htm>)

What if Germany had won the War?



LE RÊVE D'HÉGÉMONIE ALLEMANDE. — CE QUE NOUS AURAIT CÔTÉ LA DÉFAITE

Nous publions ci-dessus, d'après le Daily Mail, une des cartes condensant les projets allemands de remaniement de l'Europe après la guerre, et qui montre ce que nous serions devenus si le coup allemand avait réussi.

La Belgique, le Luxembourg, la Serbie, le Monténégro disparaissent complètement. La Russie perd toutes ses provinces baltes avec Pétrograd. La Grande-Bretagne devient une colonie austro-allemande. Quant à la France, elle se trouve réduite au département des Basses-Pyrénées avec Bayonne comme capitale.