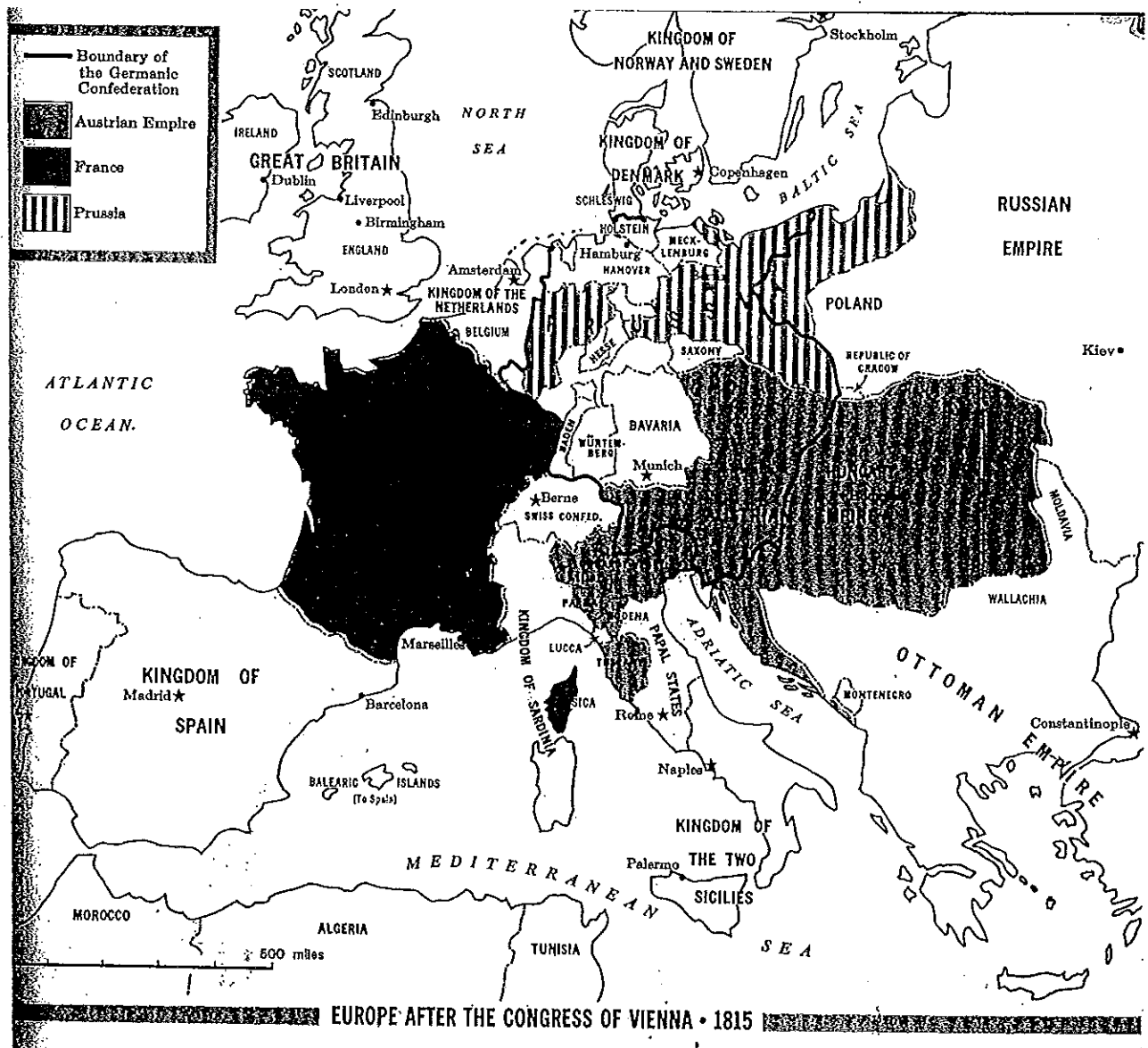


Grade 11: Simulation Exercise

World War One: France

Background Info:

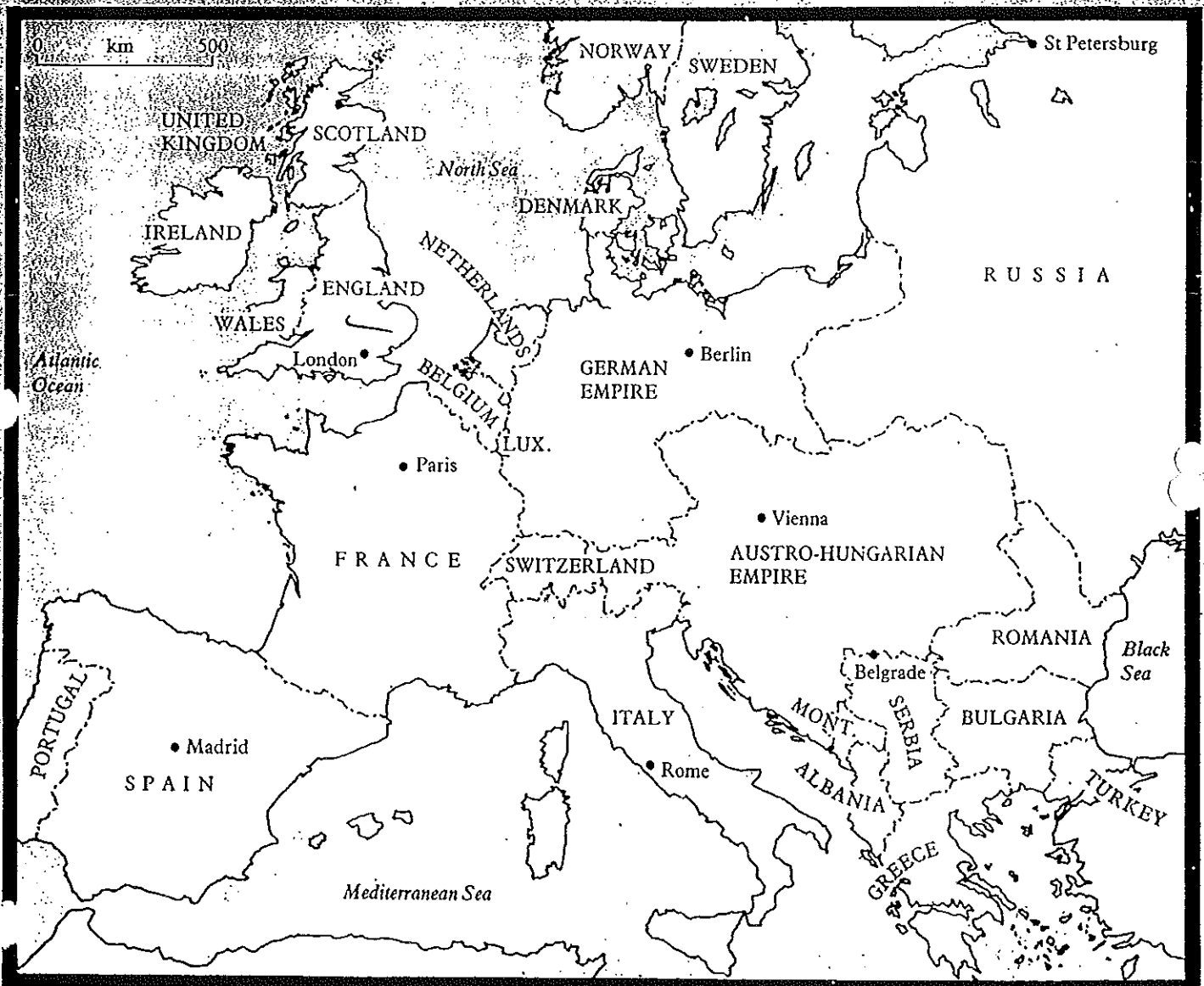
You are the ruling party of France, one of the world's great powers. You have a republican government, and a large army. In the past, you have fought wars with just about every major power in Europe, although in recent years you have avoided such wars. The great powers have fallen into the habit of responding to every crisis with a conference at which they reorder the boundaries in question in such a way as to preserve the "balance of power", making sure that no country gains too much power in relation to the others. In particular, you have a longstanding rivalry with Britain that goes back to the middle ages. Now a new threat is emerging. Prussia, a German state in Eastern Europe is in the process of building a larger German empire on your borders. If they succeed, this German empire will probably become the most powerful state in Europe. Your principal goal is to ensure that you do not lose your position in the balance of power. If possible, you would like France to increase its power.



Crisis #1:

The Spanish crown is vacant, and the throne has been offered to a prince of the Prussian royal family. If the Prussian prince accepts the throne, the Prussian royal family will control land on two of France's borders. The prince in question has refused the throne, but Kaiser William I of Prussia refuses to give you assurances that he or another member of the Prussian royal family will not accept the Spanish throne in the future. The Prussian chancellor has published the telegram you sent requesting this assurance in Germany, altering the text so that it appears that we have insulted the Germans. He is deliberately whipping up massive anti-French feeling in all the territory controlled by Prussia. What do you want to do?

- A) Insist that the Prussians give you the assurance that they will never accept the Spanish throne. If not, declare war.
- B) Insist that the Prussians give you the assurance
- C) Drop the whole thing.



Europe in 1914

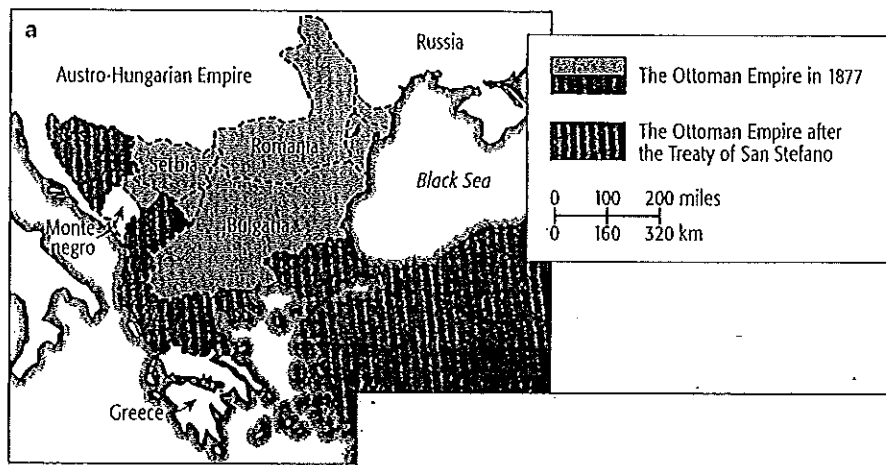
Crisis #2: The Congress of Berlin, 1878

There has been trouble in the Balkans. This region, which lies between Austria-Hungary, Russia and Turkey, has been part of the Turkish empire for several hundred years. However, Turkey is in decline as a great power. This decline is destabilizing the region, as the various peoples push for independence, and Russia and Austria-Hungary both attempt to increase their influence. Russia is anxious to get access to the Mediterranean for its navy, and also to have a port that can be used year-round. Russians are a Slavic people, as are most of the inhabitants of the Balkans, so they argue that the Balkans should be united under Russian rule. Austria-Hungary wants to prevent any small states from becoming independent in case the various ethnic groups within its borders begin to get restless. It is also afraid of letting Russia get too much power in the region.

The trouble began when the Bulgarians revolted against Turkish rule in 1876. The Turks responded by massacring many Bulgarians. Eventually, the crisis escalated, and the Russians became involved. The Russo-Turkish war (which Russia won) has just ended in 1878 with the Treaty of San Stephano. By the terms of the Treaty of San Stefano Serbia and Romania are to become fully independent, Bulgaria has made into a large autonomous state which is expected to be dominated by Russia, reforms are promised in Bosnia, and Russia has annexed some territory east of the Black Sea.

As has become a regular occurrence in Europe when major diplomatic events take place, The great powers are holding a congress to discuss this treaty and modify its terms if necessary. What is your position?

- A) The treaty is fine and we should leave it alone.
- B) Russia should not be allowed to annex any Turkish territory. Turkey should be left alone.
- C) The treaty gives Russia too much power. She can take some Turkish territory, but not as much as that.
- D) The treaty gives Russia too much power; Austria-Hungary should get some territory too.
- E) Russia can keep some Turkish territory, but only if Britain gets some too.

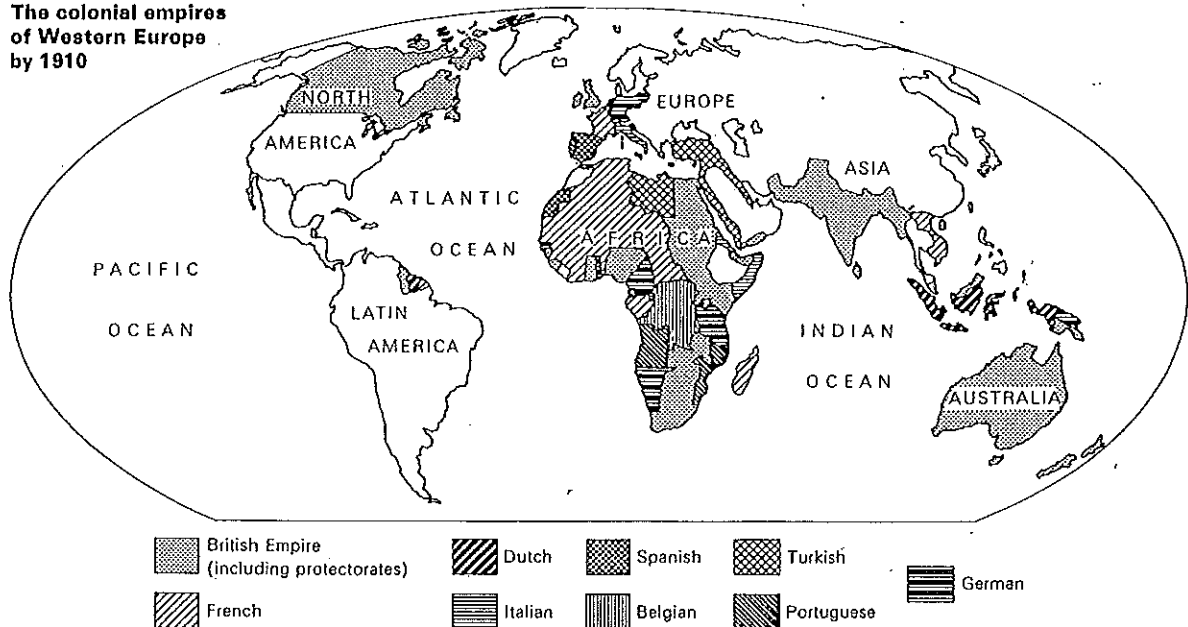


Crisis #3: Dual Alliance, 1879 and Triple Alliance, 1882

Germany has made a military alliance with Austria-Hungary (1879) and Italy (1882). Obviously, this is an extremely threatening move. We could ignore it, but we would be leaving ourselves vulnerable to attack by two or more countries at once. Our other option is to form an alliance of our own. If we ally with Russia, then, if Germany attacked either of us, she would have to fight a two-front war. On the downside, we risk being drawn into a war between Germany and Russia.

- A) Ask Russia to join an alliance
- B) Stay out of alliances.

The colonial empires of Western Europe by 1910



Crisis #4: The Fashoda Incident, 1898

At present, you are engaged in expanding your influence in Africa. You are hoping one day to control enough territory to be able to build a railway all the way across the continent from East to West. Unfortunately, the other European powers are getting in on the act as well. Britain, in particular, is taking over a lot of territory. They are expanding eastward across the continent, while we expand in a north-south direction. Our respective troops have met at a place called Fashoda on the upper Nile. The officers in charge of our respective troops have worked out a tentative deal with the French forces that the British flag will fly over the main part of the fort, and the French flag will fly over a corner. They have sent to you asking what to do now.

- A) Tell your troops to attack the British
- B) Negotiate some sort of agreement with the British so you can work together to control the expansion of the other European powers.

Crisis #5: First Moroccan Crisis and Algericas Conference

In 1904, you signed an agreement with the British in which you defined your respective colonial spheres of influence. One of the terms of this agreement is that they will have control of Egypt (and will protect French shipping going through Suez), while they will give you a free hand in Morocco. You also agreed to support them in colonial disagreements with third parties (although you are under no obligation where European affairs are concerned). You are now in the process of improving conditions for your merchants in Morocco, which necessarily involves taking a role in the Moroccan administration, but Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany has landed in Tangier and made a proclamation recognizing Moroccan "independence" and declaring that Germany was prepared to defend its "legitimate interests" in the area. A conference has been called on the issue:

- A) Insist on full control over Morocco and go to war with Germany if you don't get it.
- B) Let the Germans have Morocco.
- C) Make a compromise and divide Morocco between Germany and France.
- D) Insist on full control over Morocco, but stop short of going to war.

Crisis #6: The Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907

You now have an alliance with Russia, and a loose agreement with Britain over colonial interests. Britain and Russia do not have any sort of alliance. In fact, their interests are in conflict over Persia and Afghanistan. What should your next move be?

- A) Pursue a closer alliance with Britain and let the alliance with Russia lapse.
- B) Pursue a closer alliance with Russia and let the agreement with Britain lapse.
- C) Talk Russia and Britain into making an agreement and pursue closer relations with both.

Crisis #7: Arms Race

Since uniting as a country, Germany has built up a large and powerful army. This is a bit worrying, since the last time they used their army, they took over two of your provinces.

- A) Build up your army so that it's bigger than Germany's.
- B) Let Germany build a big army if they want. spend your extra money on schools, hospitals, etc.

Crisis #8: Austria-Hungary Annexes Bosnia, 1908

-Taking advantage of the Young Turk revolution, which has broken out in Turkey this year, Austria has annexed Bosnia. The Serbs, who also claim Bosnia, have protested this action, as have the Russians. The Russians, however, are in pretty bad shape at the moment, having just lost a war with Japan, and having just put down a revolution at home. It is possible that the Russians and Serbia will declare war on Austria-Hungary. We could make friends with them if we helped them out, either militarily or diplomatically, but, on the other hand, Austria-Hungary was promised Bosnia at the Congress of Berlin, so they're really within their rights to take it over.

- A) Declare war on Austria-Hungary
- B) Condemn the annexation of Bosnia, but don't go to war over it.
- C) Stay out of it; you're under no obligation to do anything.

Crisis #9 Agadir Crisis/Second Moroccan Crisis, 1911

There has been unrest in Morocco. France has sent 20,000 troops to restore order. Germany has responded by sending a gunboat to Agadir to "protect German interests". Should we:

- A) Insist that the Germans keep out of Morocco, going to war if necessary.
- B) Concede Germany's claim for some share of Morocco?
- C) Insist that the Germans keep out of Morocco, but stop short of war. Instead, push hard for closer ties with Britain.

France



France

Crisis #10: The First Balkan War: 1912-13

-In a bid for supremacy in the Balkans, Serbia organized a "Balkan League", consisting of Serbia, Greece, Montenegro and Bulgaria. Its aim was to drive Turkey out of Europe. Turkey lost all of its European territory in this war except for a strip along the straits. At the peace conference, which is being negotiated in London, they will be dividing up the territory. The issue that most concerns the great powers is the question of Albania, which is claimed by Greece and Serbia, and was sort of promised to Italy at the Congress of Berlin:

- A) Give Albania to Serbia, giving Serbia access to the sea.
- B) Give Albania to Greece.
- C) Give Albania back to Turkey.
- D) Make Albania Independent.

Crisis #11: Second Balkan War, 1913

Serbia, Greece, Romania and Turkey have all been fighting against Bulgaria over the division of Macedonia after the first Balkan war. They have won. What do you want your input to be at the Peace conference in Bucharest in 1914:

- A) Give Albania to Serbia, giving Serbia access to the sea.
- B) Give Albania to Greece.
- C) Give Albania back to Turkey.
- D) Make Albania Independent.

Crisis #12: Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, June 28, 1914

Archduke Franz Ferdinand was the heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary. The student who assassinated him is an eighteen-year old called Gavrilo Princip. It is thought that he was working for the "Black Hand," a terrorist organization that works out of Serbia. What will you do if:

1) Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia?

- A) Nothing.
- B) Declare war on Austria-Hungary.
- C) Declare war on Serbia.
- D) Declare war on Austria-Hungary if Britain will support you.
- F) Declare war on Serbia if Britain will support you.
- G) Try to organize a peace conference, but otherwise do nothing.
- H) Begin troop mobilizations and try to organize a peace conference.

2) Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia and Russia enters the conflict on Serbia's side?

- A) Nothing.
- B) Declare war on Austria-Hungary.
- C) Declare war on Serbia and Russia.
- D) Try to organize a peace conference, but otherwise do nothing.
- E) Begin troop mobilizations and try to organize a peace conference.
- F) Declare war on Austria-Hungary if Britain will support you.
- G) Declare war on Serbia and Russia if Britain will support you.

3) Germany enters the conflict on Austria-Hungary's side?

- A) Nothing.
- B) Declare war on Austria-Hungary and Germany.
- C) Declare war on Serbia and Russia.
- D) Declare war on Austria-Hungary and Germany if Britain will support you.
- E) Declare war on Serbia and Russia if Britain will support you.
- F) Try to organize a peace conference, but otherwise do nothing.
- G) Begin troop mobilizations and try to organize a peace conference.

4) Germany asks you to guarantee that you will stay out of the conflict:

- A) Guarantee you will stay out.
- B) Declare war.
- C) Don't commit yourself either way, but mobilize troops (if you haven't already) just in case.

Military Situation

Population: 40 million

Soldiers: 1,250,000

Military expenditure 1913-14: 37 million pounds

Battleships Built or being built: 28

Submarines: 73

Tonnage of Merchant Ships: 2 million

Kilometers of track (1900): 38,000

Coal (1900): 33 million tonnes

Steel (1900): 1.6 million tonnes