

What is Imperialism?

The seizure of a country or territory
by a stronger country

Why Imperialism? What are the motives driving Imperialism?

- Economic
- Political
- Social





The Congo Free State or The Belgian Congo



Harvesting Rubber



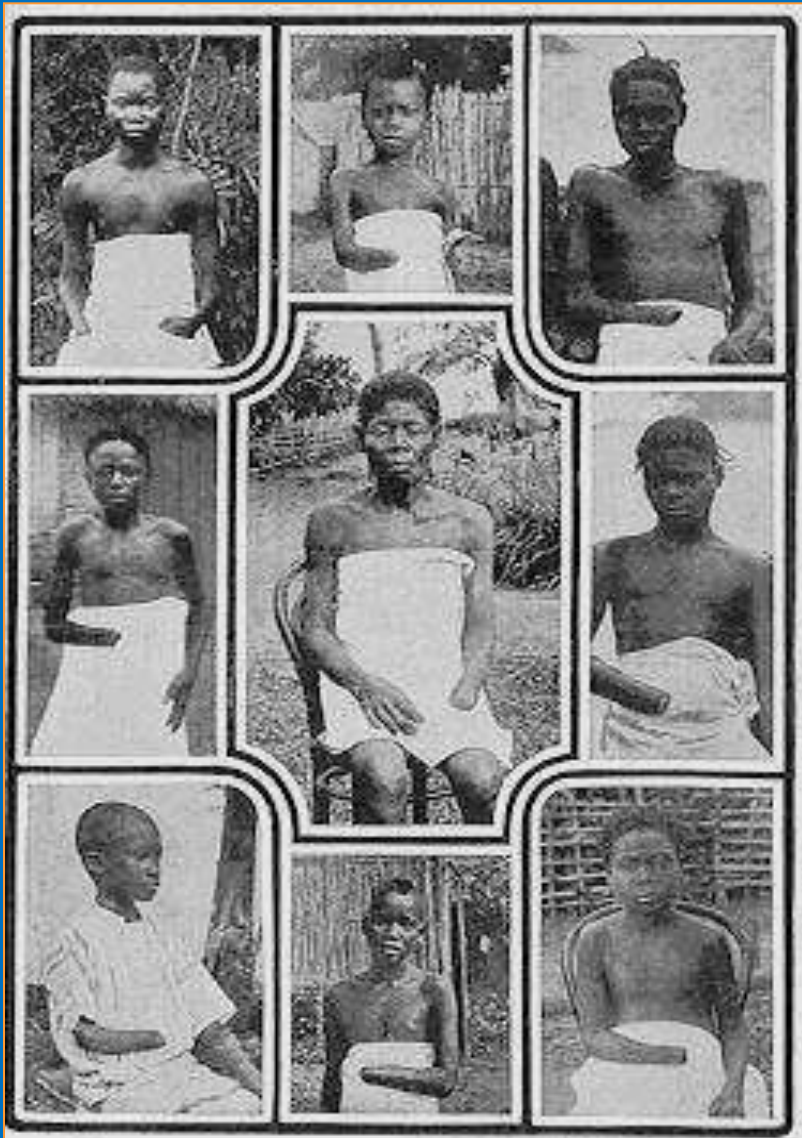
Punishing “Lazy” Workers



Belgium's Stranglehold on the Congo



10 Million Victims! (50% of Popul.) actual number disputed between 8-15 million)



It is blood-curdling to see them (the soldiers) returning with the hands of the slain, and to find the hands of young children amongst the bigger ones evidencing their bravery... The rubber from this district has cost hundreds of lives, and the scenes I have witnessed, while unable to help the oppressed, have been almost enough to make me wish I were dead... This rubber traffic is steeped in blood, and if the natives were to rise and sweep every white person on the Upper Congo into eternity, there would still be left a fearful balance to their credit. -- Belgian Official

The Congo Free State or The Belgian Congo



The Berlin Conference

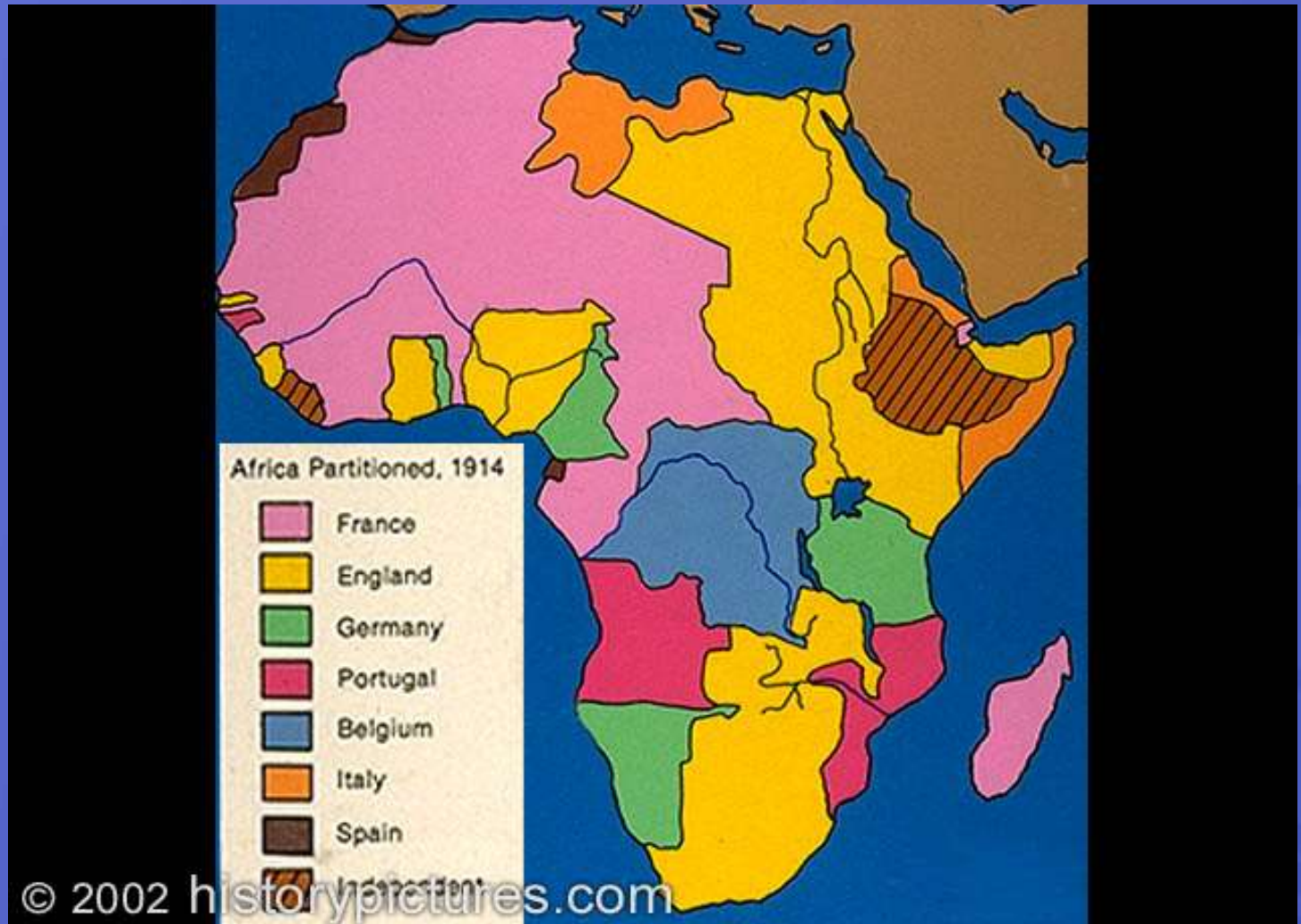
1884-1885

- What was the purpose of the Berlin Conference?
- Who was invited?
- What are the results?



European Control of Africa

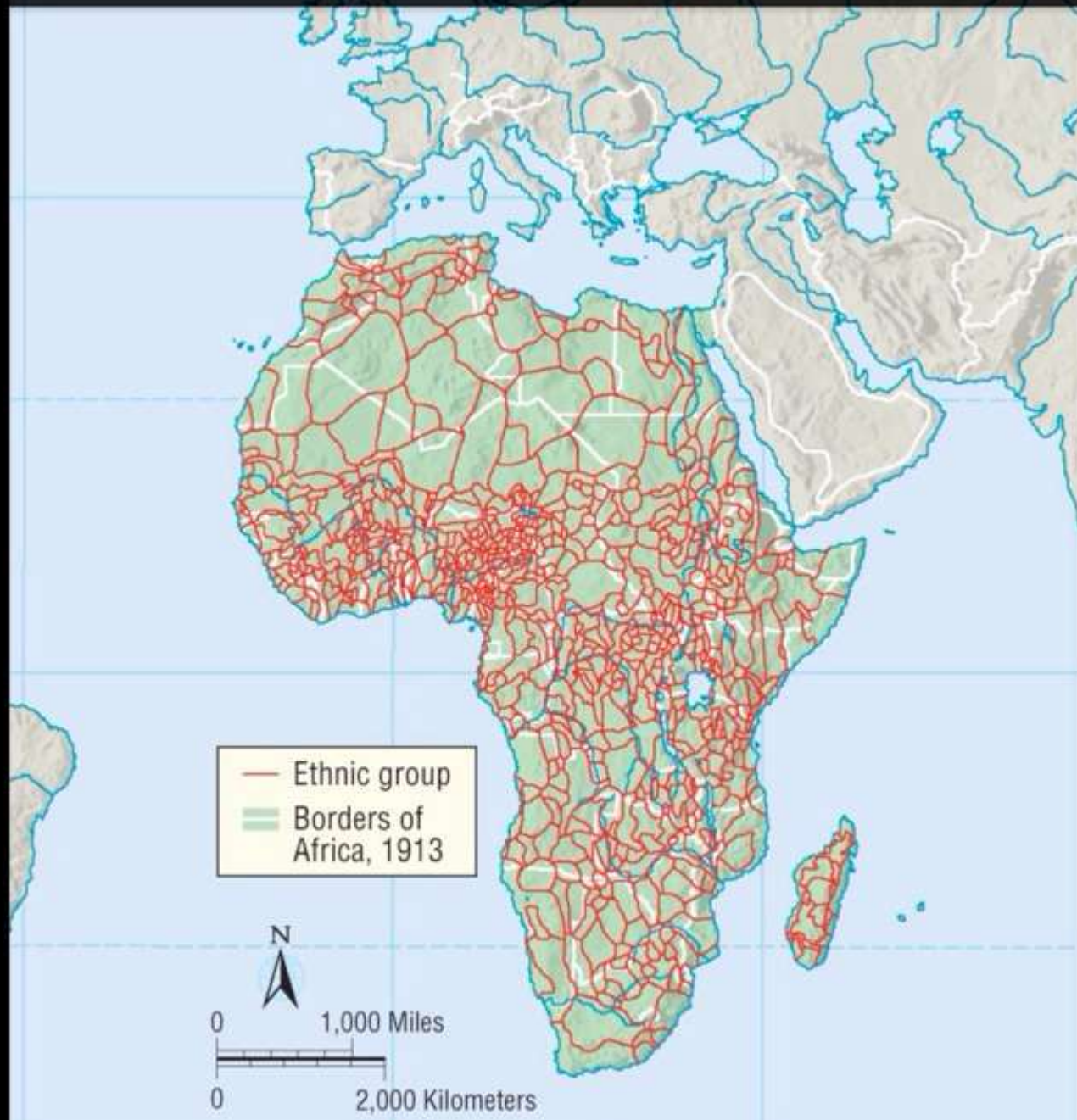
By 1914,
only two
African
nations
remained
independent



Map Imperialism in Africa, 1913

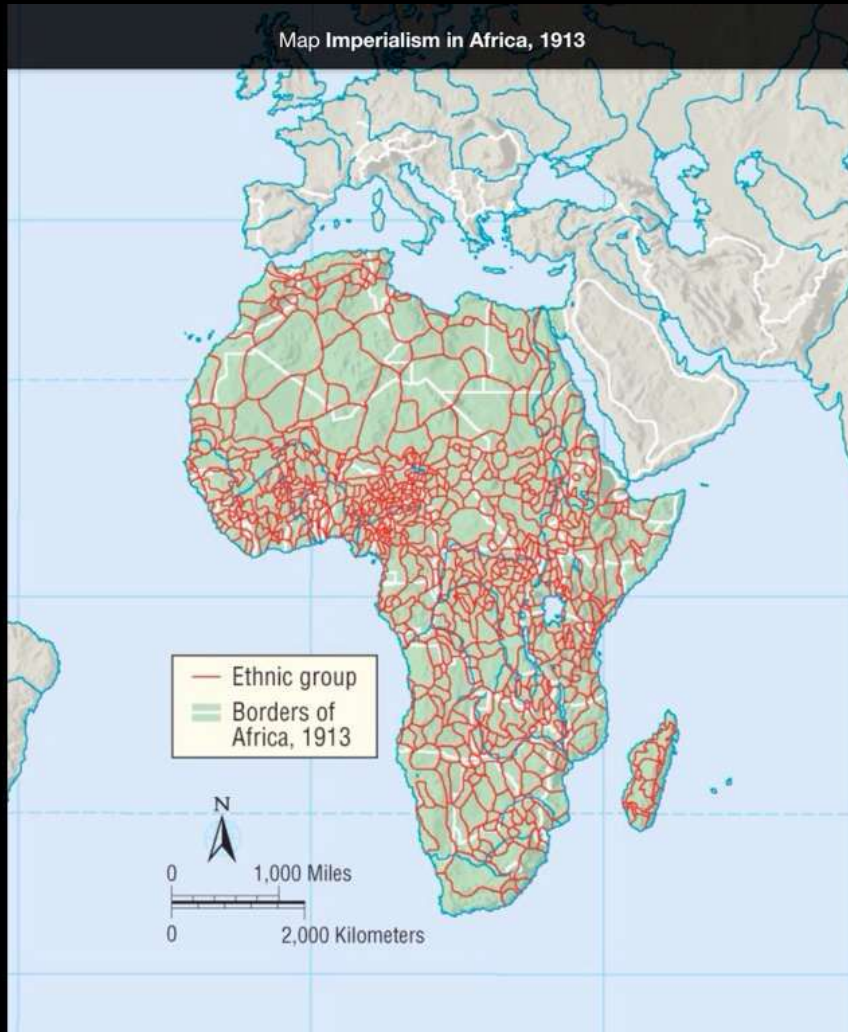


Map Imperialism in Africa, 1913



Comparison

Map Imperialism in Africa, 1913



Map Imperialism in Africa, 1913



Raw Materials



South Africa



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Jan van Riebeeck landing on
the Cape of Good Hope in 1652

- The Dutch first arrived on the Cape of Good Hope in the late 17th century.
- Europeans soon began to settle on the Cape, taking land and forcing the natives out.

The Great Trek, 1835–1843



Diamonds and Gold

In 1867,
diamonds
were
discovered in
South Africa;
in 1886, gold
was
discovered.



Diamond mining in South Africa

The Boer War, 1899–1902

- Zulu, Boer (Dutch) and British troops fought for control of the Cape
- The British prevailed
- Creates Union of South Africa controlled by the British



British troops landing on the Cape

The Sun Never Sets on The British Empire



Direct vs. Indirect Rule

European nations chose one of two different paths when it came to colonial rule:

Indirect rule: colonies were given a degree of internal autonomy

Local government officials

Goal: develop future leaders

Government institutions: Based on European styles but have many local rules

Example: British-Nigeria, India, Burma

U.S.- Pacific Islands

Direct rule: the colony was directly administered by the colonizer

No self- rule

Goal: ...
Govt based on ...



Attitudes towards Imperial holdings

- **Paternalism**- Europeans governing as “parents,” providing needs to the locals but not giving rights. (Direct Control)
- **Assimilation**- local populations to adopt culture of the mother country.
- **Association**- allowed native institutions and customs but regarded them as inferior

Nigeria- British Control

- Southern Nigeria obtained by diplomatic and military means
- Some ruler accepted other resisted
- Northern Nigeria obtained by the Royal Niger Company, palm oil trade
- 1914 British claimed all of Nigeria as colony
- One of the most culturally diverse regions of Africa
- 250 ethnic groups with different: language, culture, and religions
- British use indirect control to rule
- Hausa-Fulani accepted this, Yoruba and Igbo did not

African Resistance

Failures

- Algeria 50 years of resistance
- West Africa- resistance of 16 years led by Samori Toure
- German East Africa- Maji-Maji Rebellion



Samori Toure

Positives and Negatives

- Reduced local warfare
- Sanitation and Hospitals
- Schools
- Increased life expectancy
- Increased literacy
- Built infrastructure: railroads, dams, telegraphs, telephones
- Africans lost land and Independence
- Exposure to new diseases
- Deaths due to resistance
- Famines caused by shifts to cash crops
- Loss of traditional cultures
- Loss of traditional figures
- Men leave home to find work
- Identity problem of cultures European vs. African
- Division of Africa- still causes problems