Feb. 28th 2007

Germany, 1871-1900

1) Bismarck's Reich
   A) Domestic Policy
   B) Foreign Policy
2) William II
   A) Personality & policies
   B) "Weltpolitik"

Germany like Italy was unified from above by war & diplomacy, not from the direction of the masses. Germany was a powerful state with a strong army. North & south differences - Catholics in south, protestants in north.

United Germany was dominated by Prussia & strongly militaristic. Prussia was politically backward looking. Germany was a major issue in 1871 & remained so through 20th century.

Bismarck's Reign - Kaiser = Emperor, Bismarck was lower, a chancellor. Pursued relatively liberal policy. Conservatives opposed unification. Bis. needed liberals - included in constitution of 1871. Universal manhood suffarage. lower house & name of building is Reichstag. Par. had control of budget. Const. weakness - enshrined power of Prussia over nation - upper house called Bundesrat - controlled by Prussia, elected indirectly by states Prussia had its own legislature which was conservative. King of Prussia automatically ruled Germany. Unity of king & capitol - Berlin.

Prime Minister of Prussia was Chancellor - Bismark - until 1890. "Iron Chancellor"

Const. set up a federal bank. Tremendous economic boom. Banks, railroads, mining, canal building, urbanization, etc. Challenged Great Britian. Religous Policy geared towards liberals - Kulturkampf - anti-catholic policy, anti-clerical. Banning Jesuits From Germany. Mandatory civil marriage - not just church. Police spyed on priests. Wished to weaken church & strengthen hand with liberals. Policy backfired at First. Bavarian catholics form Center party & fought against Bis. Long run, Kult policy weakened catholics. Bavarians chose to follow authority to show patriotism.

Liberals expected Democritization of Germany. Bis. loses support by late 1870s in legislature. Bis. gets frustrated with system. He moves to right & conservatives. Economic downturn, worldwide depression in late 1870s & 1880s. One consequence was a popular revolt against liberals & liberal economics. Jews identified with new economy, important in retailing, banking, railroads. Jews & liberals held responsible by Bismark. Prussia was traditionally anti-semetic. Dropped Kult. policy. Allowed Jesuits back. Dropped Free trade & accepted tariffs. 1880s - anti-socialist bill. Workers joined soc. parties. SPD - Social Democratic party. - Anti Bis. socialist party. Grew in power through 1880s. Held up budget in Reichstag. Party banned & leaders arrested. Soc. were traditors & not German. Spoke of international workers of Marx. Came back & was largest party in Germany by 1912. Bis. policy played ethnic groups against each other. Policies helped bring ~~groups~~ people into groups.

Foreign Policy- great Diplomat. Weaknesses - Heir. Isolate France - after Franco-Prussian war two provinces were taken away. Irreconcilable enemy thus Bis. ~~can't~~ needed to isolate France. Goal- protect status quo & keep the peace. Wished to keep Germany from being encircled by hostile powers. Allied himself with:

1873- 3 Emperors League Germany, Austria-Hung. & Russia. Ultimately fell apart in 1880s - too many differences between Aust. & Russia. High tariffs hurt Russia via grains from Russia.

Italy added to alliance in 1881. Problem was Italy had differences with Austria. Neutral ~~in~~ in WWI until 1915 - allied against Austria.

1890s - alliance falls apart. Germany surrounded by enemies. Papered over problems fell apart. Bis. was sick, melancholic & bitter. Took morphine, weighed 300 pounds, anti social, alcholic - physical wreck. Finally lost his power.

William II - fires Bismark Frederick III ruled after William I, 99, died. Fred. had throat cancer, was liberal, but died in 99 days. His son was William II. Problematic person - volitile & unpredictable. Not stupid. Disabled, left arm was deformed & virtually useless. Breach baby, obstri. Damaged nerve in arm. Needed to compensate & was aggresive. Mom wanted William to be like an englishman. William resisted & drifted towards people who hated England. Uncle was Edward ~~II~~ - 7th. King of England in 1901. Uncle treated

him poorly. William hated Edward & England. Admired english naval power.
William II came to power in 1888. Fought with Bismarck. Wished to control everything & thought he could. Had contempt for Russia even though he was directly related to Romanoff house in Russia. Bis. retires from Prime Minister or Chancellor. Writes memoirs & attacks William II.
Policies - Forward thinking with science & technology. Bellicose in Foriegn policy. Wished to control the world. Needed navy for colonies & imperialism. 1890s - build a high speed Fleet.
Admiral Mayhem - Seapower & great countries. Germany building blue ocean warships. Great Britian is threatened. They launched their own naval program. Alienated Germany from Britian. Kaiser insults British. Boar war - Kaiser congratulates Boars on defeating British. Two irreconcilable enemies - France & Britian. Isolated Germany in Europe. Only Friend was Austro-Hungary.
Next week - Britian & Russia.
Recitation - Terms - 4 each from 4 groups
Guilds - Who, what, when, why important.
Different Classes:
Peasants, middle, liberals, urban poor - Reaction to Rev.
Political Banquets of 1848 Lamatine
National workshops
Nationalists
Napolean III
Kulturampf
SPD
Crimean War EMS telegram
Reichstag Piedmont

Artisans- who- Folks who hand built things like shoes
when- up to ind. revolution
why important- conservative, wanted tariffs.

Rev. of 1848- liberals try to enact const. changes.
when- 1848. Nap III - 2nd Republic.
why- all were defeated by conservative powers.

Cavour - PM of Piedmont
1860?
why - oversaw via Machiavellian means the unification of Italy.

Bismark - PM + Chancellor of unified Germany.
also oversaw unification of Germany.
when? - 1850 - 1890?
why- change from above via military + King forms an authoritarian Germany.