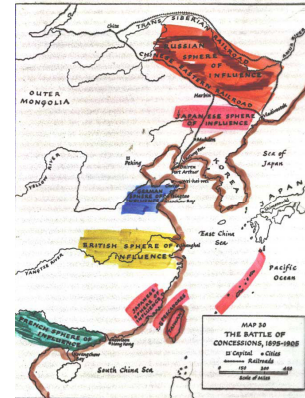


Colony -- (1) a territory inhabited by colonists from a foreign land, or (2) a dependent territory ruled by a foreign State's central government.

Empire -- an aggregate of political territories under the control of a given State; acquired by expansion (by one of several means); and ruled by the dominant State's central government. May consist of colonies in all or part.

Mandate

- Authorization granted by the League of Nations to a member nation to administer a former German colony or other conquered territory.
- The area in question, above.



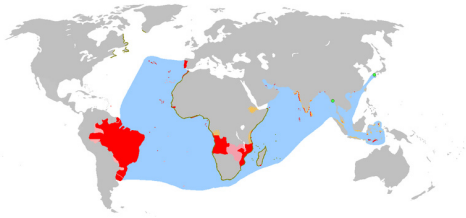
Protectorate

- A relationship of superior authority assumed by one power or State over a dependent one.
- A dependent political unit in such a relationship.

Are there colonies and colonial empires today?



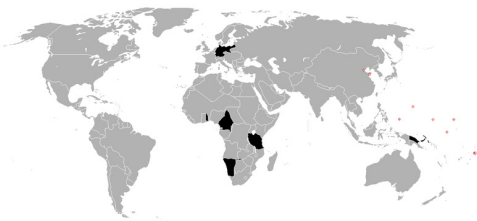
Portuguese Colonial Empire



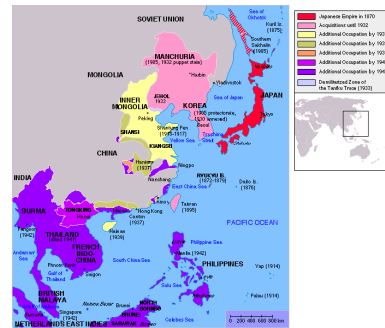
Italian Colonial Empire, ca 1939



The German Colonial Empire, 1914



The Japanese Empire



Rationales for Colonial Empires

- Strategic advantage versus competing powers
- Moral/theological imperative
- Notions of superiority
- Guaranteed access to/control of resources (starting with spices)
- Captive labor (means of production)
- Captive markets for goods manufactured in the colonial master.

Colonialism and Empires: Relevance to Political Geography

- Created most of the world's countries
- Ultimate source of many boundary disputes and unsatisfied political aspirations.
- Examples of geopolitical thinking.
- Inherited socio-cultural characteristics
- Locations of major cities and growth poles
- Transportation infrastructure
- Economic structure (plantations)
- A determinant of modern trade, security, and migratory patterns
- Histories of political instability
- Global patterns of affluence and lack thereof.

Geopolitics is the application of geography to strategic planning, policy-making, and actions, including:

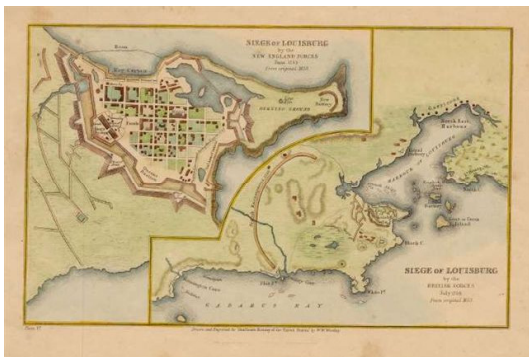
- Rationalization of expansionism
- Projection of military power; control of territory
- Creating and securing lines of communication
- Promoting access to and development of resources.
- Establishment of trade and military alliances.
- Undermining or limiting the military/economic options of real or potential adversaries.

Friedrich Ratzel (1844-1904)



- German political geographer.
- “Organic state theory.”
- Viewed States as living organisms that need food and resources to grow and prosper.
- justified colonialism.
- Coined “lebensraum,” used by the Nazi Party to justify expansionism.

The French Colonial Empire



**Fortress Louisbourg
(now the largest reconstructed French Settlement in North America)**



Quebec City with *La Citadelle*



British troops under Gen. Wolfe scale the heights at Quebec, Sept. 13, 1759

Montreal



- Located at the head of navigation of the St. Lawrence River.
- Canada's most important eastern port city.
- The world's second-largest French-speaking city.

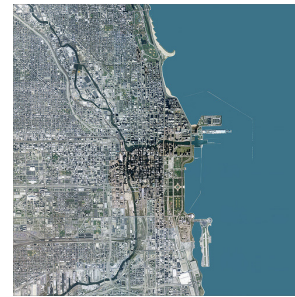
Lachine Rapids, St. Lawrence River (between the Island of Montreal and south shore)



Detroit: Satellite image from the French, *de troit* – “of the narrows”
Located along the narrow Detroit River (a channel) that connects Lake Erie (bottom) with Lake St. Clair (upper right)

A **choke point** is a location along a strategic narrow route that provides passage from one region to another.

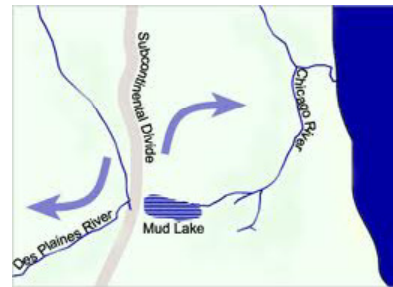
Control of a choke point facilitates control over one or both of the adjacent regions.



Chicago
Satellite image
Lake Michigan, right
Chicago River
dark line, center left
Originally, there were two rivers that flowed from top and bottom joined, and entered the lake.



Site of Chicago
showing the original physical geography

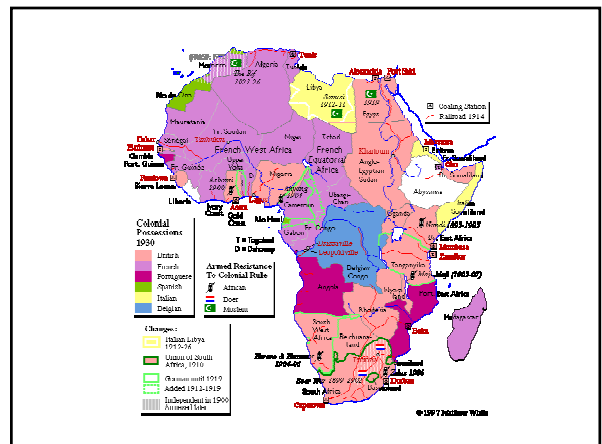
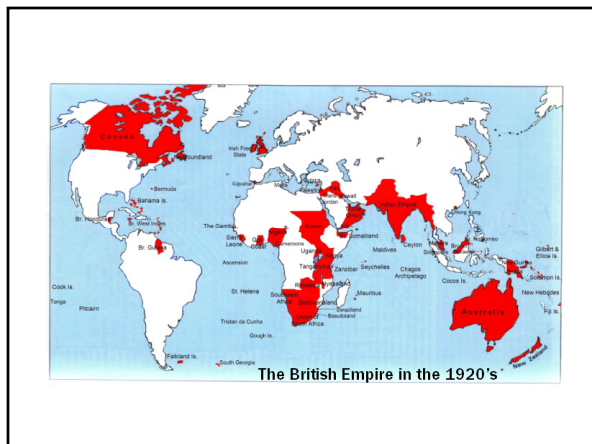
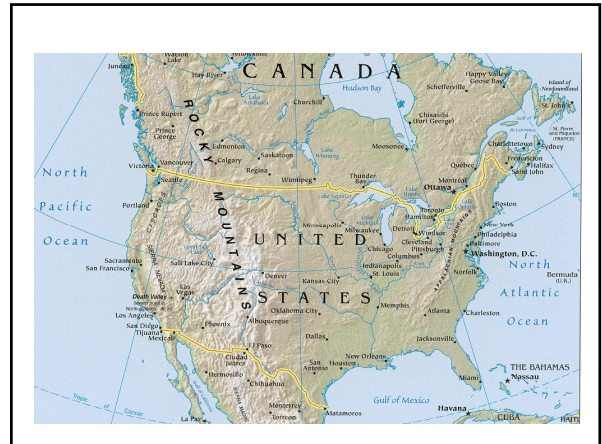
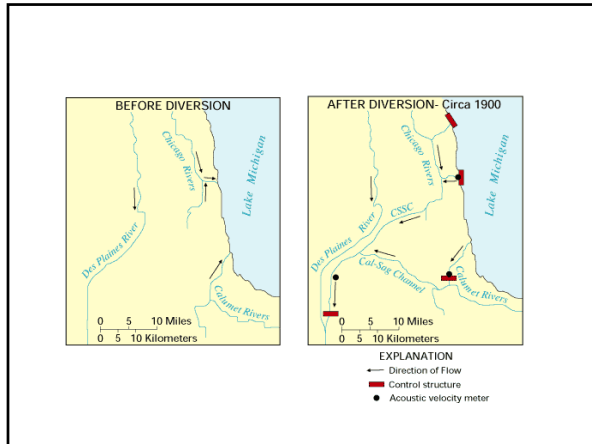


Portage: (a) the carrying of boats or goods overland from one body of water to another or around an obstacle (such as a rapids); (b) the route followed in making such a transfer.

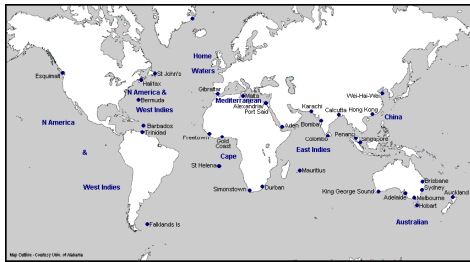
Portage site: a location where portage occurs.

The Chicago portage site

- Connects the watersheds of the Great Lakes and Mississippi Rivers
- “Discovered” in 1673 by the French explorers Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet, who were informed of its location by Native Americans
- Became the most strategic site in the interior of North America, particularly between the French cities of Montreal and New Orleans
- Critical to French control of North America and the reason for Chicago’s location
- 1848: Opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, whose locks provide navigation between the waterways.



Principal British Coaling Stations



**USS Buffalo
at Sitka, Alaska, coaling station,
September, 1914**



Straits of the Great Crossroads



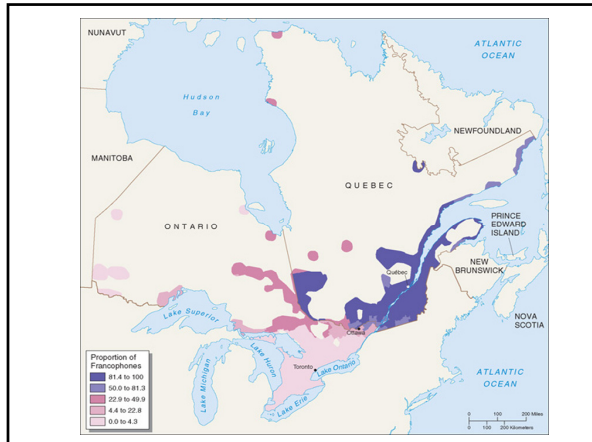
The Strait of Malacca



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Plantation: A large agricultural holding, frequently foreign-owned, and requiring a large supply of manual labor, devoted to the production of a single export crop.

Banana Republic: A somewhat derogatory term applied to developing countries (especially in the Western Hemisphere) whose economies are largely dependent on a single source of income – traditionally and agricultural product or, more recently, tourism.

Malaysian Rubber Plantation



- Begun 1877 with seeds/seedlings smuggled from Brazil.
- Malaya was a British colony.
- Plantation begun by British capital
- Malaya now accounts for about 45% of world's natural rubber.

Oil Palm



Dismantling of Colonial Empires

- Led to the creation of most of today's States.
- Russo-Japanese War (1905). First defeat in war in modern times of a European country by a non-European country.
- World War I
 - Military training
 - Mandates
- World War II
 - Political philosophy
 - Weakness of post-war Europe



Sykes-Picot Agreement, 1916



- Secret agreement between the French and British concerning Post WWI division of the Ottoman Empire
- Led to post-war mandates and formalization of spheres of influence.

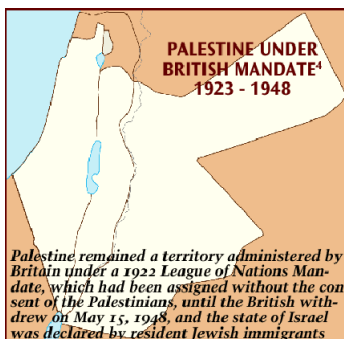
The Balfour Declaration of 1917

A formal statement of policy by the British government stating that:

“His Majesty’s government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious right of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine.”

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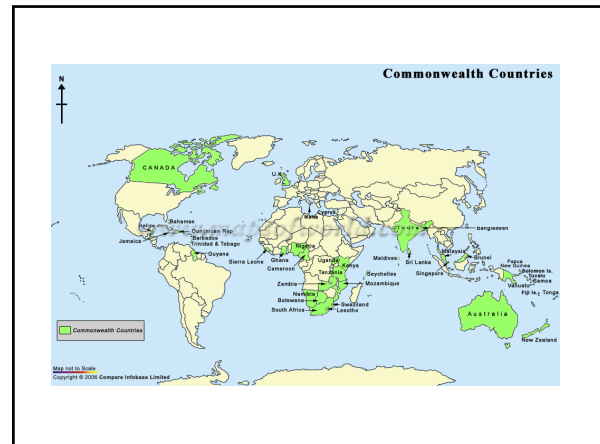


Aftermath of Colonialism

- Former colonial possessions become independent non-aligned countries (the “Third World”)
- Emergence of one-party politics
- Problems of nation-building (How do you supersede ethnic loyalties/”tribalism” with a sense of primary loyalty to the State?)
- Political instability arising from the above.
- Economic weakness and instability.
- Neocolonialism and neo-imperialism
- Persistent patterns of connectivity
- Varying views regarding interventionism

Direct Rule: Colonial administration exclusively by colonial (foreign) officials.

Indirect Rule: Colonial administration with significant reliance on traditional local officials.



Neocolonialism

- Probably coined by Kwame Nkrumah, first President of Ghana.
- Continuance of colonial relationships (especially economic relationships) in the post-colonial world.
- Even though former colonies had been granted independence, and were technically sovereign States, their economic systems and trade relationships continued to be dominated by the former colonial master, and possibly other developed countries.
- The implication: The former colony is still a colony, controlled by others.