

The New Imperialism--Some Milestones

Hunt Tooley

1853-1856--David Livingstone explores Central Africa, "discovering" Victoria Falls

1857--Sepoy Mutiny in India.

1858--Organization of the Suez Canal Company (an international consortium), which raised a loan of 200,000,000 francs. Work on the Canal was begun in April 1859.

1869--Suez Canal opened officially.

1870--European countries control only coastal areas of Africa (this will soon change via the "Scramble for Africa")

1875--The Egyptian ruler, Khedive Ismail, sold his 176,000 shares in the Suez Canal Company to the British government for 100,000,000 francs, the British government thus becoming the largest shareholder.

1875--Founding of the International Association for the Exploration and Civilization of Africa (under the auspices of King Leopold II of Belgium)

1876--Appointment of British and French financial "controllers" in Egypt.

1882--Egyptian nationalists put in power by the Egyptian army threaten to throw off European control of Egypt. The British attack, bombarding Alexandria to "liberate" Egypt from its government and restore the British sympathizers. The result was "Dual Control" of Egypt under the Egyptian king AND the British. Lord Cromer, the "Consul-General" arrived in 1883 and took full control.

1881--French Protectorate in Tunisia

1884-85--Berlin West Africa Conference: "Effective Occupation"

1898--Spanish-American War (US takes over the Philippines)

1898--Fashoda Crisis, 1898 (French/British standoff in Sudan)

1900--By this time, all of Africa is under European control except Ethiopia

1900--Boxer Rebellion in China

1899-1902--Boer War in South Africa (British vs. Afrikaner/Dutch settlers)

1904--*Entente cordiale* (British/French colonial agreement)

1907--Division of Persia (Iran) by Russia and Britain

1907--Russia joins Entente: Triple Entente