Long-Term Causes Timeline
1871

- Battle of Sedan
- End of the Franco-Prussian War
- Bismarck gives control to KWI
1873

- League of the Three Emperors (GER, RUS, AUS)
- European Depression begins
1875-1878

- Rebellions in Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Bulgaria assisted by Serbia
- RUS and AUS want the Balkans and the Straits
- 1877 – RUS & Romania declare war on Serbia.
- Treaty of San Stefano – Big Bulgaria
- 1878 – Congress of Berlin – Bismarck’s diplomatic victory. RUS angry.
1879-1883

• Dual Alliance w/ Austria (secret)
• Franco-Russian Alliance (discussed)
• 1881 - Three Emperors renewed (secret)
• 1882 – Italians seek alliance → TRIPLE ALLIANCE
• 1883 – Romania joins (secret)
1885-1887

• Berlin Conference (Africa)
• Alexander of Battenberg restores 2/3 Big Bulgaria
• Ferdinand elected by Bulgarians (sides w/ AUS, not RUS) → Bismarck stands between them
• 1887 – Mediterranean Agreement – 3 Emperors agree to maintain the status quo; UK associate of TA
• Then, Reinsurance Treaty (secret) w/ Russia
1888-1890

- KWI dies → KFIII dies → KWII
- 1889 – KWII promises Franz Josef he’ll back him in a war against Russia
- 1890 - Forces Bismarck to resign →
- “Jackass” Leo von Caprivi doesn’t renew Reinsurance Treaty
- Mahan’s “Sea Power” published
- Russian and French Alliance (official)
1892-95

- 1892 – Schlieffen Chief of General Staff; Plan 1904
- 1894 – Imperial quarrelling with UK
- Hohenlohe-Schillingsfuerst replaces Holstein
- 1895 – GER interfered against JPN in CHN war
- Jameson’s Raid (English) vs. Paul Kruger (Dutch) in Transvaal → Kruger Telegram → infuriates UK → 2nd Boer War
- Berlin to Baghdad RR
1897-98

- Tirpitz appointed State Secretary of Navy
- 1898 – Lots of boats promised; GER/RUS in UK’s CHN
1899-WAR!

- 1899-1901 – 2nd Boer War; UK vs. NED → UK Wins SAF
- 1900 – Bulow becomes Chancellor
- 1904 – Suggestion UK “Copenhagen” GER fleet
- 1907 – TRIPLE ENTENTE
- 1909 – Bethmann-Hollweg becomes Chancellor
- 1912 – Socialists win the Reichstag
- 1914 – Outbreak of War