World War I – Chapter 29

1. Underlining Causes

1. **Nationalism –**

* Caused intense competition between nations
* Belief developed that each nation should have their own country

2. Imperialism

* Nations of Europe competed for colonies in Africa and Asia
* Quest for colonies pushed Europe to the brink of war several times
* By 1914, Europeans controlled 80% of the world’s population

3. Militarism

* **1890s –**
* **Militarism –**
* By 1914, all European powers had huge standing armies

B. Tangled Alliance

* Growing rivalries led to the creation of several military alliances
* Intended to keep the peace
* **Triple Alliance (1882) –**
* **Reinsurance Treaty (1887) –**
* Agreed that they would not attack each other in case of war
* Bismarck’s attempt to isolate France
* Triple Entente
* **Wilhelm II –**
* Wanted to show the rest of the world Germany’s power
* Let Germany’s treaty with Russia lapse
* Russia formed a military alliance with France
* Wilhelm started to build a great navy for Germany
* Cause Great Britain to panic and form an alliance
* **Triple Entente (1907) -**
* C. Major Result
* Two rival camps existed in Europe
* Any conflict between rival powers would draw the entire continent of Europe into war