



# The French Revolution and Napoleon

**Main Idea:** Economic & Social Inequalities in the old Regime helped cause the French Revolution

**Why it matters now:** Throughout history, economic & social inequalities have at times led peoples to revolt against their governments.

In 1770's, the people of France were divided into 3 classes or 3 Estates

## A K A Divisions of Power:

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Estate: Rich Nobles:

- Held highest offices in government
- Exempt from paying taxes
- Owned 20% of the land
- Were less than 2% of population
- The majority disliked Enlightenment ideas because it threatened their status & power

### Enlightenment Ideals:

Liberty, Equality &  
Democracy

### Privileged Estates



### 1<sup>st</sup> Estate: The Roman Catholic Church

- Had access to high offices
- Exempt from paying taxes
- Owned 10% of the land
- Provided education & relief services to the poor
- Contributed 2% of its income to government
- Were less than 1% of population
- Disliked Enlightenment Ideas

**3<sup>rd</sup> Estate: The Rest of the people 98% of population, 50% of income paid taxes, Lacked privileges (were heavily taxed & sorely discontented)**

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate: The rest of the people Consisted of 3 groups:



"JOURNAL DES DAMES." 1799

## 1<sup>st</sup> Group: The Bourgeoisie

- Merchants & Artisans
- Well educated
- Believed strongly in the ideals of Enlightenment

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Group: The Workers of France

- Cooks, Servants, & Others
- Were paid low wages
- Were frequently out of work
- Would sometimes steal in order to eat if cost of bread rose



Poultry Sellers



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Group: The Peasants

- Made up 80% of France's Population (26 million people)
- Paid 1/2 of their income in dues to nobles, tithes to the church & taxes to the king's agents



## Enlightenment Ideas began spreading

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate began questioning long-standing notions about the structure of society

### Economic Woes

- Economy was failing
- Population was expanding, as were trade & production
- Heavy burden of taxes made it impossible to conduct business & make a profit
- Cost of living rose
- Bad weather in 1780's caused crop failures, resulting in severe shortage of grain
- Price of bread doubled in 1789
- People faced starvation

### French Government Sinks into Debt

- Extravagant spending by king & queen
- King borrowed heavily to aid American revolution against Great Britain – doubling France's debt
- Bankers refused to lend France any more \$
- France loads Europe in debt

## Louis XVI (16<sup>th</sup>)

Became king  
in 1774

Considered as  
a weak leader

Paid little  
attention to  
advisors

Preferred to  
spend time  
hunting or  
tinkering with  
locks



Married his wife  
(Marie Antoinette)  
when he was 15.

Rather than  
cutting expenses  
& increasing  
taxes, he put off  
dealing with the  
debt until France  
faced bankruptcy

He attempted to  
tax the 2<sup>nd</sup> Estate,  
they called a  
meeting of the  
Estates General –  
an assembly of  
reps. From all 3  
estates – to get  
approval for the  
tax reform. First  
meeting in 175  
years



**Marie Antoinette – wife of Louis XVI**

**Born in Austria 1755-1793 as one of 16 children**

**She was a light-hearted, charming woman who was unpopular with the the French people because of her Austrian decent, her spending & her involvement in controversial court affairs. She was rumored to have had numerous affairs, but this was not necessarily true.**

**She was also called Madame Deficit and blamed for the country's financial problems. It is true that she enjoyed a lavish lifestyle; but she was not as foolish as the public believed.**

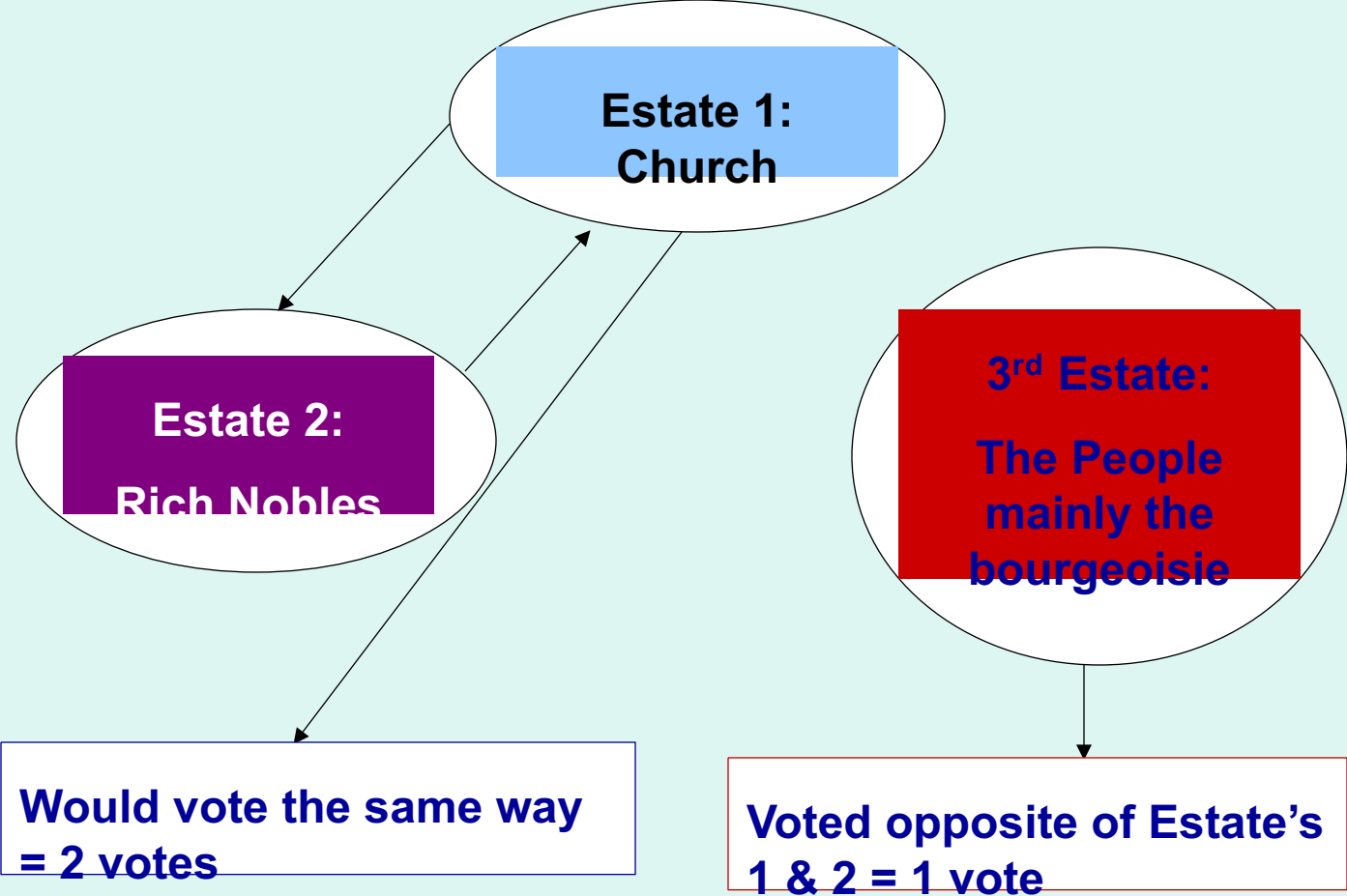
**As a woman and a foreigner she made a convenient scapegoat for the nation's problems, and it seemed that no slander against her was too wild to be widely believed.**

**As she matured Marie Antoinette became less extravagant. She tried to change her image by wearing simple gowns and posing for portraits with her children, but her efforts had little effect on the unforgiving public.**

**Ultimately, on October 16, 1793, she was beheaded, but not before being taken through the streets of Paris in an open cart.**

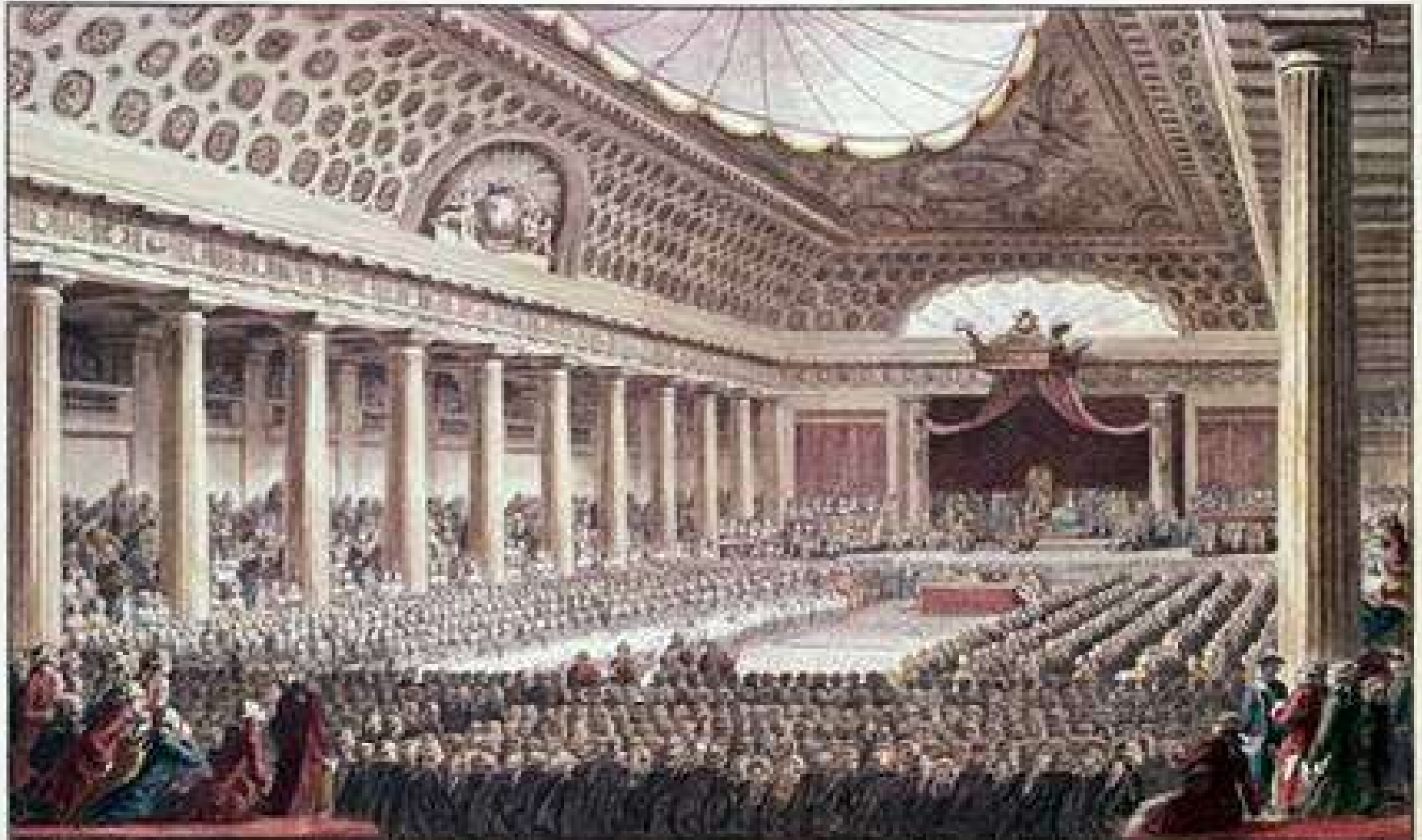
## Flaws in meeting:

Under the assembly's Medieval Rules, each estate's delegates met in a separate hall to vote, each estate had 1 vote, therefore the 2 privileged estates could always outvote the 3<sup>rd</sup> estate



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate delegates want a change in the medieval rules & they insist that all 3 estates meet together & each delegate from each estate have 1 vote. This would give the advantage to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate since they had more delegates than the other 2 combined.

# The National Assembly



GENÉRALE DES

Assemblée Nationale  
Le 20 Juin 1789

*Assemblée Nationale*

ÉTATS GÉNÉRAUX

Assemblée Nationale  
Le 20 Juin 1789

*Assemblée Nationale*





Sides with the nobles & orders the Estates General to follow the medieval rules.



Abbe Sieyes

Leading Spokesperson for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate argues that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate is everything to France, yet they have been considered nothing in the political order & they want a voice.

After a long night of debating, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate Delegates agree to Sieyes' idea.

On June 17, 1789, they vote to establish The National Assembly. This vote was the first deliberate act of revolution

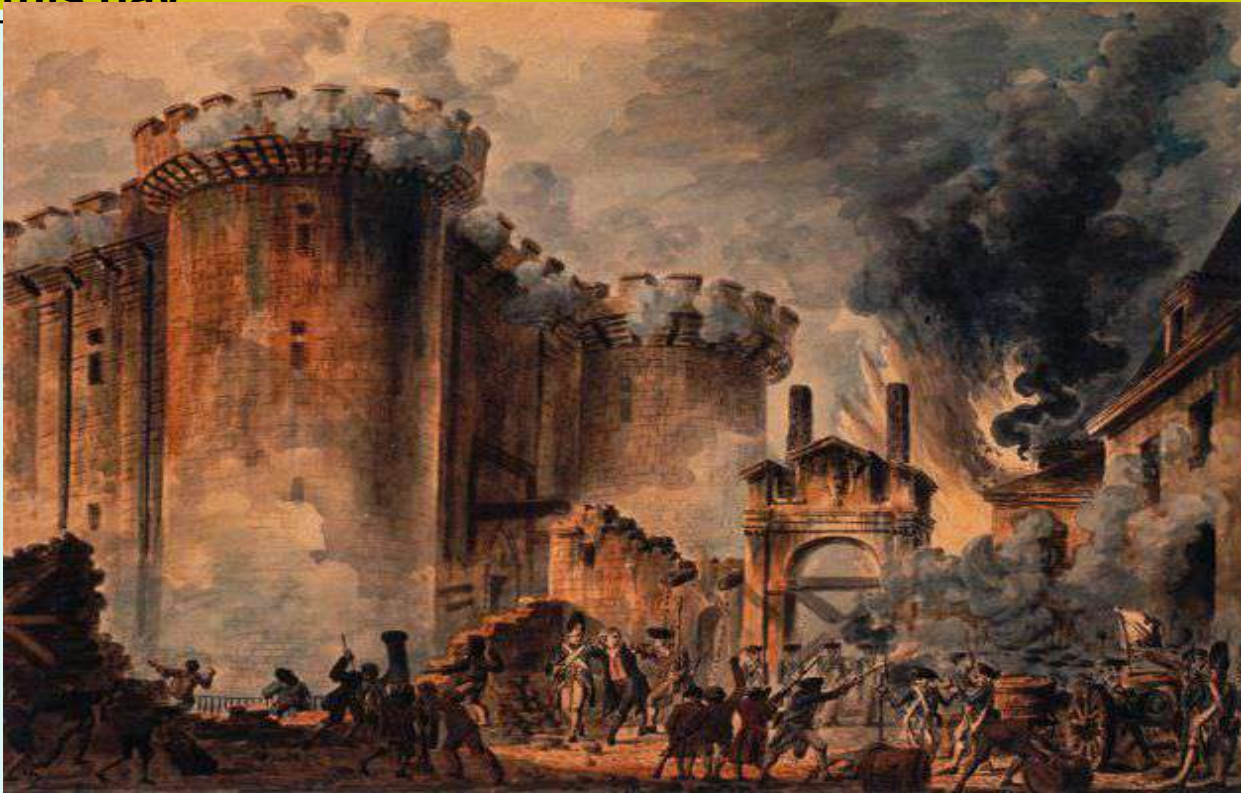
3 days later, 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate delegates found themselves locked out of their meeting room. They broke down a door to an indoor tennis court, pledging to stay until they had drawn up a new constitution. This was known as THE TENNIS COURT OATH

He suggests that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate delegates name themselves The National Assembly & pass laws & reforms in the name of the French people.

In response to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate demands, the king tried to make peace with them by yielding to their demands. He ordered the nobles & clergy to join the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate in The National Assembly. He also stationed his mercenary army of Swiss guards in Paris, because he no longer trusted the loyalty of the French soldiers.

In Paris, rumors began to fly that foreign troops were coming to massacre French citizens. People began to gather weapons to defend against the foreign troops.

On July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1789 a mob overwhelmed the Bastille (a Paris prison) to get gunpowder to defend themselves. The Bastille fell into the control of the citizens. This became the great symbolic act of revolution to the French people, which they celebrate to this day



## The Great Fear



Soon rebellion spread from Paris to the countryside villages. Rumors spread saying that the nobles were hiring outlaws to terrorize the peasants.

These outlaws never showed, causing the peasants to become bandits. The peasants who carried pitchforks & torches broke in nobles' manors, tore up legal papers that bound them to pay feudal dues, & in many cases, they burned the houses as well.



**In October, 1789, 6,000 women rioted over the rising price of bread. They marched 12 miles, in the rain, to the luxurious palace at Versailles. They broke into the palace, killed 2 guards & forced Louis XVI & Marie Antoinette & their children to come to Paris. They then marched back to Paris, with almost 60,000 people following. The women expected the king to provide bread to alleviate the hunger in the city.**

**The king, his family, & his servants never returned to The Palace of Versailles & the women were later honored as heroes of the Revolution.**



**The Palace Of Versailles**





# Revolution Brings Reform & Terror





During the Great Fear, Nobles & Clergy were as equally afraid as the Peasants. They (Nobles & Clergy) respond by having a late-night meeting in August of 1789. Actually it was a few months before the women's march on Versailles.

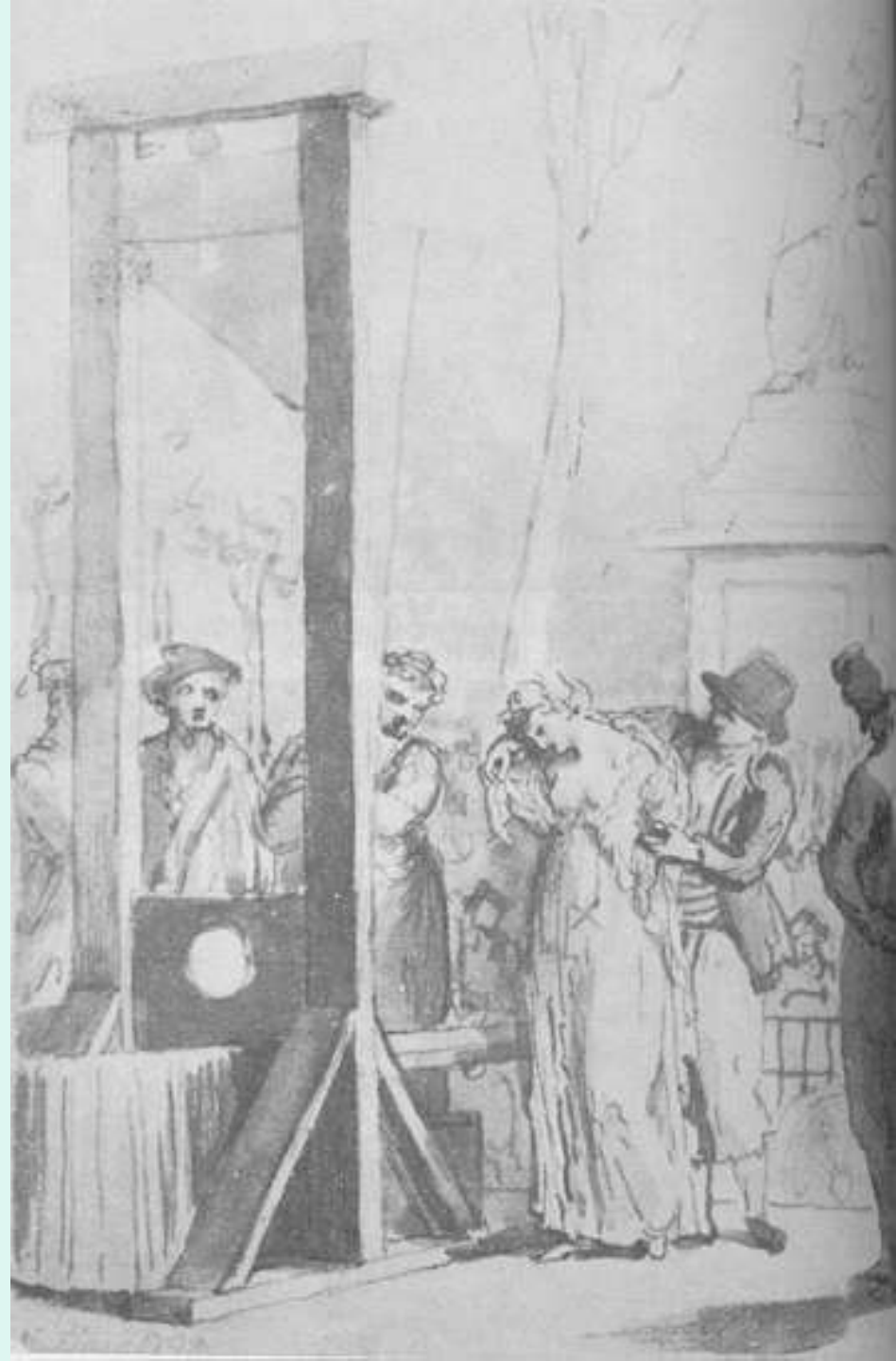
Motivated out of fear, they joined other members of The National Assembly by sweeping away the feudal privileges of the First & Second Estate making the commoners & peasants equal to the nobles & clergy.

3 weeks later, on Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>, The National Assembly adopted a statement of revolutionary ideals called A Declaration of the Rights of Man & of the Citizen, known as The Declaration of the Rights of Man.

The Document stated that “men are born & remain free & equal in rights” & that “the aim of all political association is the preservation of the natural...right of man.” These rights are liberty, property, security & resistance to oppression.”

Other articles of the document guaranteed citizens equal justice, freedom of speech, & freedom of religion. “Liberty, Equality, Fraternity” became the slogan of the revolution.

This document however, did not apply to women. One woman, Olympe de Gouges, wrote a declaration of the rights of women & she was rejected & ultimately considered as an enemy of the Revolution & beheaded.



During 1790, The assembly took over church lands & declared that church officials & priests were to be elected by property owners & paid as state officials. Thus, the Catholic Church loses both land & political independence

The reasons were economic. The delegates were willing to sell church lands to help pay off France's large debt.

As a result, millions of devout French Peasants were alarmed. They believed that the pope should rule over the church independent of the of the state. From this point on, there was a wedge drove between the Peasants and the Bourgeoisie & the Peasants often opposed further revolutionary changes.

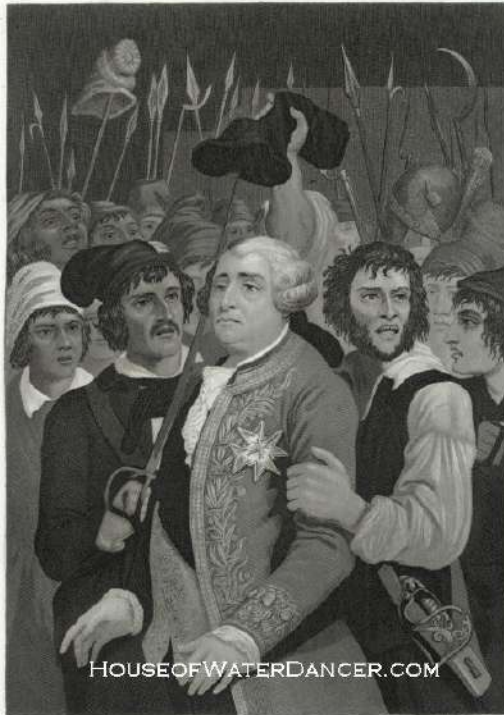


As the National Assembly is restructuring the relationship between church & state, Louis XVI's advisors warn him that he & his family are in danger.

In June 1791, Louis & his family try to escape from France to the Austrian Netherlands.

Nearing the French border, the king is recognized by a postmaster from his portrait on some paper money.

The royal family is then returned to Paris under guard. Louis XVI angered his enemies all the more & sealed his fate.



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**By 1791, the delegates made significant changes in France's Government & society.**

**The new constitution stripped the king of much of his authority & gave the Legislative Assembly the power to create French law.**

**The King & his ministers still held the executive power to enforce laws, but the assemblymen would be the lawmakers.**

**Still many problems such as food shortages and government debt faced France.**

**Many were still crying for more liberty, more equality & more bread.**

**These things caused the Revolution's leaders to turn against each other.**

**The Legislative Assembly split into 3 groups. Each sat in different parts of the meeting hall.**

### **Radicals**

**Sat on left side of the hall & were called left-wing**

**Opposed the king & idea of monarchy**

**Wanted sweeping changes in government & proposed that common people have full power in a republic**

### **Moderates**

**Sat in the center of the hall & were called centrists**

**Wanted some changes in government, but not as many as the radicals**

### **Conservatives**

**Sat on the right side of the hall & were called right-wing**

**Upheld the idea of a limited monarch**

**Wanted few changes in government**

In April of 1792, The Legislative Assembly declares war on Austria, due to Austria & Prussia proposing that France put Louis XVI back on the throne.

Prussia later joins in the war against France in hopes that they would be helping Louis XVI to regain his position as an absolute monarch, as well as preserving their own positions as monarchs. Ultimately, Austria & Prussia were worried that the French Revolutionary ideas would spill over into their countries and the peasants in those countries would begin to revolt & remove the kings from power.





**By the summer of 1792, enemy armies were advancing toward Paris.**

**On July 25, 1792, the Prussian commander threatened to destroy Paris if the revolutionaries harmed any member of the royal family. This statement infuriated the Parisians.**

**On Aug 10, about 20,000 men & women invaded the Tuileries palace, the royal palace where Louis & his family were staying. The king's Swiss guard of 900 men fought to defend Louis. The mob massacred the guard & imprisoned Louis, Marie Antoinette & their children in a stone tower.**

Also during the summer of 1792, the citizens, mainly the Parisians raided the prisons & murdered over 1,000 prisoners, for fear of rumor that while they were away defending Paris against Prussia royalists who were imprisoned in Paris would seize control of the city in their absence. Many clergymen, nobles and royalists fell victim to the mobs in the September massacres.

The leaders of these mobs (who were made up of mostly poor peasants) came from the bourgeoisie.

One Prominent leader was Jean Paul Marat – During the Revolution, he edited a radical newspaper. In his paper, he called for “500 – 600 heads cut off” to rid France of the enemies of the Revolution.



The National Convention, meeting in Paris on Sep. 21, abolished the monarchy & declared France a republic. Adult male citizens were granted the right to vote & hold office.

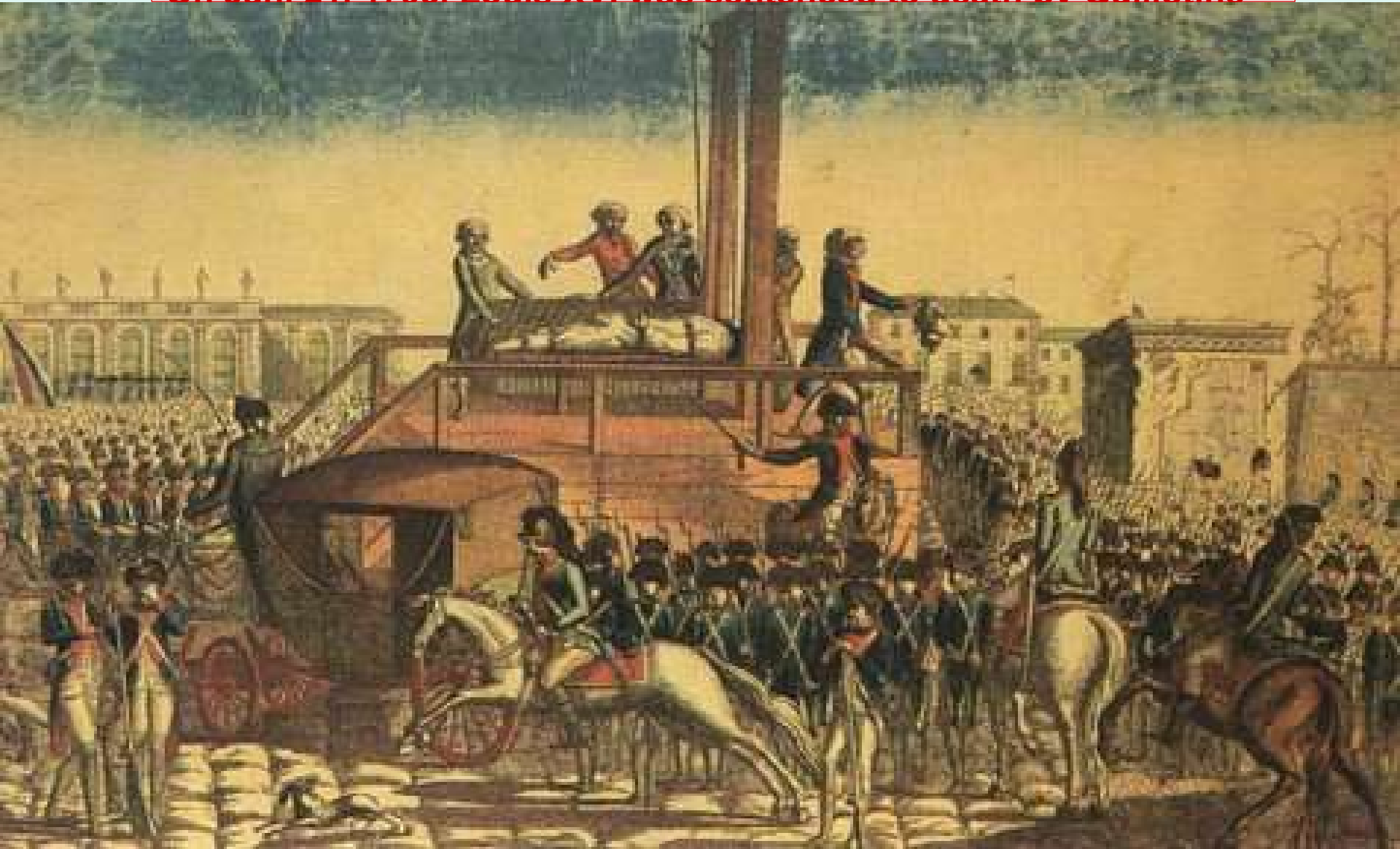
Women were not given the right to vote.

Louis XVI was reduced to a common citizen & tried for treason.





**On Jan. 21, 1793, Louis XVI was sentenced to death by Guillotine**

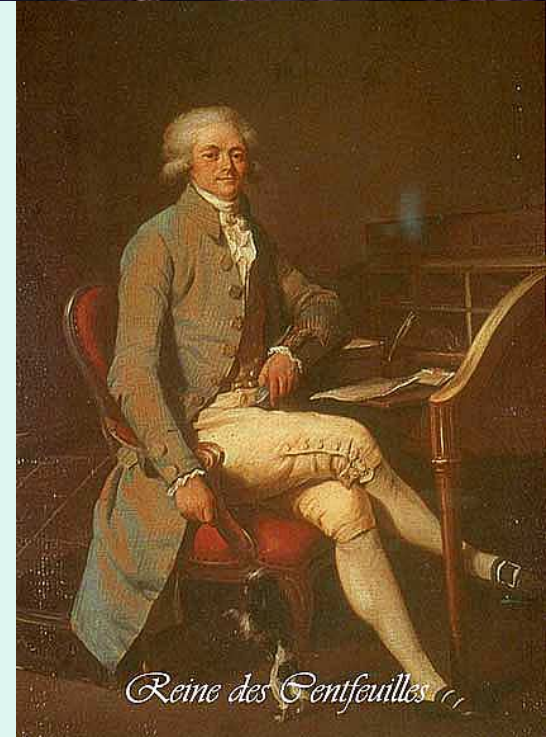


**1,000's were sentenced to death by the Guillotine during the French Revolution including Marie Antoinette who was executed in October of 1793 only 10 months after her husband.**

### THE JACOBINS AND THE REIGN OF TERROR

The new group that came into power was called the Jacobins. They set out to build a “republic of virtue.” They tried to wipe out every trace of France’s past monarchy & nobility. They came from the masses, and wrote a new constitution. Under this constitution all men over 25 years old would have voting rights no matter how much money they had. The Jacobins used violence to stay in power and killed those who did not support or agree with them. The Jacobins became a feared and hated group, and their rule became known as the “Reign of Terror”. They killed the aristocracy in big public displays, so that the other people could see how they dealt with their enemies.

The man who was responsible for these deaths was Maximilien Robespierre. His terror and violence grew so great that even people who did support the Jacobins were killed. He wanted to end Christianity in France. He also created a new calender based on science, dividing the calender in 12 months of 30 days renaming each month & getting rid of Sundays. He also had all churches closed in Paris. Towns all over France soon did the same. Finally, the people decided that they had had enough. Robespierre’s own friends turned against him and on 27 July 1794 Robespierre was killed at the guillotine. The Reign of Terror ended and the Radical Stage of the Revolution was over.



During the Reign of Terror, 3,000 were executed in Paris. Some historians believe that as many as 40,000 were killed.



About 85% were peasants or members of the urban poor or middle class...the very people for who the Revolution had supposedly been carried out.

**Following Robespierre's death, people of all classes grew weary of the skyrocketing prices of bread, salt & other necessities of life after the Terror.**

**In 1795, moderate leaders in the National Convention drafted a new plan of government:**

- Power was now in the hands of the upper middle class.**
- They called for a two-house legislature**
- An executive body of 5 men (Known as THE DIRECTORY)**
- They were moderates & they became rich at the public expense.**
- They brought a period of order**
- They found Napoleon to command France's armies**

# Napoleon Forges an Empire

**Main Idea:** A military genius who seized power in France and who made himself emperor

**Why it matters now:** In times of turmoil, military dictators often seize control of nations



# Napoleon Dynamite

original motion picture soundtrack



- Born in August of 1769 on the Island of Corsica.
- He was sent to Military school in Northern France when he was nine.
- At 16, he finished military school & became a lieutenant in the artillery.
- When the Revolution broke out, he joined the army of the new government.
- He was a short man, only 5' 3".
- He is recognized as one of the world's greatest military geniuses, along side the likes of Alexander the Great, Hannibal & Julius Caesar.

**Napoleon Bonaparte**

Historically, **artillery** refers to any engine used for the discharge of projectiles during war. The term also describes ground-based troops with the primary function of manning such weapons.





In October of 1795, when Napoleon was 26, a government official told Napoleon to defend the delegates at the National Convention from royalist rebels who were marching toward them.

Napoleon & his gunners greeted the 1000's of royalists with cannonade (cannon fire).

Within minutes, the attackers fled in panic & confusion & Napoleon became an instant hero who was hailed throughout Paris as the savior of the French people.



**In 1796, the directory appointed Napoleon to lead a French army against the forces of Austria and the Kingdom of Sardinia.**

**Napoleon crossed the Alps, into Italy, & won several victories, which defeated the Austrian troops' threat to France.**



# The Empire of Napoleon, 1810



Sardinia

Austria

**Next, he leads an expedition to Egypt to protect French trade interests & disrupt British trade with India. His army became pinned down in Egypt & his naval forces were defeated by the British. Led by Horacio Nelson. He managed, however to keep the reports of his defeat out of the press. So, by 1799, when someone referred to “The General”, they automatically thought, NAPOLEON**



# British Admiral Horatio Nelson



**By 1799, The Directory had lost control of the political situation & the confidence of the French people. Only The Directors control of the Army keep them in power.**

**When Napoleon returned from Egypt, he was urged to seize political power.**



With Josephine, his wife, they set a plan in motion know as the COUP D' ETAT (KOO DAY-TAH) Or “Blow of State” – A Sudden Seizure of Power

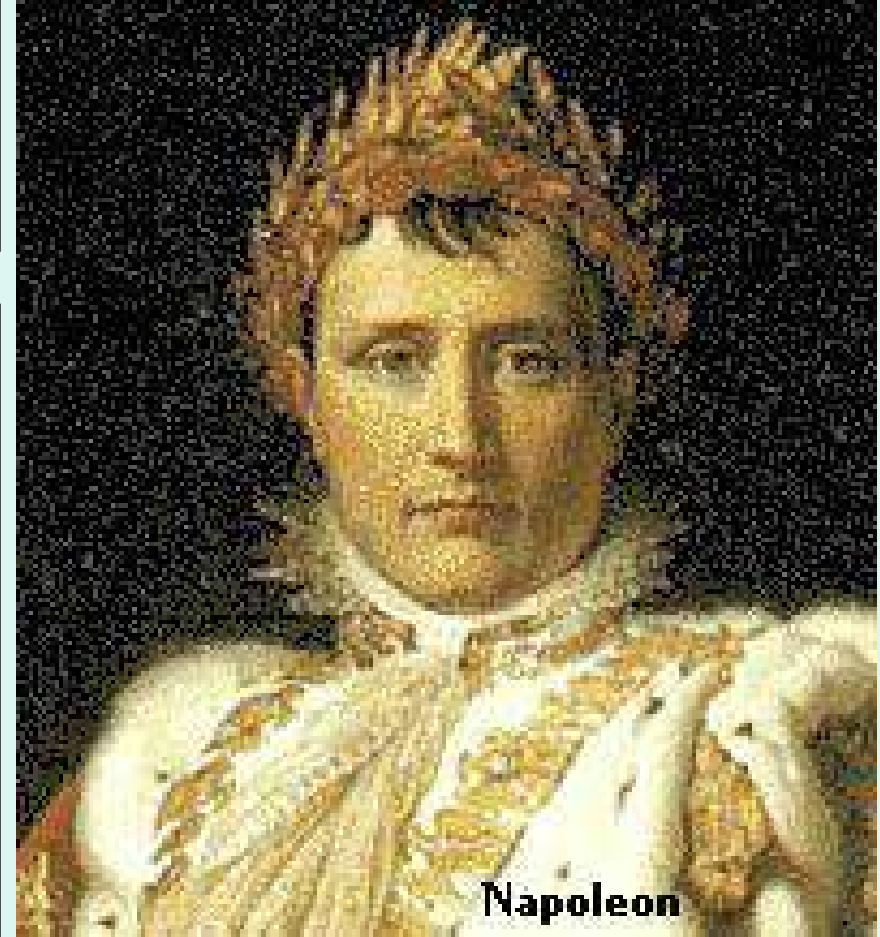
Napoleon met with influential persons to discuss his role in the Directory, while his wife used her connections with wealthy directors to influence their decisions. This all took place on Nov. 9, 1799, when Napoleon was put in charge of the military.

The next day it ended when his troops drove out the members of one chamber of the national legislature.

The legislature voted to dissolve the Directory & establish a group of 3 consuls – 1 of whom was Napoleon.

**He quickly assumed dictatorial powers as the first consul of the French people.**

**In 1800, a vote of the people was held to approve a new constitution (the 4<sup>th</sup> in 8 years). But desperate for strong leadership, the people voted overwhelmingly in favor of the constitution, which gave all real power to Napoleon as first consul.**



**Napoleon**

# Napoleon Brings Order after the Revolution

The Economy	Government & Society	Religion	
<b>Goals of the Revolution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equal Taxation</li> <li>Lower Inflation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less government corruption</li> <li>Equal opportunity in government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less powerful Catholic Church</li> <li>Religious tolerance</li> </ul>
<b>Napoleon's Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Set up fairer tax code</li> <li>* Set up national bank</li> <li>* Stabilized currency</li> <li>* Gave state loans to businesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Appointed officials by merit</li> <li>* Fired corrupt officials</li> <li>* Created <b>Lycees (Gvmt-run public schools)</b></li> <li>* Created code of laws (<b>Napoleonic Code</b>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Recognized Catholicism as "Faith of Frenchmen"</li> <li>* Signed concordat with pope (<b>An Agreement</b>)</li> <li>* Retained seized church lands</li> </ul>
<b>Results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Equal Taxation</li> <li>* Stable Economy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Honest, Competent officials</li> <li>* Equal opportunity in Gvmt.</li> <li>* Public Education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Religious Tolerance</li> <li>* Gvmt control of church lands</li> <li>* Gvmt recognition of church influence</li> </ul>



# NAPOLEONIC CODE

He felt that this was his greatest work.



Gave country a uniform set of laws & eliminated many injustices.

Limited liberty & promoted order & authority over individual rights

Took away women's rights that were won during the revolution such as:

- The right to sell their property

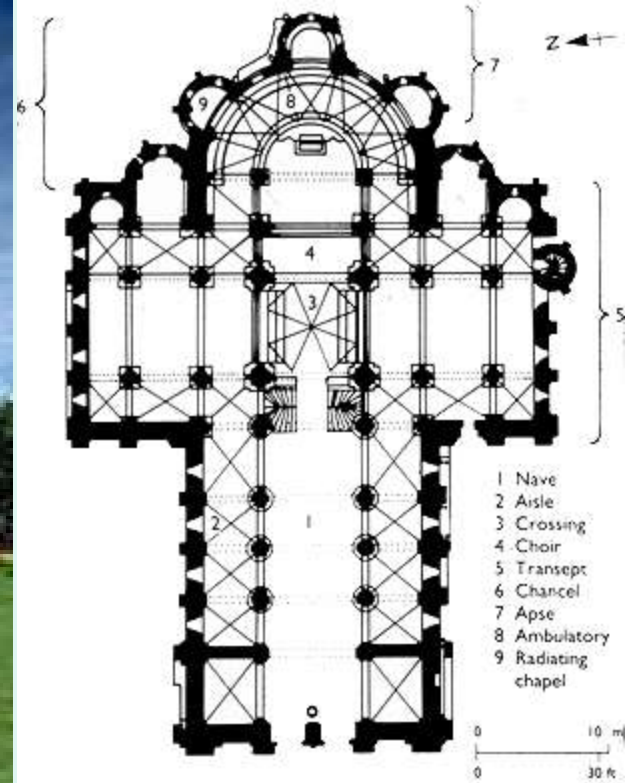
Also gained during the Revolution, but were taken away were:

- Freedom of Speech
- Freedom of the Press
- Restored slavery in the French Colonies (The Caribbean), which the revolutionary government abolished



**In 1804, he decided to make himself emperor. He was supported by the French people.**

**On December 2, 1804 Dressed in a purple velvet robe, he walked down the aisle of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris to be crowned by the Pope. As thousands watched, he took the crown from the pope and arrogantly placed it on his own head, signaling that he was more powerful than the church, who traditionally crowned the rulers of France.**



**Notre Dame Cathedral**

Napoleon's ego now running out of control, he desired not only to be in control of France, but the rest of Europe as well. He also envisioned he empire to include Louisiana Florida French Guiana & the French West Indies





Louisiana

Florida



Guiana



West Indies

# Latin America



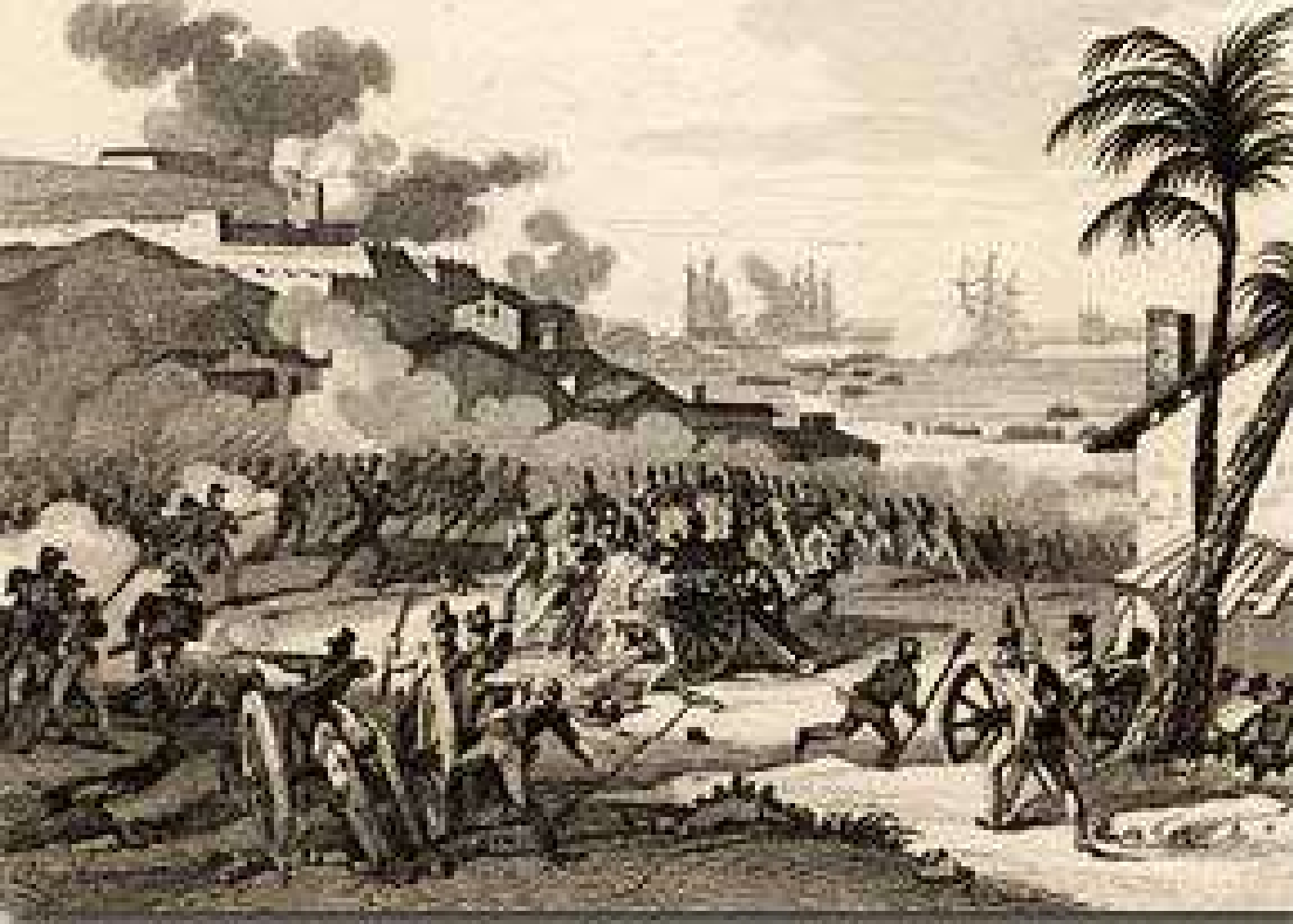
Napoleon felt that the key to the area was the French colony of Saint Domingue on the island of Hispaniola



In 1789, the ideas of the Revolution reached the planters in St. Domingue. They demanded that the National Assembly give them the same privileges as the people of France. The slaves also demanded their freedom. A civil war erupted & the slaves seized control of the colony under the leadership of Toussaint L'Ouverture.



**Napoleon decided to regain French control of the colony by sending 23,000 soldiers. The former slaves proved to be too difficult to defeat & 1000's of soldiers died. Many of them also died of yellow fever.**





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The U.S. government showed interest in buying the port of New Orleans & Napoleon saw an opportunity to make some \$. This became known as the Louisiana Purchase



- 1. President Thomas Jefferson wanted to buy part of Louisiana, including the city and port of New Orleans, from France.
- 2. In 1802 Jefferson sent two representatives to France to ask the French Leader (Napoleon Bonaparte) to sell that part of Louisiana.
- 3. Napoleon Bonaparte needed money for France. France needed money to fight two wars.
- 4. Napoleon offered to sell all of Louisiana to the United States. The price was \$15,000,000 for more than 800,000 square miles.
- 5. The United States purchased the territory on April 30, 1803. The purchase doubled the size of the United States.
- 6. Jefferson paid a group called the Corps of Discovery to explore the lands of the Louisiana Purchase.



Napoleon decides to abandon his plans in the Americas & concentrates on Europe.

He already annexed the Austrian Netherlands & parts of Italy to France and he set up a puppet government in Switzerland.

He looks to expand his influence further.

As a result, Britain persuades Russia, Austria & Sweden to join in a 3<sup>rd</sup> coalition against France.

In a series of battles, Napoleon's army crushes the opposition.

Eventually, the rulers of Austria, Prussia & Russia sign peace treaties with Napoleon. Which enabled France to build the largest European empire since the Romans.

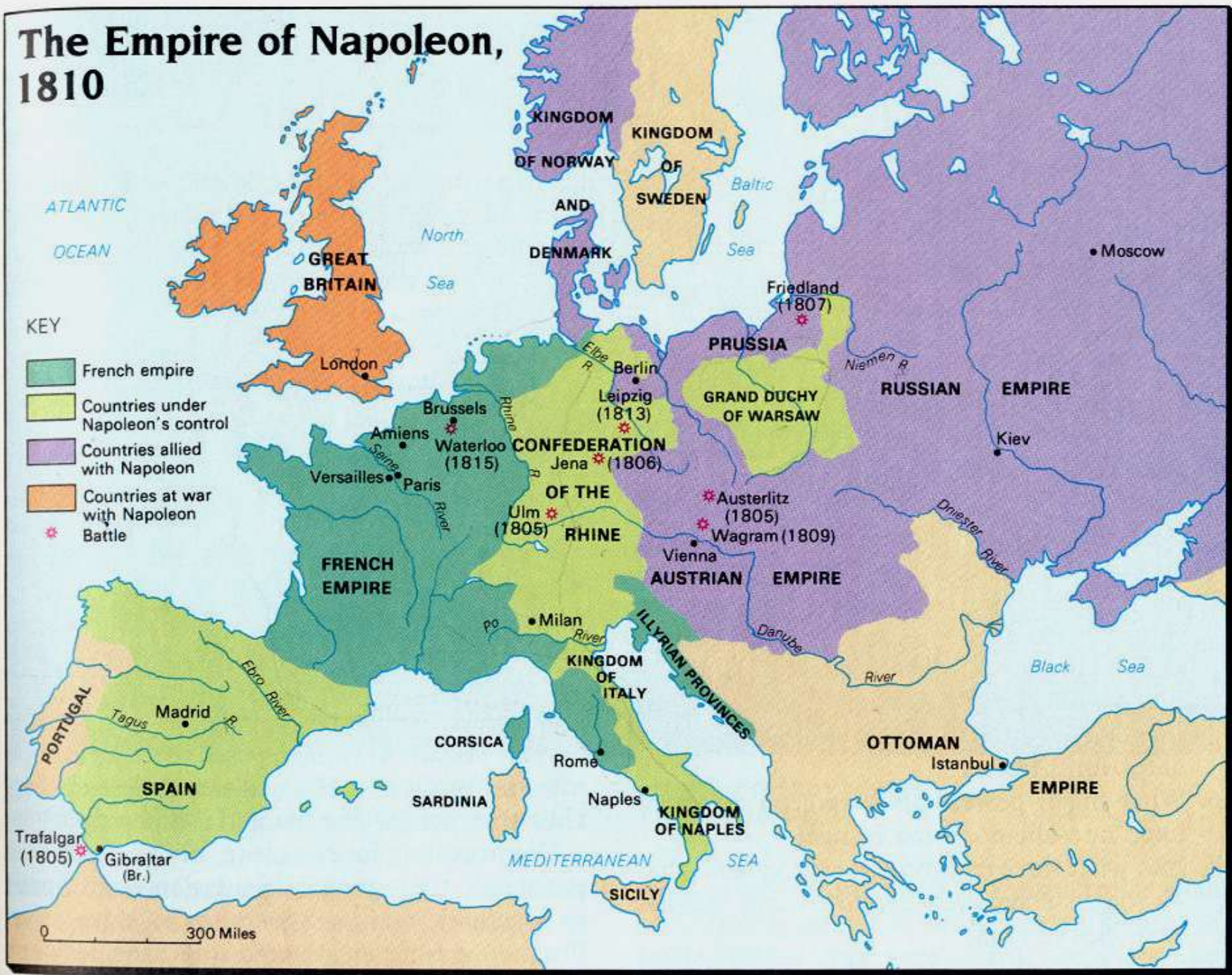
The only major enemy left was Britain, whose power was in its navy. In 1805, Napoleon tried to remove the threat of that navy.

**The painting, "Napoleon Bonaparte on Arcole Bridge," by Antoine-Jean Gros, is a superb painting illustrating the military excellence of Napoleon Bonaparte.**

**Here we see his troops moving on strongly, stepping over the dead bodies of the dead enemies. You also see a man kissing the feet of Napoleon. This shows just how much he was worshiped and appreciated. With his genius tactics, he has defeated an army, and is now moving on strongly, to do the same to another army.**



# The Empire of Napoleon, 1810



**KEY**

- French empire
- Countries under Napoleon's control
- Countries allied with Napoleon
- Countries at war with Napoleon
- Battle

0 300 Miles

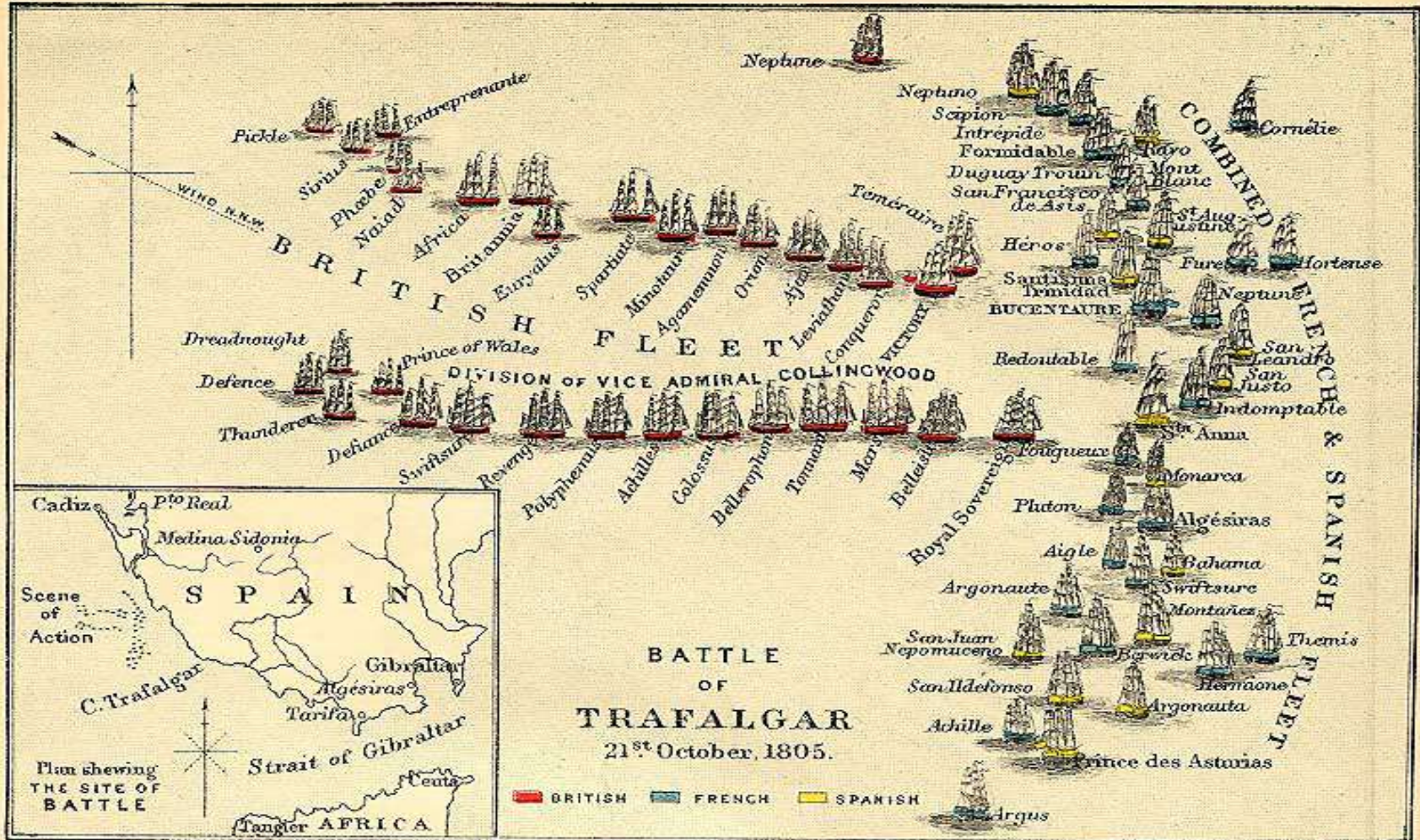
## The Battle Of Trafalgar (Truh FAI quhr)



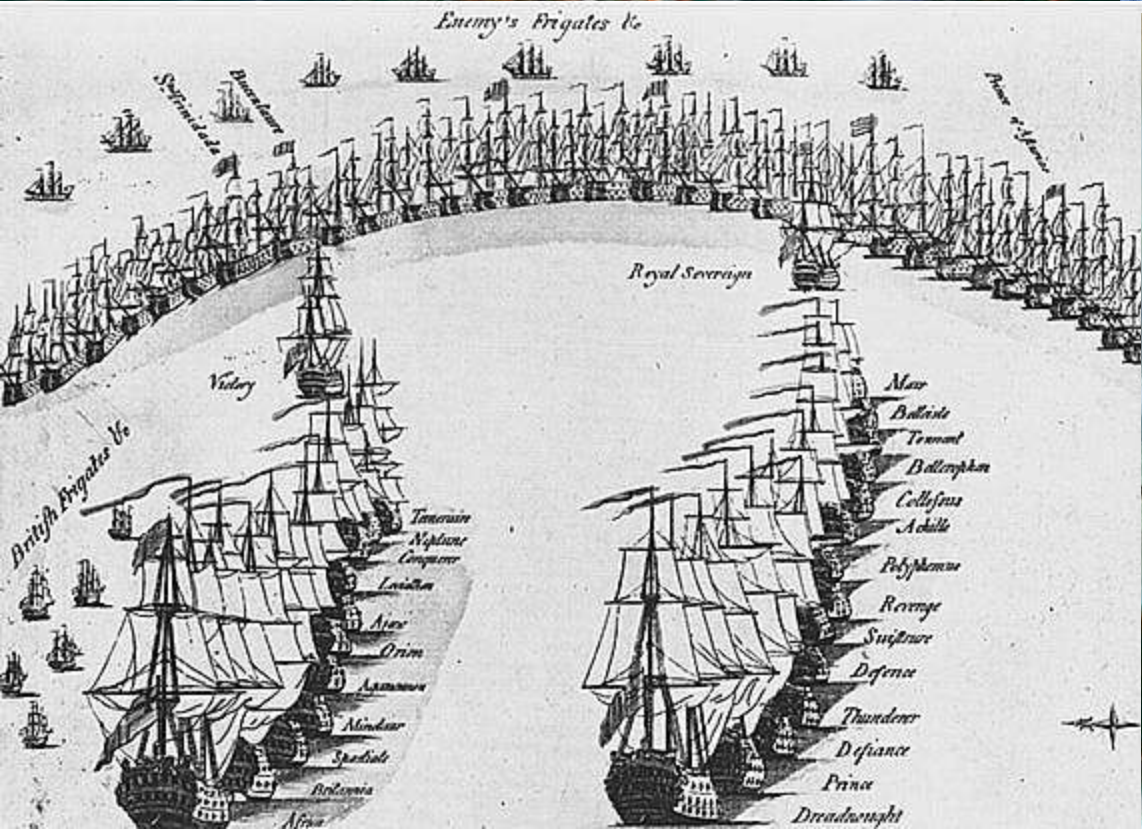
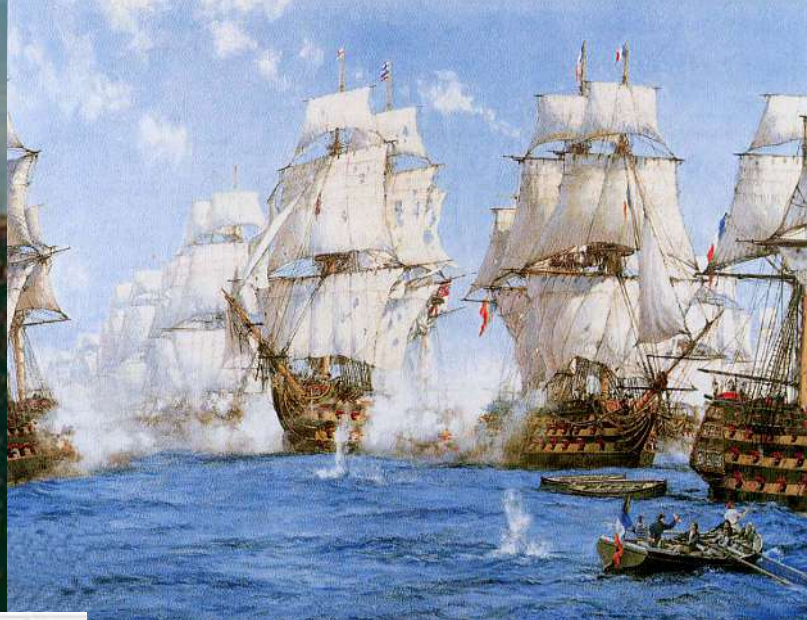
**Horatio Nelson**

**The battle takes place off the southern coast of Spain in 1805.**

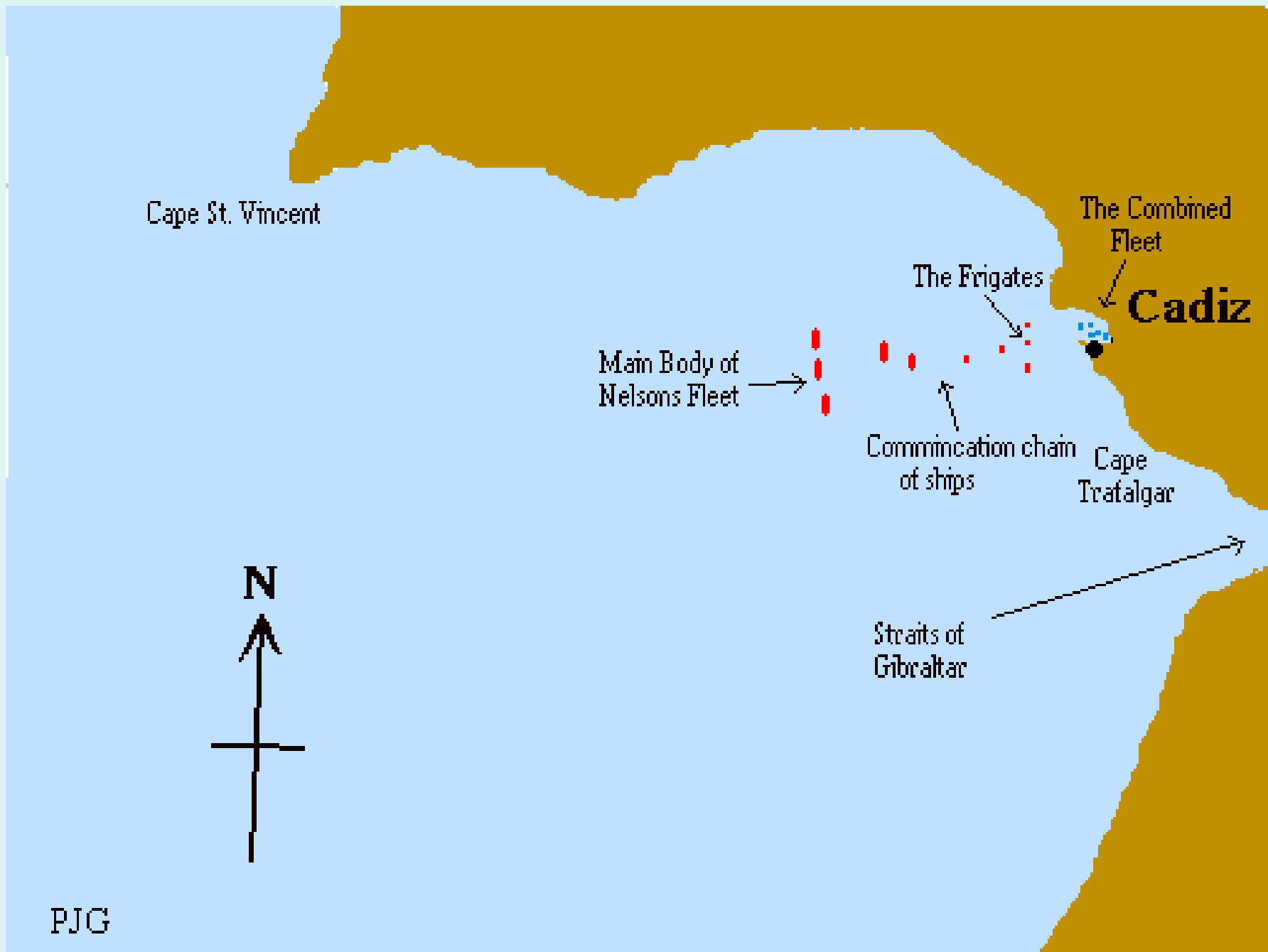
**The commander of the British fleet is Horatio Nelson – the same who defeated Napoleon earlier near Egypt in 1799.**

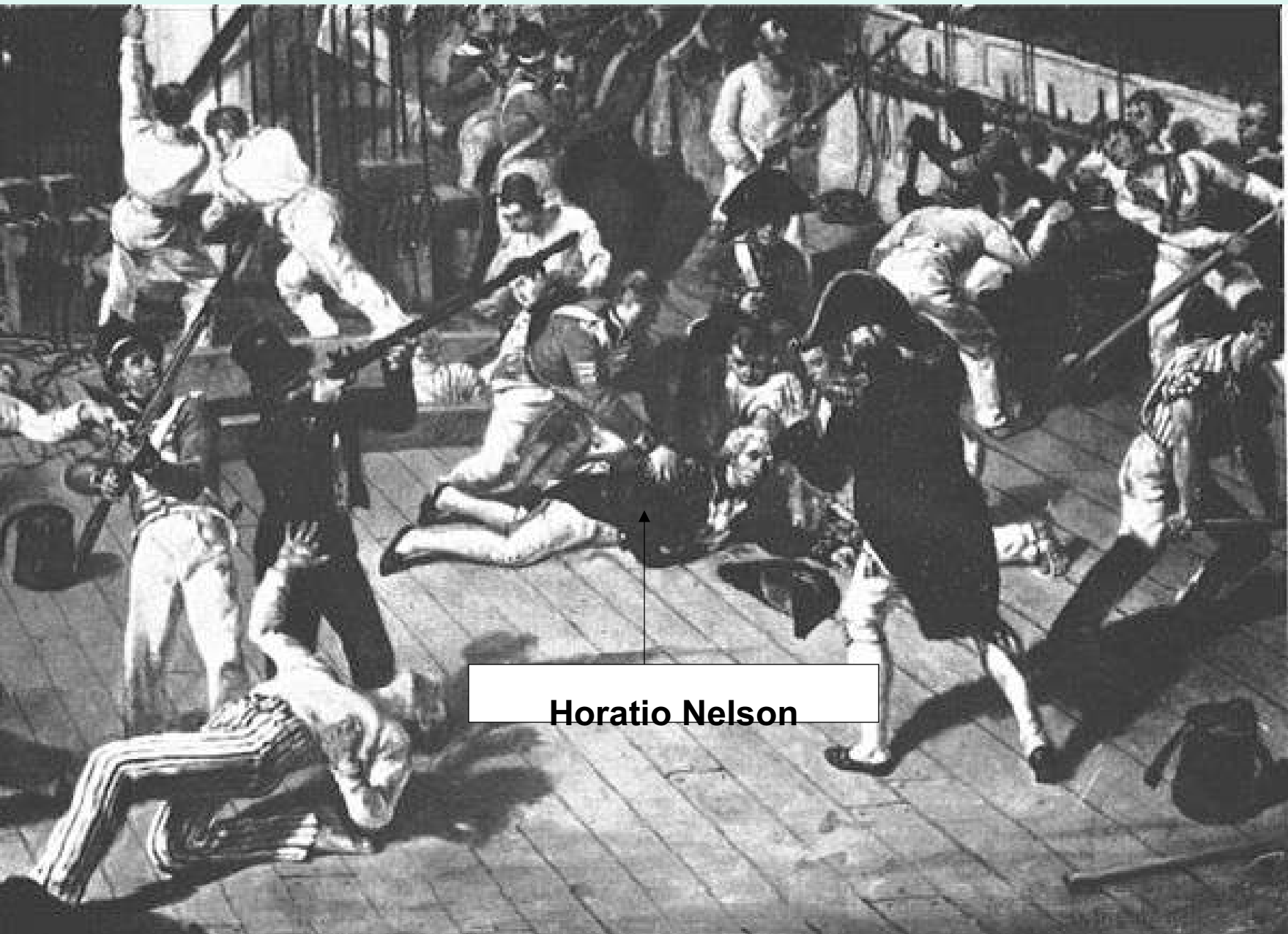


Highly motivated British sailors under Nelson formed 2 squadrons & attacked the line of French ships, splitting them into smaller groups. Nelson's sailors were better shots than the sailors in the French fleet. In the end, the French commander was captured & 19 or 20 French ships (of a total of 33) were surrendered to the British.









Horatio Nelson

During the battle, Horatio is mortally wounded by a French sharp shooter, but the victory went to the British.



**British sailors firing into the enemy**



**His majesty's ship Belleisle after the battle of Trafalgar**



**British sailors rescuing enemy crews from the sea.**



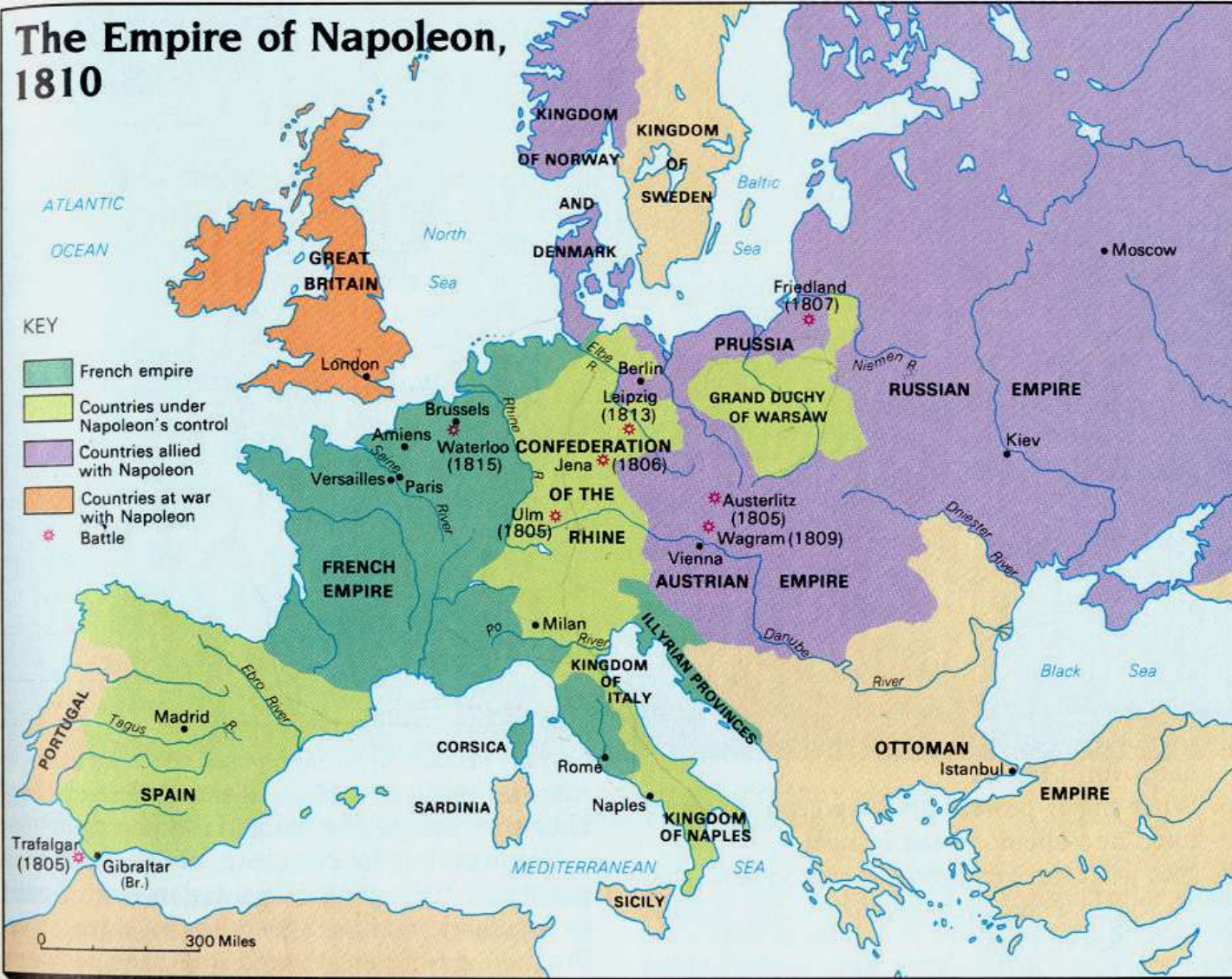
**The destruction of the French fleet had two major results:**

**1<sup>st</sup> – it assured the supremacy of the British navy for the next 100 years.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – it forced Napoleon to give up his plans of invading Britain.**

During the first decade of the 1800's, Napoleon had control over most of Europe except Britain, The Ottoman Empire, Portugal & Sweden. Napoleon was able to maintain it at it's greatest extent for only 5 years. (1807-1812). Then it quickly fell to pieces, caused in part by Napoleon himself.

## The Empire of Napoleon, 1810



Some of the rulers of these countries were Napoleon's brothers & in-laws.

# Napoleon's Empire Collapses

Napoleon once said, "I love power, as a musician loves his violin."



Napoleon's drive for power became a blessing & a curse.

In his efforts to extend the French Empire & crush Britain, Napoleon made three disastrous misjudgements:

# Mistake # 1: The Continental System

In Nov. 1806, Napoleon signed a decree ordering a blockade (a forcible closing of ports) to prevent Britain from trading & communicating with other European nations.

It was supposed to make continental Europe more self sufficient & to destroy Britain's commercial & industrial economy.



# Unfortunately for Napoleon, his blockade was not tight enough.

1. Smugglers managed to bring cargo into Europe from Britain

2. Napoleons Allies disregarded the order. His own brother, Louis (King of Holland) defied the policy

This weakened British trade, but it did not destroy it.

## Britain responds with its own blockade

1. Because of the might of the British Navy, they were able to make their blockade work.
2. The British navy stops neutral ships headed for continental Europe & forces them to British ports to be searched & taxed, including U.S. ships (which leads to the War of 1812 between U.S. & Britain).

## Mistake # 2: The Peninsular War



- Portugal was ignoring the Continental System
- Napoleon sends an army through Spain to invade Portugal
- Spanish towns riot in protest
- Napoleon then removes the Spanish king (who was loved by the people) & replaces him with his brother Joseph
- This outrages the people of Spain

Note: People of Spain were devoutly Catholic (strong belief) & they feared that the French would undermine the church of Spain due to the French Revolution.

Over the next 5 years (1808-1813) Spanish Guerrillas struck at French armies in Spain. Guerrillas are ordinary people who ambush troops & then go into hiding. The British also helped the Spanish by sending troops to aid the Spanish rebels. Napoleon loses about 300,000 men during the Peninsular War.

It's called the Peninsular War because Spain lies on the Iberian Peninsula.



**In Spain & elsewhere, nationalism, or loyalty to one's own country, was becoming a powerful weapon against Napoleon. People who had at first welcomed the French as their liberators now felt abused by a foreign conqueror. Germans & Italians & other conquered peoples turned against the French.**

# Mistake # 3: The Invasion of Russia

**1<sup>st</sup>** - Napoleon decides to invade Russia because of several factors:

- Russia never stopped selling grain to Britain
- French & Russian rulers suspect each other of having competing design on Poland

**2<sup>nd</sup>** - In June of 1812, Napoleon & his army of 400,000 march into Russia.

**NOTE:** Many of his troops were from other parts of Europe & they felt little loyalty to Napoleon

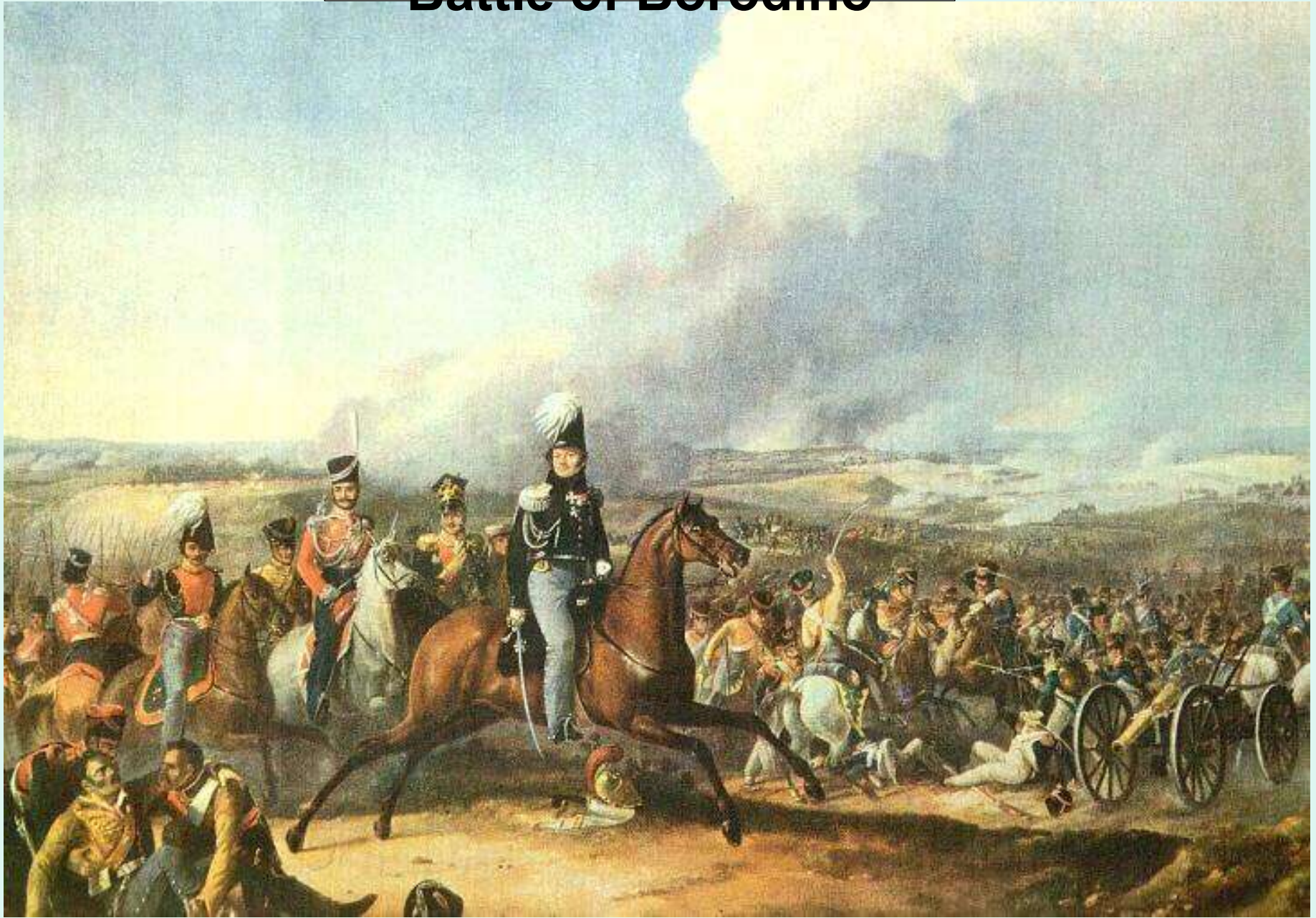
**3<sup>rd</sup>** – As Napoleon's army enters Russia, The Russian Czar (Alexander) pulls back his troops because he knows that the battle is unequal. They retreat to Moscow & on the way they begin to burn grain fields & kill livestock so that the French would not be able to eat. Scorched –earth policy

As a result, soldiers desert the French army to search for food.

**4<sup>th</sup>** – On Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1812, the 2 armies finally clashed in the Battle of Borodino.

After several hours of fighting, the Russians retreated, allowing Napoleon to take Moscow.

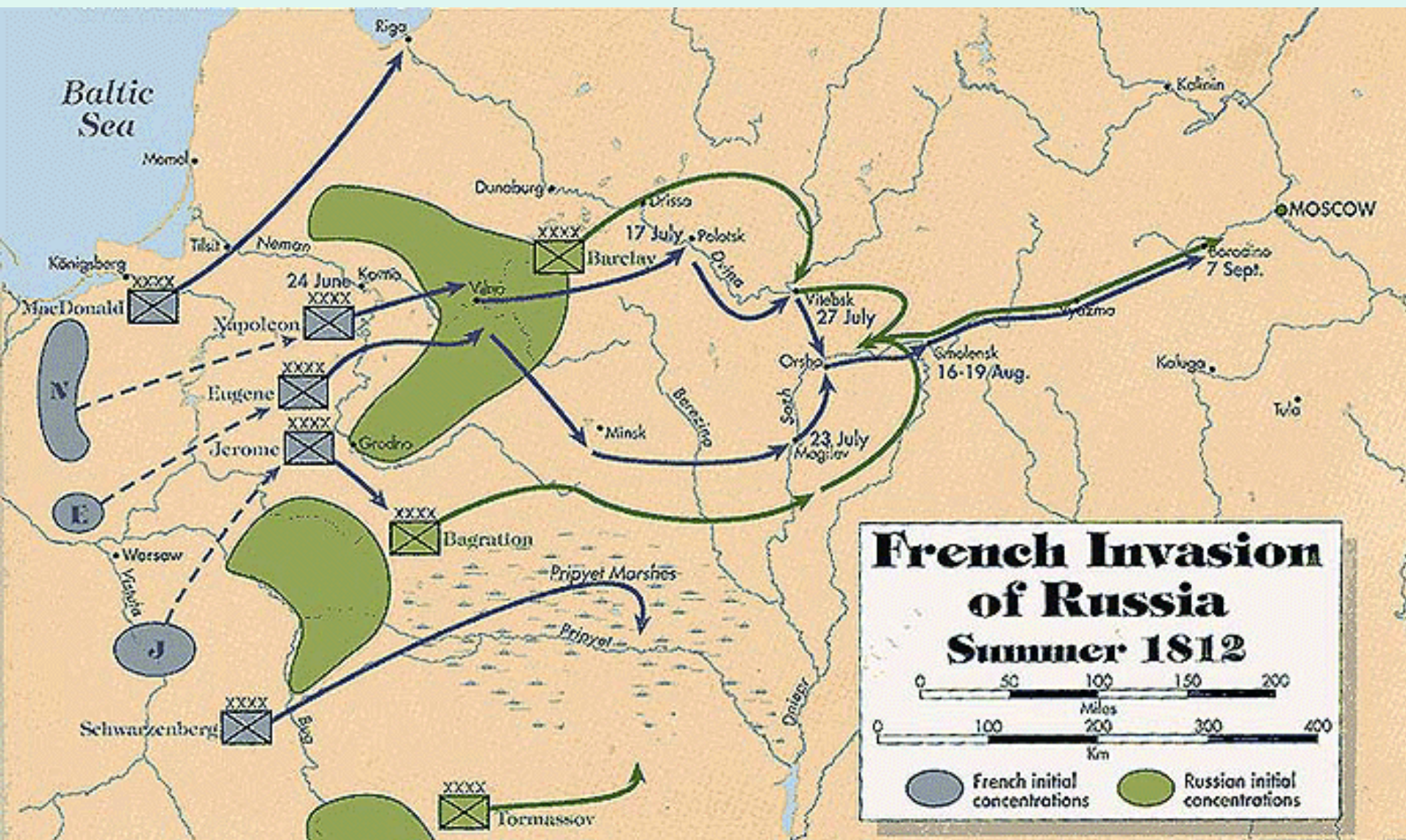
# Battle of Borodino



**When Napoleon finally entered Moscow, he found it in flames. Alexander destroyed it rather than surrender it to the French. Napoleon waited there for 5 weeks, expecting a peace offer, but it never came. So he ordered his starving army to turn back. As the snows began in November, Russian raiders attacked Napoleon's army. Many of Napoleon's men died from cold, hunger & wounds. By the time the army got back only 10,000 were left! French army departs Moscow marches back to France.**

**One French sergeant recorded, "Many of the survivors were walking barefoot, using pieces of wood as canes, but their feet were frozen so hard that the sound they made on the road was like that of wooden clogs.."**





# A coalition defeats Napoleon

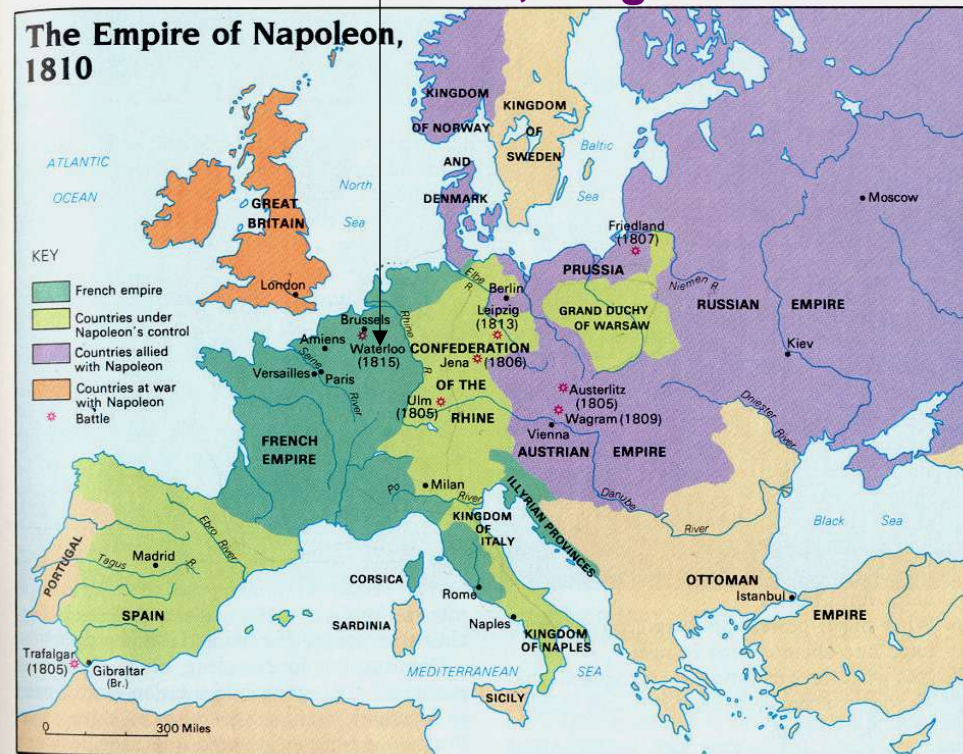
- Napoleon's enemies (Britain, Russia, Prussia, Austria, Sweden ) joined forces against him in the Grand Alliance. All of the main powers of Europe were at war with France.
- In 1814, Napoleon gave up his throne and surrendered . The victors gave him a small pension and exiled (banished) him to Elba, Italy.
- As Napoleon went to Elba, a Bourbon king, Louis XVIII (brother of Louis XVI- king who was guillotined), ruled France. He lasted only 9 months because the people suspected him of wanting to undo the Revolution's land reforms.
- Napoleon received news of this and was motivated to try to regain his power. He managed to escape from Elba & he returned to France in 1815, rallying the people to him. Thousands of French welcomed him back. Napoleon's army swelled with volunteers. Within days, he was again emperor of France!
- Napoleon's rally cry was, "Victory will march at full speed. You will be the liberators of your country!"
- Louis XVIII fled to the border.



**Louis XVIII**

The Grand Alliance quickly got their armies out. The British led, by Duke of Wellington prepared for battle near the village of Waterloo in Belgium, Known as the Battle Of Waterloo. Napoleon attacked, but The British army defended its ground all day. By the afternoon, the Prussian reinforcements arrived. Together they attacked the French. Thus ending Napoleon's last bit of power called the Hundred Days.

## Waterloo, Belgium





This time, taking no chances, the British shipped Napoleon to St. Helena (a remote island in the South Atlantic). He lived there for 6 lonely years, then died in 1821 of a stomach ailment – possibly cancer



Duke of Wellington



St. Helena

# The Congress of Vienna Convenes

**Main Idea:** After exiling Napoleon. European leaders at the Congress of Vienna tried to restore order and reestablish peace.

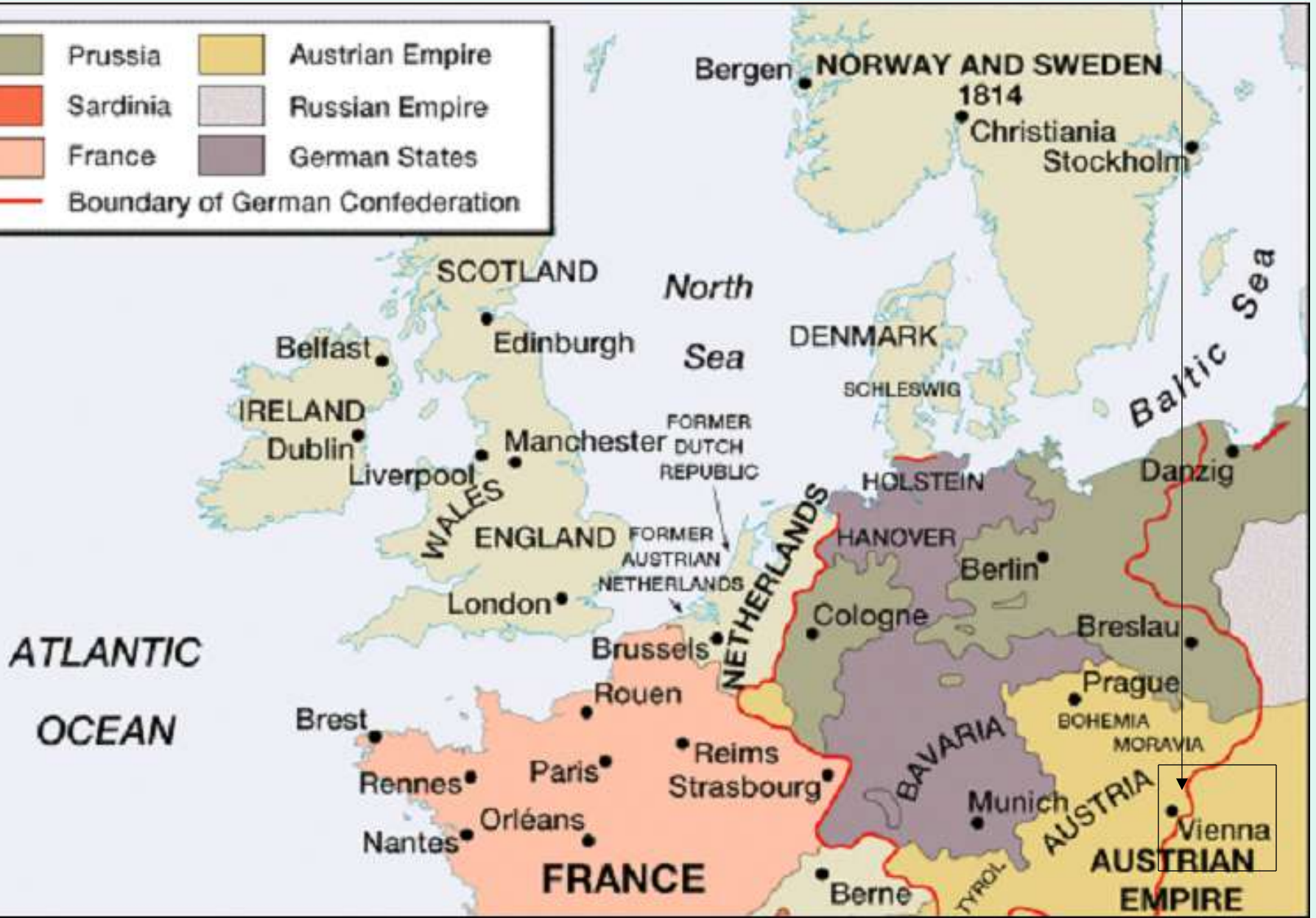
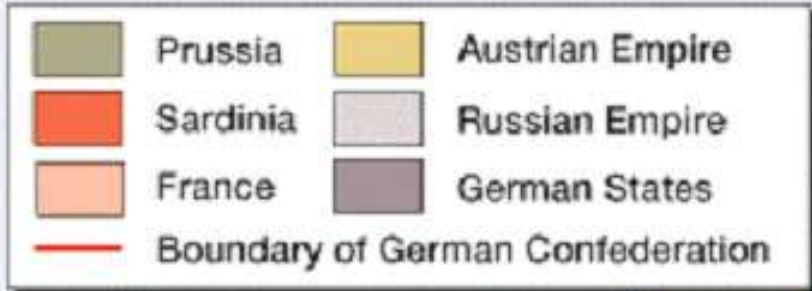
**Why It Matters Now:** International bodies such as the United Nations play an active role in trying to maintain world peace & stability today.

After the first defeat of Napoleon, European leaders looked to establish long-lasting peace & stability on the European continent. They met in a series of meetings in Vienna, Austria known as **THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA**. Originally, the congress was set up to last for 4 weeks, but it ended up taking 8 months!



The Congress of Vienna was chaired by the Austrian statesman Klemens Wenzel von Metternich. It took place from October 1, 1814, to June 9, 1815. Its purpose was to redraw the continent's political map after the defeat of Napoleonic France the previous spring.

# Vienna



## Interesting note:

The return to Paris of Napoleon Bonaparte from forced exile on the island of Elba interrupted the congress. For the Hundred Days between 20 March 1815, the date on which Napoleon Bonaparte arrived in Paris and 28 June 1815, the date of the restoration of King Louis XVIII the representatives in Vienna waited on the outcome of military force.

On 13 March, six days before Napoleon reached Paris, the powers at the Congress of Vienna declared him an outlaw; four days later the United Kingdom, Russia, Austria and Prussia bound themselves to put 150,000 men each into the field to end his rule.

Napoleon knew that, once his attempts at dissuading one or more of the allies from invading France had failed, his only chance of remaining in power was to attack before the Allies put together an overwhelming force. If he could destroy the existing Allied forces in Belgium before they were reinforced, he might be able to drive the British back to the sea and knock the Prussians out of the war. This was a successful strategy he had used many times before.

The attempt ended on June 18 at the Battle of Waterloo where a combined allied army decisively defeated the French army commanded by Napoleon. The allies pursued the French army back to Paris, restored Louis XVIII to the French throne and exiled Napoleon to the South Atlantic island of Saint Helena.

Most of the decisions made were made in secret among representatives of the 5 “Great Powers”

**Prussia**

**Russia**

**Austria**

**Britain**

**France**



**Klemens Von Metternich**

**Foreign Minister (Austria)**

**Was the most influential of the representatives at the congress**

**King Frederick William III (Prussia)**

**Czar Alexander I (Russia)**

**Emperor Francis I (Austria)**

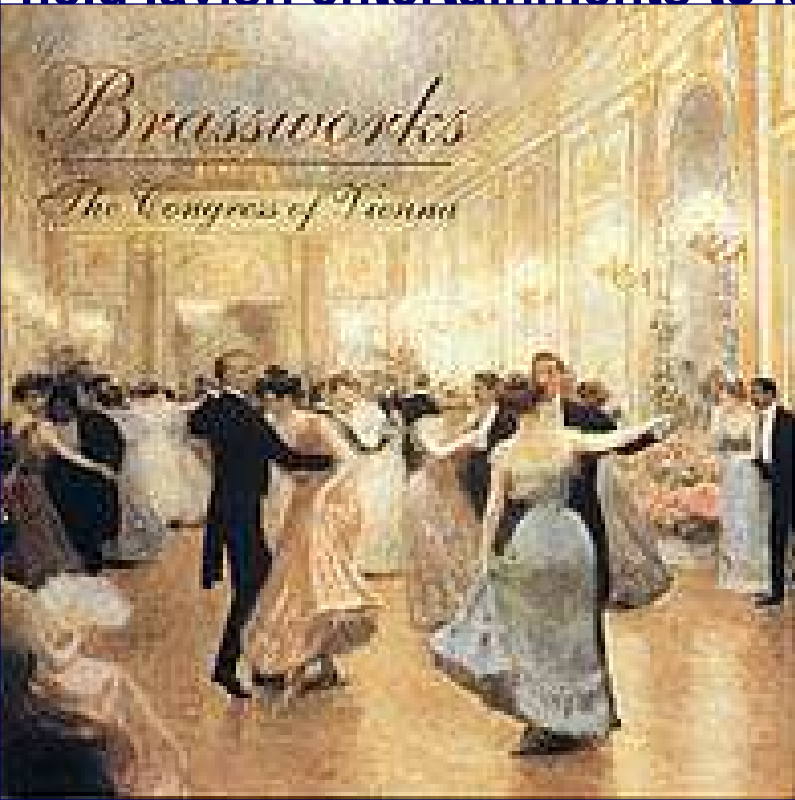
**Britain & France were represented by their foreign ministers.**

**Metternich stated, “The first & greatest concern for the immense majority of every nation is the stability of laws-never their change.”**

**He was opposed to the democratic ideals of the French Revolution**

**Initially, the representatives of the four victorious powers hoped to exclude the French from serious participation in the negotiations, but Talleyrand (French Representative) managed to skillfully insert himself into their inner councils in the first weeks of the negotiations.**

**Because most of the work at the Congress was done by these five powers (along with, on some issues, the representatives of Spain, Portugal, and Sweden, and on German issues), most of the delegations had nothing much to do at the Congress, and the host, Emperor Francis I of Austria held lavish entertainments to keep them occupied.**



### Interesting Note:

**During the congress, diplomats exchanged secrets & made deals during the endless rounds of parties. Much of the congress's work was accomplished by means of such "diplomacy through entertainment."**



## **Metternich had 3 goals at the Congress:**

- To prevent future French aggression by surrounding France with strong countries**
- To restore a balance of power, so that no country would be a threat to others.**
- To restore Europe's royal families to the thrones they had held before Napoleon's conquests.**



- France was deprived of all territory conquered by Napoleon
- Russia was given most of Duchy of Warsaw (Poland)
- Prussia was given half of Saxony, parts of Poland, and other German territories
- A Germanic Confederation of 39 states (including Prussia) was created from the previous 300, under Austrian rule
- Austria was given back territory it had lost recently, plus more in Germany and Italy
- The House of Orange was given the Dutch Republic and the Austrian Netherlands to rule
- Norway and Sweden were joined
- The neutrality of Switzerland was guaranteed
- Hanover was enlarged, and made a kingdom
- Britain was given Cape Colony, South Africa, and various other colonies in Africa and Asia
- Sardinia was given Piedmont, Nice, Savoy, and Genoa
- The Bourbon Ferdinand I was restored in the Two Sicilies
- The Duchy of Parma was given to Marie Louise
- The slave trade was condemned (at British urging)
- Freedom of navigation was guaranteed for many rivers



**The congress made the weaker countries around France stronger. These changes allowed the countries of Europe to contain France & prevent it from overpowering weaker nations.**

## Although the leaders of Europe wanted to weaken France, they did not want to go too far:

- If they severely punished France, then they might encourage the French to take revenge
- If they broke up France, then another country might become too strong & threaten all of Europe
- Although France was required to give up all of its territories, France itself remained intact, with basically it's same boundaries as in 1790
- France also kept some of its overseas possessions, its army, & an independent government.

France remained a major but diminished European power, & no country in Europe could easily overpower another.

The great powers agreed that as many as possible of the rulers whom Napoleon had driven from their thrones should be restored to power.

In France, Louis XVIII returned to power as king, but this time he adopted a constitution & ruled as a constitutional monarch, similar to Britain; but in Russia, Prussia & Austria, they had absolute monarchs.

Note: As a result of King Louis XVIII's return to power, the middle class lost their vote.

## The congress of Vienna was a political triumph

- No country left bearing a grudge towards another
- It maintained future peace (none of the 5 great powers waged war on another until the First World War in 1914)
- Nations of the entire continent were cooperating to control political affairs
- Kings & princes were restored in country after country



# Conservative Europe

The rulers of Europe were very jittery about the legacy of the French Revolution. Especially the revolutionary ideals of liberty, equality & fraternity.

Late in 1815, Czar Alexander, Emperor Francis I of Austria & King Frederick William III of Prussia entered a league called the HOLY ALLIANCE. This agreement loosely bound them together.

Finally, a series of alliances devised by Metternich, called the CONCERT OF EUROPE, assured that nations would help one another if any revolutions broke out.

**Across Europe, many conservatives held firm control of the governments, but they could not contain the ideas that emerged during the French Revolution.**

**France was divided politically. Conservatives were happy with the monarchy of Louis XVIII, but the liberals wanted the king to share more power with the Chamber of Deputies & to grant the middle class the right to vote. Many people in the lower class still wanted Liberty, Equality, & Fraternity.**

**In 1830 & again in 1848, countries like Austria, Prussia, & the small German states experienced their own revolutions.**

**As a result of the French Revolution, ideas about the basis of power and authority had permanently changed. The old ideas about who should control governments were discarded. More & more, the principles of democracy were seen as the best way for equity & justice to prevail for all people.**

## **Connect to Today:**

**The work of the Congress of Vienna and the Concert of Europe was intended to keep the world safe from war. The modern equivalent is the United Nations, an international organization established in 1945 and continuing today, whose purpose is to promote world peace.**

**Like the Congress of Vienna, the United Nations was formed by major powers after World War II.**