

The Collapse of Imperialism in Africa





AFRICAN NATIONALISM

- Movement took off following World War II
- Africa under imperial rule
 - **Harsh treatment of African peoples**
 - **Artificial borders**
 - Divided cultural groups
 - United long-standing enemies



INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS

- Imperialist nations diverted and weakened by World War II
- Cold War – Soviet Union encouraged anti-colonial settlement
- Growing literacy and education among Africans
- Africans had increased contacts with one another and with non-African world



AFRICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

- Majority of world's diamonds
- Vast oil reserves
- 75% of world's cobalt
- 25% of world's copper
- 50% of world's gold
- 33% of world's manganese and uranium



OTHER AFRICAN EXPORTS

- Cocoa
- Coffee
- Cotton
- Lumber
- Palm products
- Peanuts
- Wine





FRENCH EMPIRE IN AFRICA

- 1945-1958 – French Union – organization of French colonial possessions
- 1956 – Morocco and Tunisia independent
- 1958-1960 – French Community succeeded French Union – ended in 1960 with most French colonial possessions independent
- 1962 – Algeria independent
- Circa 115,000,000 French speakers in Africa (2009)

BRITISH EMPIRE IN AFRICA

Area/Country	Independence
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	1922
British Cameroon → split between Nigeria & Republic of Cameroon	1961
Egypt	1922
Gambia	1965
Gold Coast → Ghana	1957
Kenya	1963
Nigeria	1957
Nyasaland → Malawi	1964
Sierra Leone	1961
Somaliland → joined Italian Somaliland as Republic of Somalia	1960
Southern Rhodesia → independence under white minority rule	1965
Tanganyika → joined Zanzibar as Tanzania	1964
Togoland → joined Ghana (independent in 1957)	1956
Uganda	1962



COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

- British Commonwealth formed following the dismantling of the British empire
- Today known as the Commonwealth of Nations
- Voluntary organization of 53 member states (as of 2009), including many in Africa
- Organization works toward common goals
- Interests include economic development, education, and shared history



FORMER BELGIAN POSSESSIONS

- 1960 – Congo declared free by Belgium
 - Democratic Republic of the Congo
 - Province of Katanga attempted to secede – civil war
 - United Nations troops kept peace for four years
 - Former president of Katanga, Moïse Tshombe, became prime minister in 1964
- Burundi and Ruanda (Rwanda)
 - Belgian mandate ended in 1962





FORMER ITALIAN POSSESSIONS

- **Ethiopia**

- Independent during World War II



- **Libya**

- Independent in 1951



- **Italian Somaliland**

- Joined British Somaliland in 1960 as Somalia





FORMER PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS

- **Angola**
 - Independent in 1975
- **Mozambique**
 - Independent in 1975





REVIEW QUESTIONS

- What were some of the reasons why Africans resented European imperialism?
- During what time period did the majority of African nations gain their independence?
- What international organizations were formed following decolonization in Africa?