**Treaty of Versailles (1919) – Cornell Style**

The Treaty of Versailles ended World War One and was referred to as “**Diktat**” by the Germans because it was a peace in which the terms were dictated by the Big 3. Germany had no choice but to sign as the Allies threatened a continued blockade of Germany. They also threatened to invade the economically and militarily exhausted country.

**Major Provisions:**

-Article 231 or the War Guilt Clause - Germany was to accept full responsibility for the war.

-Germany had to pay war reparations.

-Germany lost her overseas colonies (Britain got almost the whole of German East Africa)

-Alsace Lorraine went back to France.

-The German Rhineland in the west was to be occupied by the Big 3 in 3 zones. One zone to be evacuated every 5 years. Germany was not allowed to have any military presence here (de-militarized)

SUMMARY

-France to take control of Saar (a German coal producing area in the border region). A plebiscite to be held in 15 years.

-The Sudetenland (largely German population) of the Austria-Hungarian Empire to become the western part of the new nation Czechoslovakia.

-Danzig, a German port essential for Baltic Sea trade was to become a Special Free City (controlled by the L of N and open to all trade within the newly created Poland) “Polish Corridor”

-Anschluss (union of Germany and Austria) was strictly forbidden.

-German army was reduced to 100, 000 men for domestic policing.

-German navy was substantially weakened… no submarines allowed.

-Germany not allowed tanks or an air force.

-The League of Nations was created based on the principle of collective security (security is the concern of all, therefore, a collective response to breaches to peace).

-The USA never ratified the treaty

-Germany lost 13% of its territory (Ie: Much to Poland)

SUMMARY

Successor States – the countries created after the collapse of Austria Hungary and the Ottoman Empire (Yugoslavia, Austria, Hungary, Turkey)