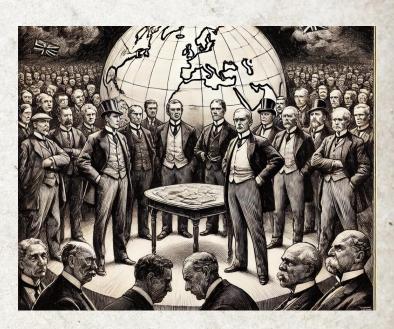


TOGO CHRONICLE

INCREASED INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS!!!

FIRST CLASHES OF THE POWERS



What many analysts, writers, and even some of the more perceptive politicians had predicted has come to pass—the year 1898 has led to increased international tensions and the first serious conflicts.

Will these lead to total war? Societies around the world feared this scenario, though some claimed it posed no real problem and that any war would last no more than a few weeks.





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War at sea!

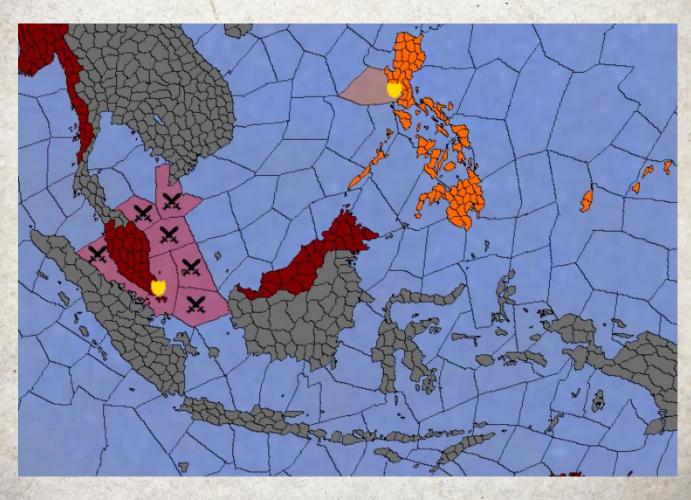
The most intense competition unfolded on the seas, where nations sought to gain or maintain control over strategically located maritime regions.

Britannia rules the waves!



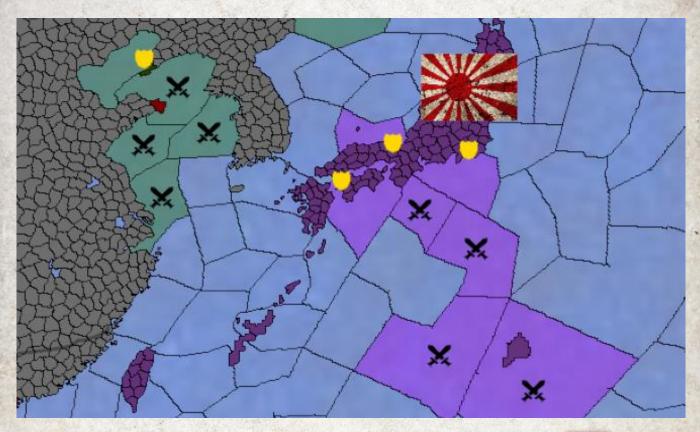
In the early weeks of the campaign, the most active—and successful power was Great Britain. Aware of the importance of international shipping routes and trade, the British resolved to better secure one of the world's key locations: the Strait of Malacca, along with the valuable Malay territories.

Queen Victoria's squadrons even drew close to the shores of French Indochina, a move sure to unsettle the Third Republic.





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Britain's actions in Asia were spurred by the increasingly complex situation in the Sea of Japan, the Yellow Sea, and the Pacific Ocean.

Russia occupies the Yellow Sea



Russia's aggressive posture meant that much of this region fell under the control of Russian squadrons, reaching almost as far south as Shanghai and threatening British interests in China.

Japan moves towards Iwo-Jima



This activity also troubled the Japanese, who aimed first to secure territories south of their home islands by occupying the small yet strategically positioned island of Iwo Jima. The Japanese fleet showed limited activity to the north of the homeland, but Russia's advances may well compel them to secure the Ryukyu Islands and Formosa.

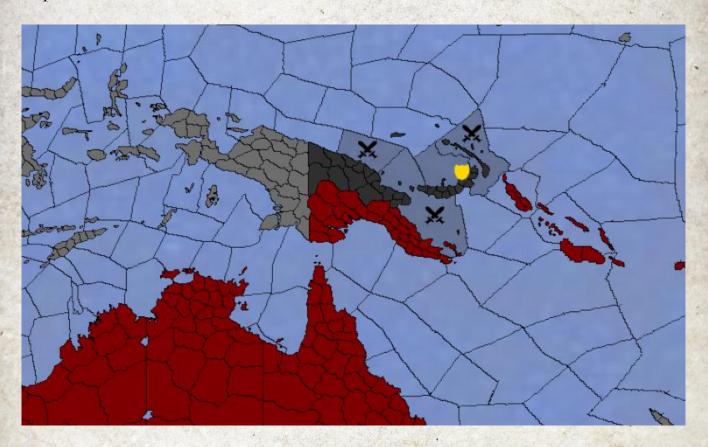


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German colonialism is gaining strength



A more distant but significant threat came from Germany, which, under Wilhelm II's policies, vigorously expanded its colonies. The German East Asian squadron was active near the Bismarck Archipelago and New Guinea, potentially sparking conflict with the British.



Armada Española and the US Navy are not ready for war?



inactive, focused on domestic issues. Perhaps these nations were gathering strength for a larger conflict.

Meanwhile, the Spanish and the Americans remained conspicuously

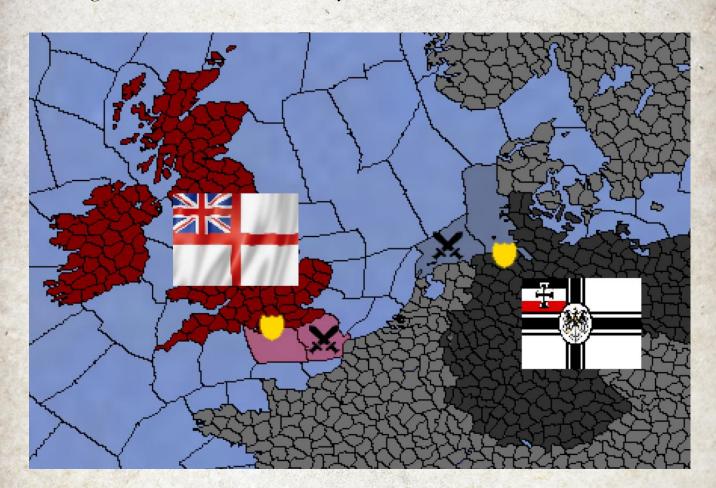


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War in Europe?

While the British temporarily concentrated their fleet in the Far East, they did not neglect European waters, strengthening their position in the English Channel, referred to by

their continental rivals as "La Manche." Germany's fleet improved its standing from Wilhelmshaven, gaining control over areas west of that base.



Summary

In summary, the Royal Navy undeniably achieved the greatest success, though the Russian, German, and Japanese fleets also secured valuable positions that could benefit

them in the event of war. The intensified naval activity among these powers stirred considerable unease across the globe. What will the coming weeks of the campaign bring