# WESTERN PENETRATION OF AFRICA IN THE LATE 1800'S—THE ERA OF "NEW IMPERIALISM"

The Explorers 1840's-1870's

**Belgians in the Congo** 1870's-1880's

King Leopold II

In 1876 Leopold had organized the International African

Association, his own private holding company that was

disguised as an international scientific and humanitarian

organization. From 1879 to 1884, Henry Stanley was

secretly sent by Léopold II to the Congo region, where

he made treaties with several African chiefs along the

Congo River and by 1882 had sufficient territory to form

the basis of the Congo Free State. ("Free" because it was

supposed to be free to trade and navigation for all.) Lé-

opold II personally owned the colony and ruled with his

private army from 1885 to 1908 brutally exploiting it for

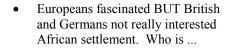
ivory and rubber.

### **David Livingstone**

- Scottish explorer and Missionary = JOURNALS!
- Anti-slavery advocate
- First European to see Victoria Falls
- First to cross Africa from Atlantic to Indian Ocean
- Exploration of the Zambezi River
- "Christianity, Commerce and Civilization"
- Explores Lake Malawi, Lake Tanganyika
- "Disappears" Lost contact with outside world for almost six years (1865-1871) - Henry Stanley sent by the New York Herald in 1869 to find Livingstone—Stanley finds David Livingstone along the shores of Lake Tanganyika in November 1871
- Livingstone dies of malaria in 1873

## **Henry Stanley**

- Welsh journalist (New York Herald) and Explorer
- 1874-Expedition financed by the Herald to trace Congo River to the sea—leaves Zanzibar—999 days later reaches a Portuguese settlement at the mouth of the river
- Encouraged TRADE and COMMERCE in Central Africa
- Approached by Leopold II of Belgium—Stanley is financed and returns to central Africa to negotiate concessions with tribes, build roads



**Increased interest in Africa** 





**The Berlin Conference** 1884-1885





**Scramble for Africa** 1880's-1914