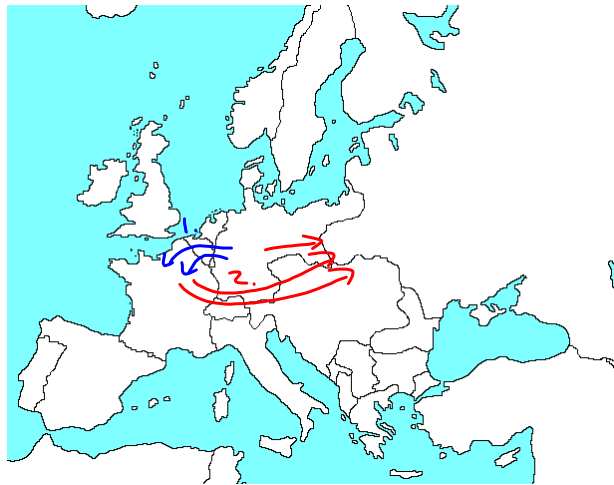


SCHLIEFFEN PLAN

- plan to prevent / mitigate a two front war with France & Russia
- created in 1905 after France & Russia concluded a mutual protection treaty
- based on 2 assumptions
 - 1) Russia would need time to mobilize ✓
 - 2) Britain would stay neutral ✗
 - aligned with France
 - invasion of Belgium



- almost worked (came within 50km of Paris)
- strategic theory didn't match practice
 - Rus. mobilized quicker than expected, forcing Ger. to send troops to Eastern Front
 - pace of initial advance left German soldiers exhausted for battle
 - weather slowed down Ger. advance allowing Fr. to reinforce defenses
 - Br. entered war