Source: ⟦KBHistoryMasterIndex⟧

1 | **Diplomacy, Kissinger**

The Document: ⟦KBe20hist201srcKissingerAnnotated⟧

CLAIM: European balance of power system emerged after medieval collapse

1.1 | **European Power Balance**

Development into model of "universality" => one emperor, one church

1.1.1 | **The Holy Roman Empire**

⟦KBhHIST201HolyRomanEmpire1500s⟧

1.1.2 | **System of Raison De 'Etat**

As a mean to fend off an every-growing HRE threatening France, Cardinal Richaleu came up with a system named ⟦KBhHIST201RaisonDeEtat⟧ that promises to be a better system of government.

1.2 | **England, the Mediator**

⟦KBhHIST201EnglandMediator⟧

CLAIM:

> In this manner, Great Britain became the balancer of the European equilibrium, first almost by default, later by conscious strategy. Without Great Britain 's tenacious commitment to that role, France would almost surely have achieved hegemony over Europe in the eighteenth or nineteenth century, and Germany would have done the same in the modern period.

Kissinger's Take Home Messages

And I quote:

"""""

- Power is difficult to access
- Equilibrium best achieved if they are in common interest
- Balance of power inhibits capacity to overthrow order
- Agreement on shared values inhibits desire to overthrow order
- Power without legitamacy tempts dangerous strength tests
- Legitimacy without power tempts empty power tests

"""""

Kissinger sees himself as American Richlieu.

End result of Raison d'etat

1. Others form a coalition against the ruthless nation => balance of power is eventually achieved
2. Unipolar dominance of a world system/world hegemony => too dominant to fight back against

McNeill

- Consolidation for political power (310-311)

1. Administrative centralization: italian city-state strategies to govern countries
2. Seizing Church power and property during the Reformation: Catholics trade away political power to re-affirm their religious
3. Development of military technology becomes too expensive to do rurally to larger factories in a city: standing army cannot be tracked in a local level

The renessance brings two things: either harness renissance energy to do innovation or harness reformation energy to unify Europe — if someone has the ability to have warfare.

1.3 | **The People**

1. Cardinal Richelieu

2. Ferdinand II

3. Frederick the Great

4. Reformation

5. Counter-Reformation

6. 30 Years War

7. 7 Years War

8. William III of Orange

9. Louis XIV (Sun King)

10. Napoleon

11. William Pitt

12. Congress of Vienna

13. War of Austrian Succession

14. War of Spanish Succession