



“Unconventional Enemies”

JEFFERSON AND THE BARBARY PIRATES

Where were they?

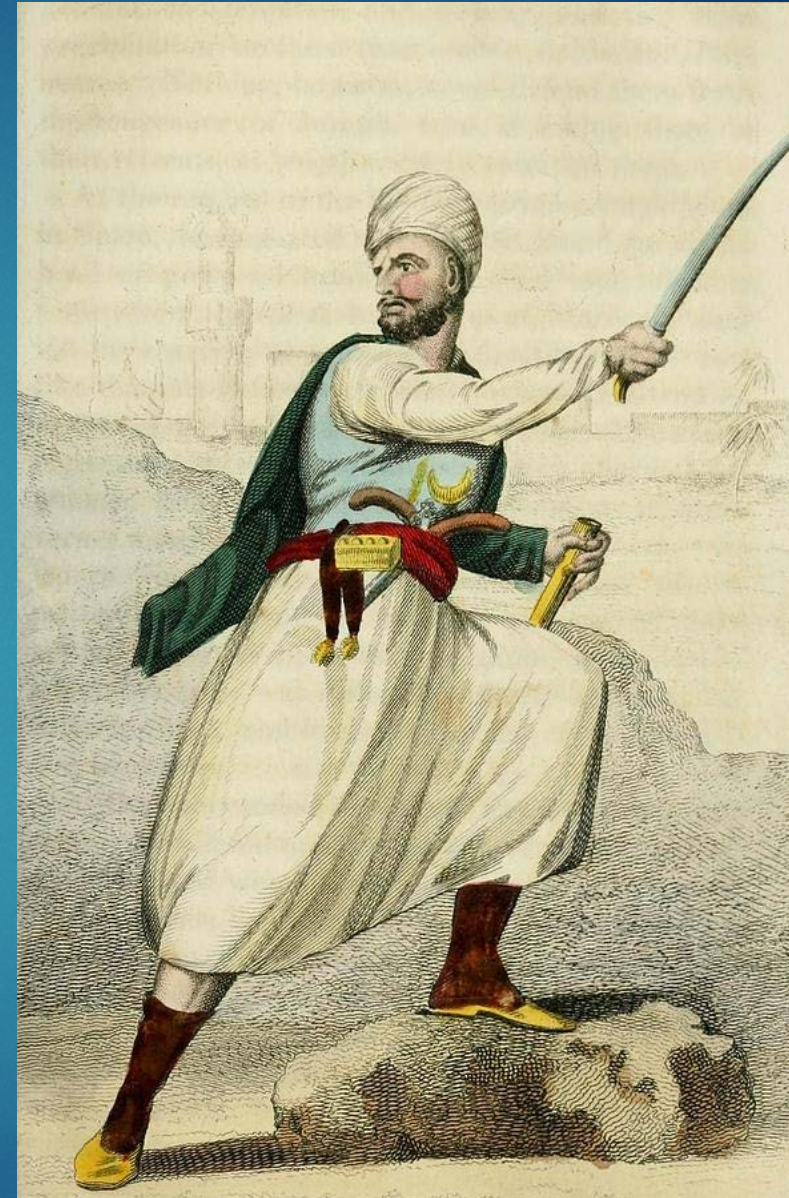
- ▶ Consisted of four states: Morocco, Tripoli, Tunis, and Algeria
- ▶ The outer part of the Ottoman Empire





Corsairs

- ▶ The Barbary Corsairs were privateers who worked for rulers who were themselves subject to the Ottoman Empire.
- ▶ Two goals: to enslave captives(usually Christian) and to ransom hostages for tribute.
- ▶ Operated out of several infamous ports including Algiers, Sale, Tripoli, and Tunis
- ▶ Used terror tactics to force merchant vessels to surrender



As Ambassadors to Europe. . .



- ▶ Adams and Jefferson were tasked to deal with the problem
- ▶ Adams believed it would be less expensive to pay them off
- ▶ Jefferson argued for a fight



The Essential Question:

Should we pay the tribute to the Barbary States,
or should we fight for freedom of the seas?

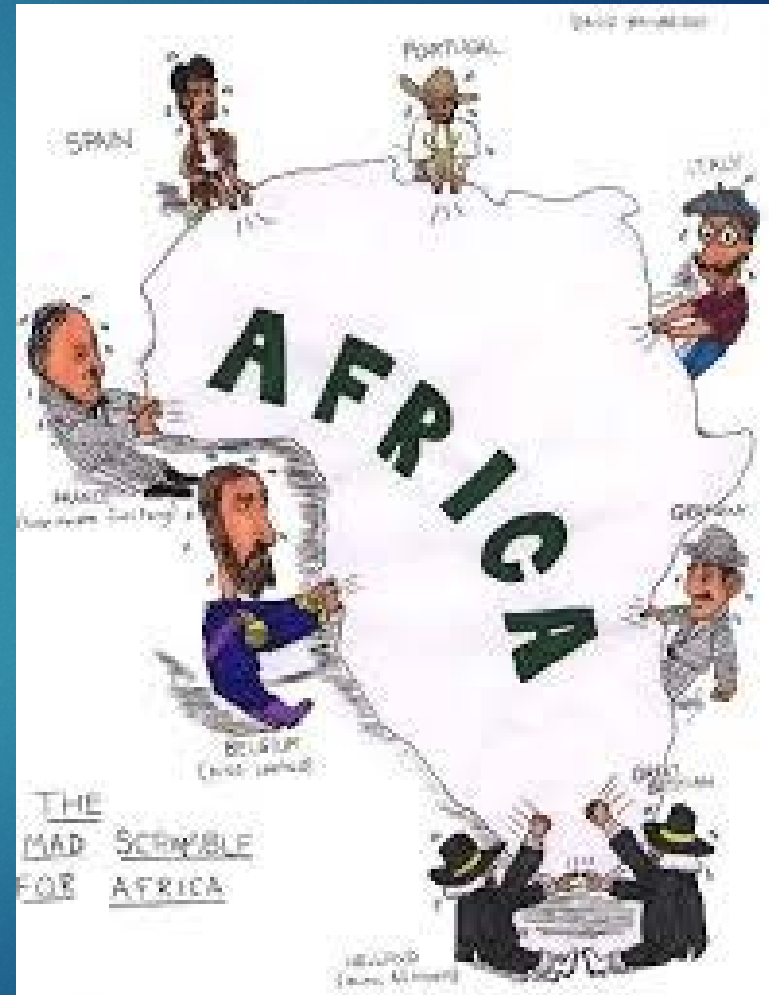
"To the Shores of Tripoli. . ."

- ▶ As President, Jefferson chose to send the navy to fight
- ▶ First Barbary War: 1801 – 1805 (during Jefferson's administration)
- ▶ Second Barbary War: 1815 – 1816 (during the War of 1812)



Tribute Payments Ended When:

- ▶ Britain and Holland also bombarded Algerian fleets and forts
- ▶ Italy overthrew the leader of Tripoli and created Libya
- ▶ Europe divided up Africa into colonial powers



Importance for the U.S.



- ▶ The Barbary Wars prompted the U.S. to build a navy
- ▶ The wars united the American armed forces (people fought as marines rather than Georgians and New Yorkers)
- ▶ Proved that America could execute a war far from home (first real test of American military power)
- ▶ Provided valuable military training