**The Hohenzollerns**

The Growth of Prussia

**Frederick William, the Great Elector (1640-1688)**

 Guided country through last years of 30-Years War

 Reorganized armies of state into one national force

 Improved tax system

 Encouraged agriculture, industry, and infrastructure improvement

 Imitated Louis XIV lavish court

**Frederic I (1688-1713)**

 (state now known as Prussia- HRE named F-I King of Prussia for support in War Sp. Succession)

 Got rid of much of the luxury of court

 Doubled size of army- made most efficient fighting force in Europe (all TALL)

 Created efficient government bureaucracy

 Encouraged trade and industry

 Compulsory education

**Frederick William I (1713-1740)**

 Killed son’s friend in front of him to toughen him

 Signed Pragmatic Sanction

**Frederick (II) the Great (1740-1786)**

 Played flute

 *First 23 years of reign- WAR*

 Invaded Silesia, didn’t recognize Maria Theresa- sparked War of Austrian Succession (1740-48)

 🡪 (didn’t sign P.S.)

 Diplomatic Revolution (1756) Realigned with GB

 Realignment led to 7-Years War (1756-63)

 ALL of Europe & global conflict

 Prussia pushed to brink of defeat- held together by Frederick the Great

 🡪 also death of bitter enemy, Russia’s Catherine the Great

 First Partition of Poland (1722) Linked Prussia and East Prussia

 *Next 23 years- Internal administration & organization*

 Expanded and improved education system

 Legal and court reforms

 Encouraged trade and manufacturing

 Committed to religious tolerance

 No interest in granting self-government to national or ethnic minorities

 Left Prussia as a rival of Austria of control of Germany and a first-rate European Power