

THE WAR TO END ALL WARS

World War I – 1914 to 1918

I. AMERICA ON THE WORLD STAGE

A. Early 1900s

1. US had a more vigorous and aggressive foreign policy

2. "Progressive Diplomacy" - led to the US becoming a large world power



B. TEDDY ROOSEVELT

The Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt began on September 14, 1901, when Theodore Roosevelt became the 26th President of the United States upon the assassination and death of President William McKinley, and ended on March 4, 1909.



B. TEDDY ROOSEVELT - THE BIG STICK (1901-1909)

- 1. Roosevelt believed in American superiority
- 2. Felt that US must be militarily strong
- 3. "Speak softly and carry a big stick"
- 4. Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine i. keep Europeans out of Latin American



- 5. "Planned" revolt against Columbia after turned down on Panama Canal building
- 6. US gets control of Canal Zone & gains immense strategic & commercial advantage
- 7. Wins Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating an end to Russo-Japanese War in 1905

C. WILLIAM TAFT - DOLLAR DIPLOMACY (1909-1913)

1. "Substitute dollars for bullets" - Taft wanted to limit the military's involvement

2. Didn't work, ended up needing military support in Honduras & Nicaragua





D. WOODROW WILSON — NEW FREEDOM (1913-1921)

1. Felt foreign investments & industrial exports = keys to national prosperity

- 2. Remove trade barriers
- 3. Mexican Revolution (1911)

i. Mexico goes through period of instability with numerous leaders from 1911-1920

ii. Numerous assassinations take place before Venustiano Carranza 1915
iii. This infuriates Pancho Villa – invades New Mexico leading to American troops going to Mexico under General John J. Pershing (later takes control of US forces in Europe)

4. United States enters WWI during his second term

i. Wins re-election on slogan ""He **kept** us **out of war**" ii. Goes to war on statement - "make the world safe for democracy"



IS WAR INEVITABLE?

Admiral Jackie Fisher wrote of the atmosphere he created in the British Royal Navy after 1902: "We prepared for war in professional hours, talked war, thought war, and hoped for war."

The chief of the German general staff declared in 1912 that war must come "and the sooner the better!"

A German novelist wrote of August 1914: "At last life had regained an ideal significance. The great virtues of humanity ... fidelity, patriotism, readiness to die for an ideal ... were triumphing over the trading and shopkeeping spirit ... The war would cleanse mankind from all its impurities."

British writers enthused about the opportunity that war would present: "To die young, clean, ardent; to die swiftly, in perfect health; to die saving others from death, or worse —disgrace ... to die and carry with you into the fuller, ampler life beyond, untainted hopes and aspirations, unembittered memories, all the freshness and gladness of May—is that not a cause for joy rather than sorrow?"

II. JOURNEY TO THE GREAT WAR

- A. Europe settles into a period of relative peace prior to the start of WWI.
- B. Growth of militaries and imperialism
 - 1. Europe's major powers included Britain and Germany (Prussia)
 - 2. Both countries developed extensive navies
 - 3. Competition for colonies grows between world powers in the early 1900's
- C. Uneasiness in the Balkan region of Europe due to nationalism
 - 1. The Ottoman Empire withdraws from the region
 - 2. Austria-Hungary tries to assert power of the area including annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1908
 - 3. Serbia fights two wars to increase it's pull in the region.



D. Formation of Alliances

1. Triple Alliance (Germany, Austro-Hungary & Italy) – eventually joined by Ottoman Empire

2. Triple Entente (Britain, France & Russia) – Italy joins this alliance in 1915

E. The fuse is lit

1. Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife are assassinated in Sarajevo

2. Assassination leads to a chain reaction of events which draws all of Europe's powers into war



THE ASSASSINATION





The Austrian Military Museum

JUNE 28, 1914

Seven young men of a secret society known as the Black Hand plot to assassinate the Archduke. Gavrilo Princip (19) fires two shots killing the Ferdinand and his wife Sophie.

The Serbian Nationalist is seized by officers.

"They beat him over the head with the flat of their swords. They knocked him down, they kicked him, scraped the skin from his neck with the edges of their swords, tortured him, all but killed him." -Borijove Jevtic, one of the conspirators







F. THE CHAIN REACTION

1. Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia for the murders of the archduke and his wife and made harsh demands.

- 2. Serbia refused to comply with any of the demands of their ultimatum.
- 3. July 28 Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia
- 4. Aug. 1 Germany and Russia declare war on each other
- 5. Aug. 3 Germany and France declare war on each other

6. Aug. 4 - Germany declares war on Belgium, United Kingdom declares war on Germany

7. Aug. 6 - Austria-Hungary declares war on Russia, Serbia declares war on Germany



- 8. Aug. 12 United Kingdom and France declare war on Austria-Hungary
- 9. Aug. 23 Japan declares war on Germany
- 10. Aug. 25 Japan declares war on Austria-Hungary
- 11. Aug. 28 Austria-Hungary declares war on Belgium
- 12. Nov. 2 Russia and Serbia declare war on the Ottoman Empire
- 13. Nov. 5 France declares war on the Ottoman Empire
- 14. Dec 5 United Kingdom declares war on Ottoman Empire



III. THE FIGHTING BEGINS

A. War Plans

1. The German Schlieffen Plan

i. defeat France before turning attention to Russia

ii. Multi-prong attack into France to capture Parisiii. Germany could defeat France within six weeks2. The French Plan XVII

i. concentrate along the German border

ii. attack Germany through the Ardennes and into Lorraine

iii. believed Germans wouldn't have enough troops due to Russia's involvement

- B. Battle of Liège (August 5-16, 1914)
 - 1. Germany attempts to invade France through neutral Belgium
 - i. Belgians held out for 12 days against superior German army
 - ii. Germany needed a quick victory (Schlieffen Plan)
 - iii. Liège was key strategically as it held a position at the head of a pass through the Ardennes
 - iv. City is heavily fortified forcing Germans to bring in the 'big guns'
 - v. Germans eventually destroy forts protecting the city and win the battle
 - vi. Slows Germans enough to allow France / England prepare for war
 - 2. Battle Statistics
 - i. troops involved Belgium 70,000 / Germany 320,000
 - ii. casualties Belgium 20,000 4,000 captured / Germany 5,300

3. Battle Bonuses

i. Germans kill civilians in Belgium due to perceived threat of guerrilla warfare
ii. destroy cultural artifacts including the cathedrals and libraries in Louvain
iii. hurts the German reputation abroad / branded as Huns
iv. became known as the "Rape of Belgium"





C. Battle of the Frontiers (August 7 – September 13, 1914)

- 1. The battles at Mulhouse, Lorraine, the Ardennes, Charleroi, and Mons
 - i. French open up by attacking at Mulhouse to retake territory of Alsace lost during Franco-Prussian War. Battle is a success for the French at first before the Germans retake it.

ii. The next battles are a meeting of the two plans with Germany getting the upper-hand in the opening stages

2. Battle Statistics

i. troops involved – Allies 1,437,000 / Germany 1,300,000

ii. casualties – Allies 359,000 / Germany 306,500

IV. DIGGING IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

A. First Battle of the Marne (September 6 - 12, 1914)

1. As Germans approach Paris, French/British decided to make one more push

i. German armies advance, get strung out and open gap in their lines

ii. Allies take advantage and split Germans causing confusion

iii. Germans are forced to retreat to a defensive position on the Aisne River

2. Battle Statistics

i. troops involved – Allies 1,071,000 / Germany 1,485,000 ii. casualties - France - 80,000 killed, 170,000 wounded, Britain - 1,700 killed, 11,300 wounded / Germany 67,700 killed, 182,300 wounded

3. Battle Bonuses

i. Airplanes are used for the first time for reconnaissance

ii. French troops are ferried to the front via taxi cabs from Paris (minor impact)

iii. Both sides begin to dig initial trenches







V. NEW TECHNOLOGIES EMERGE



A. New technology emerges during World War I forever changing the landscape of battle.

Ex: airplane, poison gas, tank, trench warfare (separate lesson)



B. Role of Airplanes

- 1. Initially used for reconnaissance
- 2. Used to shoot down observation balloons / blimps
- 3. Oct 5, 1914 machine guns used for the first time in battle
- 4. Eventually develop synchronized machine guns

i. July 1, 1915 - first battle where both planes had this type of weapon
ii. dogfights became common
iii. Manfred Albrecht Freiherr von Richthofen aka Red Baron (80 kills)
a. he was shot down and killed on April 21, 1918 at age 25
5. The La Fayette Escadrille

- i. American pilots who volunteered to fight for French beginning in 1916
- ii. Kiffin Rockwell had the honor of the Americans' first aerial victory
- iii. Victor Chapman became the escadrille's first casualty
- iv. Several American pilots received the Croix de guerre (French military honor)



Lafayette Escadrille



World War I - Airplanes

Whiskey



Red Baron

VI. AMERICA STAYS NEUTRAL ... FOR NOW

A. American Issues

1. German victory could harm American economic interest in Europe

2. England / France victory may keep America out of vast markets

B. Economic Growth

1. Orders for war goods stimulated American manufacturers



C. U-boats / Submarine Warfare

1. Early 1915 Germany announces unrestricted warfare

2. Wilson responds by telling Germany they will be held "strictly accountable" for American lives and property as a result

- 3. Lusitania is sunk on July 7, 1915
 - i. sailing from New York to Liverpool, England
 - ii. 128 Americans are killed as a result
 - iii. ship sinks after being hit by torpedo
 - iv. ship is carrying war goods to allied armies
 - v. innocent Germans in America victimized
 - vi. Germans command order U-boat captains to not shoot at passenger ships

D. Isolationist opposition

1. America can promote freedom and democracy by other methods than war

2. Believed the "Old World" was less enlightened

3. European conflict between countries America wanted to continue economic relations

E. Wilson hopes for peace, plans for war

- 1. Wilson attempted to secure an armistice in Europe
- 2. Germany viewed as a threat to American security
- 3. National Security League prepares for war

i. volunteer militia units train on weekends

4. National Defense Act passed in 1915

i. places state militia under federal control



ii. President can mobilize the National Guard in emergency

5. Congress increases sizes of army and raises spending on navy

6. Even with preparation, when war does come America is behind

F. Wilson wins reelection in 1916 on slogan, "He kept us out of war!"



VII. WESTERN FRONT

A. Battle of Verdun (February 21 – December 18, 1916)

1. Germans attack French positions near Verdun

i. one of the bloodiest battles in history that began with a nine hour artillery bombardment by 1,200 guns

ii. Verdun was symbolically import to French

iii. Germans have superior numbers as attack begins

iv. they push and move the French but can never breakthrough

2. Battle Statistics

i. troops involved – France 1,140,000 / Germany 1,250,000

ii. casualties – France 336-434,000 / Germany 379,000



Bleed France White!

3. Battle Bonuses

i. considered the longest battle in world history

ii. battlefield wasn't even ten square kilometers

iii. German Chief of Staff, Erich von Falkenhayn to Kaiser "The string in France has reached breaking point. A mass breakthrough — which in any case is beyond our means — is unnecessary. Within our reach there are objectives for the retention of which the French General Staff would be compelled to throw in every man they have. If they do so the forces of France will bleed to death."







B. Battle of the Somme (July 1 – November 18, 1916)

1. British launch offensive with five straight days of shelling of the German lines

i. Germans able to hide during bombardment while protecting machine guns

ii. British attack and are mowed down as they lose 20,000 killed and 60,000 wounded on first day

iii. initially French troops are pulled from Somme to assist at Verdun leaving the battle in the hands of the British

iv. Germans withdraw 40 miles to a better defensive position on the Hindenburg Line

v. No clear winner as both sides suffer heavy casualties



British in trenches at start of the Battle of the Somme

British machine gunners at the Somme with their gas mask on.





British soldier looks out a dugout with a dead German soldier nearby.

All images courtesy Getty Images

French and British soldiers loading an artillery shell.



2. Battle Statistics

i. troops involved – Allies 3,000,000 / Germany 1,500,000

ii. casualties – Allies 620,000 / Germany 465,000

3. Battle Bonuses

i. named after the French River Somme

ii. groups within the British army were called Pal's battalions because the volunteers were guaranteed to be placed in battalions with their friends and neighbors

iii. first time tanks were engaged in battle

iv. Allies lost around 89,000 men per mile of territory gained
C. Battle of Passchendaele / Third Battle of Ypres (July 31 – November 6, 1917)

- 1. Allied push against the German Army
 - i. objective was to push Germans back and take city of Passchendaele

ii. heavy rains made the battlefield unbearable as Allied troops attempted to advance

iii. example of the war of attrition that was in effect

2. Battle Statistics

i. casualties - Allies 200,000 – 448,614 / Germans 260,000 – 400,000

3. Battle Bonuses

i. every 2 inches of ground cost one soldiers life

ii. battlefield was so muddy soldiers and horses drowned during the fighting





Mud and barbed wire during the Battle of Passchendaele





VIII. EASTERN FRONT

A. Russia invades Germany on August 17, 1914 starting the war on the Eastern Front
B. Battle of Tannenberg (August 26 – September 2, 1914)

1. German armies take on the Russians

i. use aerial reconnaissance and interception of uncoded messages to move troops to counter initial advance of Russian army

ii. battle is fought over strategic railways

iii. Germans are able to surround the Russians and force their surrender.





Captured soldiers of the Russian 2nd Army after their defeat at the Battle of Tannenberg (*Getty Images*)

"The Germans have formed a line to comb the forest and are flushing them out like animals. They pick them up and if they are badly wounded they shoot them to put them out of their misery. Here comes a column of prisoners, virtually unescorted... They are already swaying and stumbling; it is worst of all for those with leg-wounds. You are lucky if you have a faithful comrade so that you can put an arm around his neck and he can half-lead, half-carry you. For other prisoners it is even worse: they are not allowed to march away but are harnessed instead of horses to their own Russian guns, which are now trophies of war, and have to drag them, pull them and push them up to where the victors are patrolling the main road in armoured cars, with armed cyclists and machinegunners ready to open fire...The column of men on foot is led into a cage for people, fenced in with barbed wire, so makeshift as to be little more than symbolic, on temporary poles stuck into the ground. Here the prisoners are strewn about on the bare earth, lying, sitting, clasping their heads, standing, walking, exhausted, some with their arms in slings, some bandaged, some unbandaged, some bruised, some with open wounds and others, for some reason, in nothing but their underwear; some are barefoot and none of them, of course, have been fed. Mournful, forsaken, they look at us through the barbed wire..."

2. Battle Statistics

i. troops involved – Russia 190,000 / Germany 150,000

ii. casualties – Russia 30,000 with 95,000 captured / Germany 20,000

3. Battle Bonuses

i. Russian general Alexander Samsonov commits suicide once his army is surrounded rather than surrender

ii. this battle keeps Germans from aiding their comrades at the Battle of the Marne

C. Brusilov Campaign (June 4 – September 20 1916)

1. General Alexei Brusilov Russian troops begin an attack on Austro-Hungarian Army at the city of Lutsk



i. it began as an effort to relieve pressure on the Western Front for France/Britain

ii. Russian open up along a 200 mile front with 2,000 canons

iii. the massive artillery barrage severely weakens the A-H Army

iv. the Russian offensive is successful and the A-H are forced to get help from the Germans weakening their offensive on the Western Front

v. the offensive permanently secured more enemy territory than any other Allied offensive on either front

2. Battle Statistics

i. troops involved – Russia 1,732,000 / Austria-Hungary 1,061,000

ii. casualties – Russia 1,000,000 including 60,000 prisoners / Austria-Hungary 1,500,000 including over 400,000 prisoners

3. Battle Bonuses

i. Brusilov was known as "The Iron General"

ii. in one day's action, the Russians captured 25,000 Austro-Hungarian troops

iii. this offensive permanently weakens the Austrian-Hungarian Army to the point of no return. Germany is forced to fight the rest of the war basically alone.

D. Bolshevik Revolution ends Russia's war effort in late 1917 as country falls into civil war

1. Treaty of Brest-Litovsk is signed March 3, 1918 officially ending Russia's involvement

- 2. treaty is between Bolshevik government and the Central Powers
- 3. Czar Nicholas II is killed as well as his family in July of 1918.

IX. THE MIDDLE EAST

A. Battle of Gallipoli / Dardanelles Campaign (April 25, 1915 – January 9, 1916)

- 1. Goal of campaign is to break stalemate on Eastern and Western front to help the Russians
 - i. began with a navel attack along Dardanelles
 - ii. Allied troops landed along Gallipoli peninsula and suffer heavy losses after they land in the wrong spots
 - iii. Allies dug trenches and waited for Turkish attack
 - iv. trench warfare before Allied troops are eventually evacuated
 - v. considered an Allied failure
- 2. Battle Statistics
 - i. troops involved Allies 489,000 / Ottoman, German 315,000
 - ii. casualties Allies 302,000 (46,000 killed) / Ottoman, Germany 250,000
- 3. Battle Bonuses
 - i. Kemal Ataturk led the Turkish defenders becoming a hero to the Turks

Video Link: https://www.britannica.com/video/191881/overview-focus-Gallipoli-Campaign-World-War-L

Gallipoli Campaign







B. Battle of Megiddo (September 19-21, 1918)

1. British / Allies attack Ottoman in Palestine

i. British General Edmund Allenby uses artillery as a shield to attack Turkish positions

ii. Airplanes destroy several key Turkish positions

iii. Turkish army is surrounded and soundly defeated

2. Battle Statistics

i. troops involved –

ii. casualties – Allies 782 killed, 4,179 wounded and 382 missing / Ottoman losses unknown - 25,000 were captured

3. Battle Bonuses

i. the defeat at Megiddo led to collapse of Ottoman Turkish forces and their eventual withdrawal from the war

X. IN THE NAVY

A. Battle of Jutland (May 31 – June 1, 1916)

- 1. Largest naval battle of WWI between Germany and Britain occurs in the North Sea
 - i. Germany wanted to lure out and destroy a portion of British fleet
 - ii. British had broken German code and new an attack was imminent
 - iii. battle ensues with British losing more ships than Germans
 - iv. both sides claimed victory
 - v. battle stops Germany from getting access to their coast and the Atlantic



HMS Queen Mary blowing up



CHEER.

929880

SCATTY 1033

2. Battle Statistics

i. navies involved – Britain 151 ships / Germany 99 ships

ii. casualties – Britain 7,000 casualties / Germany 3,000 casualties

iii. sunk – Britain 14 ships / Germany 11

3. Battle Bonuses

i. outcome forces the Germans to concentrate on submarine warfare

ii. British shells fail to pierce German armor on ships, had they been working properly British navy would have been more effective

iii. this, along with Zimmerman Telegram, will bring United States into war

XI. MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY

A. Germany resumes unrestricted submarine warfare

1. America warns Germany not to attack our ships

2. Germans hope to win war in Europe before America can get involved

B. Zimmerman Telegram

1. US intercepts a German note suggesting an alliance with Mexico against the US

2. Germans promise lands lost in Mexican-American War will be returned when they win

C. Apr 2, 1917: Congress approves declaration of war



DECODED CRYPTOGRAM MESSAGE

February 22, 1917

To VonEckhardt – Mexico City

British crack top secret code. US press may leak German plot with Mexico. Prepare to leave embassy on short notice.

Berstorff – Washington DC

D. American Mobilization

1. Although newspapers, religious leaders, and state legislatures were enthusiastic, Wilson was still unsure how ordinary Americans would react

2. Selling the War

i. Committee of Public Information (CPI) formed to promote the war

ii. Employed more than 150,000 people

ii. Created more than 100 million pieces of Pro-war literature

iii. CPI recruited popular movie stars to make the war attractive

iv. CPI used three main themes in their pro-war pitches:

a. America as a unified moral community

b. War was an idealistic crusade for peace and freedom

c. Displayed the image of a despicable enemy

3. Fading Opposition to the War

i. The War effort gained support among progressives and reformers

ii. Saw the potential for positive social change

4. Selective Service Act: the 'draft' is introduced without much resistance

i. War was popular among most middle-class women - gave them a chance to workii. Many hoped that through the war they would gain suffrage

5. "You're in the Army Now"

i. June 5, 1917 - almost 10 million men registered for the draft

ii. age restrictions were loosened, and by the end of the war, 24 million had signed up

iii. 2 million volunteers took part in various armed services

iv. standardized tests were given to recruits

v. illiteracy was as high as 25%

6. Racism in the Military

i. Segregated units for blacks (ie: 369th US Infantry in French Army)

ii. Thousands of black soldiers endured humiliating treatment from white officers

iii. Blacks were amazed to find that their treatment overseas was better than at home

XI. AMERICANS HEAD TO EUROPE

A. Making the journey

1. American support began by escorting convoys for safety and attacking U-Boats

B. American Expeditionary Force

1. Gen. John Pershing appointed commander of the AEF (American Expeditionary Force)

2. wanted to be separate from British and French army

3. compromises with allies and offers them black troops combine with their forces

C. America unprepared

1. America had only 600,000 rifles and 900 heavy guns when entered the war

2. Government forced to by BILLIONS of dollars of war goods from French including artillery, airplanes guns, tanks, bullets etc

3. At wars end America only produced 64 tanks

XII. THE WAR AT HOME

A. Running the Country

1. WWI saw the federal government play a huge role in regulating the economy

2. Although much was temporary, the war started many trends in American life

B. Organizing the Economy

1. War Industries Board (WIB) created by Wilson in 1917

i. clearinghouse for industrial mobilization to support the war effort

ii. handed out \$14.5 billion in payment contracts

C. Food & Fuel act: President can regulate the production & distribution of food

i. food administration led by Herbert Hoover, a millionaire engineer

ii. Hoover put price controls on pork, sugar, wheat, and other agricultural commodities

iii. bought by govt. & sold through dealers

iv. Hoover refused to impose mandatory rationings

v. Many Americans cut back on wheat and meat, began growing own veggies, etc

D. Taxes and Debt

1. Graduated Income Tax was lowered to pay off the \$30 billion + war cost

2. Federal Debt jumped from \$1 billion in 1915 to \$20 billion in 1920

E. The Business of War

1. War increases industrial production & job availability

2. Most important long-lasting economic legacy: shift towards corporationism

3. Radios used in battle immensely - this small industry soon gained ground

F. Labor and the War

1. Increase in industrial labor due to the war - more jobs, and higher wages

2. American Fed. Of Labor increases its membership

i. Most members were skilled white males

3. The war ended many more radical factions of the US labor movement

4. Industrial Workers of the World got shut down under the Espionage Act

i. marked the beginning of a wave of political repression

G. Immigration

1. During the war, strict immigration guidelines were eased

2. Immigration Act of 1917 - reduces illiterate Mexican immigration

i. Must be literate & pay \$8 head tax

ii. Suspended for the war's duration because of labor shortage

H. Women at Work

- 1. During the war, women filled jobs traditionally held by men who were off fighting
- 2. Women in Industrial Service (WIS) created by the Labor Dept
 - i. Showed a practical stand by the gov't to improve women's working conditions
- 3. wages for women were approximately half of what men's for same job
- 4. hoped their role in the war would lead to woman's suffrage
- 5. August 1920 women are granted the right to vote

I. Muzzling Dissent: The Espionage and Sedition Acts

1. The Espionage Act: June 1917

i. Suppression of antiwar sentiment

ii. Up to 20 years & \$10,000 fine for aiding the enemy or causing insubordination in the armed forces

iii. Postmaster General could exclude any publication he considered treasonous

iv. After the war, the Bureau of Investigation was created to handle civilian intelligence

2. The Sedition Act - Amendment to the Espionage act

i. Outlawed any "disloyal, profane, scurrilous or abusive language..." to the govt constitution or the flag

ii. Eugene Debs arrested for publicly declaring his hatred of war

3. Schenck vs. United States - decided that Supreme Court can restrict freedom of speech

4. Abrams vs. United States - Supreme Court upheld sedition act convictions of 4 Russians

XIII. AMERICANS INVOLVED

A. German Spring Offensive, or Kaiserschlacht ("Kaiser's Battle") (March 21 – July 18, 1918)

1. Germany realizes they must win now before America can full support Allies

i. Germany attacks allies in four different places

ii. Germany uses a new tactic, Stormtroopers (Stormtrooper tactics were to attack and disrupt enemy headquarters, artillery units and supply depots in the rear areas, as well as to occupy territory rapidly)

iii. Germany has success, but advance is too quick to allow supplies to adequately keep up

iv. Allies focus on only important ground while lightly defending other areas

v. German victory, but at great cost and little value

2. Battle Statistics

i. casualties – Allies 863,374 / Germany 688,341

3. Battle Bonuses

i. to start the campaign, the Germans fired over 1,100,000 shells in five hours (most during war)

ii. German Army was never able to replenish men lost during this battle

iii. their numerical advantage was steadily declined as American's arrived and entered the war



World War I Marines in France



Infantry train with a Renault FT-17 tank at Camp Colt, the Gettysburg home of the Tank Corps of the U.S. Army. (note: never made it to the battlefields of Europe before the Armistice)

B. Battle of Amiens (August 8–11, 1918)

1. Begins the period known as the Hundred Days

i. attack is launched after the second Battle of the Marne with American troops pouring into the trenches

ii. the British had learned how to combine infantry, artillery, tanks and aircraft in a coordinated attack.

iii. Germans weren't expecting the attack and were unprepared with many surrendering

iv. Allies advanced eight miles before the attack stalled

v. as the Hundred Days continued the Allies continued to push leading to the downfall of Germany

vi. one American division takes part in the battle



2. Battle Statistics

i. casualties – Allies 44,000 / Germans 75,000 – 50,000 of them are taken prisoner

3. Battle Bonuses

i. Allies used fake radio transmissions to trick the Germans to make them believe they were weakening their front line

ii. German General Ludendorff described opening day as "the black day of the German Army in the history of this war...Everything I had feared, and of which I had so often given warning, had here, in one place, become a reality."

iii. German Emperor - "We have reached the limits of our capacity. The war must be terminated."

C. Americans in Battle

1. Battle of Chateau-Thierry (June 3-4, 1918)

i. the American 2nd Infantry Division and 2nd field Artillery Brigade support the French counter-attack that captures Chateau-Thierry.

ii. casualties: 1,908

2. The Battle of Belleau Wood (June 6-26, 1918)

i. the American 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Marine Brigade and the engineers of the 2nd and 3rd Infantry Divisions support the French Army by their successful capture and defense of Belleau Wood.

ii. casualties: 8,400

3. The Somme Offensive (August 8 – November 11, 1918)

i. Americans fought with the British 4th Army in eight engagements in Belgium and in northern France at the Battles of Bellicourt, Montbrehain and the Selle River.

ii. casualties: 15,034

4. The Meuse-Argonne Offensive (September 26 – November 11, 1918)

i. American First Army with the support of the French Fourth Army launches its largest operation that led to the retreat of the German Army

ii. during this battle Major Whittlesey and the 308th infantry division gets surrounded in the Argonne Forest

a. carrier pigeon, Cher Ami takes this note to headquarters: "WE ARE ALONG THE ROAD PARALELL [sic] 276.4. OUR ARTILLERY IS DROPPING A BARRAGE DIRECTLY ON US. FOR HEAVENS SAKE STOP IT.

lii. casualties: 110,508

iv. this battle leads to the armistice that ends the war

XIV. AN UNEASY PEACE

A. Treaty of Versailles - formally ended World War I

1. Dominated by Britain, France, Italy and the United States

B. The Fourteen Points

1. Wilson's blueprint for peace - Contained three main aspects:

i. detailed post-war boundaries in Europe, addressed splitting up Austro-Hungary

ii. general principles for international conduct

a. includes free seas, free trade, and open covenants

b. also addresses mediating conflicting colonial claims

iii. Wilson called for the creation of a League of Nations to enforce the 14 points

2. The 14 Points reflected Wilson's long-held liberal progressive feelings

3. The most controversial issue was the League of Nations

i. Article X in the charter of the League called for collective security to keep peace

ii. This violated the American system of declaring war through Congress

C. Wilson in Paris

1. Conference initially accepts the 14 points

2. Austria, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia & Czechoslovakia made out of the beaten powers

- 3. Compromise mandate gave British & French control of German / Turkish colonies
- 4. Japan controls German China
- 5. Wilson opposes war guilt, but it is still imposed on Germany
 - i. \$33 billion in reparations

6. Final treaty signed on June 28, 1919 - Germans had no choice but to accept the terms

D. The Treaty Fight

1. Wilson had neglected domestic issues & concentrated on foreign policies

2. Republicans capture majority in House & Senate (1918)

3. Wilson's opponents in Senate included: "Irreconcilables" opposed to any form of treaty

i. Senators who had opposed entry into the war

ii. Many senators dislike the League of Nations idea

4. Sept 1919 - Wilson goes on a US speaking tour, but it didn't help him politically

- 5. Republican Henry Lodge recommended fourteen changes to Wilson's treaty
 - i. Wilson instructs Democrats to vote against the Lodge version of the treaty

ii. Lodge version wins but not ratified

iii. United States never signs the Versailles Treaty or joined the League of Nations

E. Election of 1920

1. Americans wanted to retreat from the social tensions and reforms having to do with war

2. Wilson doesn't run for re-election after suffering a stroke at the end of 1919.

3. Warren G. Harding wins landslide

i. Not a suitable president, but he called for a retreat from "Wilson Idealism"

4. Voters wanted a return to normalcy from the war era; restoration, not revolution

5. Eugene Debs gets 900,000 votes from jail.

F. The Great Migration & Racial Tensions

1. Post-war economic opportunities create widespread black migration to northern cities

i. news of jobs & urban residential districts spread throughout community groups

ii. Racism in the South also contributed to the migration, but was not limited to the South

2. Journal for the NAACP - concluded that an increase in racial hatred was an integral part of wartime intolerance

i. sought to end the widespread lynching

G. Labor Strife

1. After the War, "strike wave" hits - 3600 strikes in 1919, involving 4 million + people

2. Return of servicemen creates job security issues

H. Roaring 20's

1. America enters the 20's wealthy and everything going in its favor

2. 20's eventually come to a "crashing" end in 1929

XV. THE OUTCOME OF WAR

A. Nearly 10 million soldiers died and about 21 million were wounded.

1. U.S. deaths totaled 116,516.

B. Four empires collapsed

1. Russian Empire in 1917

2. German

- 3. Austro-Hungarian in 1918
- 4. Ottoman in 1922.

C. Independent republics were formed

- 1. Austria
- 2. Czechoslovakia
- 3. Estonia
- 4. Hungary
- 5. Latvia
- 6. Lithuania
- 7. Turkey

PRE AND POST WWI EUROPE MAP



D. Most Arab lands that had been part of the Ottoman Empire came under the control of Britain and France.

E. The Bolsheviks took power in Russia in 1917, and fascists triumphed in Italy in 1922.

F. Other consequences of the war included the mass murder of Armenians in Turkey and an influenza epidemic that killed over 25 million people worldwide.

G. Germany was required to pay

1. reparations set at \$33 billion

2. accept responsibility for the war

3. cede territory to Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, and Poland

4. give up its overseas colonies

5. accept an allied military force on the west bank of the Rhine River for 15 years.

6. leads to resentment