

World War I



“The Great War” 1914-1918



Why Should I Care?

The 20th century was a century that began on January 1, 1901 and ended on December 31, 2000.

Just about everything that happened in the remainder of the 20th century was in one way or another a result of World War I:

- The Bolshevik Revolution in Russia
- Spanish Influenza
- Rise of the Nazi Party
- World War II
- The Holocaust
- The development of the atomic bomb.
- The Great Depression

Politically, it resulted in the downfall of four monarchies--in Russia in 1917, in Austria-Hungary and Germany in 1918, and in Turkey in 1922. It contributed to the Bolshevik rise to power in Russia in 1917 and the triumph of fascism in Italy in 1922.

World War I killed more people--more than 10 million soldiers, sailors, and flyers and another 5 million civilians. It left 20 million severely wounded or crippled.

WWI involved more countries--28--and cost more money than any previous war in history.

It was the first war to use airplanes, trench warfare, tanks, long range artillery, submarines, and poison gas. It left at least 7 million men permanently disabled.

It left 5 million widowed women, 9 million orphaned children, and 10 million individuals torn from their homes to become refugees

The background features a complex pattern of thin, white, glowing lines that curve and swirl across a solid black field. The lines appear to originate from a bright point in the bottom right corner, creating a sense of motion and depth. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and dynamic.

Europe Marching & Plunging into War

Growing Tension

MAIN Causes

1. Militarism: a rise in military; increase in military/ naval forces
2. Alliances: formal agreement; establishes a treaty of friendship
3. Imperialism: when groups try to extend their power and increase their wealth by conquering new lands
4. Nationalism: A strong sense of pride or loyalty to one's country/culture [Nationalism Video](#)

CAUSES OF WORLD WAR I (M.A.I.N.)

Militarism

Imperialism and nationalism led to increased production of goods and economic stability in these countries, which resulted in an arms race. The aggressive attitude of this policy drove them into producing more weaponry, such as strong navies and armored vehicles.

Alliances

The **alliances** of Europe were formed for protection against each other. However, the **Triple Entente** and the **Triple Alliance** very quickly took aggressive postures towards one another. This is due in large part to the lack of any global organization designed to promote peace among the nations of the world.

Imperialism

European countries divided up Africa and Asia to strengthen the political and economic power of the mother country. This resulted in competition among European countries.

Nationalism

Nationalism was both a uniting force and a divisive one. It resulted in Germany and Italy uniting into strong nations, and also caused the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire and Austria-Hungary.

- **Militarism** leads countries to seek protection
 - form alliances
- Examples:

Austria-Hungary
be our friend!



Uh-Oh! We
better hook
up with
Russians!



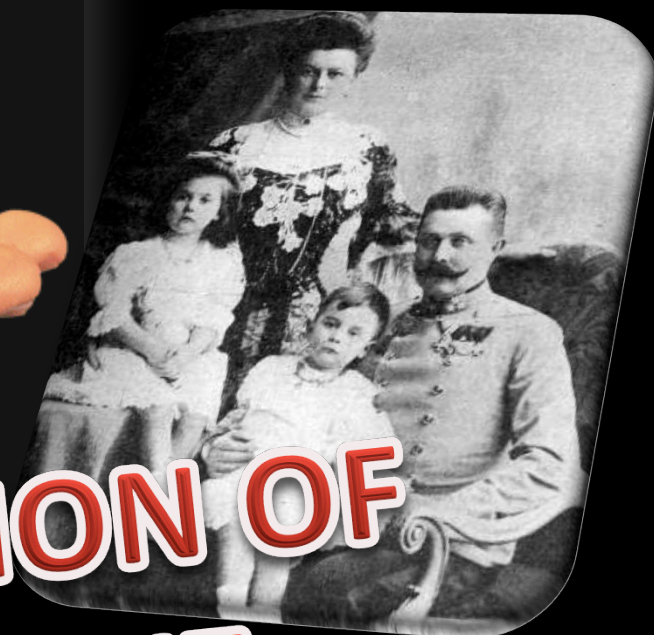
France

Wait for
Britain!!!



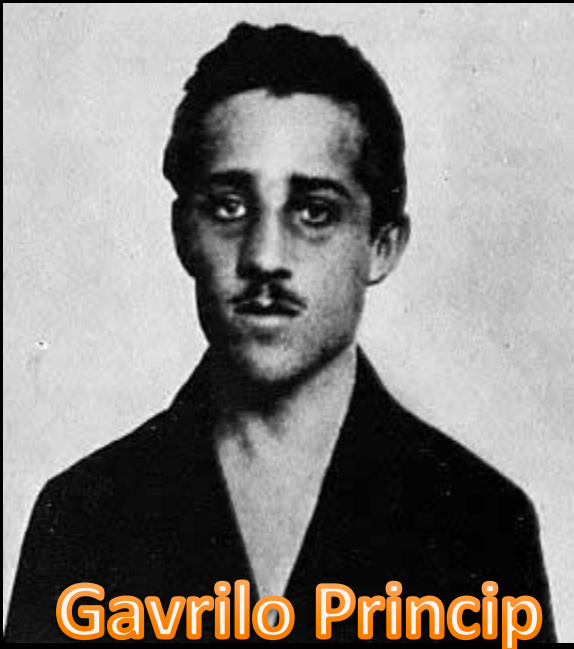
Triple Entente

Final Spark



**THE ASSASSINATION OF
ARCHDUKE FRANZ
FERDINAND**

June 28, 1914



Gavrilo Princip

(Member of that *Black Hand Secret Society*)

19 year old Serbian, shot Ferdinand from a distance of five feet. His bullets struck the Archduke in the neck and his wife, Sophie, in the abdomen.



ARCHDUKE

FRANZ FERDINAND

Heir to the Austrian-Hungarian empire (3rd in line)

It went a little something like this...

<https://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Assassination-of-Archduke-Franz-Ferdinand>



Turning to his wife despite the bullet in his neck, Franz Ferdinand pleaded: "*Sopher! Sopher! Sterbe nicht! Bleibe am Leben für unsere Kinder! - Sophie dear! Don't die! Stay alive for our children!*"



Castle of Artstetten

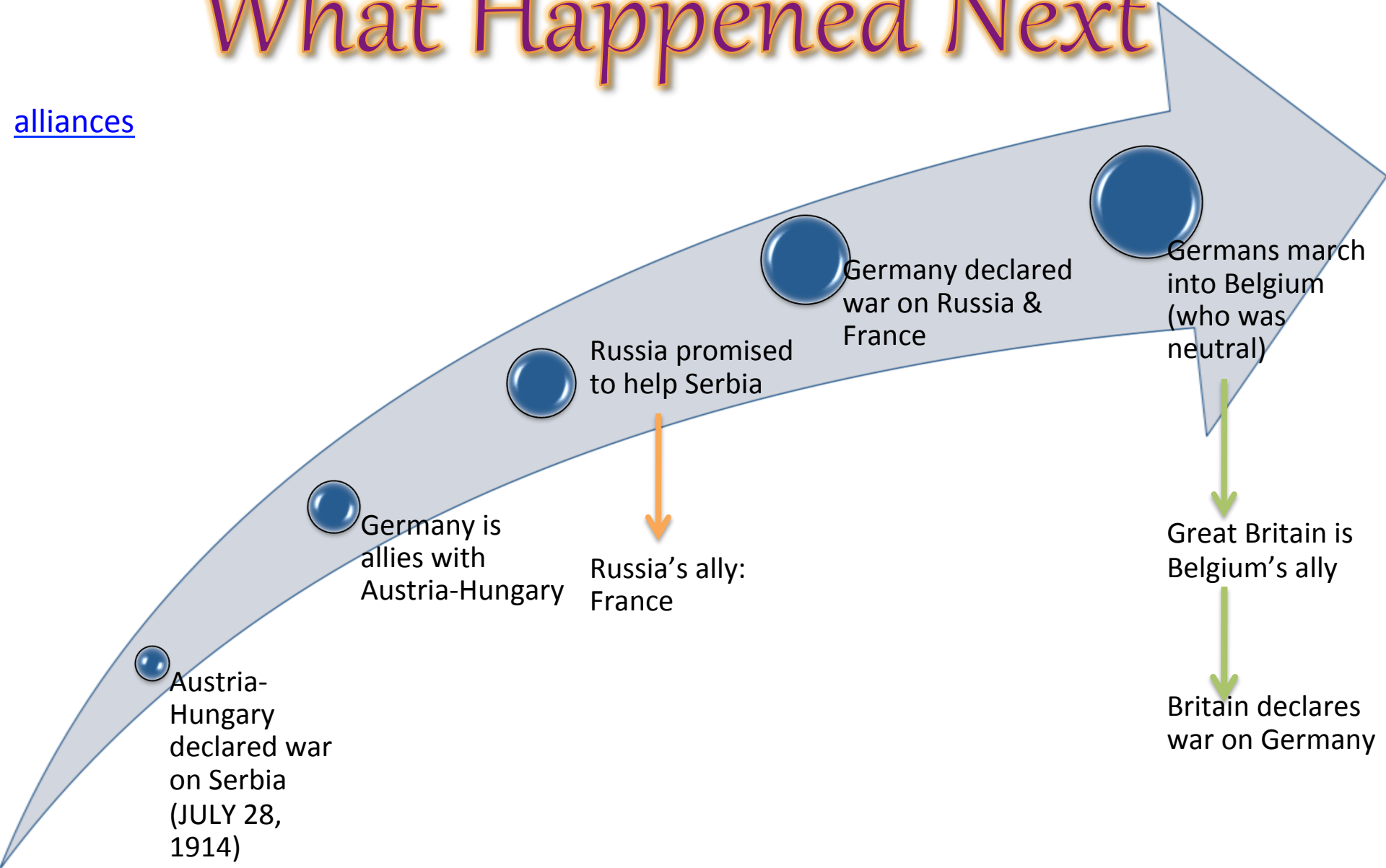


Artstetten Castle, Austria
Final resting



What Happened Next

alliances



Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia (JULY 28, 1914)

Germany is allies with Austria-Hungary

Russia promised to help Serbia

Russia's ally: France

Germany declared war on Russia & France

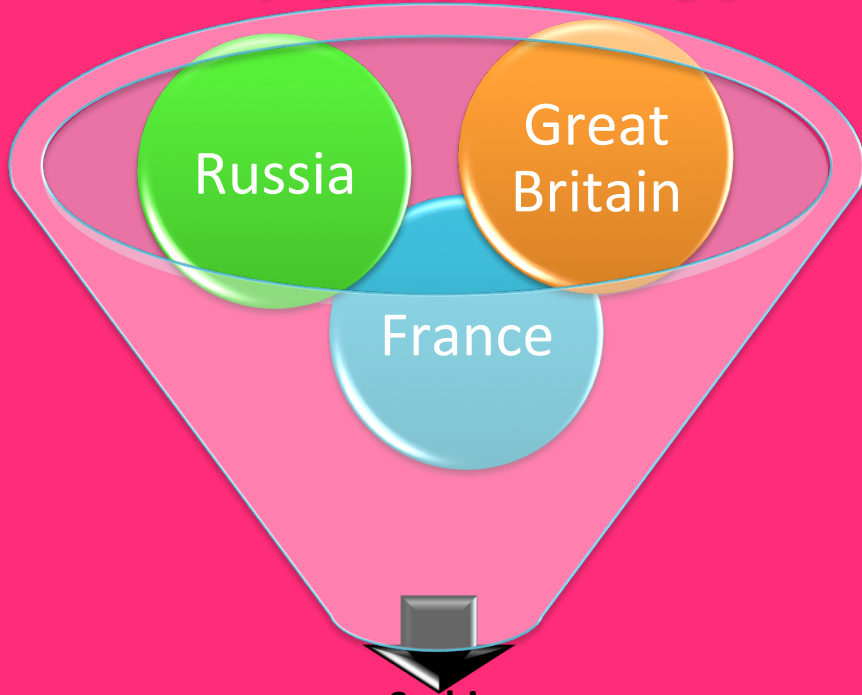
Germans march into Belgium (who was neutral)

Great Britain is Belgium's ally

Britain declares war on Germany



Allied &



Serbia

United States

Italy (floater)

Japan

Australia

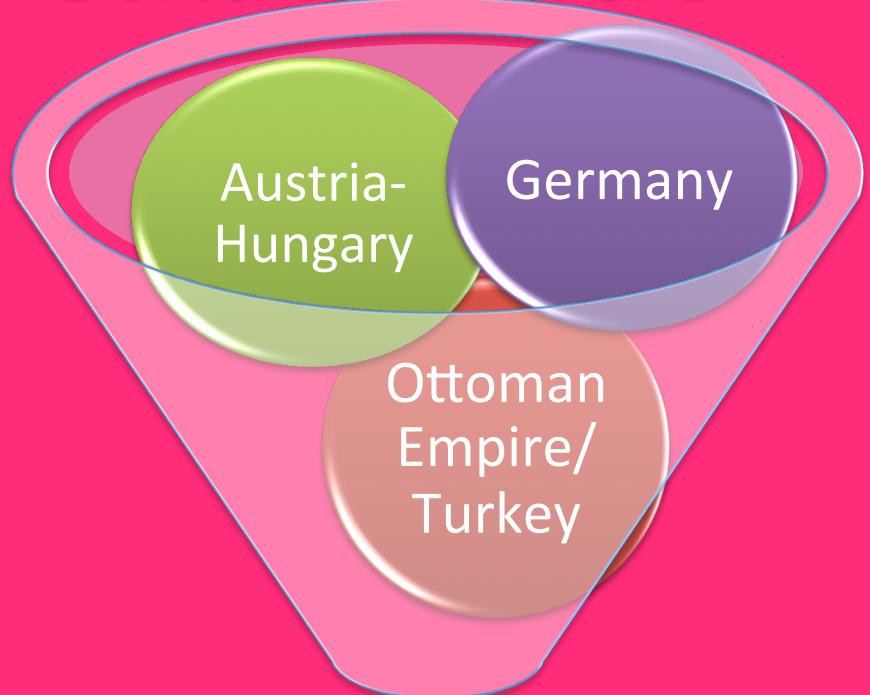
Greece

New Zealand

India

South Africa

Central Powers



Bulgaria

World War 1 involved 30 nation's
& 6 continents



A New Kind of Conflict

Warfare & Technology



Trench Warfare

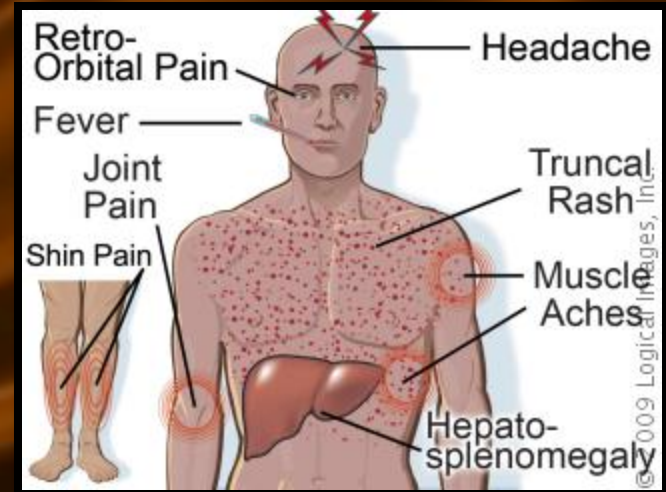
[Trenches Video](#)



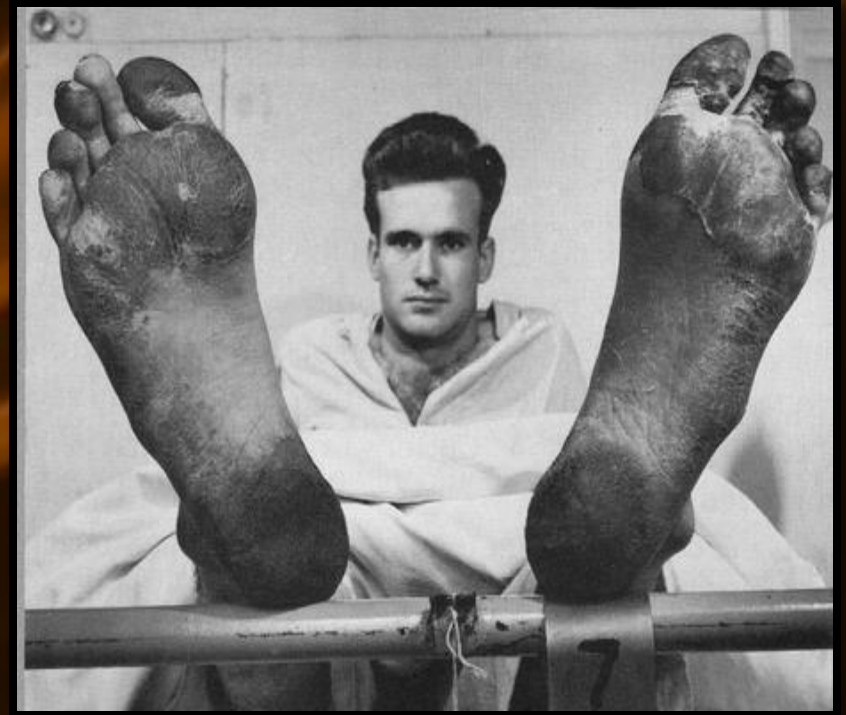
- Made WW1 long and deadly; German idea
- Trench Warfare: defending a position by fighting from protection of deep ditches.
 - Trenches filled w/millions of soldiers (one soldiers every 4 inches)
- Conditions: wet, rat filled, feces, lice
 - Lingering smell of body odor, rotting bodies, poison gases, cigarettes
 - Trench warfare was not an innovation of World War I, but it was never so prevalent in any other war before or since.

Trench Fever & Trench Foot

- **Trench Fever:** affected nearly one million soldiers
- Infection caused by a body louse (small, wingless insect that lives in clothes)
- soldiers lived in close quarters that were unsanitary



- **Trench Foot:** an infection of the feet caused by cold, wet and unsanitary conditions.
- feet would gradually go numb; skin would turn red/blue.
- If untreated, trench foot could turn gangrenous and result in amputation



The Western & Eastern Fronts

- Trenches dug all across Europe
- **Western front:** stretched from the North Sea to Switzerland
- **Eastern Front:** stretched from the Black Sea to the Baltic Sea
- dug nearly 6,250 miles of trenches by the end of 1914.
- Trenches led to a Stalemate



Allies used 4 types of trenches:

The Trenches

1. the **front-line trench**

-firing squad

2. Several hundred yards behind the front-line trench was the **support trench**

-men and supplies that could assist front line.

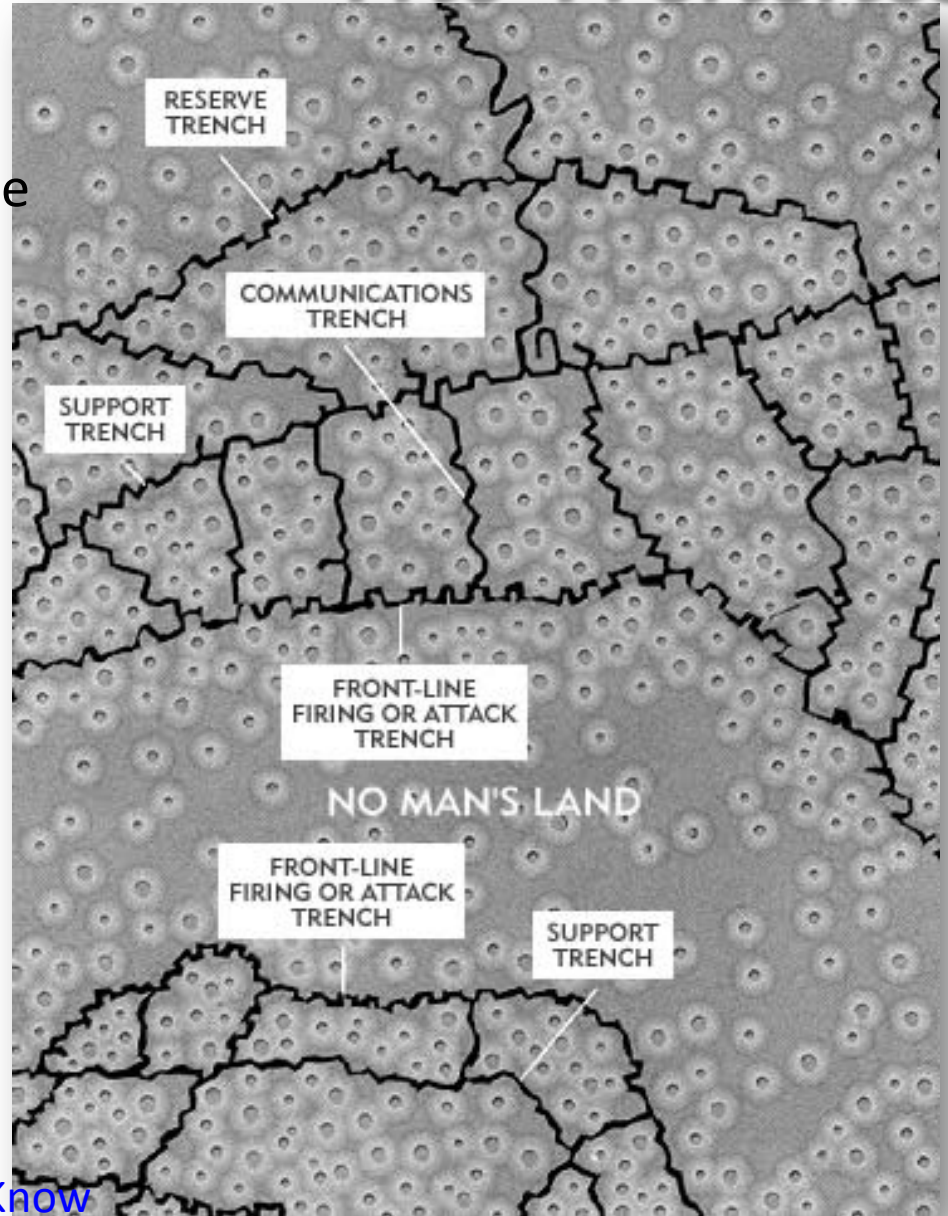
3. **Reserve trench** was dug several hundred yards further back

-men/supplies that were available should the first trenches be overrun

4. Connecting these trenches were **communication trenches**

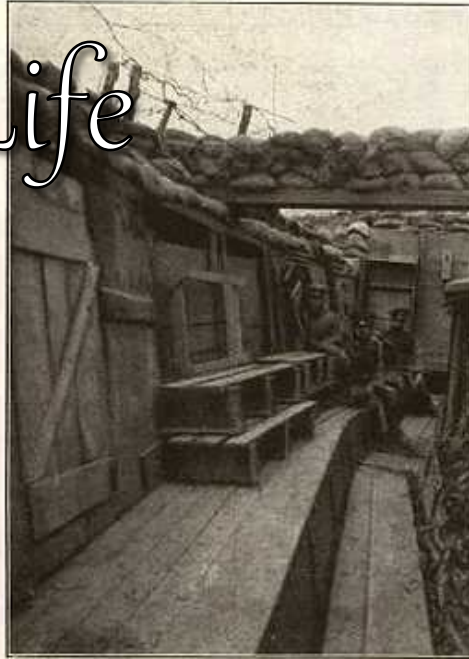
-movement of messages, supplies, and men among the trenches

[Trenches Bet You Didn't Know](#)



German Trench Life

- Much different
 - elaborate tunnel systems
 - living quarters more than 50 feet below the surface.
 - trenches had electricity, beds, toilets

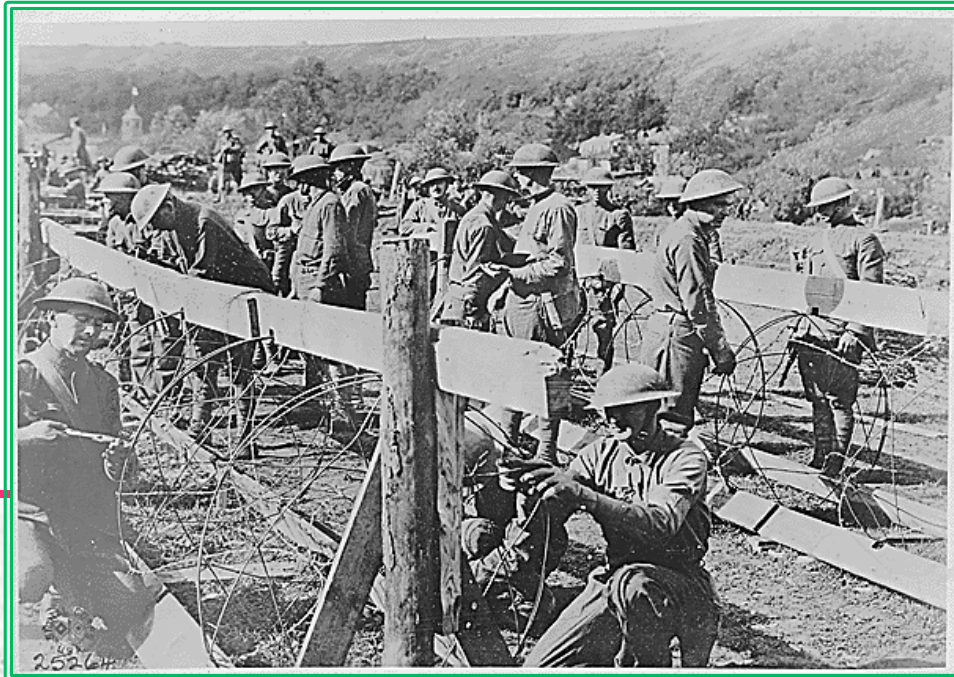




50 yards from the German trenches
from "Hearts of the World"
(D. W. Griffith)





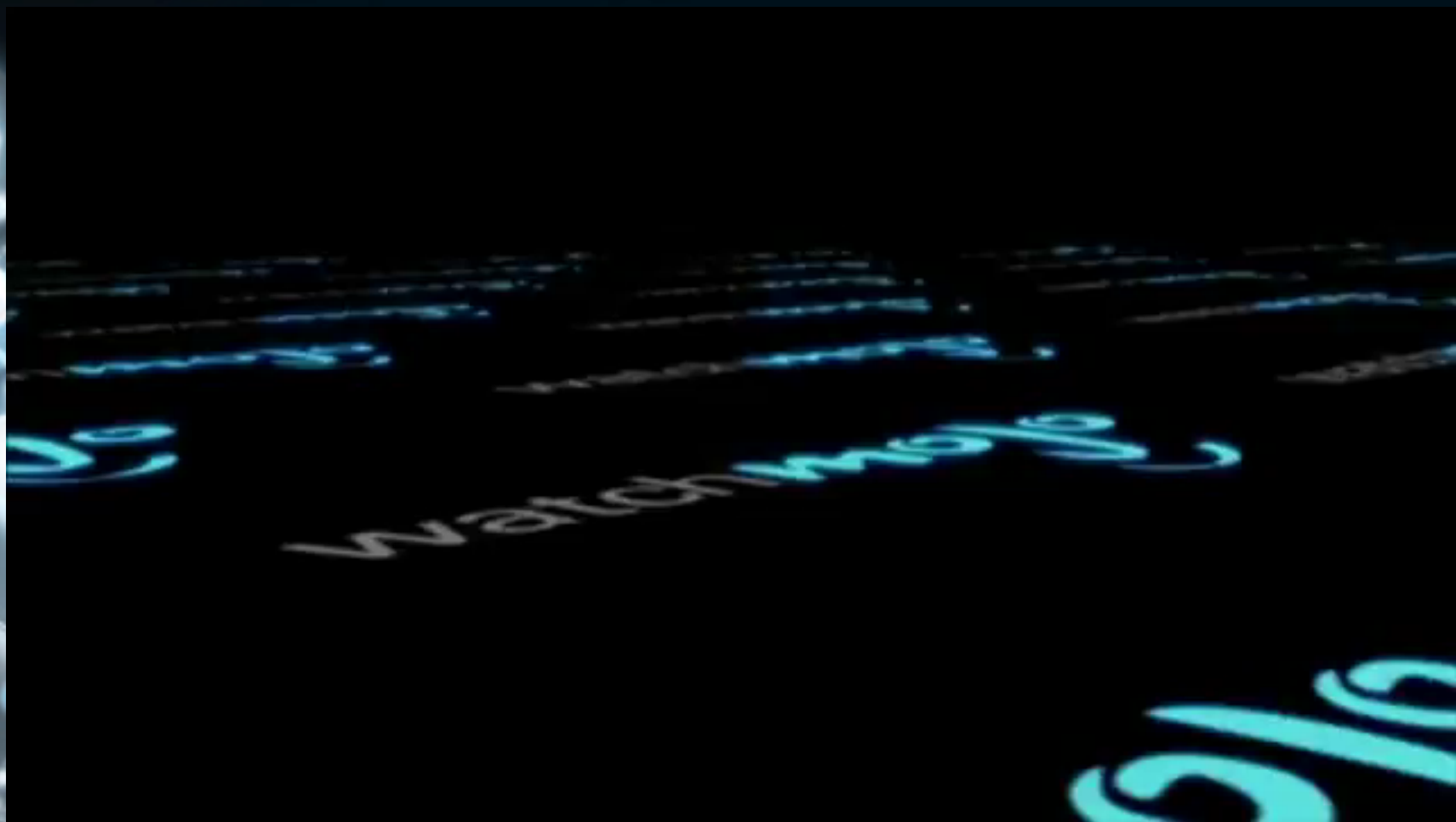






Modern Technology

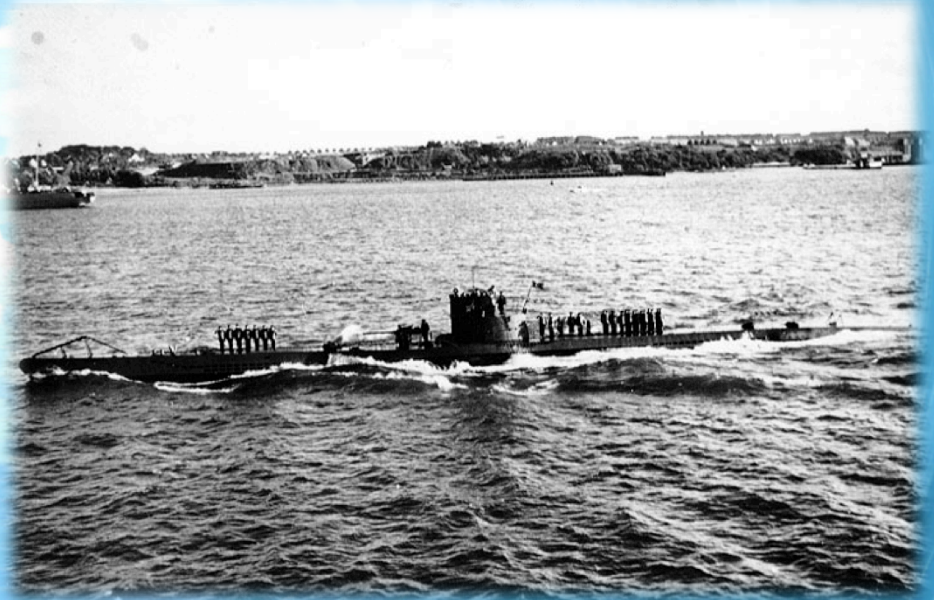
- Machine guns
- Artillery guns fired shells; exploded and sent scraps of metal onto soldiers
- Some shells spread poisonous gas
- Tanks: armored combat vehicles
- Airplanes: used to fire down on soldiers in trenches; to gather info on enemy
- U-boats



U-boats

- Central powers began to use submarines
 - specifically to German vessel
 - Launched torpedoes underwater; caused heavy damage to Allied ships
 - German u-boats also attacked neutral countries; antagonized the U.S.

Photo # NH 102539 - German submarine (probably U-47) returns to port, 1939



U-boats

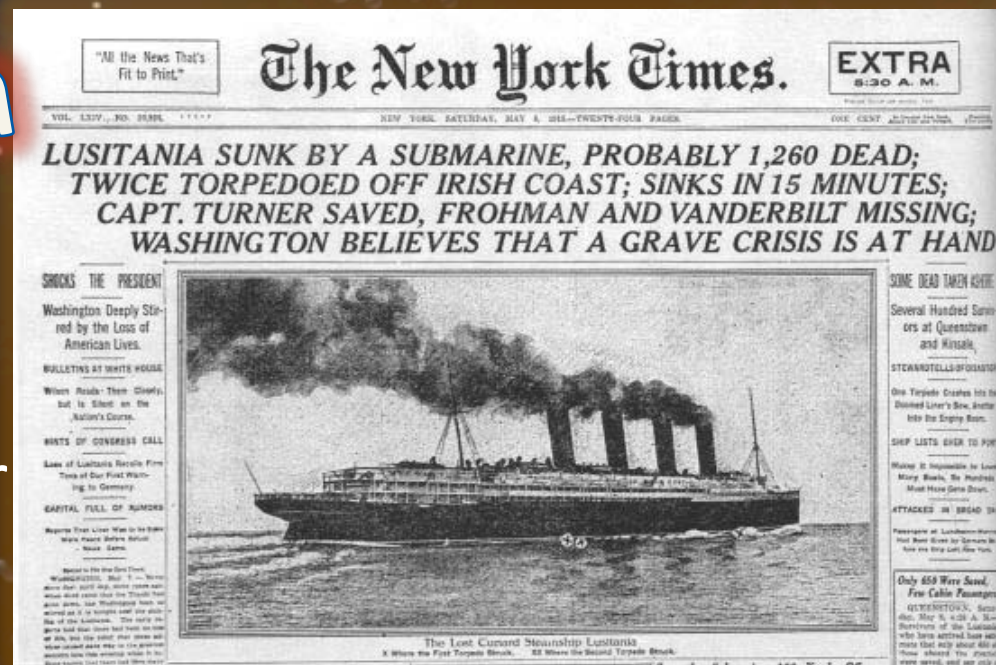
- The Germans' U-boat was far more sophisticated than those built by other nations.
- The typical U-boat was 214 feet long, carried 35 men and 12 torpedoes.
- Could travel underwater for two hours at a time.

[U-Boat Video](#)



The Lusitania

- Famous for its speed
- Captain: William Turner (from England)
- Departed: May 1, 1915
- Traveling: NY to Liverpool, England
- Had American passengers on board





Warning Signs

- Departed despite warnings printed in newspapers
- During its journey.
 - German u-boat sunk 3 British ships south of the Lusitania
 - Still traveled through the same location
- Turner
 - Ignored warnings/safety precautions
 - traveling too close to shore, sailing slow, and wasn't zigzagging

NOTICE!

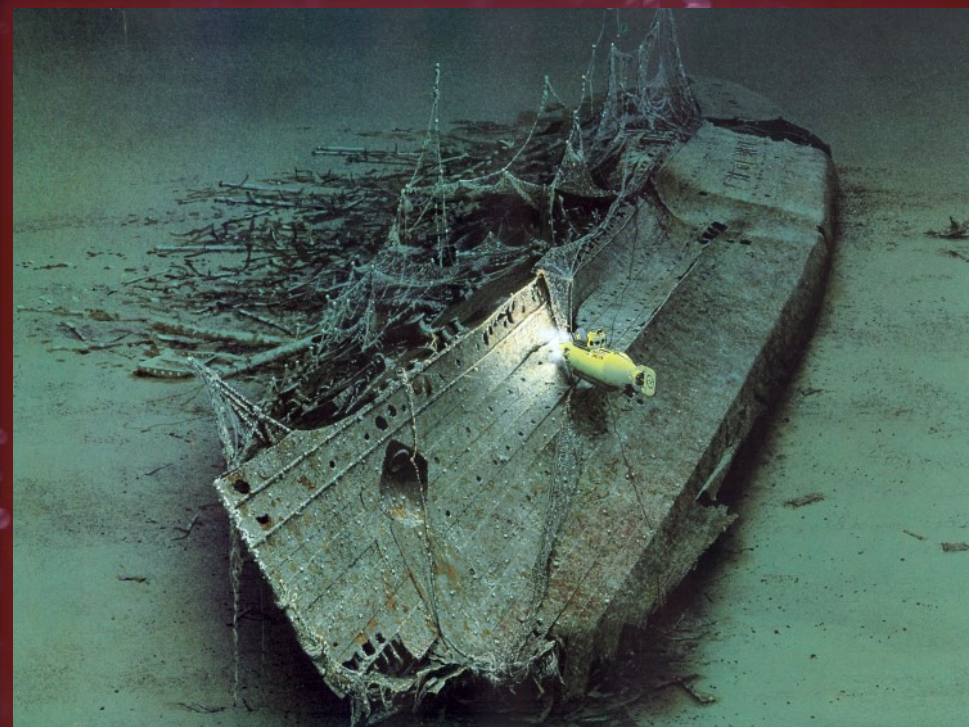
TRAVELLERS intending to embark on the Atlantic voyage are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies and Great Britain and her allies; that the zone of war includes the waters adjacent to the British Isles; that, in accordance with formal notice given by the Imperial German Government, vessels flying the flag of Great Britain, or of any of her allies, are liable to destruction in those waters and that travellers sailing in the war zone on ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk.

IMPERIAL GERMAN EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 22, 1915.

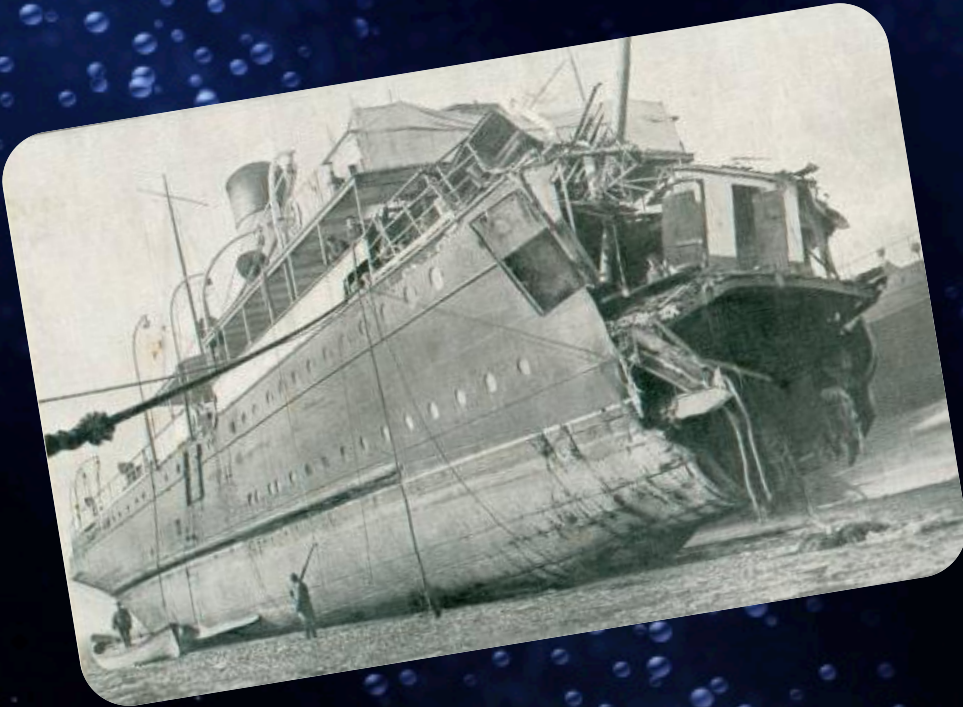
Lusitania

- German U-Boat: U-20
- destroyed w/a single torpedo
- sank in 18 minutes
- 1,195 passengers died, out of 1,959 (123 Americans)
- Captain Turner survived
- Angered U.S.

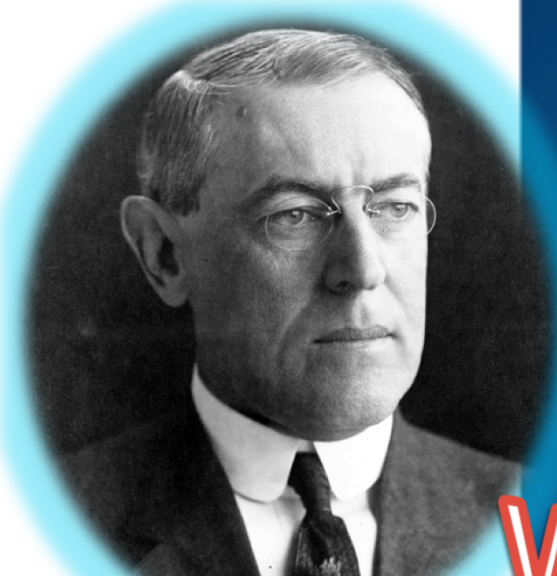


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eeuNm5LYu9E>

The Sussex



- German sub attacks a French Ship
 - March 24, 1916
- Did not sink; barely made it back to port
- 80 casualties (dead/injured); 25 Americans
- President Woodrow Wilson gave ultimatum to Germany
 - Germany made a pledge not to attack ships without warning (*Sussex Pledge*)
 - after a year Germans started attacking ships



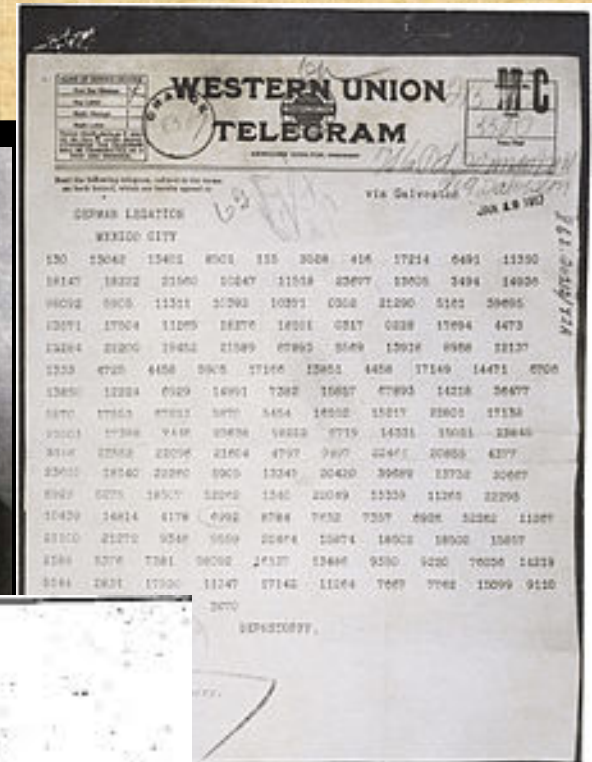
President Woodrow Wilson



- Born in Virginia
- 28th President
- Served from 1913-1921
 - Mainly elected for a 2nd term because of his promise to keep country out of war
- Only President to hold a Ph. D
- Attended Princeton
- Suffered from Dyslexia as a child

America Joins the War

- **Zimmerman Note**
 - secret telegram
 - **FROM:** German Foreign Minister: Arthur Zimmerman (March 1917)
 - **TO:** Mexico
- **Purpose of message**
 - Proposed an alliance; go against the U.S.
 - Promised to help get back lost territory
- **End result:** U.S. declared war April 6, 1917



American Life during the War



- Formed Committee on Public Information:
 - organized rallies, parades, published posters/pamphlets
- “4 minute men”
 - gave short patriotic speeches in movie theaters/churches
- Passed Selective Service Act (1917)
 - men between 21-30 yrs. old registered for draft
 - 3 million drafted (400,000 Africans)

- U.S. needed money to build ships/airplanes
 - raised taxes
 - created war bonds



- Factories needed more workers
 - Mexican and African Americans step in

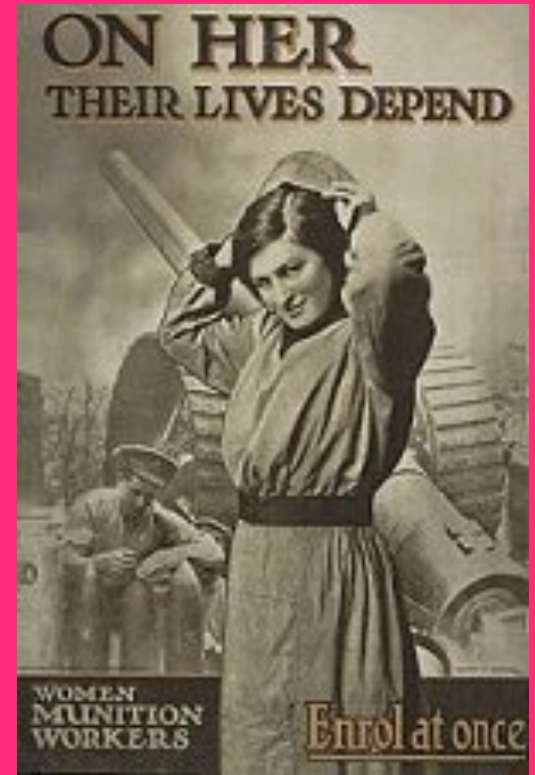


Women during the War



- 1 million women joined U.S. workforce during war

- 25,000 women volunteered: nurses, telephone operators, interpreters, typists, ambulance drivers



Russia's OUT!

- Russian Monarchy:
Romanov Dynasty
- The emperor of Russia:
Tsar Nicholas II
 - becoming less & less popular
 - **WHY:** 8 million Russians killed/wounded, cities suffered food shortages—food riots, soldiers fleeing
- In 1917, Tsar forced to give up his throne—by the *Bolsheviks*

- *Bolsheviks*: political group; wanted to bring about a new form of government called **communism**

- **Communism**= Communism is a type of government and philosophy. Its goal is to form a society where everything is shared equally.

- All people are treated equally and there is little private ownership.

- In a communist government, the government owns and controls most everything including property, means of production, education, transportation, and agriculture.

- **March 3, 1918:** Russians signed the treaty of *Brest-Litovsk*; officially exiting the war

- Russia then became the Soviet Union until the late 90's—today it's the Russian Federation



The Romanov Family



Tsar Nicholas II &
Tsarina Alexandria,
daughters: Olga,
Tatiana, Maria,
Anastasia, *son:* Alexei



Winter Palace





The Execution

- July 17, 1918
- Taken into the basement



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJa9kS6TrM>

The U.S. and the End of WW1

- Germans unprepared for fresh energy and fighting skills of Americans
 - American troops stop the German advancement into Paris
- Germans were tired of war
 - Food shortage: 800 civilians dying of starvations daily
 - Running out of men to fight
- Turkey and Austria-Hungary pulled out



Kaiser Wilhelm II & Armistice

- Armistice=An agreement made by opposing sides in a war to stop fighting for a certain time; a truce.
- Kaiser= German title meaning "Emperor."
 - Gave up his throne and fled to Holland—On Wilson's insistence
 - German troops agreed to cease fire mainly due to Wilson's 14 Points
 - Allied troops demanded Germany destroy its aircrafts, tanks, big guns, and u-boats
- Truce went into effect: November 11, 1918 (Armistice)
 - 11th hour, 11th day, 11th month
 - The armistice was formally signed in a railway carriage on 11 November (later in 1940, Hitler exacted revenge by forcing the French to sign an armistice - on German terms - in the same railway carriage).



Treaty of Versailles

- Signed on June 28, 1919 at the Paris Peace Conference—exactly 5 years after the assassination of the archduke
 - peace settlement between Germany and the Allied Powers
 - officially ended WW1
- Under the treaty
 - Required "Germany accept the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage"— War Guilt Clause
 - Empires destroyed
 - New map of Europe emerged
 - Allied troops demanded Germany destroy its aircrafts, tanks, big guns, and u-boats
 - Germany had to re-pay war reparations for the war which crippled their economy- \$33 Billion
 - Entire generation of young men had been killed or wounded



Consequences of the Treaty of Versailles

- The conditions in the treaty were very punitive towards Germany and her allies
 - Believed the treaty laid the groundwork for the eventual rise of Nazis in Germany & WWII



Did World War I Lead to World War II?

Video



Influenza Epidemic

- WWI claimed an estimated 16 million lives.
 - 21 million wounded
 - Majority of military deaths were caused by combat.
 - Improvements in medicine as well as the increased lethality of military weaponry
- The influenza epidemic in 1918 killed an estimated 50 million people.
 - 1/5 of the world's population was attacked by this deadly virus.
 - Within months, it had killed more people than any other illness in recorded history.
 - Worst epidemic in American history killed over 600,000
 - Nicknamed the “Spanish influenza”
 - More people died of influenza in a single year than in four-years of the Black Death Bubonic Plague



Impact of the Influenza Pandemic

- Deaths caused a severe disruption in the economy.
- Claims against life insurance policies skyrocketed
- Small businesses, many of which had been unable to operate during the pandemic, went bankrupt.

INFLUENZA
FREQUENTLY COMPLICATED WITH
PNEUMONIA
IS PREVALENT AT THIS TIME THROUGHOUT AMERICA.
THIS THEATRE IS CO-OPERATING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.
YOU MUST DO THE SAME
IF YOU HAVE A COLD AND ARE COUGHING AND
SNEEZING. DO NOT ENTER THIS THEATRE
GO HOME AND GO TO BED UNTIL YOU ARE WELL

Coughing, Sneezing or Spitting Will Not Be Permitted In The Theatre. In case you must cough or Sneeze, do so in your own handkerchief, and if the Coughing or Sneezing Perststs Leave The Theatre At Once.

This Theatre has agreed to co-operate with the Department Of Health in disseminating the truth about Influenza, and thus serve a great educational purpose.

HELP US TO KEEP CHICAGO THE HEALTHIEST CITY IN THE WORLD

JOHN DILL ROBERTSON
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH