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The roots of WWI began long before1914....



Historical Causes of WWI

- German Prussia launched the first in a series of wars to unite the various German states into one nation (1864).
- By 1871, Prussia unites Germany and establishes the German Empire.
 - One of the most powerful nations in the world
 - Transforms European politics.

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If the United States were attacked today, what countries would come to our defense?

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If the United States were attacked today, what countries would come to our defense?

Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.*

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD)

Vocabulary

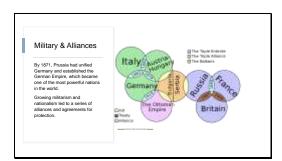
- 1. Militarism: the strong buildup of armed forces to intimidate and threaten other nations.
 - Militarism leads to more alliances, and
 - Alliances fostered militarism.
- 2. Nationalism: Loyalty and devotion to a nation.
 - Becomes a powerful idea in Europe.
 - Self-Determination: those who share a national identity should have their own country and government.

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Causes of World War I: The Powder Keg

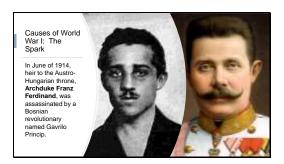
During the late 1800s, the German Empire set up the Triple Alliance, and Russia and France set up the Franco-Russian alliance to protect each other from attack and control areas of Europe. England eventually joins and the alliance is called the Triple Entente.

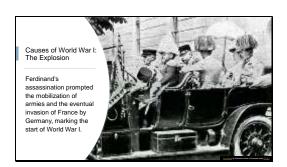






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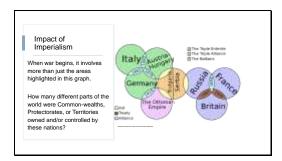




Alliances Kick into Action!

- Austria-Hungary controlled much of southeastern Europe.
- Russia and Serbia were both Slavic countries; Russia was determined to help Serbia against Austria-Hungary.
- The Balkan nations (Southeastern Europe) were seeking independence.
- Serbia had gained independence, Bosnians felt they were not going to have the chance ans were angry.

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Wilson and Neutrality

Wilson wants to keep the US out of the war.

- Some Americans had English ties and sentiments.
- Some Americans had German ties and sentiments.
- US corporations and banks had financial ties to both sides of the war.





British Propaganda

The British cut the transatlantic telegraph line from Europe to the United States.

- Most war news comes to the US via British reports.
- A somewhat one-sided view of the war.

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Contraband and U-Boats

Contraband: good whose importation, exportation or possession is illegal.

In war, what might be considered contraband?

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Contraband and U-Boats

- ports.

 Merchant ships had to be searched for contraband.

 2/1915, Germans announced they would use U-Boats to sink without warning any ship they found in the waters around Britain.

 This broke an international treaty.



The Luisitania



On May 7, 1915, a U=boat sand the British passenger ship *Lusitania*.

- Over 1,000 passengers killed, including 128 Americans.
 - · Germans said the boat contained hidden contraband.
 - Turns out they were correct.

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The Lusitania's War Supplies

- In 2008 divers explored the wreckage of the *Lusitania*. These two quotes describe what they found.

 They are bullets that were expressly manufactured to kill Germans in World War. –bullets that British officials in Whitehall, and American officials in Washington, have long denied were aboard the *Lusitania*
 - Hampton Sides
- There were literally tons and tons of stuff stored in unrefrigerated cargo holds that were dubiously marked cheese, butter and oysters.
 - — Gregg Bemis

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The Zimmermann Telegram

- German official Arthur Zimmermann sent a telegram to the German Ambassador in Mixico.

 Promises the return of Mexican lands lost to the US if it allies with Germany.

 British Intelligence intercepts the telegram.

 Changes US sontiment that war is necessary because it may be coming to us US.



The US Enters the WAR

- When the war began, President Woodrow Wilson declared the United States to be neutral.
- Neutrality: "Supporting neither side during a war."
- Despite two years of neutrality, Americans showed support for the Allies.
- German U-boat attacks on ships in British waters as well as an attempted alliance with Mexico brought the United States closer to war against Germany.
- On April 2, 1917, President Wilson asked Congress to declare war on Germany.
 The resolution passed and the United States entered World War I.

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Wilson Asks Congress for War: 4/2/1917

- "It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war... But the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest to our hearts for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments, for the rights and liberties of small nations...."
 - —quoted in the Congressional Record, 1917
 - PS: the war ends in November 1918

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How was a US Army "Doughboy" outfitted for battle?

 Each U.S. Army "doughboy" was given 107 pieces of fighting equipment, including a rifle, rifle cartridges, a cartridge bett, a steel helmet, dubs, knives, a gas mask, wire cutters, a trench tool, bayonet and scabbard, and grenades.



How was a US Army "Doughboy" outfitted for battle?

- He was also issued 50 articles of clothing, including three wool blankets and a bedsack.
- Finally, he was also given eating utensils and 11 cooking implements.
- The total cost for all this equipment was \$156.30.



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The Home Front: Wartime Agencies

Wartime Agencies: cooperation among business, industry, and government to coordinate the best use of natural resources during wartime.

War Industries Board: production of war materials.

Food Administration: increasing food production while reducing civilian food consumption.

· Victory Gardens

Fuel Administration: managed use of coal and oil.

- Introduced the first usage of daylight savings time and shortened workweeks.
- · "Heatless Mondays"

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The Home Front: Mobilizing Workforce

National War Labor Board establised to prevent strikes.

Women hired to replace men in the workforce.

African Americans and Migration Northward



The Home Front: Great Migration

African Americans answered Henry Ford's call, and that of other industries, to move northward to fill manufacturing jobs.

Mexicans migrated into the Southwest providing labor for farmers and ranchers, as well as in factor jobs.



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The Home Front: Espionage

Espionage: spying, especially to gain government secrets.

Espionage Act of 1917 made it illegal to aid the enemy, give fast reports, or interfere with the war effort.

Sedition Act of 1918 made it illegal to speak publically against the

Acts were upheld by the Supreme Court.

Schenck v. United States (1919) ruled that the government could restric speech when such speech constitutes a "clear and present danger."

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The Home Front: Building the Military

US standing army was only 200,000 troops at the beginning of the war. Many volunteered but it was clear that more were needed.

Draft: to select a person at random for mandatory military service.

Selective Service Act of 1917: required all men between 21 and 30 to register for the draft.

- A lottery system was used to select dreftees.
- 2.8 million Americans were drafted in total.



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The Home Front: Women

WWI was the first war where women officially served in the armed forces.

- in the armed forces.

 Non-combat positions

 Navy: Clerical jobs, radio operators, electricians, chemists, photographers, etc.

 Army: refused to enlist women, hired them as temporary workers.

 Nurses Auxiliaries: More than 200,000 served in the Army Nurse Corps, more than 10,000 of them overseas.



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Combat: Trench Warfare

More people died from artillery fire than by any other weapon.

Powerful artillery guns short emplosive shells onto the battlefield.

Trenches served as protection from these attacks. On the Western Front, trenches stretched from the English Channel to the Swiss border.



Combat: New Technology

Germans use poison gas in 1915, allies soon followed.

- · Vomiting, blindness, suffocation.
- Gas Masks

Armored Tanks (unreliable)

Airplanes, Balloons, and Zepplins

Combat pilots had a lifespan of about 2 weeks.



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Combat: America Enters the War

The Western Front was at a stalemate by the time the American forces ("doughboys") arrive.

- Destroyers escorted convoys of ships carrying materials and could protect them and rescue survivors in case of attack.
- · Russia experiences an internal revolution and leaves the war.
 - Treaty of Brest-Litovsk with Germany on 3/3/1918
 - Russia gives up the Ukraine, Polish and Baltic territories, and Finland.

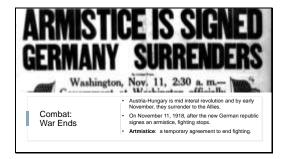
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Combat: Germany's Last Assaults

By June 1918, Germany is less than 40 miles from Paris.

American and French troops repel the Germans after one last massive German strike.

On 9/26/1918, The most massive offensive for the American troops began between the Meuse River and Argonne Forest. By November, the Americans broke the German lines and the Germans began to retreat.



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The Fourteen Points

President Wilson's Peace Plan based on "principle of justice to all peoples and nationalities.

Addresses:

Free trade, freedom of the seas, disarmament, diplomacy, national self-determination, borders based on identity and ethnicity, etc.

14th Point: creates a "League of Nations" to preserve peace.

Treaty of Versailles: June 28, 1919

Europeans more interested in punishing Germany than Wilson's plan for peace.

Germany's armed forces numbers reduced and not allowed west of the Rhine River.

Allies demanded reparations of \$33 billion to the allies.

Reparations: payment by the losing country to the winner for damages caused by the war.

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Treaty of Versailles: Reparations

Germany could never repay the amount the allies are owed via reparations.

· Intended to punish and weaken Germany's economy for a very long time.

Other countries must deal with self-determination and colongial land holdings.

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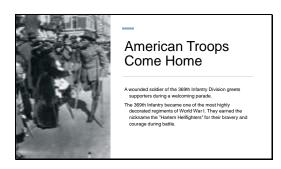
American Troops Come Home

- The 151st Field Artillery unit was composed of National Guard troops from 26 states. Nicknamed the "Rainbow Division" for its variety of units, the 151st served in combat in France from 1917–1918.

 In this photo, spectators line the streets of Minneapolis to welcome the troops home.



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Treaty of Versailles: US Senate Rejects

Senate rejects the Treaty, focused on the League of Nations. Called it an entangling alliance.

WWI ends without a sustainable mechanism to deal with aggression on a world stage.

Together, with Germany's punishments, we see in hindsight that WWI only sets the stage for WWII.



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