

Chapter 21: 1914-1920

Section 1: World War I Breaks Out

Question #1:

Tell me three things you already know about World War I.

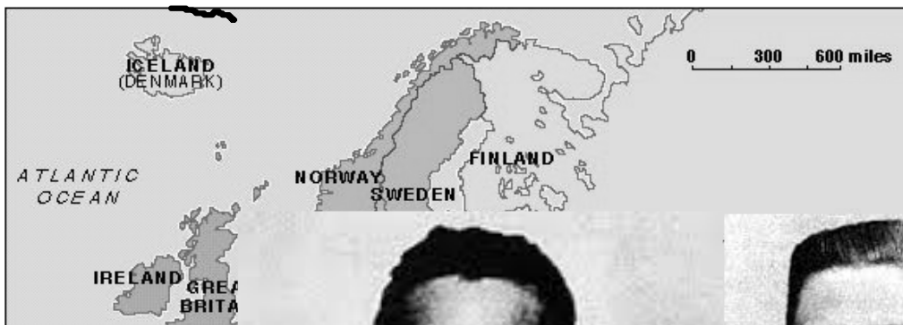
The Causes of the War

- Nationalism & territorial rivalry
 - Ottoman Empire (Turkey) controlled Albanians, Greeks, Romanians, & Slavs
 - All wanted independence
 - Serbia wanted Bosnia from Austria-Hungary
 - Balkan "Powder Keg"
- Militarism
 - Build up of militaries
 - Glorification of military strength
 - Arms races in Europe
- Alliances
 - England, France, Italy, Russia, SERBIA (ALLIED POWERS)
 - Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottomans (CENTRAL POWERS)



The Great War Begins

- June 1914: Archduke Franz Ferdinand (heir to Austrian throne) assassinated
- Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip killed him & his wife
- Austria & Germany declared war on Serbia
- Russia (allied w/ Serbia) declared war on A-H & Germany
- Domino Effect: total of 30 nations at war
- **Schlieffen Plan:** German plan to invade France quickly
 - Isolate England
 - They could focus on Russia alone
 - Aug. 1914 → *Plan fails*
- Sept. 1914: **First Battle of the Marne:** Allies pushed Germans back



War Reaches a Stalemate

- Trench Warfare: both sides dug trenches along entire Western Front
- "No Mans Land": area in between filled w/ barbed wire and land mines
- Typical battle:
 - Artillery barrage
 - Soldiers went "over the top" in a charge
 - Cut down by machine gun fire
 - Millions were dying and trenches weren't moving
 - Trenches were nightmare
 - Many new weapons advancements



Section 2: The US Goes to War

Question 2: What were the reasons why the war between the Allies and the Central Powers was turning into a stalemate?

US Neutrality

- Most Americans viewed war as European issue
- Woodrow Wilson wanted to negotiate a peace
- 30% of population were immigrants/children of immigrants--caused disputes in US
- Most Americans sided w/ Allies
- US ships were searched/threatened by Germans & English
- 1915: Germany created "war zone" around England; all ships going in could be attacked by U-Boats
- May 7, 1915: sinking of Lusitania; 128 Americans killed; **ANGERED** Americans; Germany claimed it held weapons



The Road to War

- U-Boat attacks continue through 1916
- Wilson threatened to cut ties w/ Germany
- Sussex Pledge: Germany promised to attack passenger ships only after they warned the ship
- US increased sales of weapons to Allies
- National Defense Act: 1916; increased size of US military
- Feb. 1917: Germany begins full-scale U-Boat warfare
- US cuts off relations w/ Germany; US ships armed in warzone b/c Germany sinks 5 US ships
- March 1917: Zimmerman Note; intercepted telegram
 - German pledge to give Mexico states of TX, NM, and AZ in return for help
 - April 4, 1917: Congress declares war



Mobilizing US Military Power

- Selective Service Act: 1917; drafted 2.8 million men
 - Creation of draft boards for men 18-45
- 16 massive training camps created across the country; 60 days to complete the task

Over There

- ✱ • American Expeditionary Force (AEF)
 - Gen. John Pershing (PANCHO VILLA) was head
 - Reached France in June 1917
 - French welcomed "Yanks" w/ open arms
 - Only worked in support; no combat until 1918
 - Built bridges & railroads
 - Ran hospitals and ammunition depots
 - Ran telephone/telegraph lines
 - Created the "convoy" system to send supplies to Europe to stop U-Boat attacks

Section 3: The War at Home

→ any war that involves the
Citizens to help win it.

Question: WWI was considered one of the first "**total wars**" in human history. What does that mean?

Mobilizing the Nation

- Need for President Wilson to move the country towards war quickly
- Liberty Bonds & Victory Bonds--raised BILLIONS of \$
 - Patriotic duty to buy war bonds
- Taxes were raised on businesses
- **Food Administration & Fuel Administration**: conserved our resources--made choices on how we would use or food, gas, energy, etc.
 - Future President **Herbert Hoover** ran Food Admin.
 - Set prices for goods--raised prices on food so farmers made more \$
 - "Food will win the war."
 - "Heatless Mondays"
- **War Industries Board**: gov't's central war agency--ran every single war-related industry in the US; took over any industry that they needed to



Mobilizing Workers

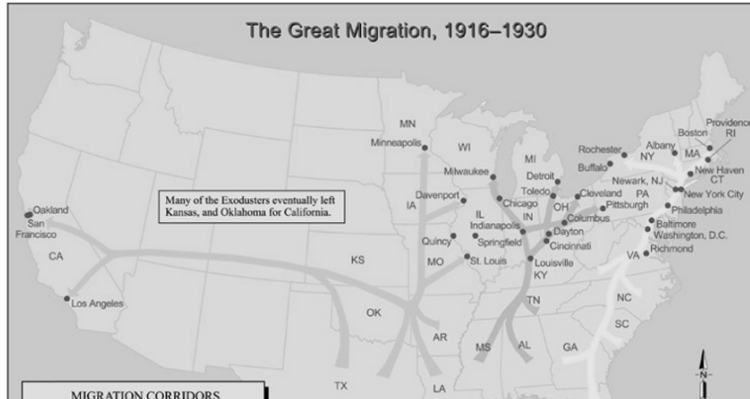
- Shortage of workers b/c of loss of immigration & men getting drafted
- Unions took advantage of shortage and went on many strikes for more \$ (1 million workers striked in 1917)
- **National War Labor Board:** made decisions about arguments btw unions and business owners to avoid strikes
- Women entered workforce in huge numbers
 - Helped change people's opinions of women's suffrage



- Lots of patriotism created high amounts of **volunteerism**
- Increase in recycling, conservation, and growing "victory gardens"

The Great Trek North

- Shortage of workers created increase of immigration from Mexico
- 150,000 men/women from Mexico during war
- **Great Migration:** Nearly 1 million A.A.'s from South moved North; considered one of the biggest population shifts in US history
- Standard of living for minorities was greater in North than Mexico or South
- Racial violence still occurred
 - July 1917: White rioters killed 39 black citizens in St. Louis



Influencing Attitudes

- **Committee on Public Information:** gov't agency in charge of creating **propaganda** to influence our opinions about the war
- Goal was to make us feel good about war & hate the enemy
- Portrayed Germans & Austrians as monsters
- Radio shows, movies, pamphlets, posters
- Goal was to "Americanize" immigrants further



traitor Suppressing Opposition SPK

- Sedition & Espionage Acts: became a crime to say or do anything "unpatriotic"
- Socialists & radicals were arrested and sent to prison
- Eugene Debs (Socialist) ran for President but was sentenced to 10 years in prison



Section 4: The War's End and Aftermath

Review Question

What did the Alien and Sedition Acts do in the United States during World War I? Do you agree with it? Why or why not?

The End of the War

- US entry into war helped Allies
- Summer 1917: Allies launched massive offensive but it failed--hurt Allies morale
- French suffered from mutinies on Western Front
- **Bolshevik Revolution:** March 1917; factory workers in Russia revolved against Czar and created Communist gov't
 - New leader Vladimir Lenin pulled Russia from war--helped Central Powers focus on Western Front



- March 1918: 1 million Germans launched massive last effort attack
 - Thousands of artillery guns; "Big Bertha" fired 2100 lb. shells 9 miles
 - Pushed Allies to within 50 miles of Paris
- June 1918: Gen. Pershing put US troops into battle for 1st time--helped save Paris and push Germans back
- Gradually pushed Germans back towards France-Germany border--slow, painful, and deadly advance; US had 120K casualties in **Battle of Argonne Forest**
- German morale was low--mutinies in army/navy and riots in German cities b/c of food shortages
- Nov. 9, 1918: Kaiser Wilhelm gave up German throne
- 11:11 AM on 11/11/18: Armistice was signed



Wilson's 14 Points

- All nations involved were happy w/ armistice, but a peace treaty was going to be difficult
- **Fourteen Points:** Woodrow Wilson's proposals for peace plan
 - **Self-determination:** right of people to govern themselves
 - End causes of modern war--secret treaties/alliances, arms races, freedom of the seas
 - **League of Nations:** create a group of nations that would police problems w/ conflicts & end future wars



The Paris Peace Conference

- Dec. 1918: Wilson was 1st US President to go to Europe
- Welcomed to France as a hero
- **Big Four:** Wilson, David Lloyd George (England), Georges Clemenceau (France), Vittorio Orlando (Italy)
- UK, France, Italy demanded Germany pay **reparations** and take blame for war-- Wilson disagreed
- **Treaty of Versailles:** signed near Paris on June 28, 1919
 - Humiliated Germany
 - Created League of Nations
 - German colonies & Ottoman Empire (Turkey) were divided btw Allies
 - France took land from Germany
 - Czechoslovakia, Poland, other nations created
 - \$33 billion in German reparations
 - Germany had to disarm
- US Senate had to approve of Treaty for US to sign it--rejected it after months of debate--many Americans angry @ thought of US getting involved in League of Nations
- Sept. 1919: Wilson suffered crippling stroke--ended Presidency in seclusion



Global Impact of the War

- 21 million soldiers wounded
 - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder/Shell Shock
 - Thousands of military suicides
- 8.5 million soldiers died
 - Millions of **collateral damage**
- Bulgaria, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia, France suffered most deaths (1-3 million each)
- Much of Europe literally destroyed
- Economies are ruined
- Food shortages led to massive inflation
- Cities need rebuilt
- ***Road map to World War II was drawn***

