

**1914**



**WORLD WAR I**



# SSWH 17

Demonstrate an understanding of long-term causes of World War I and its global impact.

# Vocabulary

Militarism  
Alliances  
Imperialism  
Nationalism  
Balkans  
Russia  
Slavs  
Serbia

Austria-Hungary  
Trenches  
Trench Foot  
Treaty of Versailles  
Reparations  
Mandate System  
Romanovs  
Habsburgs

# SSWH 17 A

Identify causes of the war, include:  
nationalism, entangling alliances,  
militarism, and imperialism.

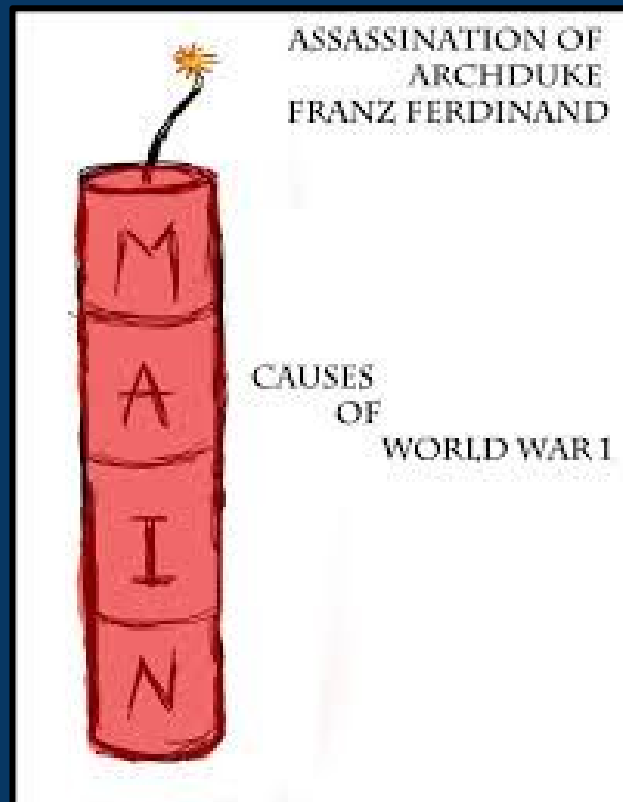
# Long Term Causes of World War I

**M**ilitarism

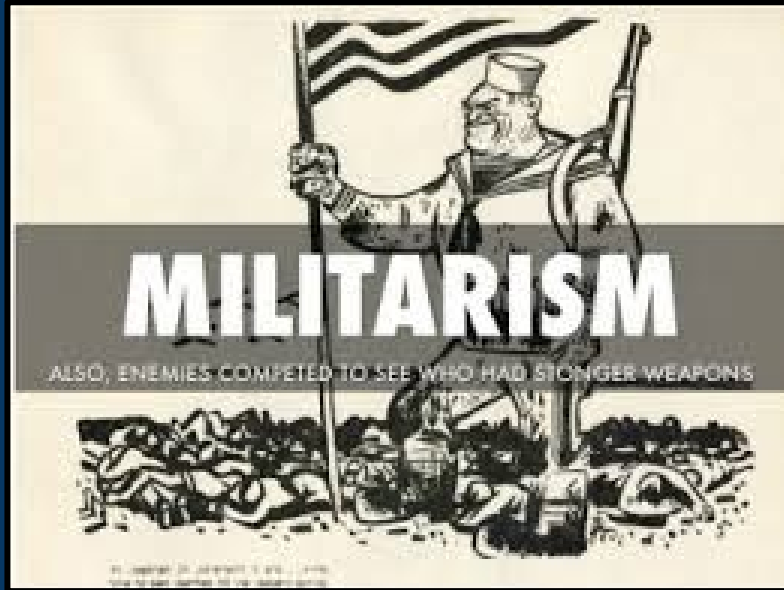
**A**lliances

**I**mperialism

**N**ationalism



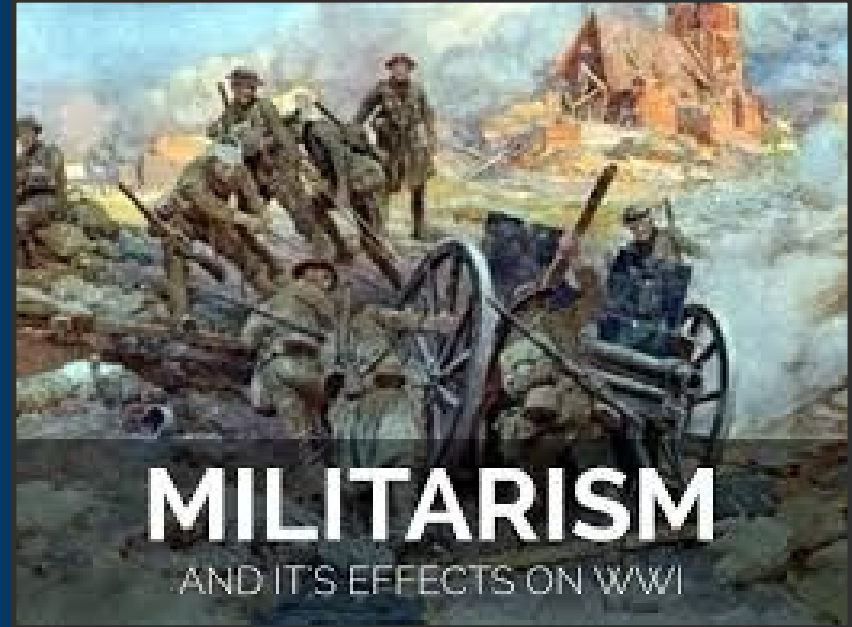
# What is Militarism?



- Militarism - a policy of glorifying military power & building up all parts of the army
  - Need to protect overseas colonies and interest
  - Competition between the Great Powers

# How did Militarism increase tension?

- Created an intense competition to outgun rivals through the mass production of the tools of war.
- Brought instability
- Lead European states to form military alliances aimed at balancing the power



# What is an Alliance?

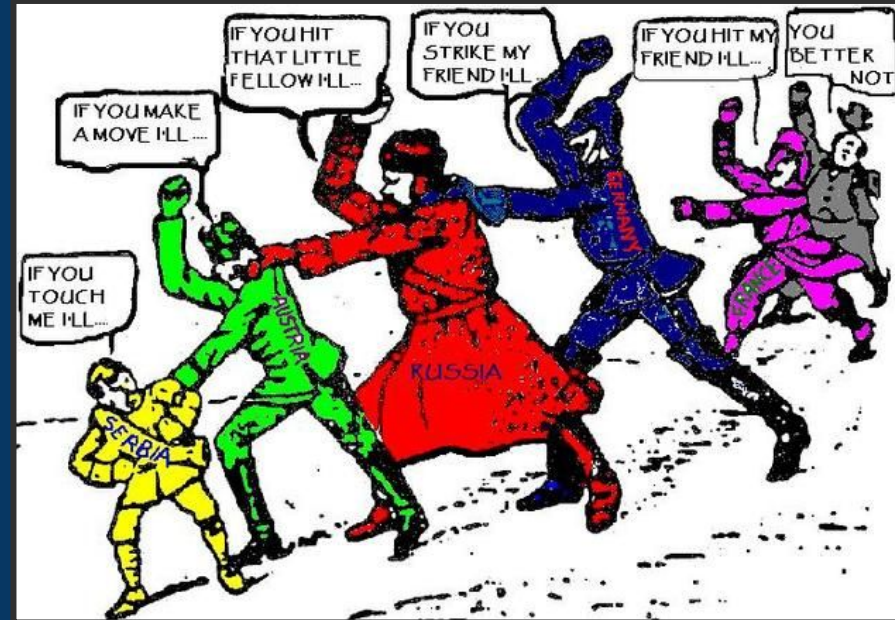


- a union or association formed for mutual benefit, especially between countries or organizations
- a relationship based on an affinity in interests, nature, or qualities
- Distrust led the great powers to sign treaties pledging to defend one another.

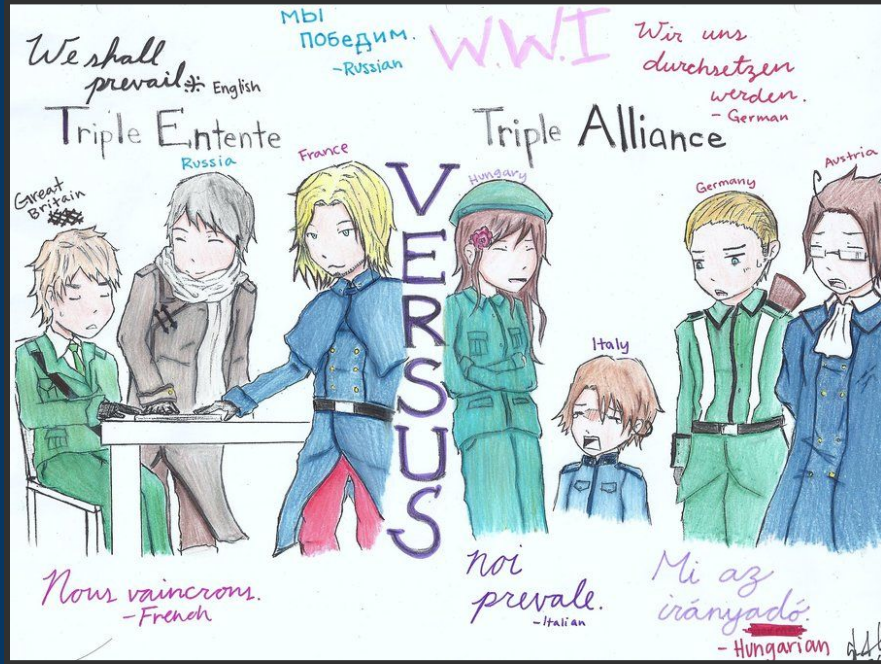


# How do the Alliances form?

- These alliances were intended to create powerful combinations that no one would dare attack.
- European nations signed alliances with one another promising to defend each other if attacked.
- Alliances tended to be secret and unstable which had the effect of intensifying competition and distrust.



# How do the Alliances form?



- The growth of rival alliance systems increased international tensions.
- Germany believed France wanted revenge for the loss in the Franco-Prussian War
- Otto von Bismarck sought to isolate France with a series of treaties/alliances
- Forms Triple Alliance
- Response is Triple Entente

# Who was in the Alliance?

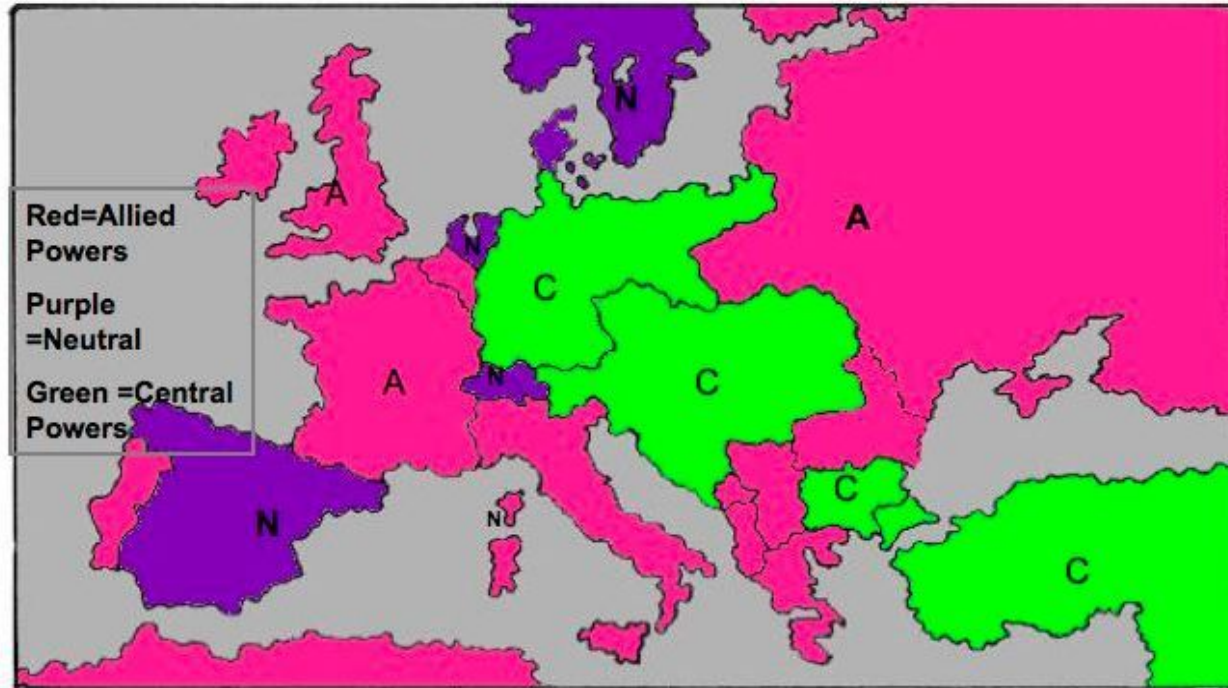
## TRIPLE ALLIANCE (CENTRAL POWERS):

- GERMANY
- AUSTRIA-HUNGARY
- OTTOMAN EMPIRE
- BULGARIA

## TRIPLE ENTENTE (ALLIED POWERS):

- FRANCE
- RUSSIA (1917)
- GREAT BRITAIN
- UNITED STATES (1917)
- SERBIA
- ITALY (LATER)

# Europe in 1914



The Allied Powers shown in dark pink were Russia, England, and France. The Central Powers shown in green were Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and Turkey.

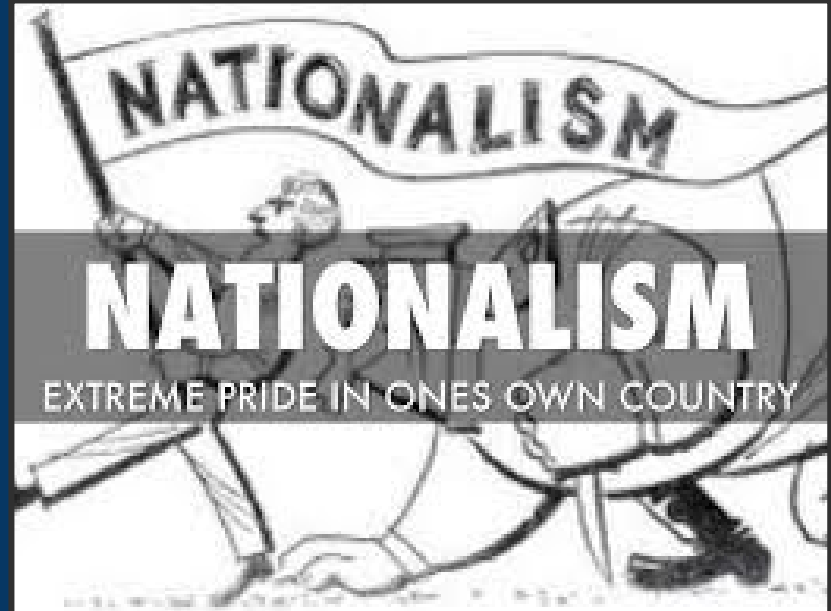
# What is Imperialism?



- Imperialism - a stronger country takes over a weaker country
- Stronger Country controls:
  - Politics
  - Economics
  - Social Life

# What is Nationalism?

- Nationalism - Loyalty to one's country
  - Devotion to that the country's history, culture, and ethnicity
  - Belief that one's culture, economics, and military are far superior
- Aggressive nationalism was a leading cause of tensions.
- Nationalism leads many groups to demand independence
- European nationalism became a force for unification and division.



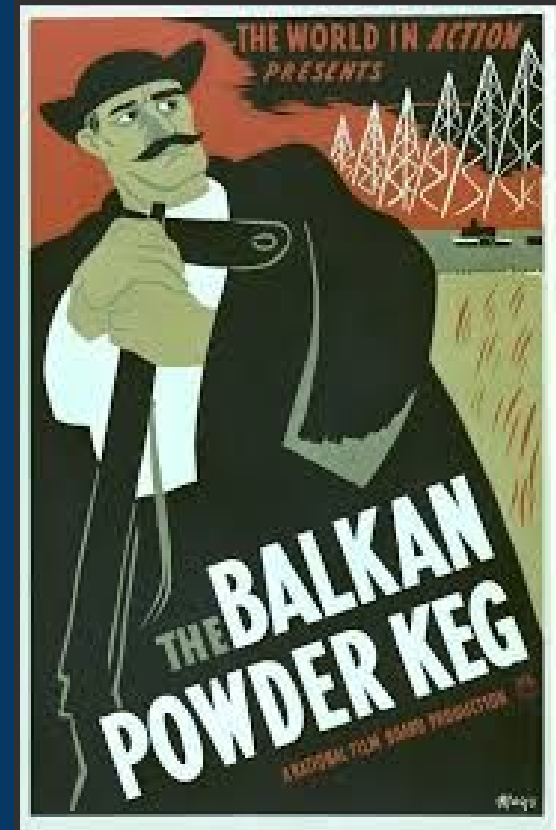
# The Balkans - The Powder Keg of Europe



- No region or movement had greater impact on the outbreak of WWI, than the Balkans region.
- In Eastern Europe, Pan-Slavism held that all Slavic peoples shared a common nationality.
- Russia felt that it had a duty to lead and defend all Slavs.
- Many countries in the Balkans wanted to extend and protect their borders
  - Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Serbia

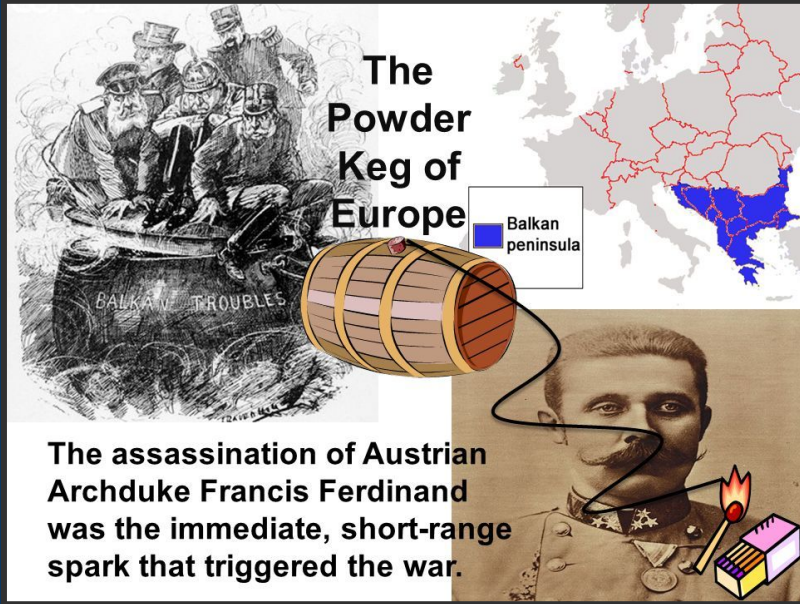
# The Balkans - The Powder Keg of Europe

- Groups within these countries wanted to fight Austria-Hungary to gain ethnic territory and independence
- New nation of Serbia made up largely of Slavs - rose as the principal advocate for Slavic unity
- Austria-Hungary annexes Slavic region Bosnia & Herzegovina (1908)
- Serbia outraged, sees itself as rightful Slavic leader of Bosnia & Herzegovina





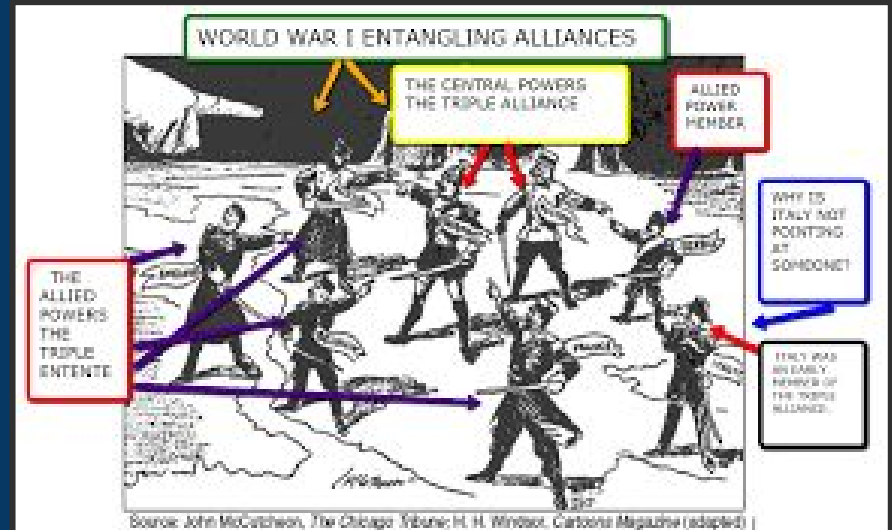
# The Spark that Starts the War



- Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand (Austria)
- Sarajevo, Bosnia
- June 28, 1914
- Assassin: Gavrilo Princip
  - Member of the Black Hand, Serbian nationalist group
- Austria declares war on Serbia
- Russia (a Slavic country) comes to aid of Serbia

# Alliances Kick In

- Austria-Hungary calls on Germany
- Serbia asked Russia for help
- Russia asks France for help
- Germany declares war on France
- Germany invades Belgium
- Great Britain declares war on Germany



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cd2ch4XV84s>

## Long-Term Causes

Imperialist and economic rivalries among European powers  
European alliance system  
Militarism and arms race  
Nationalist tensions in Balkans

## Immediate Causes

Austria-Hungary's annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Fighting in the Balkans  
Assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand  
German invasion of Belgium

## Immediate Effects

Enormous cost in lives and money  
Russian Revolution  
Creation of new nations in Eastern Europe  
Requirement that Germany pay reparations  
German loss of its overseas colonies  
Balfour Declaration  
League of Nations

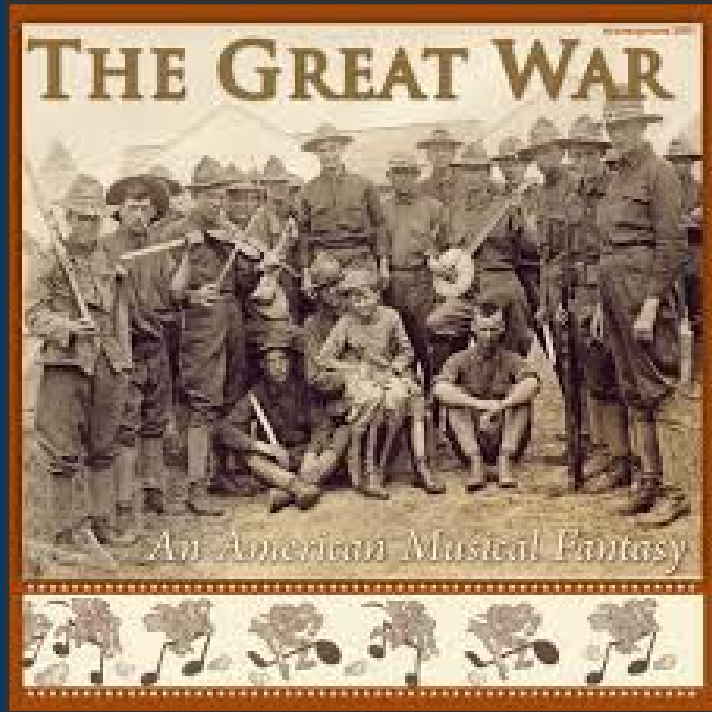
## Long-Term Effects

Economic impact of war debts on Europe  
Emergence of United States and Japan as important powers  
Growth of nationalism in colonies  
Rise of fascism  
World War II

# SSWH 17 B

Describe conditions on the war front for soldiers, include: new technology and war tactics.

# The Great War Has Begun



- By mid-August 1914, two sides are at war throughout Europe.
- Nations are taking sides

Central Powers vs. Allied Powers

# Who was in the Alliance?

## TRIPLE ALLIANCE (CENTRAL POWERS):

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# Fighting Begins

- Began digging trenches to protect their armies from enemy fire (trench warfare)
- Caused a stalemate; battle lines remained unchanged in France for 4 years
- Conflict descends into trenches - armies fighting from trenches
- Battles result in many deaths, small land gains - life in trenches is miserable (unsanitary/machine gun = deaths)







# Life in the Trenches



- Soldiers were confined to trenches and underground bunkers by the constant threat of artillery, gunfire and poison gas.
- Trenches were muddy and bloody leading to *chronic foot infections known as trench foot*, serious cases could lead to amputations.
- Vermin were everywhere and disease was common.
- <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/world-war-i-history/videos/life-in-a-trench>

# Conditions on the War Front

- Barbed wire was a significant hindrance to massed infantry advances
- Artillery and machine guns made crossing open ground extremely difficult
- Germans were the first to use lethal poison gas on a large scale.
  - Effects were brutal, causing slow and painful death
  - It was used to break stalemates caused by trench warfare



# Conditions on the War Front



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYWIhwmxg7g>

- Commanders failed to develop tactics for breaching entrenched positions without heavy casualties.
- Technology began to produce new offensive weapons, such as the tank to attempt to breach.
- Western Front quickly developed a reputation for slaughter.
  - Known as the meat grinder
  - a 500-mile long network for trenches, bunkers, minefields, machine gun nests, and artillery

# Conditions on the War Front

- The Western Front epitomized both the success and failure of early 20th century industrialized warfare.
- The mass production of weapons and ammunition made defensive positions easy to hold.
- Weak transportation technology made offense difficult.
- As a result, the Western Front was generally a stalemate on which opposing armies hurled metal and poison gas at each other; this resulted in massive casualties on both sides but few territorial gains

# War Wrap Up

- 1914 - 1918
- America enters in 1917
  - Sinking of the Lusitania
- Russia leaves the war 1917
- November 11, 1918 Germany signs an armistice
- “War to End all Wars”
- “Lost Generation”
- War devastates European economies
- War takes heavy toll: 8.5 million soldiers dead, 21 million wounded, 6-10 million civilians dead

## Websites for Additional Information

<https://www.factretriever.com/world-war-i-facts>

<http://www.historynet.com/world-war-i>

<https://www.theworldwar.org/explore/interactive-wwi-timeline>

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/history/10-significant-battles-of-the-first-world-war>

# SSWH 17 C

Explain the major decisions made in the Versailles Treaty, include: German reparations and the mandate system that replaced Ottoman control.

# Treaty of Versailles

- Key Leaders come together for peace talks
- The “Big Four” dominate peace talks:
  - U.S. president Woodrow Wilson
  - French ruler Georges Clemenceau
  - David Lloyd George of Great Britain
  - Vittorio Orlando of Italy



# Treaty of Versailles



- President Wilson's 14 Points
  - outline for lasting world peace
  - Calls for free trade and an end to military buildups
  - Promotes self-determination
  - the right to govern own nation
  - Envisions international peace-keeping body to settle world dispute - only part included in the Treaty of Versailles
- Britain & France oppose 14 Points: wanted to be stronger, want to punish/weaken Germany



# Treaty of Versailles

- SIGNED June 28, 1919, exactly five years after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

## Items of Importance:

- Creates League of Nations - international peacekeeping body
  - The hope was that it would make WWI “the war to end all wars” - remove threat of future wars
- Divided German territories among various Allied nations



# Treaty of Versailles



## Items of Importance:

- Mandate system: Territories of Germany and the Ottoman Empire, were taken away, and governed by the League of Nations until they could establish self government
- “War Guilt Clause” - Germany has to admit to total guilt for the war and pay \$33 billion in reparations (money they didn’t have)
- German Army and Navy limited in size

# Treaty of Versailles Troubles

- changes the look of Europe - several Allies all are able to take land from Germany
  - France expanded its border - taking Alsace-Lorraine back from Germany
- Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Ottoman Empire all lose lands
  - The British received parts of the *Ottoman Empire*
    - Lost territorial holdings outside of Turkey



# Treaty of Versailles Troubles



- New countries created
  - Represented a change in political boundaries
- German people feel bitter & betrayed after having to take all the blame for the war
  - The harsh conditions:
    - Create severe economic difficulties/ depression
    - The harsh conditions gave rise to fascism in Germany

# Treaty of Versailles Troubles

- America never signs Treaty of Versailles
  - many Americans opposed League of Nations
  - Opposed involvement with Europe - *didn't want to restrict America's sovereignty*
- Treaty creates bitterness on both sides
  - Some former colonies express anger over not winning independence



# SSWH 17 D

Analyze the destabilization of Europe in the collapse of the great empires.

# International After Effects



- Because global economies were interconnected...
- Because nations were borrowing money from each other...
- Because there was an uneven distribution of wealth...
- Because European nations were struggling with war debt...
- Economies started to crash and a **WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC DEPRESSION** hit

# Europe in Shambles

- Because of stress of war, governments collapsed in:
  - Russia
  - Germany
  - Austria-Hungary
  - Ottoman Empire
- Collapsed governments create instability throughout Europe
- Collapse of Austria-Hungary causes lines in central Europe to be redrawn as numerous smaller states emerge





# Russia Ripe for Revolution

## ROMANOV DYNASTY



- Had ruled Russia since the early 1600s
- Tsar Nicholas thought WWI would help rebuild & industrialize Russia
  - Soldiers were poorly equipped
  - Men forced to fight
  - High Casualties
  - War left Russians starving
- Due to World War I
  - The economy in Russia failed
  - Civil unrest mounted
  - Tensions among Russians grew

# Russia Ripe for Revolution

## ROMANOV DYNASTY

- Causes that led to the ousting of Tsar Nicholas II and the overthrow of the Romanovs
  - Lack of industrialization
  - Low standard of living for most people
  - Unsuccessful political and economic reforms
  - Poor performance in World War I



# Collapse of Austria-Hungary

## HABSBURG DYNASTY



- Family that ruled in Austria-Hungary & other European countries since 1200s
- Centered in Vienna
- They were the ruling government in Austria-Hungary during WWI.
- 19th century nationalism had the largest impact on the decline of the Habsburg Empire.
  - The same ethnic groups within the empire wanted to form their own states independent of the Empire.

# Collapse of Austria-Hungary

## HABSBURG DYNASTY

- After World War I there was:
  - High economic toll of the war
  - Food shortages
  - An unstable government
  - Russian Revolution influence spread
- Collapse of the **Austro-Hungarian Empire** after WWI led to the creation of several autonomous countries.

