



# World War I

**I WANT YOU  
FOR U.S. ARMY**

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION

- 
- Started on 28 July 1914
  - Ended 11 November 1918
  - Almost 8 million died
    - Russia totaling the highest casualties: 1.7 million
  - 22,000,000 wounded

**I WANT YOU  
FOR U.S. ARMY**

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION

# Causes of WWI: MANIA

Militarism – building up a strong military to prepare for war (arms race)

Alliances – agreements between nations to provide aid and military intervention

Nationalism – intense pride for nation (nation over self, nation over other nations)

Imperialism

Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

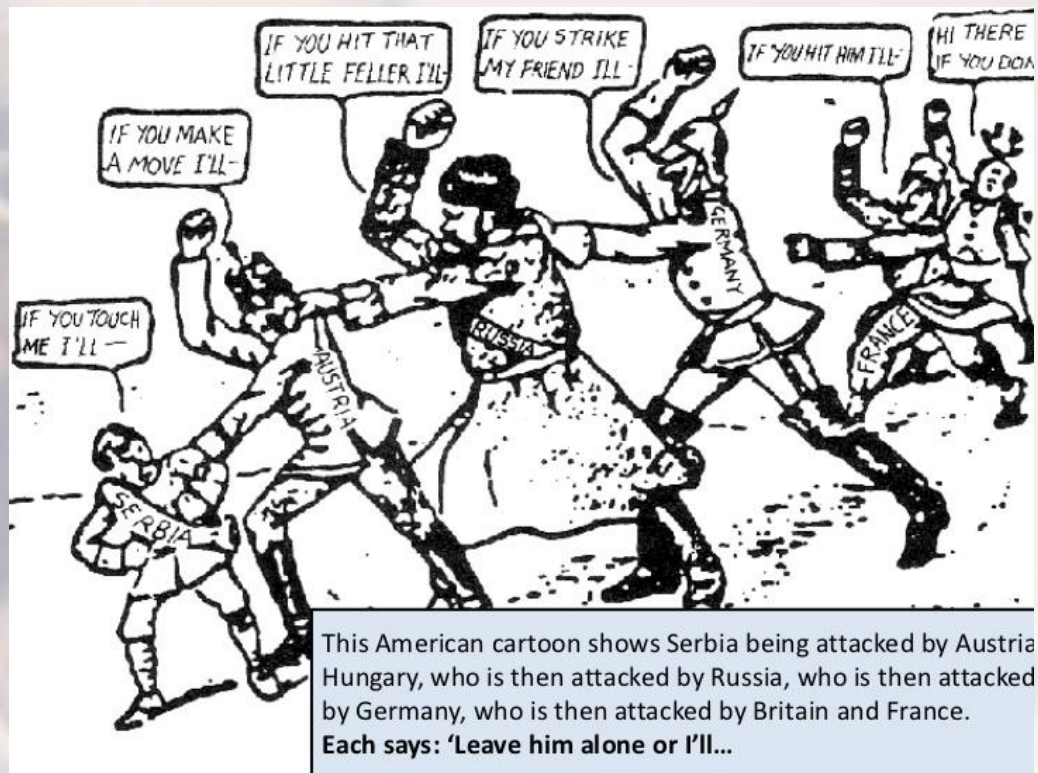


WWI was the first ← MILITARISM  
war with  
advanced  
weaponry and  
tactics:

- Due to a race for creating more weapons of mass destruction among nations
- European powers had desires for strong armies and naval power



# Alliances



-Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy

-Triple Entente of France, Russia, and Great Britain

-By 1907, Europe is divided

- TRIPLE ALLIANCE
- TRIPLE ENTENTE
- NEUTRAL COUNTRIES





# Nationalism



The French Revolution had sparked intense nationalism throughout most of Europe:

The concept began to build of “**Self Determination**” - people with the same ethnic origins, language, and political ideals had the right to form sovereign states

# Balkan Nationalism



- The various ethnic groups living on the **Balkan Peninsula** desired to have countries of their own led directly to WWI
- The Ottoman Empire had ruled the Balkan area for 400 years
- Balkans:
  - Albanians, Greeks, Romanians, and Slav
  - Each group was struggling for their own independence
- Bosnia was an area of great hostility
- Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia as one of its territories in 1908
- Serbia was newly independent and thought that Bosnia should be one of their territories



# Imperialism

-Virtually all the major powers were engaged in a scramble for empire to bolster their economies

-Fiercest competition was between GB and Germany and between France and Germany

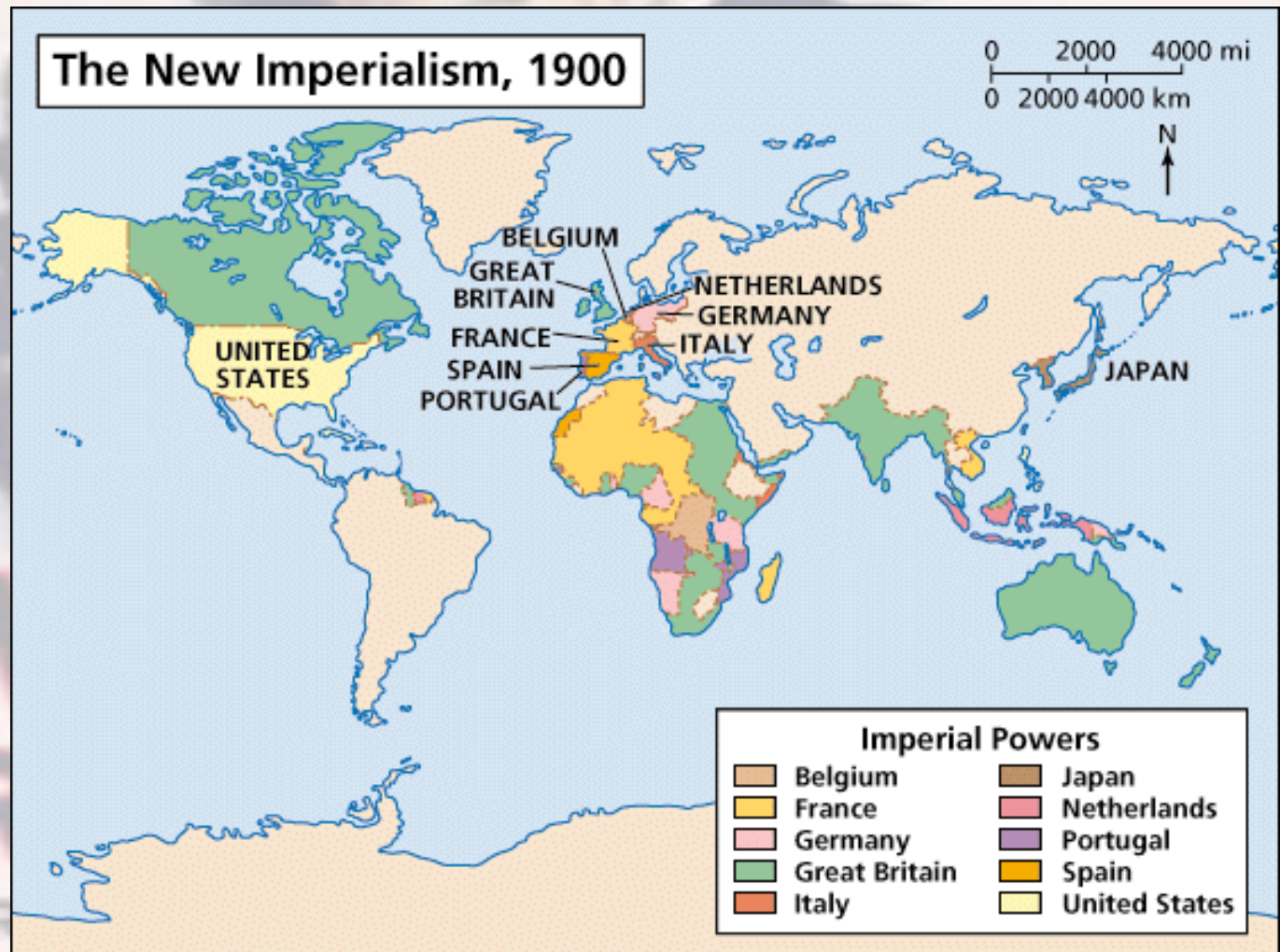


FOR U.

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION

-GB, Germany, and France need foreign markets after the Industrial Revolution

-In the Middle East, the crumbling Ottoman Empire was alluring to Austria-Hungary, the Balkans and Russia

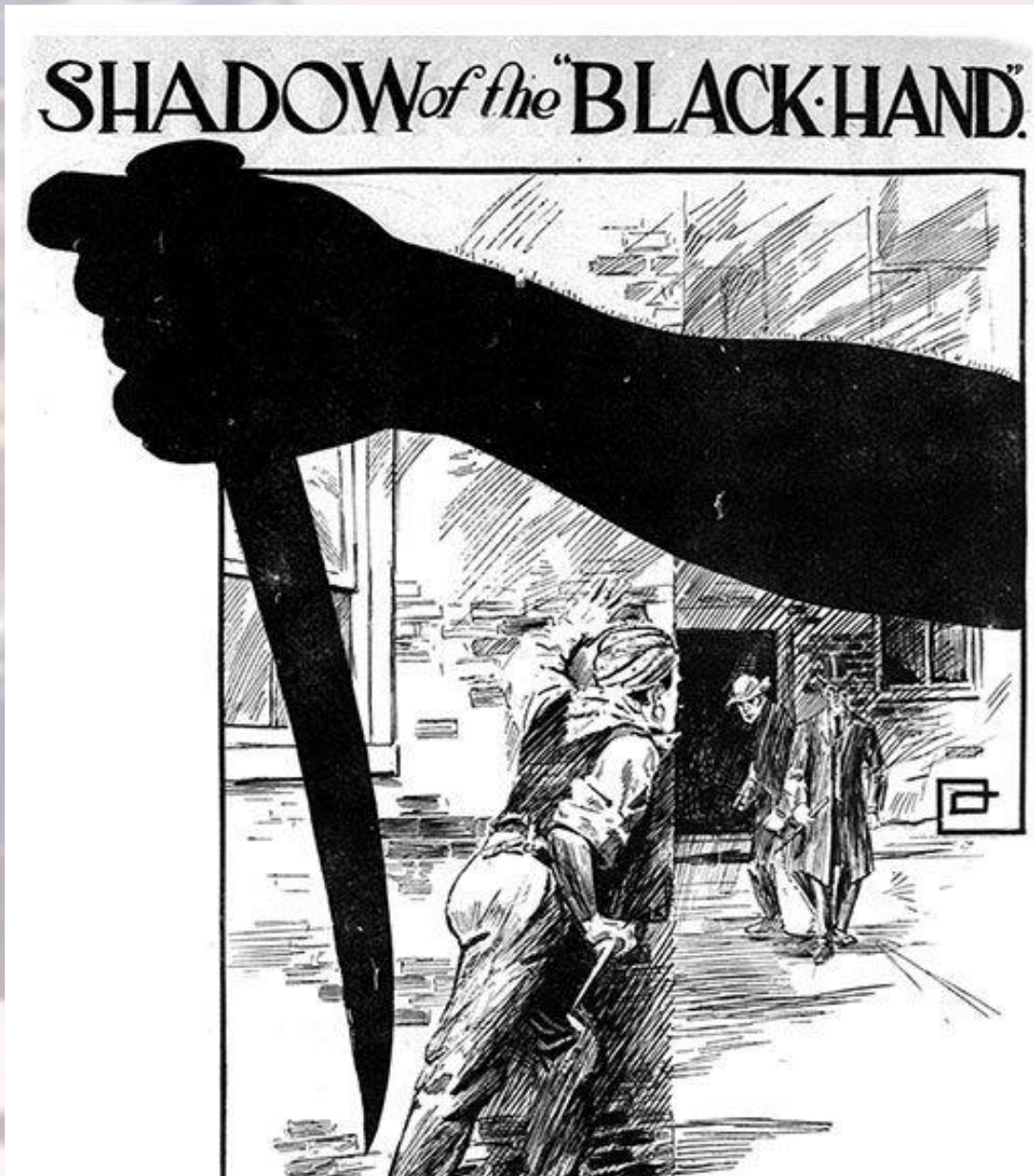




# THE BLACK HAND

-Serbian nationalist group

-The main objective was the creation (by means of violence) of a "Greater Serbia"



NEAREST RECRUITING STATION



# Assassination



Archduke Franz Ferdinand and Duchess Sophie  
assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia, on 28 June 1914

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION

# Domino Effect

Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia for Ferdinand's death and declared war on Serbia



Germany pledged their support for Austria-Hungary



Russia pledged their support for Serbia



I WANT  
FOR U.S.  
NEAREST RECRU

# Domino Effect

Germany declares war on Russia



France pledges their support for Russia



Germany declares war on France



Germany invades Belgium on the way to France



GB supports Belgium and declares war on Germany





# COMBATANTS

## Central Powers

Germany

Austria-Hungary

Ottoman Empire

Bulgaria

## Allied Powers

Russia

France

GB

Italy

Japan

U.S. (1917)

The background of the slide is a faded version of the iconic World War I recruitment poster 'I Want You for U.S. Army'. It features Uncle Sam, an elderly man with white hair and a goatee, wearing a blue military-style hat and a dark blue jacket over a white shirt and red tie. He is pointing his right index finger directly at the viewer. At the bottom of the poster, the text 'I WANT YOU FOR U.S. ARMY' is written in large, bold, red, sans-serif capital letters. Below that, in smaller, grey, sans-serif capital letters, it says 'NEAREST RECRUITING STATION'.

I WANT YOU  
FOR U.S. ARMY  
NEAREST RECRUITING STATION

# 1915

-Germany begins **unrestricted submarine warfare** to sink merchant ships trading with GB

-German U-boat sinks British passenger ship, the **RMS Lusitania**

-128 Americans killed

"All the News That's Fit to Print."

# The New York Times.

EXTRA  
5:30 A. M.

VOL. LXXIV., NO. 3986. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1915.—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES. FIVE CENTS.

## LUSITANIA SUNK BY A SUBMARINE, PROBABLY 1,260 DEAD; TWICE TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST; SINKS IN 15 MINUTES; CAPT. TURNER SAVED, FROHMAN AND VANDERBILT MISSING; WASHINGTON BELIEVES THAT A GRAVE CRISIS IS AT HAND

**SHOCKS THE PRESIDENT**  
Washington Deeply Stirred by the Loss of American Lives.

**BULLETINS AT WHITE HOUSE**  
White House—Then Gladly, but is Silent on the Nation's Course.

**HINTS OF CONGRESS CALL**  
Cases of Lusitania Result Firm Tone of Our First Warning to Germany.

**CAPITAL FULL OF NUMB**  
Reports That Linn Was to Be Sent to Sea Before Departure—None Same.

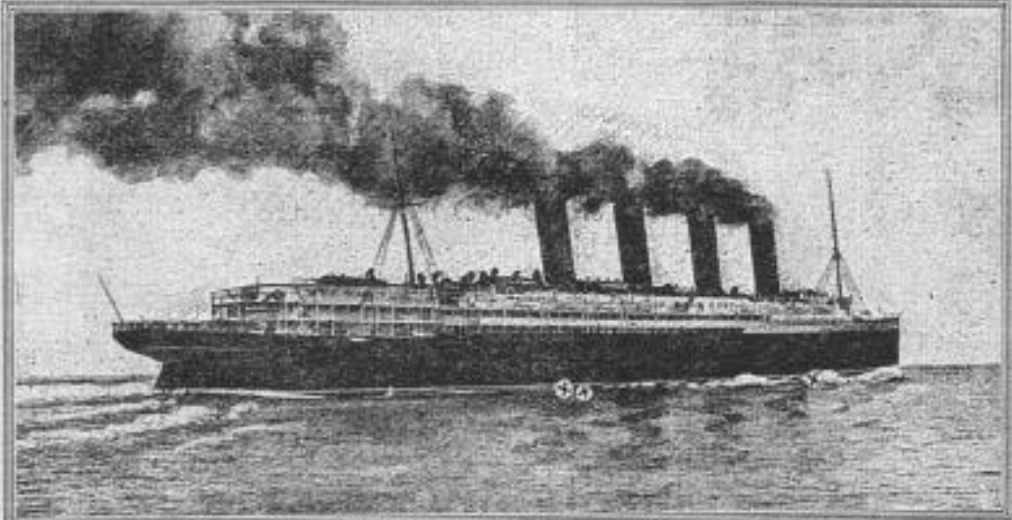
**SOME DEAD TAKEN ASHORE**  
Several Hundred Survivors at Queenstown and Hirtsholm.

**STEWARTS BELIEVE**  
One Torpedo Crashes Into the Divided Linn's Bow, Another Into the Empty Room.

**SHIP LISTS GIVEN TO PORT**  
Making It Impossible to Learn Many Details, the Authorities Must Have Gone Down.

**ATTACKED IN BROAD DAY**  
Passengers at Linn—Many Had Been Given by Germans to Live via the Irish Coast.

**Only 659 Were Saved, Few Cabin Passengers**  
QUEENSTOWN, Scotland, May 8, 4:25 A. M.—Survivors of the Lusitania who have arrived here estimate that only about 450 of those aboard the liner were saved, and not 659.



The Lost Great Steamship Lusitania  
X Where the First Torpedo Struck. XX Where the Second Torpedo Struck.

# 1916

Wilson runs for re-election,  
campaigning on a peace platform,  
supporting neutrality

-Slogan: “**He Kept Us  
Out of War**”

-**Sussex Pledge** between U.S. and  
Germany:

-Germans sink the *HMS  
Sussex*

-Germans support Wilson’s  
re-election and promise to  
end unrestricted  
submarine warfare of  
merchant ships without  
warning or securing safety  
of passengers

-Wilson re-elected and  
trade with GB increases

\*In the U.S., General John  
Pershing leads expedition in  
Mexico in pursuit of **Pancho Villa**





## THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION

**1911:** Francisco Madero overthrows Dictator Diaz and begins democratic reforms


**1913:** Madero murdered by General Huerta

- Wilson had opposed Huerta
- “I’m going to teach the South American republics to elect good men!” -Wilson
- Wilson embargoes weapons to Huerta

**1914:** U.S. military occupation of Vera Cruz

- Lasted 6 months
- Purpose was to prevent a shipment of weapons from Germany to Huerta
- American forces were attacked
- Peace was negotiated and the U.S. left

PROCLAMATION  
**\$5,000<sup>00</sup>** REWARD



**FRANCISCO (PANCHO) VILLA**

ALSO \$1,000. REWARD FOR ARREST OF  
CANDELARIO CERVANTES, PABLO LOPEZ,  
FRANCISCO BELTRAN, MARTIN LOPEZ

ANY INFORMATION LEADING TO HIS APPREHENSION WILL  
BE REWARDED.

CHIEF OF POLICE  
Columbus  
New Mexico

MARCH 9, 1916

**1914:** Carranza overthrew Huerta

- Carranza refused any of Wilson's advice

- Wilson gave support to **Pancho Villa**, who opposed Huerta and Carranza

**1916:** Wilson switched his support to Carranza

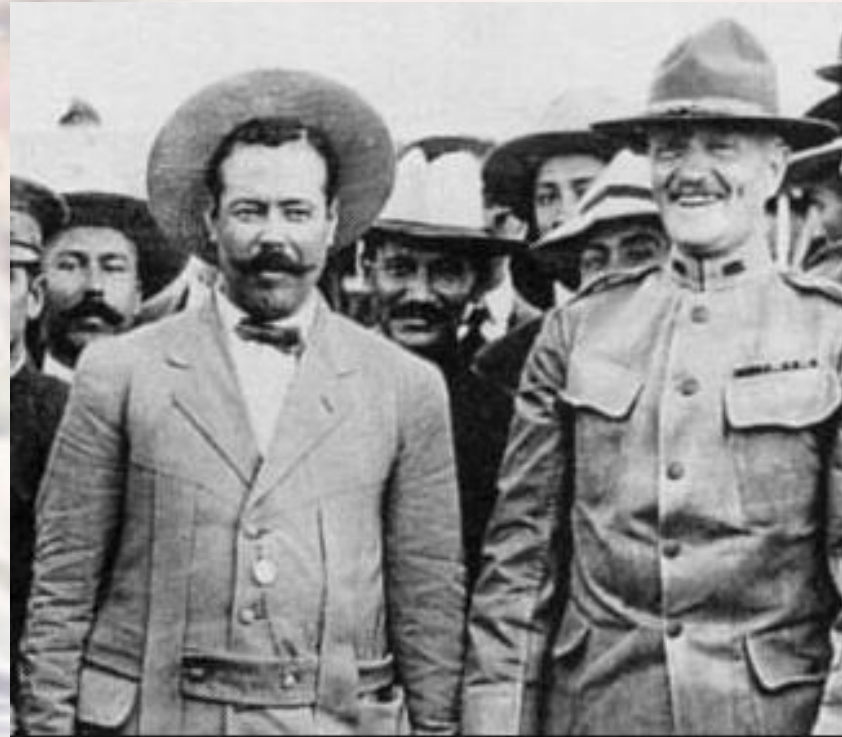
- Villa** felt betrayed by Wilson and murdered 17 Americans on a train

- Villa invaded the U.S.** and killed 18 more Americans in New Mexico

- Wilson sent **General John Pershing** and 11,000 U.S. soldiers

- into Mexico to capture Pancho Villa
- Pershing's expedition alienated the Mexican people and its government

- Villa was never apprehended

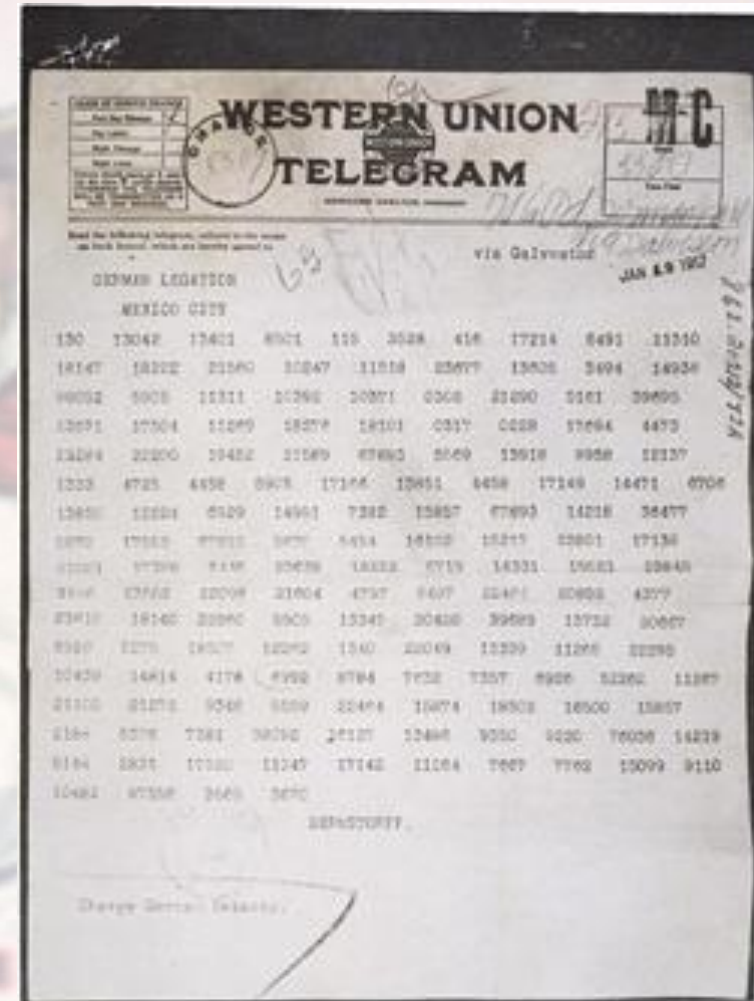


**NEAREST YOU  
FOR U.S. ARMY  
NEAREST RECRUITING STATION**



# 1917

- Germany resumes unrestricted submarine warfare despite Sussex Pledge
- Zimmerman Telegram
  - German proposal to Mexico to get Mexico to declare war on the U.S.
  - British intercepts the telegram
- Congress declares war on Germany on 2 April 1917
  - Wilson's **moral** reason for war: "The world must be made safe for democracy"

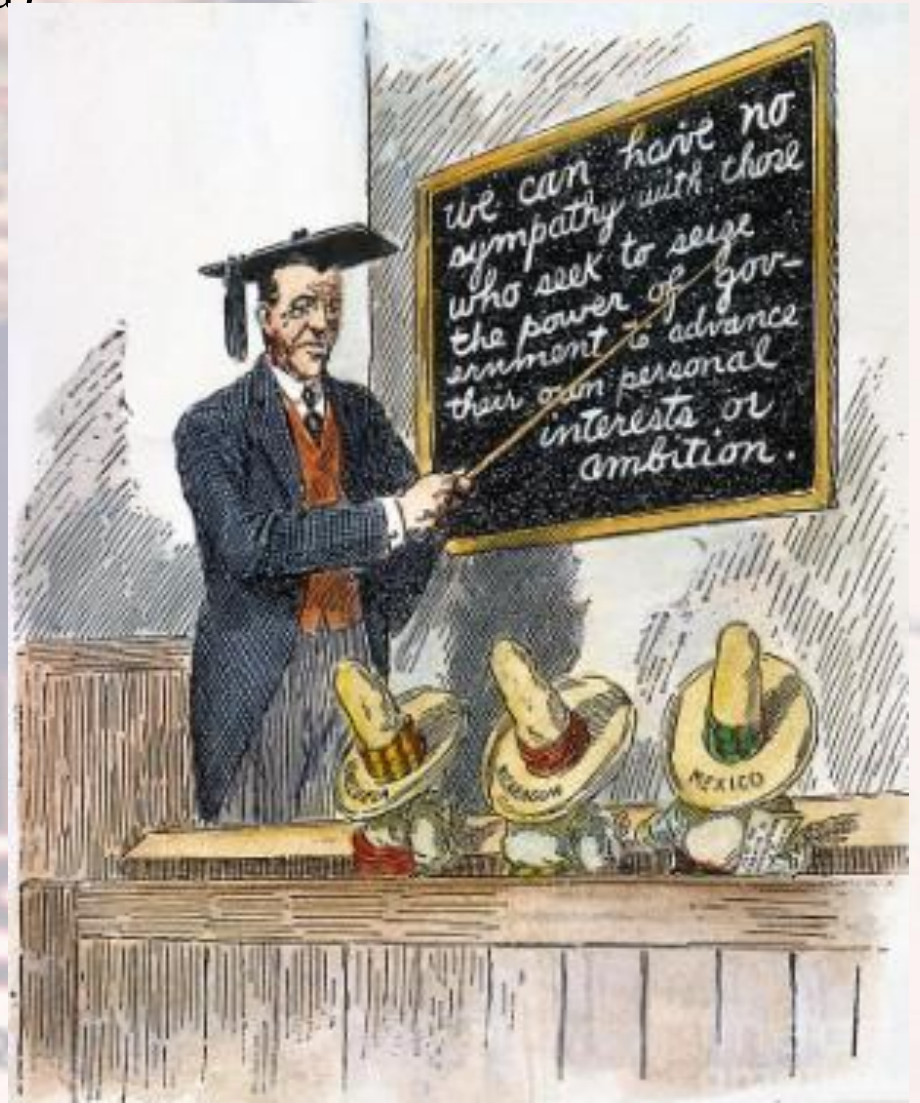


Mexican territory in 1917 (dark green), territory promised to Mexico in the Zimmerman telegram (light green), and original Mexican territory (red line)



## WILSON AND “MORAL DIPLOMACY”

- Belief that foreign diplomacy should not be guided by “gunboats or dollars”
- Diplomacy should be based on democratic values and moral progress (however, Wilson ended up using gunboats and military occupation of Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Nicaragua)



## Declining Value of the US Dollar (USD)



## U.S. Economic Involvement in WWI

- If GB & F were to lose, they would not be able to pay the U.S. debt back (amounting to about \$2 billion - Germany owed 27 million)  
→ If the Allied Powers could not pay back loans made by U.S. bankers, the U.S. economy would collapse
- GB & F were buying massive amounts of arms from the U.S. on credit
- The U.S. wanted to make sure they were paid back

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION



# Trouble in Russia



The Czar is overthrown and family eventually murdered during the Bolshevik Revolution (October Revolution)

- 1917: Vladimir Lenin rises to power
- Russia will withdraw from WWI (German see this as a betrayal)
- Beginning of communism and the USSR

## Treaty of Brest-Litovsk

- Signed with Central Powers  
Russia lost around 1 mil. square miles of territory; a 1/3 of its pop. (around 55 mil.); a majority of its coal, oil and iron stores; and much of its industrial power



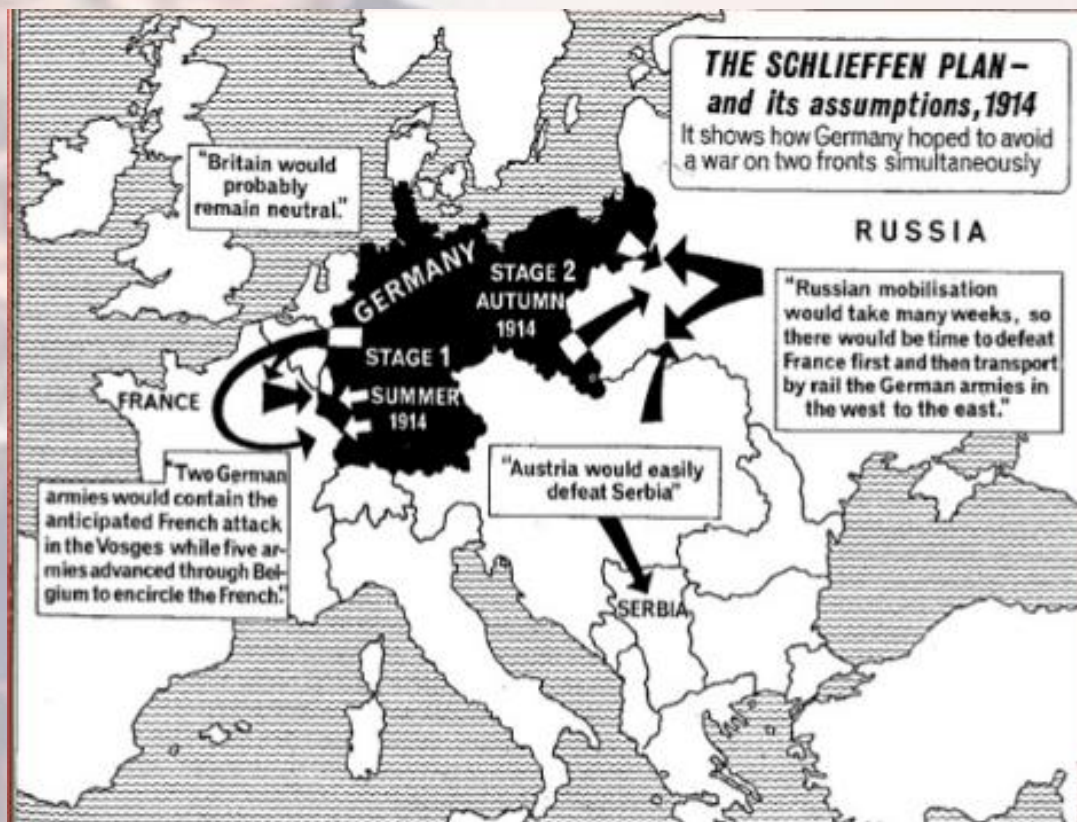
RECRUITING STATION



# Why was WWI a Stalemate?

How WWI ended up in the trenches:

1. War erupts →
2. Germany declares war on France and implements the Schlieffen Plan →
3. Germany invades Belgium →
4. Belgians delay Germans at Liege →
5. British slow Germans at Mons →
6. Germans change plans & go south rather than encircle Paris →
7. French push Germans back to the Marne →
8. Schlieffen Plan fails →
9. British and Germans try to cut each other off from supplies →
10. Both sides try to beat each other to the English Channel (“Race to the Sea”)→
11. French Plan 17 fails, retreat back to original positions; dig into trenches →
12. Stalemated “War of Attrition”



S. ARMY

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION

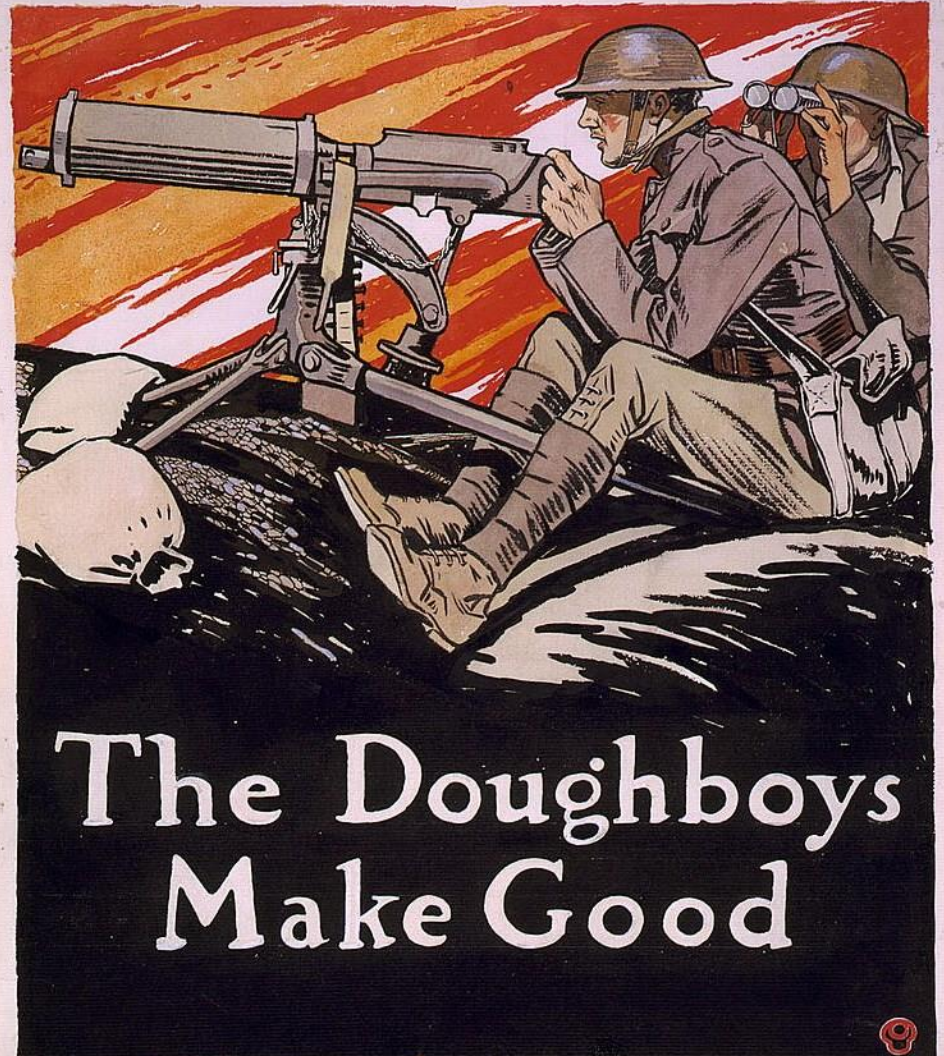
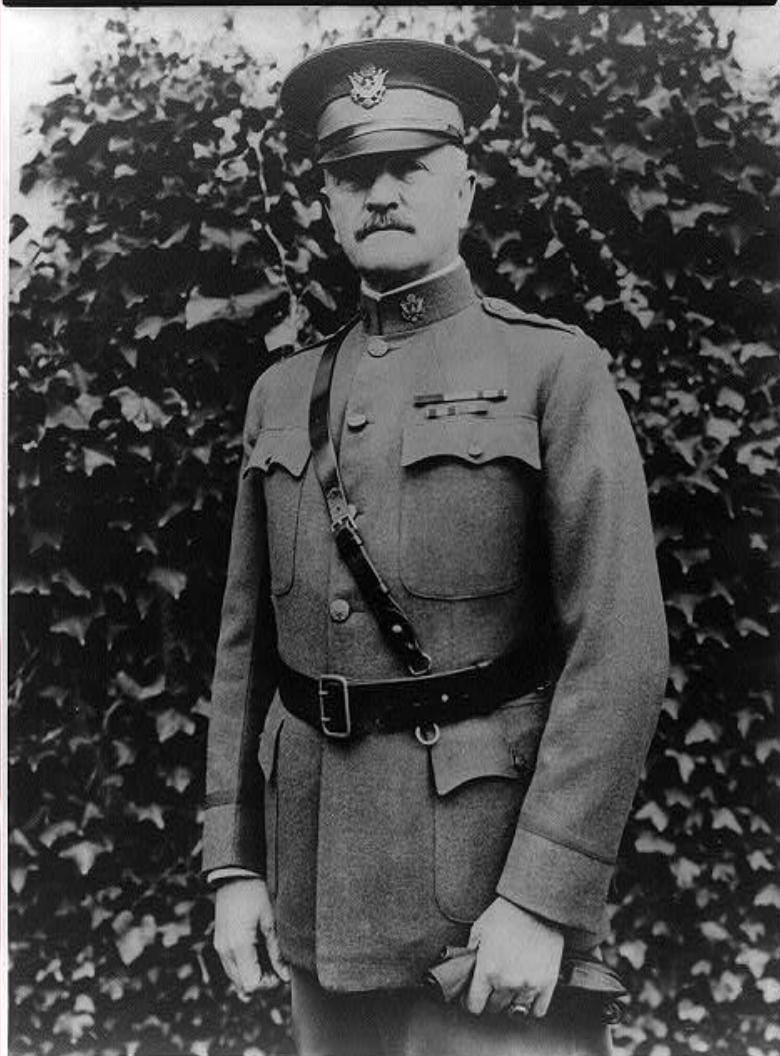




# American Expeditionary Force

U.S. Armed Forces sent to Europe in WWI

- During the U.S.' campaigns in WWI the AEF fought in France alongside British and French Allied forces in the last year of the war, against Germany
- The AEF helped the French Army on the Western front

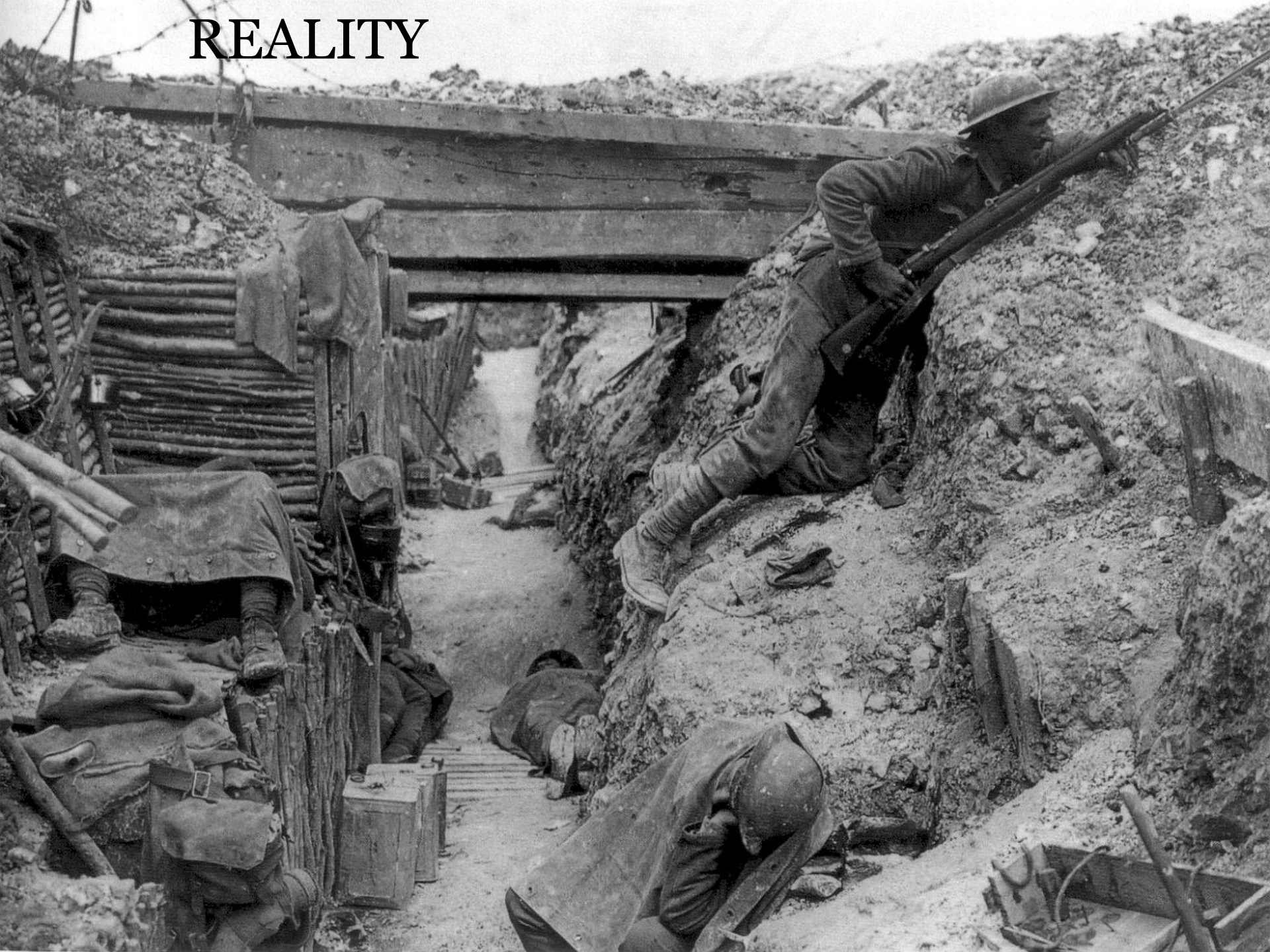




# MYTH



REALITY





# Trench Warfare – type of fighting during WWI in which both sides dug trenches protected by mines and barbed wire

- Dug from English Channel to Switzerland
- 6,250 miles
- 6 to 8 feet deep



# “Death is Everywhere”

“We all had on us the stench of dead bodies.”

“Shellshock” →

“Never such innocence again”

-Bitterness towards officers whose lives were never in danger



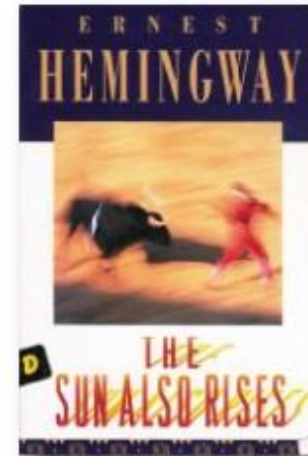
NEAREST RECRUITING STATION



# Born from 1883 to 1900 The "Lost Generation"



The "Lost Generation" was the generation that came of age during World War I. The term was popularized by Ernest Hemingway, who used it as one of two contrasting epigraphs for his novel, **The Sun Also Rises**. In that volume Hemingway credits the phrase to Gertrude Stein, who was then his mentor and patron. Authors William Strauss and Neil Howe, well known for their generational theory, define the **Lost Generation** as the cohorts born from 1883 to 1900, who came of age during World War I and the roaring twenties. (Source: Wikipedia)



**The Sun Also Rises** is a 1926 novel written by American author Ernest Hemingway about a group of American and British expatriates who travel from Paris to the Festival of San Fermín in Pamplona to watch the running of the bulls and the bullfights.



# Wilson and the 14 Points

- Wilson's peace plan
- “No winners and no losers”
  - As Germany began to lose the war, it surrendered on the basis of the 14 Points

**Point One:** no secret treaties

**Point Two:** freedom of the seas

**Point Three:** free trade among all nations

**Point Four:** disarmament

**Point Five:** all colonies in Africa & Asia become independent

**Points 6-12:** new boundaries and elections for new countries in Europe

**Point 13:** the creation of Poland, between Germany & Russia

**Point 14:** creation of the League of Nations



© George Matthew Adams

CAN HE PRODUCE THE HARMONY?  
From the *Citizen* (Brooklyn, N. Y.)



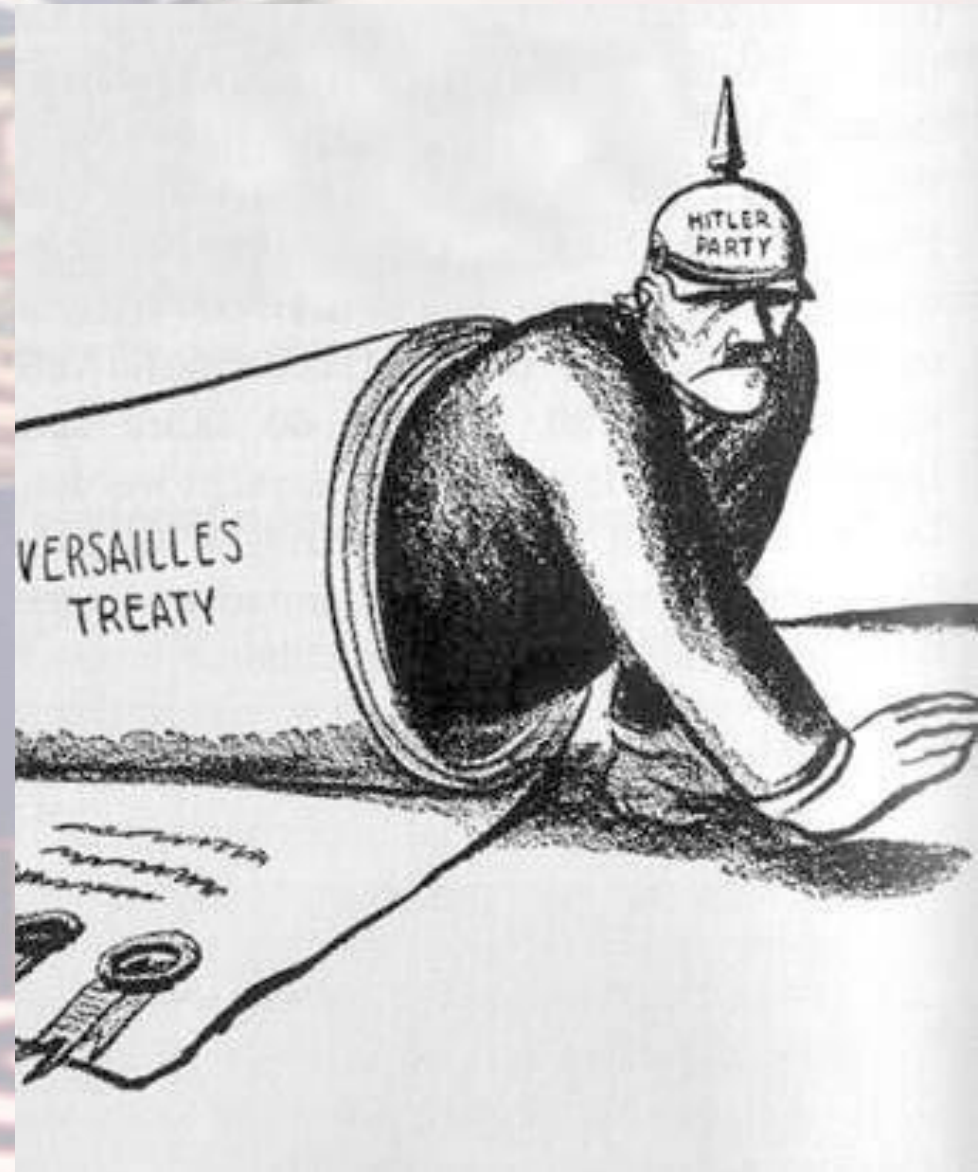
# The League of Nations

- World peace organization created by Wilson
  - Purpose: prevent wars and promote cooperation between all nations
- Its inception was included in the **Treaty of Versailles**
- Senator Henry Cabot Lodge:**
  - Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee
  - Opposed U.S. membership in the League of Nations
  - Opposed U.S. ratification of the Treaty of Versailles
  - Promoted America's **return to isolation**
  - Wilson refused to negotiate any modifications of the League of Nations
- Wilson suffered a stroke on a nation-wide speaking tour for the League of Nations



# Treaty of Versailles

- Officially ended the war
- Signed by Germany on 28 June 1919
- Germany made to accept full responsibility for the war (**Article 231**: aka the “War Guilt Clause”)
- Forced Germany to demilitarize drastically
- No air force or soldiers in the Rhineland
- Germany must pay reparations (totaling around \$55 billion to Allies)
- Purpose: keep German economy weak and powerless
- Treaty fueled German hatred towards the rest of Europe and would eventually lead to WWII



FOR U.S.

NEAREST RECRUITING STATION



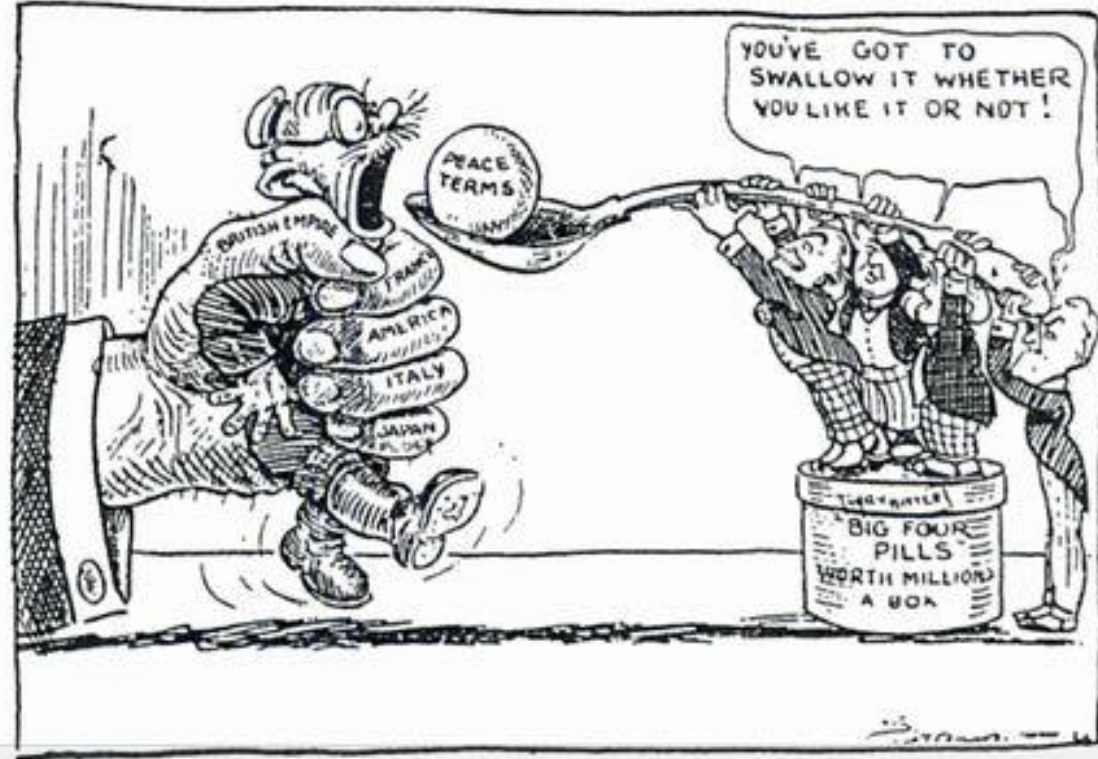
# Treaty of Versailles

Blame goes to  
Germany

Reparations paid by  
Germany to the  
Allied powers

Armory/Navy  
drastically reduced  
& demilitarized in  
the Rhineland

Territorial losses



DER TAG!

FOR U.S. ARMY  
NEAREST RECRUITING STATION



