

WWI Intro

Direct v. Indirect Causes

1914-1918



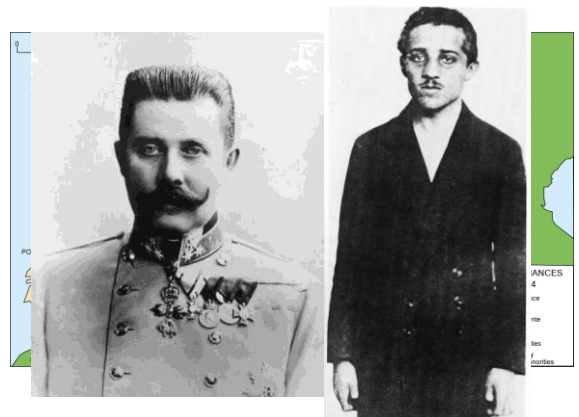
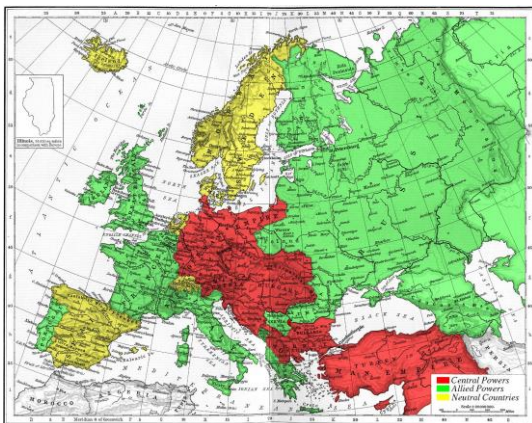
WWI – Who Was Fighting Whom?

Allied Powers

- France
- Russia
- Great Britain
- Italy (starting in 1915)
- USA (starting in 1917)
 - Zimmerman Telegram
- Etc.

Central Powers

- Austria-Hungary
- Germany
- Ottoman Empire
- Bulgaria (starting in 1915)



WWI – Causes!

Direct Causes

- Austria-Hungary wanted to annex Serbia
- Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand (of Austria Hungary) by Serbian nationalist, Gavrilo Princip

Indirect Causes

- M.A.I.N.
 - Militarism
 - Alliances
 - Imperialism
 - Nationalism



What does it mean to be “neutral”?

U.S. “Neutrality” in WWI

U.S. “Neutrality” in WWI

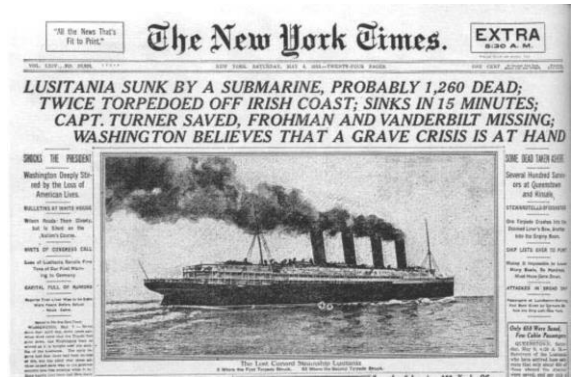
- By 1914 the U.S. had about \$3.5 Billion in investments in Europe.
- Throughout the war the United States was selling weapons to England.
- From the start of the war up to April of 1917 more than \$2 Billion worth of goods had been sold to the Allies.
- In 1915 (after Woodrow Wilson lifted a ban on private bank loans to the Allies) U.S. banks like J.P. Morgan and Company began loaning large sums of money to England.



6

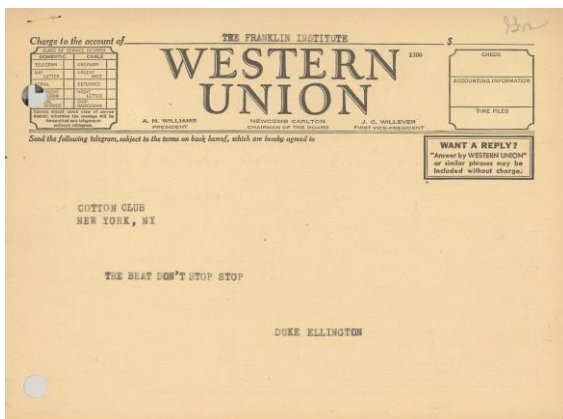
U.S. "Neutrality" in WWI

- In 1915, due, in part, to the volume of trade occurring between England, the U.S., and other Allies, Germany engaged in "Unrestricted Submarine Warfare."
- This resulted in the loss of nearly half of Britain's merchant marine fleet during the course of the war.



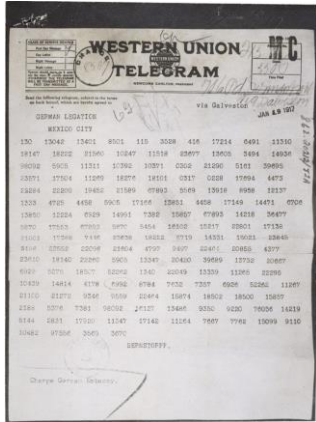
U.S. "Neutrality" in WWI

- In 1915, a British ship, *the Lusitania*, was torpedoed and sunk by a German Submarine.
- It was said to have been nothing more than a passenger ship, but in actuality it was carrying weapons to England.
- 1,248 people died, including 124 Americans.
- But this was not the *direct cause* for the U.S. to enter the war.



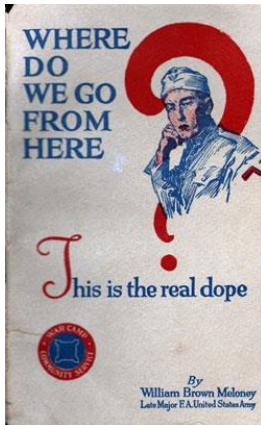
The Direct Cause

- **Zimmermann Telegram**
 - A telegram from Germany to Mexico asking to make war against the U.S. - January 16, 1917.
- "We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you." – Arthur Zimmermann



U.S. in WWI

- The U.S. officially entered WWI on April 6, 1917.
- Over 4 million American military personnel served in the war, of which about 110,000 died (about 43,000 due to the Spanish Flu).



Opposition to WWI

"If Soldiers All Were Pugilists..."

Opposition to WWI

- Many people in the U.S. were initially opposed to entering WWI.
- *This was the first time the draft had been used since the Civil War.*
- The most outspoken opponents included pacifists, labor unions, socialists, anarchists, and conservative isolationists, many of whom were immigrants.

Government Response to Opposition

- "The April 1917 declaration of war touched off an unprecedented campaign to stifle criticism of the government."— Alice Wexler
- Congress immediately passed legislation to silence not only anti-war agitators, but also people lumped together in the popular press as "Reds" -- left-wing activists and foreign immigrants.

Government Response to Opposition

- Espionage Act of 1917
 - prohibited any attempt to interfere with military operations, to support U.S. enemies during wartime, to promote insubordination in the military, or to interfere with military recruitment.
- Sedition Act of 1918
 - Extended the Espionage Act to cover a broader range of offenses, notably speech and the expression of opinion that opposed the war or the government.



Schenck v. United States

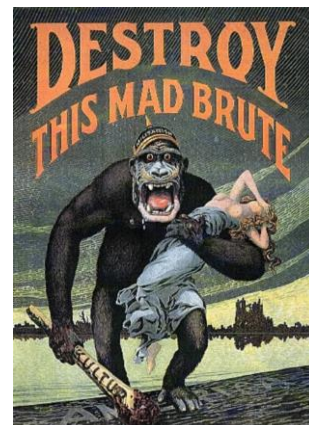
- Charles Schenck – Secretary of the Socialist Party of America, was responsible for mailing around 15,000 leaflets opposing the draft to potential military draftees.
- He was convicted of violating the Espionage Act of 1917.
- The Supreme Court upheld the conviction, concluding Schenck did not have a First Amendment right to freedom of speech against the draft, and that he created a “clear and present danger.”
- (*Schenck v. United States* was finally overturned in 1969 with the case of *Brandenburg v. Ohio*—KKK rally—with “clear and present danger” being replaced with “imminent lawless action.”)

Pro-War and Anti-German Propaganda

- *Committee on Public Information*
 - Created in April, 1917, to influence U.S. public opinion regarding American participation in WWI.
 - Used every medium available to create enthusiasm and support for the war.
 - Run by George Creel
- *Video clip time!*

War/Government Propaganda Continues

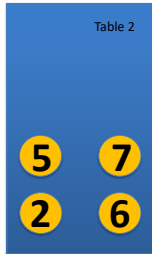
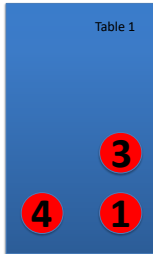
- Through [films](#)
- Through [video games](#)
- What else?



Yellow Legs & Pugs

Solidarity Magazine, May 5, 1917

FOOOOOOD FIIIIIIIGHT!!!!!!!



The Cafeteria



Who deserves the blame?
Who should be punished?



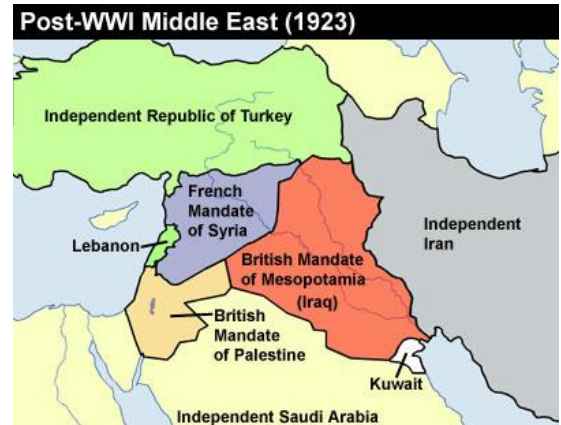
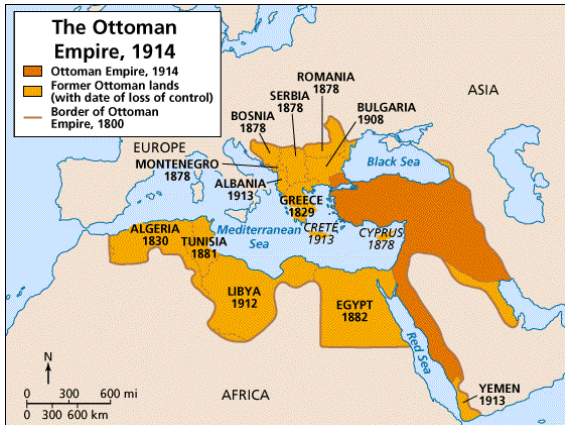
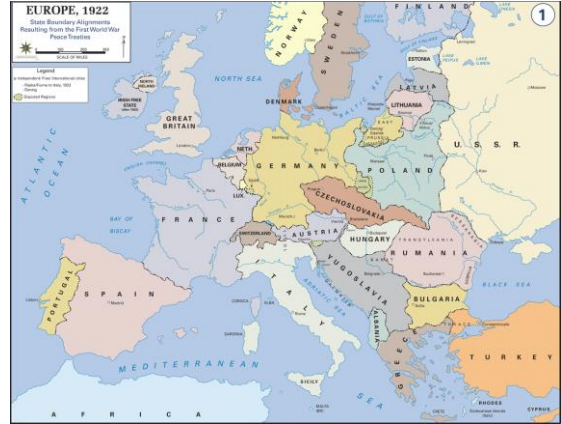
Paris Peace Conference

SWEEP THE LEG!!!



Paris Peace Conference

- 1919
- Meeting of Allied victors after WWI
- Set the peace terms for the defeated Central Powers following armistices in 1918
- They developed a series of treaties that reshaped Europe with new borders and countries
- Allied countries took control of Central Powers' colonies
- Germany was forced to accept blame for the war and pay stiff financial penalties to the Allies



Wilson's 14 Points

- Outlined in a speech to congress in January, 1918
- Became the basis for surrender negotiations with Germany at the Paris Peace Conference

Wilson's 14 Points (some highlights)

- Make no secret treaties
- Allow freedom of the seas in peace and war
- Remove as many economic barriers as possible between countries
- Reduce stockpiles of military armaments to lowest point needed for domestic safety
- Adjust colonial claims, giving more power to the opinions of the colonized peoples
- Evacuate and restore Russian territories seized during war
- Allow peoples of former Austro-Hungarian Empire to choose their own governments
- Establish an association of nations to provide collective security and to ensure peace (*this became League of Nations*)

But the *Treaty of Versailles* had little to do with Wilson's 14 Points.

Treaty of Versailles

- Placed sole responsibility for the war on Germany and their allies
- Demanded that parts of Germany must be occupied by Allied troops for 15 years
- Imposed severe military restrictions on Germany
 - German armed forces will number no more than 100,000 troops, and conscription must be abolished.
 - German naval forces will be limited to 15,000 men. **NO MORE SUBS!**
 - Import and export of weapons is prohibited.
 - Poison gas, armed aircraft, tanks and armored cars are prohibited.
 - Etc.

Treaty of Versailles

- Germany lost control of its colonies and some of its European territory
- Germany was forced to pay for the war
 - In the end, Germany had to pay 132 billion *marks* in reparations to Allied countries
 - In today's US dollars that would be equal to \$442 billion!
 - Germany made their final payment on October 4th, 2010

FASCISM

(Or as I like to call it, *Fa-Shizm!*)

What is Fascism?

- Authoritarian nationalism
 - Totalitarian (the state controls everything)
 - One political party controls the state
 - One race or group is considered to be the best
 - No opposing ideas or actions are allowed
 - Mixed economy (some capitalism, some socialism), but the state controls it all

Some famous fascists:



Francisco Franco
Spain (1939-1975)



Adolf Hitler
Germany (1934-1945)



Benito Mussolini
Italy (1925-1943)



Hirohito
Japan (1926-1989)



Augusto Pinochet
Chile (1973-1990)



Saddam Hussein
Iraq (1979-2003)