

Causes of WWI

DAY 1
NOTES

MILITARISM

Strengthening of the military to compete with other countries for economic, political, and/or nationalistic reasons

Causes of WWI

MILITARISM

“RED FLAGS”



DEVELOPING ALLIANCES



CONSCRIPTION



INCREASED MILITARY SPENDING



STOCKPILING AMMO

Causes of WWI

MILITARISM

1898

**William II began strengthening
the German NAVY**

Problem for Germany

- caused England to strengthen its navy
- prevented Germany from defeating England

Causes of WWI

ALLIANCES

Agreements
among countries
to fight for each
other

Causes of WWI

ALLIANCES

OTTO VON BISMARCK – “Iron Chancellor”

- **BLOOD** AND IRON
- 1870 – FRANCO PRUSSIAN WAR
 - **GERMAN STATES V. FRANCE**
 - **HELPED UNIFY GERMAN STATES**

1871 German Empire (2nd Reich) forms

- **Bismarck wanted to preserve the empire**
- **creates Alliances to isolate France**

Causes of WWI

ALLIANCES

1879

DUAL ALLIANCE

1882

TRIPLE ALLIANCE

1887

QUADRUPLE ALLIANCE

- **Russia joins**
- **keep Germany out of 2-Front War**

1888

William II becomes leader of Germany

- forces Bismarck to resign
- ends “Alliance” treaty with Russia

Causes of WWI

ALLIANCES

1894

France / Russia become allies

PROBLEM FOR GERMANY: 2 FRONT WAR if WAR BREAKS OUT

1907 TRIPLE ENTENTE FORMS

FRANCE

RUSSIA

GREAT BRITAIN

TRIPLE ALLIANCE

Germany
Austria-Hungary
Italy

TRIPLE ENTENTE

France
Russia
Great Britain

Causes of WWI

DAY 2
NOTES

IMPERIALISM

*Domination of weaker countries
by stronger countries for
economic, political, and/or
military reasons*

****Industrial Revolution**

Causes of WWI

IMPERIALISM

Ottoman Empire *"Sick Man of Europe"*

Weakening of the "OE" created a "power vacuum"

- **"power seeking" countries were "sucked in" to try and take control**
- **motivated groups to try and break away because the empire is no longer strong enough to keep them in**

Causes of WWI

Nationalism

PATRIOTISM

PRIDE IN YOUR
COUNTRY

Causes of WWI

Nationalism

France wanting **Alsace-Lorraine** back from Germany

- lost during Franco-Prussian War



BALKAN PENINSULA

- Austria Hungary and Serbia competing for control
- many groups wanting their independence

Pan Slavism

- Serbia wanted to unite Slavs
- **Russia** supports Serbia and also wants access thru straits

Beginning of WWI

“The Spark”

June 28, 1914

Archduke Franz Ferdinand of AH was assassinated by **Gavrilo Princip** of the **Black Hand Organization**

- 100% Serbian independence
- Feared Ferdinand would allow some Serbian freedoms and kill the “PanSlavism” movement

Path to WWI

1. the “Spark”
2. A.H. asks **Germany** for support
3. **Germany** gives A.H. a “**Carte Blanche**”
4. A.H. gives **Serbia** an “**ultimatum**”
5. **Serbia** accepts 19 of 21 demands

BEGINNING OF WWI

DAY 3
NOTES

July 28, 1914

A.H. attacks Serbia

- Russia begins mobilizing to help Serbia

8.1.1914 – Germany declares war on Russia

8.3.1914 – Germany declares war on France

- attacks France thru Belgium

8.4.1914 – Great Britain declares war on Germany

BELLIGERENTS

Countries at War

Allied Powers

Russia

France

Great Britain

Italy (1915)

- Treaty of London
- promised land along Adriatic

U.S. (1917)

Central Powers

Germany

Austria-Hungary

Ottoman Empire

Bulgaria

“My dear ones be proud that you live in such a time and in such a nation that you...have the privilege of sending those you love into so glorious a battle.”

WWI Weapons

- **Submarines = “U-boats”**
- **Machine Gun = 100 guns**
 - **“Devil’s Paintbrush”**
- **Artillery Gun = shoot from 10 miles**
- **Poisonous Gas – Battle of Ypres**
- **Airplane = “Recon”**
- **Tank = “Little Willie” – 3 men / 3 mph**

Total War

All resources used to fight the war

- **Conscription**
- **Women**
- **Victory Gardens**
- **Propaganda**

**DAY 4
NOTES**

Fighting on Western Front

Front between France and Germany

Germany = Schlieffen Plan

- **defeat France before Russia fully mobilized**
- **based on poor transportation system of Russia**
- **10 soldiers on “WF” : 1 soldier on “EF”**

Problems with Schlieffen Plan

- 1) Russia began mobilizing quicker
- 2) France stopped German advance @ 1st Battle of Marne

Started a “Race to the Sea”

“WF” turned into **Trench Warfare**

“No Man’s Land”

1914 Christmas Truce

Major Trench Battles

Feb 1916 – Verdun
July 1916 - Somme

Other Fronts

Eastern Front

- *between Germany and Russia*
- *Russia's only advantage = MANPOWER*
- **made Germany split their men**

Ottoman Front (*Gallipoli Campaign*)

- **failure for Allies**

GERMANY

Unrestricted Sub Warfare

1914-16 U.S. EXPORTS TO ALLIES - +350%

International Law

- "Stop, Confiscate, Release"
- Contraband
- Unwritten, but agreed to

Germany declared all water around England a "**War Zone**"

- began "USW"
- shoot without warning

Sinking of the Lusitania — 5/7/1915

- sunk in 18 minutes
- 128 Americans on board
- President Wilson urged Germany to back down
 - U.S. “supposedly” **neutral**
 - Germany “backed off”
 - did not want U.S. in the war in 1915

Submarine Warfare

August 19, 1915

Germany sunk the “Arabic” (2 U.S. dead)

- **“Arabic Pledge”**
 - stop attacking unarmed passenger ships without warning

March 24, 1916

Germany sank the “Sussex” (2 U.S. wounded)

- **“Sussex Pledge”**
 - give warning before sinking merchant and passenger ships and to provide for the safety of passengers and crew

U.S. Enters WWI

April 6, 1917

1917 – Germany’s war effort stalling

- English blockade and 2 front war hurting Germany
- Increasing desperation led to using USW again
- get England out before U.S. could mobilize

1) Germany’s re-use of “**USW**”

- U.S. using “**Convoys**”
- “Q Ships”
- hydrophones

2) **Zimmerman Telegram**

- Germany trying to get **Mexico** as an ally
- Create 2 front war for U.S.

DAY 5
NOTES

Russian Revolution

By 1915, Russia is in bad shape

- Allies feared **Nicholas II** would make separate treaty with Germany
- Allies offered straits in Balkan Pen.

March 15, 1917 Nicholas II abdicates

- **Alexander Kerensky** replaces
- **MISTAKE - keeps Russia in WWI**

Russian Revolution

November 1917 **Bolshevik Revolution**

- **Lenin** overthrows government
- beginning of **Communism**

March 3, 1918 **Treaty of Brest-Litovsk**

- treaty between Russia and Germany taking Russia out of WWI
- closed **Eastern** front
- Allies DID NOT forget

End of WWI

July 15, 1918

2nd Battle of Marne

- Germany's last offensive
- **U.S.** filling spots in Allied lines
 - General Pershing
 - American Expeditionary Force
- **Germany failed!!**

11.9.1918 William II abdicates

11.11.1918 **WWI over**

End of WWI

June 1919 Treaty of Versailles

- “Big 3”
- Russia not invited

European leaders wanted **harsh** punishment for Germany

U.S. President Wilson – “14 Points”

- “peace without revenge”
- 14th Point – form a **League of Nations**
- Clemenceau – *“The Lord gave us Ten Commandments. We broke them. Mr. Wilson has given us 14 points. We shall see.”*

Treaty of Versailles

Germany's Punishment – *“Carthaginian Peace”*

- lost all colonial territory
- military reduced to 100K (size of U.S. forces)
- could not produce any war material
- no troops in **Rhineland** (50 mile DMZ)
- pay **Reparations**
- **War Guilt Clause**
- **Sudetenland** given to Czechoslovakia
- **Anschluss** forbidden