

THE OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR I

Standard 15: The student will analyze the origins and impact of U.S. involvement in World War I



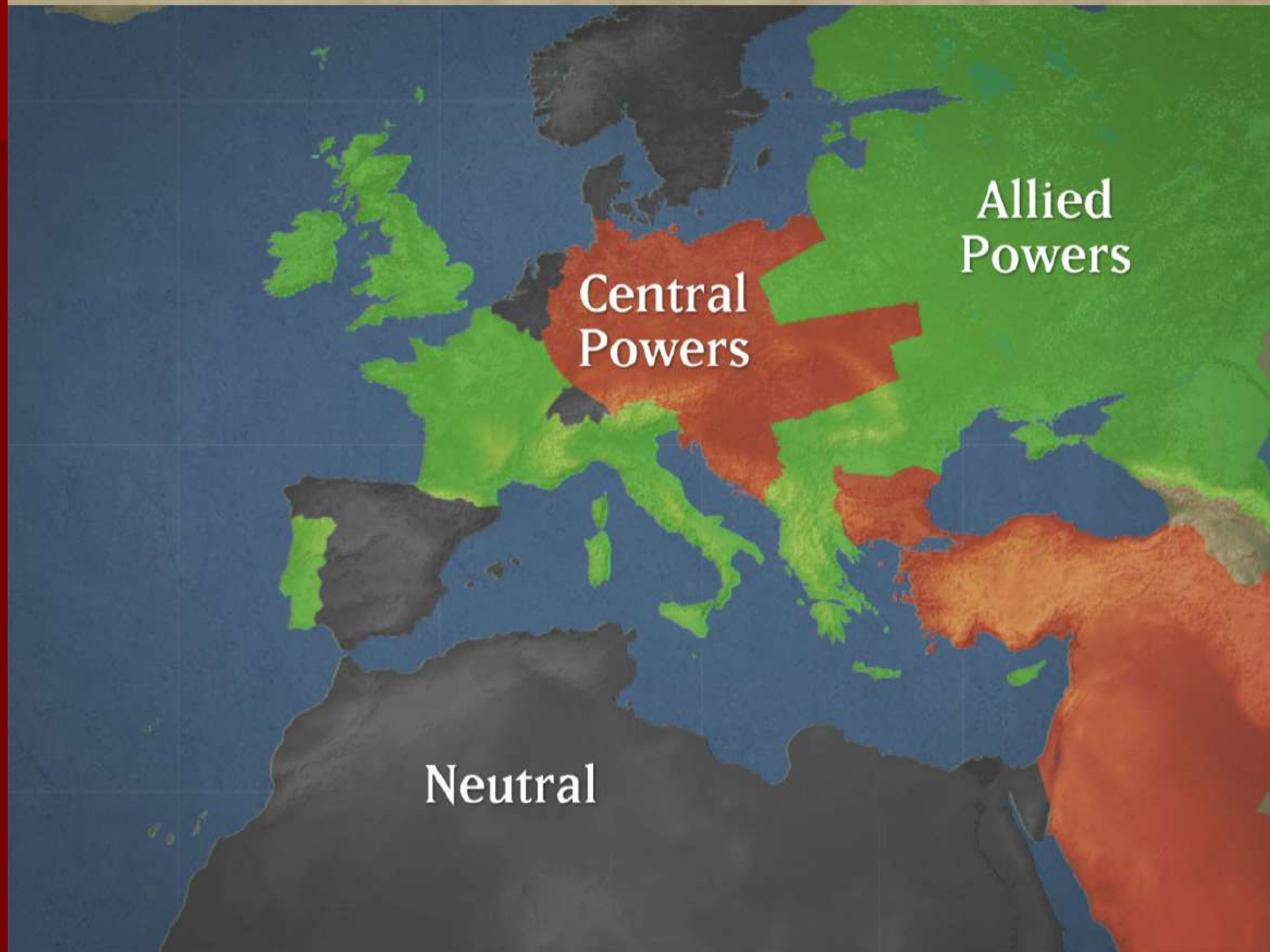
From 1914 to 1919, World War I erupted in Europe → So what caused World War I?

- **Imperialism** led to increasing international tensions
 - Created vast empires
 - Increased competition
 - Greater economic gain
- European countries also competed for **military might**

Setting the stage for War

- **Nationalism** also increased tension
 - **Definition:** *intense loyalty to one's country or ethnic group*
- Strong Alliances protected countries from foreign interference
 - **Allied Powers:** Great Britain, France, Italy, Russia, Japan (& eventually the U.S.)
 - **Central Powers:** Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire

WWI Central Powers vs Allied Powers



War in Europe

- June 28, 1914: Austrian **Archduke Franz Ferdinand** and his wife Sofia assassinated
 - Shot by a young Serbian nationalist who hoped to united Slavic peoples
- **Instead, the assassination lit the fuse of World War I**
- <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/world-war-i-history/videos/world-war-i-alliances>
- <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/world-war-i-history/videos/nationalism-and-wwi?m=528e394da93ae&s=undefined&f=1&free=false>



A. Describe the movement from U.S. neutrality to engagement in World War I, with reference to unrestricted submarine warfare.

■ The outbreak of WWI in 1914 was a test for America's new foreign policy

1. By 1914, the USA was a rising world power with overseas territories and influence in Latin America & Asia

2. But Americans wanted to remain isolated and neutral from involvement in Europe's "Great War"

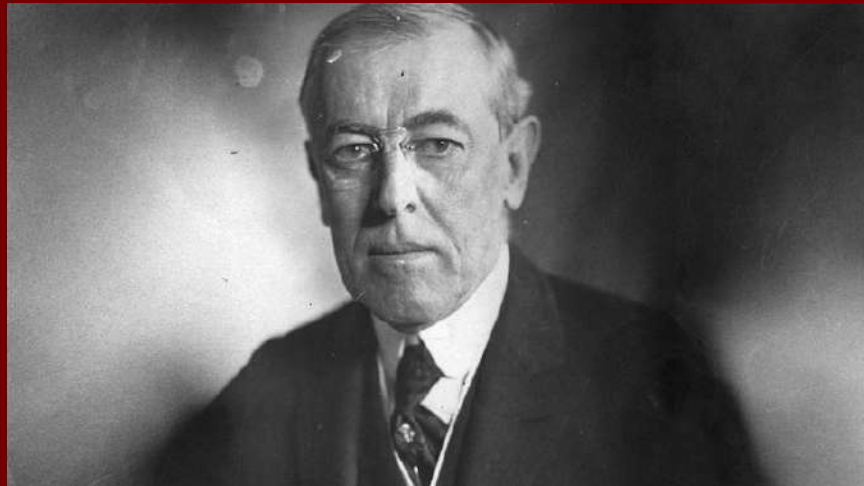


GROUP ACTIVITY:

If Americans wanted to remain neutral, why did the United States enter World War I?

- In small groups, determine why the United States entered WWI in 1917:
 - Examine the documents provided and complete the chart in your notes
 - When finished, create a one sentence thesis that explains why the U.S. entered WWI
 - Be prepared to discuss your ideas with the class

- Despite efforts by President Wilson to remain neutral, the United States joined World War I.
 - a. Americans were outraged by German violations of U.S. neutrality and isolationism
 - b. Americans were outraged by German unrestricted submarine warfare and attacks on passenger ships like the Lusitania



The Lusitania

- Feb. 1915: **Germany** warned it would sink any ship entering or leaving British ports
 - Unrestricted submarine warfare drew protests from foreign countries
- May 7, 1915: passenger ship *Lusitania* struck by a German torpedo off the coast of Ireland
 - 1,200 people killed, including 128 Americans
- Congress passed the **National Defense Act of 1916**
 - Increased the size of the army
 - Released \$6 million to build naval war ships

The New York Times.

EXTRA
5:30 A.M.

NEW YORK SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1912—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES

DATE	AMOUNT	ANALYST	REMARKS
1998-01-01	100000	John Doe	Initial deposit
1998-01-15	50000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-02-01	20000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-02-15	30000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-03-01	10000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-03-15	50000	John Doe	Deposit
1998-04-01	100000	John Doe	Deposit
1998-04-15	50000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-05-01	20000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-05-15	30000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-06-01	10000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-06-15	50000	John Doe	Deposit
1998-07-01	100000	John Doe	Deposit
1998-07-15	50000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-08-01	20000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-08-15	30000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-09-01	10000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-09-15	50000	John Doe	Deposit
1998-10-01	100000	John Doe	Deposit
1998-10-15	50000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-11-01	20000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-11-15	30000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-12-01	10000	John Doe	Withdrawal
1998-12-15	50000	John Doe	Deposit
1999-01-01	100000	John Doe	Deposit

QUEBEC, N. S., May 2. — At 11 A. M. survivors of the Lusitania who have arrived here estimate that only about 400 of those aboard the ship were rescued, and are only

Drawings of the sinking of the Lusitania



■ c. Americans were outraged by the Zimmerman Telegram in which Germany offered to return the Southwestern states if Mexico went to war with the U.S.



Zimmerman Telegram

- Feb. 23, 1917: British intercepted a copy of a telegram written by German foreign Secretary **Arthur Zimmerman** to German ambassador in Mexico
 - Proposed an alliance with Mexico if the United States abandoned neutrality
 - Promised to return land taken by the U.S. once War World I was over
- April 2, 1917: President Wilson asked Congress to declare war on Germany & joined the Allies

■ The USA remained neutral from 1914 to 1917, but in April 1917 Congress declared war on the Central Powers

■ President Woodrow Wilson promised to “make the world safe for democracy”



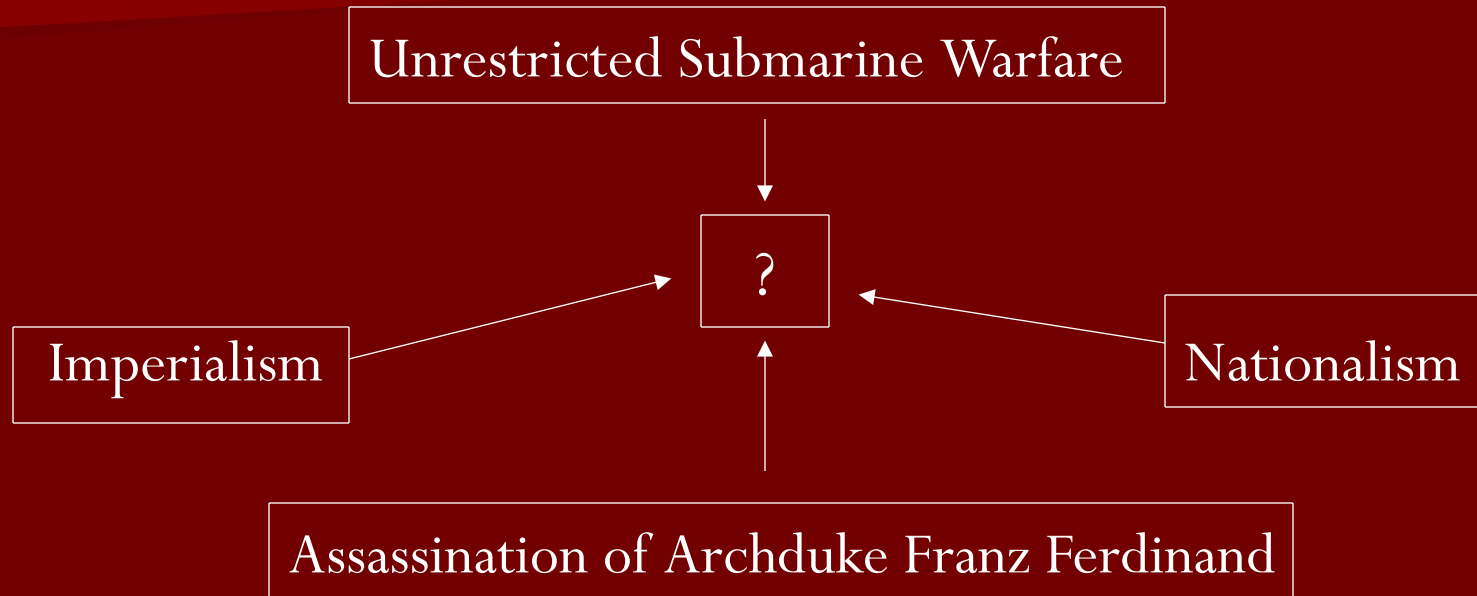
Practice Question

- Which of the following created the spark that started World War I?
 - a. European Alliances
 - b. American Imperialism
 - c. the growth of military power
 - d. the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

Practice Question

- All of the following contributed to American involvement in World War I EXCEPT
 - a. isolationism
 - b. anti-German propaganda
 - c. submarine warfare
 - d. the Zimmerman telegram

Practice Questions

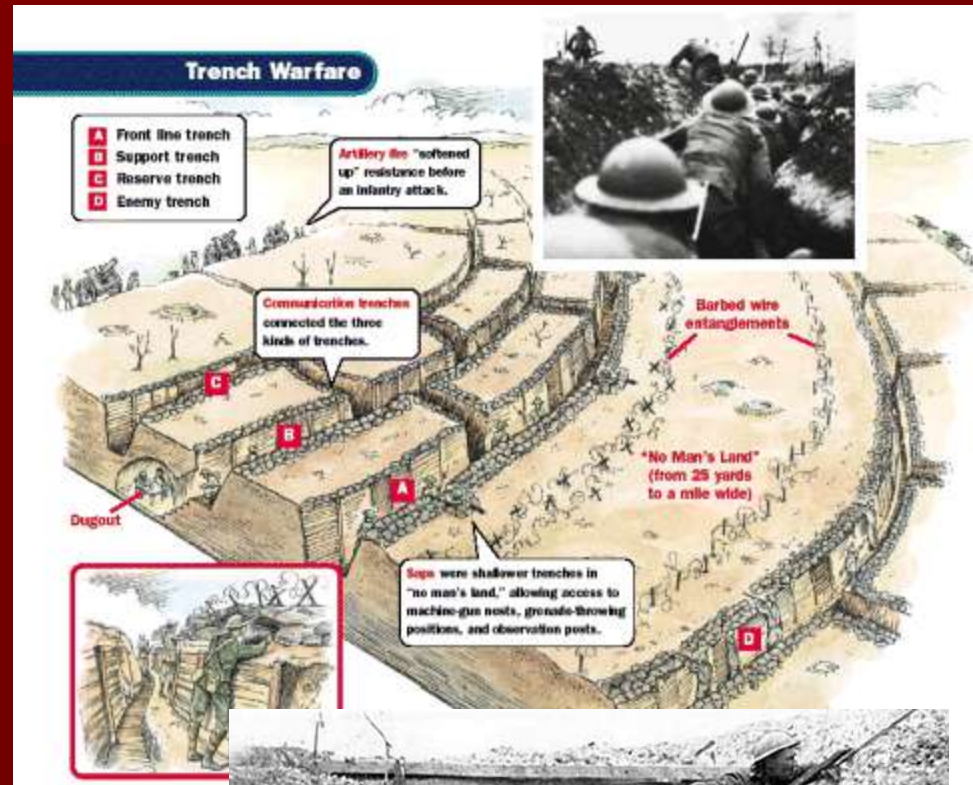


Which of the following events completes the above diagram?

- A. the Cold War
- C. the Spanish American War
- B. the Korean War
- D. World War I

Aspects of *Total War*: Trench Warfare

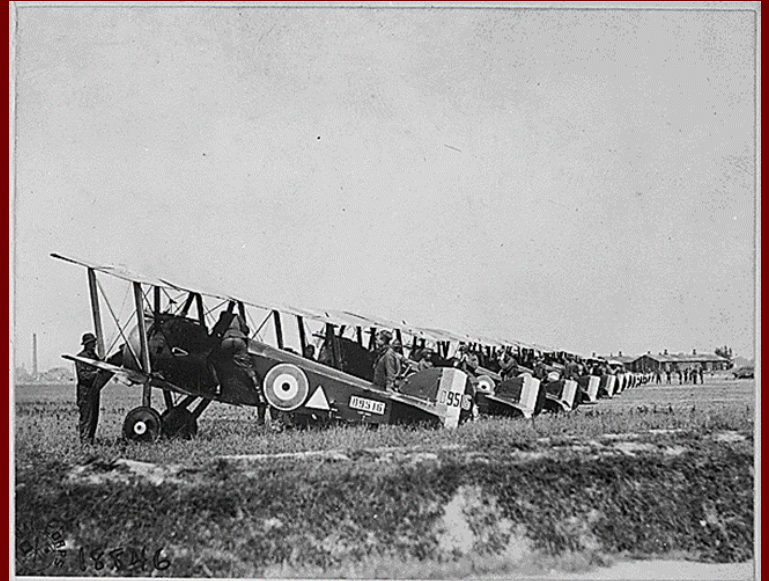
World War I saw the
introduction of many
new war tactics



Total War: Poison Gas & Rapid Fire Machine Gun



Total War: Tanks & Aerial Attacks



Total War: Submarines (“U-Boats”)



ONE OF BRITAIN'S DEADLY MOSQUITOES OF THE OCEAN.

This is one of the D class of submarines, of which the British Admiralty had eight at the opening of the war. All these, along with the E class, were on guard in the neck of the bottle that held the German Fleet while the British Expeditionary Force was being moved to France. "The patrol was maintained night and day," in the words of Commodore Keyes's despatch. These boats are of 1,200 tons displacement, with a speed of 15 knots above water and 10 knots submerged; they carry three 18 in. torpedo tubes, a 12-inch disappearing mount, and a crew of 20 officers and men. The lettering on the picture is explanatory.



Selective Service Act

- May 1917: Congress passed the *Selective Service Act* which authorized a military draft that required soldiers to serve until 4 months after the president declared peace.
- Around **2.8 million men** were called into military service.
- In addition, 2 million volunteered for duty, including some 30,000 women who served in the Coast Guard, Signal Corps, and as nurses in the Navy.

Selective Service Act & Volunteering for World War I



Women in the Military

- World War I was the first war in which women officially served in the armed forces
 - In the **Navy**, women served as secretaries, photographers, nurses, electricians & torpedo assemblers
 - In the Army, women members of the **Army Nursing Corps.** and were the only women in the military to be sent overseas

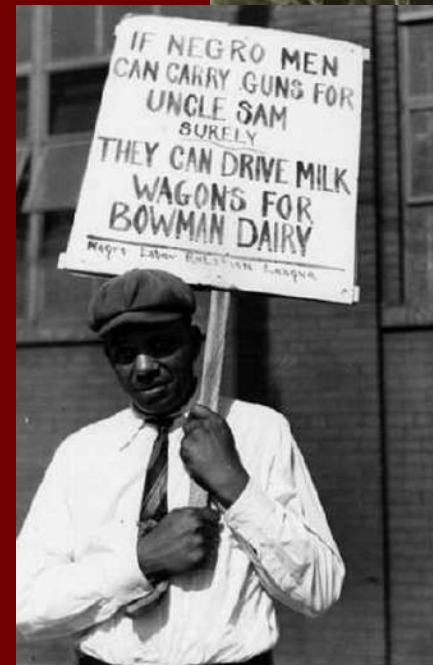


b. Explain the domestic impact of World War I, as reflected by the origins of the Great Migration, the Espionage Act, and socialist Eugene Debs



Great Migration

- Northern factories needed workers during the war for two main reasons:
 - Many white workers joined the war effort or were drafted
 - Nearly all immigration from Europe stopped
- To replace these workers, African Americans left the South and moved into many Northern cities
 - Looking for factory jobs
 - The movement became known as the Great Migration (1914-1920)
 - Between 300,000 and 500,000 African-Americans moved North
 - Most found work, but still experienced racism just like in the south.





The Great Migration, 1916–1930



Map by Michael Siegel
Rutgers Cartography 2005

Source: *The Atlas of A



African Americans in the Military

- 42,000 African Americans served overseas
- Encountered discrimination and prejudice
- Served in segregated units under the supervision of white officers



Espionage & Sedition Acts

■ *Espionage Act* was passed by Congress in 1917

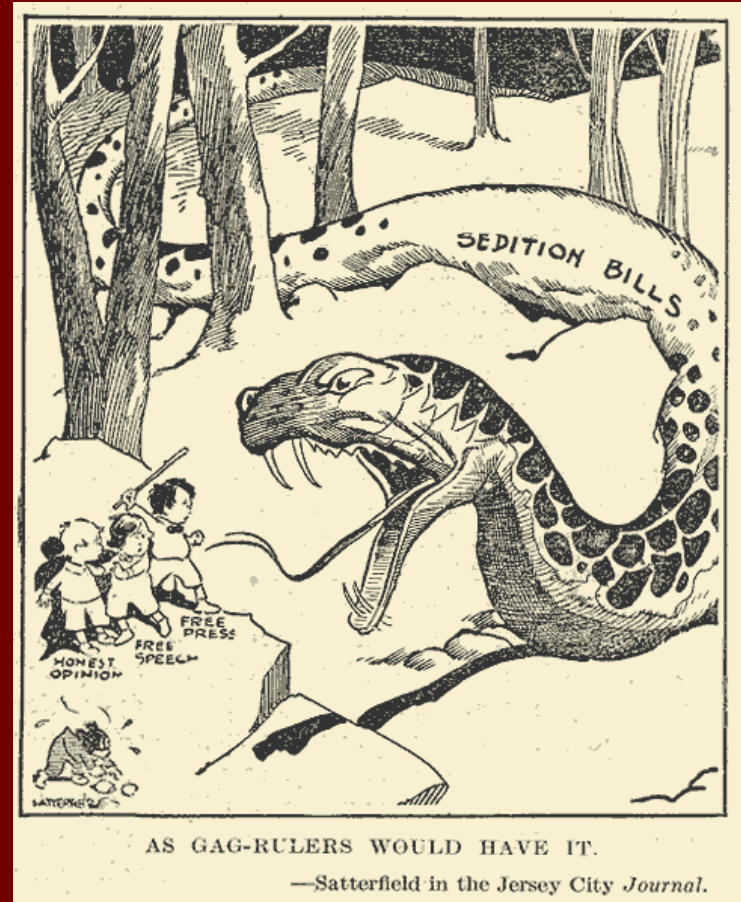
- Established penalties and prison time for aiding the enemy
- The act made it a crime to interfere in the induction of soldiers or to knowingly refuse the draft.

■ *Sedition Act of 1918*: it became a crime to speak out, write, or engage in any activity contradictory to the government's war efforts

- Dissenters faced \$10,000 fine and *20 years* imprisonment
- Many dissenters jailed
- Allowed war to be forced onto Americans

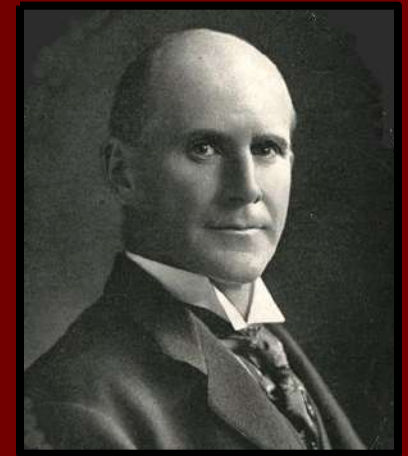
■ The Supreme Court also limited American's freedom of speech — 1st Amendment Right with the *Schenck v. U.S.* decision which upheld the Espionage Act of 1917

Espionage & Sedition Acts



Socialists & Eugene V. Debs

- Many *socialists*, such as **Eugene V. Debs**, and pacifists, were viewed as problematic by the government, spoke out against the war and were imprisoned.
- Leader of the American Railway Union (ARU)
- Ran for president in 1900, 1904, 1908, 1912, 1920 (*ran from jail*)
- Canton, Ohio--Made anti-war speech → Arrested and convicted under Espionage Act, received a 10 year sentence
- What is a Socialist?
 - A person who believes that the government should own industries (railroads, utilities)
 - A nation's wealth should be more evenly distributed in order to alleviate suffering

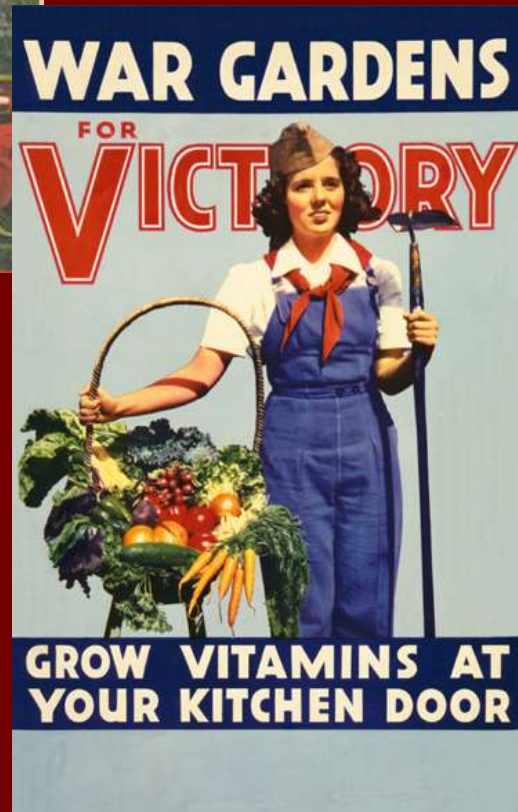


Patriotism

- Participation in the war was viewed as an act of patriotism.
- Families planted *victory gardens* so more farm products could be used for war.
- The government imposed price controls on certain agricultural products and encouraged citizens to participate in voluntary rationing.
- To help finance the war, Americans purchased *Liberty Bonds*.

Victory Gardens & Liberty Bonds

Propaganda



The End of World War I

- German government requested an *armistice* on October 4, 1918.
 - *Definition*: a situation in a war where the warring parties agree to stop fighting.
- Wilson agreed to discussions, but only once Germany removed its troops from Belgium & France.
- The armistice went into effect on November 11, 1918, at 11 am, “the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month”

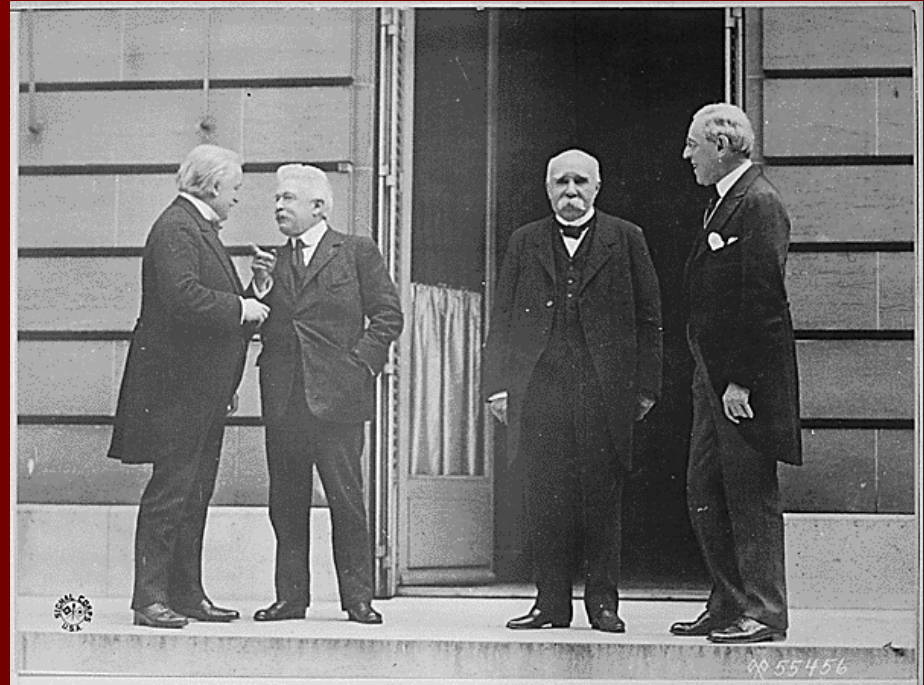


c. Explain Wilson's Fourteen Points and the proposed League of Nations

- The Allies won the war in 1918 & began settling for peace
- The “Big Four”
 - Leaders from the U.S., Britain, France, and Italy
 - They lead meetings which will decide the fate of Post-War Europe

Which country is missing from the meeting?

Why is this important?



BIG FOUR

Woodrow Wilson (United States)

Georges Clemenceau (France)

David Lloyd George (Great Britain)

Vittorio Emanuele (Italy)

The End of World War I – Russia's losses

- March 3, 1918: the Central Powers leaders & Russia's new government signed the *Treaty of Brest-Litovsk*, which was Russia's way out of the war.
- Treaty had severe consequences for Russia:
 - Loss of land: *Georgia, Lithuania, Poland, & the Baltic states*.
- Because of this treaty & his growing concerns over it, President Wilson drafted his own version for a lasting peace → the Fourteen Points.

Wilson's Fourteen Points

- Wilson presented his plan for peace, called the Fourteen Points to Congress
- Included the right to self-rule, free trade, disarmament, open diplomacy, adjustments of colonial claims, & free access to the seas by all nations.
 - These points were what Wilson felt caused World War I



Wilson's Fourteen Points

- The final point and central to the document was an international peace-keeping body, an *association of nations* called the League of Nations.
 - an organization which would help settle disagreements between member countries.
 - Do we have an association of nations today?
- Many countries viewed the Fourteen Points as being too lenient on Germany

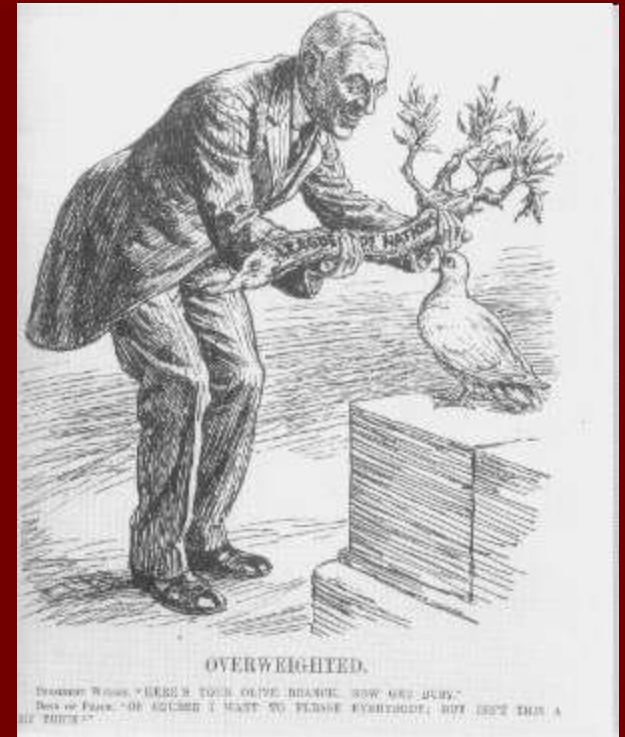
Treaty of Versailles

- European nations signed the **Treaty of Versailles** on June 28, 1919.
- Drafted by the “*Big Four*” leaders
- Wilson believed it was right for all countries to share equally in peace, but the other members of the “Big Four” wanted Germany to be punished.



Terms of the Treaty of Versailles

- Germany had to:
 - accept full blame/guilt for the war
 - pay \$33 billion in reparations to the Allies
 - & to agree to be disarmed (dismantle army & navy)
 - *Germany was not allowed to place any troops in the Rhineland, the strip of land, 50 miles wide, next to France.*
- Nations were carved from the territories of the *Central Powers*
- Most of Wilson's 14 Points were left out, except the *League of Nations*.
- The Treaty left Germany in shambles



“overweighted”

Changes to Europe

Europe 1914

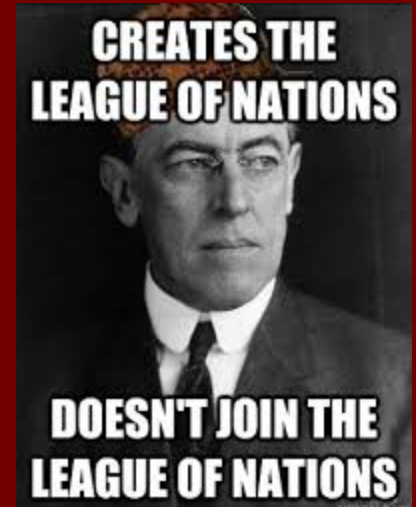


Europe 1919



League of Nations

- Congress did not pass the treaty, so when the League of Nations met in January of 1920, the United States was not present.
- Many Congressmen worried that it made the U.S. too involved in European affairs



Practice Questions

- The Great Migration refers to
 - A. the movement of thousands of African Americans north in search of employment
 - B. the movement of troops across France
 - C. the movement of troops across the Atlantic as the United States entered the war
 - D. the movement of thousands of refugees fleeing the destruction of war

Practice Questions

- Among the president's Fourteen Points was a proposal to
 - A. Disarm all major powers
 - B. Form a League of Nations
 - C. Create an alliance with Germany
 - D. Make Great Britain repay its war debts

Practice Questions

- One result of World War I was
 - A. The creation of new countries
 - B. An expansion of German colonies
 - C. A move towards democracy in Russia
 - D. An alliance between Germany and France

Practice Questions

- What did the Espionage Act of 1917 forbid?
 - A. Trade agreements with Great Britain
 - B. Interference in Army recruiting
 - C. Speaking out against the government
 - D. Travel by ship to Europe