

World War I

The War to End All Wars 1914 - 1918





Causes of Impending War

Web of Alliances

- Triple Alliance
 - Germany – Austria / Hungary – Italy
- Triple Entente
 - France – England – Russia
- Problem – Borders not aligned geographically

Militarism

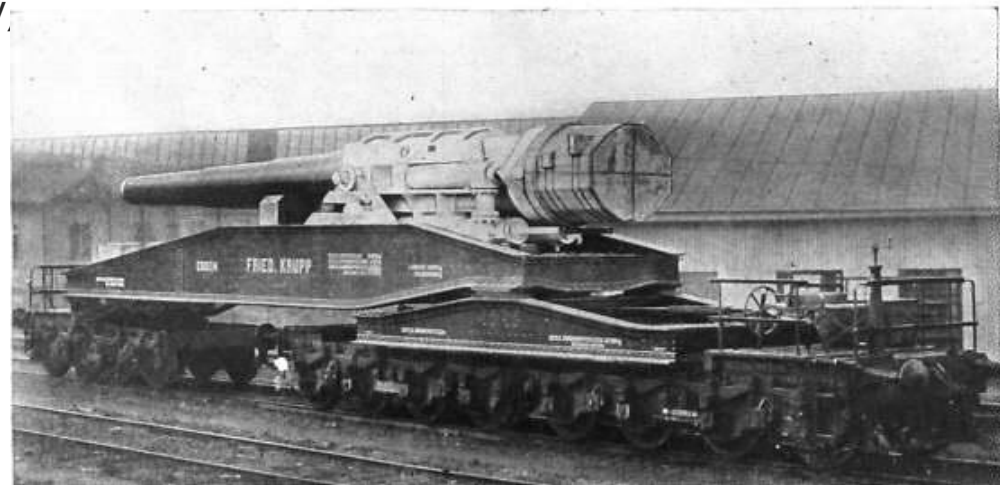
- Arms Race
- Large Standing Armies
- Inferior view of opposing Countries
- Detailed Battle Plans
 - Schlieffen Plan (Germany)
 - Plan 17 (France)

Imperialism

- Competition for resources

Rise of Nationalism

- Intense Rivalries
- Competition for Resources
- Territorial Disputes



The Spark!



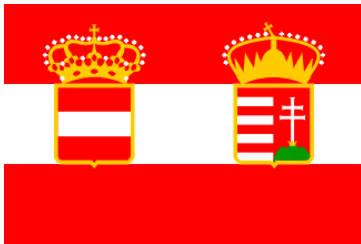
- The Balkans
 - Austro/Hungarian Empire holds Bosnia-Herzegovina
 - Ethnically Slavic (As are Russians and Serbs)
- Assassination of Arch Duke Ferdinand of Austro-Hung
 - Black Hand Society (Serbs)
 - Austria gives Serbia an Ultimatum



A Disastrous Chain of Events



- June 28th – August 4th 1914
 - Assassination of Arch Duke Ferdinand
 - Austro-Hung declares war on Serbia
 - Russia vows to Protect Serbia
 - Germany vows to protect Austro-Hung
 - Russia mobilizes to German/Polish Boarder
 - Germany fears attack and attacks Russia
 - France allies with Russia based on old treaty
 - Germany invades France through Belgium and Luxemburg
 - Britain declares war on Germany for invasion



“A Jolly Little War”

Millions rush off to war expecting to be home for Christmas.

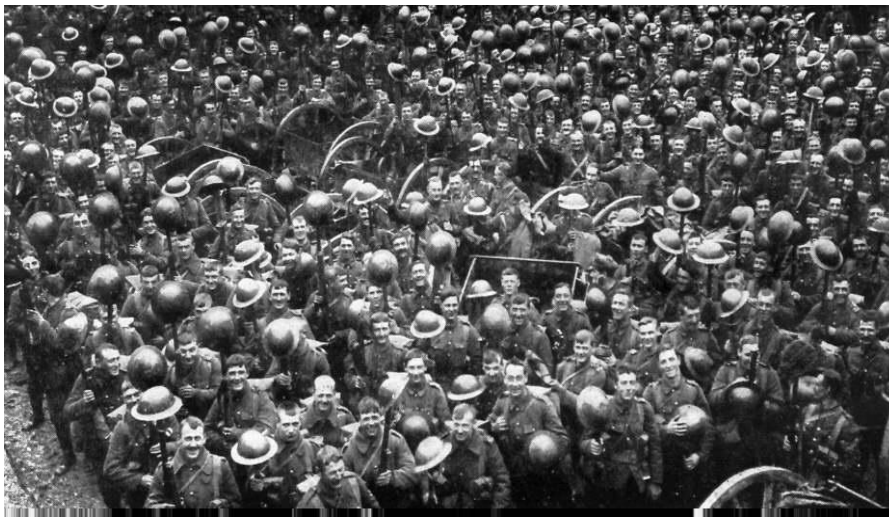
■ Nations Take Sides

○ Allies

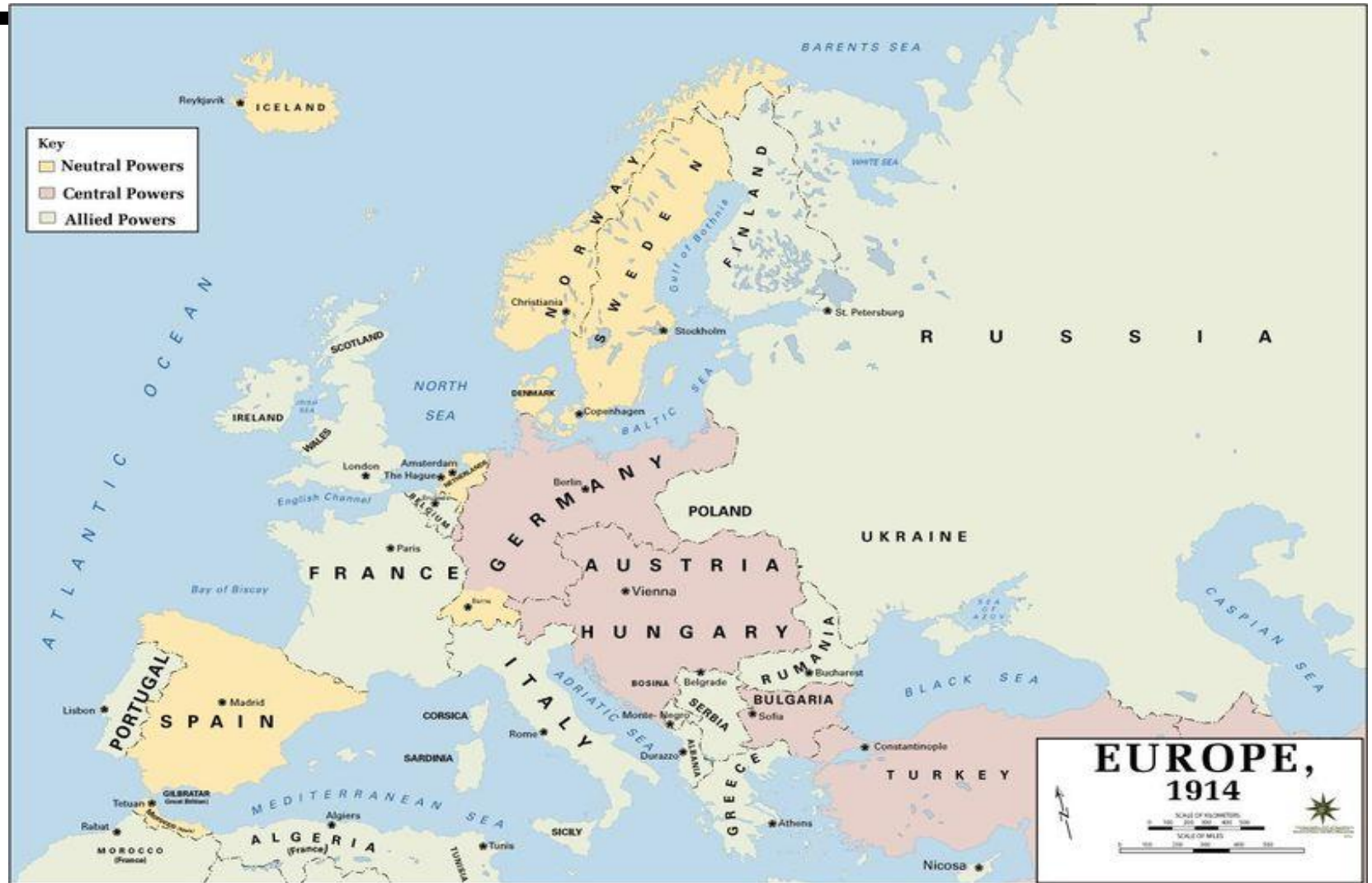
■ France-Great Britain-Russia-Italy-U.S.-Japan

○ Central Powers

■ Germany-Austria/Hungary-Ottoman Empire



Map of World War I Alliances



The Battle Plans for Victory?

- Schlieffen Plan
 - Germany's problem was a war on two fronts
 - Invade France by way of Luxemburg/Belgium defeat France quickly
 - Turn to the Eastern Front and defeat Russia
- Plan 17
 - Frances plan to invade Germany across the open plain of Alsace-Lorraine with bicycles and horses.



When Battle Plans Fail Stalemate

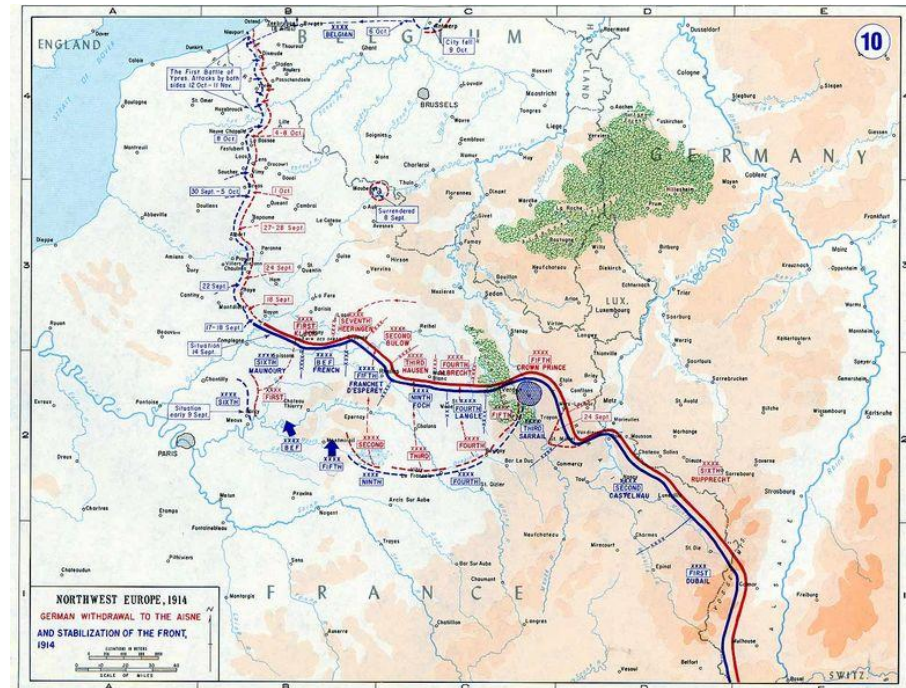


- Plans Fail
 - Plans are based on false assumptions of enemy strength
 - Plan 17 fails, German defenses are much too strong
 - Schlieffen invasion starts well, ends bad
- Belgium and France do not have the infrastructure to support German advance
 - Battle of the Marne
 - 600 taxi cabs rush French & British forces to the battle
 - Hold line 40 miles from Paris
 - Stalemate on the Western Front

Western Front



- Trench Warfare on French-German Border
 - 500 miles of Trench from North Sea to the Alps
 - 1 – 10 miles across
 - Battles
 - Verdun, Marne, Somme Valley
 - German Hindenburg Line



[Trench Warfare

■ Trench Warfare

- Forced by new weapons into the ground
- 3ft to 10 ft trenches 100 – 1000yds. apart
- Land in Middle is called “No Mans Land”
- System of attack – counter attack
- Fortified by machine guns, gas, artillery and cement



World War I Weapons

- Tank
 - Armor protection, mobile gun, unreliable in WWI
- Submarine
 - German U-Boat, Torpedoes, Shipping Blockades
- Poison Gas
 - Mustard Gas & Chlorine, Choked-Blinded & Killed
- Machine Gun
 - Caused Trench warfare, Two men could operate
- Air Plane



Weapons Pictures

Gas



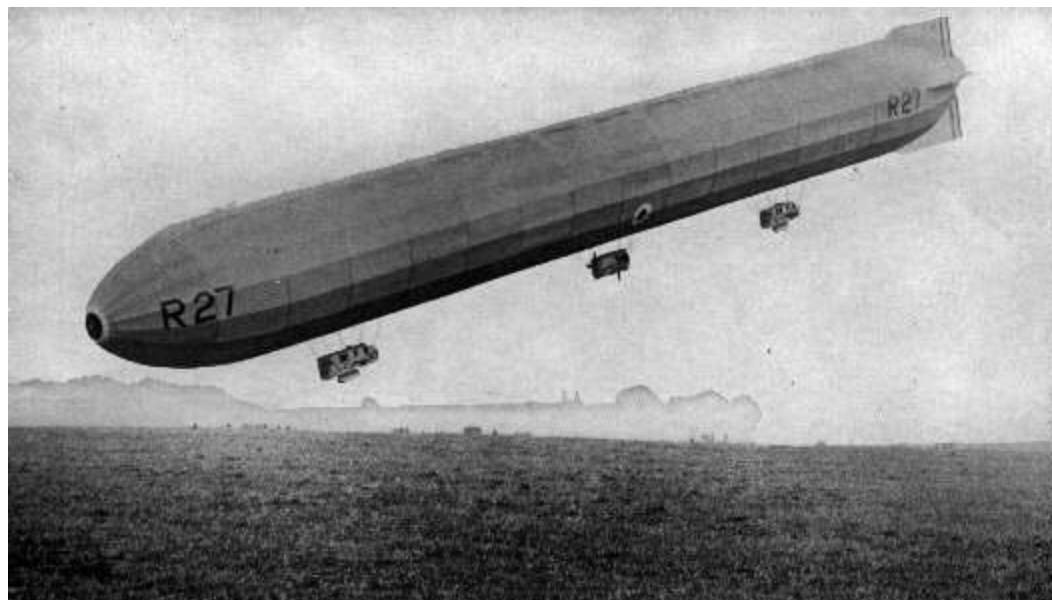
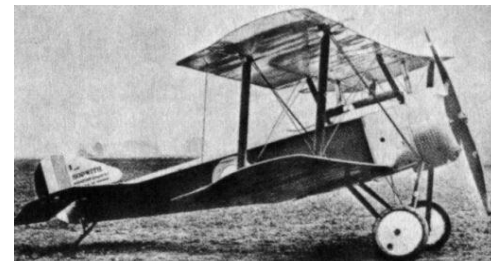
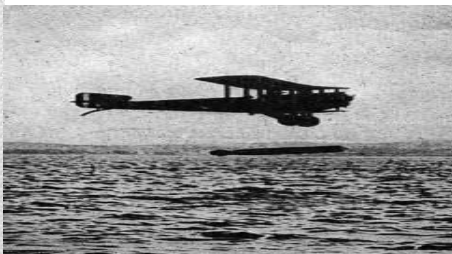
Weapons Pictures Continued

Tanks & Machine Guns



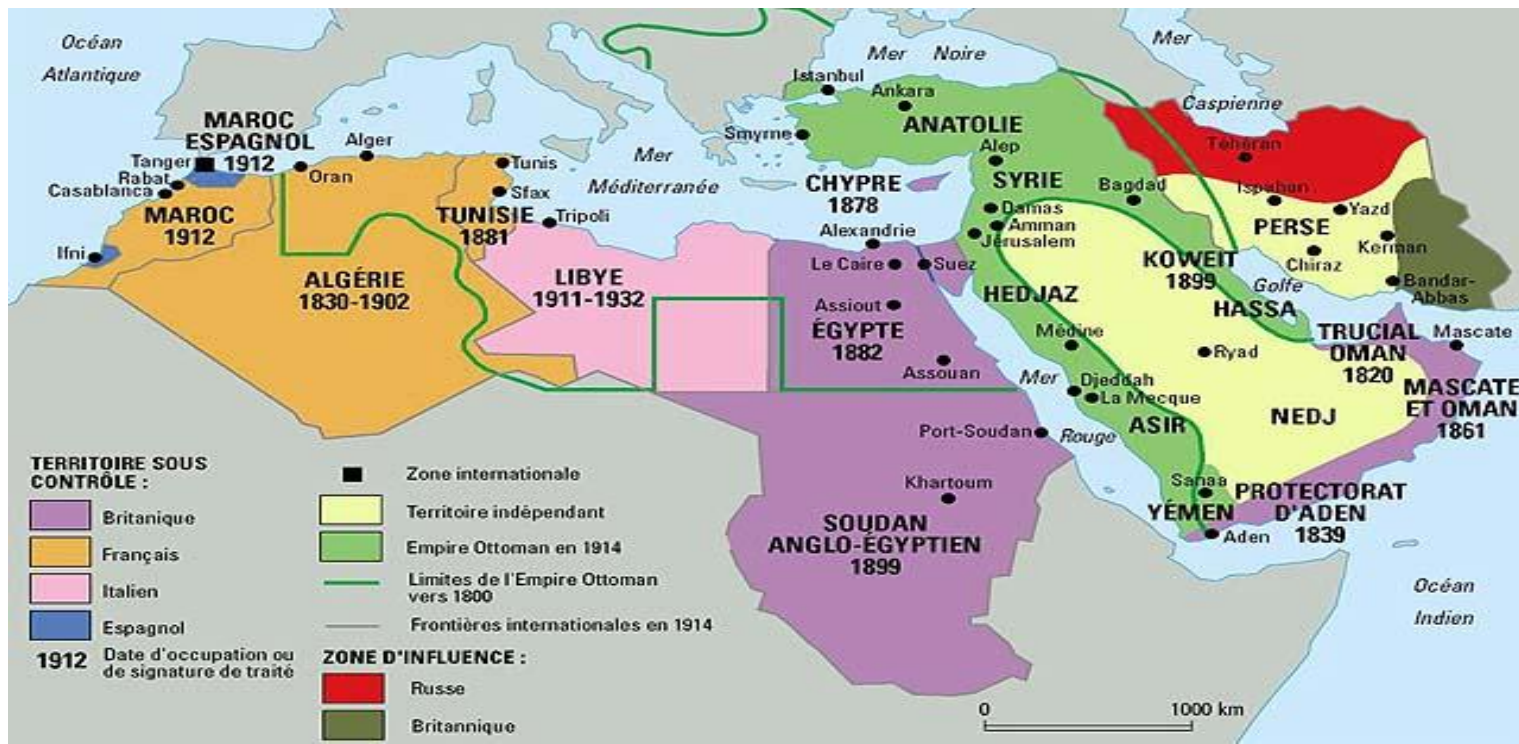
Weapons Pictures Continued 2

War in the Sky



Truly Global War

- Imperial Interest
 - Countries need to protect Imperial Territory
 - Used subjects to fight to a European War
 - Establish new world dominance



Battle of Gallipoli

■ Gallipoli Peninsula

- April 25, 1915

■ Casualties

- Turkish 250,000
- Allied Forces
- British – 205,000
- French – 43,000
- ANZAC – 36,000

■ Territory Gained

- ZERO!!!!!!



Asian Conflicts



- Japan
 - Take German land in China
 - Take German South Pacific Is.
- India
 - 1.3 Million Indians Fight for Great Britain, their Imperial Rulers.

Armistice! November 11th 1918

European Tragedy

- The Lost Generation
 - 37% of European Males between 18-24 Died
 - Deaths
 - Germany 2.1 Million
 - France 2 Million
 - Russia 1.7 Million
 - Austro-Hung. 1.5 Million
 - Italy 500,000
- 38 Billion in Economic Losses



A Flawed Peace

The Crime of the Ages—Who Did It?



Source: John McCutcheon, *The Chicago Tribune*; H. H. Windsor, *Cartoons Magazine* (adapted)

- Treaty of Versailles
 - France and Britain impose harsh penalties on Germany
 - Must take full responsibility for war
 - Pay 33 Billion to allies
 - Restrictions on German Army and Navy - 100,000 Soldiers
 - Took traditional German Lands
- Wilson's Fourteen Point Plan
 - Rejected as too forgiving to Germans
 - Point 14 a League of Nations accepted by Europe
 - US Congress refuses to accept the League of Nations

Europe after WWI



World War I Legacy

“The War to End All Wars” ?

- 10 Million Killed
- 338 Billion in Economic Lose
- Europe
 - War torn economies and Cities
 - Lost generation
 - German hostilities to European Powers
 - German Economic Depression
 - Leads to **Hitler's Rise** and WWII
 - Italians feel slighted by concessions
 - Russian Collapses Leads to Revolution
 - Rise of Communism – Lenin - Stalin
- World
 - U.S. Industrial Boom
 - Europe lost many industrial centers
 - Red Scare / Fear of Socialism
 - Changing borders in Asia and Africa
 - Japan feels slighted as Europe takes territory

