

# Events Leading to WWI

# The Players:

## Central Powers

**Germany**

**Austria-Hungary**

**Ottoman Empire**

## Allies

**Great Britain**

**France**

**Russia**

**Japan**

**Italy**

**U.S.**



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**EUROPE**  
and adjoining portions of  
**AFRICA AND ASIA**  
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**THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE**  
ALBERT H. WOODRIDGE, Editor  
of THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, WASHINGTON, D. C.  
1898



# The Family Feud

- In the era of kings and queens, children were often given to rulers of other countries as husbands and brides to serve as a bond of peace between countries.
- Queen Victoria of England had many grandchildren. Among them was King George V of England.
- Second in line to the throne, George became king when his older brother suddenly became ill and died. He married his brother's fiancé, who was a foreign princess given as a peace offering.

# Queen Victoria cont...

- **Nicholas II of Russia** - His mother was Victoria's daughter and his father a direct descendant of Peter the Great of Russia.
- Called a "girly girl" by his father, Nicholas was a gentle soul who was easily influenced.
- **Wilhelm II of Germany** - again, his mother was English and called him William. He despised this since proper Germans were called Wilhelm.
- Born breeched (upside down) his arm was damaged in birth and was never fully formed. Some believe he had brain damage due to lack of oxygen during birth.



Queen Victoria of England. Future King George V

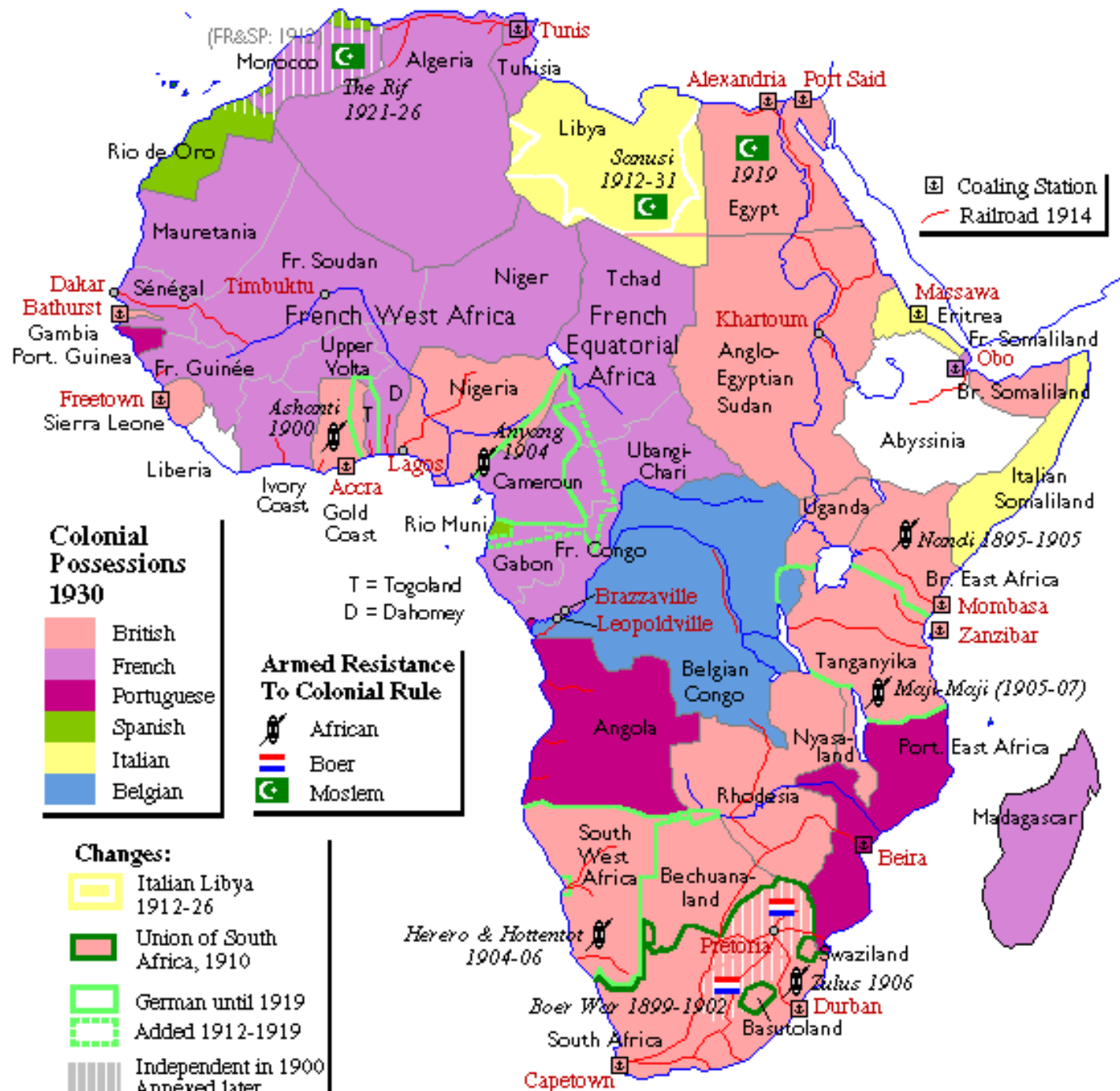
Wilhelm of Germany

George of England and Nicholas of Russia

see 1919-39 borders



# The Race for Land





# Chung Kuo

## 1910

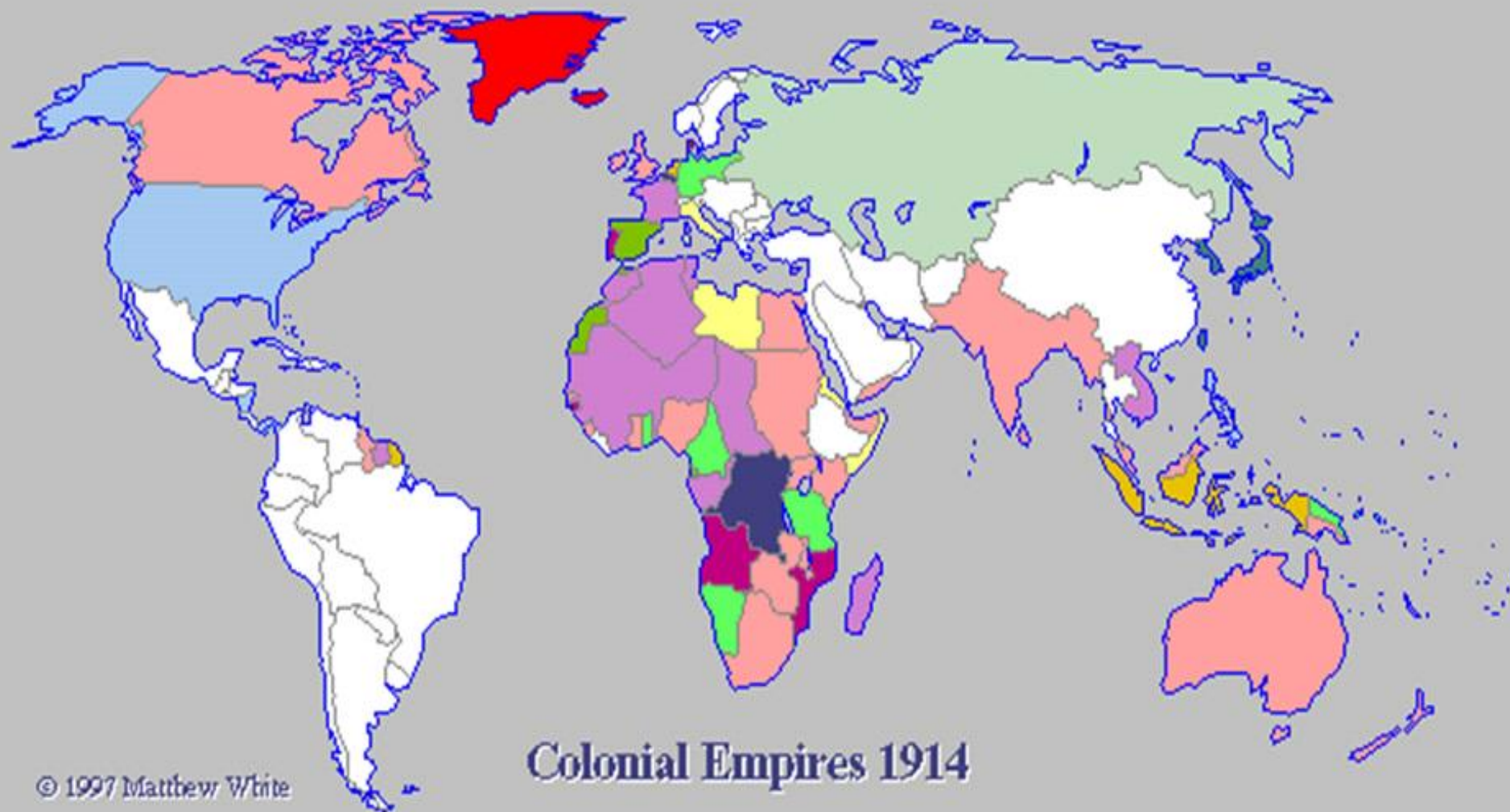
© 1997 Matthew White



Imperial Powers	
Territory	Sphere of Influence
	British
	Russian
	Japanese
	French
	German
	Portuguese

Legend for symbols:  
 Shensi  
 [Symbol]

# Imperialism and the Balance of Power



- |         |         |               |             |          |               |
|---------|---------|---------------|-------------|----------|---------------|
| Belgium | France  | Great Britain | Japan       | Portugal | Spain         |
| Denmark | Germany | Italy         | Netherlands | Russia   | United States |

# European events leading to war

- 1853 – Russia v. Ottoman Empire for control of the Balkan region
- 1854 – not wanting to miss out on the spoils, France and England jumped in against Russia.
- Russia asked Austria for help. Austria said, “no.”
- 1/4 million deaths. Russia begins massive build up of army to protect itself.

- Most of Europe in the late 1800's consisted of small kingdoms.
- Austria was the largest kingdom of mainland Europe and dominated politics.
- Revolutions in nearly every European nation.
- Bismark unified Germanic kingdoms: originally called Prussia, Bismark leads Germans against Denmark, Austria and France to gain land.
- Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871) Bismark captured French President Napoleon III and holds him ransom for \$1 billion to cripple France. France lost a massive territory.

- Geribaldi unites Italian kingdoms. Gains independence for Italy
- Boer wars (1880-1881, 1899-1902) – Great Britain puts down native revolt for control of South Africa. German President Bismark sent a congratulatory telegram to Boer leader after a victory.
- Russo-Japanese War for Manchuria (1904-1905) Russia lost. October Revolution of 1905 occurs when peasants in Russia revolt to end the war. Teddy Roosevelt brokered a peace deal and earned the Nobel Prize for helping end the conflict. Russia unhappy with results and began to bulk up military.

- Moroccan Crisis – 1905 Germany announces it's support for rebels in Morocco seeking independence from French rule. Britain had given Morocco to France. War avoided by an international peace conference.
- Moroccan Crisis #2 – 1911 Germany sent a warship to Morocco to protest French treatment of Moroccan citizens. Britain threatens war on France's side and Germany backed down. Germany began to beef up army and navy.



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- **Bosnian Crisis #1 – 1908, Austria-Hungary** announced it was annexing part of the Ottoman Empire including Bosnia. Bosnia was controlled by the Slavic people. Russia allied with the Bosnian Slavs. Germany threatened war with Russia on the Austrian side and Russia backed down. Austria occupied Bosnia.
- **Bosnian Crisis #2 – In the Balkan Wars of 1912-1913, the Balkan States drove the Ottoman Turks back to Constantinople. They then fought amongst themselves for land. Austria took advantage to gain more land in the region.**



# Meanwhile...

- 1875 saw the start of the Second Industrial Revolution
- Marxism was spreading rapidly through the poorer parts of Europe

# MAIN causes

- **M – Militarism.** Due to the constant warring in Europe, all nations began an arms race. Germany had the world's largest and most advanced army. England tried to keep a navy 3 times larger than anyone else. The Russo-Japanese War had established battleships as the key naval weapon.
- General staffs formed and organized elaborate plans of attack in case of nearly any scenario. Militaristic cultures develop in nations.

- **A – Alliances-** Germany and Austria descended from the same Germanic peoples and were thus natural allies. Ottoman Empire allied with Germany and Austria to protect their Balkan regions from Russia.
- One of Russia's main ethnic groups were the Slavs. Serbia was full of Slavs, thus Russia saw itself as their protector. Russia signed an alliance with Great Britain after the peace deal with G.B.'s ally Japan in 1907.
- G.B and France formed an alliance against Germany and Austria in case of war.

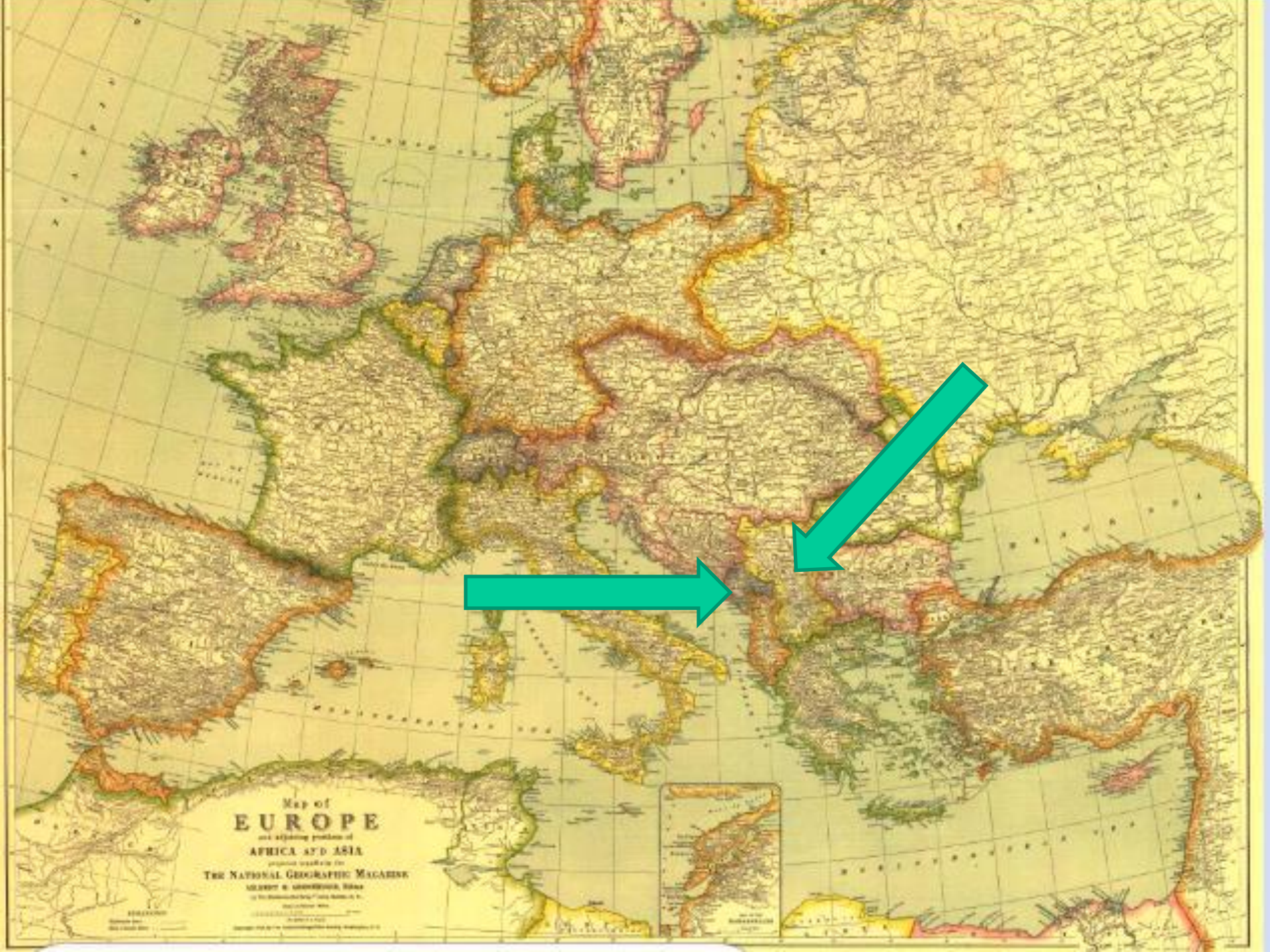
- France became allies with Russia in 1891 in case of German invasion. This allowed an attacked on Germany from both sides.
- G.B. was allied with Belgium against Germany and France.
- The U.S. was neutral on all accounts, but heavily favored England over all others.

- **I – Imperialism** – all major nations were involved in a massive land grab. Ethiopia and Liberia were the only portions of Africa not claimed by Europeans. Massive armies and navies were needed to control this much of the earth's surface.
- Rivalries were plentiful and often violent. Rebellions were frequent and nations supported rebellions of rival's territories by sneaking in ammo and cash.

- **N – Nationalism** – Intense national pride. Each major nation was centered around a people group and took much pride in building it's empire. Kings were related and no one wanted to be the weak one in the family. Political turmoil within many countries led to harsh suppression of rebellions. When called upon for duty, men did not hesitate.

# The Match!

- June 28, 1914 – Archduke Ferdinand and his new bride were touring Sarajevo.
- A group of 7 Bosnian teenagers, all victims of tuberculosis, called themselves the Black Hand and hatched a plot to assassinate the king.
- Since the king of Austria was not available, they decided to get the crown prince.
- After a failed attempt to kill the prince with a bomb, Gavrillo Princip climbed in the window of his car and shot the prince and his new wife.



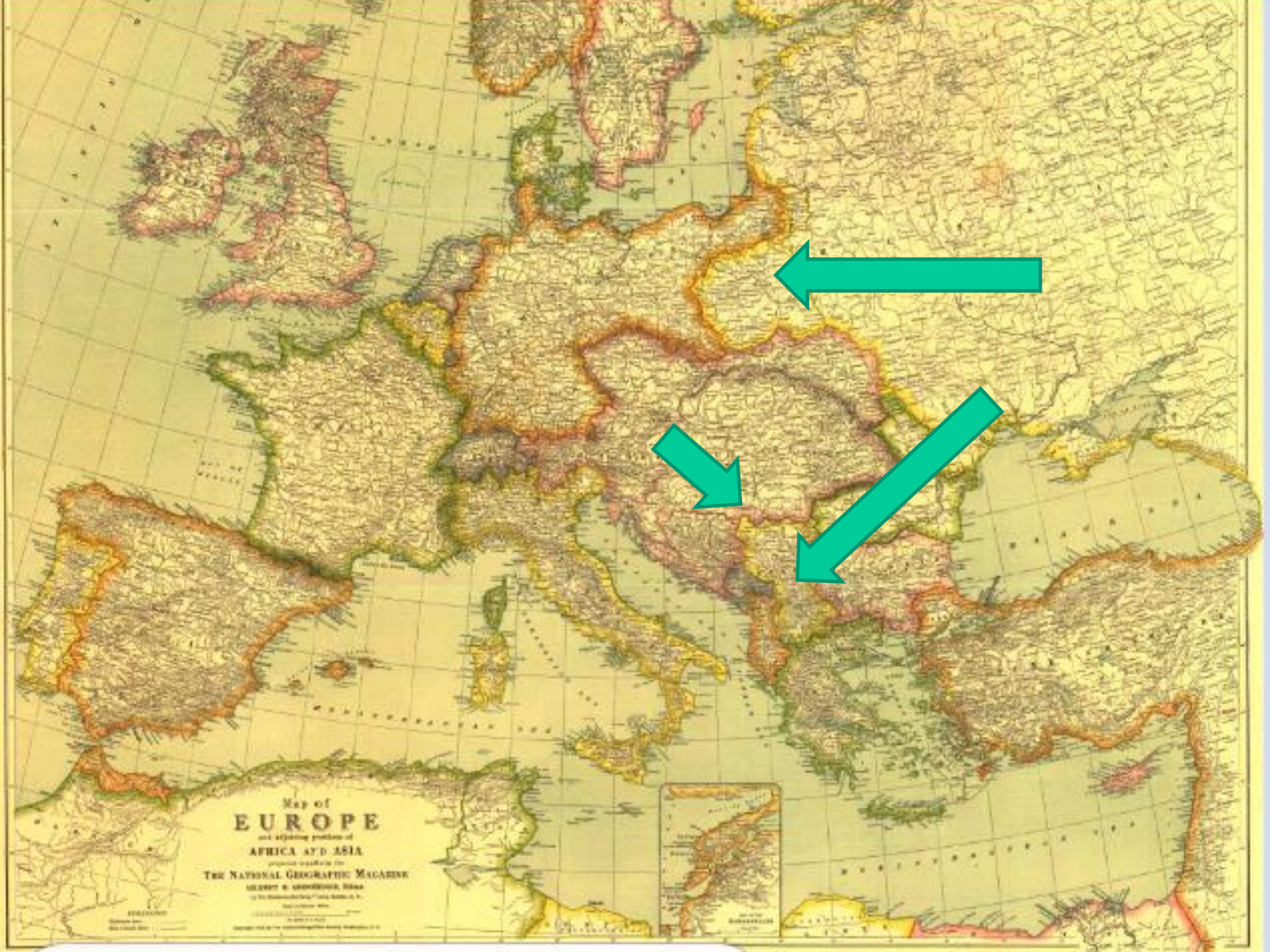
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# Here comes the confusing part...

- Austria-Hungary immediately declared war on Serbia (even though a Bosnian did it).
- Russia immediately mobilized its army and began moving it toward Austria. Some of its army moved toward Germany because it only had one plan of attack.
- While Russia and Austria tried to broker a peace deal, Germany mobilized its troops.

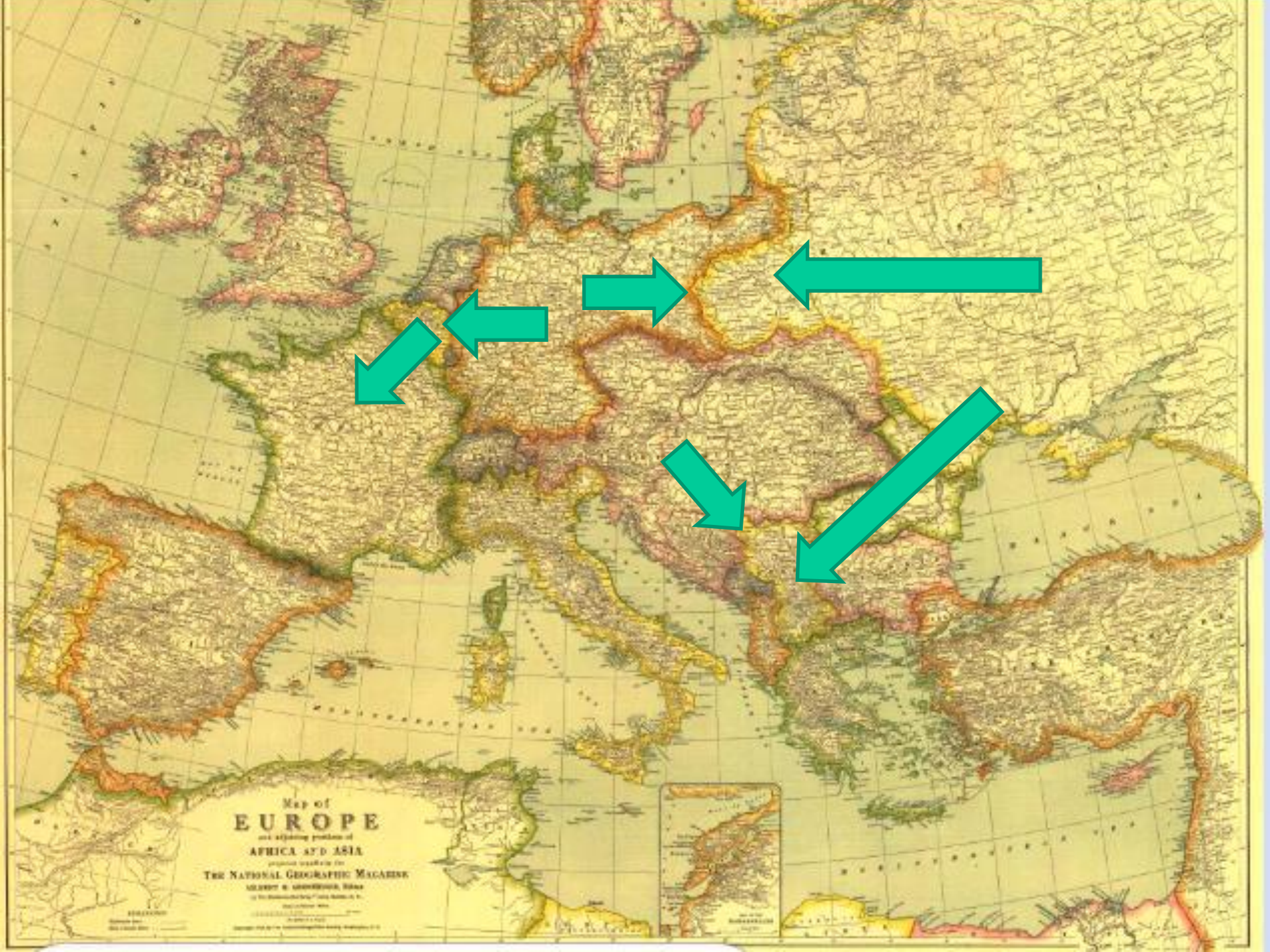


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# The Schlieffen Plan

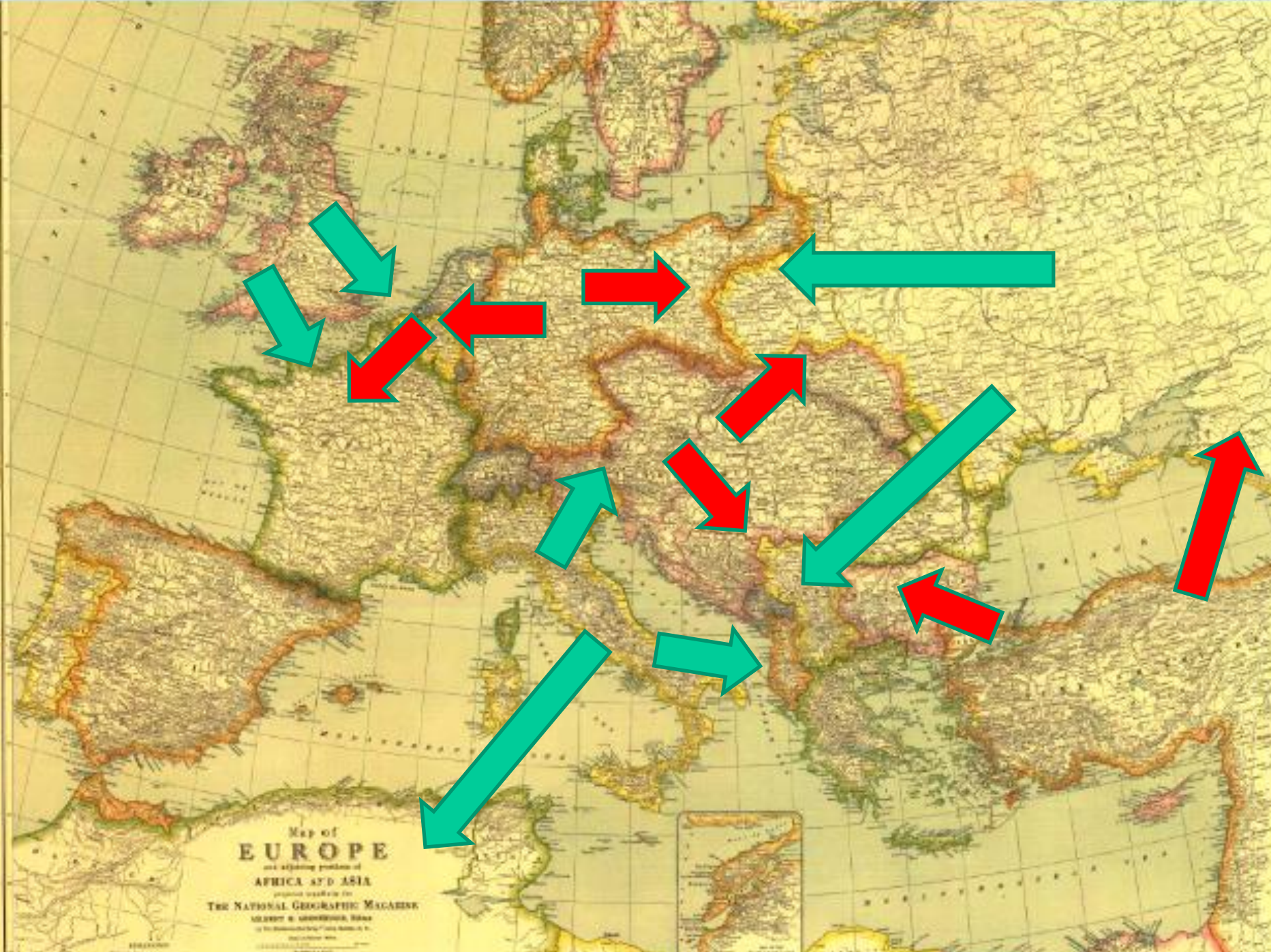
- Germany's only plan to defend itself against Russia involved a defense against a French invasion also. It called for a sneak, first strike style attack against France by invading through the mountains of Belgium.
- Germany mobilized for its defense and sent troops toward Russia and France at the same time. When German troops entered Belgium, Belgium immediately declared war on Germany to defend itself.



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- What Germany didn't count on was that Great Britain was allied with Belgium so they immediately declared war on Germany.
- SO... Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia. Russia jumps in on Serbia's side. Germany joins Austria-Hungary by invading both Russia and France through Belgium. Great Britain joins in defense of both Belgium and France. The Ottoman Empire will join Austria-Hungary to gain land from Russia. Japan and Italy will join the Allies to gain German lands in North Africa and the Pacific.



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# Causes of America's entry into WWI



# Neutrality

- In the beginning the United States wanted to remain neutral.
- The war was happening in Europe.
- Wilson was re-elected in 1916
  - ››On the slogan “He kept us out of the war”



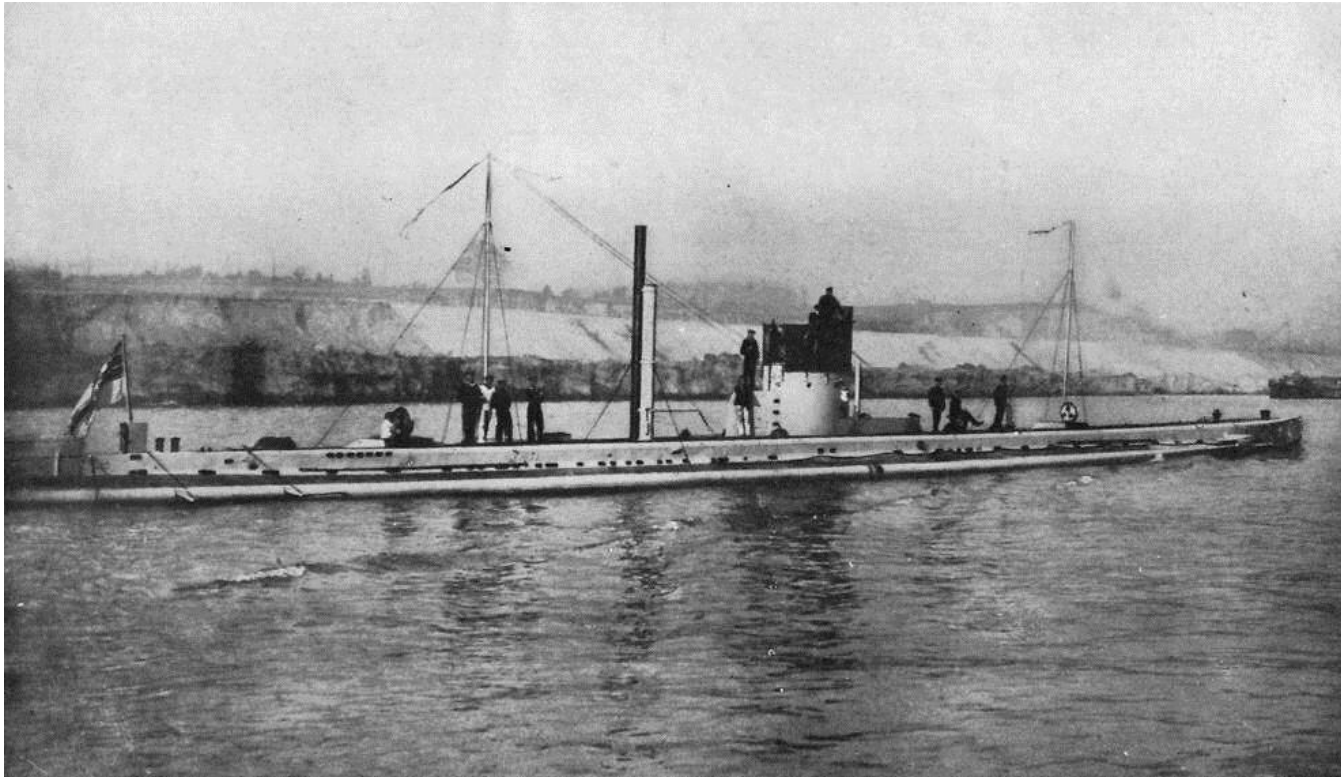
# What pulled America into the War

- Unlimited Submarine (u-boat) warfare
- The sinking of the Lusitania
- Sussex Pledge is broken
- The Zimmerman Telegram



# Unlimited Submarine (u-boat) warfare

- According to international law civilian ships must be warned before sinking – allowing for passengers to escape to safety.
- Germany was not doing this!



**Captured German U-boat in  
a British dry dock**



# The Sinking of the *Lusitania*

- British passenger liner that set sail from New York carrying American citizens.
- It was sunk without warning on May 7, 1915 off the coast of Ireland
- 1,198 lost; 128 US citizens
- Germans claimed the *Lusitania* was carrying contraband (war materials: guns, ammunition...)
  - She was!



United  
States Navy  
War  
Propaganda  
Poster

With the  
*Lusitania*  
in the  
background



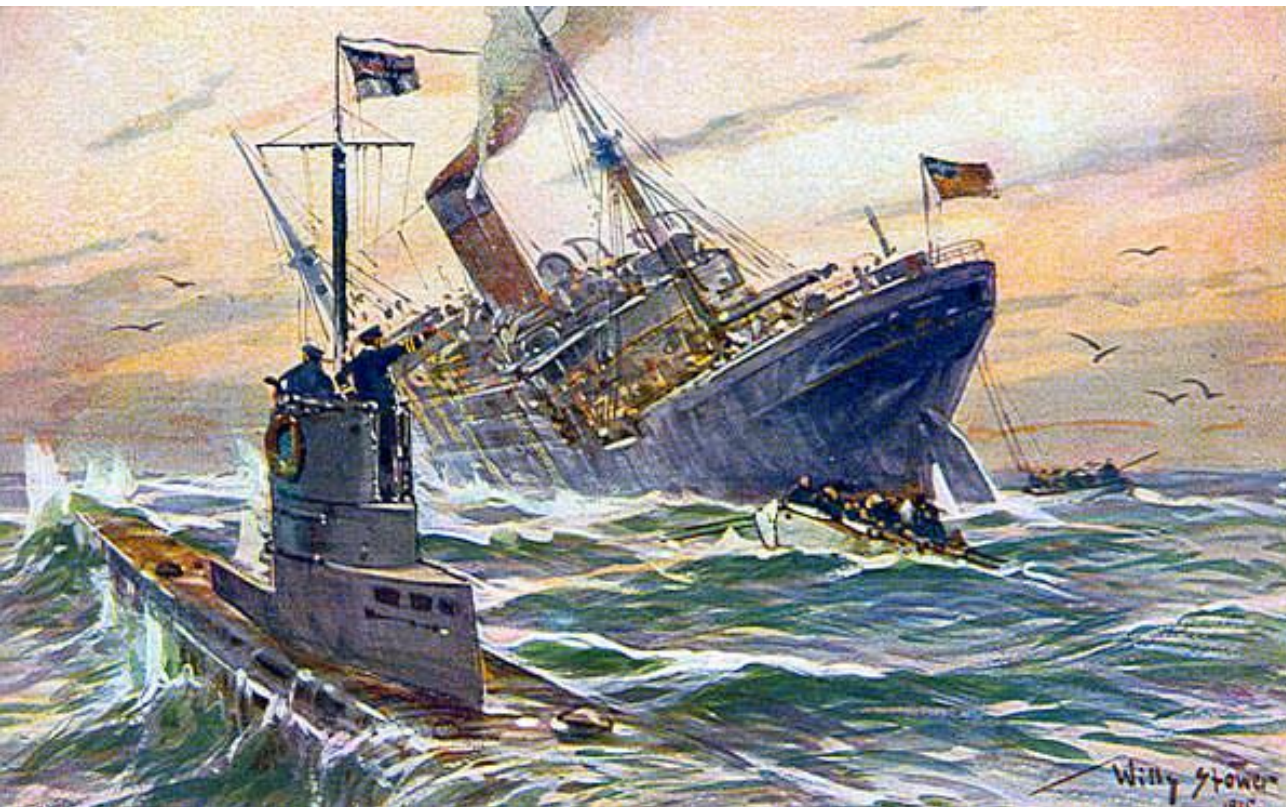
# RESULT of the Sinking of the Lusitania

- Germany despite promises sunk another ship – The Sussex, killing 2 Americans
- President Wilson protested & Germany issued the Sussex Pledge – not “to sink merchant or passenger ships without warning and without saving human lives”



# Sussex Pledge

- The Sussex Pledge broken: February 1, 1917 Germany continued unlimited



# Zimmerman Telegram

- March 1917 The Zimmermann telegram released
- If the U.S. entered War against Central Powers, Mexico should attack the U.S. and receive as a reward: Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.
- **AMERICANS WERE OUTRAGED!!!**



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SOME PROMISE!

*April 1911*

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Fast Day Message	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night Message	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>

Patrons should mark, as appropriate, the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE TELEGRAM WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FAST DAY MESSAGE.

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

Date 3300
Time Filed

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

via Galveston

JAN 19 1917

GERMAN LEGATION

MEXICO CITY

130	13042	13401	8501	115	3528	416	17214	6491	11310
18147	18222	21580	10247	11518	23877	13805	3494	14938	
98092	5905	11311	10392	10371	0302	21290	5101	39695	
23571	17504	11289	18276	18101	0317	0228	17894	4473	
22284	22200	19452	21589	87893	5589	13918	8958	12137	
1333	4725	4458	5905	17168	13851	4458	17149	14471	8706
13850	12224	8929	14991	7382	15857	87893	14218	38477	
5870	17553	87893	5870	5454	16102	15217	22801	17138	
21001	17388	7448	23838	18222	8719	14331	15021	23845	
3158	23552	22098	21804	4797	9497	22484	20855	4377	
23810	18140	22280	5905	13347	20420	39889	13732	20887	
8929	5275	18507	52282	1340	22049	13339	11285	22295	
10439	14814	4178	6992	8784	7632	7357	6928	52282	11287
21100	21272	9348	9559	22484	15874	18502	18500	15857	
2188	5378	7381	98092	16127	13488	9350	9220	76038	14219
5144	2831	17920	11347	17142	11284	7687	7782	15099	9110
10482	97558	3589	3870						

BEPNSTORFF.

Charge German Embassy.

862 20219/52A

RECEIVED  
Director 1-8-58  
W. L. Harrison, State Dept.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

By *Mack A. Eckhoff*  
Date *Oct 27, 1958*

FROM 2nd from London # 5747.

"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. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, <sup>invite</sup> ~~invite~~ Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace." Signed, ZIMMERMAN.

# America Declares War

- April 2, 1917
  - President Wilson asked Congress for a declaration of war
- April 6, 1917 Congress declares war!!



MADE IN AMERICA BY FLAGG

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

**NEAREST RECRUITING STATION**

# AEF hanging out





# Salvation Army



# Salvation Army



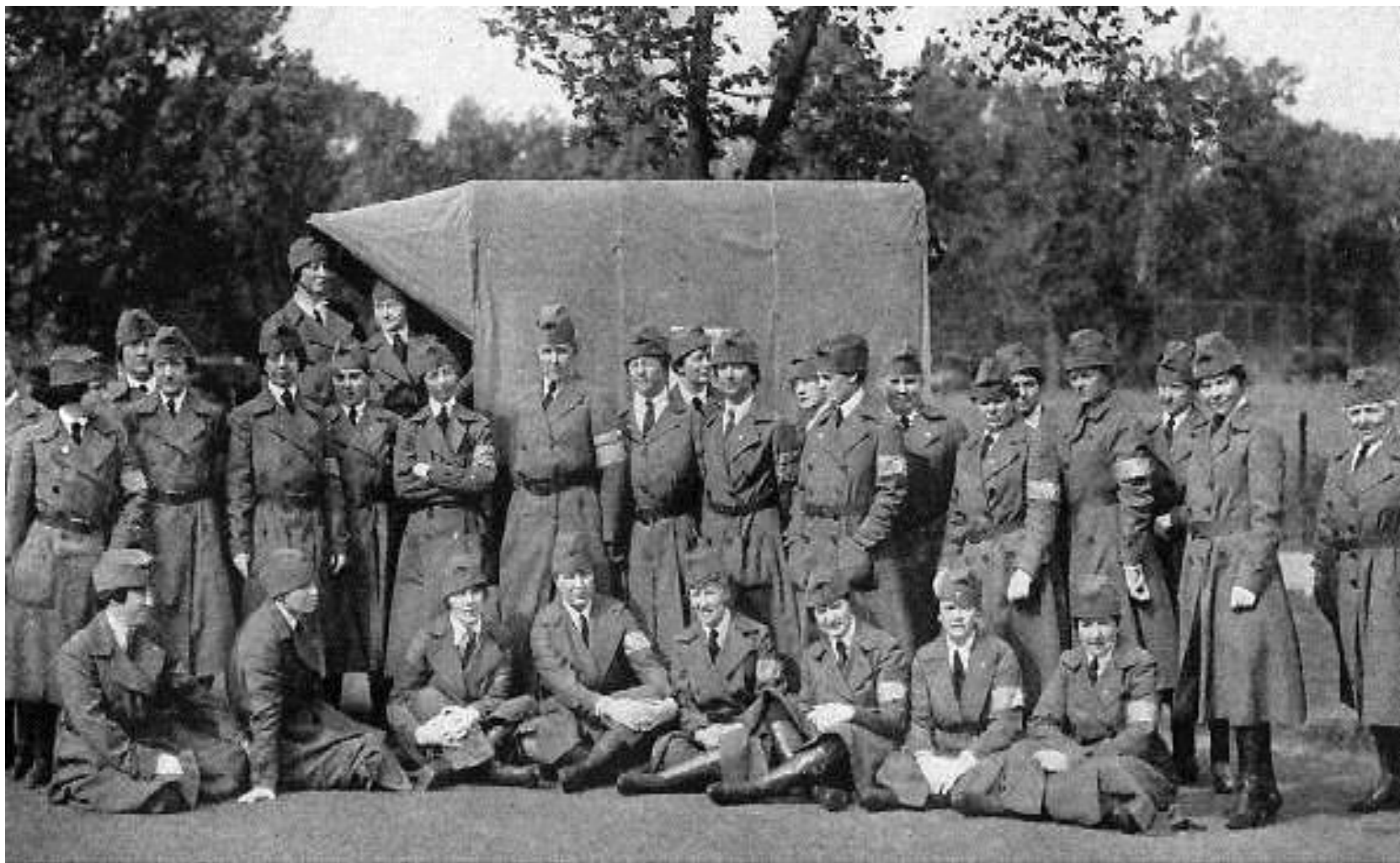
# YMCA mobile kitchen



# Red Cross



# Red Cross Volunteers



# Jewish Welfare Board





E-3850

140073

C-310

# Harlem Hellfighters





# Franz Ferdinand and Kaiser Wilhelm



# Franz Joseph of Austria



# Austrian Troops



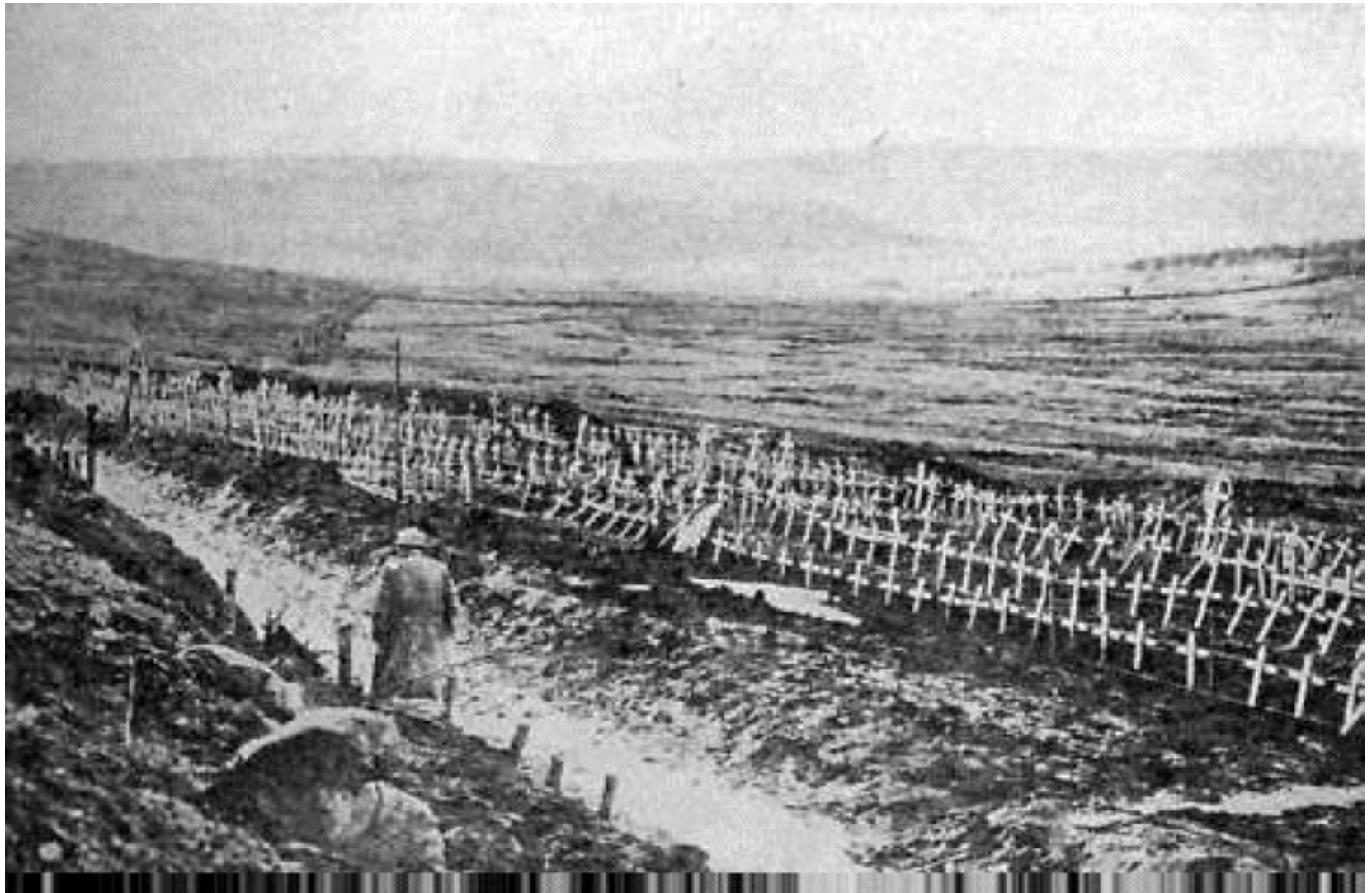
# Never pass up a good opportunity to massacre Christians



# French charge at Peronne



# French at Battle of Verdun



# Germans after one day of battle



# Germans charge a pill box





# Between the trenches



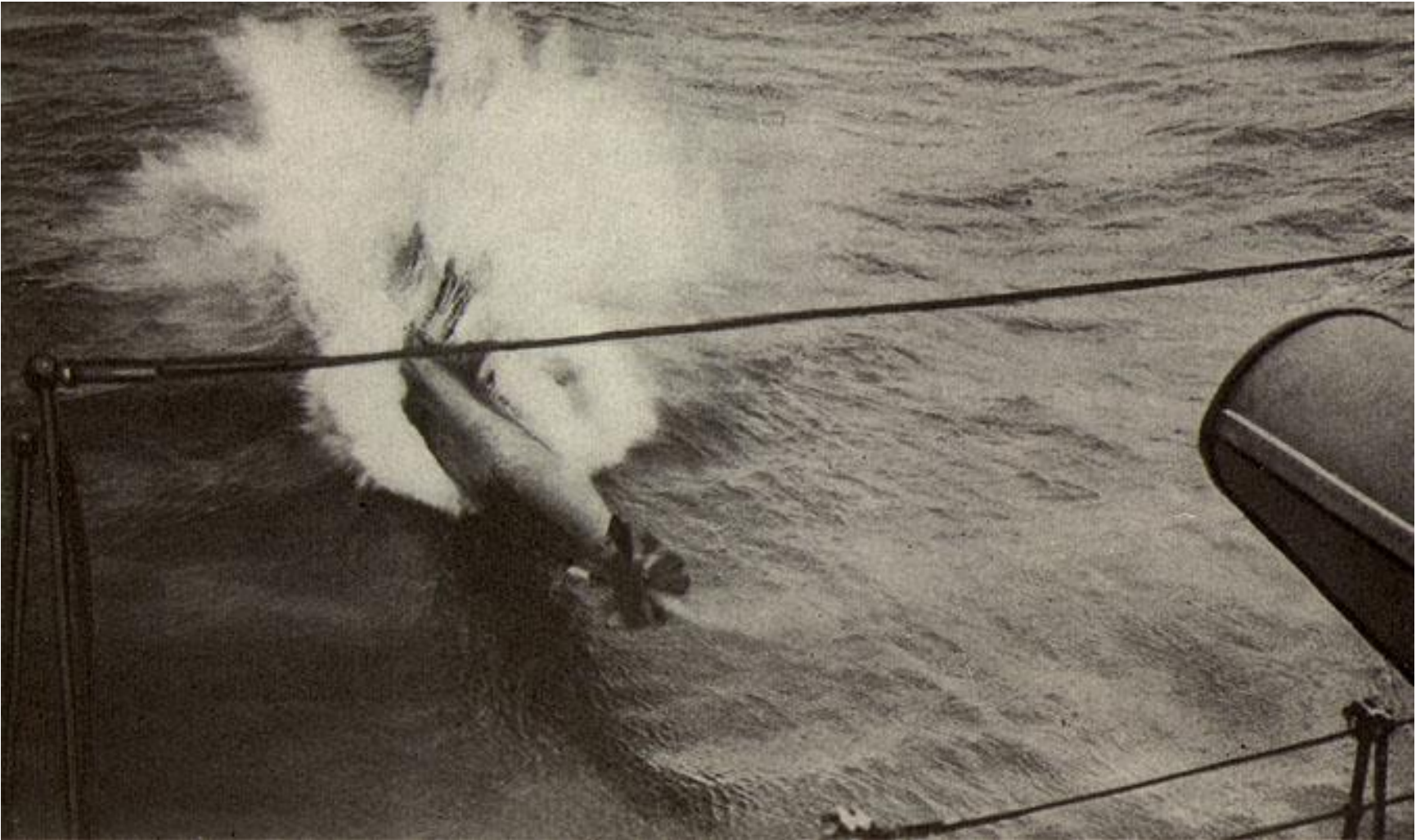
# Russians bury in bulk



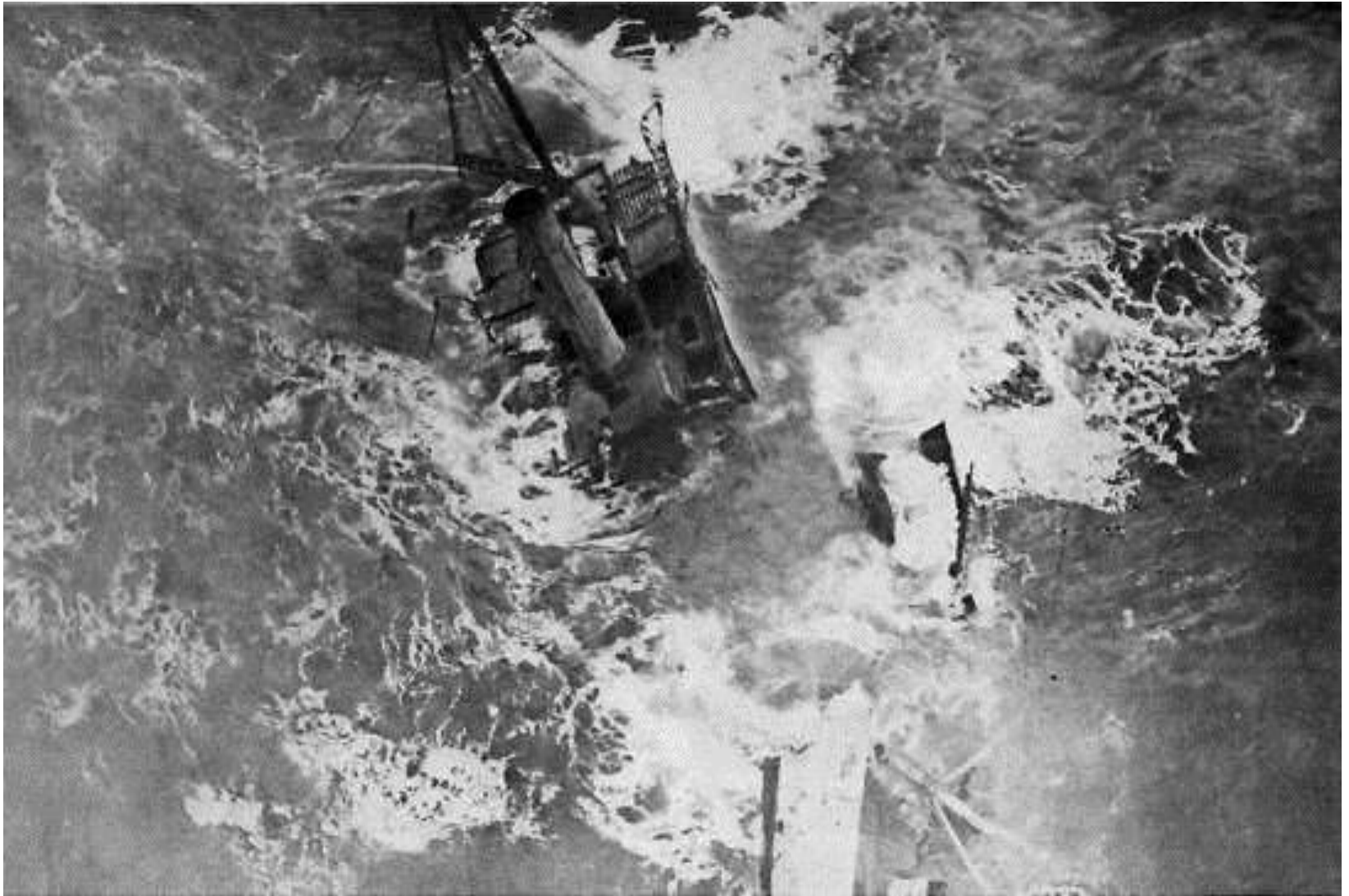
# Military resort



# Torpedo



# Hit by a U-boat



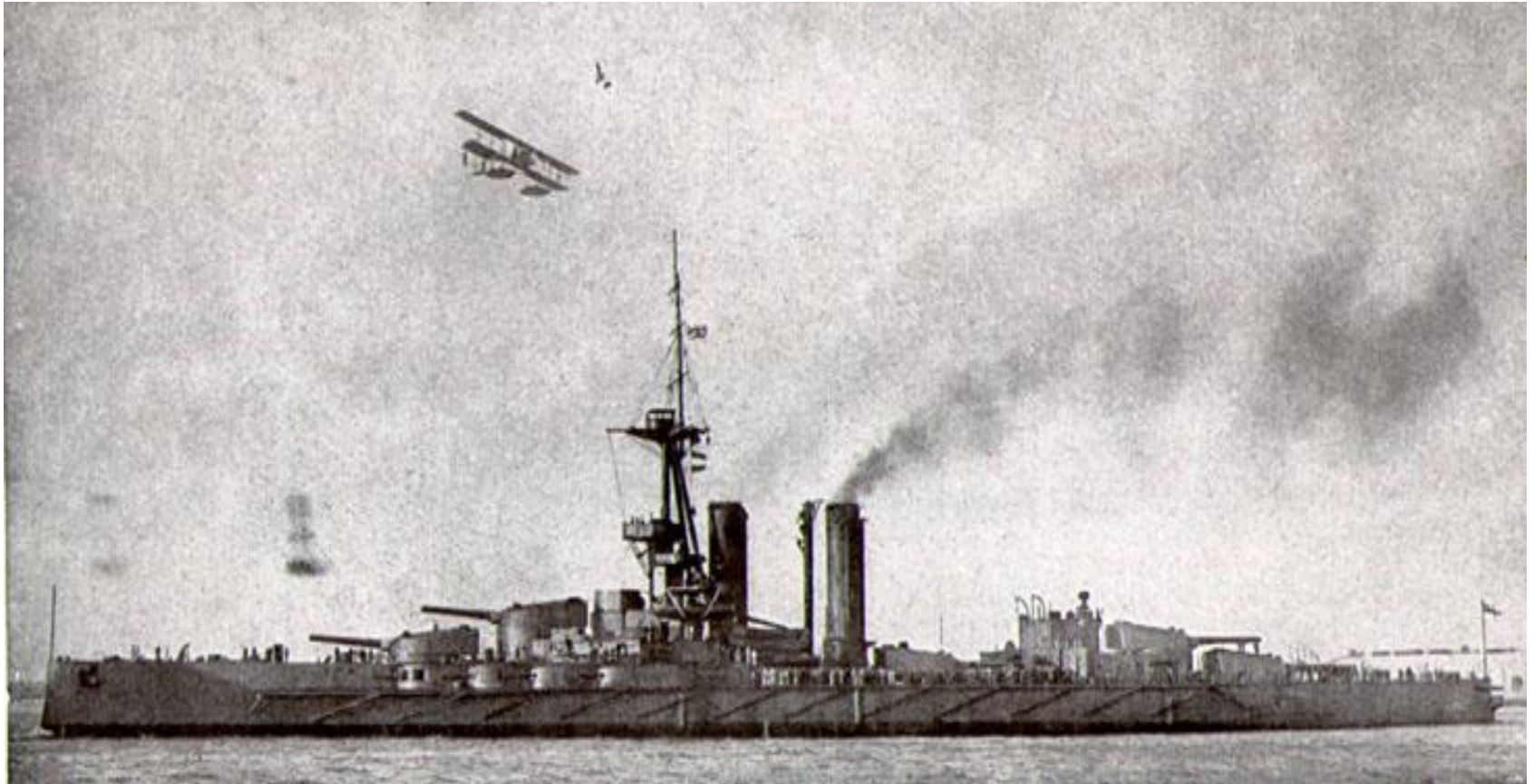
# Hit by a U-boat



# British Ships



# Battle Ship

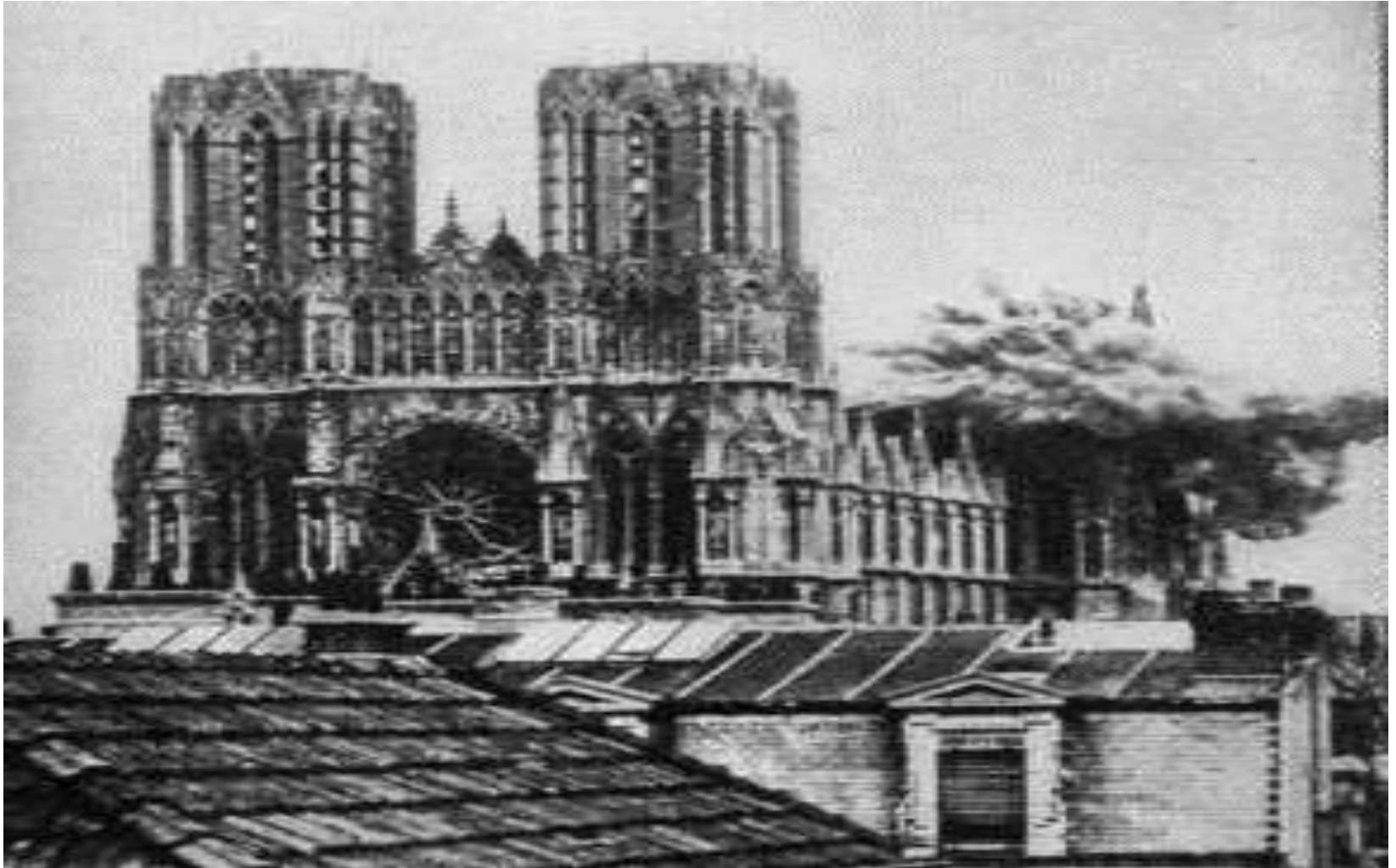




# Smoke Screen



# Rheims Cathedral



# Forest after artillery





# French Forest



# Labassee



# Lens

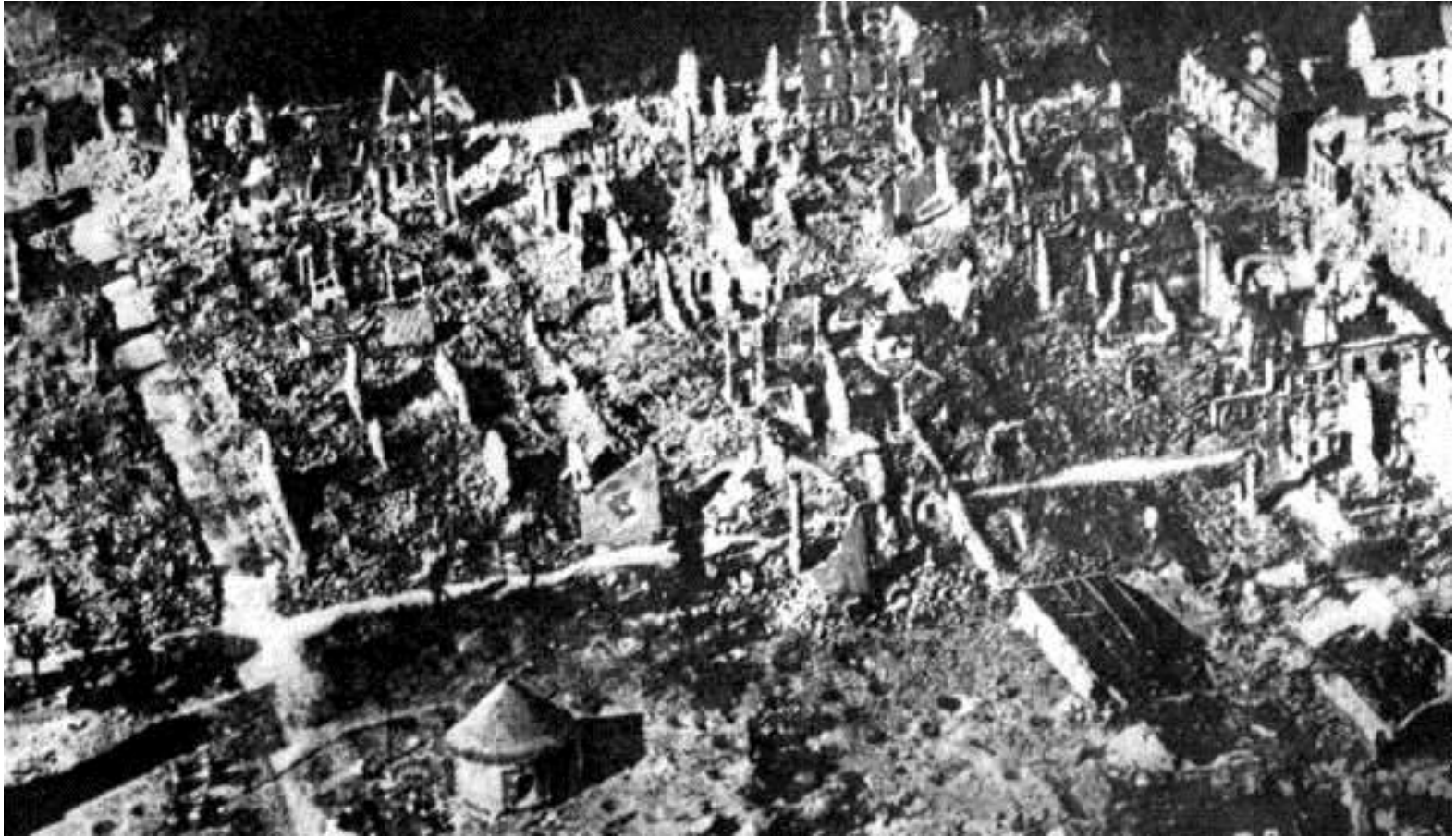


# Peronne



Das zerstohrene P6ronne





# Village at Vaux



Aircraft can warn of the build-up of enemy troops before an attack



Concrete block house for a machine-gun

Reserve trench

Long-range artillery is placed about 10 km behind the front line. These guns fire at advancing enemy troops

Barbed wire: metres deep and an impassable obstacle for any troops able to reach it

Front-line trench

Support trench

Communication trenches allow reserves to be brought forward without exposing them to enemy fire

No Man's Land (the stretch of land between the trenches of the opposing sides) has already been churned up by shell fire. In wet weather it becomes a mass of mud, making it even harder for troops to cross

Front-line dug-outs provide protection but not against a direct hit from an artillery shell

A deep dug-out. German ones could be 15 m below ground and too well constructed to be damaged by shell fire

## PROBLEMS FACING ATTACKING TROOPS

# Front Line Trench



# A Good Trench



# A good night's sleep



# No Man's land at Verdun



# No-man's land





# No-man's land



# After a gas attack



# Fighting in Trenches

2. - Les Combats du Fort de Vaux (Juin 1916)



Le 2 juin, à 2 heures du matin, la tranchée occupée devant le Fort par la 7<sup>e</sup> Cie du 142<sup>e</sup> est attaquée par les Allemands

# Clearing trenches by hand



# Gas in artillery shells



# Under Gas Attack



# Mustard gas skin



# Mustard gas skin





# Taking a pill box

5. - Les Combats du Fort de Vaux (Juin 1916)



Le 3 Juin, ayant pu franchir le fossé, les Allemands progressent sur le dessus du Fort que le bombardement a transformé en terrain lunaire

# Trench-mate







# Life in the Trenches

Many men killed in the trenches were buried almost where they fell. If a trench subsided, or new trenches or dugouts were needed, large numbers of decomposing bodies would be found just below the surface. These corpses, as well as the food scraps that littered the trenches, attracted rats. One pair of rats can produce 880 offspring in a year and so the trenches were soon swarming with them.

Some of these rats grew extremely large. One soldier wrote: "The rats were huge. They were so big they would eat a wounded man if he couldn't defend himself." These rats became very bold and would attempt to take food from the pockets of sleeping men. Two or three rats would always be found on a dead body. They usually went for the eyes first and then they burrowed their way right into the corpse.

# Rats

- (8) Private [George Coppard](#), *With A Machine Gun to Cambrai* (1969)

Rats bred by the tens of thousands and lived on the fat of the land. When we were sleeping in funk holes the things ran over us, played about, copulated and fouled our scraps of food, their young squeaking incessantly. There was no proper system of waste disposal in trench life. Empty tins of all kinds were flung away over the top on both sides of the trench. Millions of tins were thus available for all the rats in France and Belgium in hundreds of miles of trenches. During brief moments of quiet at night, one could hear a continuous rattle of tins moving against each other. The rats were turning them over. What happened to the rats under heavy shell-fire was a mystery, but their powers of survival kept place with each new weapon, including poison gas.

# Fun With Rats

**Frank Laird writing after the war.**

“Sometimes the men amused themselves by baiting the ends of their rifles with pieces of bacon in order to have a shot at them at close quarters”

**Sergeant A. Vine, diary entry  
(8th August, 1915)**

The stench of the dead bodies now is awful as they have been exposed to the sun for several days, many have swollen and burst. The trench is full of other occupants, things with lots of legs, also swarms of rats.



# After a charge



# French regiment at Peronne



# Shell Shattered



# Landscape



# Germans in France



Bapaume während der Schlacht

# The Argonne Forest



# The Argonne Forest

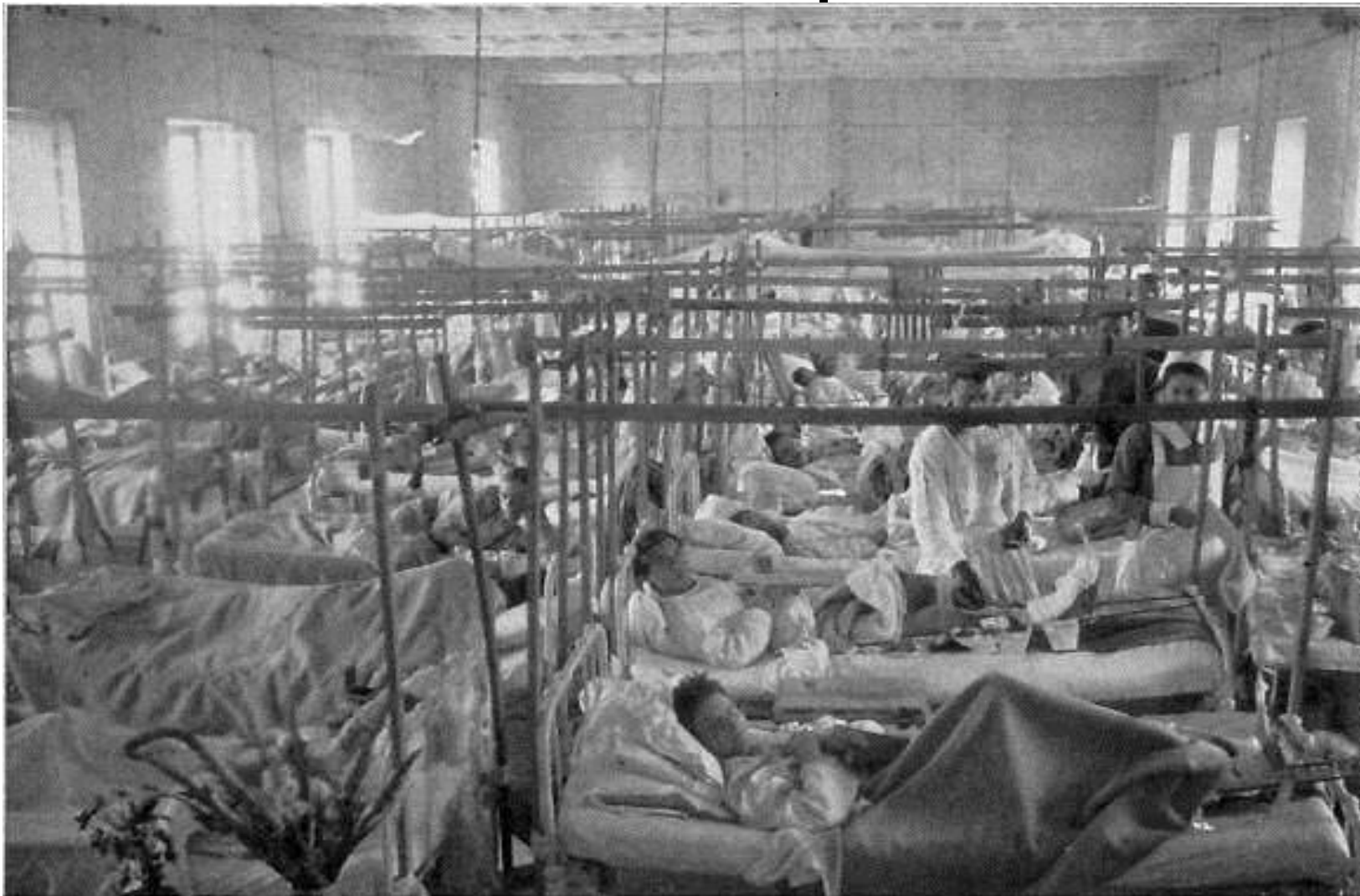


# Forest after the battle





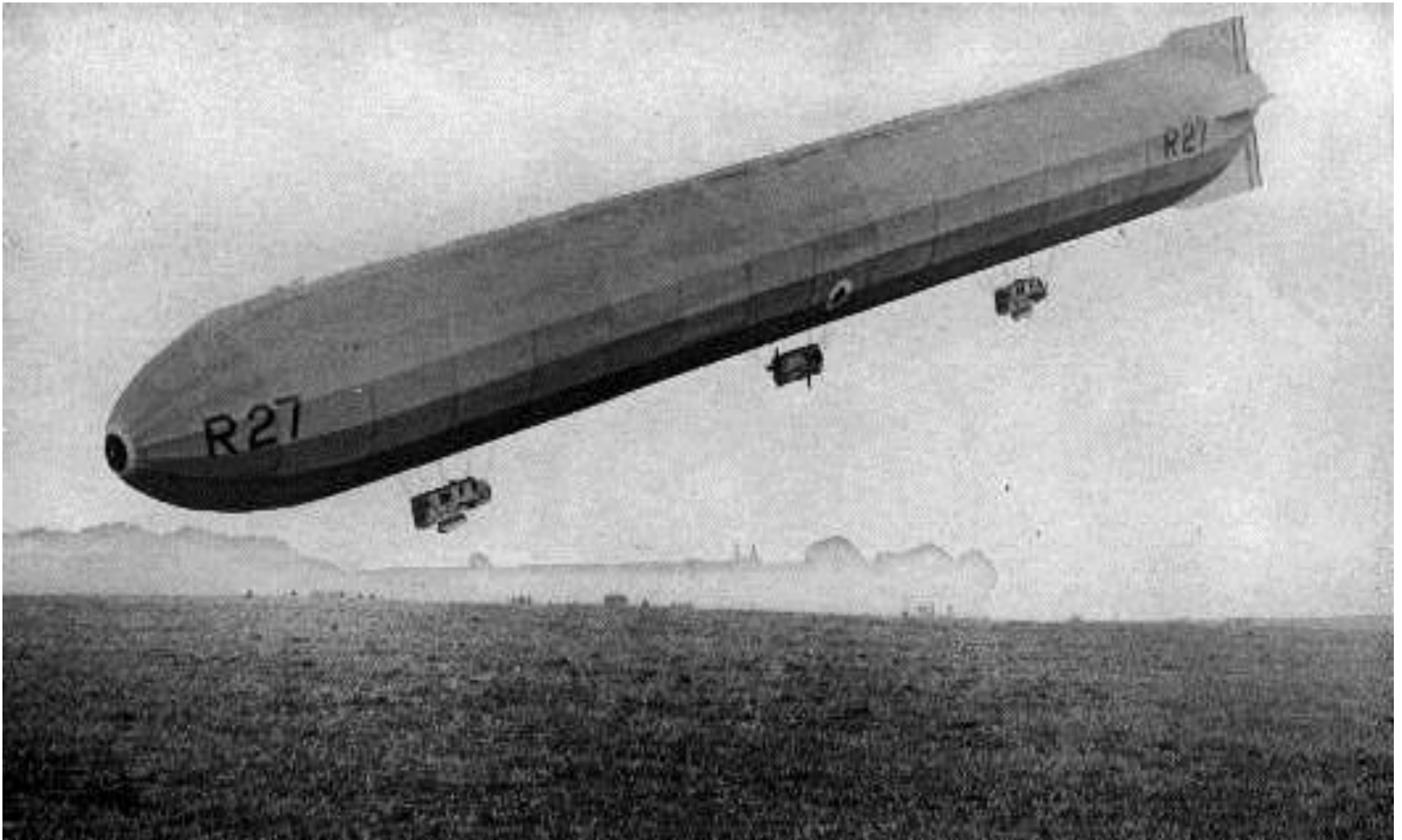
# Allied Hospital



# Wounded Germans



# Zeppelin Bomber



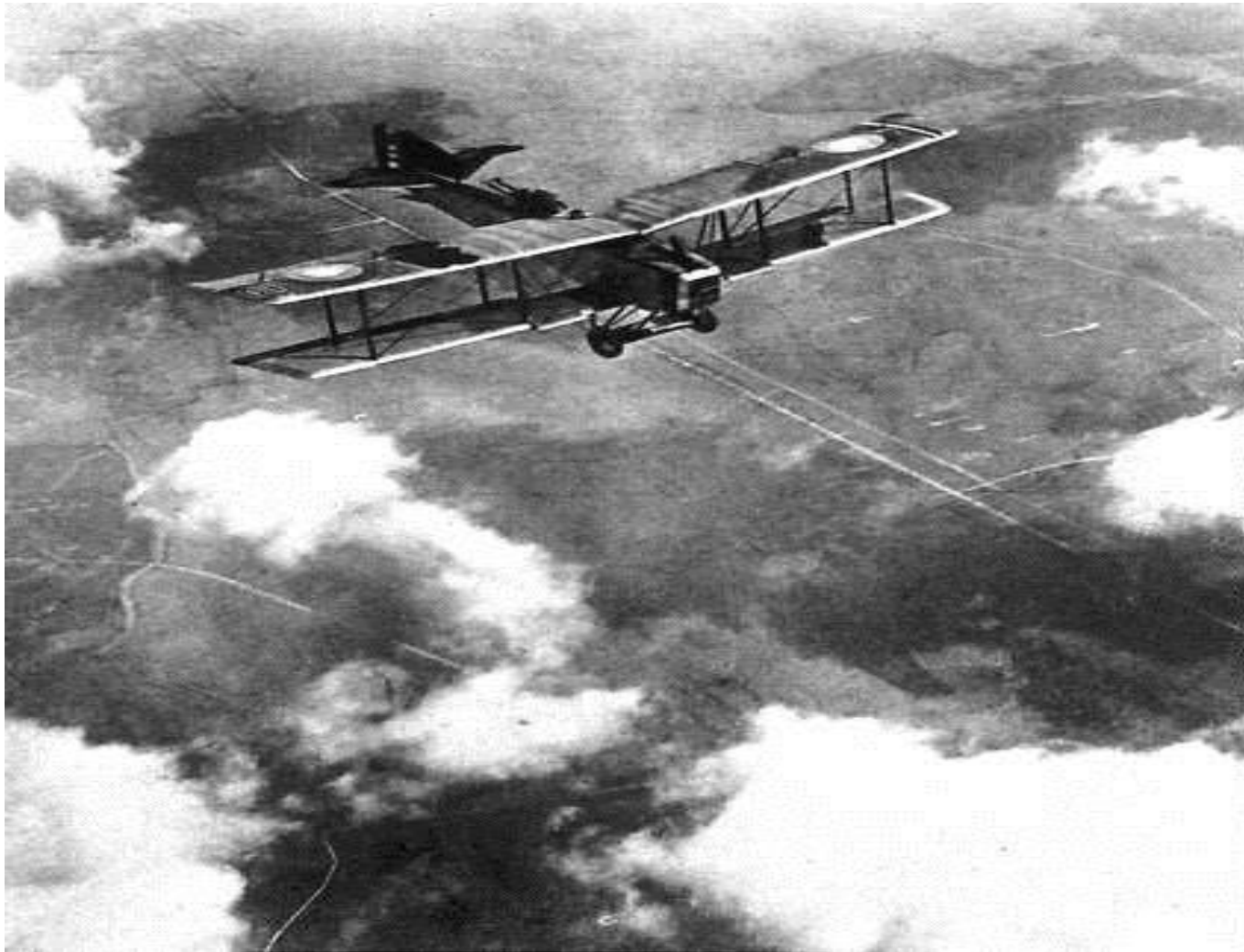
# British Air Force



# The new bomber



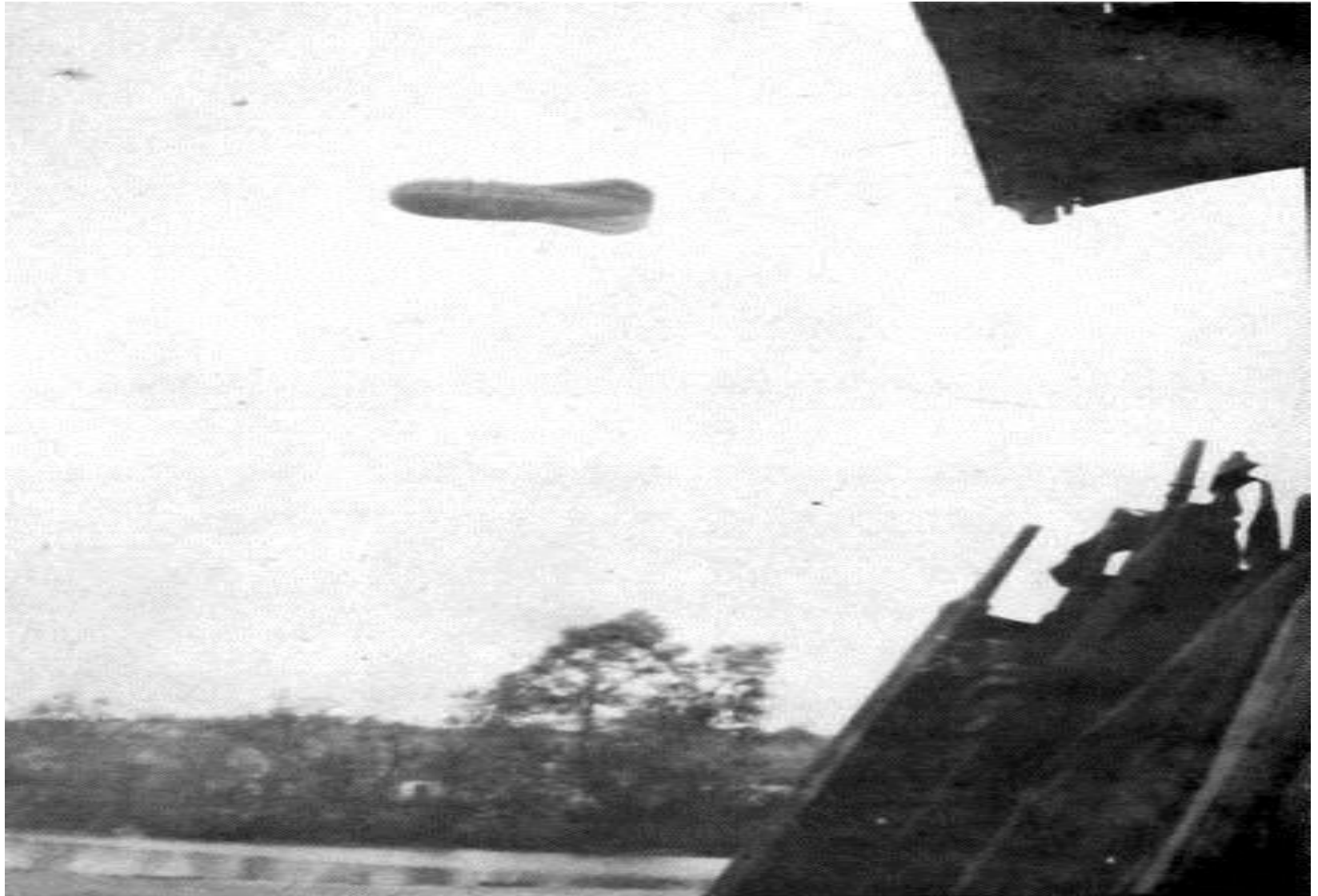
# British bomber



# The Red Baron – 80 Victories

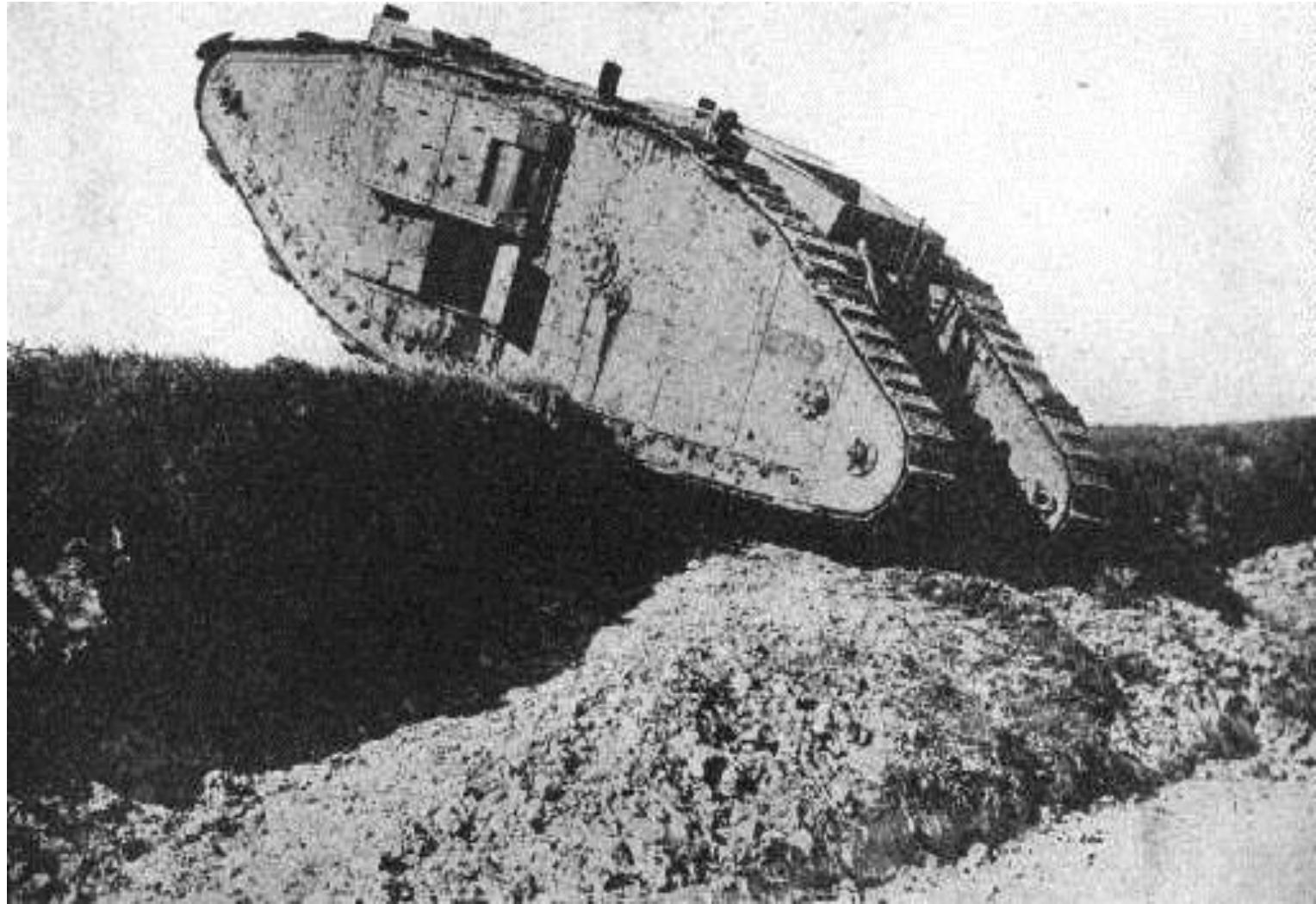


# Observation balloon





# The new super weapon: Tanks



# The original British tank



# French Tank



# U.S. Tanks



# British Whippet Tank



# Belgian refugees



# City after battle







# Refugees



# Serbian Refugees



# Locating your family

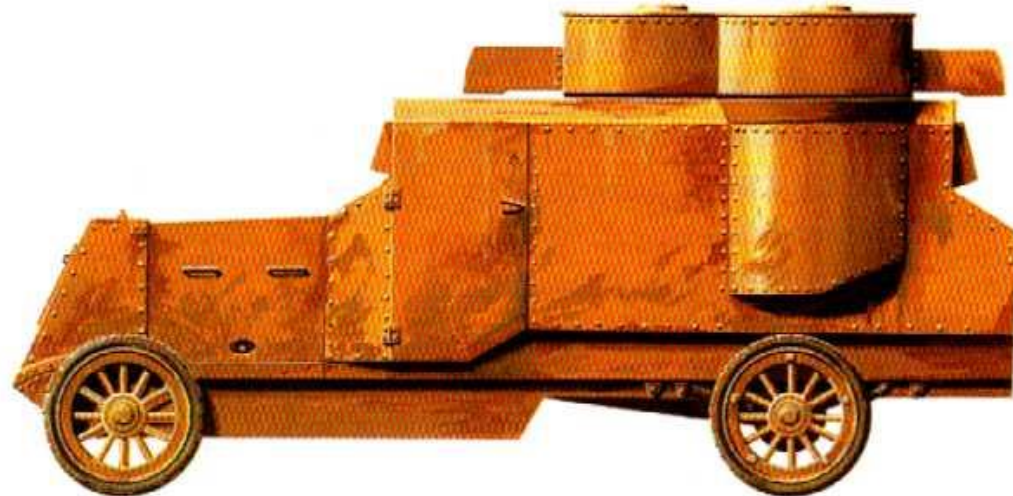
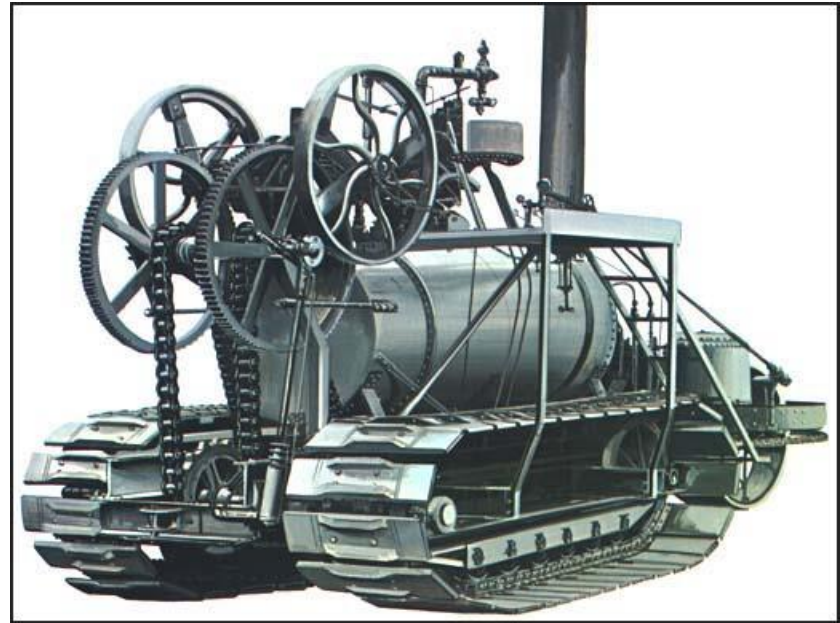
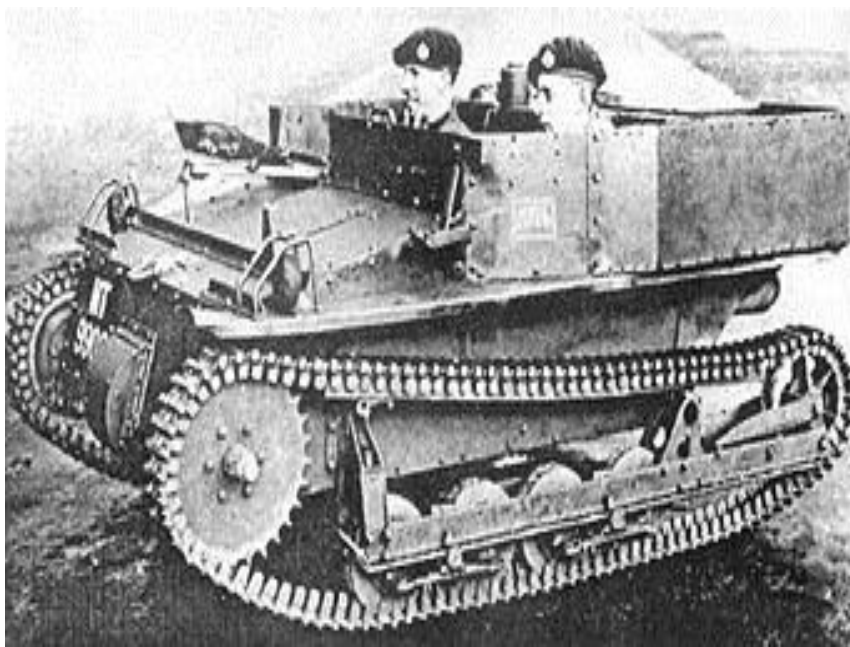


# The End of WWI

Sept. 15, 1916

“We heard strange rumbling throbbing noises, and slowly lumbering towards us came three huge, mechanical monsters such as we had never seen before... Instead of going on to the German lines the three tanks assigned to us straddled our front line, stopped and then opened up a murderous machine-gun fire... They finally realized they were on the wrong trench and moved on.

frightening the Germans out of their wits and making them scramble like frightened rabbits.”



# The Last Year of the War

- 1917 was not good for the Allies (us). Russia withdrew from the war and troops had to be sent there to try to stop the revolution.
- Allies were losing badly on the western front.
- On the positive side, the entry of the U.S. into the war provided a huge boost to the allies.

# A New Plan for Germany

- German General Eric von Ludendorff decided to take a major gamble and use all of his troops and resources for one major attack on the allies.
- March 1918, Ludendorff attacked France. By April, the Germans were 50 miles outside of Paris (the capital of France)



# German Communists try to take over

- In the absence of government, communists in Germany attempted to establish a new order there.
- The Social Democratic Party of Germany, backed by government troops and supported by the allies, wiped out the communists and executed several of their leaders.



erd Liebknecht @ weltchronik.de

- The attempted take-over by the communists left the German middle class very paranoid about communists and anyone else who may want to separate from the country.
- Austria-Hungary, Germany's ally, was completely dissolved. Each ethnic group in Austria-Hungary attempted to form it's own government.

# Settling the New World Order

In January of 1919, representatives from 27 victorious nations met in Paris to come up with terms to officially end the war.

At the Paris Peace Conference, the most powerful man there was U.S. President Woodrow Wilson.



# Problems to address

- To solve the problems of the war and make sure they never happen again, the true source of trouble had to be found.
- Wilson described WWI as a war against “absolutism and militarism”.
- He also said that every people group should have the right to rule themselves.
- Finally, an international governing body would remove the need for alliances.

# France gets ugly.

- David Lloyd George, prime minister of Great Britain argued that someone should have to pay the bill for the war.
- Georges Clemenceau, premier of France, wanted to make Germany suffer so badly that they'd never recover (remember, 40 years earlier Germany had captured Napoleon II, leader of France, and held him ransom for \$1 billion. France was humiliated. It's payback time!!)

- **Reparation**( as in **repair-ations**) is money paid for damages caused.
- Germany was forced to pay \$6.6 billion or face invasion from France.
- In today's money, this is around \$10 Trillion
- A major question still remained: what do we do with all of the land with no ruler now? And what do we do with Russia's stuff since they abandoned us?

# Wilson's 14 Points

**Q: What were the MAIN causes of the war?**

**A: Militarism**

**Alliances**

**Imperialism**

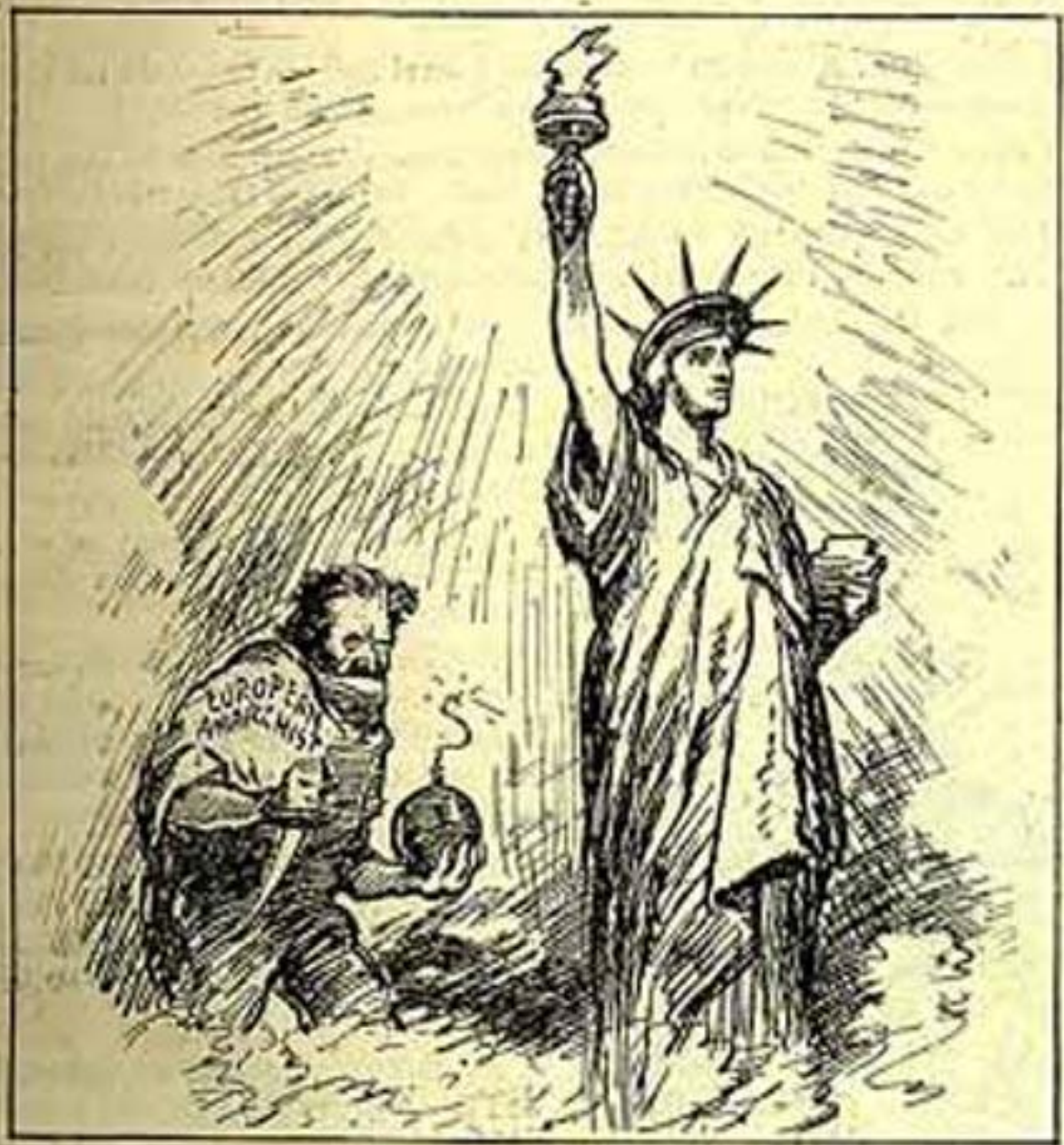
**Nationalism**

- **American President Woodrow Wilson proposed 14 steps to solving these 4 problems.**



# The First Red Scare

1918-1921



"COME UNTO ME, YE OPPREST!"

—Alley in the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*.

# THE RED SCARE

## Fear of Communism in America



**Vladimir Lenin & the  
Russian Revolution**

- **Russia fought with the Allies in WWI until the Russian people decided they'd had enough of the war. They decided to concentrate on fixing their own government.**



**Russian soldiers of World War I**

- **They wanted to get rid of their ruler, Czar Nicholas II. They wanted to close the gap between the rich and poor in Russia.**

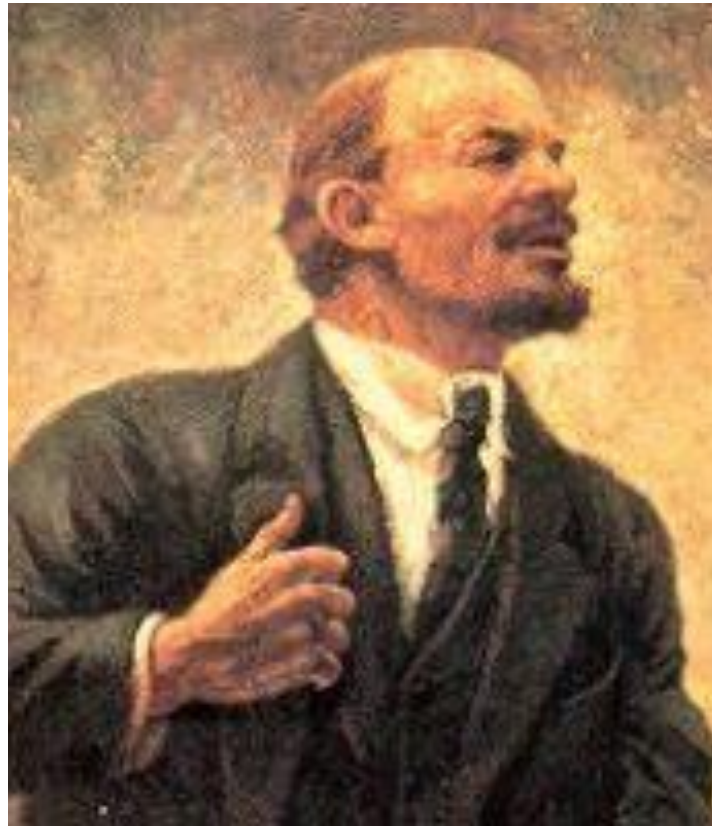


**Tsar Nicholas II of Russia**

- **They wanted freedom like the Americans. So they had a revolution to overthrow their czar in November of 1917.**



- **But instead of a democracy, a Communist revolutionary named Vladimir Lenin took power in Russia, and became the country's dictator.**



**Vladimir Lenin**

On March 3, 1918, Russia offered Germany huge tracts of land which included modern day Ukraine and Poland in exchange for dropping out of WWI.

**The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk** ended Russia's part in the war and allowed Germany to focus all of its efforts on England and France.

# Second Battle of the Marne

- On July 18, 1918, the Germans ran into French, Moroccan and 140,000 U.S. troops.
- With the Americans were hundreds of tanks.
- Over the next 2 months over 1 million American troops poured into France with massive amounts of equipment, tanks, planes, food, and supplies.





- The German gamble had failed and they were forced to retreat.
- On September 29, 1918, Ludendorff informed the German government that the war was lost and demanded that they surrender.
- Allies refused to make peace with the king of Germany since they blamed him for starting the war.
- Faced with the options of over throwing the Kaiser or keep fighting, Germany chose to revolt.



# November 3, 1918

- Sailors in Kiel Germany mutinied and overthrew the local government.
- Revolt broke out all over northern Germany as workers and soldiers took over local governments.
- On November 9, 1918, German Kaiser William II fled the country.



# Armistice Day!

- A cease-fire was agreed to while a treaty to end the war was negotiated.
- At 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, fighting stopped.
- But it wasn't until June 28, 1919 that the treaty of Versailles officially ended the war.

- **Some people in America were scared by Russia's communist revolution. Under communism, property and goods belong to the state.**



**Death to Capitalism**

- **Communist people are expected to share. That sounds great, but it just never works unless forced upon people.**



- **As a consequence, communist nations have not been free nations.**



**Soldiers of the Russian Revolution.**



# WWI Ends 1918

- Numerous deaths and destruction
- world “mood” altered becoming violent and unsettled

# Government during WWI

- gained more control
- strict laws used against Americans
- mood of fear and suspicion

# Soldiers return home

- production decrease
- unemployment soared
- wages fell
- prices of goods remained high
- strikes erupt

# Strikes After WWI

- Result of **inflation during the war**
- Frustrated union-organizing drives
- More strikes occurred in 1917 but number of strikers far more in 1919.
  - 20% of all workers
  - Largest proportion in U.S. history
- Many Americans believed that labor troubles were the result of Bolshevism
  - **Billy Sunday**
- Woodrow Wilson is absent due to a stroke

# Seattle General Strike

- January 1919
- 35,000 shipyard workers went on strike
- All unions in Seattle demanded higher pay for shipyard workers
- Seattle mayor called for federal troops to head off the “anarchy of Russia”
- Labor sought industrial democracy



# Boston Police Strike

- September 1919
  - Over 70% of Boston's 1,500 policemen went on strike seeking wage increases and the right to unionize.
  - Governor Calvin Coolidge called out the National Guard
  - Police went on strike in 37 cities
  - They were fired and they recruited from the National Guard.



Copyrighted, 1919, by John T. McCutcheon.

HE GIVES AID AND COMFORT TO THE ENEMIES OF SOCIETY.

—McCutcheon in the *Chicago Tribune*.

# Steel Strike and United Mine Workers of America Strike

- Steel Strike

- AFL attempted to organize the steel industry
- September 1919
- Judge Elbert H. Gary: Head of USX refused to negotiate
- After violence the use of federal and state troops
- Broken January 1920

- United Mine Workers of American Strike

- Under John L. Lewis
  - Struck for shorter hours and higher wages on November 1, 1919.
- Attorney General Palmer obtained injunctions and called off the strikes

# Race Riots break out as white soldiers returned wanting their jobs back

- Many African-Americans moved North during the war to take factory jobs left by men going to war.
- After the war competition for jobs and housing became very intense.
- In the summer of 1919, over 20 race riots broke out across America.

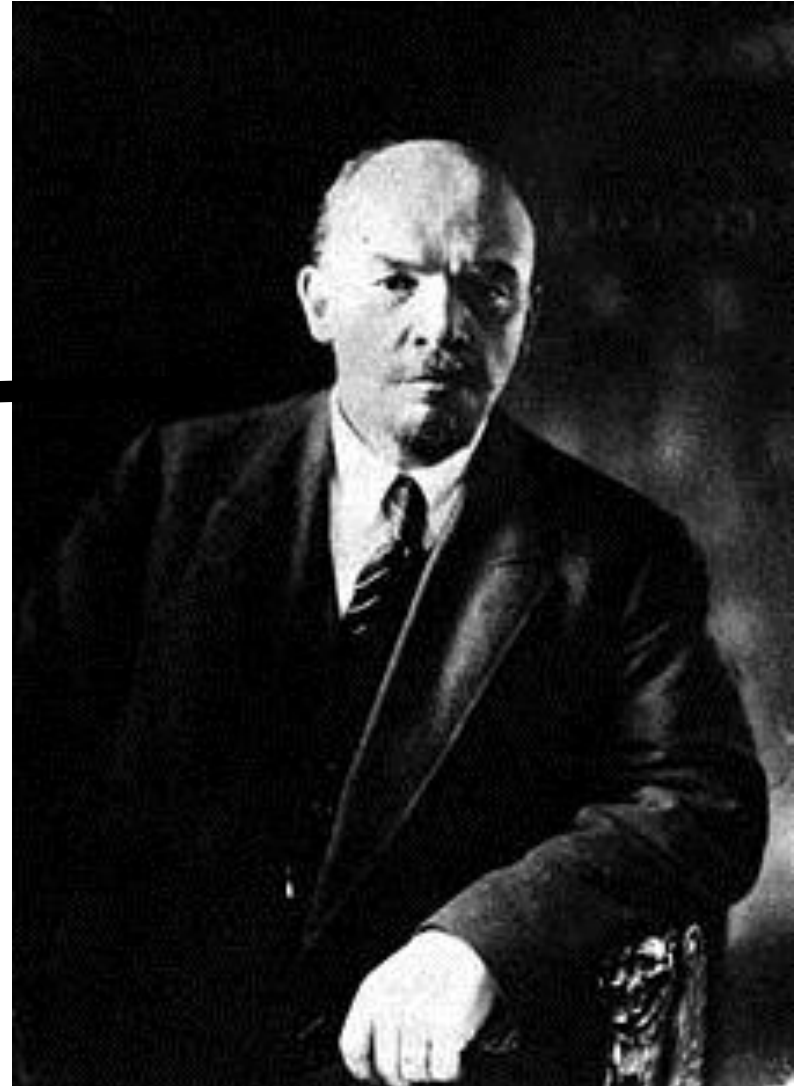


# Chicago 1919

- Pg. 601
- Right hand column
- Second paragraph
- “The worst violence occurred in Chicago...”

# Bolshevik Revolution

- Russia, 1917
- World's first communist state created by Vladimir Lenin
- Violent state
- Promoted revolutions around the world



- **After World War I, some Americans were scared that communists wanted to take over in the United States.**



- **There were a few communists in America, but they were not successful. Most Americans were not attracted to communism's ideas.**



**America's Liberty Bell & the American Bald Eagle**

- During this same period, there were also some people called anarchists. Anarchist's do not believe in governments.



- **You don't have to be very smart to realize that anarchy doesn't work. But, when anarchists looked around and saw poverty and war, they blamed the government.**



**American Doughboys WWI**

- **A few anarchists tried to do that by setting off bombs intended to kill U.S. government leaders.**
- **In April of 1919 alone, 30 bombs were sent via US Postal Service.**



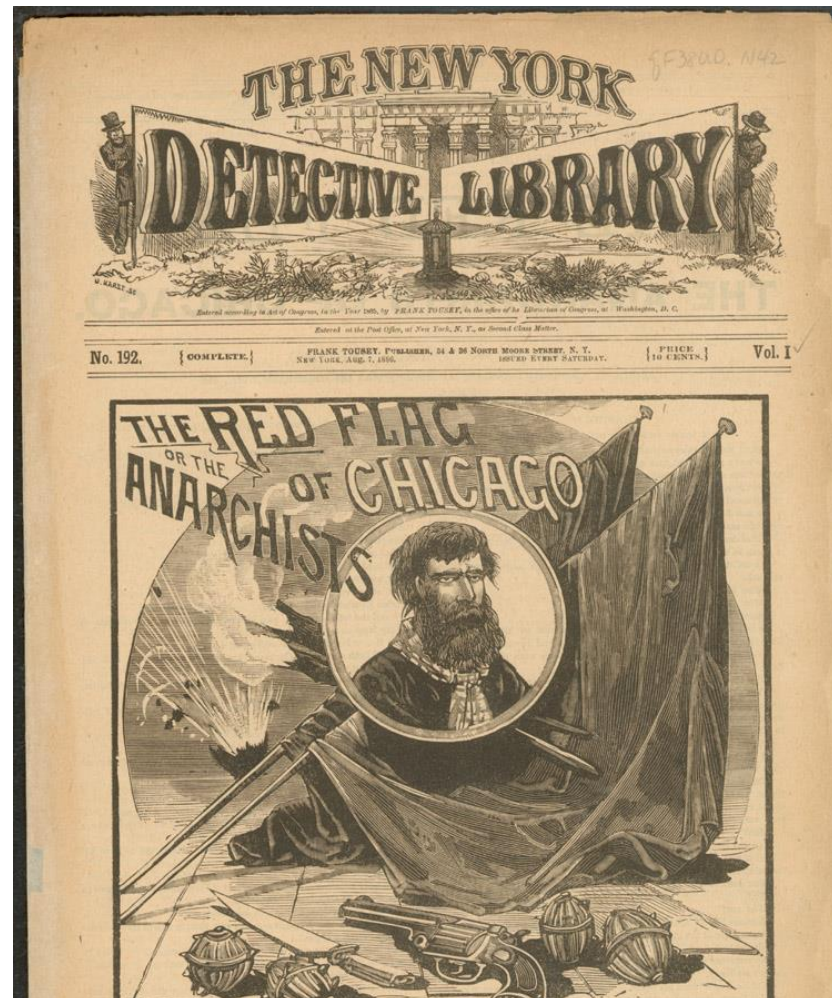
**In June, 8 bombs went off in 8 cities at the same time.**

- **In 1920, a bomb exploded on Wall Street, killing 38 people and fueling fears that communists threatened the nation's security.**





- That, of course, was criminal behavior. Newspapers made big headlines of the bombs. Many Americans were frightened.



- **In response, Mitchell Palmer, President Wilson’s attorney general , without authority, established what would be later known as the Federal Bureau of Investigation and conducted an illegal “witch hunt” for suspected communists and anarchists.**

**Mitchell Palmer**



- **Attorney General Palmer took the law into his own hands, and, in two days, (Palmer Raids) agents (in 1920), invaded homes, clubs, union halls, and coffee shops, rounding up nearly 5,000 people.**



- **5,000 people were held in jail, not allowed to call anyone, and treated terribly.**

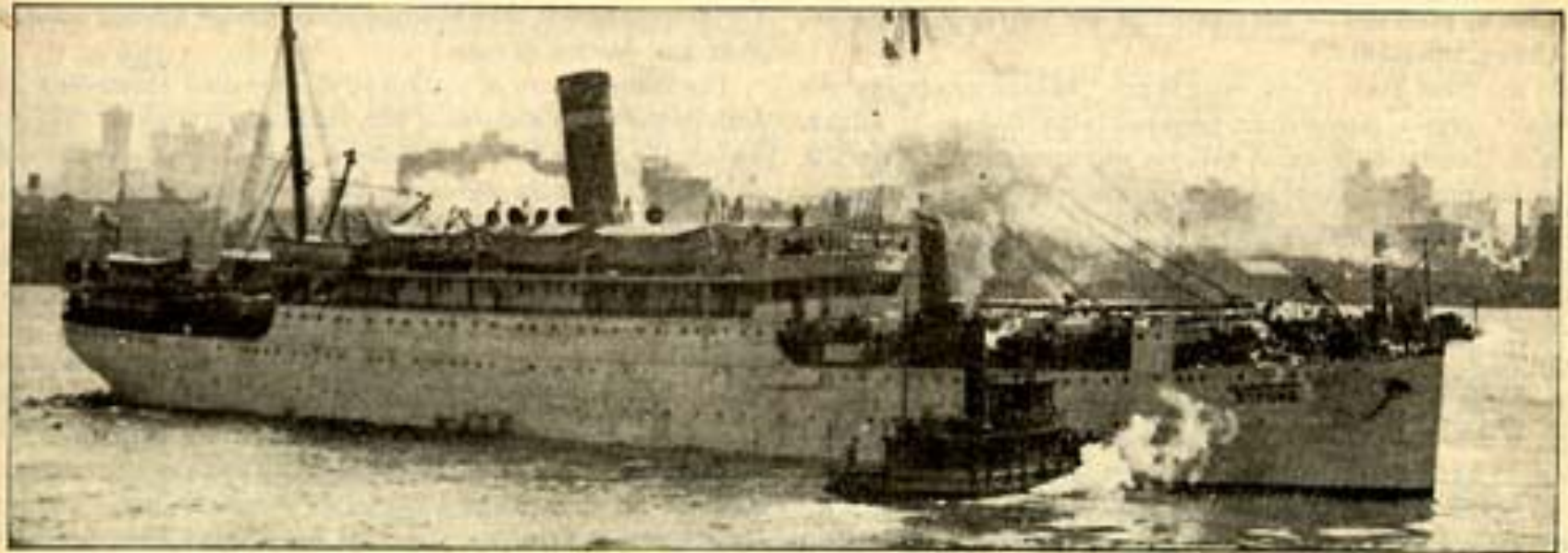


- Those without citizenship papers were sent out of the country (deported). 600 were deported. Most were not convicted guilty of anything.



# The “Red Scare”

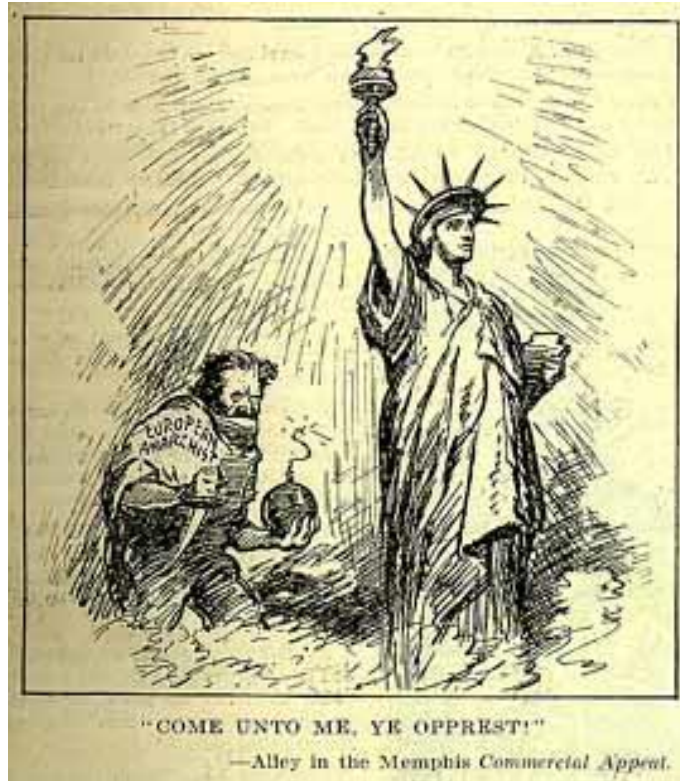
- Dec. 1919: 249 alien radicals deported to Russia on the ship *Buford*.
- Sept. 1920: Hysteria heightened by bomb on Wall Street.



“THE SOVIET ARK.”

The United States Army transport *Buford*, carrying 249 Russian “Reds” as America’s Christmas present to Lenin and Trotsky.

- **Communists are sometimes called “reds” after the flag and colors of the Russian Revolution. Mitchell Palmer took advantage of America’s fear and prejudice of communism and immigrants.**



- **Palmer helped create a “red scare.” He hoped the issue would make him a popular presidential candidate as hard on communists. But, it didn’t work that way.**





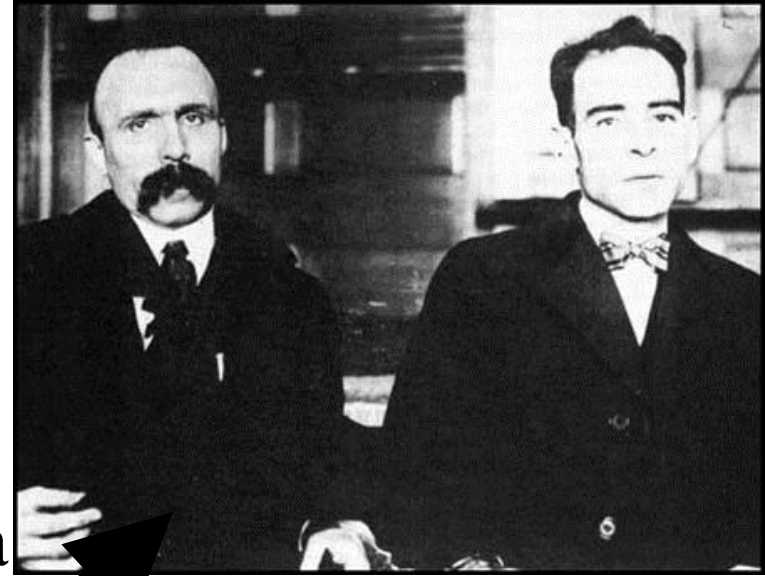
- **During the red scare, Americans were not free to speak out about communism. They weren't free to criticize the government. Some people's lives were ruined after being accused as a communist.**



- **The 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment says that citizens are free to speak their minds, including communists and anarchists, as long as they do not engage in criminal activity or plot to overthrow the government.**



- Several states passed criminal syndicalism laws: mere advocacy of violence for social change was criminalized.
- 1920: 5 NY legislators denied seats because they were Socialists.
- Conservative business owners used “scare” against labor: “open” shop was “American plan.”
- 1921: Many regarded the conviction of Sacco & Vanzetti as a “judicial lynching” because they were Italians, atheists, anarchists, and draft dodgers.



# Page 611

- The Sacco-Vanzetti Case
- Left hand side
- Return of the Ku Klux Klan
- Right hand side

# Back to Normal

- May 1920 things settling down
- Public backlash to Palmer Raids and restrictions on protesting
- Warren G. Harding elected president 1921 pardoned and freed victims of Palmer Raids