

## **Chapter 22 World War I**

Although the United States tried to stay out of World War I, the country was drawn into the conflict by 1917. The United States got ready for the war by converting factories and training soldiers. The war ended when the Allies finally defeated the Germans. President Wilson helped to draft the final peace settlement, the Treaty of Versailles [ver-SIGH]. However, the U.S. Senate did not approve the treaty. As you study this chapter, consider how a government might encourage citizens to support a war effort, how a local conflict might expand into a world war, and how new forms of technology might change warfare.

## **Chapter 22**

### **Section 1: The Road to War**

In this section you will learn that as tensions increased in Europe, countries began to take sides. Soon war broke out. As you study this material, pay attention to the following terms:

nationalism  
militarism  
balance of power  
Triple Alliance  
Triple Entente  
mobilize  
Central Powers  
Allied Powers  
First Battle of the Marne

You will also want to keep the following questions in mind as you review this material:

- What were the main causes of World War I?
- How did most of Europe become involved in the war?
- How did the early battles of the war proceed?

### **Chapter 22.1 Section Summary**

In Europe during the 1800s there was a rise in **nationalism**—the feeling that a nation, language, or culture is better than all others. In 1871 Kaiser Wilhelm [KY-zuhr WILL-helm] I established the German Empire to bring together all the German-speaking people in Europe. Slavs wanted independence from Austria-Hungary.

Tensions and jealousies increased in Europe because many countries competed to gain territory and build international empires. Many nations turned to **militarism**, a policy of aggressive military preparedness.

In the late 1800s European leaders tried to create a **balance of power**—a situation in which the strength of rival nations is nearly equal. In 1879 Germany joined forces with Austria-Hungary; Italy joined three years later. These three countries formed the **Triple Alliance**. In response, France, Russia, and Great Britain joined forces. They became the **Triple Entente** [OHN-tahnt].

In 1908 Austria-Hungary took the countries of Bosnia and Herzegovina [hert-suh-go-VEE-nuh]. This made Slavic nationalists very angry. On June 28, 1914, a Slavic nationalist killed Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife Sophie. A month later, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia.

Russia agreed to help Serbia. Russia started to **mobilize**, or prepare its military for war. Before long, many European nations had become involved in World War I. Austria-Hungary and Germany became known as the **Central Powers**. Britain, France, and Russia fought as the **Allied Powers**. Italy left the Triple Alliance and joined the Allies.

In 1914 the Germans tried to take Paris, the capital of France, in the **First Battle of the Marne**. The French forced them to turn back.

## Chapter 22

### Section 2: Wilson and Neutrality

In this section you will learn that the United States wanted to stay out of World War I, but ended up being drawn into the conflict. As you study this material, pay attention to the following terms:

trench warfare

no-man's-land

stalemate

U-boats

*Lusitania*

*Sussex* pledge

Zimmermann Note

You will also want to keep the following questions in mind as you review this material:

- What was trench warfare like?
- How did new weapons affect the fighting in World War I?
- How did the United States try to remain neutral in the war, and what events forced the United States to enter the war?

### Chapter 22.2 Section Summary

Soon after World War I broke out, military leaders began to change their battle plans. Both sides used **trench warfare**—the strategy of fighting from deep ditches to defend a position. The trenches were cold, wet, and dirty and brought many health problems.

The area between opposing trenches was called **no-man's-land**. It could be 200 to 1,000 yards wide. Soldiers often left their trenches to fight in no-man's-land.

To fight from the trenches, soldiers needed new weapons. They used machine guns and launched artillery shells. These shells exploded into metal fragments and sometimes gave off deadly gases. Armies also used tanks and airplanes in the war.

By late 1914 the war had become a **stalemate**—a situation in which neither side can win a clear victory. President Wilson had declared that the United States would remain neutral.

Germany used its **U-boats**, or submarines, to prevent supplies from reaching the Allies. Germany threatened U.S. neutrality in 1915 when they sank a British passenger ship, the *Lusitania* [LOOSAH-taneeeh-uh], killing 128 Americans aboard. Still, the United States remained neutral. In 1916 Germany issued the **Sussex pledge** [SUHsix], promising not to sink merchant ships without warning.

President Wilson won the election of 1916. He hoped to write a peace settlement to end the war. However, Germany started attacking ships again in 1917.

In March 1917 experts decoded a German telegram known as the **Zimmermann Note**. In this note a German official had proposed a union between Germany and Mexico against the United States. The American public got very angry. In April 1917 Congress declared war on Germany.

## Chapter 22

### Section 3: Americans Prepare for War

In this section you will learn that the United States began to mobilize troops and supplies to prepare for the war overseas. As you study this material, pay attention to the following terms:

Committee on Public Information

Espionage Act of 1917

Sedition Act of 1918

Selective Service Act

Liberty bonds

War Industries Board

Food Administration

National War Labor Board

You will also want to keep the following questions in mind as you review this material:

- How did the government prepare the military for war?
- What effect did the war have on women and African Americans?
- How did the war affect industry and labor?

### Chapter 22.3 Section Summary

Shortly after declaring war on Germany, President Wilson created the **Committee on Public Information**, or CPI. The CPI's job was to increase public support for the war effort. The CPI used rallies and parades to get Americans to support the war.

At the same time, the government limited some freedoms. The **Espionage Act of 1917** punished people for aiding the enemy or refusing military service. The **Sedition Act of 1918** made it illegal for Americans to criticize the U.S. government, the Constitution, or the flag.

In 1917 Congress passed the **Selective Service Act**. It required men between the ages of 21 and 30 to register to be drafted into the armed forces. The army trained soldiers in camps, where they learned to dig trenches, survive poison gas, and fire machine guns. African Americans were at first trained to fill non-combat roles. Later, though, the government created African American combat

units. African Americans usually served in all-black units under white officers.

To pay for the war, Congress issued **Liberty bonds**. These bonds gave money for loans to the Allies to help them buy food and war supplies. President Wilson also created the **War Industries Board**. The board oversaw the production and distribution of goods made by the nation's war industries. The **Food Administration** worked to increase agricultural production and to decrease the amount of food people used.

Women contributed to the war effort both at home and abroad. As many as 25,000 women served as nurses, ambulance drivers, and typists in France. At home, women worked in factories.

The war effort helped all workers. A need for war supplies and a labor shortage made workers valuable. Some workers went on strike for higher wages and better working conditions. In 1918 President Wilson created the **National War Labor Board**. This board settled disputes between workers and their bosses.

## Chapter 22

### Section 4: Americans “Over There”

In this section you will learn that after Americans joined the fighting in Europe, the Allies slowly began to defeat the Central Powers. As you study this material, pay attention to the following terms:

American Expeditionary Force  
Communists  
Treaty of Brest-Litovsk  
Second Battle of the Marne  
Armistice

You will also want to keep the following questions in mind as you review this material:

- What were the experiences of U.S. soldiers in World War I?
- How did the final battles of the war progress?
- Why did Germany finally agree to an armistice?

### Chapter 22.4 Section Summary

Before entering the war, U.S. troops went through a three-month training program. The first U.S. troops to join the fighting in Europe was the **American Expeditionary Force**.

In November 1917 the Bolsheviks [BOWL-shuh-vicks] took control of the Russian government. The Bolsheviks were **Communists**—people who seek the equal distribution of wealth and an end to all forms of private property. In 1918 Russia and the Central Powers signed the **Treaty of Brest-Litovsk** [breast-lih-TAHVSK], a peace agreement removing Russia from the war.

In 1918 Germany rushed to attack before the U.S. forces arrived. The German army staged three major attacks to break through the western front. German troops moved closer to Paris.

Once U.S. troops arrived in Europe, they experienced the terrible realities of war. Trenches were dirty, there was not much food, and the soldiers fought boredom and lice.

The Germans attacked near Flanders, Belgium, and also at the Marne [MARN] River. U.S. troops stopped the German advance at the

town of Château-Thierry [sha-TOE tea-AIR-ree]. French and U.S. troops then drove the Germans back at Belleau [bell-ow] Wood. The Germans' last attack came at the **Second Battle of the Marne**. Many soldiers were killed or wounded on both sides. The Allied troops won the battle.

The Allies then attacked the Germans along the Meuse [MA-use] River and in the Argonne [ar-GONE] Forest. The Allies advanced toward Sedan [sa-DAN] on the Belgian border and all along the western front.

The German people, as well as German soldiers, were getting tired of the war. Germany's supporters began leaving the cause, too. Finally, Germany surrendered. On November 11, 1918, the **armistice**, or truce, went into effect. World War I was over.



## Chapter 22

### Section 5: Establishing Peace

In this section you will learn that the Allies began the peace process. However, they disagreed about the terms of the peace. As you study this material, pay attention to the following terms:

Fourteen Points  
self-determination  
League of Nations  
Big Four  
reparations  
Treaty of Versailles

You will also want to keep the following questions in mind as you review this material:

- What were the human and economic costs of the war?
- What were the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?
- How did Americans respond to the Treaty of Versailles?

### Chapter 22.5 Section Summary

The costs of World War I were huge. Millions of people had been killed and wounded. Much of the European countryside was destroyed. Many nations' economies were ruined.

In January 1918 President Wilson outlined a system to prevent future wars. This plan was called the **Fourteen Points**, because it had fourteen basic beliefs. The plan stressed the right of **selfdetermination**—the right of people to decide their own political status. It also called for the creation of a **League of Nations**—a group of world nations that would settle disputes and protect democracy.

President Wilson arrived in Europe in December 1918 to discuss the Fourteen Points. The meeting was dominated by the **Big Four**—President Wilson, British leader David Lloyd George, French premier Georges Clemenceau [KLEH-muhn-so], and Italian prime minister Vittorio [VIH-tor-e-oh] Orlando.

These leaders, except for President Wilson, wanted Germany to accept the blame and pay the Allied Powers for the entire cost of the war. President Wilson finally agreed that Germany would pay

**reparations**—payments for damage and expenses brought on by the war.

The final peace settlement of World War I was the **Treaty of Versailles** [VER-sigh]. The treaty called for self-determination. It also formed some new nations, such as Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. The new League of Nations would control the Central Powers' colonies.

Not everyone in the United States approved of the treaty. The Republicans did not want the League of Nations to be able to use military force. President Wilson refused all Republican compromises. The Senate eventually defeated the treaty.