

CHAPTER

12 1914–1918

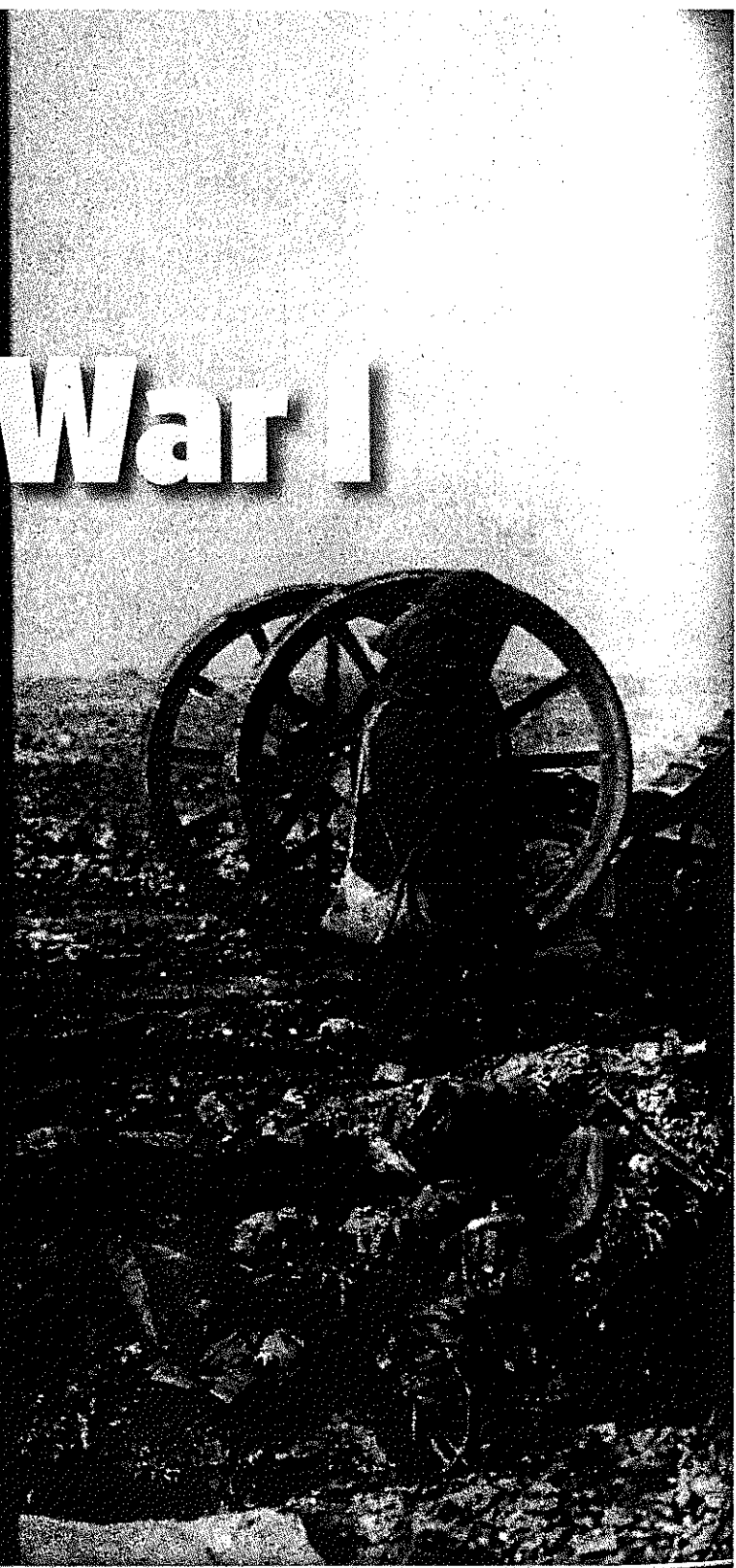
# World War I

**THE BIG PICTURE**

A variety of powerful forces—including growing nationalism, a tangle of alliances, and decades of rivalry and competition—created conditions that transformed a single assassination into a worldwide war. After years of unprecedented bloodshed and political upheaval, the warring nations finally reached an uneasy peace.

**Theme** GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP

The role of governments and citizens in wartime has varied greatly throughout history. In this chapter you will examine how citizens contributed to the war effort during World War I.



**TIME LINE**

**CHAPTER EVENTS**

**June 28, 1914**  
Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated in Sarajevo.

**July 28, 1914**  
Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia, and World War I begins.

**May 1915**  
Germany attacks and sinks the *Lusitania*.

**December 1915**  
The Gallipoli Campaign ends.

**February 1916**  
The Battle of Verdun begins.

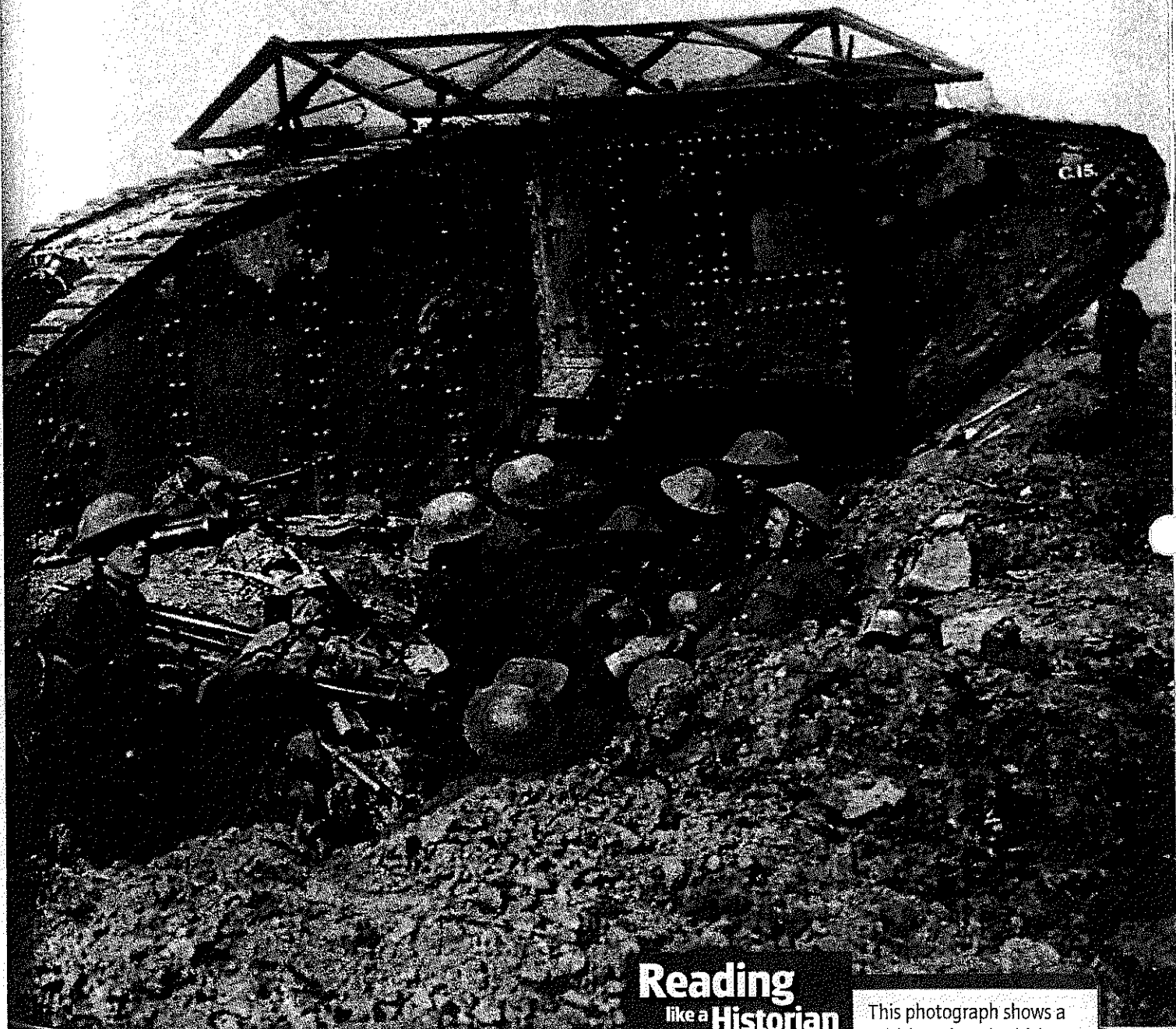
**WORLD EVENTS**

**August 1914**  
The Panama Canal opens.

**November 1916**  
Germany and Austria-Hungary establish the Kingdom of Poland.

## History's Impact video program

Watch the video to understand the impact of modern warfare.



**November 1917**  
Communists take control of Russia in the Bolshevik Revolution.

**November 11, 1918**  
An armistice ends the war.

1918

**June 1917**  
The first Pulitzer Prizes are awarded.

## Reading like a Historian

This photograph shows a British tank and British soldiers during a battle in 1917. World War I marked the first time that tanks were used in combat.

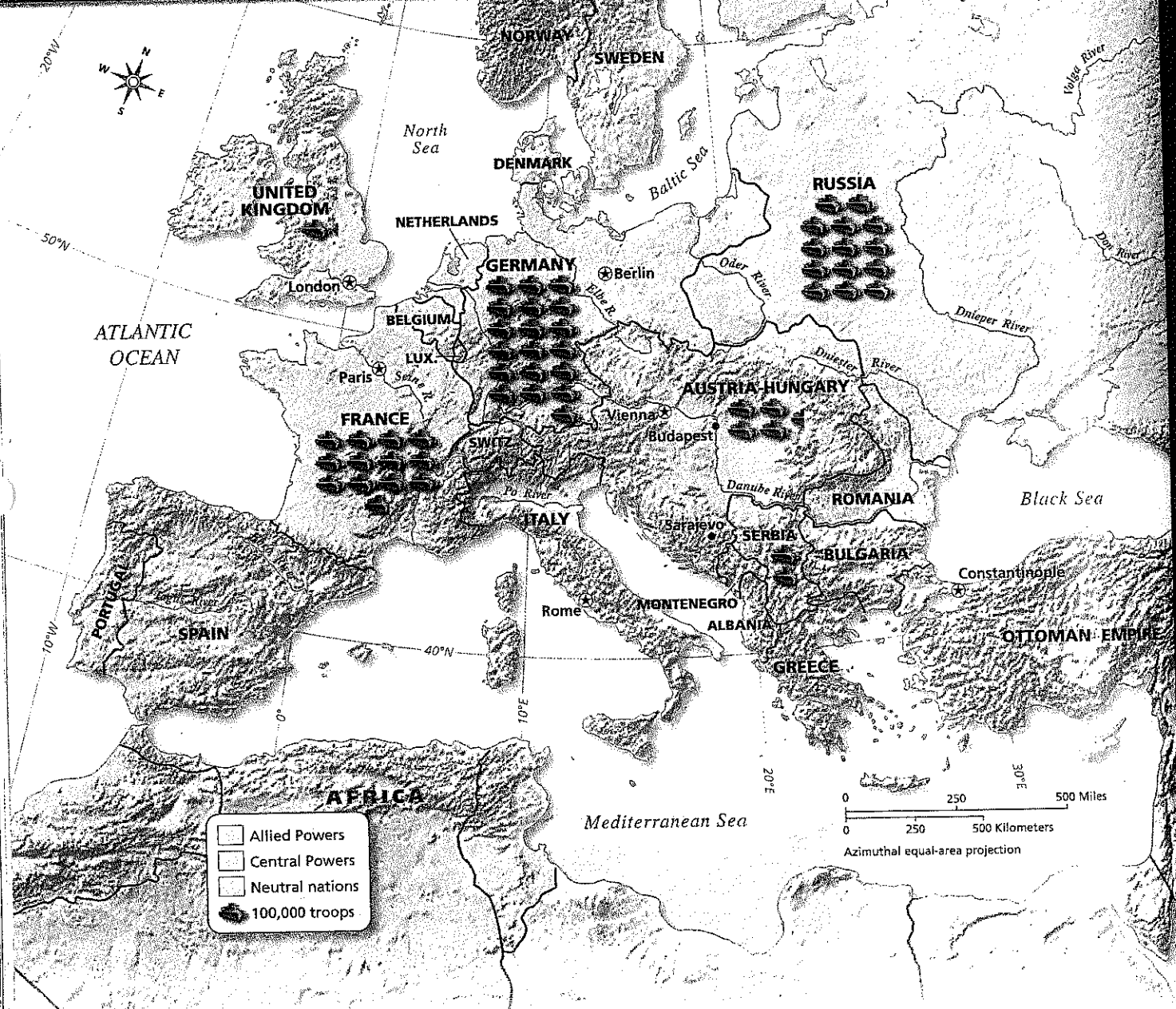
**Analyzing Visuals** How do you think the use of tanks during World War I would change the nature of warfare? Explain your answer, referring to details from the photograph.

See **Skills Handbook**, p. H26

# GEOGRAPHY Starting Points


Interactive

## EUROPEAN ALLIANCES AND MILITARY FORCES, 1914



**Starting Points** In the late 1800s and early 1900s, European nations began a massive military buildup, in part to protect their overseas colonies from rival powers. At the same time, these nations formed a complicated network of alliances to protect themselves from opposing armed forces. By 1914 the uneasy peace was about to end.

- 1. Identify** Which nations were members of the Allied Powers in 1914? Which nations made up the Central Powers?
- 2. Predict** Given the alliances and the size of the armed forces in Europe in 1914, what might happen if conflict broke out?

 Listen to History

Go online to listen to an explanation of the starting points for this chapter.

[go.hrw.com](http://go.hrw.com)

Keyword: SHL WW1

## SECTION

## 1

## The Great War Begins

## BEFORE YOU READ

## MAIN IDEA

Europe in 1914 was on the brink of war. After an assassination, the nations of Europe were drawn one by one into what would be called the Great War, or World War I.

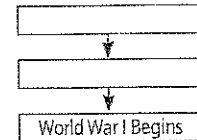
## READING FOCUS

1. Why was Europe on the brink of war in 1914?
2. Why did war break out?
3. What were the results of the fighting in 1914?

## KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE

Triple Alliance  
Triple Entente  
Franz Ferdinand  
Gavrilo Princip  
neutral  
Central Powers  
Allied Powers  
Western Front

**TAKING NOTES** Take notes on the events leading up to the outbreak of war.



## THE INSIDE STORY

*How did an archduke's trip lead to war?* It seemed like a bad idea for Austrian archduke Franz Ferdinand to

make a trip to the Bosnian city of Sarajevo (SAR-UH-YAY-VOH). After all, Austria had taken over Bosnia and Herzegovina just six years earlier, and many Bosnians were still bitterly opposed to Austrian rule.

Bosnia was also the home of many Serbs and ethnic Slavs who were equally outraged by Austria's actions. Serbian leaders hoped to expand Serbia by uniting the ethnic Slavs in Bosnia, but Austria-Hungary stood in the way. Now the future ruler of the Austro-Hungarian Empire was coming to pay a visit.

Franz Ferdinand's visit to Sarajevo fell on June 28, which was also St. Vitus Day, a holiday that symbolized Serbian unity. Members of a Serbian terrorist group known as the Black Hand plotted to kill Franz Ferdinand.

On the day that the archduke visited Sarajevo, seven members of the Black Hand positioned themselves around the city to watch for him. One would-be assassin, 19-year-old Gavrilo Princip, had just stepped out of a sandwich shop when Franz Ferdinand's car pulled up in front of him. Unable to believe his luck, Princip grabbed his pistol and fired, killing both the archduke and the archduke's wife, Sophie. This assassination started a chain of events that, within weeks, would pull most of Europe into the largest war the world had ever seen. ■

▼ Soldiers arrest Gavrilo Princip after he shoots Archduke Franz Ferdinand.

# A MURDER IN BOSNIA





## Europe on the Brink of War

In 1914, rising tensions in Europe had the continent on the brink of war. These tensions were the result of four factors: militarism, alliances, imperialism, and nationalism.

**Militarism** Throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s, European countries had undertaken a massive military buildup. This militarism was caused mostly by the desire to protect overseas colonies from other nations. Across Europe, the size of armed forces and navies had risen sharply, particularly in Germany.

The growing power of Europe's armed forces left all sides anxious and ready to act at the first sign of trouble. In this nervous environment, even a minor disagreement had the potential to turn quickly into armed conflict.

**Alliances** Seeking to protect themselves from opposing armed forces, the nations of Europe formed a series of alliances, or partnerships. For example, in the late 1800s, the so-called **Triple Alliance** united Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. France and Russia feared Germany's growing power and formed their own alliance. Soon Great Britain joined with France and Russia in a less formal promise to cooperate—an entente (ahn-TAHNT). France, Russia, and Great Britain thus became known as the **Triple Entente**. Leaders hoped that these alliances would help keep the peace. They believed that no single nation would attack another, since that action would prompt the attacked nation's allies to join the fight.

**Imperialism** The quest to build empires in the late 1800s and early 1900s had created much rivalry and ill will among the nations of Europe. Germany, France, Russia, and Great Britain each saw themselves as great imperial nations. They believed they could not afford to stand by while a rival empire gained power.

**Nationalism** An important part of the rising tensions in Europe was an increase in nationalism beginning in the late 1800s. Nationalism is a strong devotion to one's national group or culture. In Europe, nationalism led to the formation of new countries, including Germany and Italy, and struggles for power.

The most visible of these power struggles was in the Balkan Peninsula, a region of

### CAUSES OF WORLD WAR I

QUICK  
FACTS

#### MILITARISM

- European nations engage in a massive military buildup.

#### ALLIANCES

- European countries form partnerships to protect themselves.

#### IMPERIALISM

- Rival empires seek to keep power.

#### NATIONALISM

- People feel loyalty and devotion to their country or culture.

southeastern Europe that was home to many ethnic groups. In the early 1900s, some of these ethnic groups were trying to break free from the Ottoman Empire, which had ruled the Balkans for hundreds of years but was now nearing collapse.

Some of the strongest nationalist tensions in the Balkans were in Serbia. At the time, Serbia was an independent nation. Many ethnic Serbs, however, lived outside Serbia in other areas of the Balkans. Serbian leaders wanted to expand the nation's borders and unite all their people in a "greater Serbia." But Austria-Hungary, the powerful empire to the north of Serbia, opposed any Serbian expansion, fearing that such growth might encourage ethnic groups within Austria-Hungary to rebel. Tensions between Austria-Hungary and Serbs would continue to rise in the early 1900s.

**READING CHECK** Summarize Why was Europe on the brink of war in 1914?

## War Breaks Out

In the midst of the tensions and resentment the Serbs felt toward Austria-Hungary, the archduke of Austria-Hungary, **Franz Ferdinand**, decided to visit the Bosnian city of Sarajevo (SAR-uh-YAY-voh). On June 28, 1914, as Franz Ferdinand's car drove through the Sarajevo

## WORLD WAR I BATTLES, 1914



### GEOGRAPHY SKILLS INTERPRETING MAPS

- 1. Location** Where was the Western Front located at this time? What were the results of the major battles fought there?
- 2. Movement** Describe the movements of the Allied Powers and the Central Powers.

streets, a young Serbian man, **Gavrilo Princip**, opened fire with his pistol, killing the archduke and the archduke's wife, Sophie.

**The Impact** Princip was arrested after the assassination. When he was identified as a Serb, Austria-Hungary decided to use the murder as an excuse to punish Serbia. Austria-Hungary made a series of humiliating demands of Serbia and then declared war on July 28, 1914.

Russia, a country with many people of Slavic ethnicity, had previously promised to support the Serbs if Austria-Hungary attacked. When Russia prepared to fulfill its promise to the Serbs, Austria-Hungary's ally Germany saw the Russian action as a threat. Germany declared war on Russia and then on Russia's ally, France. Thus, Europe's alliances and rivalries turned the action of a single assassin into a major conflict.

**Fighting Begins** Located in central Europe, Germany faced a war on two fronts—against Russia to the east and France to the west. Years earlier, German military planners had developed the Schlieffen Plan, which called for German troops to quickly defeat France in the

west and then head east to fight Russia. German leaders believed this strategy would be effective because Russia's vast size meant that the Russian military would need some time to move toward the German border.

Germany began with a quick strike into Belgium, which was located between Germany and France. Belgium was a **neutral** country, or a country that takes no side in a conflict. Still, Germany planned to sweep through that country and then move on to France. Germany's attack on a neutral country led Great Britain to declare war on Germany.

The main players of what came to be called World War I, or the Great War, were now in place. Germany and Austria-Hungary made up one side, known as the **Central Powers**. Great Britain, France, Russia, and Serbia were known as the **Allied Powers**.

**READING CHECK** **Sequence** What events led to the outbreak of World War I?

### READING SKILLS

**Understanding Sequencing** In what order did the Allied Powers become involved in the war?

## FACES OF HISTORY

### Kaiser WILHELM II 1859–1941



Friedrich Wilhelm Viktor Albert became emperor of Germany when he was only 29 years old. Wilhelm believed the ideal ruler was someone who

would make a nation powerful and respected. He was determined to make Germany a world power.

Under Wilhelm's rule, the German armed forces underwent a massive expansion. Wilhelm believed that his personal relationships with the leaders of Great Britain and Russia would help prevent war, but he was mistaken. His aggressive, tactless actions, combined with his desire to build a powerful German military, helped lead the world into a devastating war.

**Find the Main Idea** How did Wilhelm help cause World War I?

## Fighting in 1914

Germany's plans for a swift victory in France soon failed. By the end of 1914, the Great War had become a bloody stalemate.

**Early Battles** Beginning in August 1914, German troops fought French and British forces in a series of clashes known as the Battle of the Frontiers. Both sides suffered heavy losses, but the result was a German victory.

While France was struggling to fight off Germany during the Battles of the Frontiers, Russia attacked German territory from the east. The results for the Russians were disas-

trous. In the Battle of Tannenberg, German forces crushed the Russian invasion.

The Russian attack had failed to defeat the Germans, but it succeeded in distracting German forces from their advance on France. This distraction allowed Allied forces to collect themselves and turn on the German invaders.

**Trench Warfare Begins** In the Battle of the Marne in early September 1914, the Allied troops succeeded in driving the Germans back. After retreating, German forces dug a series of trenches, or deep ditches, along the Aisne (AYN) River and awaited the Allied attack. One British soldier described the German trenches:

### HISTORY'S VOICES

“[German] infantry are holding strong lines of trenches among and along the edge of the numerous woods which crown the slopes. These trenches are elaborately constructed and cleverly concealed. In many places there are wire entanglements.”

—British colonel Ernest Swinton, September 18, 1914

From their strongly defended trenches on the Aisne, the Germans were able to fight back the Allied forces. But the Allied forces soon dug trenches of their own. As a result, German and Allied positions would change little in the coming months, despite a series of major battles. The deadlocked region in northern France became known as the **Western Front**.

**READING CHECK Summarize** What were the major events of the fighting in 1914?

## SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

Keyword: SHL WW1 HP

### Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

- a. Identify** What were the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente?

**b. Explain** Why do you think European governments expanded the size of their armed forces?

**c. Draw Conclusions** How did the increased size and power of military forces make fighting more likely?
- a. Describe** What was the crime that led to the start of World War I?

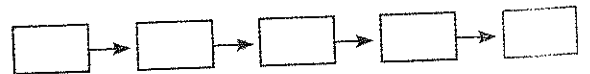
**b. Make Inferences** After Franz Ferdinand was killed, why do you think that Austria-Hungary chose to take the actions it did?

**c. Develop** How might Germany have worked to stop the war from beginning?
- a. Recall** What forces fought in the war's first major battle?

**b. Analyze** How did the construction of trenches affect the war in 1914?

### Critical Thinking

- Identify Cause and Effect** Using your notes on the section and a graphic organizer like the one below, explain how the events of the late 1800s and early 1900s led up to the outbreak of World War I.



### FOCUS ON SPEAKING

- Persuasion** Write notes for a speech that a European leader trying to prevent the outbreak of war might have given in July 1914. Use details from the chapter in your notes.

# A New Kind of War

## BEFORE YOU READ

### MAIN IDEA

With the introduction of new types of warfare and new technologies, World War I resulted in destruction on a scale never before imagined.

### READING FOCUS

1. How was the World War I battlefield different than those of earlier wars?
2. How did the war affect the home front?
3. What happened on the Western Front?
4. How did the war spread around the world?

### KEY TERMS

trench warfare  
total war  
propaganda  
Battle of Verdun  
Gallipoli Campaign  
genocide

### TAKING NOTES

Take notes on the weapons and technology of the battlefield and the events of the war.

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## POISON FROM THE SKY

### THE INSIDE STORY

*Can you protect yourself against the air?* The exhausted British soldiers were taking a

break from the bitter fighting with German forces. In the distance, they could see the other end of their own line of trenches. This section was occupied by British allies, including soldiers from France and from the French colony of Algeria.

The resting British soldiers noticed a curious thing. Floating through the air from the German lines toward the Allied trenches was a slow-moving cloud of yellowish smoke. Soon, from the direction of the strange cloud came a steady stream of running men, throwing away clothing, equipment, and anything else that might slow them down.

The British were at first horrified at what they thought was the cowardly retreat of the French and Algerians. They soon learned, however, that the terrified men had good reason to run. The yellow cloud that had floated into their trenches was chlorine gas, a deadly poison. When inhaled, this gas damages lung tissue and causes victims to cough violently and choke. In some cases, the gas kills.

The poison gas used against the Allied troops was one of many new weapons that first appeared in World War I. Together these weapons produced a horrifying level of death and destruction. ■



▲ Gas masks were vital equipment for soldiers in the World War I trenches.

## The World War I Battlefield

Poison gas and the other new weapons developed during World War I were a response to a massive deadlock. By the end of 1914, two systems of trenches stretched for hundreds of miles over western Europe. Across the Western Front, millions of Allied and Central Powers soldiers lived in these trenches, surrounded by flying bullets, bombs, and grenades.



**THE IMPACT  
TODAY**

The use of chemical weapons like poison gas was outlawed in 1997 by the Chemical Weapons Convention.

**Trench Warfare** The idea of trench warfare, or fighting from trenches, was not new. Soldiers had long hidden behind mounds of earth for safety. But no one had ever experienced trench warfare on the scale seen in Europe in 1914.

Life in the trenches was often miserable. Rainstorms produced deep puddles and thick mud, and sanitation was a constant problem. Sometimes removing dead bodies from trenches or the surrounding area was impossible. Lice, rats, and other unpleasant creatures were always present.

Occasionally soldiers would be ordered "over the top" of their trench to attack the enemy. They would jump out of their trench and sprint across the area between opposing trenches, called no-man's-land. As they ran, many were cut down by enemy guns. Thousands of soldiers on both sides died in no-man's-land, their bodies left where they fell.

**New Weapons** Neither the Allies nor the Central Powers were able to make significant advances past the enemy's trenches. As a

result, each side turned to new weapons and technology to win the war.

Poison gas was one of the new weapons used in the war. Different types of gas could blind, choke, or burn the victims. Gas killed or injured thousands of people, but its value was limited. A change in wind direction, for example, could blow the gas back toward the troops who had launched it. Also, both sides developed gas masks, which provided some protection.

Other new weapons were far more effective. For example, rapid-fire machine guns came into wide use during the war. Modern industry also produced artillery and high-explosive shells with enormous destructive power.

**Tanks and Aircraft** Both tanks and aircraft were first used in World War I. Tanks, armored vehicles that could cross rough battlefield terrain, were pioneered by the British. Because reliability was a problem, however, they would not make a contribution until late in the war.

Aircraft, on the other hand, were useful from the beginning. At the start of the war, few

**\*Interactive**

**HISTORY CLOSE-UP**

## Trench Warfare

It was nearly impossible to capture an enemy trench, protected as it was by machine guns, rows of barbed wire, and armed soldiers. As a result, trench warfare turned into a stalemate. Countless troops died in the trenches, with little real effect on the war.



Soldiers fired artillery shells containing poison gas into enemy trenches.

aircraft existed, and they were used mainly to observe enemy positions. Soon, mechanics began to attach machine guns to airplanes, and pilots began to drop bombs from the air. As the war dragged on, new, faster airplanes proved useful in attacking battlefields and cities.

Despite the new technologies, however, neither side was able to gain an advantage on the battlefield. Trench warfare, with all its miseries, dragged on.

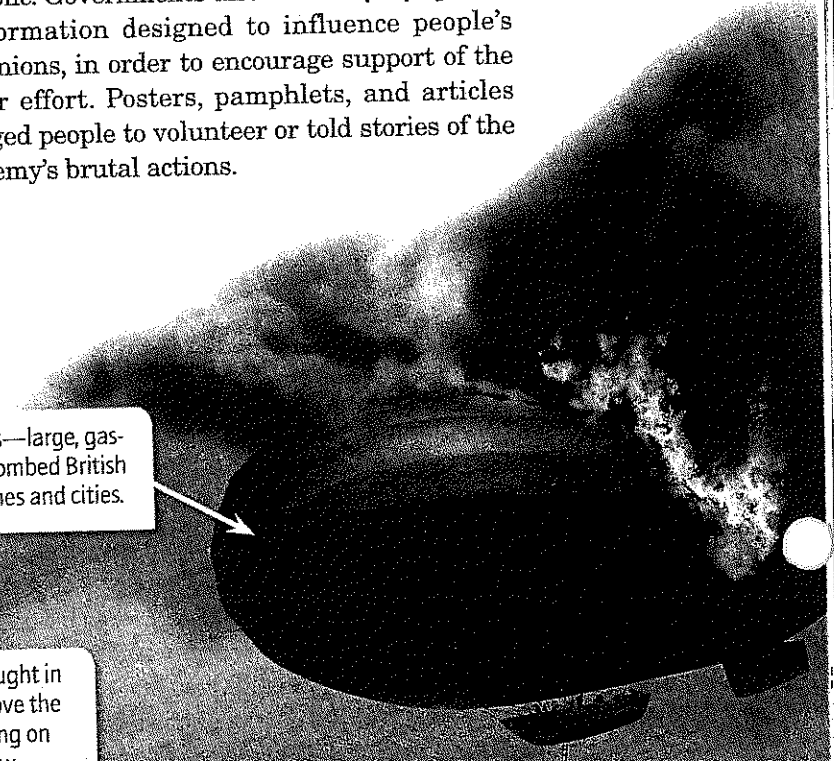
**READING CHECK** Summarize How did new technology affect the World War I battlefield?

## War on the Home Front


The nations fighting in World War I soon realized that winning this new type of war would require the use of all of society's resources. This tactic is called **total war**. Governments began to take stronger control of their citizens' lives.

**Government Actions** In some countries, new controls resulted in changes to the nation's industries and economy. Factories began to produce military equipment. Civilians conserved food and other goods for military use.

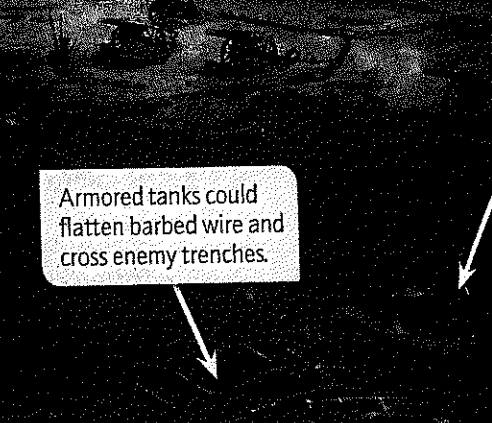
Governments also sought to control public opinion. They censored newspaper reports about the fighting, worried that truthful descriptions of casualties might discourage the public. Governments also created **propaganda**, information designed to influence people's opinions, in order to encourage support of the war effort. Posters, pamphlets, and articles urged people to volunteer or told stories of the enemy's brutal actions.



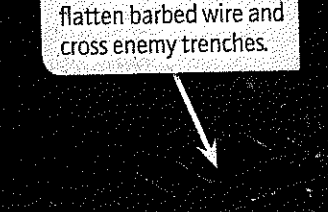
German zeppelins—large, gas-filled airships—bombed British and French trenches and cities.



Airplanes fought in the skies above the trenches, firing on soldiers below.



Machine guns fired hundreds of bullets each minute and were used to defend trenches against enemy attacks.



Armored tanks could flatten barbed wire and cross enemy trenches.

**Skills FOCUS**

### INTERPRETING VISUALS

**Analyze** What role did new weapons and military tactics play in trench warfare? Use details from the image to support your answer.

Go online for a closer look at survival and this event.

go.hrw.com  
**COULD YOU HAVE SURVIVED?**  
Keyword: SHLWW1

## Women in War

In World War I, only a few hundred women fought as soldiers, nearly all in the Russian army. These soldiers were the exceptions.

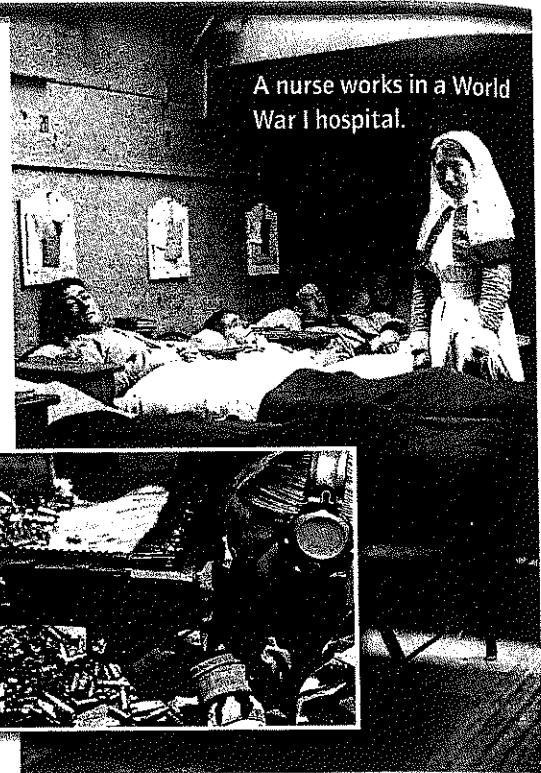
Most women who wanted to help the war effort had only two options: assist on the home front or work as nurses for the armed forces. Thousands of women chose to serve as nurses. Many worked in hospitals or medical-aid stations near the war's front lines, where they faced terrible conditions while helping wounded soldiers.

The role of women in the armed forces began to change slowly after the war. In World War II, most women were still limited

to non-combat roles, but some fought as soldiers or as part of organized resistance movements. Today, women serve in many of the world's armed forces, filling roles ranging from soldiers on the front lines to support staff on the home front.

**Summarize** How has the role of women in war changed since World War I?

**An American soldier** fires a machine gun. ▶



**Women and the War** With millions of men at battle, much of the work on the home front was done by women. Some worked in factories producing weapons and other war supplies. These women helped send important shipments of food and weapons to the front lines. Others served as nurses to wounded soldiers. The contributions women made during the war helped transform public views of what women could do. In some countries, this change helped women finally win the right to vote.

**READING CHECK** Find the Main Idea  
In what ways did the war affect the home front?

### Battles on the Western Front

While people on the home front supported their troops, the war in Western Europe was going badly for the Allied Powers. In 1915, a series of battles had resulted in many Allied casualties.

**The Italian Front** In May 1915, Italy entered World War I by joining the Allied Powers. Italy's first move was to send its forces against Austria-Hungary on the Italy-Austria border. In a long series of back-and-forth battles, Italy made little progress.

**The Battle of Verdun** Meanwhile, the Germans were making plans for an assault on the French fortress of Verdun. Verdun had been an important French fortress since Roman times. German leaders believed that the French, unable to bear seeing the city captured, would defend it at all costs. The **Battle of Verdun** was meant solely to kill or injure as many French soldiers as possible—to "bleed France white," said the German commander.

From the start of the battle in February 1916 to its end that December, France suffered some 400,000 casualties. Germany, however, endured nearly as many. The battle left both sides weakened, and the stalemate continued.

**The Battle of the Somme** The British launched their own attack, intended partly to pull German troops away from Verdun, in June 1916. This British attack took place in the Somme River area of France.

The Battle of the Somme was the main Allied assault during 1916. On the first day of fighting alone, the British suffered nearly 60,000 casualties. Just as in the Battle of Verdun, by the time fighting ended in December 1916 there had been no major breakthroughs. Both sides lost an enormous number of troops.

**The Third Battle of Ypres** The year 1917 went badly for the Allies. That spring, a failed French offensive caused rebellion among some French soldiers. In July, the British began an offensive near Ypres (ee-pruh), Belgium, where two earlier German attacks had taken place. The Third Battle of Ypres was a disaster for the British, who ended the attack in November. After three years of battle in western Europe, the front lines were virtually unchanged.

**READING CHECK** Summarize What was the result of the battles on the Western Front?

## War around the World

Much of the early fighting took place in Europe, but the conflict quickly became a true world war as fighting spread around the globe. Over 30 nations officially took sides in the war, and other countries became involved in less formal ways.

**The Gallipoli Campaign** A new power had entered the battle on the Eastern Front in late 1914, when the Ottoman Empire joined the Central Powers. The vast empire was weakening, but it still had a vital location. The Ottomans controlled an important sea passage called the Dardanelles (dahr-den-ELZ), which was part of the water route between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. The Allies used the Dardanelles to ship supplies to Russia.

To destroy the guns and forts that lined the Dardanelles, the Allies landed a force on the Gallipoli Peninsula in the spring of 1915. After months of fighting and nearly 200,000 casualties, the Allies gave up. The Gallipoli Campaign was a failure.

The Ottoman Empire did suffer a major loss later in the war when its subjects in the Arabian Peninsula rebelled. To take advantage of this revolt, the British sent officer T. E. Lawrence to support the Arabs. With Lawrence's help, the Arabs overthrew Ottoman rule.





**The Armenian Massacre** As the Gallipoli Campaign went on, a different conflict occurred elsewhere in the Ottoman Empire. In late 1914, Russia had launched an attack in the Caucasus (KAW-kuh-suhs), a mountain region that lies between the Black and Caspian seas and borders northeastern Turkey. The area was home to ethnic Armenians. Because most were Christians, Armenians formed a minority group in the largely Muslim Ottoman Empire.

Ottoman leaders claimed that the Armenians were aiding the Russians. In the spring of 1915, Ottoman leaders began forcibly removing Armenians from the Caucasus. Some 600,000 Armenians died from violence and starvation. Ottoman leaders were accused by many of **genocide**—the deliberate destruction of a racial, political, or cultural group.

**Other Fighting** Battles were also fought elsewhere in Asia and in Africa. Japan, for example, had declared war on Germany in 1914 as part of a military agreement with Great Britain. Far from the battlefields of Europe, Japanese forces captured German colonies in China and the Pacific. British and French troops attacked German colonies in Africa.

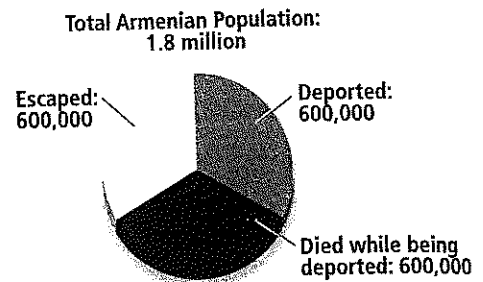
Allied colonies scattered around the world made many contributions to the war. For example, soldiers from all parts of the British Empire—India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand—took part in the war. Some of these people worked as laborers to keep the armies supplied. Many others fought and died in battle, such as the Algerians who fought for France.

### THE IMPACT TODAY

The Turkish government officially denies that the Armenian deaths should be considered genocide, although most historians disagree.

## THE ARMENIAN MASSACRE

Nearly 2 million ethnic Armenians were deported to Mesopotamia and what is now Syria during World War I. During this forced relocation, hundreds of thousands starved to death or were killed by Ottoman soldiers and police.



Source: Encyclopedia Britannica



▲ Armenians who escaped during the relocation arrive in a refugee camp.

Although some colonial peoples were reluctant to help their rulers, others volunteered to fight in the hopes that their service would help win independence. They would soon discover that these hopes were in vain.

**READING CHECK Summarize** In what areas of the world did the war take place?

## SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

Keyword: SHL WWI HP

### Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

- a. Describe** How did World War I differ from previous wars?

**b. Identify Cause and Effect** How did the technological developments of World War I affect trench warfare?
- a. Recall** How did civilians help support the war effort?

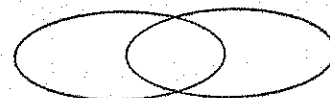
**b. Infer** How do you think total war affected life on the home front?
- a. Recall** What were the results of the Battle of Verdun and the Battle of the Somme?

**b. Explain** Why did the Western Front change very little between 1915 and 1917?
- a. Recall** What happened in the Gallipoli Campaign?

**b. Summarize** List the war's events outside of Europe.

### Critical Thinking

- Compare** Using your notes on the section and a graphic organizer like the one below, explain how the war on the Western Front was different from the war elsewhere in the world.



### FOCUS ON WRITING

- Description** From the perspective of a World War I soldier, write a letter describing life in the trenches. Use details from the section in your letter.

# Revolution in Russia

## BEFORE YOU READ

### MAIN IDEA

The war and social unrest combined to push Russia to the edge of a revolution. The events that followed led to Russia's exit from the war and became a major turning point in world history.

### READING FOCUS

1. What was Russia's experience in World War I?
2. What were the main events of the Russian Revolution?
3. What major events took place after the Russian Revolution?

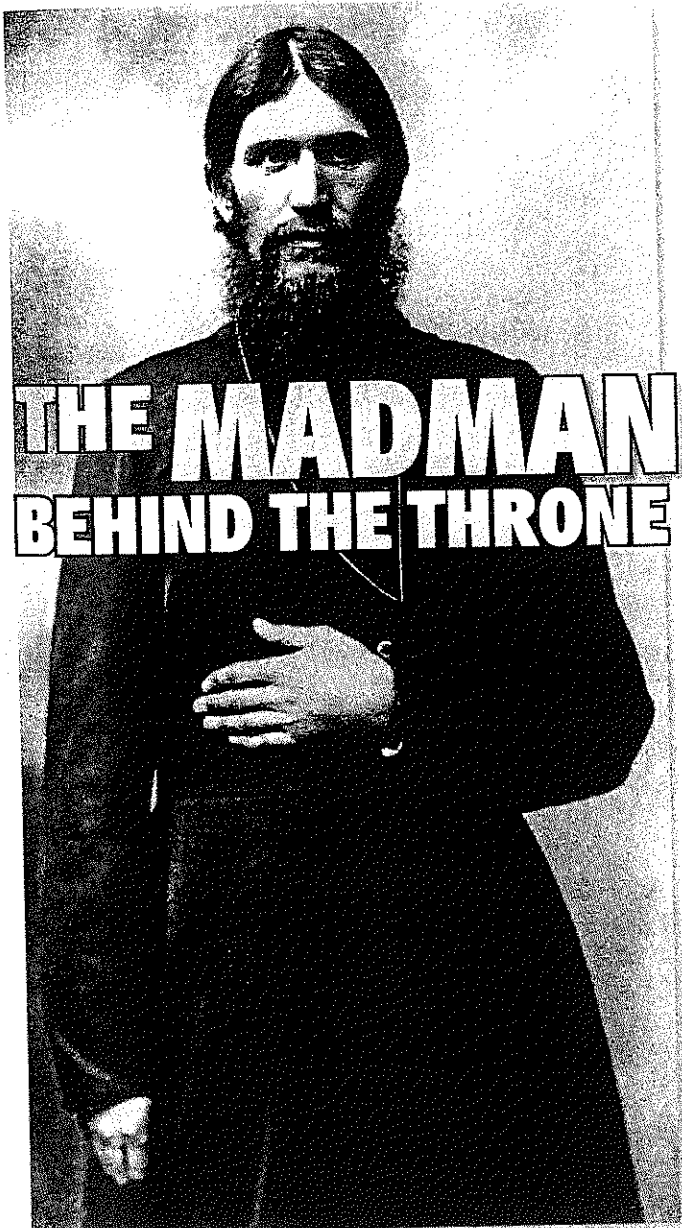
### KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE

Bolsheviks  
Grigory Rasputin  
Marxism-Leninism  
Leon Trotsky  
New Economic Policy

### TAKING NOTES

Take notes on Russia during the war, during the Revolution, and after the Revolution.

↓
↓



### THE INSIDE STORY

*How could an illiterate peasant control the Russian Empire?*

Grigory Rasputin was filthy, illiterate, and believed by some people to be insane. But he was also a self-proclaimed holy man and healer as well as a trusted adviser to Russia's Czarina Alexandra.

Rasputin's influence on the Russian royal family began in the early 1900s, when he first met Czar Nicholas II and Czarina Alexandra. Their son, Alexis, suffered from hemophilia, a disease in which injuries can result in uncontrolled bleeding. Rasputin had a reputation as a man who could heal the sick, and the royal family was eager to see if he could help their son. Indeed, Rasputin seemed to relieve the boy's suffering. Rasputin soon became a common sight at the royal palace.

In the presence of the royal family, Rasputin was careful to appear as a humble, holy peasant. But his actions were very different outside the palace, where his immoral behavior soon created a scandal. When outraged Russians protested, the czar refused to believe their stories.

After Nicholas went off to lead Russia's armies in World War I, Rasputin became Alexandra's personal adviser. He helped her make decisions on a variety of issues, including political appointments and military actions. Nearly all of the decisions proved disastrous for Russia.

In December 1916, a group of Russian nobles formed a plan to murder Rasputin and save Russia from his influence. The nobles poisoned and shot Rasputin, but he did not die. Finally, they drowned him in an icy Russian river. While Rasputin could do no more harm to Russia, the nation was anything but saved. ■

◀ Known as the Mad Monk, Rasputin had great power over Russia.

## Russia and World War I

On the eve of World War I, Russia was a troubled nation. Czar Nicholas II had promised reform after the revolution of 1905, but he delivered little real change. Economic conditions grew worse, and another revolution seemed near.

**The Years Before the War** A small Marxist group known as the **Bolsheviks** (BOHL-shuh-viks) sought to change life in Russia through revolution. Led by Vladimir Lenin, the Bolsheviks wanted to overthrow the czar so that the proletariat—the industrial workers—could gain the power to rule Russia as a socialist country. This plan was an adaptation of Marxist ideas. Marx had predicted a spontaneous uprising of the proletariat to overthrow capitalism, but Bolsheviks had other plans. They wanted an elite group—themselves—to lead a revolution and keep much of the power over Russia. Although the Bolsheviks had little influence in the early 1900s, they gained followers as Russia's problems grew more serious.

By 1914, economic conditions in Russia were so bad that the arrival of World War I provided some relief for Nicholas and his top government officials. They hoped that the military crisis would help unite the country and cause the people to rally around their leadership.

**Russia in World War I** At the start of the war, Russia had an enormous army of some 6 million soldiers. As the czar had hoped, the

outbreak of fighting did help provide a burst of patriotism. People from across the country rushed to join the military.

In many other ways, however, Russia was ill-prepared for war. Russian factories were not able to produce ammunition and other military supplies quickly enough to meet the army's needs. In addition, the nation's transportation system was weak. As a result, moving troops and equipment to the right places at the right times proved very difficult.

To make matters worse, the Russian military was not prepared to fight a major war. Its equipment was outdated, and many of its leaders were of poor quality. Russian officers commonly advanced on the basis of personal connections rather than actual ability.

Initially, the Russians enjoyed success on the battlefield, but the losses soon outnumbered the victories. In both victory and defeat, however, Russia's costs in human life were great. Millions of Russian soldiers were wounded or killed during the war's early battles.

**Conditions Grow Worse** In 1915, Czar Nicholas II decided to take personal command of the Russian forces. The move made little sense. As one of Russia's top commanders said, the czar "understood literally nothing about military matters." Nevertheless, it was now clear that the czar's fate was linked with the fate of Russia's armed forces. If they failed, so would he.

### TIME LINE

## Russia in Turmoil

**August 1914** Russia enters World War I on the side of the Allied Powers.



### March 1917

Russian citizens revolt and force Czar Nicholas II to give up power. A provisional government is established.

### November 1917

In the Bolshevik Revolution, Communists led by Vladimir Lenin take over the Russian government.

The war had been going badly for Russia, but once the czar took command, the situation for Russia grew even worse. A few months later the Central Powers were able to stop a major Russian offensive. That defeat destroyed the Russian soldiers' faith in their leaders. With little strength and even less confidence, the Russian army seemed doomed.

Conditions in Russia itself were even worse than they were on the battlefield. Food and other goods were growing scarce in Russian cities, and impoverished Russian peasants were growing desperate. The czar had left his wife, the unpopular Czarina Alexandra, in control of the country when he went off with the troops. She relied on the advice of Grigory Rasputin, a self-proclaimed holy man and healer whom many Russians viewed as corrupt and immoral. With the government under his influence, the already shaky Russian support for the monarchy dipped even lower.

**READING CHECK** Find the Main Idea

How did World War I affect Russia?

## The Russian Revolution

By the end of 1916, Russia was once again on the edge of a revolution. As the new year began and conditions in Russia continued to worsen, the Russian people clearly wanted change.

**Revolution Begins** On March 8, 1917, unhappy citizens took to the streets of Petrograd, the Russian capital, to protest the lack of food and fuel. Sympathetic police and soldiers in Petrograd refused to follow orders to shoot the rioters. The government was helpless.

While protests raged in the streets, Czar Nicholas II ordered the Duma, Russia's legislature, to disband. The Duma defied this order. With Russia's citizens, soldiers, and government all refusing to obey Nicholas, it was clear that he had lost control of the nation. On March 15, Nicholas was forced to abdicate, or step down, as czar. The Russian monarchy had come to an end.

The March revolution that forced Nicholas to step down is known as the February Revolution in Russia. At the time of the revolution, Russia used an old type of calendar that was 13 days behind the one used in the rest of Europe and the United States. Russia adopted the new calendar in 1918.

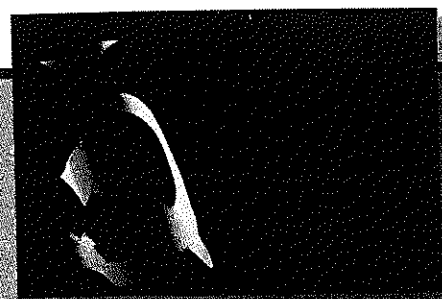
**The Provisional Government** After the fall of the czar, the Duma established a provisional, or temporary, government. This government was led by Aleksandr Kerensky.

**READING SKILLS**

**Understanding Sequencing** What events took place in Russia in 1917 before the czar stepped down?



◀ A Bolshevik poster seeks to recruit soldiers during the Russian Civil War.



**December 1922**

The Soviet Union is formed.

**March 1918** The Bolshevik government signs the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, which ends Russian involvement in World War I.

**November 1920** After three years of fighting, the Russian Civil War ends with a Bolshevik victory.

**Skills FOCUS**

**INTERPRETING TIME LINES**

**Summarize** What actions did the Bolsheviks take in Russia between 1914 and 1922?



## FACES OF HISTORY

### Vladimir LENIN

1870–1924



The son of a teacher, Vladimir Lenin graduated first in his class from high school and seemed destined to be a scholar. Instead, he soon

became a Marxist and fought for revolution in Russia.

When Lenin was 17 years old, his older brother was hanged for plotting to kill the Russian czar. Lenin himself soon turned against the Russian government. He founded the Bolshevik Party and sought to establish a Communist social system, in which there would be no economic classes and no private property. Today he is considered the father of the Russian Revolution.

**Infer** Why is Lenin considered the father of the Russian Revolution?

Many Russians were unhappy with their new leadership. The government planned to continue fighting in World War I, even though most Russians were thoroughly tired of war. Russian peasants, who simply wanted land and food, felt that Kerensky's government was doing too little to help.

Leading the opposition to Kerensky's provisional government were the Bolsheviks, who wanted a fundamental change in Russian government and society—an immediate Marxist revolution. They planned to abolish private property and enforce social equality, and believed that this revolution would soon sweep the world.

Bolshevism later became known as **Marxism-Leninism**, after Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin. Lenin had been forced to live outside Russia because of his revolutionary ideas, but he returned to Russia in April 1917. This return was arranged by Germany, which hoped Lenin would stir unrest in Russia and weaken the Russian effort in World War I.

**The Bolshevik Revolution** In mid-1917, Kerensky's government ordered a final military offensive against the Central Powers along the Eastern Front. The drive failed. Even worse, it led to widespread rebellion in the Russian army. "I have received word," wrote one officer, "that in some units the officers are being slaughtered by their own men." The weakened Russian army had collapsed.

The conditions were ideal for Lenin to lead a Bolshevik takeover. In November 1917, armed Bolshevik factory workers known as the Red

Guard attacked the provisional government. The October Revolution—its name came from the old Russian calendar—was brief. After a nearly bloodless struggle, Kerensky's government collapsed. Russia was now in Bolshevik hands, and Lenin became the nation's leader.

Lenin wasted no time in establishing a radical Communist program. He soon made private ownership of land illegal.

#### HISTORY'S VOICES

“All private ownership of land is abolished immediately without compensation [payment to the owners]. All landowners' estates and all land belonging to the Crown, to monasteries, church lands with all their livestock and . . . property . . . are transferred to the disposition [control] of the township Land Committees.”

—Vladimir Lenin, *Decree on Land*, October 26, 1917

The Bolsheviks gave this land to peasants. Similarly, the Bolsheviks seized Russia's factories and gave control of the factories to workers. With these actions, millions of Russians gained new power over their daily lives, but this power did not ensure that good times lay ahead.

#### READING CHECK

**Summarize** What were the main events of the Russian Revolution?

## After the Revolution

After the Bolshevik Revolution, Lenin set about ending Russia's involvement in World War I. He sent **Leon Trotsky**, a top Bolshevik official, to negotiate for peace with the Central Powers. Because Russia's army was virtually powerless, Trotsky had to accept an agreement that was harsh on Russia. Russia had finally gained peace, but was forced to give up huge chunks of its empire.

**Civil War** The Bolsheviks' acceptance of the treaty upset many Russians deeply. As a result, some of the Bolsheviks' opponents organized into what came to be called the White Army. The Whites included some army leaders, political opponents of the Bolsheviks, and wealthy Russians who opposed Lenin's Communist system. The only thing that united them was their opposition to the Bolsheviks. The Whites received some military help from countries that opposed the Bolsheviks, such as France and the United States.

#### ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**fundamental**  
basic

For three years, civil war raged between Lenin's Bolshevik Red Army and the White Army. Millions of Russians died in the fighting and famines that swept across Russia, until the Bolsheviks triumphed in late 1920.

**New Economic Policy** The civil war pushed Russia's collapsing economy to the edge of total ruin. Especially hard hit were poor peasants and workers, who had been forced to endure terrible sacrifices in order to win the war.

Lenin responded to this crisis in 1921. He introduced the **New Economic Policy**, a plan that permitted some capitalist activity. Peasants, for example, could sell their food at a profit. The plan was meant to encourage more food production, which Russia badly needed.

**The Soviet Union** By 1922 the Russian economy was beginning to improve. That same year, Russia reunited with several neighboring lands that had been part of the Russian Empire before 1917. The new country was called the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—also known as the Soviet Union. Russia's Communist leadership dominated the new country.

While the Soviet Union's economy gained strength, Lenin's own health was failing. After a series of strokes, he died in 1924. Lenin had no clear successor, and his death soon led to a struggle for control of the Soviet Union.

**READING CHECK** **Sequence** What events took place after the Russian Revolution?

## PRIMARY SOURCES

### Lenin's Call to Power

Lenin issued his "Call to Power" on October 24, 1917—according to the old Russian calendar—urging Russians to rise up and seize power from the provisional government.

"I am writing these lines on the evening of the 24th. The situation is critical in the extreme. In fact it is now absolutely clear that to delay the uprising would be fatal.

"With all my might I urge comrades to realize that everything now hangs by a thread; that we are confronted by problems which are not to be solved by conferences or congresses (even congresses of Soviets), but exclusively by peoples, by the masses, by the struggle of the armed people.

"... We must not wait. We must at all costs, this very evening, this very night, arrest the government, having first disarmed the officer cadets, and so on.

"We must not wait! We may lose everything! ...

"All districts, all regiments, all forces must be mobilized at once ...

"The government is tottering. It must be given the death-blow at all costs."

**Skills  
FOCUS**

#### READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

- 1. Explain** What did Lenin want Russians to do? Why?
- 2. Analyzing Primary Sources** What words does Lenin use to try to convince readers to follow his instructions? See **Skills Handbook**, p. H25

## SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

Keyword: SHL WW1 HP

### Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

- 1. a. Recall** What was the condition of the Russian military at the beginning of World War I?  
**b. Summarize** How did the Bolsheviks plan to change Russian society?  
**c. Make Judgments** Do you think that Czar Nicholas II's decision to take over as commander in chief of the Russian army was wise? Why or why not?
- 2. a. Identify** What role did Vladimir Lenin have in Russia in 1917?  
**b. Elaborate** Why do you think many Russians were anxious for radical change in 1917?
- 3. a. Recall** When did the Russian Civil War begin?  
**b. Identify Cause and Effect** Why did the Russian economy begin to improve after the civil war?

### Critical Thinking

- 4. Sequence** Using your notes on the section and a graphic organizer like the one below, identify the causes and effects of the Russian Revolution.



### FOCUS ON WRITING

- 5. Exposition** In a paragraph, explain why Lenin and the Bolsheviks took the actions they did between 1917 and 1924. Use details from the section to support your explanation. Be sure to include information about Bolshevik political and economic goals.

# The War Ends

## BEFORE YOU READ

### MAIN IDEA

After several years of bloody stalemate—and the entry of the United States into the conflict—the Allied Powers finally prevailed. The peace, however, proved difficult to establish.

### READING FOCUS

1. Why did the United States enter the war?
2. What events led to the end of the fighting?
3. What issues made the peace process difficult?
4. What were the costs of the war?

### KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE

Woodrow Wilson  
U-boats  
Zimmermann Note  
armistice  
Fourteen Points  
Treaty of Versailles  
League of Nations  
mandates  
Balfour Declaration

### TAKING NOTES

Take notes on the events that led to the war's end, the peace process, and the war's costs.

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### THE INSIDE STORY

**Why would Germany attack a passenger liner?** For passengers packing their bags for the ocean voyage from New York to Great Britain, the advertisement in the newspaper must have been alarming. The notice was from the German government, and it warned that any ship approaching Great Britain was subject to attack.

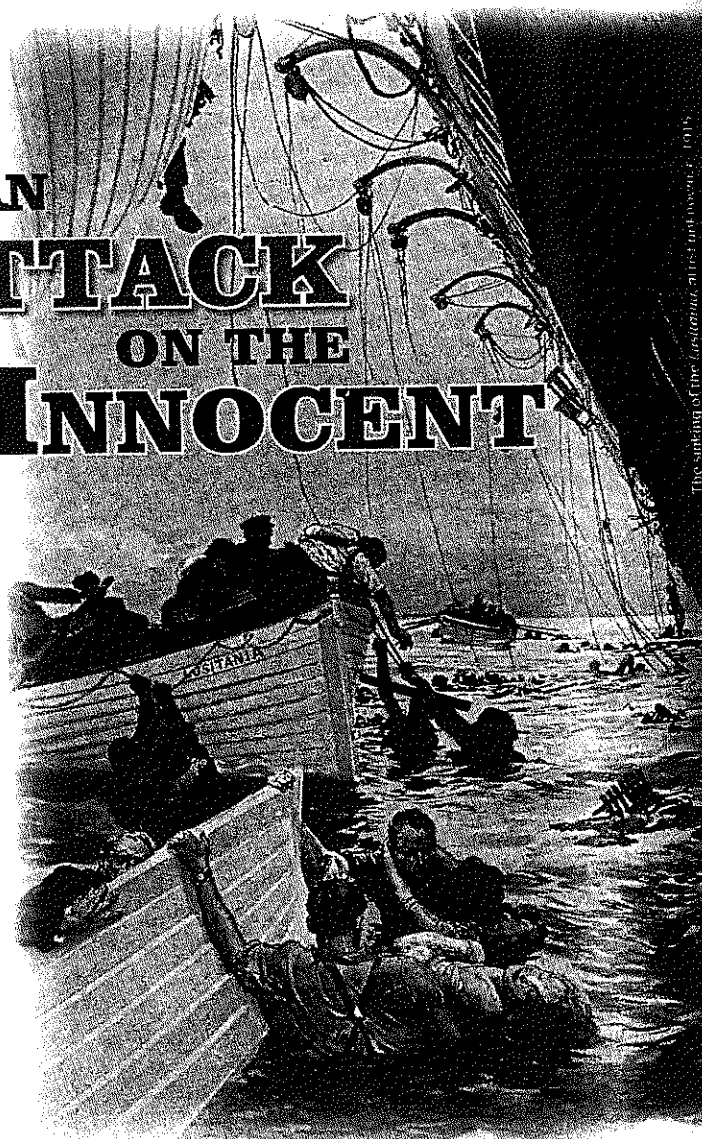
Still, the *Lusitania* was a passenger liner. It carried nearly 2,000 innocent civilians. Surely German submarines would not attack a helpless, harmless vessel like the *Lusitania*.

The Germans, however, felt that they could not trust passenger ships. The British routinely hid war supplies on civilian ships, using them to transport guns and ammunition across the ocean. Germany couldn't afford to simply ignore passenger ships. Sinking anything that sailed into or out of Great Britain was a safer policy.

In early May 1915, when a German submarine spotted the *Lusitania* off the coast of Ireland in the Atlantic Ocean, the submarine's commander did not hesitate. The submarine fired a single torpedo, which struck the ship squarely. This blast set off another, larger explosion inside the ship. Badly damaged, the *Lusitania* sank in a mere 18 minutes. Nearly 1,200 people lost their lives, including more than 120 U.S. citizens. ■

**The *Lusitania* sank so quickly that many passengers were drowned. ►**

## AN ATTACK ON THE INNOCENT



## The United States Enters the War

German attacks on ships carrying American passengers angered the American people and their leaders. Those attacks, as well as information about a German plan to have Mexico attack the United States, pushed the United States into World War I.

**American Neutrality** In the early years of the war the United States was neutral, although the American public generally supported the Allies. Still, most Americans agreed with President **Woodrow Wilson**, who did not want to become involved in the huge conflict on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. He believed that the United States should stay out of the affairs of other nations. In 1916, in fact, Wilson used the slogan “He kept us out of war” to help win reelection.

**Trouble on the Seas** Remaining neutral was not easy when Germany attacked civilian ships. These attacks were part of a policy called unrestricted submarine warfare. Under this policy, any ship traveling in the waters around Great Britain was subject to attack by German submarines, or **U-boats**. Germany initially used its U-boats to attack British naval vessels, but then began targeting merchant ships delivering goods to Great Britain. Targeting merchant ships was an effective tactic, since the island of Great Britain depended heavily on supplies shipped on the seas.

The passenger ship *Lusitania* was sunk under the German policy of unrestricted warfare, killing some 1,200 people, including over 120 Americans. The sinking of the *Lusitania* was followed in August and September 1915 by two more sinkings in which more American citizens died.

The U.S. government complained bitterly to Germany about the loss of American lives. Fearing U.S. entry into the war, Germany finally agreed to stop attacking passenger ships.

By 1917, though, German leaders realized that, to defeat the powerful British navy, they would need to return to unrestricted submarine warfare. This act might bring the United States into the war. The German leaders hoped, however, that they could defeat the Allied Powers before U.S. forces could have an impact.

### FACES OF HISTORY

**Woodrow WILSON**  
1856–1924



U.S. president Woodrow Wilson is often remembered for his efforts for world peace. During the early years of World War I, Wilson worked

tirelessly for peace, winning reelection in 1916 in part by promising to keep the United States out of the war.

By the following year, however, Wilson felt that the war was becoming a serious threat to the world's future. He hoped that a victory by the Allied Powers could help bring about a lasting peace and urged Congress to declare war. His Fourteen Points speech proposed the League of Nations, which would help prevent future wars. For his peacemaking efforts, Wilson earned the Nobel Peace Prize in 1919.

**Summarize** How did Wilson work for world peace?

**The Zimmermann Note** The repeated attacks on shipping moved the United States closer to declaring war against Germany. In February of 1917, the discovery of the so-called Zimmermann Note provided the final push. The **Zimmermann Note** was a secret message from German diplomat Arthur Zimmermann to officials in Mexico in which Germany proposed that Mexico attack the United States. In return, Germany promised, Mexico would gain the U.S. states of Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico, all of which had once belonged to Mexico. German leaders hoped that an American war with Mexico would keep the United States out of the war in Europe.

The Zimmermann Note greatly angered the American public, which now began to call for war against Germany. After all, Americans had much in common with the Allied Powers. Many Americans traced their ancestry to Great Britain, for example, and the two nations shared the same language and many cultural traditions. The United States also had strong financial ties to the Allied Powers and was selling millions of dollars' worth of war goods to Britain each week.

By early 1917, the various forces pushing the United States toward war were too strong to resist. In April 1917, the United States entered the war on the side of the Allied Powers.

### READING CHECK Identify Cause and Effect

How did unrestricted submarine warfare affect U.S. entry into the war?



# Reading like a Historian

## U.S. Neutrality

**Interpreting Political Cartoons** Many Americans initially thought of World War I as a far-off European conflict that had little effect on the United States. They did not want to become involved in the fighting. However, as the war continued and as Germany attacked neutral ships with American passengers, American feelings slowly changed. This cartoon took a stand on the American position of neutrality.

To interpret what this cartoon says about American involvement in the war, think about

- the text and symbols used in the cartoon
- the artist's message

The figure of Uncle Sam represents the United States.



This block of ice labeled "Patience with Germany" is melting.

**Skills  
FOCUS**

### READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

- 1. Symbols** Why did the artist use a fan and a block of ice in this cartoon?
- 2. Message** Was this cartoon created by a supporter or an opponent of U.S. entry into the war? How can you tell?

See **Skills Handbook**, p. H27

## The End of the Fighting

German leaders knew that the U.S. decision to enter the war would dramatically increase the strength of the Allied Powers. To win the war, Germany and the other Central Powers would have to deal a decisive blow before the United States had time to raise an army, train soldiers, and ship troops and supplies to the front lines.

**A New German Offensive** Germany's opportunity to win the war before the U.S. military could mobilize came with Russia's withdrawal from the war. Russia had endured revolution and civil war, and by the end of 1917 was out of the war entirely. With German troops no longer needed to fight Russia on the Eastern Front, Germany could launch a new offensive in the west.

Germany transferred troops back to France, and in March 1918, launched a major assault on the Western Front. For a while, German forces made great progress against Allied defenders, advancing to within 40 miles of the French capital of Paris.

The offensive came at a high cost to Germany, however. By the end of June, they had lost 800,000 troops. Also by that time, hundreds of thousands of Americans had arrived in Europe. These soldiers helped on the battlefield, but they also gave the Allies hope—and discouraged the Germans.

**German Collapse** Slowly, the balance of power shifted. In the Second Battle of the Marne, Allied forces stopped the German assault—just as they had stopped the

Germans at the Marne in 1914. Now the Allies went on the offensive. Combining effective use of tanks and aircraft, Allied forces gained huge amounts of territory. Many Germans simply gave up without a fight, knowing that Germany was a defeated force.

#### HISTORY'S VOICES

“[German] officers in particular inform us of the weakness of their forces, the youth of their recruits, and the influence of the American entry. They are depressed by their heavy losses, by the poor quality of their food . . . They are worried and begin to doubt German power.”

—French report on German morale, September 1918

In October Allied forces broke through the heavily fortified Hindenburg Line. Germany's end was near. Soon German leaders approached the Allies seeking an armistice, or truce. Peace terms were agreed to on November 11, 1918. By this time, the other Central Powers had admitted defeat. World War I was over.

**READING CHECK** Summarize How did fighting come to an end?

## A Difficult Peace

Although peace had come to the battlefield, the leaders of the war's major countries still had to work out a formal peace agreement. This task would prove to be difficult.

**Differing Allied Goals** In early 1918, while fighting was still going on, Woodrow Wilson had announced his vision of world peace. This plan for peace was called the **Fourteen Points**. These points included the reduction of weapons and the right of all people to choose their own governments. He also proposed forming an organization in which the world's nations would join to protect one another from aggression.

Not everyone shared Wilson's goals. In fact, the leaders of the four major Allies—Great Britain, France, the United States, and Italy—had very different ideas about a peace treaty. The French, led by Georges Clemenceau, wanted to punish Germany. Clemenceau also wanted Germany to pay for the costs of the war.

Great Britain's David Lloyd George stood somewhere between Clemenceau and Wilson. He also wanted to punish Germany, yet he did not want to see Germany weakened. He was

anxious, for example, that Germany be able to stop the spread of communism from Russia.

Italy's leader Vittorio Orlando hoped to gain territory for his nation. He was disappointed to find himself largely ignored by other leaders during the peace talks.

**The Treaty of Versailles** After difficult negotiations, the Allies finally compromised on the **Treaty of Versailles**. The treaty was named after the French Palace of Versailles, where the treaty signing took place.

The treaty came much closer to Clemenceau's vision than to Wilson's. Germany was forced to pay an enormous amount of money to the war's victims. The treaty also assessed responsibility for the war. Germany was forced to take full responsibility for the conflict.

Other parts of the Treaty of Versailles were designed to weaken Germany. The treaty forced Germany to limit the size of its military. Germany also had to return conquered lands to France and to Russia. Other German lands were taken to form the newly independent nation of Poland, and German colonies around the globe were given to various world powers.

Germans were furious about the humiliating terms of the treaty, but they had no choice but to accept them. Germany signed the treaty on June 28, 1919. The reparations crippled the German economy and the bitterness caused by the Treaty of Versailles would have an effect on German politics in the years to come.

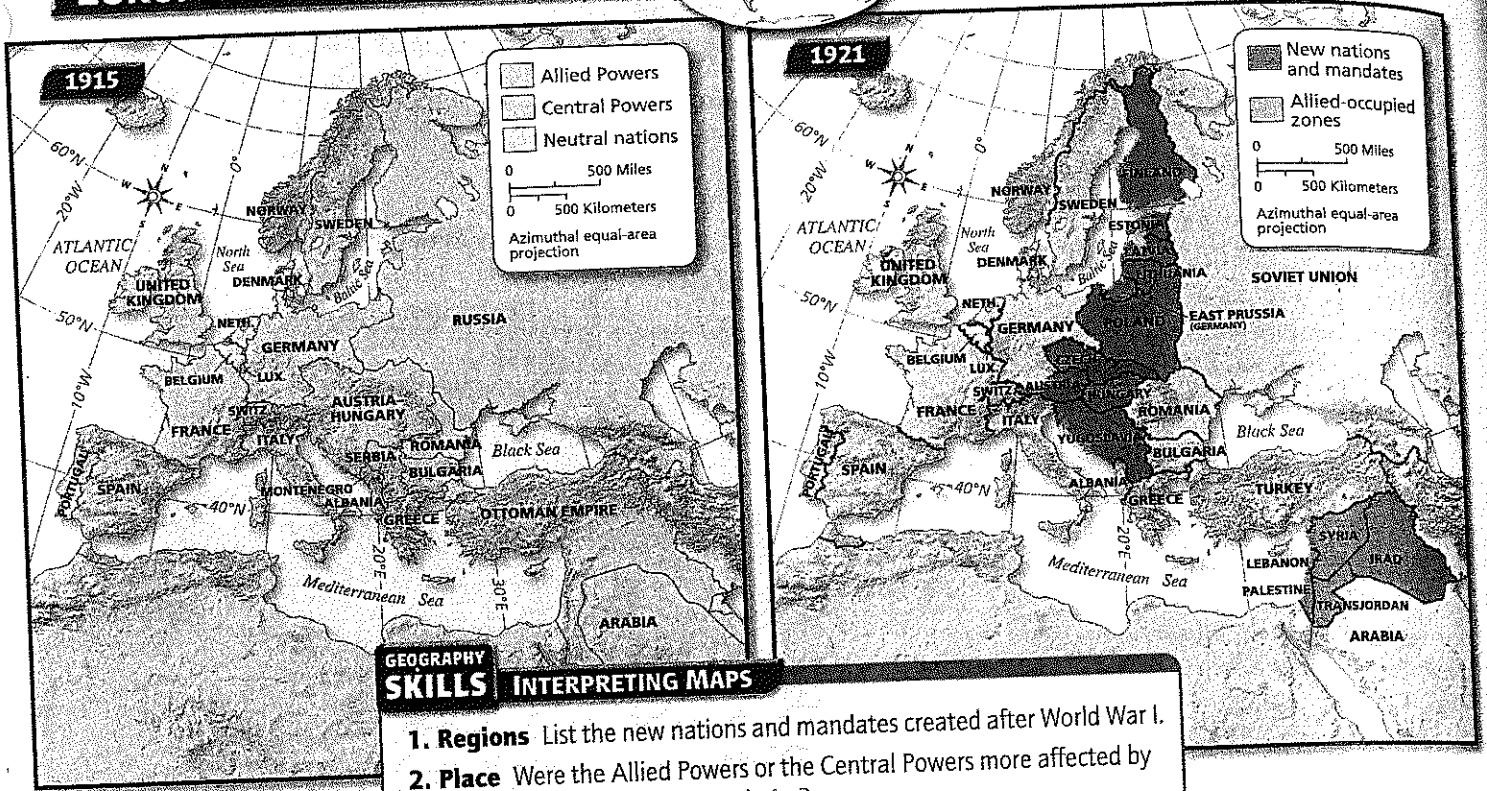
Yet the treaty did contain one victory for Wilson. It established the organization of world governments he had envisioned in his Fourteen Points. This organization was called the **League of Nations**. The League's main goals were to encourage international cooperation and to keep peace between nations. But the League did not represent all the world's nations. Germany, for example, was excluded from the League. In addition, Wilson was unable to convince the U.S. government to ratify the Treaty of Versailles, as some Americans worried that the League of Nations would drag them into another far-off war. The U.S. absence greatly weakened the League.

**Other Treaties** Allied leaders also created separate agreements with all of the defeated Central Powers. These treaties made important changes to Europe.

#### ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**assessed**  
evaluated or determined

# EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST



## GEOGRAPHY SKILLS INTERPRETING MAPS

- 1. Regions** List the new nations and mandates created after World War I.
- 2. Place** Were the Allied Powers or the Central Powers more affected by the changes in national boundaries?

### ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**generation** group of people born and living about the same time

### THE IMPACT TODAY

Scientists today are worried that a type of influenza known as avian flu, or bird flu, might turn into another worldwide flu epidemic.

The vast lands of Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire were broken apart, forming the independent nations of Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Turkey. German territories in Africa and the Pacific Ocean were also given to other countries to control.

In the Middle East, former Ottoman lands were turned into **mandates**, or territories to be ruled by European powers. Syria and Lebanon became French mandates, and Palestine and Iraq became British mandates. Meanwhile in Europe, the Zionist movement to create a Jewish state in the Middle East was growing. In 1917, Britain issued the **Balfour Declaration**, which favored establishing a Jewish state in Palestine, the ancient Jewish homeland. Later, Britain created Transjordan from the Palestine Mandate and named Abdullah as Transjordan's first ruler. European nations were supposed to control the mandates only until those territories were able to govern themselves. In reality, mandates became colonies.

**READING CHECK Summarize** Why was it so difficult to work out a peace agreement?

## The Costs of the War

World War I was the most devastating conflict the world had ever seen. It would take years for the nations involved to recover.

**Human Costs** Nearly 9 million soldiers were killed in battle. Millions more were wounded or taken prisoner. In nations such as Germany, Russia, and France, almost an entire generation of young men died or were wounded in the war.

In the spring of 1918, the suffering became worse when a deadly outbreak of influenza swept across the globe. The disease spread rapidly in crowded military conditions and as soldiers made their way home at the war's end. Worldwide, perhaps 50 million people or more died in the epidemic.

**Economic Costs** The war also destroyed national economies. In places such as France, Belgium, and Russia, where much fighting took place, farmland and cities alike were devastated. Economic chaos soon spread misery throughout many parts of Europe.

## EFFECTS OF WORLD WAR I

The war also cost Europe its role as the dominant economic region of the world. Countries such as the United States and Japan prospered during the war. In addition, countries that had formerly relied on European imports turned to new sources or developed their own products.

**Political Changes** World War I caused widespread political unrest, including the Communist revolution in Russia. After the war, the monarchies in Austria-Hungary, Germany, and the Ottoman Empire were all overthrown, and many other countries also experienced political upheaval. This widespread political and social turmoil would help shape the world in the years to come.

**Unrest in Colonies** The growing unrest affected European colonies as well. Many colonists who had fought in the war had heard the Allied leaders speak noble words about the importance of democracy and freedom. After they shed blood for these ideals on behalf of their colonial rulers, the colonists came to expect these rights for themselves.

Instead, the colonists soon found that their wartime sacrifices had not won them any new freedoms. The powers of Europe simply split up the lands controlled by the German, Austro-Hungarian, and Ottoman empires and distributed them to other colonial powers. Independence would have to wait.

### HUMAN COSTS

- 8.5 million soldiers died.
- 13 million civilians died.
- 21.2 million soldiers were wounded.

### ECONOMIC COSTS

- The war cost the world's nations an estimated \$332 billion.

### POLITICAL CHANGES

- Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire were broken apart.
- Germany was greatly weakened.
- The Russian monarchy was overthrown.
- New countries and colonies formed in Europe and the Middle East.
- European colonies in Africa and Asia changed hands.



**READING CHECK Find the Main Idea** What were the costs of the war?

## SECTION 4 ASSESSMENT

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**Online Quiz**  
 Keyword: SHL WW1 HP

### Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

- a. Describe** What role did U-boats have in World War I?

**b. Identify Cause and Effect** Why did the United States enter the war in 1917?
- a. Recall** What was the outcome of Germany's last offensive?

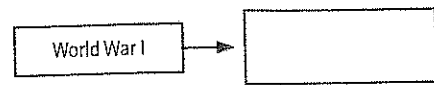
**b. Explain** What effect did U.S. troops have on the war?
- a. Describe** How did the Treaty of Versailles affect Germany?

**b. Compare and Contrast** How did the various Allied goals for peace differ?
- a. Recall** What event that began in 1918 added to the suffering caused by the fighting in World War I?

**b. Predict** How do you think the political unrest after World War I will affect the world in the years that follow?

### Critical Thinking

- Identify Cause and Effect** Using your notes on the section and a graphic organizer like the one below, explain what you believe was the most significant effect of World War I.



### FOCUS ON WRITING

- Description** Choose one of the three types of costs of World War I—human, economic, or political. Write a newspaper article explaining those costs.



## Causes of World War I

**Historical Context** The documents below provide information about the causes of World War I.

**Task** Examine the documents and answer the questions that follow. After you have studied all the documents, you will be asked to write an essay about the causes of World War I. You will need to use evidence from these selections and from the chapter to support the position you take in your essay.

### DOCUMENT 1

#### The German Perspective

Wilhelm II, the ruler of Germany, gave this speech from the balcony of the royal palace in Berlin on July 31, 1914.

A momentous hour has struck for Germany. Envious rivals everywhere force us to legitimate defense. The sword has been forced into our hands. I hope that in the event that

my efforts to the very last moment do not succeed in bringing our opponents to reason and in preserving peace, we may use the sword, with the help of God, so that we may sheathe it again with honor. War will demand enormous sacrifices by the German people, but we shall show the enemy what it means to attack Germany. And so I commend you to God. Go forth into the churches, kneel down before God, and implore his help for our brave army.

### DOCUMENT 2

#### The British Perspective

On January 5, 1918, British prime minister David Lloyd George made this statement about Great Britain's war goals.

We are not fighting a war of aggression against the German people. Their leaders have persuaded them that they are fighting a war of self-defence against a league of rival nations bent on the destruction of Germany. That is not so. The destruction or disruption of Germany or the German people has never been a war aim with us from the first day of this war to this day. Most reluctantly, and indeed quite unprepared for the dreadful ordeal, we were forced to join in this war in self-defence. . . . we had to join in the struggle or stand aside and see Europe go under and brute force triumph over public right and international justice. It was only the realization of that dreadful alternative that forced the British people into war.

### DOCUMENT 3

#### The Allied Powers Perspective

After the war's end, the victorious Allied Powers formed a commission to determine responsibility for the war. Below are the conclusions of the commission, which were issued on May 6, 1919.

1. The War was premeditated by the Central Powers together with their Allies, Turkey and Bulgaria, and was the result of acts deliberately committed in order to make it unavoidable.
2. Germany, in agreement with Austria-Hungary, deliberately worked to defeat all the many conciliatory proposals made by the Entente Powers and their repeated efforts to avoid war.

## DOCUMENT 4

### The American Perspective

The cartoon at right was created by American artist Orson Lowell. Published in March 1918, it shows Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II hanging by a noose attached to a plank of wood marked "Greedy Ambition." Other figures in the cartoon represent Great Britain, the United States, France, and other countries that fought the Central Powers during World War I.



Now, Then, All Together!; by Orson Lowell, 1918

### Skills FOCUS

### READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

#### DOCUMENT 1

- Interpret** Who does Wilhelm blame for the war?
- Make Judgments** The day after Wilhelm gave this speech, Germany declared war on Russia. Do you think that action supports or contradicts what he said in his speech?

#### DOCUMENT 2

- Explain** What words does Lloyd George use to suggest that Great Britain did not want war?
- Evaluate** Would Lloyd George agree or disagree with Document 1?

#### DOCUMENT 3

- Identify** What nation or nations does this document blame for causing the war?
- Evaluate** Do you think the authors of this document were biased about the causes of the war? Why or why not?

#### DOCUMENT 4

- Draw Conclusions** What are the figures attempting to do to the globe? Why?
- Interpret** Who does the artist blame for the war? Does he believe that others feel the same way?

#### DOCUMENT-BASED ESSAY QUESTION

Why might the different sides in the war view the causes of the war differently? Using the documents above and information from the chapter, form a thesis that explains your position. Then write a short essay to support your position.

See *Skills Handbook*, pp. H25, H27, H29

## VISUAL STUDY GUIDE

## Causes and Effects of World War I

## CAUSES

- Military buildup in Europe
- European countries form alliances
- Rival European empires try to keep and expand their power
- Growing nationalism
- Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

## World War I

## EFFECTS

- Tens of millions of people killed or wounded
- Much of Europe destroyed
- Widespread political unrest and economic problems
- New countries formed in Europe
- Mandates established in the Middle East
- League of Nations established

## Key Events of World War I

- 
- 1881 ■ Triple Alliance formed
- 
- 1907 ■ Triple Entente formed
- 
- 1914 ■ Archduke Franz Ferdinand murdered  
 ■ Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia  
 ■ Germany declares war on Russia and France and invades Belgium  
 ■ Trench warfare begins
- 
- 1915 ■ German U-boat sinks *Lusitania*  
 ■ Czar Nicholas II takes command of Russian forces  
 ■ Armenian Massacre takes place
- 
- 1916 ■ Tanks first used in the war  
 ■ Battle of Verdun becomes longest battle of the war
- 
- 1917 ■ Russian Revolution takes place  
 ■ United States enters the war
- 
- 1918 ■ Armistice ends the fighting
- 
- 1919 ■ Treaty of Versailles signed

## Review Key Terms and People

Match each numbered definition with the letter of the correct item from the list below.

## Column I

- Grigory Rasputin
- Central Powers
- armistice
- League of Nations
- Bolshevik
- total war
- fundamental
- U-boat

## Column II

- Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire
- War using all of society's resources
- Important or vital
- German submarine
- Truce that ended the fighting in World War I
- Controversial adviser to the czar during World War I
- Radical Communist group that took over Russia in 1917
- Organization of countries proposed in Wilson's Fourteen Points

## History's Impact video program

Review the video to answer the closing question: What impact has modern warfare had on the world today?

## Comprehension and Critical Thinking

### SECTION 1 (pp. 380–384)

9. **a. Recall** What were the two major alliances in Europe in the years leading up to World War I?  
**b. Explain** How did the assassination of Franz Ferdinand contribute to the start of World War I?  
**c. Elaborate** How did militarism and alliances help cause World War I?

### SECTION 2 (pp. 385–390)

10. **a. Describe** What was trench warfare?  
**b. Make Generalizations** What general statement could you make to describe the fighting in World War I?  
**c. Evaluate** How important was the role of propaganda in World War I? Explain your answer.

### SECTION 3 (pp. 391–395)

11. **a. Describe** What was the general attitude of the Russian people toward their government in the early 1900s?  
**b. Identify Cause and Effect** How did World War I affect the Russian people and their relationship with their government?  
**c. Predict** How do you think Lenin's death would affect the Soviet Union?

### SECTION 4 (pp. 396–401)

12. **a. Identify** How did the Fourteen Points affect the peace agreement at the end of the war?  
**b. Identify Cause and Effect** What was the result of the U.S. entry into the war?  
**c. Support a Position** Which effect of World War I do you think will have the greatest impact on the world? Why?

## Reading Skills

**Understanding Sequencing** Use what you know about understanding sequencing to answer the questions below.

13. Did Austria-Hungary enter the war before or after the United States did?  
14. Did the creation of mandates in the Middle East take place before or after the war?  
15. What events led up to Czar Nicholas II stepping down as leader of Russia?

## Interpreting Political Cartoons

**Reading Like a Historian** The cartoon below shows a hand carving up a map of the southwestern United States.



Carving up the United States, by Clifford Berryman, 1917

16. **Draw Conclusions** The eagle on the glove symbolizes Germany. Whose hands are in the cartoon?  
17. **Analyze** To what event was the cartoonist referring? What do you think the cartoonist thought about this event?

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## Using the Internet

18. The Treaty of Versailles had an enormous effect on Germany and the rest of Europe following World War I. Using the Internet, research the Treaty of Versailles. Then write a detailed report about the treaty, its terms, and its effects on Germany. Be sure to include an evaluation of the treaty's strengths and weaknesses.

## WRITING FOR THE SAT

Think about the following issue:

The forces of nationalism and imperialism played a major role in causing World War I. The war was the largest conflict the world had ever seen, and years of battles took place before the armistice and the Treaty of Versailles finally brought an end to the fighting.

19. **Assignment:** Did World War I resolve the disagreements that had caused the war? Write a short essay in which you develop your position on this issue. Support your point of view with reasoning and examples from your reading and studies.