## **DR.P.FLORAS MARY**

III BA HTM History of the Europe First World War

## World War I

**HAR** 

## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT WWI

- Started on July 28, 1914
- Ended November 11, 1918
- Almost 8 million died because of the war
   Russia having the most : 1.7 million
- 22,000,000 wounded

#### • MAP OF EUROPE GREATLY CHANGED





## Causes of WWI - MANIA!

Militarism - policy of building up a strong military to prepare for war (ARMS RACE)

<u>Alliances</u> – agreements between nations to provide aid and protect one another

European powers formed rival alliances to protect themselves

Nationalism – extreme pride in one's country

*mperialism* – when one country takes over another country economically and politically. <u>Assassination</u> – of Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand

#### MILITARISM

World War I was the first war in which advanced weaponry and tactics were used

 There was a race for creating more weapons of mass destruction among nations

 There was a desire to create a large amount of weapons as well as building up a nation's army and navy

#### **Triple Alliance vs. Triple Entente**

 The Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy was counter-balanced by the Triple Entente of France, Russia, and Great Britain.

 As a result, by 1907 Europe was divided into two armed and rather fearful camps.



#### Map of Europe 1839-1914



Map of Europe 1839-1914

#### <u>Alliances</u>

#### **Triple Alliance**









#### Triple Entente









#### **Nationalism**

 The French Revolution had spread nationalism throughout most of Europe

-<u>The idea that people with the</u> <u>same ethnic origins, language,</u> <u>and political ideals had the right</u> <u>to form sovereign states through</u> <u>the process of self-determination</u>

> MAIN IDEA OF NATIONALISM

### **Nationalism**

- STRONG IN THE BALKAN AREA
- Ottoman Empire  $\rightarrow$  ruled the Balkan area for 400 years
- Balkans
  - Albanians, Greeks, Romanians, and Slav
  - Each group was struggling for their own independence
- BOSNIA
  - Area of great hostility
- Austria- Hungary annexed Bosnia as one of its territories in 1908
- Serbia was newly independent and thought that Bosnia should be one of their territories

- THIS BECAME AN AREA OF CONFLICT

#### Imperialism

• Virtually all the major powers were engaged in a scramble for empire to bolster their economies

 The fiercest competition was between Britain and Germany and between France and Germany

#### Imperialism

- Great Britain, Germany and France needed foreign markets after the increase in manufacturing caused by the Industrial Revolution.
  - These countries competed for economic expansion in Africa.
  - Clash of France against Germany and Britain in North Africa
- In the Middle East, the crumbling Ottoman Empire was alluring to Austria-Hungary, the Balkans and Russia.



The "Spark"



## THE BLACK HAND



 Black Hand: Serbian nationalist group

 The main objective of the Black Hand was the creation, by means of violence, of a Greater Serbia.





#### **Assassination**



Archduke Franz Ferdinand and Duchess Sophie at Sarajevo, Bosnia, on June 28th, 1914.

Austrian **Archduke Franz Ferdinand was** killed in Bosnia by a Serbian nationalist group called the Black Hand who believed that **Bosnia should** belong to Serbia.



#### Domino Effect

Austria Hungary blamed Serbia for Ferdinand's death and <u>declared</u> war on Serbia.

Germany pledged their support for Austria -Hungary. Russia pledged their support for Serbia.

# **Domino Effect** Germany declares war on Russia. France pledges their support for Russia. Germany <u>declares</u> war on France. Germany invades Belgium on the way to France.

Great Britain supports Belgium and declares war on Germany.



#### United States (1917)

### Why was WWI a Stalemate?

- What's a stalemate?

   Neither side can make a move to win
- Both sides of the war threw arms and troops in to win but.....
- Millions die without gaining ground.

# What new weapons were used in <u>WWI</u>?

- Machine gun
- Poison gas (Mustard gas)
  - Carried by the wind
  - Burned out soldier's lungs
  - Deadly in the trenches where it would sit at the bottom
- Submarine
- Airplane
- Tank
- Hand grenades
- Flame Throwers
- Why these weapons? Why now?

#### **INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION!**

## Trench Warfare

Trench Warfare – type of fighting during World War I in which both sides dug trenches protected by mines and barbed wire

- Trenches were dug from English Channel to Switzerland
- 6,250 miles
- 6 to 8 feet deep
- Immobilized both sides for 4 years







## THE TRENCH SYSTEM



- Front line
  Communication trench
- Support trenches
- No Mans Land
- Barbed wire

No Man's Land

Forward

(sap)

Communication listening post trench

Creek.

Setation

Parados for protection from explosions from behind the trench

12/21

Front-line trench Firebay

istatestatestates

Support trench

To reserve trench

det and

Company HQ dugout



#### **BRITISH TRENCH**

## LIFE IN THE TRENCHES

- Elaborate systems of <u>defense</u>
  - barbed wire
  - Concrete machine gun nests
  - Mortar batteries
  - Troops lived in holes underground

 Boredom -Soldiers read to pass the time -Sarah Bernhardt came out to the front to read poetry to the soldiers


## "Death is Everywhere"

- "We all had on us the stench of dead bodies." <u>Death numbed the</u> <u>soldier's minds.</u>
- Shell shock (mental anguish)
- Psychological devastation
  - "Never such innocence again"
  - Bitterness towards aristocratic officers whose lives were never in danger





### **OTHER WWI WEAPONRY**

Used to stop stalemate





# **BIG BERTHA**"







German submarines, called <u>U-boats</u>, torpedoed enemy ships and neutral ships trading with the enemy.

#### German U-Boat torpedoes a British ship

Willy

1996.



In 1915, a German submarine torpedoed the *Lusitania*, a British passenger ship, killing approximately 1,200 people, including 128 Americans.



### WWI AIRCRAFT

## SPAD VII



## **Curtiss Jenny**

