



World War I

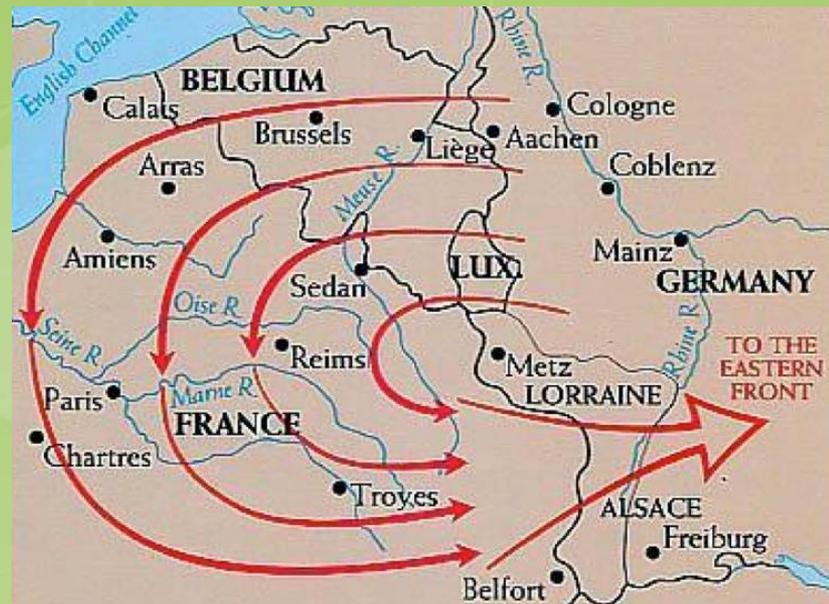
Chapter 14 Section 2

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I. 1914 to 1915: Illusions and Stalemate

- A. Government propaganda—ideas that are spread to influence public opinion for or against a cause—had stirred national hatreds before the war.
 - 1. Most people seemed genuinely convinced that their nation's cause was just.
- B. In August 1914, almost everyone believed that the war would be over in a few weeks.
- C. German hopes for a quick end to the war rested on the Schlieffen Plan.



D. The German advance was halted a short distance from Paris at the First Battle of the Marne.

1. The French leaders sent 2,000 Parisian taxicabs with fresh troops to the front line.

E. The war quickly turned into a stalemate as neither the Germans nor the French could dislodge each other from the trenches they had dug for shelter.

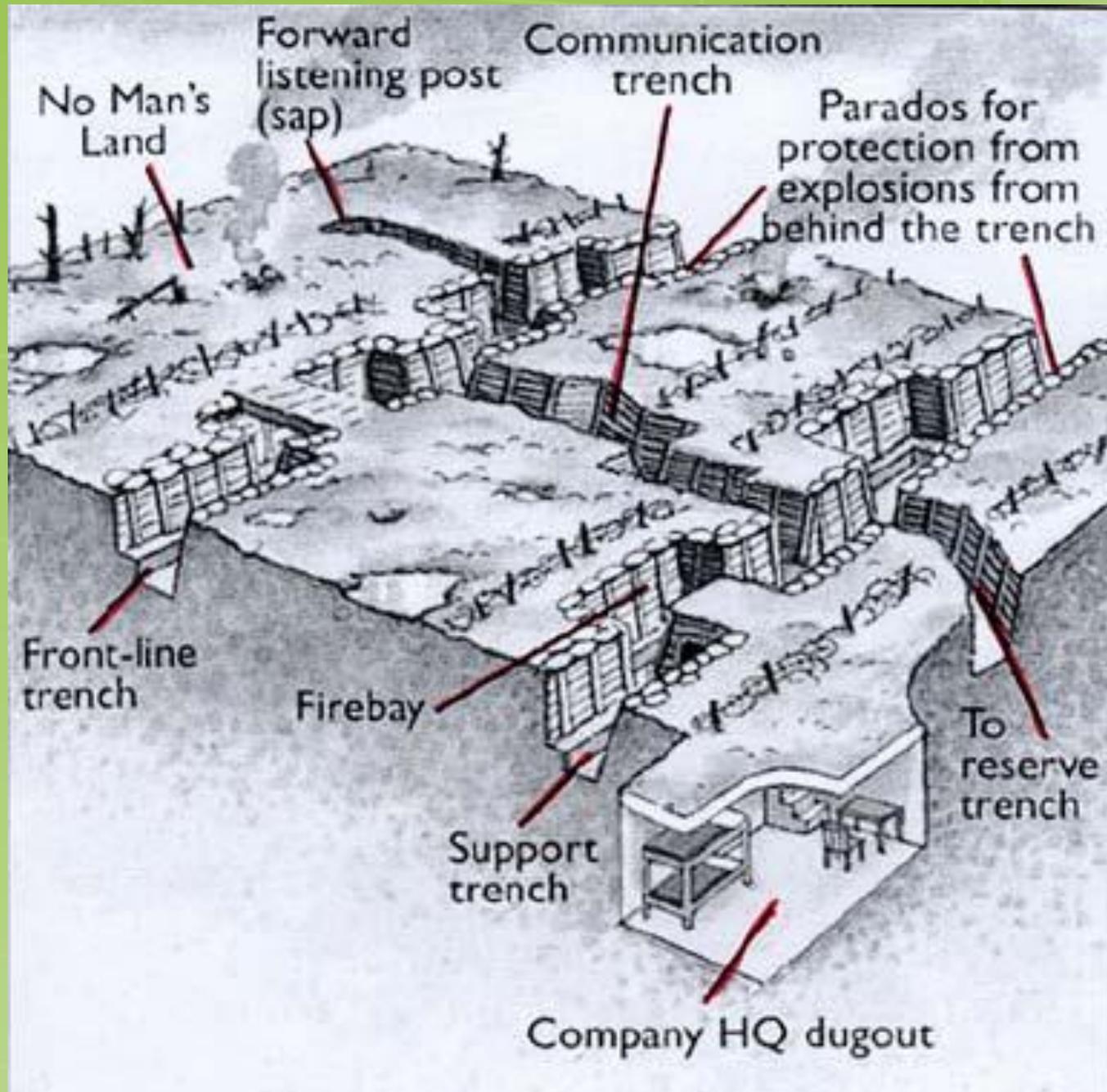
1. Two lines of trenches soon reached from the English Channel to the frontiers of Switzerland.
 - a. The Western Front had become bogged down in trench warfare.
 - i. Both sides were kept in virtually the same positions for four years.

- F. Unlike the Western Front, the war on the Eastern Front was marked by mobility.
 - 1. At the beginning of the war, the Russian army moved into eastern Germany but was decisively defeated at the Battle of Tannenberg and the Battle of Masurian Lakes.
 - a. The Russians were no longer a threat to Germany.
- G. The Italians betrayed the Triple Alliance by attacking Austria in May 1915.
 - 1. Italy joined the Allies, previously known as the Triple Entente.
- H. Bulgaria encouraged by their successes against Russia, joined Germany and Austria-Hungary in September 1915.

II. Trench and Air Warfare

- A. The trenches dug in 1914 had by 1916 become elaborate systems of defense.
 1. The trenches were protected by barbed wire up to 5 feet high and 30 yards wide.
 2. Concrete machine-gun nests and other gun batteries, supported by heavy artillery, and protected the trenches.
 3. Separated from each other by a strip of territory known as no-man's-land.

Trench Warfare



- B. Trench warfare baffled military leaders who had been trained to fight wars of movement and maneuver.
 1. At times, the high command on either side would order an artillery barrage to flatten the enemy's barbed wire and leave them in a state of shock.
 2. Next, a mass of soldiers with fixed bayonets would work their way toward the enemy trenches.
- C. The attacks rarely worked because men advancing unprotected against the machine guns.
 1. World War I had turned into a war of attrition, a war based on wearing down the other side with constant attacks and heavy losses.

D. By the end of 1915, airplanes appeared on the battlefield.

1. Planes were first used to spot the enemy's position.

2. Soon, planes also began to attack ground targets.

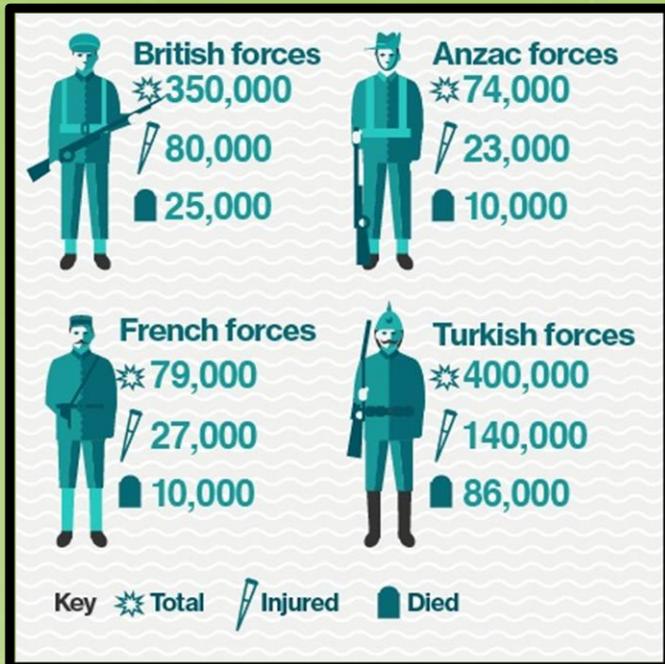
E. The Germans also used their zeppelins to bomb London and eastern England.



III. A World War

- A. Because of the stalemate on the Western Front, both sides sought to gain new allies.
 - 1. Each side hoped that new allies would provide a winning advantage.
- B. The Allies tried to open a Balkan front by landing forces at Gallipoli, southwest of Constantinople, in April 1915.
 - 1. The campaign was disastrous and the Allies withdrew.
- C. In 1917, a British officer known as Lawrence of Arabia urged Arab princes to revolt against their Ottoman overlords.
 - 1. 1918 British mobilized troops from India, Australia, and New Zealand and worked to destroy the Ottoman Empire.

Gallipoli Invasion



- D. At first, the United States tried to remain neutral.
 - 1. The immediate cause of the United States' involvement grew out of the naval war between Germany and Great Britain.
- E. Britain had used its superior navy to set up a blockade of Germany.
 - 1. Germany used unrestricted submarine warfare to keep supplies from reaching the Allies.
- F. On May 7, 1915, German forces sank the British ship *Lusitania*.
 - 1. 1,100 civilians, including more than 100 Americans, died.
 - 2. The German government suspended unrestricted submarine warfare.

- G. January 1917, German naval officers resumed the use of unrestricted submarine warfare.
1. They believed they could defeat the British in less than 6 months.
 2. Believed that the U.S. would continue to stay out of the conflict.
- H. The German naval officers were quite wrong.
1. The British were not forced to surrender, and the United States entered the war in April 1917.
 2. The United States entry into the war gave the Allied Powers a psychological boost and a major new source of money and war goods.

THE
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NOTE



IV. The Impact of Total War

- A. World War I became a total war involving a complete mobilization of resources and people.
 - 1. It affected the lives of all citizens in the warring countries.
- B. Most people had expected the war to be short.
 - 1. Countries drafted tens of millions of young men, hoping for that elusive breakthrough to victory.
- C. Wartime governments throughout Europe also expanded their power over their economies.
 - 1. Governments set up price, wage, and rent controls.
 - a. Rationed food supplies and materials.
 - b. Regulated imports and exports.
 - c. Took over transportation systems and industries.

D. As the war continued and casualties worsened, the civilian morale was beginning to crack.

1. War governments, however, fought back against growing opposition to the war.

E. Authoritarian regimes, such as those of Germany, Russia, and Austria- Hungary, relied on force to subdue their populations.

1. Even democratic states expanded their police powers to stop internal dissent.

a. The British Parliament passed the Defense of the Realm Act (DORA).

i. Allowed the government to arrest protesters as traitors.

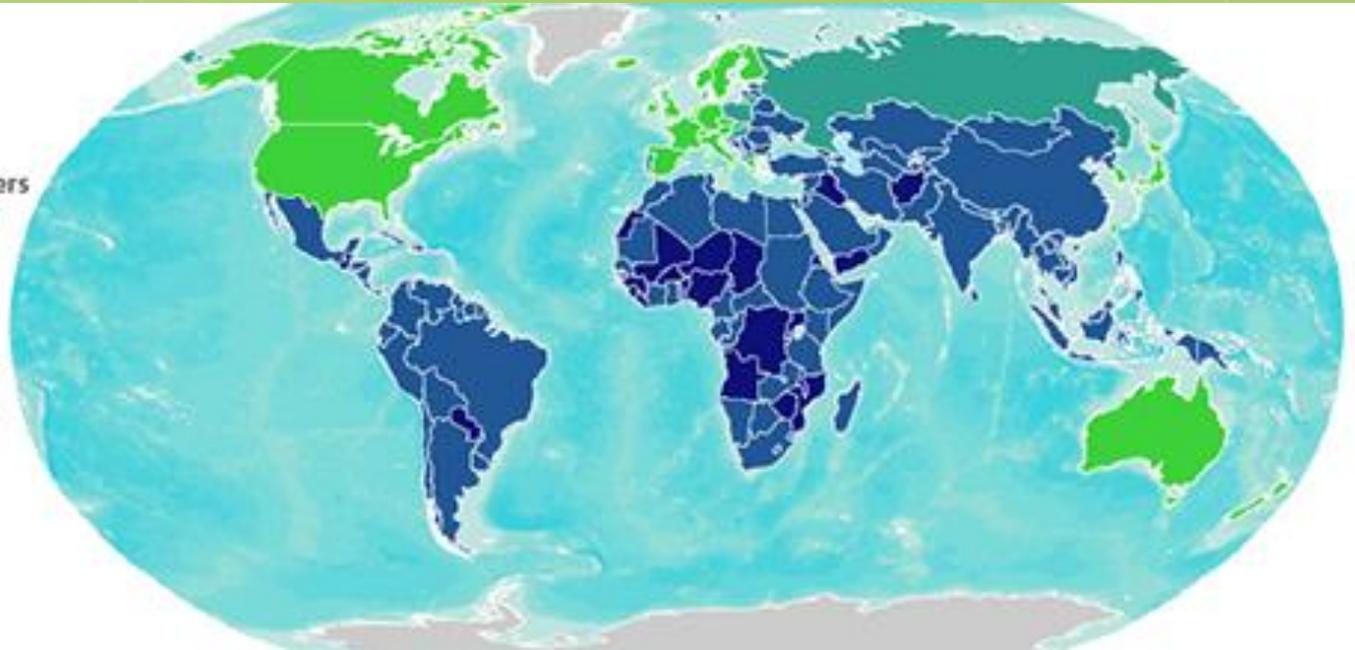
ii. Newspapers were censored.

- F. Wartime governments made active use of propaganda to increase enthusiasm for the war.
- G. In the fall of 1918, a deadly influenza struck, adding to the horrors of World War I.
 - 1. An estimated total of 50 million people died worldwide.
- H. Total war also had a significant impact on European society.
 - 1. World War I created new roles for women.
 - a. Because so many men left to fight at the front, women were asked to take over jobs that were not available to them before.



1918 Spanish Flu

Death Rate
(Per 100,000 members
of the population)



- I. The place of women in the workforce was far from secure, however.
 - 1. Both men and women seemed to expect that many of the new jobs for women were only temporary.
- J. At the end of the war, as men returned to the job market, governments quickly removed women from the jobs they were encouraged to take earlier.
 - 1. By 1919, 650,000 women in Great Britain were unemployed.
 - 2. Wages for the women who were still employed were lowered.

K. The role women played in wartime economies had a positive impact on the women's movement for social and political emancipation.

1. The right to vote was given to women in Germany, Austria, and the United States immediately after the war.
 - a. British women over the age of 30 gained the right to vote.