

CANADA AND WWI



END AND AFTERMATH OF THE WAR

CENTRAL POWERS COLLAPSE

- Two important events changed the direction of the war in 1917
- Russian revolution
- USA enters the war
- Czar Nicholas abdicated in March 1917
- Oct 1917 the Russian provisional government was overthrown by the Bolsheviks / Led by Lenin
- The Bolsheviks signed a peace treaty with Germany
- German troops can move to battle on Western Front

AMERICA ENTERS WAR

- Because of the unrestricted U-Boat attacks the US enters the war
- Some sources suggest that it was the sinking of the Lusitania that prompted the US to join but they joined almost two years after the sinking



Woodrow Wilson

OPERATION MICHAEL

- The Germans with the additional soldiers from the Eastern Front push into France
- They drive to within 75 km of Paris and then run out of supplies
- The British naval blockades strangled Germany's war machine

THE HUNDRED DAYS

- The final months of the war were known as the “100 Days”
- The Canadians, led by Arthur Currie, helped force the Germans east
- As the Germans fled, they destroyed much of France’s countryside, further angering the French
- The German Kaiser fled to Holland
- Armistice was signed Nov 11, 1918 / 11th month, 11th day, 11th hour - Remembrance day

General
Currie



CANADA JOINS THE BIG BOYS

- Canada participates as a full member at the Paris Peace Conference / Not represented by Britain
- Treaty of Versailles sets the terms of Germany's surrender and sets the scene for the next 20 years in Europe
- USA wanted the plan to emphasize forgiveness but France and Belgium wanted payback
- the harsh punishment of the treaty would eventually lead Germany to seek revenge under Hitler

TERMS OF TREATY OF VERSAILLES 1919

W.A.R.M.L.

- *W. War Guilt* - the Germany had to assume guilt for starting war
- *A. Armed Forces* - German army restricted to 100 000 men / No U-boats/ No airforce
- *R. Reparations* - Germany had to pay about 30 Billion dollars
- *M. Map Redrawn* - Territories Lost / new country of Poland created / Saar Coal Fields and Alsace and Lorraine given (back) to France
- *L. League of Nations* - Brainchild of Wilson (USA didn't join) Germany was not invited

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

- Britain, France, Canada and other smaller nations join
- Many feared that the L.o.N. would hamper imperialism
- Alliance system
- No military capacity
- Economic sanctions only
- Wilson had stroke and was unable to push for the League in Congress
- Organization was weakened without American presence

The main points of the Treaty [BRAT]

The first 26 Articles of the Treaty set out the Covenant of the [League of Nations](#); the rest of the 440 Articles detailed Germany's punishment:

1. Germany had to accept the **Blame** for starting the war (Clause 231). This was vital because it provided the justification for...
2. Germany had to pay £6,600 million (called **Reparations**) for the damage done during the war.
3. Germany was forbidden to have submarines or an air force. She could have a navy of only six battleships, and an **Army** of just 100,000 men. In addition, Germany was not allowed to place any troops in the Rhineland, the strip of land, 50 miles wide, next to France.
4. Germany lost **Territory** (land) in Europe (see map, below). Germany's colonies were given to Britain and France.

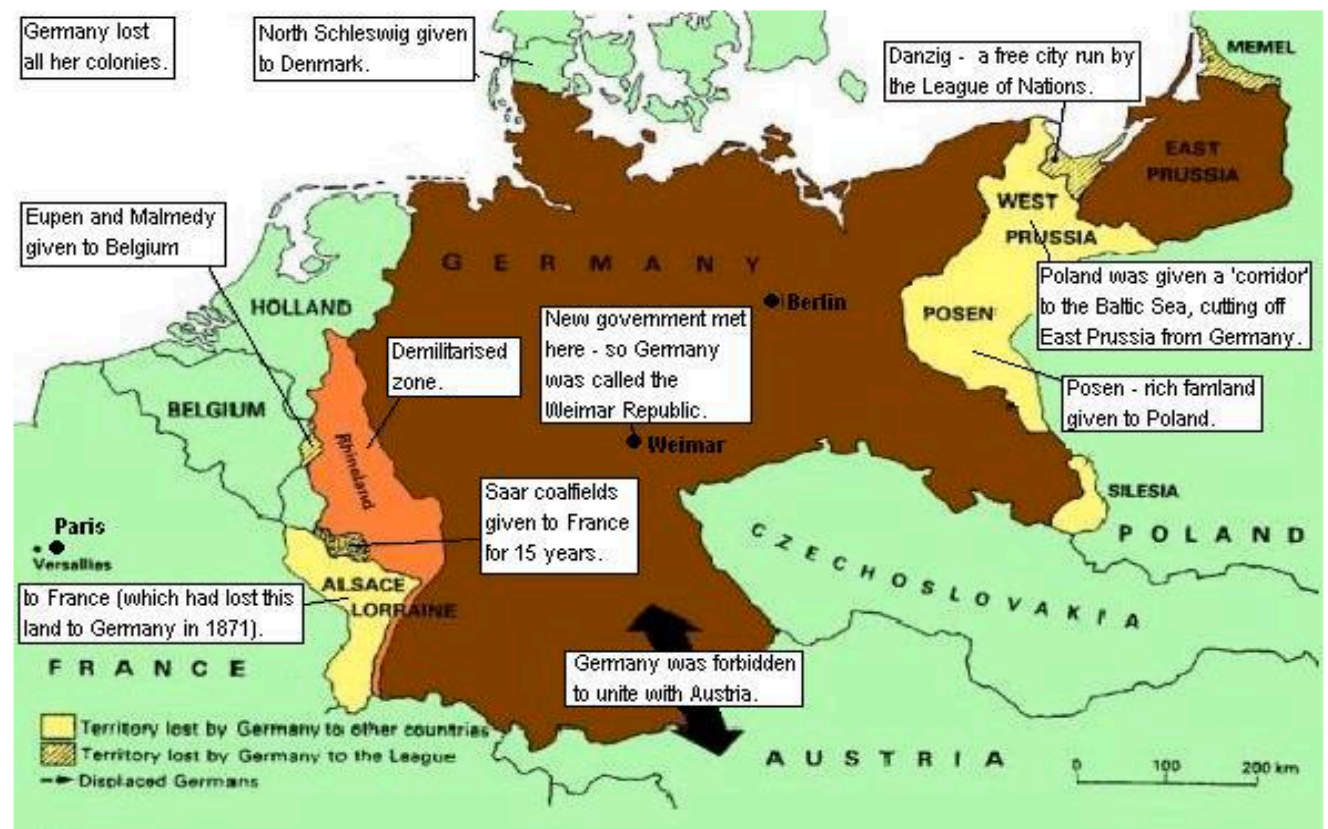
(Also, Germany was forbidden to join the League of Nations, or unite with Austria.)

Source A

The Allied governments affirm, and Germany accepts, the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied governments and their peoples have been subjected as a result of the war.

The Treaty of Versailles, Clause 231 (the 'War Guilt' clause)

Source B



AFTERMATH OF WAR

- Starvation throughout Europe
- Crops / transportation ruined
- Spanish Flu swept across Europe and was carried home to Canada by soldiers
- 22 million died world wide / more than WW I
- 50 000 Canadians died

