

SS11 UNIT 2 LESSON 2G



END 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

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

