

# World War I 1914-1918

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- Causes of the war
  - Technology of the war
  - Military techniques / Battles
  - War at Home “Total War”
  - US / Russia and the end of the war
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# Traditional European Rules of War

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- 1. A country must declare war before attacking another country.
- 2. Each side must wear uniforms or identify themselves to each other before attacking. Soldiers wearing an enemy uniform will be shot as a spy.

# Traditional European Rules of War

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- 3. Commanding officers should not be targeted
  - 4. Civilians, Surrendering Soldiers and Medical Personnel will not be attacked.
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# Traditional European Rules of War

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- 5. Hand to Hand combat is honorable, shooting from a distance is cowardly
  - 6. Soldiers must be given the opportunity to surrender honorably.
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# Roots of War



# Long Term Causes

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## ■ Nationalism-

- Deep Devotion to One's Nation
  - Competition and Rivalry developed between European nations for territory and markets
    - (Example France and Germany-Alsace-Lorraine)
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# Long Term Causes

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## ■ Militarism-

- Glorifying Military Power
  - Keeping a large standing army prepared for war
  - Arms race for military technology
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# Long Term Causes

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## ■ Imperialism-

- European competition for colonies
  - Quest for colonies often almost led to war
  - Imperialism led to rivalry and mistrust amongst European nations
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# Long Term Causes

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## ■ Alliance System-

- Designed to keep peace in Europe, instead pushed continent towards war
  - Many Alliances made in secret
  - By 1907 two major alliances: Triple Alliance and Triple Entente
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# The Two Sides

## Triple Alliance

Germany

Austria-Hungary

Italy

## Central Powers

Germany

Austria-Hungary

Ottoman Empire

## Triple Entente

England

France

Russia

## Allied Powers

England, France,  
*Russia, United  
States, Italy, Serbia,*  
Belgium, Switzerland

# Leaders

## Triple Alliance

Kaiser Wilhelm II  
*(Germany)*

Franz Joseph I  
*(Austria-Hungary)*

Vittorio Orlando  
*(Italy)*

## Triple Entente

David Lloyd George  
*(England)*

Raymond Poincare  
*(France)*

Czar Nicholas II  
*(Russia)*

# Major Colonies

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## ■ Triple Entente

- France- Vietnam, Parts of Africa
- England- Africa, Australia, Hong Kong, India, Canada, S. America

## ■ Triple Alliance

- Germany- Africa, Parts of Asia
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# Short-Term Cause

- June 28th 1914
- Assassination of Franz Ferdinand



# Summer of 1914

## Triple Entente/Triple Alliance Actions

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- July 23<sup>rd</sup> Austria Hungary Presents Serbia with an ultimatum
  - July 28<sup>th</sup> Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia
  - July 29<sup>th</sup> Russia Mobilizes its troops
  - August 1, 1914 Germany mobilizes troops.
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# Summer of 1914

## Triple Entente/Triple Alliance Actions

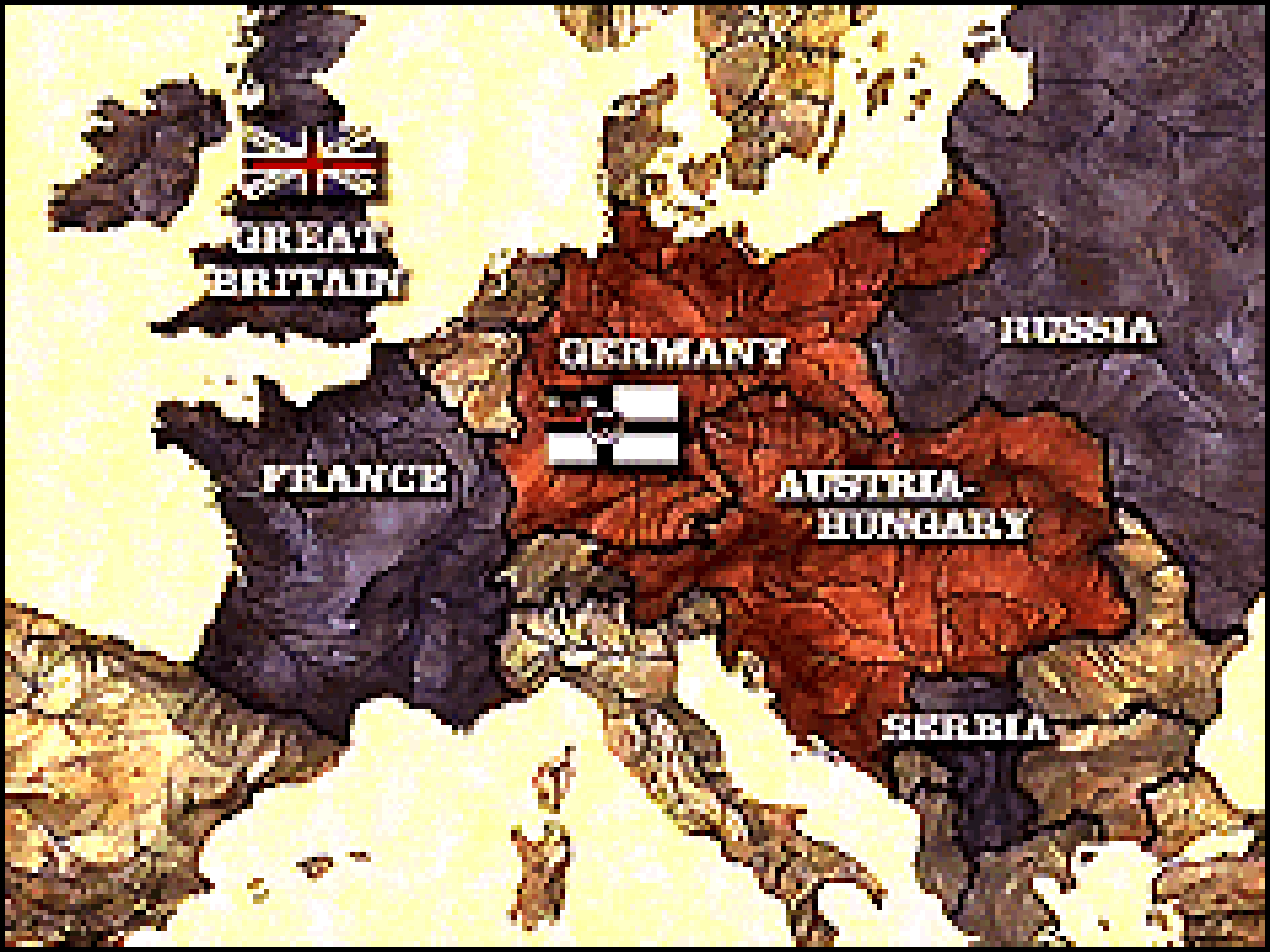
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- August 2<sup>nd</sup> Germany declares war on Russia  
Germany invades Poland and Luxemburg,  
invasion of France starts
  - August 3: Germany declares war on France
  - August 4: Germany declares war on Belgium  
and invades it,
  - August 4: England declares war on Germany
  - August 5: Austria declares war on Russia and  
Great Britain
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# Who Declared War on Who?

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- Austria-Hungary Declares War on Serbia
  - Russia Declares War on Austria Hungary
  - Germany Declares War on Russia
  - Germany Declares War on France
  - England Declares War on Germany and Austria Hungary
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GREAT  
BRITAIN



GERMANY



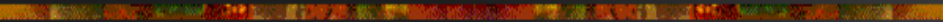
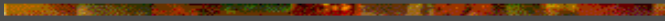
RUSSIA

FRANCE

AUSTRIA-  
HUNGARY

SERBIA



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- By the end of 1914, not only Europe was at war, but also all of Europe's colonies in Asia, Africa and South America.
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# Modern Warfare

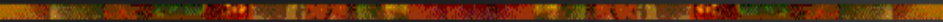
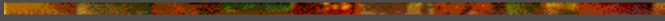


# New Technology Guns

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## ■ The Machine Gun

- It was used by both sides, hundreds of rounds a minute could be shot by one person.
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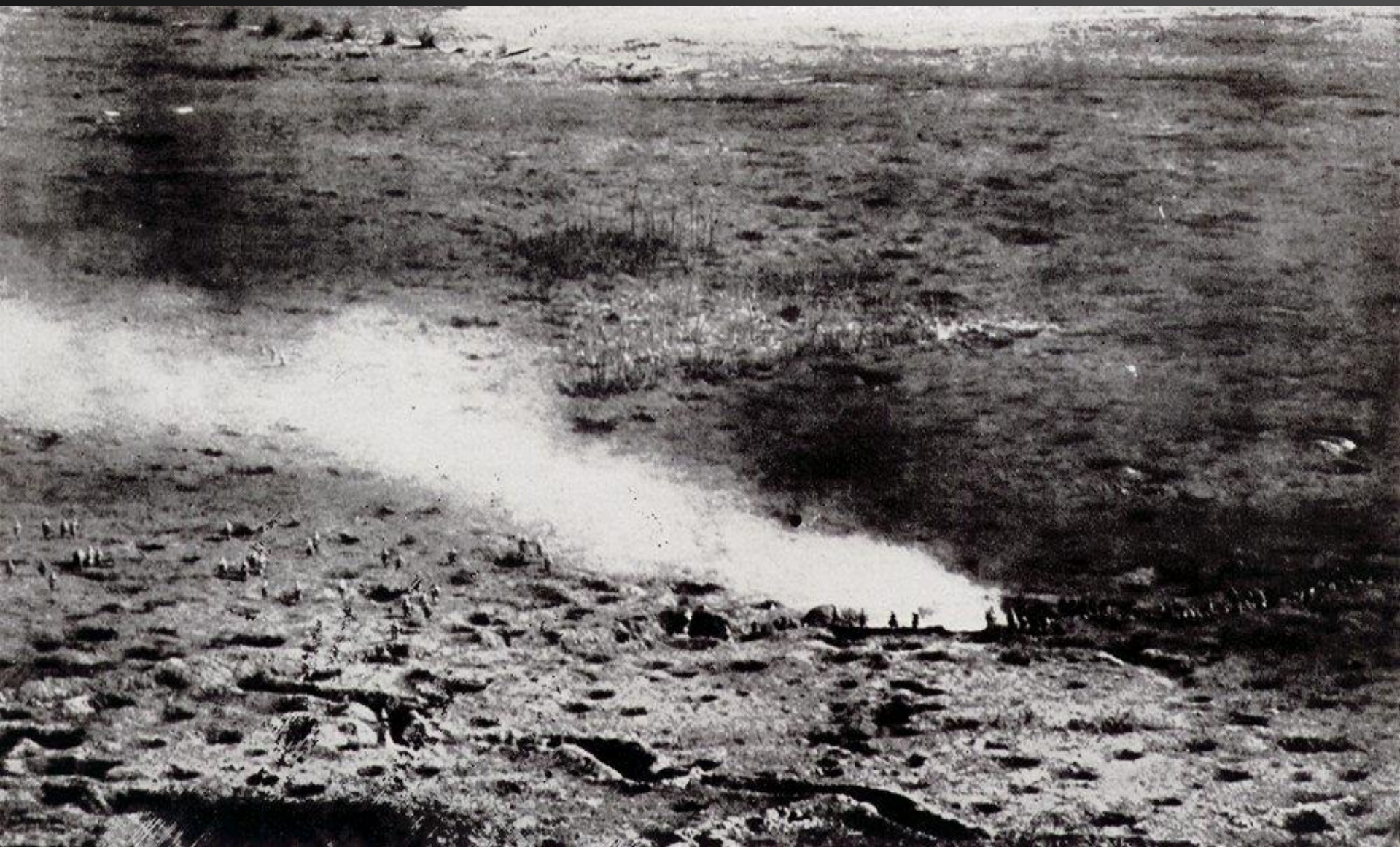
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- **The German plan against France was to rush into the country as fast as possible: The Schlieffen Plan**
  - **The Machine Gun stopped this plan**
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# Trench Warfare

- Both sides dug long trenches that faced each other. The trenches ran for miles.
- From time to time, one side would attempt to cross the “No-Man’s Land” the area in between the trenches.
- Trench warfare made WWI extend from a few months of fighting to four years of fighting

# French Soldiers Attacking a German Trench













# Technology: Chemical Weapons

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WWI was the first major war to use chemical weapons

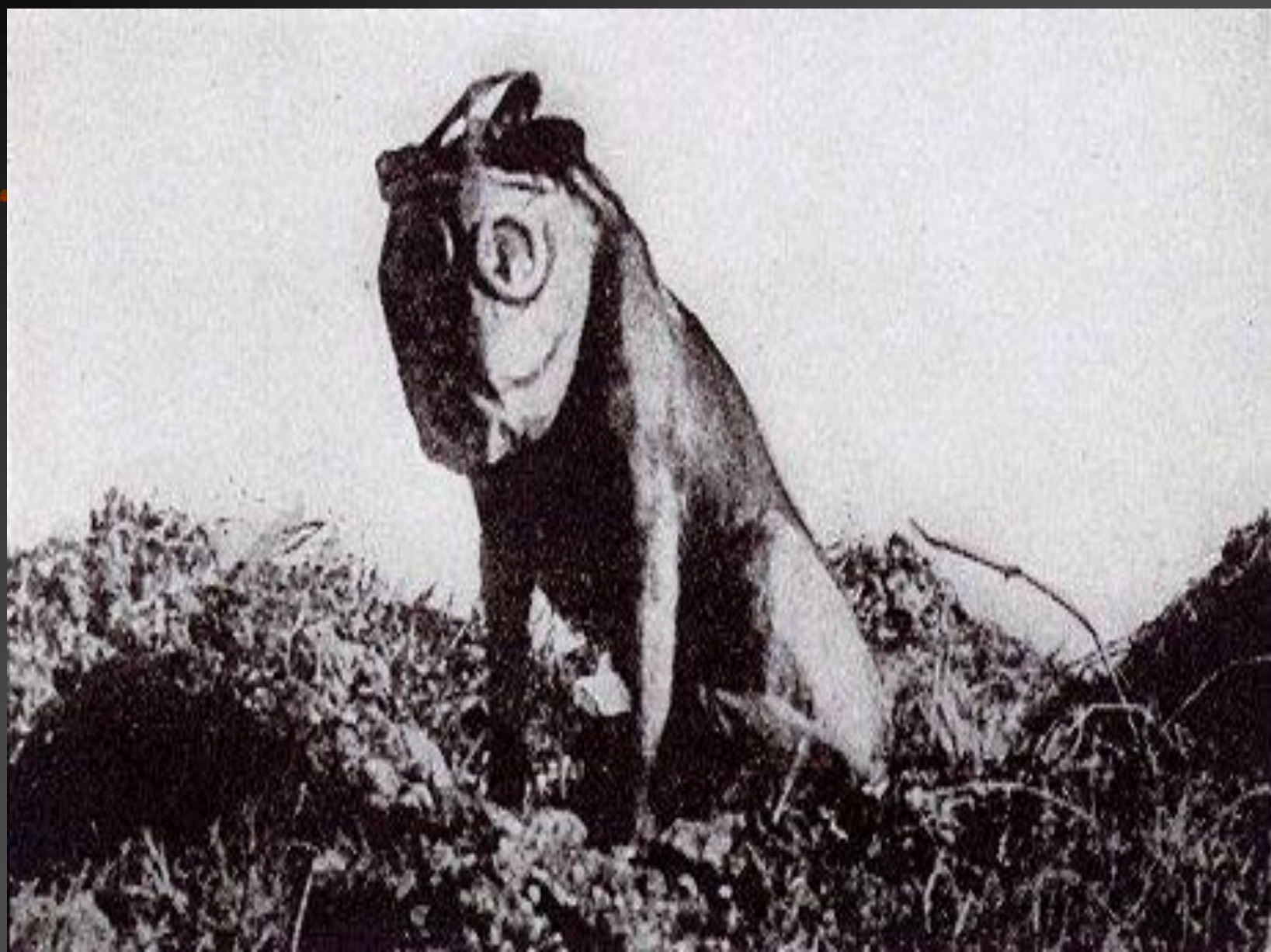
Mustard Gas and Chlorine Gas were the two most popular weapons: They caused suffocation, blindness, and death

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# Soldiers would protect themselves using Gas Masks







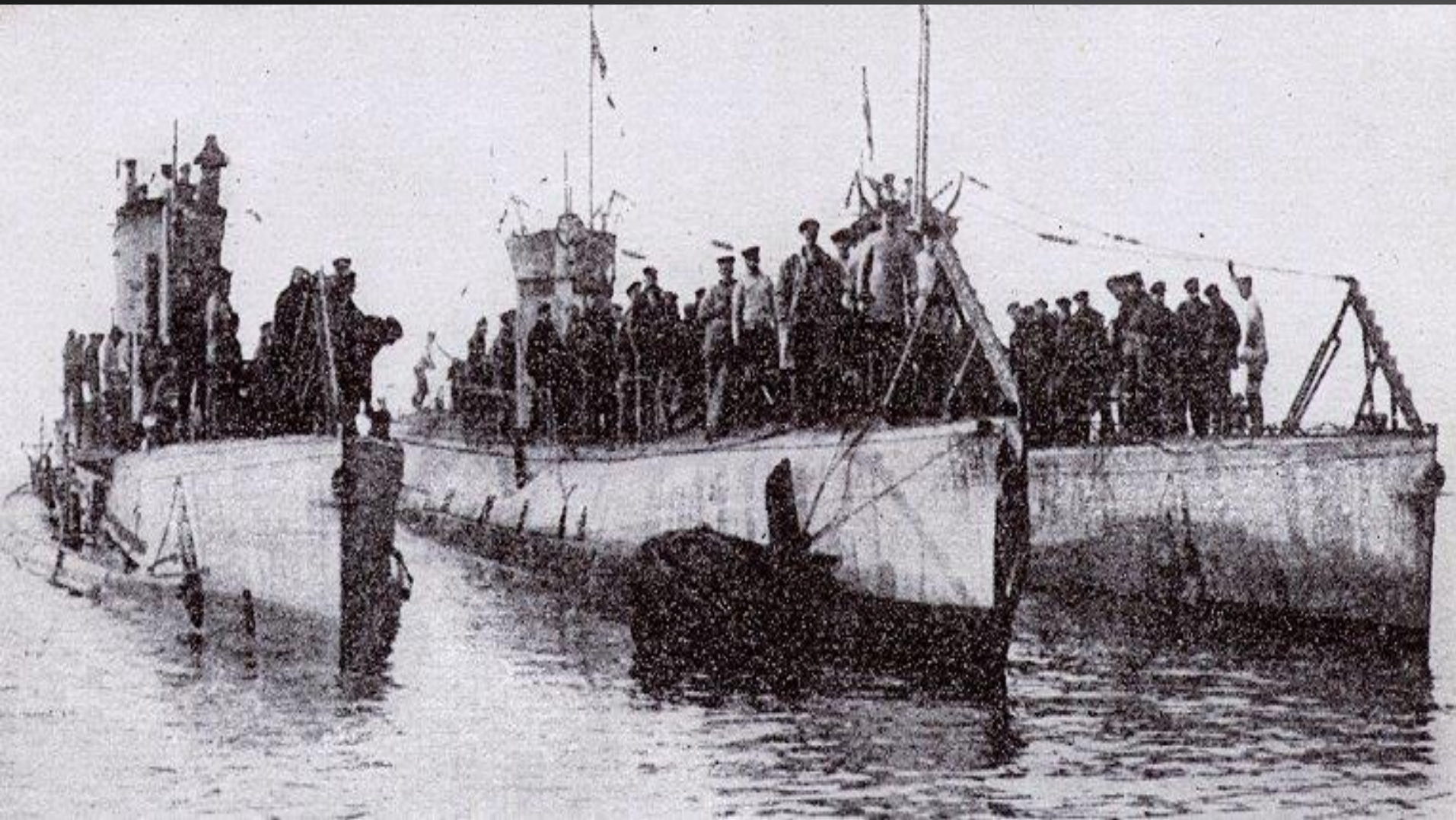
# Technology:

## The U-boat (Submarine)

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- Germany's secret weapon during the war
  - Sank dozens of British ships, controlled the oceans.
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**Why would the British think the U-boat was breaking the rules of War ?**



# Technology: Airpower

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- Both sides used aircraft for observation, limited bombing, and air battles
  - Airplanes were slow, clumsy, and unreliable,
  - The most famous German pilot was Baron von Richthofen (The Red Baron)
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# Red Baron





# Technology: Tanks



# Technology: Tanks



# Technology: Flame Throwers



# The Great War

## Western Front

- Germans, Austria-Hungarians vs. French, British and later Americans
- Germany develops the Schlieffen Plan
- Battle of the Marne (1914- German Defeat)
- Trench Warfare on the Western Front

# Western Front: Battles

## ■ Battle of Verdun

- Ten months long
- French and German armies.
- Estimated 540,000 French and 430,000 German casualties
- No strategic advantages were gained for either side.

## ■ Battle of Somme

- English and French vs Germany
- Six months of fighting
- Five miles of advancement for Allies
- 1 million men killed

# Eastern Front

- Russians and Serbs vs. Germans and Austria-Hungarians
- War more mobile but still a stalemate
- Russia's disadvantages
  - Not Industrialized
  - Short on Supplies
- Russia's advantage
  - People

# Eastern Front: Battles

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- Battle of Tannenberg:
    - August 1914- First major eastern battle.
    - Russia was badly defeated and pushed back.
    - Russia lost millions of men against Germany, undersupplied, under gunned
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# Other Fronts

- Japan, Australia, India join Allies
- Ottoman Turks, Bulgaria join Central Powers
- Gallipoli Campaign in the Ottoman Empire
- Battles occur in Africa and Asia for Colonial Possessions

# Russia Exits the War

- In March 1917, Nicholas II abdicates his throne,
- the Russian Duma continues to fight.
- In October 1917: Lenin and the Bolsheviks take command: The Soviet Union is created.
- March 1918: Soviets and Germans sign the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, ending the war in the East.

# US claims Neutrality

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I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier  
I brought him up to be my pride and joy  
Who dares to place a musket on his  
shoulder,  
To shoot some other mother's darling boy?

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# US Road to War

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- British Blockade

did not allow products to leave or enter Germany

- German U-Boat Response

counter to blockade, destroy all boats headed for British shores

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# US Road to War

May 7<sup>th</sup> 1915

## Sinking of the Lusitania



# 1916 Presidential Election

## And the Winner is...

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Woodrow Wilson

Because  
“he kept us  
out of the  
war”



# US Road to War

## The Last Straw

### Zimmerman Note

**WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM**

Read the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

GERMAN LEGATION  
MEXICO CITY

via Galveston

JAN 19 1917

130	13042	13401	8501	115	3528	418	17214	8491	11310
18147	18222	21560	10247	11518	23877	13605	3494	14936	
98092	5905	11311	10392	10371	0302	21290	5161	39695	
23571	17504	11289	18276	18101	0317	0228	17694	4473	
12284	22200	19452	21589	87893	5559	13918	8958	12137	
1333	4725	4458	5905	17106	13851	4458	17149	14471	6708
13850	12224	8929	14991	7382	15857	87893	14218	36477	
5870	17553	87893	5870	5454	16102	15217	22801	17138	
21001	17388	7446	23838	18222	6719	14331	15021	23845	
2150	23552	22096	21404	4797	9497	22401	20855	4377	
23410	18140	22260	5905	13347	20420	39589	13732	20607	
6929	5275	18507	52242	1340	22049	13339	11265	22295	
10439	14814	4178	6992	8784	7632	7357	6926	52262	11287
21100	21272	9348	9059	22464	15874	18502	18500	15857	
2188	5376	7361	98092	16127	13486	9350	9220	76036	14219
5146	2831	17920	11347	17142	11264	7667	7762	15099	9110
10482	97586	3869	3670						

DEPNSTOPPP.

Coded

**TELEGRAM RECEIVED.**

From 2nd from London # 5747.

"We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, invite Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace." Signed, WILHELM II.

Decoded

# US Declares War

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- Senate Declares War April 4<sup>th</sup> 1917
  - House of Representatives Declares War April 6<sup>th</sup> 1917
  - Wilson's reasoning for War  
make the world "Safe for Democracy"
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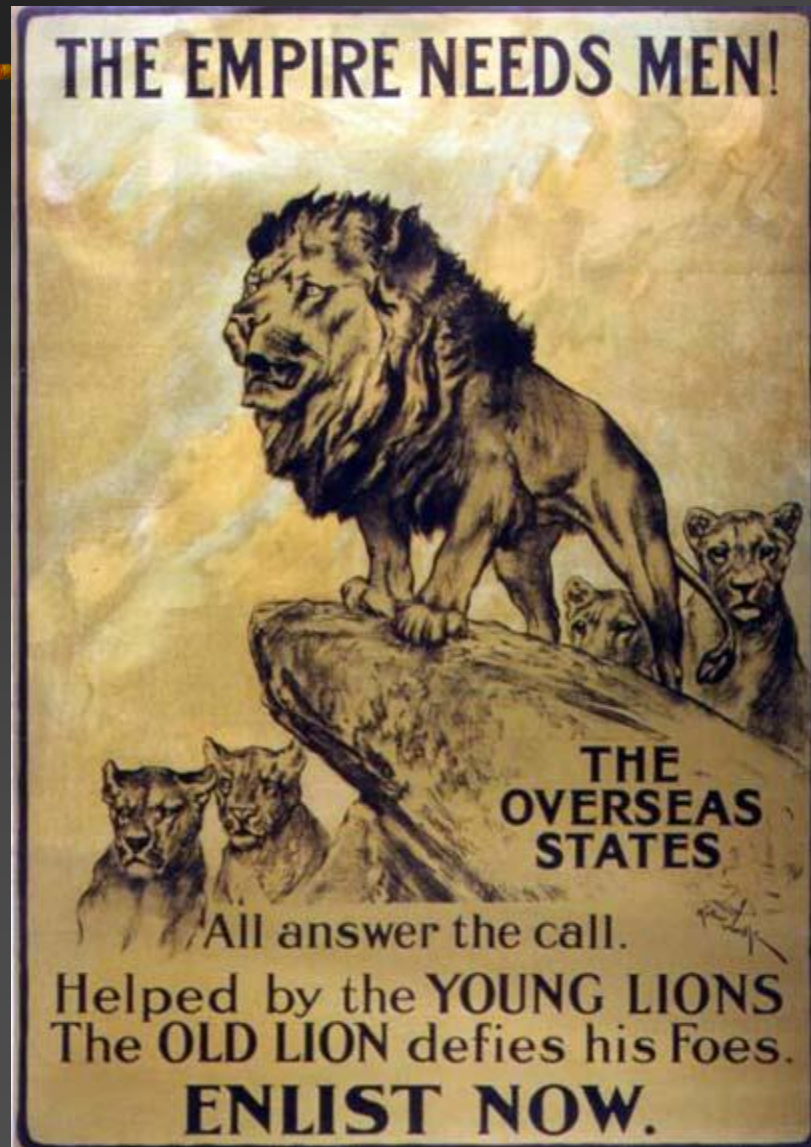
# War on the Homefront

- World War I as a Total War
  - All Resources devoted to homefront
- Gov't took over factories to make Military goods
- All had to work (Women took place of men in factories)
- Rationing- limit consumption of resources/goods necessary for the war effort
- Propaganda- one-sided information to keep support for the war

# Propaganda US



# Propaganda Great Britain



# Propaganda Germany



A. Setkowiez.

Geh' o Soldat! und deine Pflicht erfülle!  
Christus, der gute Hirt — bewachet seine Herden —  
O Herr! Zukomme uns Dein Reich und gesch' Dein Wille  
Wie in dem Himmel, also auch auf Erden.

# Total Warfare in the US



# Ending the War 1917-1918

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- US Enters the War in April of 1917
  - March 1918 Russia and Germany sign the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
  - Germans now use all resources on Western Front
  - March of 1918 Germany begins a massive attack on France
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# Ending the War (1918)

## The Tide Turns

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- German troops fatigued
  - US had 140,000 “fresh” troops
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of the Marne (June 1918)
  - Central Powers Crumble
    - Revolutions in Austria Hungary
    - Ottoman Empire surrenders
    - German soldiers mutiny, public turns against Kaiser Wilhelm II
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# Ending the War (1918)

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- Kaiser Wilhelm abdicates on November 9<sup>th</sup> 1918
  - 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month in 1918 Germany agrees to a cease-fire
  - 8.5 million soldiers dead
  - 21 million soldiers wounded
  - Cost of 338 billion dollars
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# Ending the War

## The Paris Peace Conference

- Meeting of the “**Big Four**” at the **Paris Peace Conference**
- Wilson Proposes his “**14 points**”
- “Big Four” create **Treaty of Versailles**
  - War Guilt Clause
  - Break up of German, Austrian, Russian and Ottoman Empire
  - Reparations
  - Legacy of bitterness and betrayal

# Effects of World War I

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- Before World War I feeling of optimism and progress of Human Kind
  - After the War feelings of pessimism
  - New forms of Art, Literature, Philosophy and Science
    - (ex. Surrealism, “Lost” Generation, Psychoanalysis, Existentialism)
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