



THE U.S. IN WORLD WAR I

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION: WHY DID THE UNITED STATES
ENTER WORLD WAR I?**

TEKS AND OBJECTIVES

We will...

(2D) explain the significance of 1914-1918

(4C) identify the reasons for U.S. entry into WWI

(4D) understand the contributions of the AEF led by General Pershing

(4F) analyze isolationism and neutrality

(4G) analyze the Battle of Argonne Forest

(26F) discuss importance of Alvin York

I will...

- Summarize the main ideas of WWI by completing a graphic organizer

The Central Powers



Austria-Hungarian
Empire



German Empire



Ottoman Empire

VS

The Allied Nations



Great Britain



France



Russian Empire

AMERICAN ISOLATIONISM



- Neutrality
 - U.S. did not take sides at beginning of WWI
 - President Wilson vowed to keep the country out of war during re-election campaign

REASONS FOR U.S. INVOLVEMENT

- Closer Ties with Allies
 - Most Americans had British ancestry/culture
 - Great Britain, France, and U.S. were democracies
- German Aggression
 - Germany invaded Belgium (neutral)



REASONS FOR U.S. INVOLVEMENT



- Allied Propaganda
 - American newspapers ran stories and pictures depicting German atrocities against civilians
- Zimmerman Telegram
 - Secret message from Germany to Mexico
 - Promised U.S. territory to Mexico in exchange for helping Germany

REASONS FOR U.S. INVOLVEMENT

- Freedom of the Seas
 - Right of neutral nations to ship non-military goods to nations at war
 - Main reason for U.S. involvement in WWI



THE WAR AT SEA



- British Blockade
 - Naval blockade prevented food/arms from being shipped to Germany
 - U.S. became main source for Allied arms, supplies, and food
 - Germans used submarines to sink merchant ships

THE WAR AT SEA

- Sinking of the *Lusitania*
 - British passenger ship on a trip from New York to Liverpool
 - Secretly carrying munitions for the British
 - Sunk by German submarine, killing 1,000 passengers
 - 128 Americans killed; enraged Americans



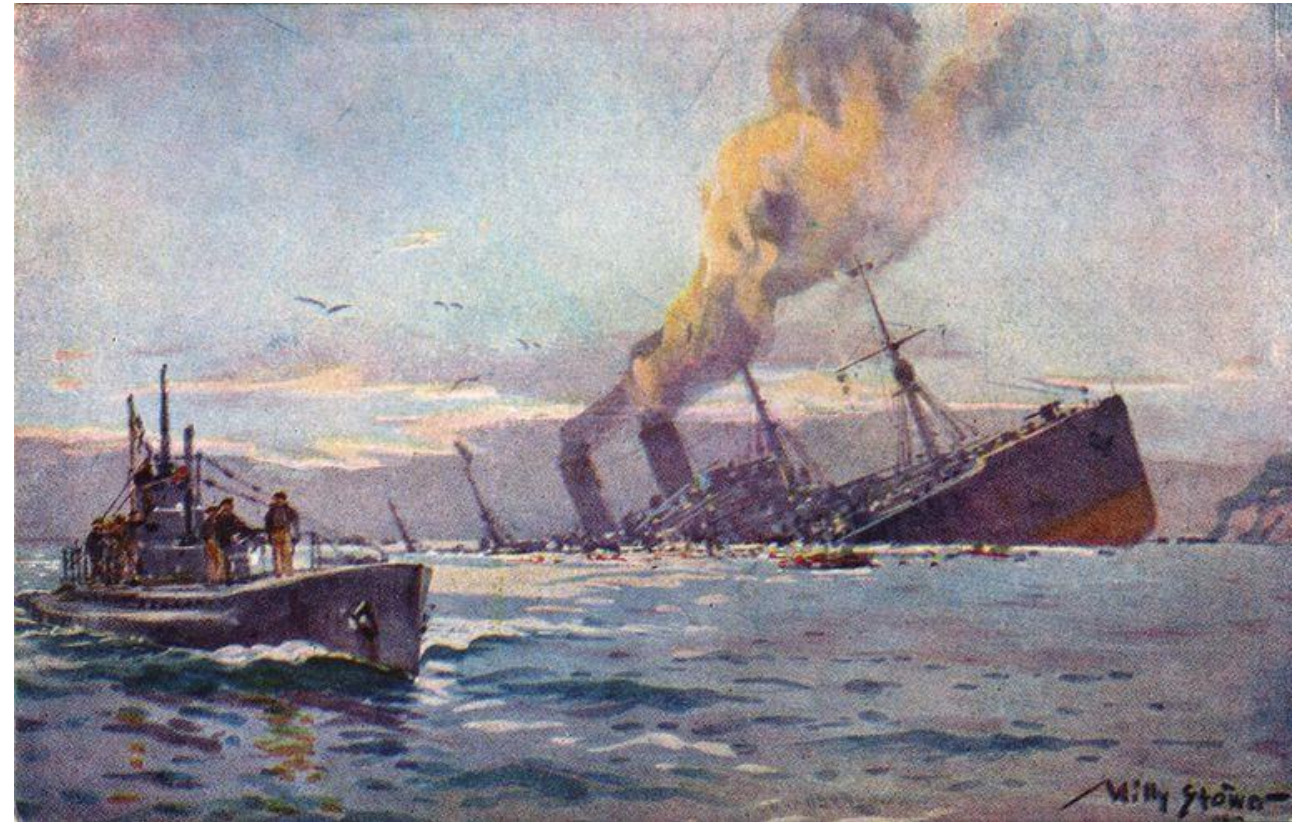
THE WAR AT SEA



- *Sussex* Pledge
 - French ferry on the English Channel
 - Attacked by German submarine
 - President Wilson threatened to break off relations with Germany
 - Germany pledged not to sink anymore passenger ships without warning or providing help to passengers

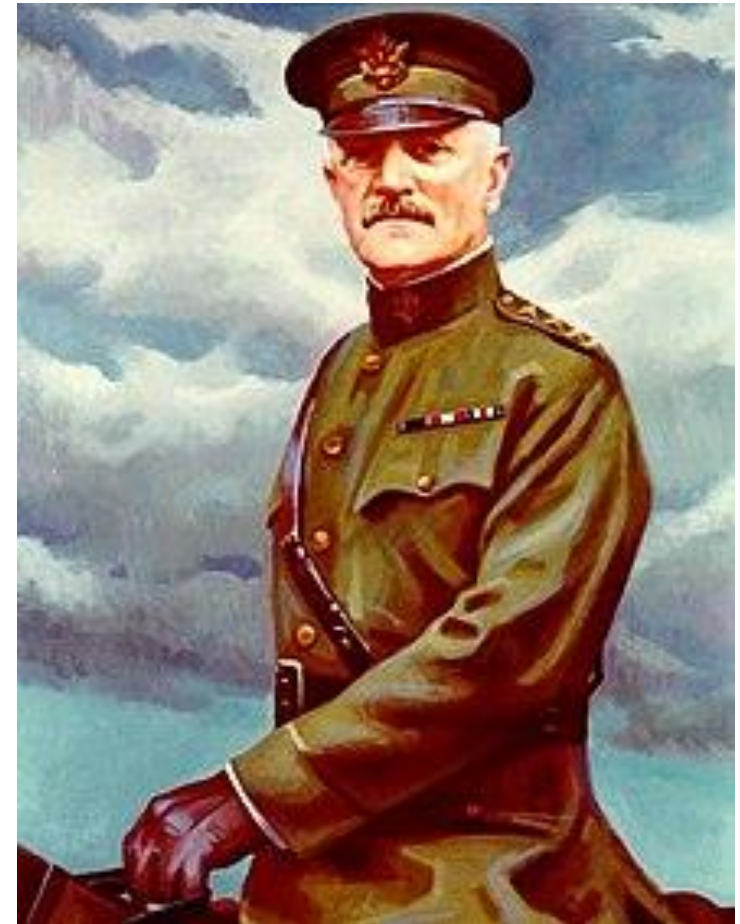
THE WAR AT SEA

- Unrestricted Submarine Warfare
 - Blockade nearly starved out Germany
 - Germany announced it would sink all ships in blockaded areas
 - Violated freedom of the seas
 - Germans sunk American merchant vessels
 - Wilson asked Congress for a declaration of war



U.S. INTERVENES

- American Expeditionary Force
 - U.S. troops sent to Europe to fight in WWI
 - Most American troops arrived in 1918
- General John J. Pershing
 - Leader of the AEF
 - Insisted soldiers be well-trained
 - Demanded American forces fight together
(not be used to fill in gaps)



U.S. INTERVENES



- African Americans
 - Not allowed to serve in the AEF
 - Served directly under French command

BATTLE OF ARGONNE FOREST

- Argonne Forest
 - Located in Northeastern France near Belgian border
 - Heavily defended by Germans
 - Hidden barbed wire, concrete walls, deep pit traps, and machine gun nests



BATTLE OF ARGONNE FOREST



- AEF at Argonne
 - 600,000 soldiers; 40,000 pieces of artillery
 - Shattered German defenses and opened a hole in German lines
 - Forced Germans to surrender

BATTLE OF ARGONNE FOREST

- Alvin York
 - Drafted into the army at 29
 - Reportedly killed 25 Germans and captured 132 prisoners with only a rifle and a pistol
 - Awarded the Medal of Honor



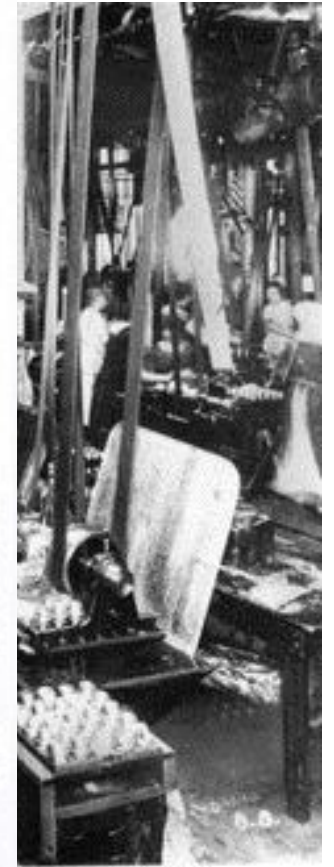
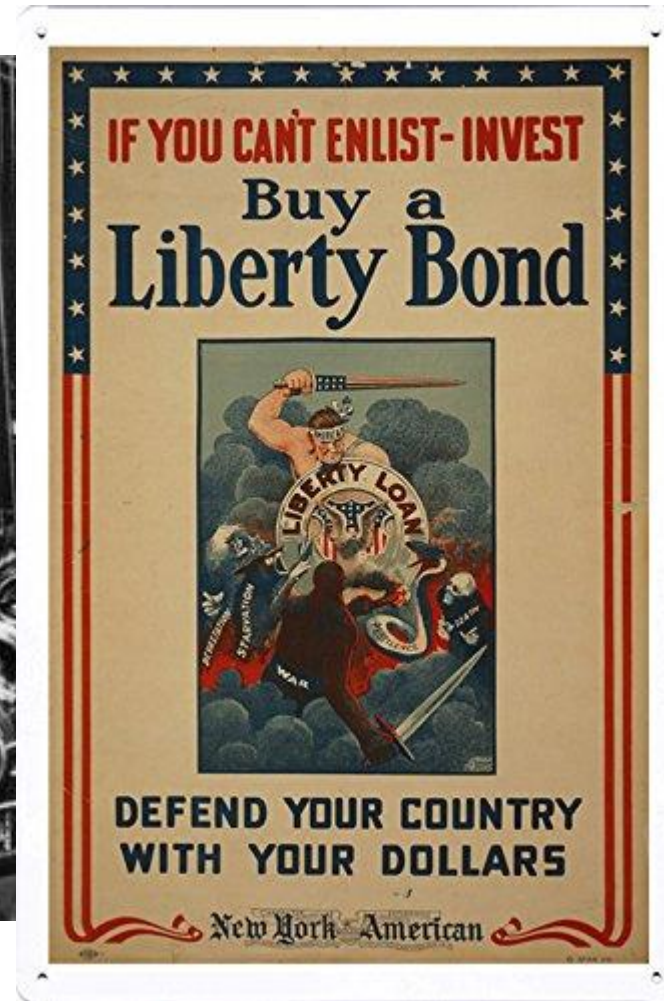
THE HOME FRONT, 1917-1918



- Selective Service Act
 - Passed by Congress in 1917
 - Required all men (21-30) to register for military service
 - Millions of Americans registered for the draft

THE HOME FRONT, 1917-1918

- American Economy
 - War industries created many factories jobs
 - Female and African American employment increased
- War Bonds
 - Certificates bought by civilians to fund the war



THE HOME FRONT, 1917-1918



- Espionage Act of 1917
 - Curtailed civil liberties
 - Made it a crime to criticize war efforts

END OF WWI

- Armistice
 - No decisive battle
 - Both sides agreed to stop fighting
- Treaty of Versailles
 - Ends war with Germany
 - Allied Powers defeat Central Powers

