World War I

World War I

Assignment 1

822 to 830

**The Coming of World War**

-Congress of Vienna had been overturned by the unification of Germany and Italy and Prussia’s defeat of Austria in 1866 and France in 1870

-insecurity that followed led to alliances

-imperialism, economic competition and escalating arms race made clashes more likely

-each threat and insult recorded in daily newspapers

-foreign ministers worked to keep things under control with diplomacy—conducted by gentlemen in secret

**Bismarck’s System of Alliances**

-Bismarck dominated international relations from 1860 to 1890

-created the 2nd Reich

-led European nations in addressing issues

-decline in the Ottoman Empire’s power resulted in a power vacuum in the Balkans—competing interests of Austria and Russia

-1st concern-make the new German nation secure from potential foreign threat

Congress of Berlin 1878

-Russia had defeated Turkey an forced the Sultan to give them territory across the Caucasus Mountains

-allowed a large Montenegro and Serbia

-independence for Bulgaria (to become a Russian puppet)

-European powers would not allow it

-aims of the Congress of Berlin-

-hold back Russian ambitions

-find a response to Ottoman weakness

-resolve Balkan nationalism

-avoid war

-Bismarck presented himself as an honest broker—few German interests were involved

-he made arrangements so everyone got something

-Bulgaria was greatly reduced and made independent—reduced Russian gains

-recognized the independence of Serbia, Romania, and Montenegro-an acknowledge to rising nationalism

-Austria-Hungary authorized to occupy Bosnia-Herzegovina which remained under Ottoman rule

-British were allowed to continue occupying Cyprus

-Tunis was promised to France

-Ottoman Empire lost and major powers were made more dominant— pattern of imperialism

*Germany’s Alliances*

-Bismarck persuaded Austria-Hungary to sign a mutual defense pact

-Austria was worried about Russia’s ambitions and wanted German support

-the secret pact became the foundation for Germany’s foreign policy

-they both promised to join the war if either was attacked by Russia

-Bismarck convinced Russia to join Austria Hungary and Germany in a pack to remain neutral if a forth country attacked any of the three

-the Triple Alliance-Italy, Germany, and Austria-Hungary

-renewable five year pact started in 1882

-took advantage of Italy’s anger at France for the occupation of Tunis in 1881

-goal-diplomatic isolation of France

-Bismarck feared the bitterness of France over the loss of Alsace-Lorraine to Germany in 1870

-treaties were defensive and secret—added to insecurity in Europe

-they gave Germany international importance, but were difficult to hold together

-Italy and Russia hated Austria-Hungary—difficult to hold into alliance

-Russia and Austria-Hungary let their alliance lapse in 1887—Bismarck could not fully repair the damage

-Reinsurance Treaty-Germany and Russia promised to remain neutral if one was at war

-for Italy-Austria-Hungary occupied Italian speaking land in Trieste and opposed Italy’s unification

-to get Italy to renew the Triple Alliance, Bismarck had to recognize Italian ambitions in the Balkans, Africa, and elsewhere

**The Shifting Balance**

-The Kaiser dismissed Bismarck in 1890—alliances were already showing strain

-without Bismarck they fell apart and German diplomacy became erratic and abrasive

*German Diplomacy after Bismarck*

-Bismarck’s successors overlooked the fact that a common fear of Germany could bring other countries together

-they let the Reinsurance Treaty with Russia lapse

-France and Russia formed an alliance in 1894

-promised to support each other if attacked by Germany or another member of the Triple Alliance that was aided by Germany

-Russia reversed its position on the French Republic

-Germany was inconsistent and contradictory when attempting to reassert its importance in world affairs

-Kaiser reached out to the British then antagonized them

-congratulated the Boer president after a victory in the Boer War—Kruger Telegram

-tried to organize a continental coalition against the British

-massive expansion of the Germany navy

*Anglo-French Understanding*

-relations centered on colonial relations—seemed ready to risk war

-settled for spheres of influence

-after Fashoda in 1898 the French tried to establish good relations

-accepted the British domination of Egypt

-British recognized the French interest in North Africa (especially Morocco)

-1904 Anglo French Entente Cordiale-eliminated colonial conflict between Britain and France

-feelings of friendship including visits between leaders

-Germany felt an assertive foreign policy would help them to remain strong in Europe

-increased arms

-countries became more worried about security and sensitive to slights against their national honor

*Testing Alliances: 3 International Crisis*

-each seemed to be Germany victories—drew German opponents closer together

-Morocco

-French wanted it; the other powers acquiesced, except Germany

-German chancellor demanded an international conference to settle Morocco’s future

-Conference recognized French interests

-only Austria Hungary voted with Germany

-Germany’s threatening tactics pushed France and Britain together

-Balkans

-Austria was worried Serbia-new king and a radical nationalist government

-dangerous antagonist

-feared the Turkish influence would grow after the Young Turks rebellion in 1905— determined to modernize Turkey

-to protect themselves Austria decided to Annex Bosnia-Herzegovina which threatened Serbia

-outraged Russian Slavophiles—believed that Russia should defend the interest of Slavs everywhere

-Russia demanded an international conference

-Germany supported Austria-Hungary

-Britain and France sided with Russia

-Italy angry that Austria-Hungary did not consult with them-a sign they were drifting away from the Triple Alliance

-Triple Alliance was renewed-Italy on the fence

-Morocco-France wanted to annex it-consulted all the European powers

-talks were Germany going well until 1911 when Germany sent a gunboat to Morocco

-Germany demanded the French Congo in return for accepting the annexation of Morocco

-British Prime Minister David Lloyd George denounced German methods

-ended with a compromise-growing international distrust against Germany

*The Arms Race*

-the standing armies of Britain and France doubled between 1870 and 1914

-all able bodied men from 20 to their late 50s

-1889-British decided their navy must equal the size of the next two navies combined

-1906-launched the Dreadnought-1st battleship armed entirely with big guns

-by 1914-29 ships afloat and 13 more under construction

-Germany had 18 with 9 more under construction

-Conference held to halt the arms race at The Hague-1899 and 1907

-no country was willing to sacrifice any strength

-Germany announced Britain was lucky they stayed neutral in the Boer War

*The Triple Entente*

-1902-British ended the tradition of refusing peacetime alliances and signed a treaty with Japan to reduce conflicts over imperial claims

-1907-accord between France, Russia, and Japan-spelled out each country’s area of interest in Asia in an attempt to reduce competition there

-opened the way for further agreement between Britain and Russia to resolve the Great Game

-Treaty between Britain and Russia created the Triple Entente because each was already allied with France

-intended to counterbalance the Triple Alliance

-1912 Britain withdrew its navy from the Mediterranean Sea—France defended their interests there

-Britain could then focus on the North Sea where Germany was strong

**The Outbreak of World War**

-Triple Alliance and Triple Entente increased their arms and glared at each other

*The Balkan Threat*

-militarism, nationalism, modernization shaky parliamentarianism complicated by centuries of oppression and disputed boundaries

-privileged role of Hungarians in Austria-Hungary and policy of enforced Magyarization (consequences of the Compromise of 1867) increased nationalist aspirations among other ethnic groups

-competition between Russia and Austria Hungary became entangled in these issues

-Germany and Italy also had interests in the region

-1912-Italy defeated Turkey and gained Libya and important Mediterranean Islands—triggered the First Balkan War

-Bulgaria, Serbia, and Greece declared war on Turkey

-drove the Ottomans from their remaining holdings in Europe except Constantinople

-the Great Powers wrote the peace in May 1913

-June 1913 Serbia, Greece, Romania, and Turkey declared war on Bulgaria (big winner of the pervious war)

-conflict ended in a few weeks, but local anger did not

*The Assassination of an Austrian Archduke*

-groups of Serbian nationalist scattered all over the Balkans agitated on behalf of their fellow Slaves living in Bosnia-Herzegovina under Austrian rule

-Austria threatened to use force against Serbia if it did not abandon nationalistic claims

-Archduke Francis Ferdinand decided to parade in Sarajevo on June 28, 1914

-heir to the Austrian and Hungarian thrones

-as he paraded down the street a bomb just missed him

-other conspirator failed to shoot

-after a wrong turn, he and his wife were shot by a Bosnian revolutionary

-leaders of Austria Hungary were convinced that the Serbian government was involved and believed a strong response was necessary

-dispatched an emissary to Berlin-promised Germany’s full support

-July 23 sent an ultimatum to Serbia

-meant to be unacceptable

-gave Serbia 48 hours to apologize, ban anti-Austria propaganda, and accept Austria’s participation in the investigation of the assassination

-Serbia accepted the terms that did not diminish their sovereignty and suggested the rest be settled by arbitration

-Britain proposed an international conference, France and Russia agreed

-seemed over until on July 28 Austria Hungary declared war on Serbia

*Stumbling into War*

-Germany and Britain hoped that Austria Hungary would occupy Belgrade and then let a peace conference settle it

-Russia could not give up its role as protector of the Slavs nor could it allow Austria Hungary to take over the Balkans

-July 29 Russia ordered a partial mobilization-making it clear the move was only aimed at Austria-Hungary

-next day, they called a general mobilization instead

-July 31-Germany proclaimed a state of readiness, demanded that Russia demobilize within 12 hours, and requested that France declare what it would do in the event of a German Russian war

-France answered that it would act in its own interests, but did mobilize troops a few miles from the German border

-the Germans (who wanted France to surrender its border fortresses as a guarantee of neutrality) were unsatisfied

-August 1-Germany mobilized and declared war on Russia

-Germany invaded Luxembourg and demanded the passage of German troops—convinced they were at war with France as well

-August 3-Germany declared war on France and invaded Belgium

-August 4-Britain declared war on Germany

-inside 48 hours each country hat 2 million soldiers under orders

**The Origins of World War**

-who to blame for the war depends on how much of a long range view a person takes

*The Response to an Assassination*

-tensions that made the assassination so significant had long roots—Balkan struggles for independence, Austria-Hungary’s declining power, and each nation’s fears for its safety

-individual leaders could be blamed for Austria Hungary’s haste to attack Serbia, Germany’s support of Austria Hungary, Russia’s confused diplomacy, and France’s eagerness to prove loyalty to Russia

-British leaders did not warn the Germans that an attack on France meant war with Britain as well

*The Limits of Diplomacy*

-system of alliances had grown too hard by habit, military issues, and domestic politics

-Britain felt it had to have supremacy over the seas

-France wanted revenge for defeat of 1870 and Alsace-Lorraine back

-Russia’s territorial expansion going on 150 years

-Italy’s need to show it was a great power

-Austria’s dependence on a foreign policy that maintained its shaky regime

-Germany’s fear of encirclement and use of prestige abroad to reduce conflict at home

-Arms race contributed

-Strategy also played a part—Germany’s victory over France in 1870 showed how important and valuable universal conscription, large reserves, and detailed military planning were

-ability to mobilize was an important act of self-defense—disadvantages in weapons, speed, or tactics could be fatal

*Public Opinion*

-mobilization and large armies required public support

-huge efforts by all governments to rally nationalist feelings

-Warmongering appealed to middle and upper class men-heroic sacrifice

-working classes supported the war by ending strikes

World War I

Assignment 3

Pg. 830-839

**The Course of the War**

-plans had been made for ages by France and Germany

-France-to take Alsace and Lorraine

-Germany-to avoid a two front war

-German plan-attack France first and knock them out of the war—before Russia could mobilize their huge armies

-Had it invade neutral Belgium—Germany became the aggressor

-Britain entered the war

-Triple Alliance was reduced to Germany and Austria-Hungary—Central Powers

-Italy announced its neutrality when war broke out

-The Triple Entente-Britain, France, and Russia (also known as the Allies)

**The Surprises of the First Two Years**

-all belligerents felt the war would not last long

-modern economies could not last (depended on trade)

-new weapons would make it quick

-increased firepower gave an advantage to defensive armies

-common soldier took more punishment then anyone could guess

*The German Offensive*

-Schlieffen Plan—drawn up in 1891 by Count Alfred von Schlieffen

-attack France first then focus on Russia

-left the Eastern front to the Austrian forces who Germans had little respect for

-violated neutral Belgium and the Netherlands

-based on assumptions:

-there was no strategic objective on the Eastern Front (true)

-Russia would be slow to mobilize (less true then expected)

-Belgium would not resist (false-delayed the German advance)

-Field Marshall Helmuth von Moltke changed the plan and stopped the advance on Paris to try for a breakthrough in Alsace--unsuccessful

-German supply lines were stretched

-lots of casualties

-fell into a pattern of small advances and long stretches of attrition— pattern on the Western Front for the rest of the war

*French and Russian Offensives*

-French Commander Joseph Joffre-felt a great French drive was going to happen

-counter offensive on the Marne River saved Paris, but then fell into a stalemate

-battle lines established at the end of 1914 stayed in place for the rest of the war

-Germans held industrial areas in Northern France and all of Belgium

-Russian forces made gains against the Austrians on the Eastern Front until the Battle of Tannenberg

-German Generals Paul von Hindenburg and Erich Ludendorff became German heroes

-destroyed the Russian forces

-pushed to Warsaw

-by the end of 1914, the Germans and Austro-Hungarians were making impressive gains into Russia

-Turkey entered on the Central Power’s side against its old enemy Russia

*Trench Warfare*

-the western front was under siege conditions

-trains allowed for a nearly endless supply of soldiers

-machine guns, barbed wire, artillery made advance impossible

-both sides dug thousands of miles of trenches

-allied armies attacked and were stopped by German reinforcements

-after the first year, boundaries were the same

-moral declined—rats, lice, boredom

-poison gas added to the horror

-shell shock reported for the first time—psychological distress—showed the strain of trench warfare

*Italy Joins the Allies*

-did not break the stalemate

-both sides wanted Italy, but Britain and France made a better offer

-April 1915 the Treaty of London (secret)-Italy joined the allies

-Italy was promised land along the border with Austria-Hungary and colonial holdings

-Italy declared war May 1915

*Costly Offensives*

-early in 1916 Germany tried an offensive to knock France out of the war

-stormed Verdun-aim was to bleed France more then to take territory

-February 1916 to July 1916

-France lost more than 300,000 soldiers, Germany only a little less

-Somme-July to November 1916

-much heavier causalities on 17 miles of territory gained

-tactics were not working

-became a war of attrition

-Eastern Front-movement, but no results

-Russia was losing ground

-1917 General Alexis Brusilov took back some land, cost 1 million men

*The Naval War*

-sea was more important for supply then for combat

-Allied landing at Gallipoli failed in April 1915

-allies withdrew without meeting either objective-opening the Dardanelles or forcing the Ottoman Empire out of the war

-Blockade of Germany was more effective

-1915-Germany announced a blockade of Britain

-sank the Lusitania-stopped attacking passenger ships due to US pressure

-resumed unrestricted submarine warfare in 1916

-Battle of Jutland-May 1916

-great naval battle

-no clear winner British and Germans lost same number of ships

-German fleet retreated to their harbor

**Adjustment to Total War**

-World War I was conducted on a massive scale

*Domestic Mobilization*

-first domestic response was national unity

-German pubic was convinced the war was a just war of national defense

-parliament approved funding

-France hailed their sacred union

-Britain’s liberal government turned conservative

-the Russian Tsar gained in popularity

-military rulers had an increased role in society

-General Joseph Joffre in France had almost dictatorial powers until 1915 when civilians were back in charge

-labor shortages in all European countries

-agricultural output dropped which led to food shortages

-government increased powers-moved workers, censored the press, controlled railroads, shipping, and the economy

-paper money, rationing, and central planning

-industries forced to be more efficient

-conscription all over-1916 in Britain

-substitutes made for things in short supply-ersatz became an international word

-civilians felt the impact of the war

-Austria Hungary and Russia could not match the planning and industry of Britain, France and Germany

-could not organize or squeeze food, ammunition, and other needed things out of the population

-Austria Hungary could not count on the loyalty of its soldiers—sent them far away so they were not fighting soldiers who spoke their language

-Russian orders were not in code-easily intercepted by the Germans

*Social Effects*

-people were thin, poorly dressed, and grieving

-Germany experienced “Turnip Winter”

-lines and rationing became a way of life

-distinctions in social classes blurred

*Women on the Home Front*

-feminist worked to rally support for the war effort

-women went to work

-propaganda reinforced traditional gender roles and emphasized the enemy’s brutality toward women

-war brought increased freedom

-pay still unequal

-national politics became more democratic and inclusive

*Changes on the Battlefield*

-soldiers got over the idea of heroism and national duty

-France fired Joffre and promoted General Robert Georges Nivelle—planned a massive new offensive

-German heroes of the Eastern Front were promoted

-Hindenburg—overall command

-Ludendorff-took over Western Front in 1916

-returned to unrestricted submarine warfare in 1917, aware that it might bring the USA into the war

-believed the British would want peace before the USA could make a difference

Political Changes

-Lloyd George made British Minister of War in June 1916 and Prime Minister in December 1916

-once he terrified the upper class, by 1916 seen as popular and decisive

-galvanized the British war effort

-Russian Revolution 1917

-new provisional government

-conditions in Russia were awful

-allied sensed democratic principles (fight for democracy)

-USA declared war on Germany

*The Armenian Genocide*

-1915 civilians in Armenia became targets—did not support the Ottoman Empire during the Balkan wars

-Ottoman Empire had said that international observers could insure that Armenian rights were being protected in 1914

-when war broke out, the Ottomans renounced the plan and deiced to forcibly relocate the Armenian populations

-deported 1,750,000 beginning March 1915

-at least 800,000 died

-Total War—all involved

-civilian casualties

*The Empire at War*

-imperialism transformed World War I into a global conflict

-European powers saw it as an opportunity to gain land overseas

-war spread to the colonies

-colonial subjects were recruited into the war and to work in factories

-many of those who fought came home with aspirations of freedom for their countries

World War I Assignment #4

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**The Great Trials of 1917-1918**

*Fighting in the West*

-French General Nivelle launched a great offensive April/May 1917

-the French soldiers mutinied

-Nivelle was replaced by General Henri Philippe Petain—attempted to raise moral

-French waited months before attempting another offensive

-British attacked the north attempting to take over German submarine bases—3rd Battle of Ypres—not successful

-British were able to avoid German U-boats with the convoy—British ships escorted by American ships across the Atlantic

*Allied Defeats: Russia and Italy*

-Russia was in retreat

-the Communists controlled the government by November-invited all other nations to join the peace and entered negotiations with the Central Powers

-Germany and Austria Hungary focused on Italy—won an victory in the Battle of Caporetto

*The Last Year*

-Central Powers marched east into Russia

-Russia and Germany signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in March 1918

-Russia surrendered Russian Poland, the Baltic States, the Ukraine, and Transcaucasia—included wheat and oil

-the harsh terms intensified the Allies determination to win

-Germans then opened a great offensive on the Western Front—greatest advance in 4 years

-the allies named Ferdinand Foch supreme commander of all forces

-retained reserves while Germany exhausted their supplies

-Enemy guns bombarded Paris

-Allied counter offensive began in July—Germans were driven back

-by August, the Germans were back to the Hindenburg line (position in the beginning of 1917)

-Battles of Argonne (September) and Ypres (October)

*Collapse of the Central Powers*

-the Central Powers fell apart on all fronts

-Arabs revolted against the Ottoman Empire—led by T.E. Lawrence

-in October the Sultan was deposed and the new government sued for peace

-the allies moved toward Romania up the Balkan Peninsula

-Austro-Hungarian Empire was also falling apart

-Czechs, Yugoslavians, Poles, and Romanians all wanted independence—encouraged to work for it by the allies in 1918

-army fell apart as the different nationalities left for revolution at home

-Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia declared independence

-November 1918, Austria-Hungary surrendered unconditionally to Italy

-Germany started to make more democratic changes

-cabinet of Kaiser subject to Reichstag majority

-end of October—asked for peace on Wilson’s terms

-Wilson demanded a democratic government to negotiate with

*German Republic Accepts an Armistice*

-German leaders face the threat of revolution at home

-liber leader Prince Max could not hold it together—pleaded with Kaiser Wilhelm to abdicate

-he did so on November 9 after a mutiny in the German fleet and a revolution in Munich

-government handed over to Freidrich Ebert—leader of the Social Democrats

-German Republic was proclaimed—armistice commission sent to General Foch

-November 11, 1918 the war ended

-allied troops near the German boarders in the west, crossed the Danube in the East and taken Trieste and the Dardanelles

-Revolution swept across Eastern Europe

World War I Assignment #5

Pg. 842-850

**The Peace**

-allies were free to draw the boundary lines for a new Europe

**The Effects of World War I**

-governments were overturned and new shaky ones established

*The New State of Affairs*

-political conflict adopted techniques of force in Eastern Europe

-local revolts by Freikorps—mercenary squads made up of former soldiers paid for street fighting and rioting

-new governments were held more responsible for society’s peace time needs— housing, education, and pensions

-Wilson, Clemenceau, and George were concerned about a revival of the radical left

-aristocracy was weakened all over Europe—general democratization of politics

-less purchasing power—inflation and higher taxes

-middle class felt exposed and vulnerable—savings were threated and values changed

-peasants (declining in number) were better off—helped by high demand for food and labor as well as inflation

*The Change in Social Mores*

-men stopped wearing top hats due to public transportation

-women’s clothes were simpler and skirts shorter

-cosmetics, high heels, smoking and drinking acceptable

-violent crime and juvenile delinquency were up

-shocked moralists blamed the increase in encounters between sexes

-psychological impact of war separated those who went to war and those who stayed home

*Economic Effects*

-military needs resulted in growth of new technology

-automobiles instead of horses

-airplanes, radio, chemical industry all started

-tasks in factories became more efficient

-worldwide trade was disrupted

-Europe’s place in the world changed

-1914-Europe was the greatest lender, by 1918 a debtor

-destruction of property (especially in France and Belgium)

-production fell

*The Dead and the Culture of Mourning*

-greatest change was the death of between 10 and 13 million

-1/3 civilians

-demographic catastrophe for France—much older population

-50% of male between the ages of 20 and 32 were dead

-millions more maimed for life

-wounded burdened European governments—lived on pensions

-widows also lived on state support

-Red Cross and other organizations worked to help the displaced

-memorials all over Europe

-tombs of the unknown soldiers

-ceremonies commemorating Armistice Day

-leaders attempted to make a peace that would last—democracy seemed to be the greatest safeguard against future conflict

**The Revolutionary Situation**

-many disruptions of life—mass migration, military dissertations, and mutinies

-war weakened the government and gave radicals on the left and right to opportunity to claim power

*New Nations in Eastern Europe*

-people who were released from Austro-Hungarian or Russian control fought to define boundaries of their new countries

-Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia marked independence with war with Russia

-Lithuania was also at odds with Poland

-Poland in conflict on all of its borders—Russia, Ukraine, Czechoslovakia, and Germany

-Romania attacked Hungary and Yugoslavia

*Leftist Militancy*

-Leftists wished for socialists victory all across Europe

-felt it was on the way

-met in Moscow to establish the 3rd International—included socialists from all over the world

-1919 Bela Kun led a communist government in Hungary until it was toppled by the Romanian army

-communist agitation in Vienna—Austria was all that was left of the Hapsburg empire

-looked forward to the new German Republic, but an alliance was forbidden by the Treaty of Paris

-Socialists looked to Germany-industrialized, large class divisions, and a strong socialist movement

-communists revolts were suppressed by the German Army

**The Peace Treaties**

-countries accepted Wilson’s 14 Points

-self-determination of people

-free trade

-freedom of the seas

-anti-colonial warfare

-disarmament

-open diplomacy

-League of Nations

*The Paris Conference*

-opened in January 1919

-Allies vowed not to repeat the mistakes of the Congress of Vienna

-Germany was excluded

-5 big powers made all the decisions-France, Britain, Italy, Japan and the USA

-4 men-Wilson, Clemenceau, George, and Orlando

-all elected leaders sensitive to public opinion

-all had domestic problems and concerns about Eastern Europe

*The Treaty with Germany*

-haste made terms harsher than they otherwise would have been

-Germany lost overseas territory in Africa and the Pacific

-assigned to the League of Nations and allied powers

-administered as mandates

-lost Alsace and Lorraine

-Allies occupied the Rhineland and coal producing Saar River for 15 years

-a plebiscite to determine final country

-Plebiscites also decide if Germany gave part of Schleswig to Denmark and part of Silesia to Poland

-Polish provinces of East Prussia given to Poland

-Poland given a corridor to the sea which separated East Prussia from Germany

-German city of Danzig made into a free city

-Poland remained insecure and Germany did not accept it

-Germany was not permitted any large artillery, submarines or military air force the army was limited to 100,000 men

-Germany had to give the allies horse and rail road carriages, coal, and ships

*Reparations*

-Allies decided Germany should pay for civilian damages

-Belgium and France were the most destroyed

-Lloyd George included all pensions as a civilian cost—huge amount of money that had to be paid for years and years

-Article 231 of the Versailles Treaty—the war guild clause

-Germany had to accept responsibility

-bitterly resented in Germany

-German delegates did not get to see the treaty until it was drafted—only minor changes were possible at that point

-signed June 28, 1919—the 5th anniversary of Francis Ferdinand’s assassination

*Italian Aims*

-Treaty of London 1915 promised Italy much of the Dalmatian Coast-Italian delegates expected to get it

-Wilson did not want Italy to control German speaking lands (principle of nationality)

-Wilson appealed to Italian people—the delegation withdrew the request

-Italians unhappy over promises not kept

*The Other Treaties*

-Treaty with Austria modeled on the treaty with Germany

-harsh terms seemed unnecessary for the Austrian Republic

-boundaries of new states based on nationalism and strategic need

-Hungary lost ¾ of its former land including Bohemia

-Bulgaria surrendered some land and greatly resented its new borders

-Romania gained land from Austria, Hungary, and the USSR

-natural boundaries (rivers, mountains) did not correspond with borders at Paris due to claims of history and culture

-League of Nations’ job was to make the new borders work

-Minorities Protection Treaty—promised fair treatment for minorities

-seen by some countries as an affront to their sovereignty

-idea of self-determination—Africa and Asia felt it applied to them

-European leaders did not agree

-growth of colonial nationalism

*Unstable Settlement in the Middle East*

-Treaty with Turkey signed in 1920—most of it never went into effect

-spawned indigenous movements like in Eastern Europe

-Russian and Hapsburg Empires no longer competed for influence

-Britain and France seed as committed to old imperialism, not the people of the area

-Nationalist in Turkey brought Mustafa Kemal (Ataturk) to power—insured Turkey’s territory

-Arabia’s independence was recognized, but internal conflict allowed Europeans to interfere

-need for political order on eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea caused problems

-France given supervisory authority over Syria

-Britain given Palestine, Trans-Jordan, and Iraq

-treaty settled little, borders to be decided later

-Palestine was a big problem

-the British supported Arab nationalist movements in 1917

-1917-British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour promised a national homeland for Jews in Palestine—Balfour Declaration

-Balfour Declaration also guaranteed the rights of Muslims

*Colonial Mandates*

-German and Ottoman controlled territories were made into mandates of the League of Nations

-Britain, France, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand controlled the mandates

-Ottoman territory—called Class A Mandates—considered on the verge of self- government

-African Mandates—Class B-rights of people protected, not ready for self- government

-Pacific Island-Class C-ruled as colonies

-legitimized continued European dominance

*Europe’s Diminished Position*

-Britain and France dominated European affairs

-imperialism was weakened by the war

-Thailand (aka Siam) and China eliminated treaties that gave special rights to Europeans

-new nationalist groups demanded self-government all over

-Japanese and American economies benefited from the war

-Japan sold weapons to Russian an took over the German East Asian trade

-US production way up

-reflected the idea that the world was getting smaller

-improved communication

*Disillusionment*

-there was lots of hope for democracy at the Paris Peace Conference—fell apart by 1920

-Britain and France seen as only protecting their interests

-Eastern Europe—Russia was not at the conference

-the conference did not understand or consider the complex economies of Eastern Europe

-stimulated nationalist movements

-Western Europeans feared nationalism in Eastern Europe

-USA failed to lead-1920 Congress refused to join the League of Nations- isolationist

-alienated the French who the US and the British had promised to protect from German aggression

-China refused to sign treaties that gave the Japanese rights in China

-Japan was offended by clauses that claimed all races were equal

-Reparations were denounced by John Maynard Keyes

-argued that the Allies owed each other more than the Germans could repay and reparations would only slow European growth and recovery

-undermined the peace