

# CHAPTER 10 – SECTION 3



Americans on the European Front

# The War Drags On



- ▣ By April of 1917, the war had been dragging on for almost 3 years and the Allies desperately needed replacement troops
- ▣ However, despite the success of the preparedness movement, the United States was far from ready to send an army to the European front

# U.S Enters the War

- ▣ In April 1917 the US Congress cautiously sends supplies, weapons, about \$3 billion in loans and only a few token troops (about 14,000) to France.
- ▣ These few troops won't actually help much, but will boost Allied morale.



# Selective Service Act

- When the US entered WWI our military wasn't big enough (needed 3 million, but we only had 120,000)
- In May 1917 Congress passed a law that authorized a draft of young men for military service
- A lottery picked 3 mill. (24 mill. men registered)

REGISTRATION NUMBER <b>2605</b>	1. NAME (Print) <b>JOHN HENRY WELLES</b>	CLASSIFICATION NUMBER <b>8353</b>
2. ADDRESS (Print) <b>R.F.D. No. 2 Carthage Hancock Ill.</b>		
3. TRADES <b>None</b>	4. AGE IN YEARS <b>23</b> Date of Birth <b>1-27-1917</b>	5. PLACE OF BIRTH <b>Hancock Ill.</b>
6. NAME OF PERSON WITH WHOM YOU ALWAYS SHOW THIS ORDER <b>Mr. Ford</b>		7. OCCUPATION OF THAT PERSON <b>Upkeep</b>
8. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON <b>R.F.D. No. 2 Carthage, Hancock, Ill.</b>		
9. RELIGIOUS BELIEF <b>Self</b>		
10. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS <b>R.F.D. No. 2 Carthage, Hancock, Ill.</b>		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE TRULY ABOVE ANSWERED AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.		
REGISTRATION CARD U. S. ARMY <b>John Henry Welles</b>		



# Draft Riots

- ▣ Most people accepted this program
- ▣ Unlike the Civil War, riots didn't break out because people felt this would be the "war to end all wars"





# Women in the War

- ▣ 11,000 women served in uniform as nurses, drivers, and clerks
- ▣ Another 14,000 served abroad as civilians working for the govt. or private agencies



# Convoys

- ▣ Groups of unarmed ships surrounded by a ring of armed ships to prevent against sub attacks (u-boats had sunk 430 ships by 1917 – this cut the number in half)



# Torpedo boats

- ▣ American ships specially equipped to track and destroy submarines





# American Expeditionary Force (AEF)

- ▣ Name given to American troops during WW1
- ▣ Consisted of draftees, volunteers, and National Guardsmen from the U.S.



# African American troops

- ▣ 300,000 troops discriminated against during WW1
- ▣ Kept apart from white troops
- ▣ Not allowed in the Marines at all
- ▣ Only given minor jobs in Army & Navy



# Harlem Hell Fighters

- ▣ The 369<sup>th</sup> infantry
- ▣ African American regiment that persuaded their white officers to let them fight with the French troops
- ▣ Earned France's highest combat medal for distinguished service (Croix de Guerre)



# Russia Drops Out

- ▣ Vladimir Lenin, the leader of the Russian Revolution, promises to make peace with Germany after the Czar is gone
- ▣ Allows Germany to focus on fighting French and British (the Western Front) and no longer has to fight on both sides



# The Tide Turns

- ▣ American Marines lost half their troops, but dug in and prevented the Germans from overtaking Paris
- ▣ “We dig no trenches to fall back on. The Marines will hold where they stand.”





# New Weapons Help Win the War

- ❑ Two new weapons helped the Allies win the War
- ❑ *The Tank* – could cross trenches and roll through barbed wire
- ❑ *Airplanes* – could drop bombs and engage in aerial “dog fights” (between planes)



# The Armistice

- ▣ The cease-fire to the war
- ▣ *November 11, 1918* at eleven o'clock in the morning – “the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month”
- ▣ Celebrated in Europe as *Armistice Day* and in America as *Veterans Day* (official holiday declared by Pres. Wilson in 1919)



# Death Toll

- ▣ 50,000 American soldiers died in battle in WWI
- ▣ Many more died of influenza (the flu)
- ▣ Would have been much higher if not for the volunteer nurses in the Red Cross



# European Deaths

- ▣ Over **8 million soldiers** and sailors were killed during the conflict (1914-1918)
- ▣ An average of more than **5,000/day**



# European Civilians

- ▣ During and immediately after the War **millions more civilians died** from starvation, disease, or war-related injuries
- ▣ **Europe was permanently changed** as a result





# Genocide

- ▣ **The organized killing of an entire people**
- ▣ (Most well-known was the Holocaust in WWII)
- ▣ During WWI Ottoman forces kicked out and killed **hundreds of thousands of Armenian civilians** who they suspected of disloyalty to the government (continued into early 1920's)



# Writing Assignment

- ▣ Pretend you are a journalist during the war. Write a one page newspaper article describing *what you see on the battlefield* on the Western Front in France. Use 5 facts from your notes (underline or number them in your paper!)
  - ▣ Or
- ▣ Write a one page newspaper article describing the *actions being taken on the home front* to help with the war effort back in America. Use 5 facts from your notes (underline or number them in your paper!)