

## WORLD WAR I RESOURCES (Part 1)

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World War I or "The First World War" or "The Great War" has been identified as the turning point between the age of European predominance and the age of Global Civilization (or politics).

### HISTORY IN BRIEF

The period 1871 to 1914 has been defined as a period of "armed peace". By 1890 three groups of powers co-existed in Europe — The British Empire, the French-Russian Alliance, and the Triple Alliance (German, Austria-Hungary, and Italy). By 1907, the German Weltpolitik (Central Powers) had formed creating a threat to the other two powers. In an effort to encircle and contain this force, the Triple Entente (Allied powers) was formed by Great Britain, France and Russia. The assassination of Austrian heir-presumptive, Archduke Franz Ferdinand by Bosnian terrorists on June 28, 1914 was the spark that triggered the declaration of war. Between July 28 and Aug 28, five European countries and Japan were at war against Germany and Austria-Hungary.

The United States, under the leadership of President Woodrow Wilson, tried to remain neutral. Diplomatic relations with Germany were broken after Germany launched all-out submarine war against all commercial vessels, neutral or belligerent. After several ships were attacked, Wilson asked Congress to recognize that a state of war existed between the U. S. and the German Empire. The U. S. officially enter the war on April 6, 1917 as an Associated Power.

During 1918 Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria began to collapse. In September, the American Expeditionary Force (more than 1,200,000 men under General Pershing) reached France. In October the German fleet mutinied. Revolution followed resulting in the abdication of the Kaiser. The new German government accepted the Allies' armistice terms and fighting officially ceased on November 11, 1918. The Treaty of Versailles listed 27 countries/governments as Allied and Associated Powers — Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, British Empire, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, the Hejaz, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serb-Croat-Slovene State, Siam, U. S., and Uruguay.

### WORLD WAR I FORCES AND CASUALTIES

CENTRAL POWERS			ENTENTE (ALLIED) AND ASSOCIATED POWERS		
Country	Forces Supplied	Killed	Country	Forces Supplied	Killed
Germany	13,250,000	1,950,000	British Empire	9,500,000	1,000,000
Austria-Hungary	9,000,000	1,050,000	France	8,200,000	1,500,000
Ottoman Empire (Turkey)	2,850,000	325,000	Belgium	380,000	41,000
Bulgaria	950,000	49,000	Japan	800,000	2,000
			Russian Empire	13,000,000	1,700,000
			Serbia	1,000,000	322,000
			Italy	5,600,000	533,000
			Portugal	100,000	7,222
			Romania	1,000,000	158,000
			Greece	200,000	5,000
			U. S.	3,800,000	116,000
NEUTRAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES: Spain, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and Albania.					



