

YEAR 6 - WORLD WAR ONE (WWI)

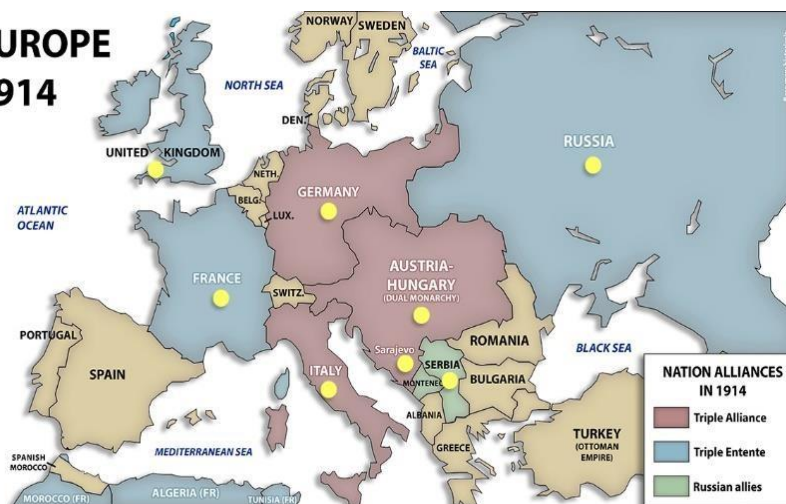
Key Vocabulary

Alliance	When countries join forces or work together to achieve a certain goal.
Treaty	A written agreement between two or more countries.
Armistice	A formal agreement of warring parties to stop fighting.
Triple Entente	The military understanding reached by UK, France and Russia to fight.
Triple Alliance	The military understanding reached by Germany, Austria- Hungary and Italy.
Conscription	The requirement by law to join the armed forces.
Front Line	The area where the armies are engaged in fighting.
No Man's Land	The area of land between two enemy trench systems.
Trench	Long ditches dug into the ground where soldiers lived and fought.
Trench Warfare	A type of fighting where both sides build deep trenches as a defence. The trenches stretched for miles.

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks, Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge, Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs And towards our distant rest began to trudge.

Dulce et Decorum Est, Wilfred Owen

EUROPE 1914



Key Dates

June 1914	The heir to the Austria-Hungary throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, is assassinated by a Serbian assassin.
July 1914	Austria-Hungary declare war on Serbia, with the support of their alliance with Germany.
August 1914	Germany declares war on Russia in support of Austria-Hungary before declaring war on France. Following a German invasion of Belgium, Britain declares war on Germany.
September 1914	The German army is stopped short of Paris by British and French soldiers. Trench warfare begins.
April 1917	America declares war on Germany.
November 1918	Armistice agrees that sees Germany admit defeat. Guns fall silent at 11 am.

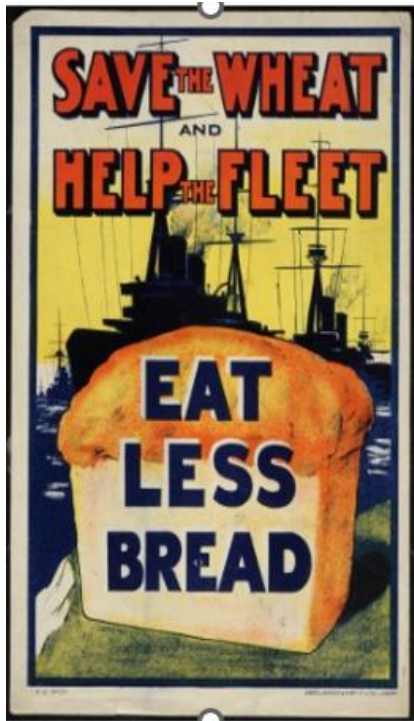
The Western Front

This was where most of the fighting took place in North-Eastern France and Belgium.

Deep trenches were dug by both sides with a space in between known as 'No-Man's Land'. These trenches stretched for miles. 'No-Man's Land' was a dangerous place and was often covered by craters caused by artillery shells exploding.

Trenches proved to be excellent defence against enemy fire. However, they made it extremely difficult to attack the enemy. Going 'over the top' of the trenches proved terrifying.

Trenches were meant to be supported by wood but often this collapsed and, when it rained, the trenches often filled up with water. Life here was dirty, smelly and dangerous. Soldiers would become infested with lice or suffer from 'trench foot'.



The Home Front

While the battles of WWI were fought overseas, the whole population of the UK was affected by the war.

Many people worked in industries to support the country and its armed forces. Women had to take over jobs they had never done before. By the end of the war, everyone in the country was subject to food rationing due to food shortages and increased prices.

Britain was also subject to bombing raids. To counter this aerial threat, the Royal Flying Corps was established, which would later become the Royal Air Force (RAF).

The efforts of ordinary British people led to everyday life being referred to as the 'home front'.

Technology

Warfare changed dramatically during WWI as a result of technological advances.

Machine guns were a new weapon in WW1. They were used all along the Western Front and could fire up to 600 bullets in a minute.

Tanks were first used by the British in the Battle of the Somme in 1916.



Photos ©IWM