Introduction

Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871)

Aftermath: Otto Von Bismarck (Chancellor of Germany)

I. Causes of World War I

A. The Alliance System
Triple Alliance: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy

Triple Entente: Great Britain, France, Russia

B. Militarism (the Arms Race)

Kaiser Wilhelm II

II. The Road to War

The Balkans-rivalries
Serbia’s ethnic nationalism

Austria annexes Bosnia (1908)

Sarajevo, Capital of Bosnia

Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand (6/28/1914)

The “Spark”

The “Black Hand”
“Blank Check”

Schlieffen Plan

III. World War I (1914-1918)

Central Powers: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire (Turkey)

Allied Powers: Great Britain, France, Russia

Trench Warfare
Britain’s Naval Blockade

U-boats (Submarines)

HMS *Lusitania* (1915)

May 7, 1915

In the Middle East-
IV. The Russian Revolution (1917)

Causes

Czar Nicholas II

March Revolution

Provisional Government- Led by Alexander Kerensky
The “Soviets” (Councils of Worker’s and Soldier’s deputies)

Vladimir Lenin-leader of Bolsheviks

November Revolution

Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (1918)

The U.S.S.R. (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)-aka The Soviet Union

V. 1918-The Last Year of the War
Prelude: Unrestricted submarine warfare (March of 1917)

The U.S. enters the War (1917)

Woodrow Wilson (U.S. President)

Armistice: Nov. 11, 1918

VI. The Peace Settlement

The League of Nations
Paris Peace Conference (1919)

Treaty of Versailles (1919)

Reparations: ($33 billion)

Southern Europe

  – Yugoslavia

• In the Middle East:

• The Mandate System

VII. After the War: The 1920s and the 1930s (See Chapter 23)

The issue of Reparations (792)-after making the first payment in 1921, the German government could not pay in 1922. This led to the French government’s decision to send troops into the Ruhr Valley in 1923, and German retaliation which involved “printing paper money,” (which led to the hyperinflation mentioned in Notes 13 (see under I: Part D, “Hyperinflation.”))

Treaty of Locarno (1925)-“This guaranteed Germany’s new western borders with France and Belgium.” The treaty was viewed by many as the beginning of a new era of European peace” (792).

• VIII. The Great Depression-Economic decline in the U.S.A. during the 1930s which spread to other countries; a time of mass employment, homelessness, suffering and desperation. (793).

• Crisis in the Democratic Countries-In the 1930s, economic conditions worsened in the Western European democracies, so that the ideology of liberal democracy (associated with capitalism) came increasingly under attack (793-794).

• Government Responses-“Increased [central] government activity in the economy” (793).

• “Keynesianism-” Philosophy of the British economist John Maynard Keynes (pronounced “Canes”) which called for “putting people back to work [by] constructing highways and public buildings.” Keynes believed that “such public works should be used to stimulate the economy even if the government had to go into debt to pay for them, a concept known as deficit spending”(794).

• U.S.- The “New Deal-” U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s which used Keynesian measures and which also “launched the American welfare state” to fight the Great Depression (795).

• IX. The Soviet Union

• Lenin’s “New Economic Policy” (1921)-with economic activity stagnant, Lenin introduced “a modified version of the old capitalist system;” “peasants were allowed to sell their produce” on the market to get extra money, and small businesses with less than twenty employees were allowed to be privately owned. Result: Soviet agricultural production climbed to 75 percent of its prewar level”(796-797).