



## MacArthur Memorial Education Programs World War I Newspapers and Critical Thinking

Directions: Use the documents below and information you have learned so far to answer the following questions. Each document dates from 1914 and is from the American newspaper The Virginian-Pilot.

1. The war began in August 1914. The newspaper headlines below are from mid-August to early September 1914. Based on these documents how long do you think the war will last? What led you to your conclusion?

### BURNED FACTORIES AND MOUNDS OF EARTH MARK ADVANCE OF GERMANS

Refugees From Ostend Describe Destruction Wrought By War As Appalling Along The Road To Vise

### ONCE PROUD CITY IS NOW MASS OF RUINS

Many Inhabitants Were Found Lying All Over The Place With Their Chests Riddled With Bullets

### AS GERMAN FORCES CLOSE IN ON PARIS, FRENCH MILITARY LEADERS PREPARE FOR SIEGE

Censorship Prevents Full Details As To Events "At Front" Reaching Anxious Public

### BANK OF PARIS TO MOVE TO BORDEAUX

President Poincaré And Cabinet Arrive At Coast—Germans Bombard Malines

### Paris Almost In Darkness

Paris, Aug. 31, 11:30 p. m.—Another German aeroplane flew over Paris late today but did no damage.

The Temps says on the subject of aeroplane raids over Paris:

"Paris will know how to reply by silent stoicism and calm reason to the effort at intimidation by which the Germans are attempting to stir the capital that they know is impressionable, but of whose unfailing resources of patience and will they do not know."

It is believed that while the French are progressing on the right in Lorraine, the Germans are gaining ground on the left with the result that there have been rumors and a pronounced exodus from the capital, particularly to the south. The d'Orsay station was besieged all night by a large but orderly crowd. The sale of tickets was suspended at an early hour, as all space in the trains for tomorrow was taken. Hundreds of persons remained at the station, however, in order to be in line for the following day.

As a precaution against the German raiding aeroplanes, all the electric lights which have made the Champs Elysee and the boulevards brilliant, have been extinguished.

2. The headlines below are from mid to late September 1914. Do these headlines change your answers from question 1? Why or why not? What led you to your answer?

### IN FLIGHT, GERMANS ABANDON QUANTITY OF WAR MATERIAL TO VICTORIOUS FRENCH ARMY

Their Defeat All Along Line Of Battle In France, Claim Advanced  
By London

### ENGLISH CAVALRY ON HEELS OF ROUTED FOES

Experts Believe Kaiser's Forces Will  
Make Desperate Stand At Forest  
Of Argonne

### ARMIES STRONGLY ENTRENCHED ARE FIGHTING DESPERATELY FOR EVERY FOOT OF GROUND

Struggle On River Aisne Has Developed Into A Siege, Both Sides  
At Standstill

### COUNTER ATTACKS RESULT IN LITTLE ADVANTAGE

### BRITISH AND FRENCH FORCES PUSH VIGOROUS PURSUIT OF RETREATING GERMAN ARMIES

Withdrawing Movement Of Kaiser's  
Men Being Carried On With  
Rapidity And Cleverness

### NEXT BATTLE MAY BE IN GERMAN TERRITORY

### HOSTILITIES MAY EXTEND TO EGYPT, INDIA AND PERSIA

Turks Likely To Strike At Allies  
By Invasion Of Their  
Possessions

### BULGARIA CERTAIN TO STAND BY TURKEY

Japan Would As Promptly Rush  
Troops Into Asia To  
Aid England

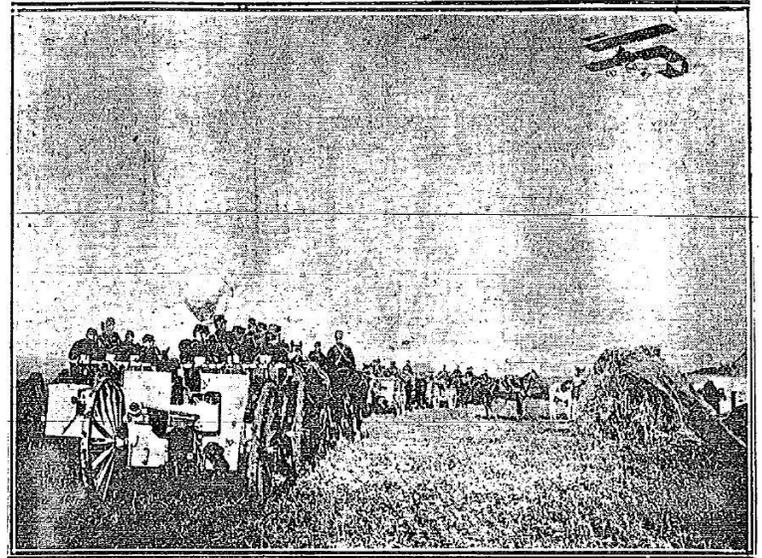
## German People Depressed

Geneva, Switzerland via Paris, Sept. 13, 9:55 p. m.—News of the German retreat, despite every precaution, has passed through Switzerland to the north and caused profound depression in Germany. According to advices received here people have gathered in the streets in various German towns shouting: "Tell us the truth! Give us the news!"

Newspaper offices in Munich have been closed as disorders are feared. Along the Swiss-German frontier the full extent of the German retreat is known. People are crying: "If the French have beaten us what will the Russians do?"

3. At the start of the war, a famous German scholar named Max Weber declared: "regardless of outcome, this war is great and wonderful." How has warfare changed in terms of technology? Is this truly a "great and wonderful war" as stated by Weber? What led you to your conclusion?

**E** NGLISH AIR SCOUT directing the movement of heavy French artillery on front.. Last night's reports declare that airmen were great factors in recent victories of the allies around Paris.



## ALLEGED GERMAN SAVAGERY UNBELIEVABLE, SAYS BELGIANS

Commission En Route To United States, Presents Lengthy Report To King George

## BURNED FACTORIES AND MOUNDS OF EARTH MARK ADVANCE OF GERMANS

Refugees From Ostend Describe Destruction Wrought By War As Appalling Along The Road To Vise

ONCE PROUD CITY IS  
NOW MASS OF RUINS

Many Inhabitants Were Found Lying All Over The Place With Their Chests Riddled With Bullets

## BATTLE IN AIR OVER PARIS LAST NIGHT

Paris, Sept 2, 11:20 p.m.—A fight in the air over Paris took place this evening. Three German aeroplanes hovered over the capital and immediately two French machines were sent up to engage them.

Paris, Sept. 2, 11:20.—A fight in the air over Paris took place this evening. Three German aeroplanes hovered over the capital and immediately two French machines were sent up to engage them.

Meanwhile rifles and machine guns mounted on public buildings kept up a constant fire. By this means one of the German machines became separated from the other and the French aviator flew swiftly in its direction. The German opened fire to which the Frenchmen replied vigorously.

The engagement seemed to turn to the disadvantage of the German who mounted speedily to a higher level, and holding this position was saved from further attack. He finally disappeared in a northwest direction over Fort Romainville after a vain pursuit.

The other German aeroplanes also escaped the fire of the guns and after circling for a considerable time, disappeared from view.

## Critical Thinking Continued...

4. Based on all the headlines above and information you have learned so far, what impact will the war have on the lives of Europeans? Why do you think the war will have this impact?

5. The headlines above come from American or Allied sources. How does this impact the way the war is presented to the public?

6. What role do you think the United States will play in the war? Do you think the United States will get involved? And if so, why?