



MacArthur Memorial Education Programs

In Their Shoes:

WWI Through the Eyes of Early Participants

Instructions:

The following activity is designed as a multi-day warm-up for students. The activity encourages students to explore the impact of the war on individuals on both sides of the conflict. To suit different pacing schedules and curriculums, the activity can also be compressed or extended.

Included in this packet are 30 short biographical profiles of men and women who participated in the early days of World War I (pages 2-16). The profiles include Belgian, German, Austro-Hungarian, French and British citizens. Print these profiles and distribute them to the students - assigning a profile to each student.

Each student will keep a short “diary” from the perspective of their “person.” A list of primary sources documents are provided in this packet. As you progress through your World War I unit, review these primary source documents and ask the students to write about the impact of the war on their assigned “person.” A list of critical thinking questions are also included with each set of primary source documents.

At the end of your World War I unit, you may reveal the fate of all the men and women profiled to the students. This information is located on pages 26-33 of this packet. For additional resources visit: www.macarthurmemorial.org

*Note: Adolf Hitler is one of the people profiled. Other future WWII leaders are also profiled. These figures are included to demonstrate the links between the two world wars. Teachers are encouraged to use their own discretion in assigning the profile of “Adolf Hitler.”

Name: Charles de Gaulle

Nationality: French

Birthdate: November 22, 1890

Occupation: Professional Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Charles de Gaulle was raised in a patriotic and devoutly Catholic family. As a boy he dreamed of being a military officer. During his boyhood he also acquired a mistrust of Great Britain as a result of tensions between Great Britain and France over colonial territories around the globe. In 1902 he entered France's top military academy. While there, because of his great height, big nose and tall forehead, he was nicknamed "the Asparagus" by his fellow cadets. He graduated in 1912 and entered the French army as a Lieutenant in an infantry regiment.

TOP SECRET



Name: Hubert Rochereau

Nationality: French

Birthdate: October 10, 1896

Occupation:

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Hubert Rochereau was born in the village of B el ebre in central France. During the war, he joined the 15th Dragoons Regiment based in Libourne as a Second Lieutenant. Libourne was about 400 miles away from his home. He would later see service on the Western Front. He was adored by his parents and when he joined the army, they kept his room exactly as he had left it - refusing to move any of his belongings until he came home.

TOP SECRET



Name: Pierre Henri Caillot

Nationality: French

Birthdate: July 5, 1893

Occupation:

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

TOP SECRET

No photograph available

Pierre Henri Caillot was a member of the 87th Infantry Regiment. The 87th Infantry Regiment participated in fighting in the early weeks of World War I in Belgium and western France as part of the Battle of the Frontiers.

Name: Pierre Louis Beaupre

Nationality: French

Birthdate: August 26, 1886

Occupation:

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

TOP SECRET

No photograph available

Pierre Louis Beaupre was born in the Territoire de Belfort. Located close to France's border with Germany, Belfort was famous for resisting the German invasion of France during the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871). When a victorious Germany annexed the French territories of Alsace-Lorraine, the French government fought hard to keep Belfort. Inspired by French nationalism and the courage of Belfort's residents, the French kept control of the territory and Belfort became an important frontier post on the border. Likely a proud resident of Belfort, Pierre Louis Beaupre was a member of the 35th Infantry Regiment during the war. The 35th Infantry Regiment saw action in the early weeks of World War I.

Name: Georges Braques

Nationality: French

Birthdate: May 13, 1882

Occupation: Painter, Sculptor

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

TOP SECRET



Georges Braques was a modern artist who painted in the Cubist style. Before the war, he was involved with an extensive network of artists including Pablo Picasso. As a member of the French army reserves, he was called up for duty when France mobilized on August 1, 1914. Pablo Picasso was one of the friends who saw him off at the railroad station when he departed for military service. Braque served as a sergeant in an infantry regiment in the early days of the war.

Name: Charles Fernand Boudet

Nationality: French

Birthdate: October 2, 1884

Occupation:

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

TOP SECRET



Charles Fernand Boudet was born in Paris. During World War I he served as a lieutenant in the 23rd Company in the 369th Infantry Regiment. In the early days of the war, Boudet's unit operated along the Western Front. Paris, the capital of France, was threatened by German Armies in early September 1914 and in the First Battle of the Marne, French forces managed to halt the German invasion into France.

Name: Max Ernst

Nationality: German

Birthdate: April 2, 1891

Occupation: Student, Painter

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:



Max Ernst was the third of nine children. His family was middle class and devoutly Catholic. In 1909 he attended the University of Bonn and studied philosophy, art history, and psychology. In 1911, after making friends with a group of artists, he decided to become one himself. Artists like Van Gogh particularly inspired him. During the war, Ernst was drafted into the Germany army. He saw service on both the Eastern and Western Fronts.

Name: August Macke

Nationality: German

Birthdate: January 3, 1887

Occupation: Painter

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:



August Macke was an only child. His father was a building contractor but also dabbled in art. From 1905-1906 Macke traveled extensively through Europe. He also worked as a costume designer and began to study painting. By 1914 he was one of the leading German Expressionist artists. When the war began, Macke enlisted in the army. He participated in the fighting on the Western Front in France during the early months of the war.

Name: Adolf Hitler
Nationality: Austrian
Birthdate: April 20, 1889
Occupation: Laborer, Painter
Wartime Occupation: Soldier
Other available details:



Adolf Hitler was born in an Austrian town close to the German border. As a young man, he wanted to become a painter. He also experienced periods of homelessness and was known for his anti-Semitic views. In February 1914 Adolf Hitler was declared unfit for service in the Austro-Hungarian army. When the war started, Hitler was in Munich, Germany and in August 1914 he asked permission to join the Bavarian Army (a regional German Army). Permission was granted and Hitler was soon serving on the Western Front where he participated in a number of major battles, including the First Battle of Ypres in October 1914.

Name: Albert French
Nationality: British
Birthdate: June 22, 1899
Occupation: Apprentice Engineer
Wartime Occupation: Soldier
Other available details:



Albert French was 15 years old when the war began. At the time he was an apprentice engineer with the Wolverton Railway Works. Many of his fellow workers soon joined the military - most rushing to do so because they believed the war would be over by Christmas and feared they might miss an opportunity to participate in the war. Due to the enlistment age being 18, Albert was unable to enlist with the other workers. In the summer of 1915 however, Albert went to a recruiting station and told them he was 18. He was then assigned to the 18th Battalion of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps.

Name: Thomas Highgate

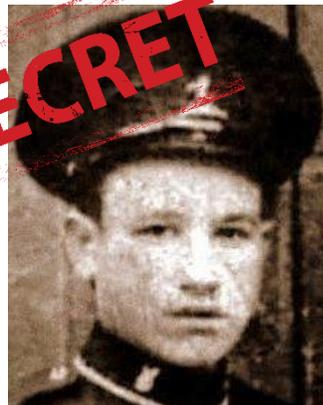
Nationality: British

Birthdate: May 13, 1895

Occupation: Farm Laborer, Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:



Thomas Highgate was a farm laborer on Oxbourne Farm in Kent (a county in the south-east of England). On February 4, 1913 he enlisted in the 1st Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment. His battalion was stationed in Dublin, Ireland before being sent on August 15, 1914 to France as part of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) sent to assist the Allied powers against the Central Powers. Highgate's unit participated in the Battle of Mons, the retreat from Mons, and later the First Battle of the Marne.

Name: Edith Louisa Cavell

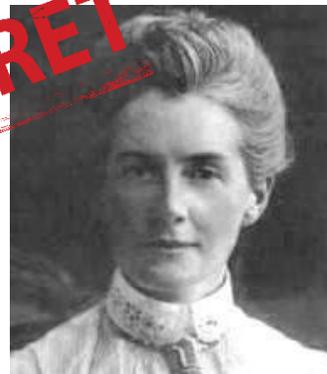
Nationality: British

Birthdate: December 4, 1865

Occupation: Nurse

Wartime Occupation: Nurse

Other available details:



Edith Louisa Cavell was born in a village near Norwich, England. After working for a time as a governess, Cavell went to school to study nursing. In 1907 she was invited to help establish a modern hospital in Brussels, Belgium. World War I broke out while she was back in England visiting her mother. She returned to her hospital in Belgium as the German Army (following the Schlieffen Plan) invaded the country en route to France. Soon after, she began assisting French, Belgian and British soldiers who were trapped in German occupied Belgium. She helped these soldiers escape from Belgium into the Netherlands, which was a neutral country. Aiding these soldiers placed her in direct violation of German military law.

Name: Abraham Acton

Nationality: British

Birthdate: December 17, 1893

Occupation:

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Abraham Acton was born in northern England in a county that bordered Scotland. Acton served in the 2nd Battalion of The Border Regiment. He was awarded Britain's highest honor for military valor for his actions on December 21, 1914. At Rouges-Bancs in France he voluntarily left his trench and rescued a wounded man who had been lying exposed against the enemy's trenches for 75 hours. On the same day he again left his trench voluntarily, under heavy fire to bring into cover another wounded man. During each rescue, he was under enemy fire. He continued to participate in the fighting on the Western Front after these actions.

TOP SECRET



Name: Walter Koessler

Nationality: German

Birthdate: September 2, 1890

Occupation: Architecture Student

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Walter Koessler was studying architecture when the war began in 1914. He was also an avid photographer. Perhaps because of his skills in photography, Koessler was drafted into the Reserve Artillery Battalion as an aerial photographer. As an aerial photographer, Koessler flew regularly in biplanes and hot air balloons. He helped to create maps for the German military and also assisted with reconnaissance. His unit was part of the German drive into France during the early months of 1914.

TOP SECRET



Name: Walther Schwieger

Nationality: German

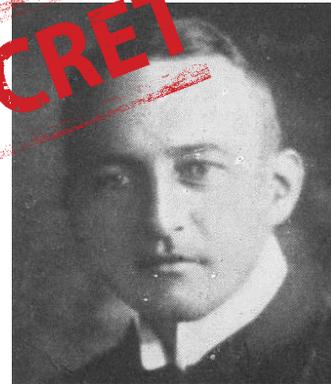
Birthdate: April 7, 1885

Occupation: Naval Officer

Wartime Occupation: Naval Officer

Other available details:

TOP SECRET



Walter Schwieger was born in Berlin, Germany. In 1903 he joined the Imperial German Navy. By 1911, Schwieger served in Germany's U-Boat service. He was given the command of U-14, his first submarine, a year later. U-14 was one of 329 submarines to serve during the period in the Imperial German Navy. When World War I began, Schwieger was promoted to Kapitänleutnant (the equivalent of Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy) and given command of the U-20. In this capacity, Schwieger saw service in the Atlantic and in the blockade meant to stop supplies from entering or leaving Great Britain.

Name: Otto Kissenberth

Nationality: German

Birthdate: February 26, 1893

Occupation: Mechanical Engineer

Wartime Occupation: Pilot

Other available details:

TOP SECRET



Otto Kissenberth was born in Landshut, Germany. As a young man he studied at Grenoble University before finishing his studies in mechanical engineering in Munich, Germany. Upon graduation, Kissenberth went to work as a mechanical engineer in Gustav Otto's aircraft factory. When the war began, Kissenberth joined the German Air Force. He was then trained to be a reconnaissance pilot - with many missions taking him over France and Northern Italy. As the war progressed, advances in aviation expanded the role of the airplane in war. Like many of the early pilots in 1914, Kissenberth gradually evolved into a fighter pilot.

Name: Richard Hess

Nationality: Austro-Hungarian

Birthdate: December 31, 1892

Occupation: Professional Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Richard Hess was born in Mährisch-Weißkirchen (Hranice, Czech Republic today). His family had a distinguished history of military service to the Austro-Hungarian Empire. His father had retired from the army as a general and one of his uncles retired as a colonel. Given his family background, it was expected that Hess would pursue a military career. When the war started in 1914, Hess was already a young army officer. He served on the Eastern Front and soon became well known for his daring reconnaissance patrols. In October 1914 he was awarded the Silver Bravery Medal 2nd class.

TOP SECRET



Name: Georg Dragičević

Nationality: Austro-Hungarian (Bosnian)

Birthdate: November 7, 1890

Occupation: Professional Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Georg Dragičević was born in Kalesija, Bosnia. In 1878 Bosnia was forced to accept Austro-Hungarian rule. In 1908 Bosnia officially became part of the diverse Austro-Hungarian Empire. This transition was not welcomed by many Bosnians.

Dragičević began his military career at the Technical Military Academy near Vienna, Austria and graduated from there in 1911. After graduation he was assigned to an artillery unit based in Vienna. When the war began, he was promoted and given command of part of the 106th Field Artillery Brigade. In the first months of the war, his unit earned a reputation for steadiness and reliability on the Eastern Front.

TOP SECRET



Name: Albin Mlaker

Nationality: Austro-Hungarian

Birthdate: February 25, 1890

Occupation: Professional Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Albin Mlaker was born in what is today Slovenia. As a young man he entered a military academy and graduated in 1912. In the summer of 1914, he became ill and was placed on sick leave – only to be recalled when war broke out. Once back with his unit, he was sent to the Eastern Front. According to one story, he distinguished himself in combat by singlehandedly fending off three Russian soldiers despite being wounded himself. Now injured, he was once again sent away from his unit to recuperate in Vienna, Austria.

TOP SECRET



Name: Friedrich Franek

Nationality: Austro-Hungarian

Birthdate: July 16, 1891

Occupation: Professional Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Friedrich Franek in Vienna, Austria. He was the son of a baker. After high school he entered a military academy. He graduated from there in 1910 and was assigned to an infantry regiment. After the war started, he participated in the Battle of Lemberg on September 8, 1914 and was wounded in the mouth, neck and chest during an assault on enemy positions. He recovered from his wounds and received a promotion. He returned to his unit in 1915 and continued to participate in the fighting on the Eastern Front.

TOP SECRET



Name: Francois Faber

Nationality: Luxembourgian/French

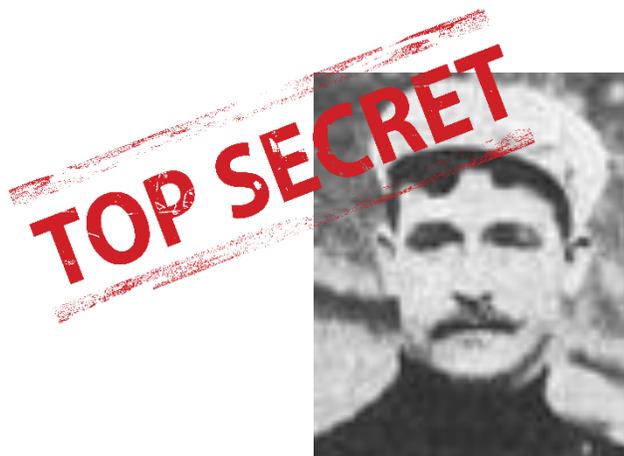
Birthdate: January 26, 1887

Occupation: Furniture Mover,
Professional Cyclist

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Francois Faber was born in Luxembourg. His mother was from the region of Lorraine in France and throughout his life Faber identified himself as “French” even though he was a citizen of Luxembourg. From 1906-1911 Faber was a professional cyclist and he competed in the Tour de France. During his first Tour de France, he failed to finish the race, but in 1908 he finished in second place. In 1909 he won the race. The start of the war in 1914 brought an end to his cycling career. Faber immediately joined the French Foreign Legion and was assigned to the 2nd Regiment de Marche, stationed at Bayonne. Faber would fight for France along the Western Front.



Name: Raymond Asquith

Nationality: British

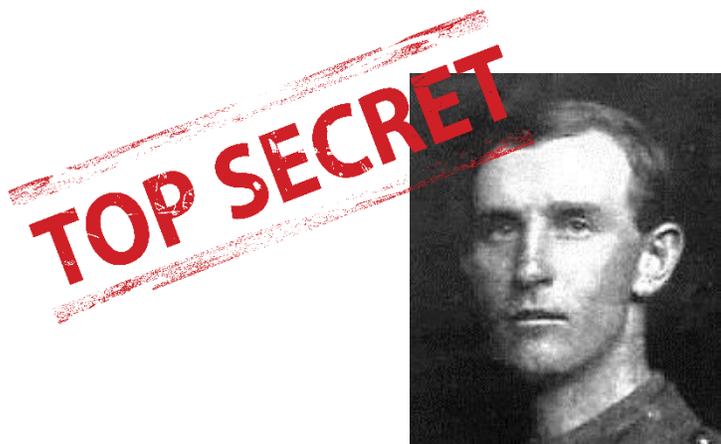
Birthdate: November 6, 1878

Occupation: Lawyer/Politician

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Raymond Asquith was the eldest son of British Prime Minister H. H. Asquith. Prior to the war he worked as a lawyer investigating the sinking of the Titanic. When the war started, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in a London Regiment. In 1915 he was transferred to the 3rd Battalion, Grenadier Guards. Despite being given a staff job behind the lines, he requested to be returned to active duty with his battalion, a request that was granted right before the Battle of the Somme.



Name: Gaston Cros

Nationality: French

Birthdate: October 6, 1861

Occupation: Professional Soldier/Archaeologist

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Gaston Cros was born in the French region of Alsace. Following France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871, Germany took possession of Alsace. As a result, Cros and his family left Alsace to settle in France. Cros was a career soldier with an interest in archaeology. This led him to participate in an archaeological dig in the Middle East. When World War I began, he was recalled to France and put in command of a regiment sent to defend Paris in the First Battle of the Marne. After the First Battle of the Marne Cros served as an officer in the 2nd Moroccan Brigade.



Name: Vivian John Woodward

Nationality: British

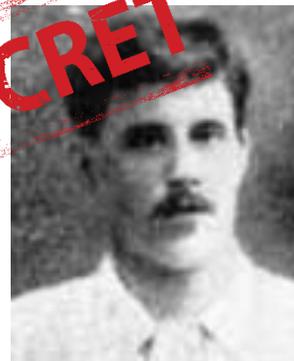
Birthdate: June 3, 1879

Occupation: Soccer Player

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Vivian John Woodward was born in London, England. As a young man he had a successful career as a soccer player. He played for Chelsea FC and Tottenham Hotspur. He was also the team captain of England in the London and Stockholm Olympic Games. When the war began, he joined the 17th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment. Because there were so many soccer players in the battalion it was known as a "Footballers Battalion." Woodward served on the Western Front.



Name: André de Meulemeester

Nationality: Belgian

Birthdate: December 12, 1894

Occupation:

Wartime Occupation: Pilot

Other available details:

André de Meulemeester was born in Bruges, Belgium. He came from a family of successful beer brewers. At the start of the war, Belgium was invaded by the German Army. Bruges was eventually occupied by the Germans and because it was situated on the English Channel, was used by the Germans as a submarine base later in the war. King Albert I of the Belgians retreated west with what remained of the Belgian military and continued to fight with the Allies against the Germans. In January of 1915 Meulemeester joined the Belgian Air Service and began training as a pilot.

TOP SECRET



Name: Gabrielle Petit

Nationality: Belgian

Birthdate: February 20, 1893

Occupation: Saleswoman

Wartime Occupation: Spy

Other available details:

Gabrielle Petit was born in Tournai, Belgium to working class parents. After her mother died, she was raised in a Catholic boarding school. When World War I began she was working in Brussels, Belgium as a saleswoman. She immediately volunteered to serve with the Belgian Red Cross. She also helped her fiancé, a Belgian soldier, escape German occupied Belgium. Her career as a spy began at this time when she passed along to British Intelligence information about the German army in Belgium. She continued to spy on the Germans and was active in helping more young men escape occupied Belgium.

TOP SECRET



Name: Edmond Thieffry

Nationality: Belgian

Birthdate: September 28, 1892

Occupation: Law Student/Professional Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Thieffry was born in Brussels, Belgium. He studied law and after graduation joined the Belgian Army in 1913. When World War I began, he was an aide to Belgian General Leman - one of the generals responsible for the defense of Belgium's frontier with Germany. When the Belgian fortress of Liege was overrun by the Germans as they invaded Belgium, General Leman and Thieffry were captured. Thieffry soon escaped on a stolen motorcycle to the neutral territory of the Netherlands. He was temporarily arrested by Dutch military police but was able to use his legal knowledge to be released from custody. He then travelled to Antwerp, Belgium - a city that had not yet been captured by the Germans - and was able to rejoin his comrades.



Name: Gérard Leman

Nationality: Belgian

Birthdate: January 8, 1851

Occupation: Professional Soldier

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Gérard Leman was a career soldier. He entered the Military School at Brussels and graduated in 1869. Later in his career he was responsible for the military education of King Albert I of Belgium. When World War I began he the general in command of the forts surrounding the Belgian city of Liège. As German forces invaded Belgium, they laid siege to the fortresses of Liege. Eventually they broke through the Belgian defenses and continued their march into Belgium.



Name: Winston Churchill

Nationality: British

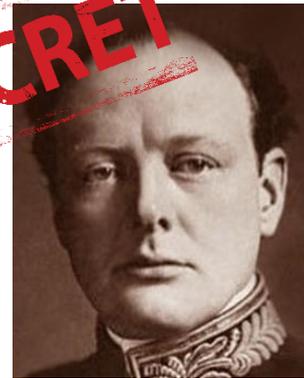
Birthdate: November 30, 1874

Occupation: Politician

Wartime Occupation: Politician/Soldier

Other available details:

Winston Churchill was born into an aristocratic family. As a young man he served as a soldier and also worked as a journalist. He then began a career in politics. In 1911 he was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty - a government post that made him responsible for matters related to the British Navy. When the war started however, the British Navy faced some serious setbacks. Churchill was blamed for many of these failings. In October 1914, with German forces bearing down on Antwerp, Belgium, the British government sent Churchill to Belgium. Using British Marines in support of the Belgians, he helped delay the fall of the city by about a week. This allowed the Belgian Army to escape destruction but he was still heavily criticized in Britain for failing to save Antwerp.



Name: Alphonse Six

Nationality: Belgian

Birthdate: January 1, 1890

Occupation: Soccer Player

Wartime Occupation: Soldier

Other available details:

Alphonse Six was born in Bruges, Belgium. He was a soccer player and was famous for his ability to score goals. Six represented Belgium nine times in international competitions and scored an unprecedented 8 goals. When World War I began, and German forces began invading Belgium, Six joined the Belgian Army. After the fall of the forts at Liège, the Belgian Army retreated to Antwerp, Belgium. Six participated in this maneuver and was involved in combat against German forces.



World War I Warm-Ups

You have been assigned the identity of a soldier who fought during WWI for either Germany, France, England, or Belgium. Throughout the WWI unit, you will review primary source documents related to events that took place during the war. Think about how your person might have reacted to each event. Each day your warm up question will revolve around the events you have studied. Answer the question from the perspective of your person, as if you were keeping a wartime journal. At the end of the unit, the fate of your soldier will be revealed to you.

Document #2, Excerpt from Germany's "Blank Check" to Austria-Hungary

Berlin, July 6, 1914

"His Majesty [Wilhelm II of Germany], of course, cannot interfere in the dispute now going on between Austria-Hungary and that country, as it is a matter not within his competence. The Emperor Francis Joseph may, however, rest assured that...[Germany] will faithfully stand by Austria-Hungary, as is required by the obligations of his alliance and of his ancient friendship."

It Means European War

Document #3 The Virginian-Pilot, 1914

Questions

From the perspective of the identity you have been assigned, answer the following questions in your diary:

What do you think about the assassination? How does it impact you? How does it impact the country you are from? Explain how you think the assassination has affected Europe. What do you think will happen next?

Do you agree with Germany's decision to support Austria-Hungary? Should Serbia be eliminated from the map because of the assassination? How does the "blank check" impact your country? What do you think will happen next?

Day 2:

Background Information

Approximately one month after Germany issued Austria-Hungary the “blank check,” German forces invaded neutral Belgium. Germany followed the Schlieffen Plan, which called for an attack on France and capture of Paris within six weeks, before swinging east to fight Russia. By invading neutral Belgium, Germany was able to nearly surround Paris and the French forces. A German victory seems certain at this point.

Primary Documents



Document #1 “Bravo Belgium!” From the British publication Punch, August 1914

Belgium depicted as a young boy fending off an aggressive Germany

BRITAIN'S DECLARATION OF WAR

London, Wednesday, August 5.—At 7 o'clock last night Great Britain declared war on Germany. There was no formal declaration of war by Germany against Britain.

The announcement of the war declaration was withheld until midnight by order of the King and Privy Council in order to observe the terms of the formal ultimatum.

The official text of the British Government's declaration of war is as follows:

"Owing to the summary rejection by the German Government of the request made by His Britannic Majesty's Government that the neutrality of Belgium should be respected, His Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin has received his passports, and His Majesty's Government has declared to the German Government that a state of war exists between Great Britain and Germany from 11 o'clock p.m., August 4."

The Admiralty immediately after the declarations of war were made flashed this order to the British fleet:

"Great Britain declares war on Germany. Capture or destroy the enemy."

Following this order King George sent this personal message to the fleet:

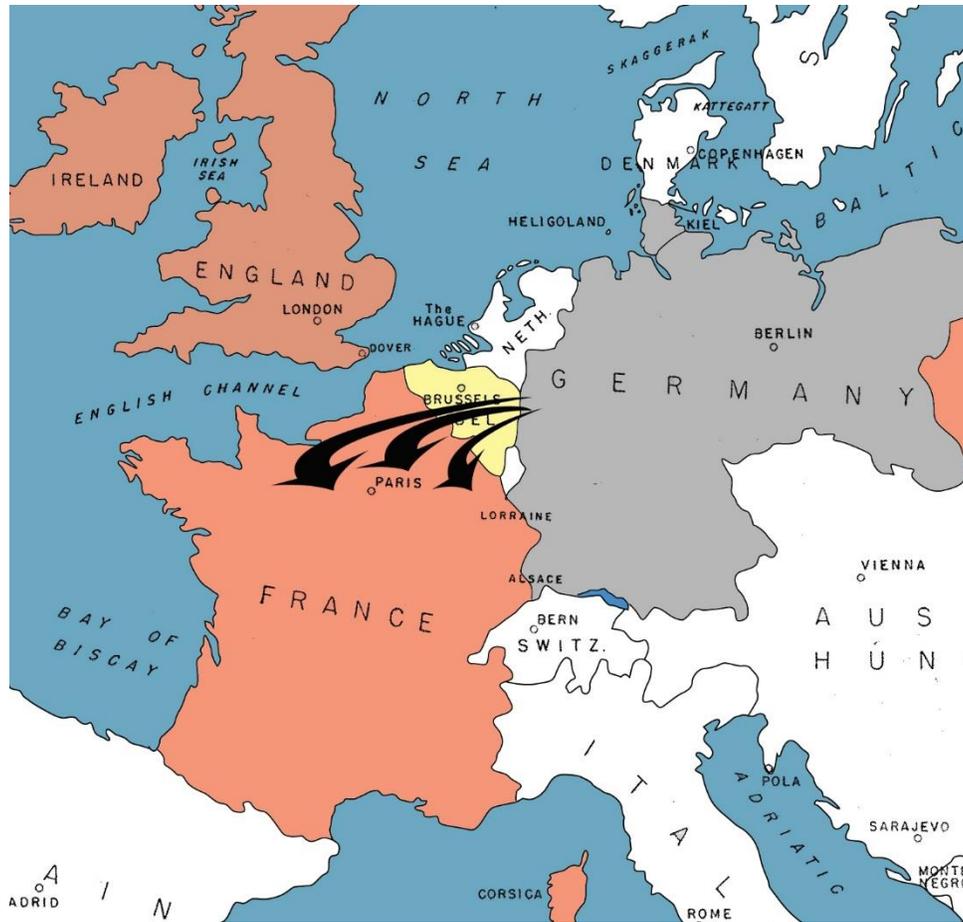
"I have confidence that the British fleet will revive the old glory of the navy, I am sure that the navy will again shield Britain in this hour of trial. It will prove the bulwarks of the Empire."

Document #2 Unknown Newspaper

ALLEGED GERMAN SAVAGERY UNBELIEVABLE, SAYS BELGIANS

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

Document #3 The Virginian-Pilot, August 1914



Document #4 Map of the Schlieffen Plan

Questions

From the perspective of the identity you have been assigned, answer the following questions in your diary:

What do you think about Germany's invasion of Belgium? How will it impact the war? What do you think about the actions of German soldiers against civilians in Belgium? What are your thoughts on the war so far? What influenced your opinion?

Day 3:

Background Information

By early September the Germans have invaded France and are close to Paris. The French government evacuates and gives orders to destroy the Eiffel Tower if the German's capture the city. In the rush to capture Paris, the Germans abandon the Schlieffen Plan and push their armies to quickly capture the city. In early September however, some German soldiers are siphoned off to fight against Russia in the East. Then, as the German armies move closer towards Paris, a gap forms in their lines near the Marne River. Seizing the opportunity, French and British armies counterattacked and are able to stop the Germans at the Marne - 50 miles from Paris. By September 11th the German advance has halted, but Germany still holds the northern part of France, where industry was located. With neither side able to gain advantage on the other and unwilling to retreat, both sides entrench. This sets the stage for a stalemate. Both sides will engage in trench warfare for the next couple of years.

Primary Documents

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.

Document #1 The Virginian-Pilot, September 1914

GERMAN GENERAL STAFF
CONFIDENT OF SUCCESS

Men In Charge Ready To Pay High Cost, No Mat-
ter How Appalling The Sacrifice Necessary---
Wonderful Army Machine.

Document #2 The Virginian-Pilot, September 1914



Document #3, French Soldiers Heading Towards the Battle of the Marne

**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**

Document #4, The Virginian-Pilot, September 1914

Questions

From the perspective of the identity you have been assigned, answer the following questions in your diary:

What do you think about the German advance on Paris? What will happen if Germany captures Paris? How would the capture of Paris impact you? How will it impact the war? Given events so far, how long do you think the war will last? Who will win?

How do you think the Battle of the Marne has impacted the Allies? The Central Powers? Does the Battle of the Marne change your opinion of the war at all? Why or why not?

So what happened to them?

Teachers:

When it is time to reveal the fates of the men and women listed in this exercise, here is some basic information for your students. If students are interested in further research, there is a great deal of information available online about many of these figures.

Charles De Gaulle

- Wounded several times in the fierce fighting against the Germans from 1914-1916.
- Captured by the Germans at the Battle of Verdun in 1916 and remained a prisoner of war until the end of the war
- Eventually became leader of the Free French Forces resisting Nazi Germany in World War II
- Served as President of France in the years after World War II

Hubert Rochereau

- Died April 26, 1918 of wounds while fighting in Belgium
- His parents left his room untouched. Other owners of the house he grew up in have respected the wishes of his parents and have also left his room untouched. Today, nearly 100 years later, his room is exactly as he left it.
- Received the Legion of Honor - one of France's highest honors - after his death.

Pierre Henri Caillot

- Died in Belgium on August 22, 1914.
- Like many thousands of soldiers who served in World War I, Caillot remains relatively anonymous.
- Historians continue to work to discover as much information as possible about the men and women who served in World War I.

Pierre Louis Beaupre

- Died on August 6, 1914 – very early in the war.
- Like many thousands of soldiers who served in World War I, Beaupre remains relatively anonymous.
- Historians continue to work to discover as much information as possible about the men and women who served in World War I.

Georges Braque

- Suffers a severe head wound in combat in 1915. He is temporarily blinded.
- Relieved of military service, he returns to art in 1916.
- Remains well known today as a French modern artist.

Charles Fernand Boudet

- Died September 22, 1914 in fighting to the west of Paris.
- Like many thousands of soldiers who served in World War I, Beaupre remains relatively anonymous.
- Historians continue to work to discover as much information as possible about the men and women who served in World War I.

Max Ernst

- Survived the war and became a famous artist
- Later wrote: “On the first of August 1914 [Max Ernst] died. He was resurrected on the eleventh of November 1918.
- Settled in Paris but fled to the United States when the Germans occupied the city in World War II. Eventually returned to France.

August Macke

- Died September 26, 1914 on the front lines near Champagne, France.
- Remains well known today as a German modern artist whose career was tragically cut short by his early death.

Adolf Hitler

- Devastated when World War I ends in defeat for Germany.
- Returns to Munich, Germany after the war and gets involved with German socialist parties.
- Rises to power in Germany by stressing that Germany was “stabbed in the back” by the Allies in the aftermath of World War I. He promises to restore a strong, respected and feared Germany to the world stage.
- Will lead Germany into World War II and set the Holocaust in motion.

Albert French

- Killed in action in Belgium at the age of 16 on June 15, 1916.
- Had only been in proximity of the front lines for 44 days.
- One of the youngest casualties of the war.

Thomas Highgate

- As his battalion went to take part in the First Battle of the Marne, Highgate deserted. He was eventually captured and put on trial for desertion.
- Highgate was convicted of desertion and publically executed by a firing squad to discourage other soldiers from deserting.
- In 2006 Highgate was among several hundred executed soldiers who were pardoned for various crimes like desertion.

Edith Louisa Cavell

- Cavell was arrested by the Germans in August 1915. She was charged with aiding Allied soldiers.
- Cavell admitted to helping the soldiers and was convicted of treason by the Germans. She was sentenced to be executed.
- Despite worldwide petitions for her sentence to be reduced, Cavell was executed on October 12, 1915. Her execution resulted in German popularity reaching an all-time low among Allied and Neutral countries.

Abraham Acton

- Died in action in France on May 16, 1915. His body was never found.
- Acton was also a recipient of the Victoria Cross – the highest award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that Britain awards soldiers.

Walter Koessler

- Survived the war and immigrated to California in 1925.
- He later became an art director in Hollywood films.

Walther Schwieger

- On May 7, 1915, Schwieger was in command of the submarine that torpedoed the *Lusitania* – a civilian passenger ship crossing the Atlantic. 1,198 people were killed.
- In September 1917 Schwieger was killed when his submarine hit a mine while being chased by a British ship.
- He was a successful submarine captain – he sank 49 ships in 34 missions.

Otto Kissenberth

- Eventually became a fighter pilot.
- Achieved the status of “Ace” and had 20 “victories” to his credit. “Victories” were awarded to pilots who shot down an enemy aircraft.
- Kissenberth survived the war but died in a climbing accident in the Alps in the 1920s.

Richard Hess

- Was wounded in fighting in 1914.
- Recipient of the Silver Bravery Medal 2nd Class October 1914
- Became a pilot in 1916
- Died in 1918 from wounds sustained in battle

Georg Dragičević

- Survived early fighting on the Eastern Front against Russia
- Later served on the Italian Front in the West.
- Joined the Croatian military in the 1940s and served in the Croatian Embassy in Berlin during World War II. He was captured by the Soviet Union after World War II.
- He was not freed until 1954. He then moved to Austria.

Albin Mlaker

- Mlaker was wounded on the Eastern Front soon after the war began.
- He returned to fight after 1915 on the Italian Front.
- He survived the war but likely suffered from PTSD for the rest of his life
- One of his sons was killed fighting for Germany in World War II
- In 1944 he joined the Slovene Partisans to fight the Nazis. He died in 1946.

Friedrich Franek

- Was wounded several times in the war but survived.
- Franek remained in the Austrian Army after the war.
- When Germany annexed Austria in 1938, like many Austrian officers, Franek was transferred into the German Army.
- During World War II he was captured by forces from the Soviet Union and released after the war.

Francois Faber

- Faber was killed in action on May 9, 1915.
- There are two stories about his death:
 - On May 9, 1915, the first day of the Battle of Artois, he reportedly received a telegram saying his wife had given birth to a daughter. Cheering, he jumped out of the trench and was killed by a German bullet.
 - Another, more plausible story relates that he was shot while carrying an injured colleague back from no-man's land during fighting between Carency and Mont-Saint-Éloi.

Raymond Asquith

- Asquith was killed in action on September 15, 1916.
- While leading part of his company at the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, he was shot in the chest and died while being carried back to British lines.

Gaston Cros

- Cros was frequently mentioned in reports as "a brave soldier, an experienced great leader, wise, prudent, with natural authority."
- Cros was killed in action on May 10, 1915. His forces were forced to retreat after being hit by their own artillery while they were also under attack by the Germans. Cros was killed in the retreat.

Vivian John Woodward

- Woodward was wounded on the Western Front in 1916.
- Before leaving the army, he reached the rank of Captain.
- He did not return to a soccer career and later died in 1954.

André de Meulemeester

- As a pilot, Meulemeester engaged in 185 aerial battles
- He survived the war despite being wounded twice.
- When the war was over, he stayed in contact with many of his fellow pilots. He also returned to the family business of brewing beer.

Gabrielle Petit

- Petit was arrested in February 1916 by the German military. She was betrayed by a German agent who pretended to be sympathetic to her cause.
- After being arrested, she was convicted of treason and executed by firing squad on April 1, 1916. She refused to divulge information about any of the people working with her.

Alphonse Six

- Six was killed in action in the first weeks of the war on August 19, 1914.
- He was 24 years old at the time of his death. Despite his short career, he is still remembered as one of the greatest Belgian soccer players of all time.

Edmond Thieffry

- Thieffry later joined the Belgian Army Air Corps and became a successful pilot. Today he is regarded as one of the great Belgian Air Aces of World War I with 10 “victories” credited to his name. “Victories” mean the downing of an enemy aircraft.
- Thieffry survived the war and began a career as a lawyer and a professional pilot.
- He died in Africa on April 11, 1929 when his plane crashed. He had been attempting to establish regular air service between Belgium and the Congo.

Gérard Leman

- Leman refused to allow the German Army passage through Belgium and was responsible for the Belgian defense at the fortress of Liege.
- The Germans used artillery to blast their way past the Belgian defenses at Liege and Leman was knocked unconscious by this bombardment. He was pulled from the rubble by the Germans and held as a prisoner of war in Germany until the end of World War I.
- Leman insisted that the report of his capture mention that he did not surrender, but was captured while unconscious. When the war ended, he returned to a hero's welcome in Belgium.

Winston Churchill

- Churchill resigned his government post in 1915 after the loss of Antwerp and the failure at Gallipoli. He then joined the British army on the Western Front.
- Churchill survived the war but would spend a great part of the next decades isolated from political power. He was one of the few to recognize early the threat of Hitler and Nazi's.
- In 1940, with Nazi Germany taking over the continent of Europe, Churchill became Prime Minister of Great Britain. His firm resolve to defeat Hitler is seen by many to be the only thing that stood between the Allies and defeat in the early years of the war.