Hist. 2c, L 15: World War I & Its Consequences
What caused the the "Great War," and how did it usher in the modern era?

0. Please turn papers in to your TA (e: Wed, 12:30)
1. The "Great War": What was it?
2. Causes
3. Consequences (int'l; social: women)
4. Colleen Ho: Footbinding in China

What was the Great War?
- Your associations?
- countries involved / sides?
- name? dates?
- causes?
- consequences?
- Why is it important?

Indian troops at the Somme, 1916
Arab Delegates at Versailles, 1919

Recap: Imperialism
raw materials & markets
- colonizers; colonized
- raw materials & markets
- power base at sea
- investors; (King Leopold)
- nationalism; 'civilizing mission' / 'White man's burden'
- macro: colonial competition (1878 Congress of Berlin)
- micro: "primacy of domestic policy"

Causes
1. Nationalism (Ideology & People):
   - ethnic and religious minorities in the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman empires;
   - popular upheaval in China and Japan; elsewhere
2. Alliance system (Int'l):
   - Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria-Hung., [Italy])
   - Triple Entente (Britain, France, Russia)
3. Economics
   - macro: colonial competition (1878 Congress of Berlin)
   - micro: "primacy of domestic policy"
4. Leadership/gov't: Bismarck vs. William II

2 leaders, 2 paradigms
Otto v Bismarck (1815-1898)
William II (1859-1941)
"dropping the pilot"

"Little" events: trigger vs. cause
Assassin Gavrîl Princip, 1914
World Trade Center, 2001
Course of Great War

- 1914: June 28 assassination of Franz-F & So.
  - July 28: Austria-Hungary on Serbia
  - Aug. 1: Germany vs. Russia, Aug. 3 G vs. F
  - Aug. 4: Britain vs. Germany
- 1915-16: huge casualties on Western front
- 1917:
  - Feb: German submarine warfare [Feb.-Apr. ‘15]
  - Feb. and Oct.: Russian revolutions
  - Apr: US entry into war
  - Dec. last German offensive
- 1918: summer German retreat; Nov. armistice

The Great War: deeper cause

- Decline of Ottoman Empire:
  - power vacuum in Balkans
  - 1908: Austria takes Bosnia
  - 1912: Italy takes Libya
  - 1912-13: Balkan Wars
- "Place in the Sun"

Germany's "Schlieffen Plan"

- take France quickly through neutral Belgium
- use railroads to move against slow-mobilizing Russia

The Great War: beginning

- 1914: Schlieffen Plan for 2 front war
  - First defeat France, then by train to Russian front
  - Not "home by Christmas," but stagnation
  - Hindenburg's victories in East:
    Sept. 2 in Tannenberg

New type of warfare

- Supply system (railroads)
  - "total mobilization"
- Machine guns
  500 -> 1000 rounds/minute
- Tanks (Sept. 1916)
- Artillery & trenches
- Poison gas (Jan/Apr/Sept 1915)
- Submarines (Lusitania, May 1915)
- Aircraft

War casualties

- Horses at start of war:
  Germany 715,000; A-H 600,000
- Verdun, from Feb. 1916:
  France+Germany: over 1 million dead
- Sommes river, from June 1916
  British lost 58,000 on first day (=US in Vietnam, 1965-75)
  Total Allied deaths: 600,000 in 6 mos. June-Nov.

- Totals: A-H 90% of 7.8 mio=7 mio
  Russia: 76% of 12 mio= 9.1 mio [4.9 mio. wounded]
  British Empire: 73% of 8.9 mio=6.1 mio [4.2 mio. w.]
  France: 73% of 8.4 mio=6.2 mio [3.6 mio. w.]
  Germany: 85% of 11 mio= 7.1 mio [3.6 mio. w.]
  US: 8% of 4.4 mio= .32 mio [.2 mio. w.]
Great War: Int’l Consequences

• US & Japan emerge as world powers
• created openings for intellectual resistance in Asia and Africa
  • Ho Chi Minh in Europe (source in reader)
  • Bolivar (1815), Jacobs (1915), Gandhi (1921), Sun Yat-Sen (1923), Ho (1945 & 1968)
• Peace settlement: New order in Europe Versailles Treaty & "self determination"
  (Compare Congress of Vienna, 1819)

Versailles Treaty and the World

• Germany: "Diktat" (dictated peace) as insult
  – ambivalence of sides in and outcome of war

Global ramifications
1. 4 empires ended: Russian, German, Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman
2. Arab World: Britain and France reneged on wartime promises
3. Asia: no protection for China against Japan
   Ho Chi Minh: no audience with Wilson
4. India: 100,000s of soldiers and laborers in WW1

More Consequences

• Influenza pandemic
• Russian Revolution
• Women mobilized in war
  – work
  – clothing: hemlines, underwear (corset->bra)
  – smoking, dating
  – political activism

Women’s suffrage around the globe

• 1893 New Zealand [Wyoming 1859, Colorado 1893]
• 1902 Australia
• 1906 Finland
• 1913 Norway
• 1914-1939: 25 years, 28 countries
  – 1917 Soviet Russia
  – 1918 Canada [15 states in US], GB (over age 30; 1928: 21)
  – 1919 Germany, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia
  – 1920 US [Tennessee=36th state], Hungary
• 1945 France, Italy, Romania, Yugoslavia, China
• 1949 India, Pakistan