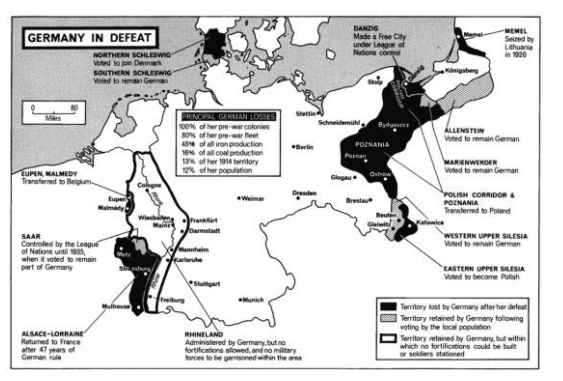


Aim #23: How were the “seeds” of WWII planted at the end of WWI?



Long-Term Causes	Immediate Causes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imperialist and economic rivalries among European powers European alliance system Militarism and arms race Nationalist tensions in Balkans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Austria-Hungary's annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Fighting in the Balkans Assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand German invasion of Belgium
Immediate Effects	Long-Term Effects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enormous cost in lives and money Russian Revolution Creation of new nations in Eastern Europe Requirement that Germany pay reparations German loss of its overseas colonies Balfour Declaration League of Nations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic impact of war debts on Europe Emergence of United States and Japan as important powers Growth of nationalism in colonies Rise of fascism World War II



Mini Lecture

- WWI had crucial short-term and long-term effects.
- One short-term effect was the creation of the **League of Nations**, which grew out of the beliefs of President Woodrow Wilson, that an international organization of countries might prevent future wars by solving disputes by peaceful means.
- However, the League was ineffective mostly because the U.S. adopted **isolationism** and did not join. The League also failed to stop aggression in the 1930s.
- Another short-term effect was that European societies and landscapes were devastated. An estimated 20 million killed and 18 million injured. Most European countries were debt.
- Before the war, Europe had been making technological & economic progress- people were hopeful about the future. However, the slaughter of a generation of men left Europeans bitter & disappointed.
- The impact of the Great War was felt strongly over the next few decades including the following long-term effects:
 - Empires collapsed; the Russian, German, Ottoman, & Austro-Hungarian empire all ceased to exist, replaced by smaller states.
 - New nation-states formed; from these defeated empires, new countries based on ethnic nationalism arose from the belief of self-determination.
 - Denied self-determination in the Middle East (former Ottoman lands) and created a **mandate system**, in which Europeans controlled the lands.
 - Communism took hold for the first time in Russia.
 - Technology made warfare deadlier than ever before.
- The large-scale suffering of WWI caught almost everyone (civilians, soldiers, government) by surprise. To many, the longer it went on, the more irrational it seemed. The armistice which ended the fighting provided relief, but the settling of accounts & the shaping of the future lay ahead.
- Leaders from the victorious countries (the **Big Four**- France, Britain, U.S. & Italy) met at the **Paris Peace Conference** and approached the negotiations for a treaty to officially end the war differently. The consequences for these different approaches were tremendous.
- President Wilson hoped the treaty to end the war would be “**peace without victory**”, a settlement that punished neither side. He proposed his **14 Points**, a plan to promote a peaceful future which included- no more secret treaties, free trade, arms reduction, and the creation of the League.
- However, others Allied leaders did not share his Wilson’s views and insisted the treaty include harsh terms that would punish Germany. They thought they could prevent any future wars by making Germany smaller & weaker- essentially removing its capacity for any future aggression.
- The **Treaty of the Versailles** included:
 - The **War Guilt Clause**; Germany had to admitted it solely caused the war.
 - Germany must pay **reparations**, damages, about \$33 billion which will crush an already devastated economy.
 - Germany had surrender large parts of territory (was reduced by 10%) & lost all of its overseas colonies.
 - German military was capped at 100,000 men & forbidden to make heavy weapons (no tanks or air force)
 - **Demilitarize Rhineland** along its French border.
- Many Germans harbored deep bitterness in regard to the Treaty as Germany’s economy, territorial integrity, & sovereignty were compromised, and its people felt humiliated.
- The new German government had to accept it because their military situation & general war fatigue left them no choice but to sign.
- Many, especially in the military, blamed the new government for accepting it, claiming it was a “stab in the back.” This delusion helped military leader put the blame elsewhere for their disastrous policies, which had led Germany to the hopeless situation. In simple terms, the Allie’s harsh terms, which they hoped would preclude any future war, had the exact opposite effect.
- WWI would not be the “war to end all wars,” as too many issues were left unresolved, too much anger & hostility remained among nations- the “seeds” are planted for a future war ☹️.

Review Questions:

1. How did the goals of the Big Three leaders conflict at the Paris Peace Conference?
2. Why were German representatives at Versailles horrified?
3. How did the peace agreements of WWI plant the seeds for WWII?

Enduring Issue:

Cooperation

How did nations work together to build stability and peace after World War I?

Peace Settlements

Directions: Read the excerpt below and respond to the questions.



The Signing of Peace in the Hall of Mirrors, Versailles 191

Considerations for Peace Before the End of the War

Before the United States entered the war in 1917, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson delivered his speech, “Peace Without Victory,” to the U.S. Senate. In this speech, he called for an agreed upon and sustainable peace where peace is not “forced upon the loser,” leaving the losers humiliated and resentful. He also said that “it makes a great deal of difference in what way and upon what terms [the war] ended” rather than that the war just ends. Concerned about how the world would emerge from the war, in a January 1918 address to Congress, Wilson proposed a 14-point program for world peace with the first point being, “Open covenants [agreements] of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.”

1. What type of peace was proposed in the “Peace Without Victory” speech?
- 2a. Why do you think it is important that peace is not “forced upon the loser”?
- 2b. Why do think Wilson thinks it is important to consider “upon what terms it [the war] is ended”, rather than just settling with ending the war?
3. What are the 14 points? Why were they written?
4. Why do you think it is important to have “Open covenants of peace ... in the public view”? What might happen if there are treaties made secretly?

Peace Arrangements After the War

On 4 November 1918, the Austro-Hungarian empire agreed to an armistice, and Germany agreed to an armistice on 11 November 1918, officially ending the war in victory for the Allies. In January 1919, the Paris Peace Conference convened at Versailles, just outside Paris, to establish the terms of the peace after World War I. Though nearly thirty nations participated, the representatives of the United Kingdom, France, the United States, and Italy became known as the “Big Four”. The “Big Four” dominated the proceedings that led to the creation of the Treaty of Versailles, a treaty that ended World War I. The Treaty of Versailles articulated the compromises reached at the conference. It included the planned formation of the League of Nations, which would serve both as an international forum and an international collective security arrangement.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson was a strong advocate of the League as he believed it would prevent future wars. The nations that joined the League of Nations agreed to settle disputes rather than go to war. Even though Wilson created and promoted the idea of the League of Nations, the United States never joined. The League lacked an armed force of its own and depended on the member nations to keep their word to follow through on resolutions.

1. What was the purpose of the Paris Peace Conference?
2. What was the League of Nations? Why was it formed?
3. Did Wilson’s League of Nations accomplish his hopes? Explain.

In U.S. President Woodrow Wilson’s 1917 “Peace without Victory” speech, he warned against “peace forced upon the loser” of the war:

“Victory would mean **peace forced upon the loser**, a victor’s terms imposed upon the vanquished. It would be **accepted in humiliation**, under duress, at an intolerable sacrifice, and would **leave a sting, a resentment**, a bitter memory upon which terms of **peace would rest, not permanently, but only as upon quicksand.**”

1. According to Wilson, how does “peace forced upon the loser” of a war affect the losing country?
2. What is the difference between a permanent peace and one built “upon quicksand”?

How did the Treaty of Versailles impact Germany?

Examining the Treaty of Versailles

Directions: Read the excerpt below and respond to the questions.

The Treaty of Versailles was one of the peace treaties at the end of World War I and it officially ended the war between Germany and the Allied Powers. The terms of the Treaty of Versailles were announced in June 1919. Even though German politicians were not consulted about the terms of the Treaty, they were shown the draft terms in May 1919. They complained bitterly, but the Allies did not take any notice of their complaints. Germany had very little choice but to sign the Treaty.

Treaty of Versailles Text	What is Germany required to do?	How might this impact Germany?	How do you think this made Germans feel? Why?
<p>Article 159 The German military forces shall be demobilized and reduced as prescribed hereinafter.</p> <p>Article 160 (1) By a date which must not be later than March 31, 1920, the German Army must not comprise more than seven divisions of infantry and three divisions of cavalry. Source: http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/versailles.htm</p>			
<p>Article 231 The Allied and Associated Governments affirm and Germany accepts the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied and Associated Governments and their nationals have been subjected as a consequence of the war imposed upon them by the aggression of Germany and her allies. Source: http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/versailles231-247.htm</p>			
<p>Article 232 The Allied and Associated Governments recognise that the resources of Germany are not adequate...The Allied and Associated Governments, however, require, and Germany undertakes, that she will make compensation [payment] for all damage done to the civilian population of the Allied and Associated Powers and to their property during the period of the belligerency [the war] of each as an Allied or Associated Power against Germany by such aggression by land, by sea and from the air, and in general all damage... Source: http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/versailles231-247.htm</p>			

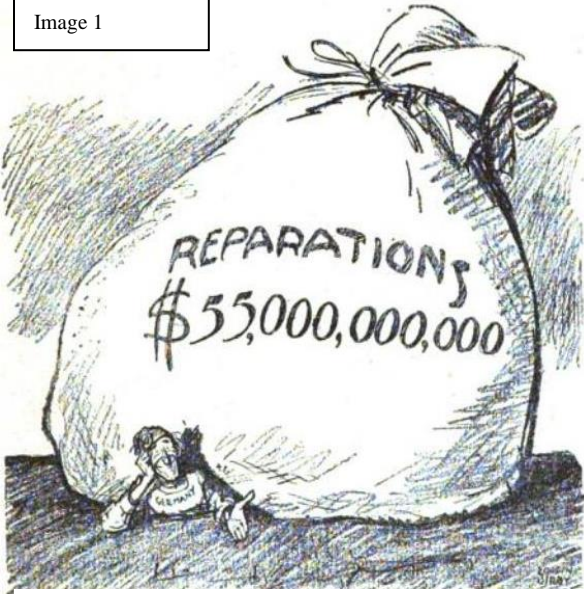
Treaty of Versailles Synthesis:

1. Based upon your examination of the excerpts of the Treaty of Versailles, did the peace treaty heed Wilson's warning about "peace forced upon the loser?" Explain.
2. Did the Treaty of Versailles create a permanent peace or one built "upon quicksand?" Explain.
3. How might the Treaty of Versailles have impacted Germany's relationship with other countries after the war?
4. How might the Treaty of Versailles have impacted Germany's perception of itself?
5. In 1939, World War II began. The Treaty of Versailles was supposed to create peace between all nations, however, only 20 years later another war broke out. Why do you think the Treaty of Versailles was unable to prevent another war?

Image Analysis

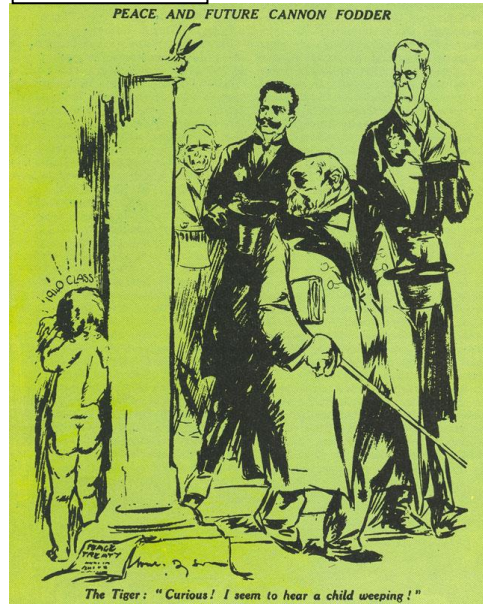
Directions: Examine the images below and respond to the questions.

Image 1



American contemporary view of German World War I reparations. Political cartoon 1921

Image 2



Will Dyson, Daily Herald, May 1919: This featured Allied leaders coming out of the Versailles conference after the First World War, when they had burdened Germany with huge financial strictures and it says '1910 class' over a child outside sobbing

1. What does this political cartoon (Image 1) reveal about the impact of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany's economy?
2. What does this political cartoon (Image 2) reveal about the impact of the Treaty of Versailles on Germany's sense of pride and nationalism?

Image 3



3. What does this political cartoon reveal about Germany's attitude toward signing the Treaty of Versailles?