

Chapter 25 Glossary

11th hour of 11th day of 11th Month: 11 pm, November 11, 1918. The armistice is signed and WWI ends. The U.S. now memorializes this day as “Veterans’ Day.”

Allied Powers: Great Britain, France, Russia, Serbia and Japan (in 1915 Italy and in 1917 the US).

April Theses: Issued in 1917 by Lenin after his return from exile which called for an immediate Marxist revolution in Russia. Lenin wanted “Peace, Bread and Land” for peasants and “All Power to the Soviets” (i.e. no cooperation with the Provisional government). He was forced back into exile after he issued his April Theses because the Provisional government wanted him jailed.

Archduke Francis Ferdinand: Heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne who was assassinated in the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo on June 28, 1914.

Armenian Genocide: 1915. one million Armenians die at the hands of Ottomans after Armenian uprising.

“Big Four”: Wilson of the US, George of Britain, Vittorio of Italy and Clemenceau of France who wrote the Versailles Treaty after WWI.

“Big Three”: The Big Four minus Italy which played a less important role at Versailles conference.

Black Hand: Serbian terrorist group devoted to helping Serbia create a southern Slavic nation whose Bosnian member, Princip, assassinated Francis Ferdinand on June 28, 1914.

Blank Check: Germany’s offer to support Austria regardless of its reaction to the assassination of Francis Ferdinand.

Bolsheviks: Orthodox faction of Social Democratic Party that emerged in 1903 and came to be called Communists.

Central Powers: Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Ottoman Empire (Italy had been a member but joined the Allies in 1915).

Cheka: Bolshevik secret police force formed to terrorize Russians into accepting the new Bolshevik government.

Georges Clemenceau: French leader after 1917 who reorganized France to fight the war more effectively.

conscription: military draft.

David Lloyd George: British prime minister after 1916.

Eastern Front: WWI front versus Russians which was much more successful for Germany and the Central Powers.

Easter Rebellion: Unsuccessful 1916 uprising against British occupation in Ireland.

Friedrich Ebert: Moderate German socialist who took over German government (called the Weimar government) after abdication of Wilhelm II in November 1918.

Free Corps: Conservative soldiers who put down the Marxist revolutions in Germany after WWI.

Gallipoli: Disastrous British offensive versus Ottomans SW of Constantinople in 1915.

Marshal Joseph Joffre: French hero who stopped the German advance on Paris at the First Battle of the Marne (September 6-10, 1914).

General Lavr Kornilov: Conservative Russian who unsuccessfully attempted to take over the Provisional government in September 1917.

Paul von Hindenburg and Erich Ludendorff: German generals who defeated the Russians on the Eastern Front at the Battle of Tannenberg and the Masurian Lakes in 1914 and by 1916 had begun to govern Germany.

Alexander Kerensky: moderate socialist prime minister of the Russian Provisional government.

T.E. Lawrence of Arabia: British officer who incited Arab princes to revolt versus the Ottomans in the Middle East (“Lawrence of Arabia”).

League of Nations: one of Wilson’s 14 points, it was to be an international organization to keep the peace.

Lenin: AKA Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov. Bolshevik leader sneaked back into Russia from exile in Switzerland in 1917 on a “sealed train” by the Germans who hoped he would push for peace with Germany. He did.

Live and Let Live: soldier-driven trench warfare policy of trying to make life in the trenches bearable by not attacking at inconvenient times.

Lost Generation: war veterans who'd lost their faith in the rationality of modern society and government due to WWI.

Lusitania: British ship sunk by German U-Boat in 1915, killing many Americans and turning many against Germany.

mandates: areas in Middle East taken over by European powers after the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire which occurred after WWI.

March Revolution: Russia, 1917. Tsar Nicholas II abdicates after protests over WWI, the Duma takes over and the Romanov Dynasty ends after over 300 years. Nicholas II and his family are executed by Bolsheviks in July 1918 in Ekaterinburg.

Mensheviks: revisionist faction of Social Democratic Party that emerged in 1903.

militarism: focus on building military might and the expanding power of military interests within nations.

mobilization: readying troops for battle. Russia was first to mobilize troops in July 1914.

nationalism: focus on your nation's interests and competition versus other nations.

nationalization: turning private enterprises into public (i.e. government-run) enterprises.

"No Man's Land": area on Western Front between opposing trenches.

November Revolution: Bolsheviks take over Russia and declare a Soviet government.

Paris Peace Conference: AKA Versailles Conference after WWI.

Provisional Government: The liberal temporary government installed after Nicholas II's abdication .

Grigori Rasputin: Siberian mystic who influenced Tsar's wife Alexandra due to his ability to alleviate the suffering of the hemophiliac *tsarevich* Alexei and whom many distrusted. He was assassinated in 1916.

Red Terror: term for Bolshevik terror toward "class enemies" (the *bourgeoisie*).

reparations: \$33 billion worth of payments Germany was forced to pay the victors after WWI.

Russian Civil War: 1918-1921. Reds (AKA Bolsheviks) v. Whites (non-Bolshevik coalition of Mensheviks, conservatives, monarchists, democrats, etc.). Reds win due largely to leadership of Trotsky. For a time the Allies fought against the Bolsheviks in hopes of getting Russia back into WWI.

self-determination: idea that groups (i.e., nations) have right to their own nations. It was one of Wilson's 14 points.

Serbia: Slavic nation in Balkans (supported by Russia and opposed by Austria) determined to create large Slavic state in Balkans.

Somme: extremely bloody British offensive on the Western Front.

Soviets: Marxist councils of workers' and soldiers' deputies (i.e. representatives) which appeared after the March Revolution.

tanks: WWI weapon introduced near the end of the war

Total War: war in which one society fights another and no one is regarded as a civilian. It is characterized by political centralization and government industrial planning.

Treaty of Brest-Litovsk: March 1918 treaty between the Bolsheviks of Russia and Germany which gave huge concessions to Germany in the East but ended the war for Lenin and the Bolsheviks.

Treaty of Versailles: 1919 treaty with Germany after WWI.

Trench Warfare: Western Front type of war in which both sides dug into trenches and tried to dislodge the other in a "breakthrough".

Leon Trotsky: head of the Petrograd Soviet.

U-boats: German submarines.

The Ultimatum: Austria's extreme demands on Serbia to make up for assassination of Francis Ferdinand which Serbia had to reject.

unrestricted submarine warfare: German policy of sinking any ships heading to Britain which drew the US into the war in 1917.

Verdun: bloody German offensive on the Western Front.

Schlieffen Plan: German chief of staff (1891-1905) whose plan assumed a 2-front war versus France and Russia and called for a quick defeat of France then a defeat of Russia. It led to Germany's declaration of war with France. It also called for an invasion of Belgium, a country that Britain had pledged to defend – which drew England into the war.

War Communism: Policy used by Bolsheviks during Russian Civil War which called for “revolutionary terror” to win.

War Guilt Clause: AKA Article 231. A clause in the Versailles Treaty that declared Germany and Austria were responsible for the war. It outraged many Germans and Austrians.

Western Front: WWI front from Alps to North Sea characterized by trench warfare.

Wilson's Fourteen Points: U.S. President Wilson's outline for a peace settlement after WWI.

Zeppelins: German airships.