A New Kind Of Warfare

*Human Legacy,*
Chapter 26.2, Pages
The World War I Battlefield

• “Poison gas and other new weapons developed during World War I were a response to a massive deadlock. By the end of 1914, two systems of trenches stretched for hundreds of miles over western Europe. Across the Western Front, millions of Allied and Central Powers soldiers lived in these trenches, surrounded by flying bullets, bombs and grenades.”

• ~Human Legacy, Page 783.
Trench Warfare

- Physical Conditions
  - Wet & Muddy
  - Poor Sanitation
  - Rats

- Psychological Conditions
  - Shell Shock from constant bombardment
  - Fear of going “over the top”
    - Attack on enemy trench
    - Thousand killed or wounded in attacks that made little or no progress
New Weapons

• Poison Gas
  – Blind, choke or burn victims
  – Limited value
  – Weather could make gas useless or turn on your own troops

• Machine guns
  – Mass killing power, especially when fired from a fortified position at men crossing barbed wire

• Artillery
  – High explosive shells
  – Railroad guns
Tanks and Aircraft

• Tanks
  – Pioneered by British
  – Mobile artillery
  – Could shield assaulting troops
  – Very slow (5 mph)

• Aircraft
  – Reconnaissance & observation
  – Flying Aces
    • Air to air combat
    • Throwback to concept of 1 on 1 duels
    • Pilots became popular heroes
“The nations fighting in World War I soon realized that winning this new type of war would require the use of all of society’s resources. This tactic is called total war. Governments began to take stronger control of their citizens’ lives.”

~*Human Legacy*, Page 785.
Government Actions

- Controlled production
  - Factories produce equipment for war effort

- Rationing
  - Conservation of food and other goods for military use

- Censorship
  - Do not want the press to publicize the conditions of the war

- Propaganda
  - Posters & pamphlets to encourage people to support the war
Women and the War

• Women take over men’s jobs
  – Work in factories

• Support war effort
  – Send shipments of food & supplies
  – Work as nurses

• Change attitudes on Women
  – Women just as capable as men
  – Boost to women’s rights movements
Battles on the Western Front

• “While people on the home front supported their troops, the war in Western Europe was going badly for the Allied Powers. In 1915, a series of battles had resulted in many Allied casualties.”

• ~Human Legacy, Page 786.
The Italian Front

• Italy Enters the Allied Side 1915
  – Seeking territory from Austria-Hungary

• Caporetto
  – Oct-Nov 1917
  – One of the bloodiest battles of the war
  – Little progress
The Battle of Verdun

- French Fortress
- Symbolic importance
- Germany strategy
  - Kill as many Allied soldiers as possible
  - “bleed the French white”
  - Territory not important
  - February-December 1916
  - French lose over 400,000 casualties
The Battle of the Somme

- British Offensive (June 1916)
- Trying to relieve Pressure on Verdun
- Bolster French Morale
  - British are also contributing to the war effort
- British suffer 60,000 Casualties on the 1\textsuperscript{st} day
- No major breakthroughs
The Third Battle of Ypres 1917

- British Offensive
- French Troops had started to mutiny
- Push into Belgium
- Battle ends in a disaster for the British
“Much of the early fighting took place in Europe, but the conflict quickly became a true world war as fighting spread around the globe. Over 30 nations officially took sides in the war, and other countries became involved in less formal ways.”

~Human Legacy, Page 787.
The Gallipoli Campaign

- Ottomans Join Central Powers in 1914
- Ottomans controlled Entrance to the black Sea
  - Prevent allied supplies from reaching Russia
- Allies invade in Spring of 1915
  - Suffer 200,000 casualties
  - Fail to get off the beach
  - Evacuate after 10 months
The Armenian Massacre

- Russia attacks in the Caucasus mountains
- Ottomans claim Armenians are aiding the Russians
  - Armenians are a minority Christian group within the Ottoman Empire
- Ottomans forcibly remove Armenians from the Caucasus
  - 600,000 Armenians killed or starve to death
  - 1st 20th century genocide
Other Fighting

• Asia
  – Japan enters on the allied side
  – Japan captures German colonies in China & pacific

• Africa
  – British & French Attack German colonies
  – Lawrence of Arabia
    • Leads revolt from Ottoman Empire
  – Colonial Troops
    • Serve in British & French Armies
    • Desire independence after the war