

# During World War1

https://youtu.be/B6hRDS3LvQQ

### Outline

- Background to a World War
- The Ships
- The Sailors (enlisted and officers)
- Key Engagements
- The American Navy in WWI
- Conclusion



### Imperialism

- Industrializing countries taking over nonindustrialized countries
- Why?
  - 1. Needed: resources
  - 2. Strategic locations
  - 3. Competition keep up with rivals
  - 4. Cultural / Religious







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### Nationalism



### **Entangling Alliances**



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The Alliances when the shooting starts in late July 1914 **The Central Powers** The Allies (The Triple Alliance)

- Germany
- Austria
- Ottoman Empire
- Bulgaria

Italy changed sides, dropping out of the Triple Alliance in 1914 and joining the Allies in 1915.

(The Triple Entente)

- Great Britain
- France
- Russia
- Australia
- Japan
- Dozens of others by 1918 **USA** in

April, 1917



🕻 European Alliances on the Eve of World War I. Alliance systems divided Europe into two great blocs with few countries emaining neutral.



King George V

## **The Allies**

### President Poincare





### Czar Nicholas II

### Emperor Franz Joseph

### The Central Powers

### Sultan Mehmed V

Kaiser Wilhelm II

### **The Cousins**



The Ships

### Basic Types of ships

- Battleships (biggest had 12" guns)
- Cruisers (Heavy and Light)
- Destroyers
- Submarines
- Merchant ships
- Passenger ships

### **HMS Dreadnaught**



# The Sailors (enlisted and officers)

### Americans (on shore duty)



### The Yeomenettes



https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2006/fall/yeoman-f.html

### German Kriegsmarine



### The Seedies (native sailors from Zanzibar)





### The Admirals at the Battle of Jutland







# Key Engagements

### **Key Naval Battles**

- S. America, 1914 Pacific & Atlantic Oceans
- Dardanelles, 1915 Mediterranean Sea
- Battle of Cocos, 1915 Indian Ocean
- Jutland, 1916 North Sea
- The U-Boats various
- The Convoy System North Atlantic



## SMS Emden



# HMS Sydney

Tim

milte





### SMS Emden









Gallipoli Map 1: Naval Attack, 18 March 1915

### South America




#### German Admiral Graff von Spee





### The Battle of Jutland, May 1916

- Both sides reluctant to engage one another with Capital Ships
- Battle is technically a draw
- German High Seas Fleet never ventures out again
- British Grand Fleet never ventures in again
- Need to have: better scouting; a way to counter mines; a way to counter torpedoes



#### Battle of Jutland May 31, 1916



### **The Grand Fleet**





Photo # NH 59637 Badly damaged German battle cruiser Seydlitz steams to port after the battle of Jutland



### The U-Boat







#### ZEICHNET KRIEGS-ANLEIHE FÜR U-BODTEGEGEN ENGLAND

https://uboat.net/wwi/boats

### The Lusitania May 7, 1915





## Unrestricted or Restricted?





https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofBritain/Mystery-Ships/



# The

# American Navy in WWI













### 1914 – 1916: Why Neutrality?

- No obvious "bad guy"
- Immigrant backgrounds from both sides
- Anti-Imperialism sentiment
- War will undermine the "spirit of reform"
- 1916 presidential election





## Why we entered WWI

Losses at sea

people, ships, cargo, \$\$\$

- The Zimmermann Letter
- Historic ties to Great Britain
- Anti-German propaganda





### Convoy System May 1917-Nov 1918



When the United States entered the war in 1917, Germany increased U-boat attacks, hoping to win the war before American troops could make a difference.



**Convoys** of British and American ships, protected by warships, provided better safety at sea.

# Convoys work!

- Losses of allied shipping tonnage cut in half within the first month
- The USA and allies build ships faster than they can now be sunk
- 1,100,000 "Doughboys" shipped to Europe; only 637 lost as a result of Uboats

#### **Convoy System**



U boats would stalk the North Atlantic. Ships used the convoy system to protect cargoes. Surround the cargo vessels with circling military ships.

### Frank Scovill

#### **USS** Minnesota

### **USS** Antigone



### Conclusion



https://rarehistoricalphotos.com/u-118-submarine-ashore-hastings-1919/

Hastings, Sussex, England, 1919









# A seaplane scout went aloft and confirmed the signal....

Charles Francis Horne, 1919



### Partial Bibliography

- <u>https://www.archives.gov/topics/wwi#event-</u>/timeline/item/archduke-assassination
- <u>https://www.slideshare.net/grieffel/wwi-unabridged</u>
- <u>https://www.history.com/this-day-in-</u>
  <u>history/british-naval-convoy-system-introduced</u>
- <u>https://www.britishbattles.com/first-world-</u> war/the-battle-of-jutland-part-i-the-opposingfleets/