# End of the War

The Great War, that is...



## Main Ideas

- Combined Allied forces stopped the German offensive
- Peace settlements brought political and territorial changes to Europe and created bitterness and resentment in several nations...leading to more....WAR...!



#### The Last Year of the War

- Russia had withdrawn from war due to their Revolution...more to come on this
- Germany could now concentrate on the Western Front (trench warfare⊗)
- US helped Allied powers with financial and psychological boost







### A New German offensive

- Military leader, Erich Ludendorff, tried to break the stalemate, but failed at the Battle of Marne, when Allied troops overcame them
- Germany signed an armistice (truce) in 1918...they had lost



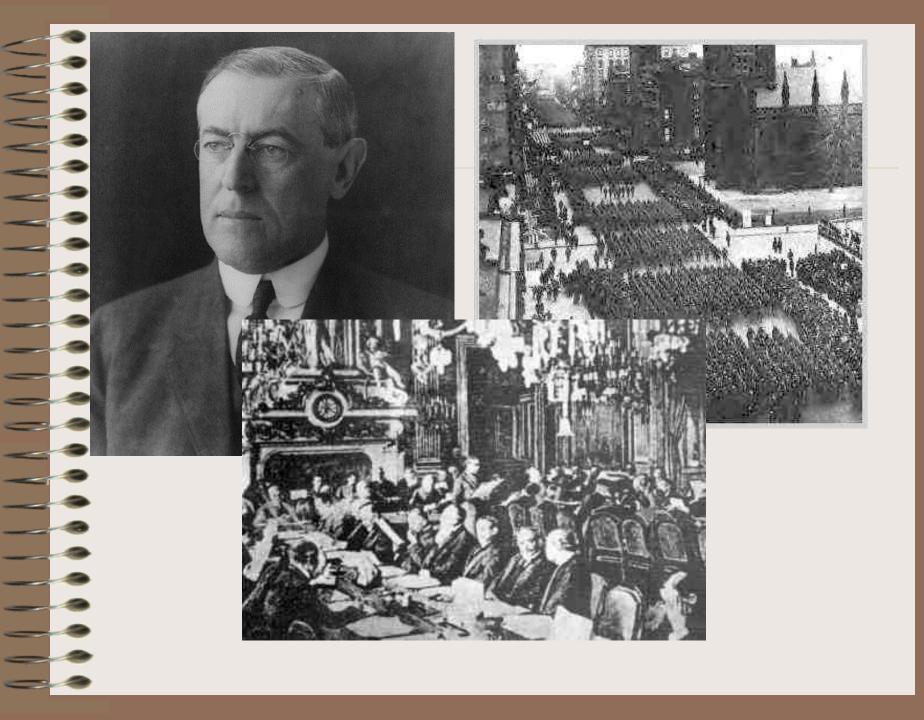
### After the truce?

- Germany had to deal with revolutionary forces in its own country:
  - Radical socialists (German Communist Party)
    did not like policies set up by Social
    Democrats and they tried to seize Berlin and
    Munich
  - Social Democrat party crushed the rebels and murdered two of its leaders



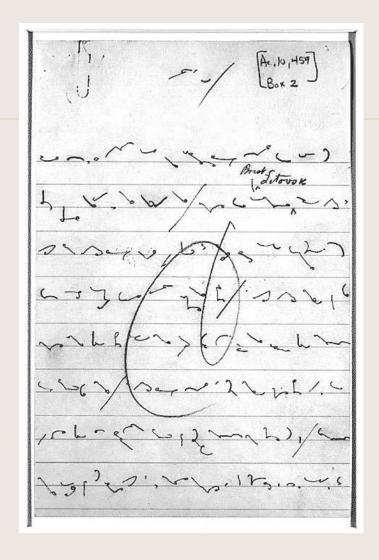
#### The Peace settlements

- Even though the fighting was over, some issues needed to be settled
- In 1919, reps from 27 victorious Allied nations met in Paris (Germany and Russia were not invited...leads to problems later!)
- US President Wilson (and others too) wanted to prevent this from happening again



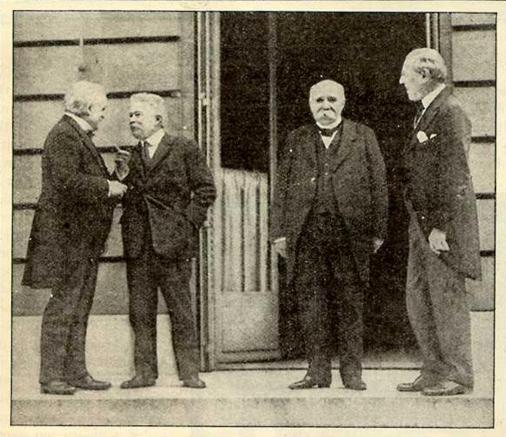
### Wilson's Fourteen Points

- Very famous folks
- Above all, "No more secrecy, and more cooperation!!"
- Reducing armaments (weapons)
- Ensure self-determination (people have the right to rule their own nation!)
- Set up an association of nations (League of Nations) based on international cooperation



#### Paris Peace Conference

- Even though Europeans applauded Wilson's ideas, it was a tough idea to pass
- Everyone was looking out for themselves (territorial gains from old alliances)
- Big Four: US, GB, France, and Italy made compromises to get what they wanted...
- Really, though, it was the BIG THREE (Italy didn't play much of a role!)
- U.S. Senate refused to ratify the agreement...it was weakened b/c of this



THE "BIG FOUR"

In front of President Wilson's Paris residence. From the reader's left they are: Premiers Lloyd George, Orlando, and Clemenceau, and President Wilson.



