

# The End of WWI

Chapter 7

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# Standard:

**US.27** Analyze the significance of President Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points, the causes and effects of the U.S. rejection of the League of Nations, and the subsequent impact on world politics.

# WWI Timeline Quick Look

- Began July 28, 1914
- America joined World War I on April 6, 1917
- Germany formally surrenders November 11, 1918
- June 28, 1919 Germany and the Allied nations sign the Treaty of Versailles, ending the war

# Casualties

- Allies lost about 6 million military personnel while the Central Powers lost about 4 million
- The total number of military and civilian casualties in World War I was about 40 million
- At least 2 million died from diseases and 6 million went missing, presumed dead

# The Treaty of Versailles

The formal peace treaty that ended World War I between the Allies and Germany

Requirements:

- Germany had to accept full responsibility for causing World War I.
- Germany had to surrender some of its territories and colonies
- Had to limit the size of its military

A League of Nations was formed to prevent future wars

# The League of Nations

- Helped Europe to rebuild after WW1 and 53 nations had joined by 1923
- The U.S. Senate refused to let the United States join and President Woodrow Wilson, who actually established the league, suffered a nervous breakdown — spending the rest of his term as an invalid
- In 1926, Germany also joined the League of Nations
  - Many Germans were resentful of the harsh conditions of the Treaty of Versailles and Germany and Japan both withdrew from the League of Nations in 1933. Italy also withdrew in 1936

# Causes and Effects of the U.S.s Rejection

On Nov. 19, 1919, the U.S. Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles based primarily on objections to the League of Nations. The U.S. would never ratify the treaty or join the League of Nations.

## Causes:

- Isolationism
- Didn't want to lose power

## Effects:

- ensured the eventual demise, of the League of Nations

# Wilson's 14 Points

- Was President Wilson's statement of principles for peace that was to be used for negotiations in order to end World War I
- Were outlined in a January 8, 1918 speech on war aims and peace terms to Congress

# In-Class Assignment

Complete the DBQ Worksheet on  
Wilson's fourteen points.

# Exit Ticket

**The Members of the League undertake to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all Members of the League. In case of any such aggression or in case of any threat or danger of such aggression the Council shall advise upon the means by which this obligation shall be fulfilled.**

—excerpt from the Covenant of the League of Nations, 1924

**According to the excerpt, which issue became the underlying reason for the United States' failure to join the League of Nations?**

- A** the lack of support from the general public
- B** the high cost of maintaining an armed force
- C** the fear of being dragged into another European war
- D** the belief that the other League members were too weak

What was the main focus of the fourteen points?

- A. Peace
- B. War
- C. Re-election
- D. Weapons