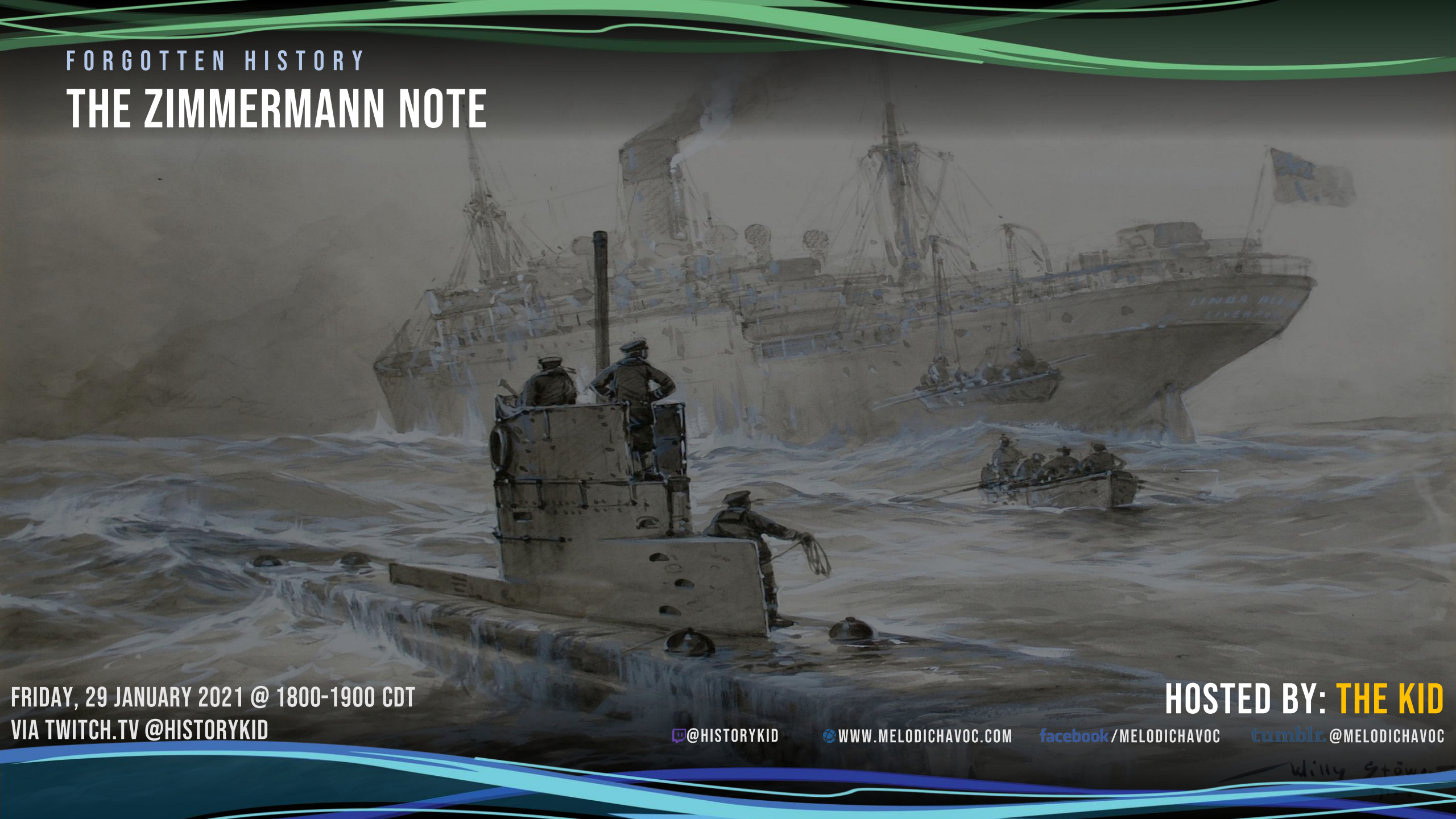
FORGOTTEN HISTORY

THE ZIMMERMANN NOTE



FRIDAY, 29 JANUARY 2021 @ 1800-1900 CDT
VIA TWITCH.TV @HISTORYKID

HOSTED BY: THE KID

@HISTORYKID WWW.MELODICHAVOC.COM facebook/MELODICHAVOC tumblr.@MELODICHAVOC

TIMELINE OF WORLD WAR I

- 4 Aug, Germany invades Belgium.
- 23-30 Aug, Battle of Tannenberg.
- 28 Sept, Allies complete retreat to River Marne.
- 19 Oct – 22 Nov, First Battle of Ypres.
- 2 Nov, British naval blockade of Germany begins.

- 4 Feb, Unrestricted Submarine Warfare begins.
- 22 Apr – 25 May, Second Battle of Ypres.
- 25 Apr, Allied landings at Gallipoli.
- 7 May, *Lusitania* is sunk by a German U-boat.
- 6 – 29 Aug, August Offensive.
- 23 Dec, Germans retreat in Rio Muni.

- 9 Jan, Gallipoli Campaign ends.
- 21 Feb – 18 Dec, Battle of Verdun.
- 10 May, Unrestricted Submarine Warfare suspended.
- 31 May – 1 Jun, Battle of Jutland.
- 1 Jul – 18 Nov, Battle of the Somme.

- 5 – 15 May, Allied Spring Offensive on Salonika.
- 25 Jun, American troops land in France.
- 31 Jul – 10 Nov, Third Battle of Ypres.
- 20 – 26 Aug, Second Battle of Verdun.
- 12 Oct, First Battle of Passchendaele.
- 26 Oct – 10 Nov, Second Battle of Passchendaele.

- 21 Feb, British capture Jericho.
- 3 Mar, Treaty of Brest-Litovsk signed.
- 28 May, Battle of Cantigny.
- 1 – 26 Jun, Battle of Belleau Wood.
- 26 Sep – 11 Nov, Meuse-Argonne Offensive.

- 1 Jan, AEF remains in Soviet Union.
- 8 Jul, Germany ratifies Treaty of Versailles.
- 11 Nov, First Armistice Day at Buckingham Palace.
- 14 Nov, Bolsheviks take Omsk.

1. Pre-War phase. The establishment of Defense treaties and escalation of tensions up to and including the July Crisis of 1914.
2. Opening of hostilities. German advance through Belgium and parts of France. Unrestricted Submarine Warfare in the seas makes shipping perilous. Risk of U.S. involvement ease with the suspension of this tactic in 1916.
3. Reescalation of hostilities. Marked Allied victories at Verdun after the successful Brusilov Offensive. U.S. neutrality jeopardized by the interception of the Zimmerman Note in February results in American involvement in the war in 1917.
4. Triple Entente forces combined with American forces score major victories across Europe before the mounting at Meuse-Argonne. The Armistice on 11 November 1918 will end hostilities in most of Europe.
5. Treaty of Versailles signed, AEF remains in Siberia on expedition until 1920. Russian Civil War ends.

1871 | 1887 | 1892 | 1898 | 1908 | 1911 | 1913 | 1914 | 1915 | 1916 | 1917 | 1918 | 1919 | 1920 | 1921

Pre-Warring Years

1871 - 1914

- 1871, Franco-Prussian War Ends
- 1879, Dual Alliance (Germany-Austria-Hungary)
- 1887, Reinsurance Treaty (Germany-Russia)
- 1890, Reinsurance Treaty abandoned
- 1894, Franco-Russian Alliance
- 1904, Entente Cordiale (Britain-France)
- 1907, Triple Entente (Britain-France-Russia)
- 1908, Bosnian Crisis
- 1911, Italian-Turkish War begins
- 1912, Italian-Turkish War ends
- 1912, Balkan Wars begin
- 1913, Balkan Wars end
- 1913, Serbia becomes a security salient for Russia/France

World War I

1914 - 1918

- June 1914, Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand
- July 1914, July Crisis
- 1914, Mobilization of all powers mentioned left
- May 1915, Italy revokes alliance with Central Powers
- June 1916, Brusilov Offensive begins
- January 1917, Zimmermann Telegram sent
- February 1917, Unrestricted Submarine Warfare resumes
- April 1917, U.S. declares war on Germany
- October 1917, Red October Revolution in Russia
- December 1917, U.S. declares war on Austria-Hungary
- January 1918, Wilson outlines Fourteen Points
- August 1918, First U.S. troops in Northern Russia
- November 1918, Armistice

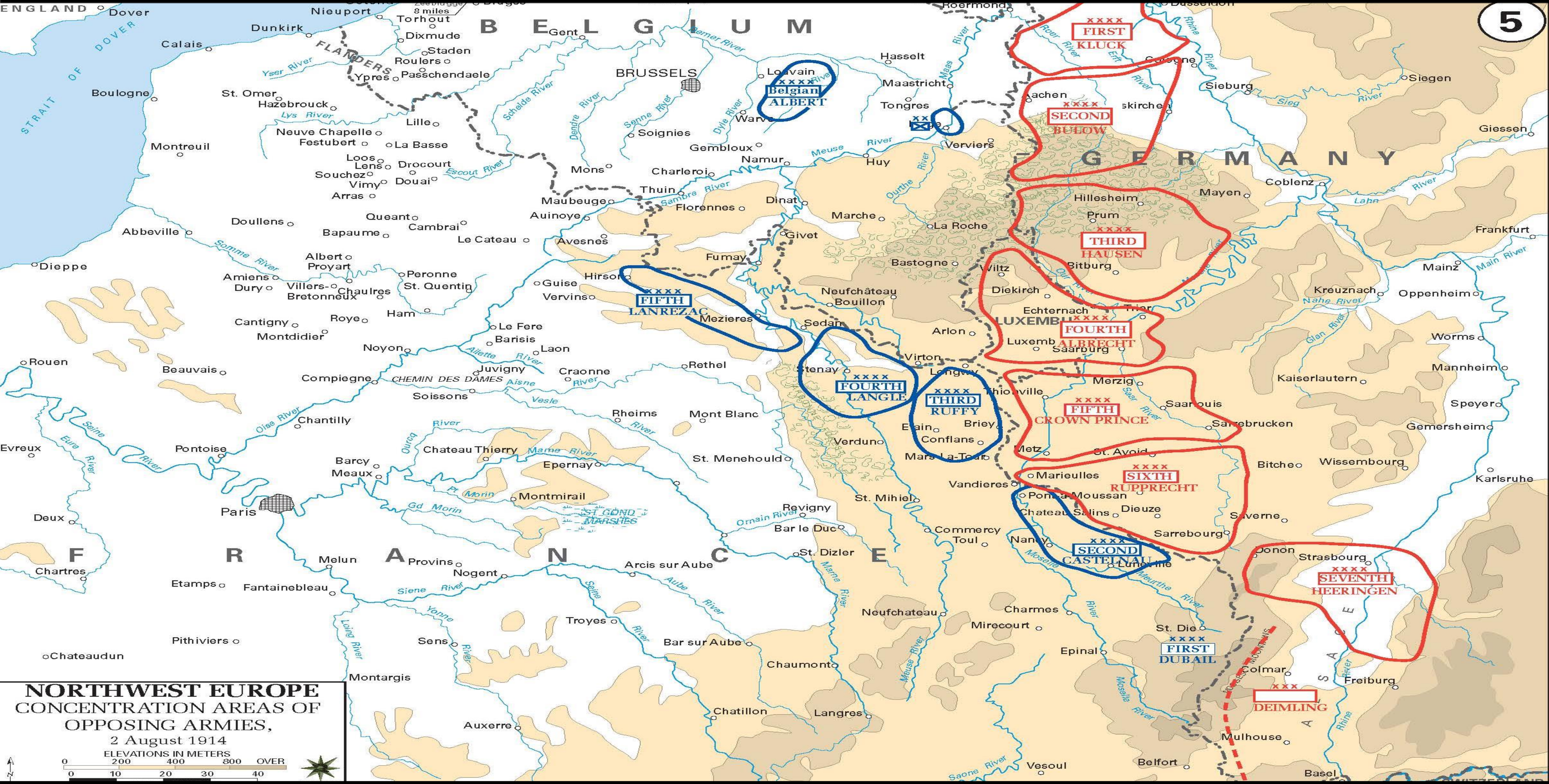
Inter-War

1918 - 1921

- January 1919, Paris Peace Talks
- June 1919, Treaty of Versailles
- 1919, Intervention in Siberia
- January 1920, Peace Talks end
- April 1920, U.S. leaves Russia
- November 1920, League of Nations
- 1921, Japan still in Siberia
- 1922, Washington Naval Treaty

* 3 OCT 2010, Germany makes final reparations payment.

BREAKOUT OF ARMIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, 1914



PRESENTED BY: THE KID

THE ZIMMERMANN NOTE

WWW.MELODICHAVOC.COM

THE STATE OF EUROPE IN DECEMBER OF 1916

IN A CONSTANT STATE OF FLUX, IN A CONSTANT STATE OF PERPETULANCE

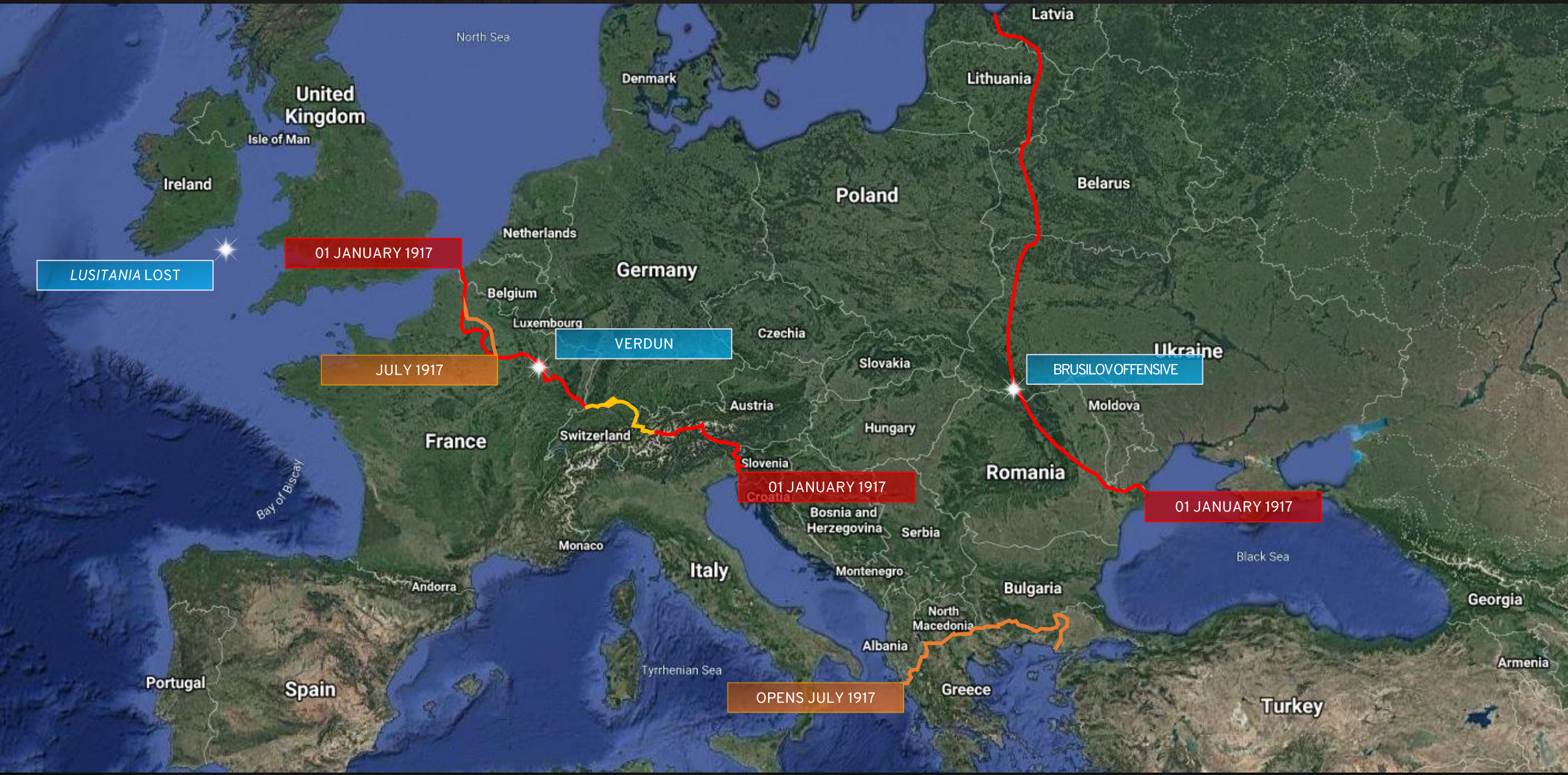
- Eastern front hammered in the Brusilov Offensive.
- Allies able to push the Germans away from Verdun.
- Americans funneling supplies to the Allies.
- Italy has abandoned the Central Powers, joining the Allies.





- Threat of American intervention leads to the suspension of Unrestricted Submarine Warfare.
- Western Front has turned into a marginally defensive battle for the Germans.
- U.S. advises Germans they will protect all American assets against Submarine Warfare.

APPROXIMATION OF EUROPEAN FRONT LINES, 1917



JAPAN'S OBLIGATIONS FULFILLED

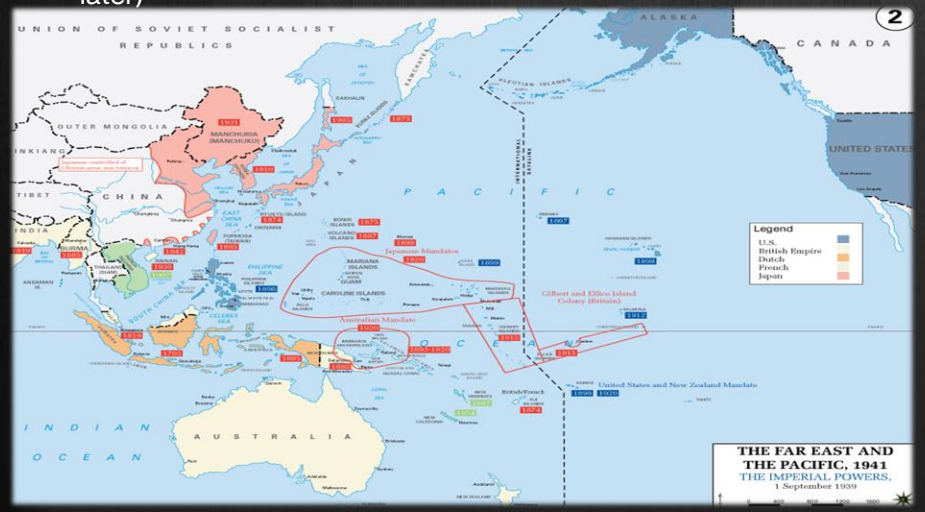
23 AUGUST 1914 – 7 NOVEMBER 1914

- Japan was bound to aid Great Britain by a bilateral 1902 Treaty.
- Immediately seized German holdings in the Pacific upon unanswered ultimatum.
- After Germany was removed from the region, was withdrawn among the Allies.
- Aided the Allies in the Siberian Expedition.



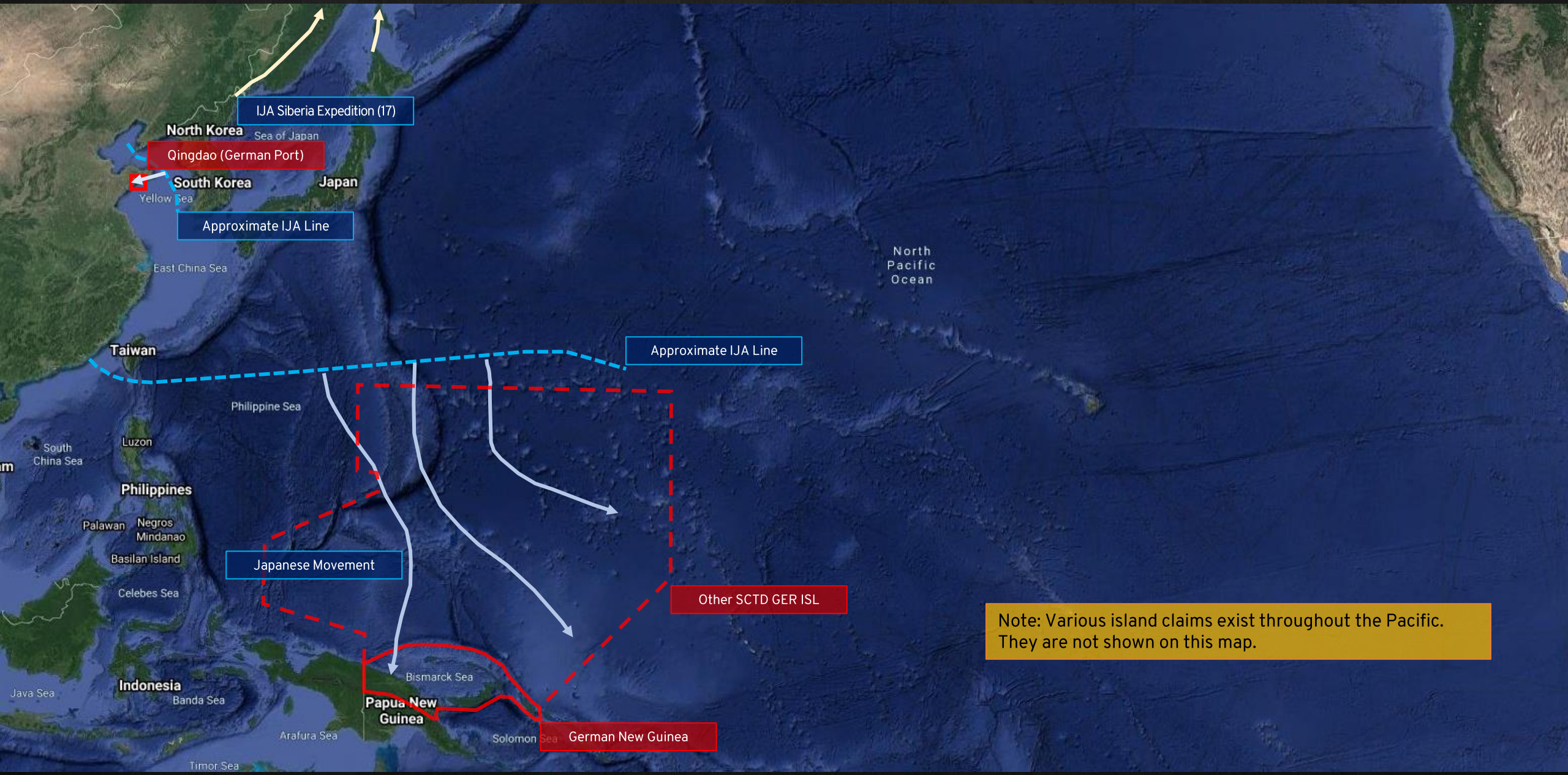
German front lines as seen at Qingdao ahead of evacuation in 1914.

The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere in 1941. (27 years later)



- Generally advertised pro-German news.
- Eventual ambitions included a further inland push into China.
- Japan's disposition appeared to be shaky towards the Allies.
- Germany sought to capitalize on this early.

LINES DRAWN IN THE PACIFIC THEATER



THE BRUSILOV OFFENSIVE

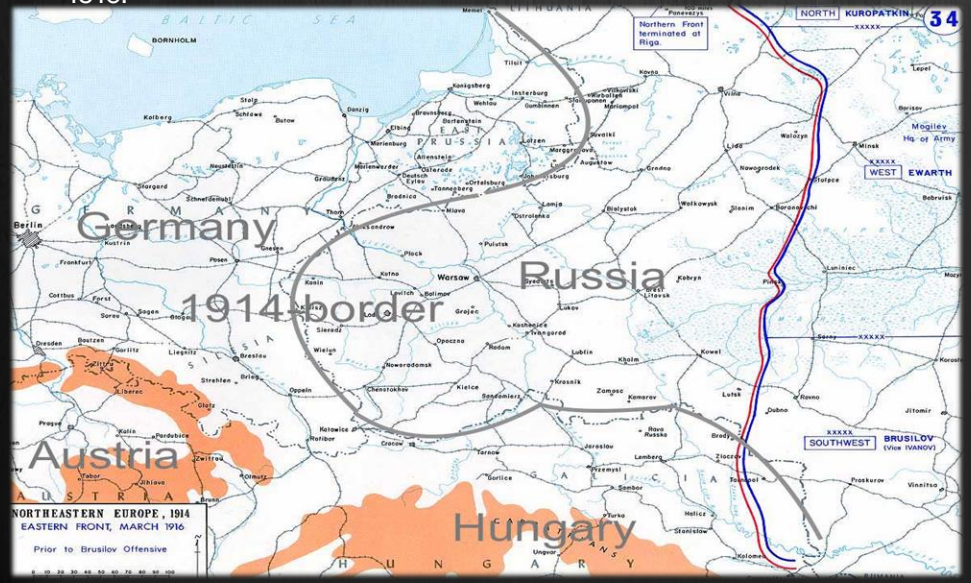
4 JUNE 1916 – 20 SEPTEMBER 1916

- Planned by Russian GEN Aleksei Brusilov
- Designed to alleviate pressure from the Western Front.
- Aimed with intent at severely eroding the Eastern Front.
- The greatest feat of arms for the Russians during World War I.



Russian cavalry charging on the front lines during the offensive.

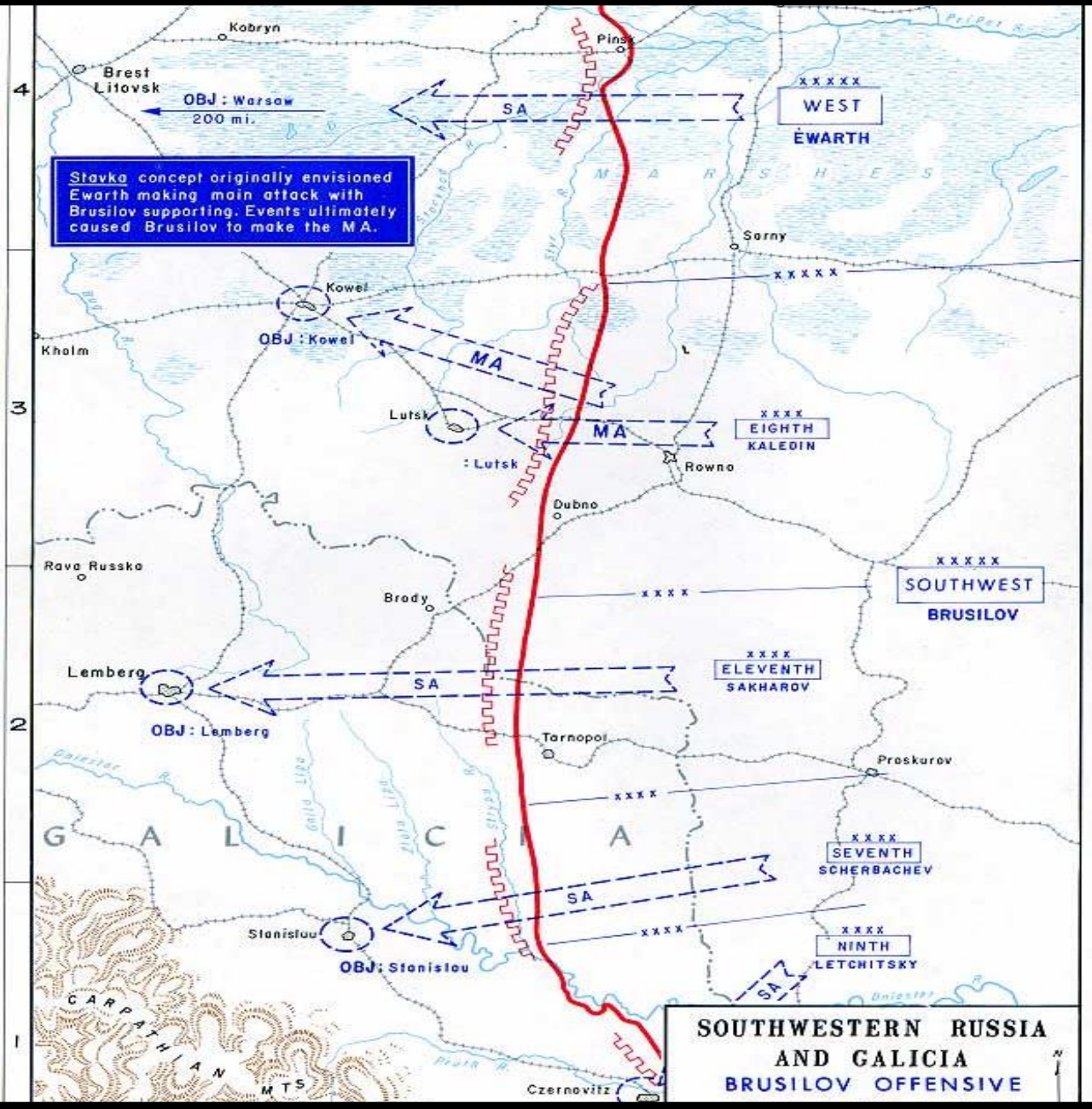
Map showing the Eastern front and position of Brusilov's forces in May 1916.

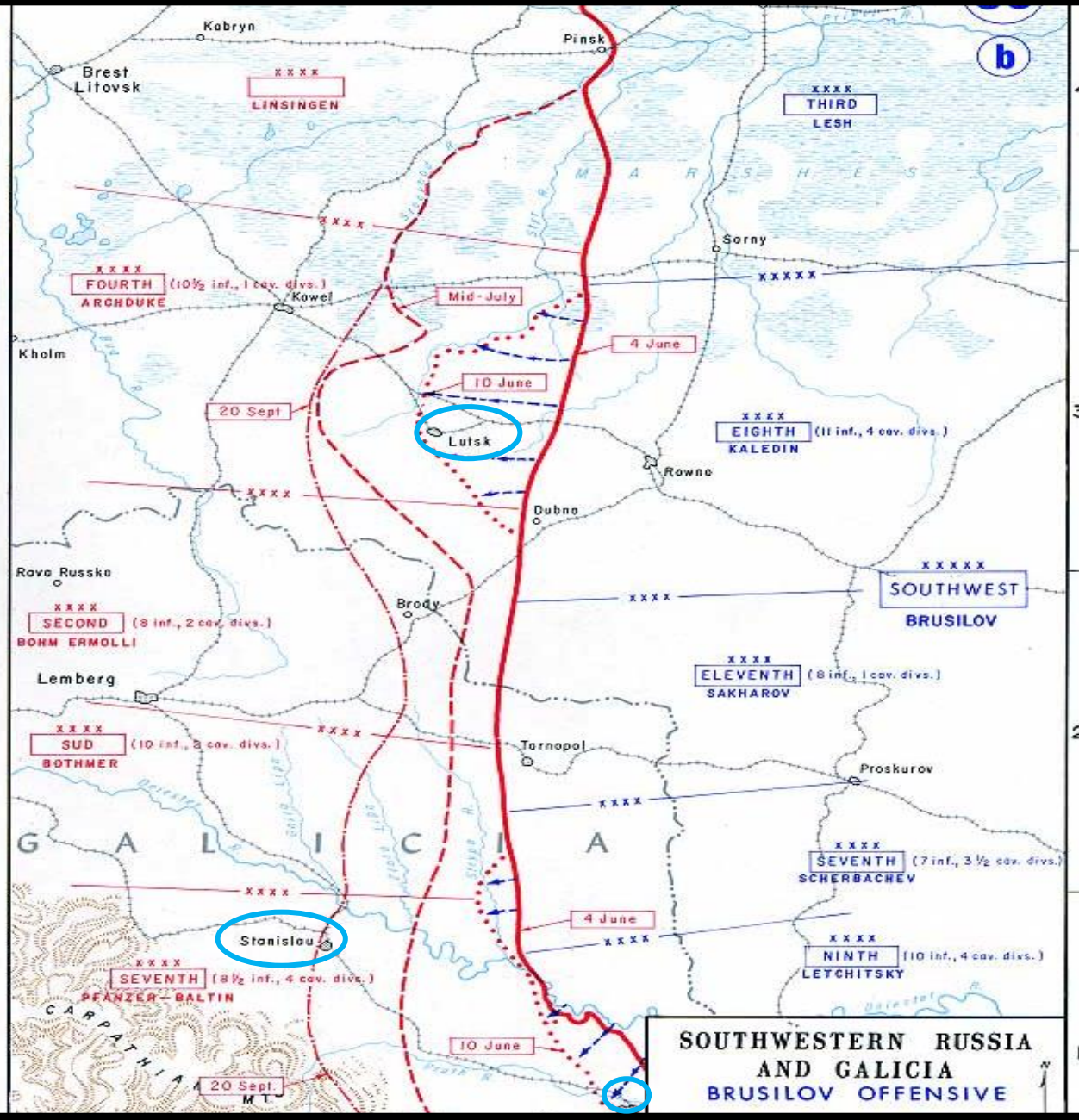


- Required cooperation from fellow GEN Alexei Evert.
- Evert did not approve of the plan, drug his feet.
- Brusilov had to spearhead the attack himself, costing the Russians time and manpower.
- Over 2 million soldiers on both sides.

  Up to 1 million Russian Casualties
  Up to 600,000 Austrian Casualties, 350,000 German casualties
  Austria-Hungary effectively silenced for the rest of the war.

BRUSILOV OFFENSIVE, PLAN VS. EXECUTION





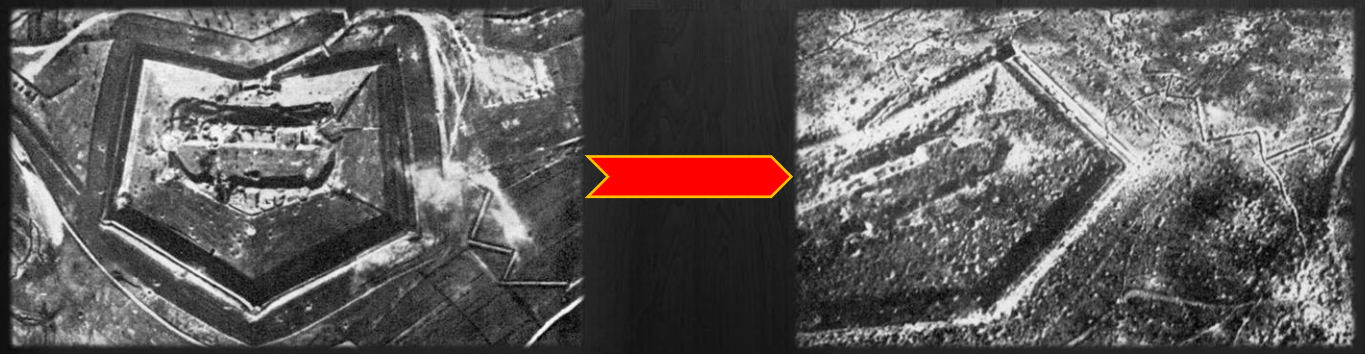
THE BATTLE OF VERDUN

21 FEBRUARY 1916 – 18 DECEMBER 1916

- German offensive launched into Verdun salient with heavy bombardment.
- Despite early German gains, inability to filter in supplies left them stranded.
- Fleury had changed hands over a dozen times by August 1916.
- All German gains were nullified by 5 November.
- Almost 1,000,000 casualties between the French and German forces for a location with no strategic importance.
  - ≥25% mortality rate



Typical French Artillery encampment. This one was overrun about halfway through the battle. This photo was used on a German post card.

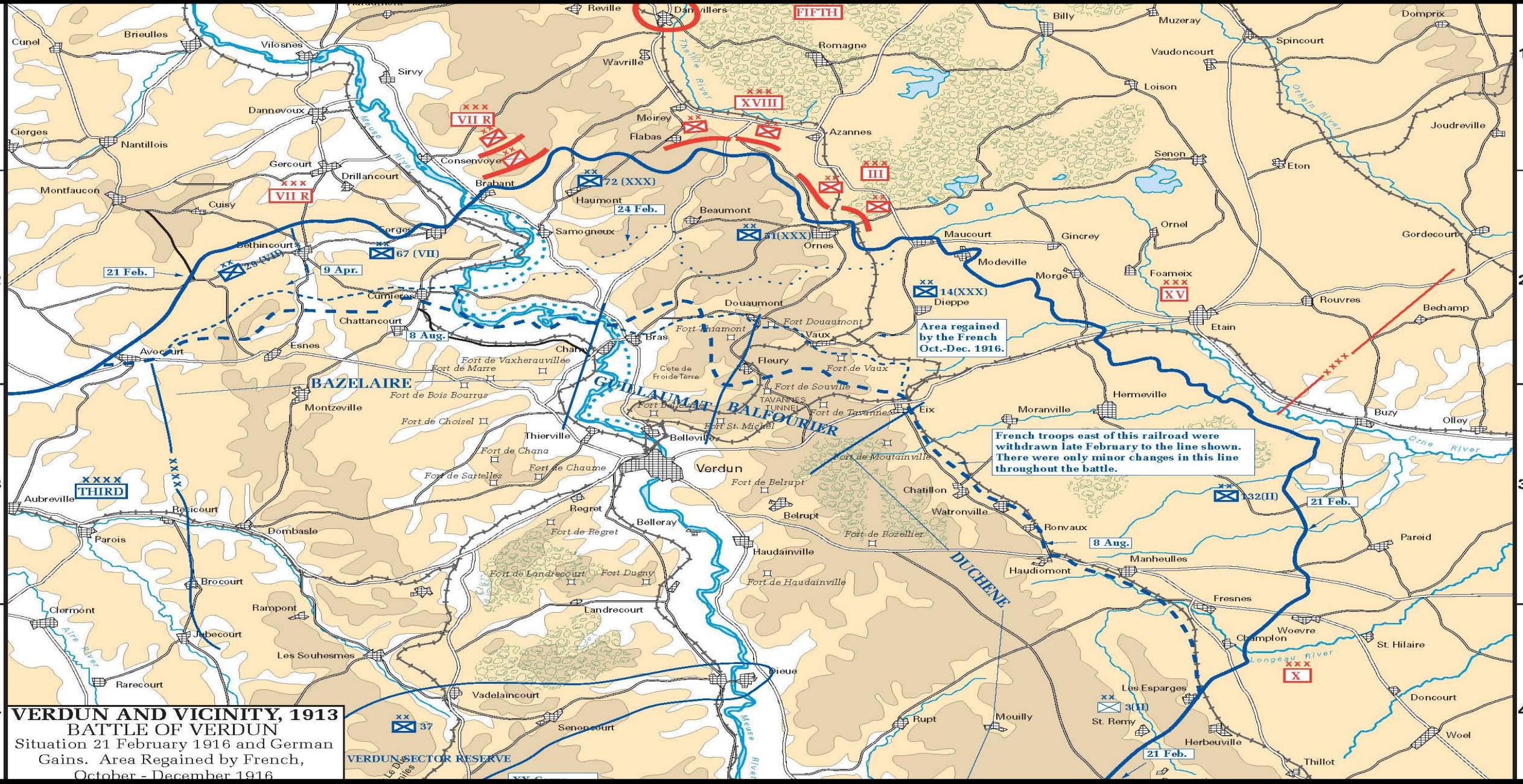


Fort Douaumont as seen from the air. The left photo is just prior to the initiation of operations at Verdun in February 1916, with the right photo showing its condition in March 1916.

The Germans occupy Douaumont until October 1916.

It was repaired in time for operations in December 1916 and 1917.

THE BATTLE OF VERDUN



AMERICAN ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO

14 MARCH 1916 – 7 FEBRUARY 1917

- Had deployed an expeditionary force into Mexico led by MG John “Blackjack” Pershing.
- Charged with the task of locating and capturing Pancho Villa.
- The Punitive Expedition had been inflaming U.S.-Mexico relations as a result of ongoing pursuit.



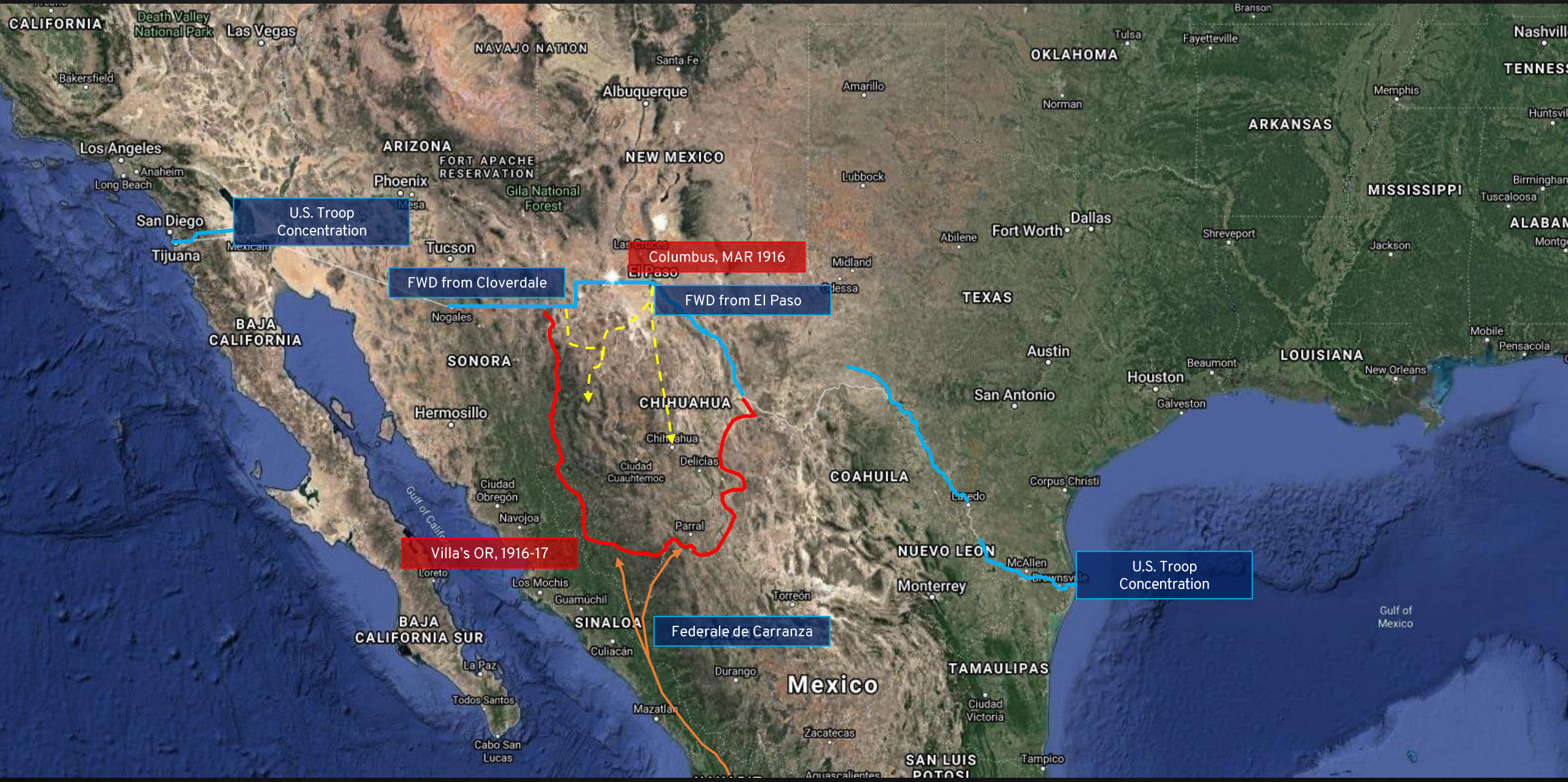
6th and 16th Infantry returning to the U.S. on 29 January 1917.

Members of the U.S. 10th Cavalry Regiment – the Buffalo Soldiers.



- U.S. was unable to successfully capture Villa.
- The reduction of Villa’s available forces stifled his ability to project war back into the United States.
- Carranza demanded the withdrawal of American Forces.
- Increase in anti-American sentiment in Mexico as a result of the failed expedition.

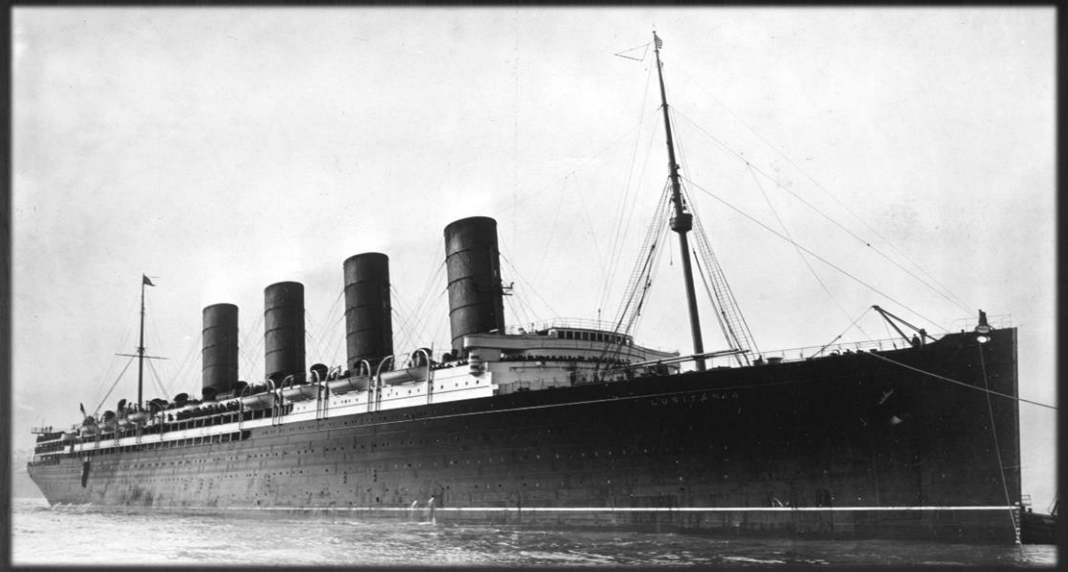
THE AEF'S PUSH INTO MEXICO



UNRESTRICTED SUBMARINE WARFARE

AMERICAN SHIPPING UNDER FIRE

- Germans had previously employed indiscriminate attacks on naval vessels.
- *RMS Lusitania* was sunk in 1915 by German U-Boat.
  - 128 American passengers, all died.
- U.S. condemned deployment of U-boats against American flagged shipping and passenger liners.



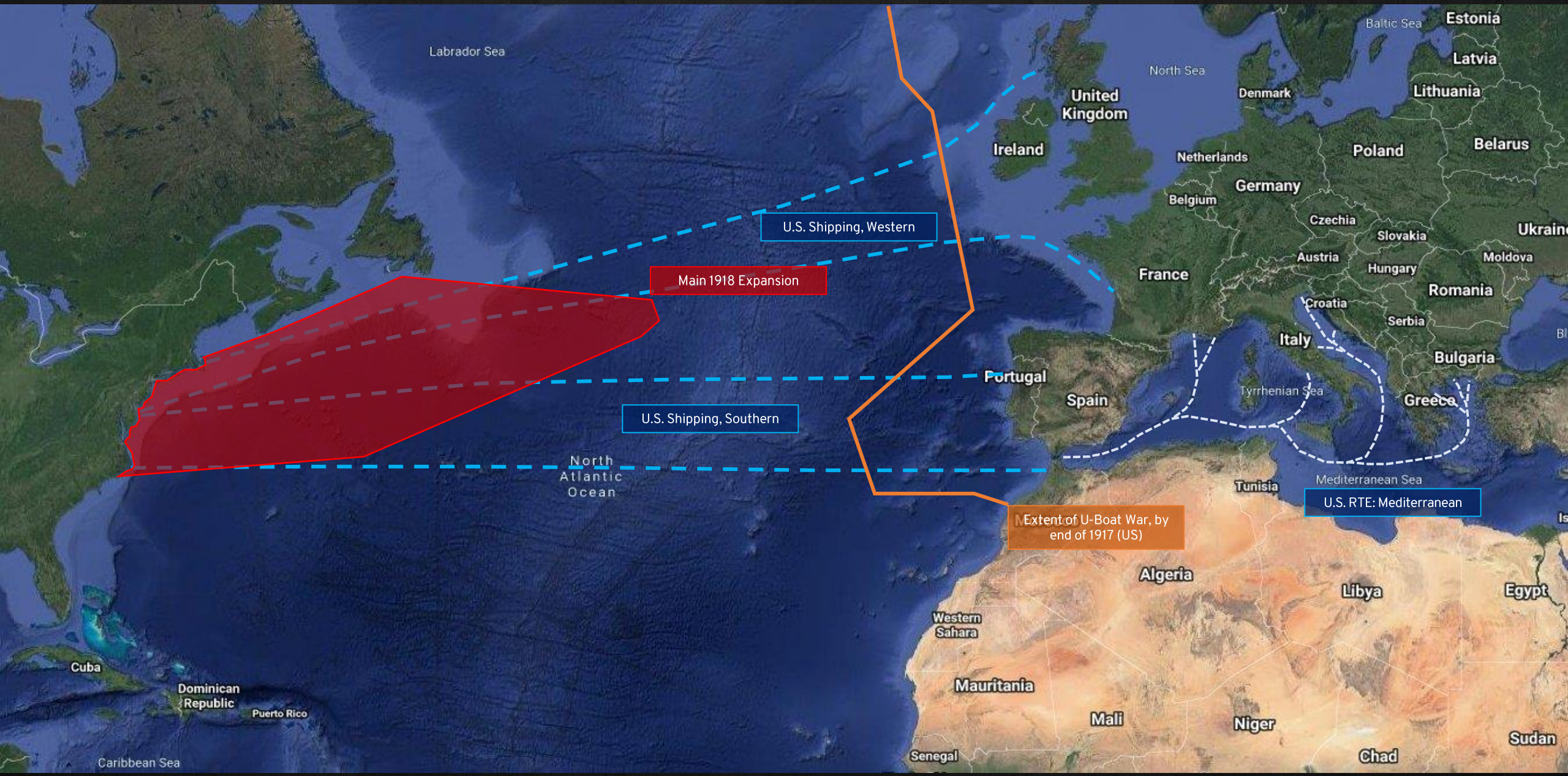
RMS Lusitania arriving in port, as she appeared ca. 1913.

Artists depiction of World War I German U-Boat sinking an American Flagged ship. (Cover photo)

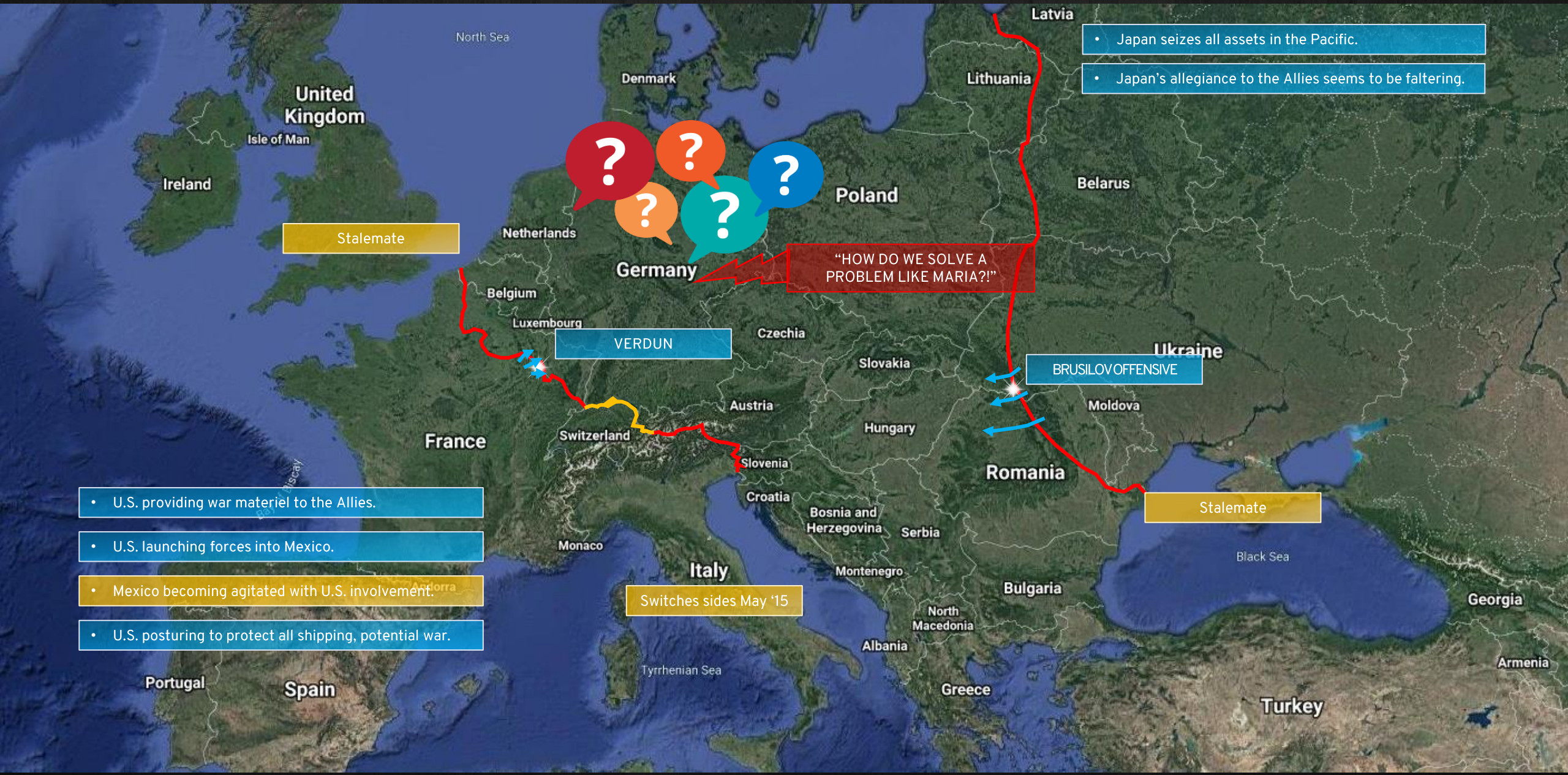


- Germans had suspended U-boat war in May of 1916.
- Understood a few things about the war:
  1. Americans were transporting weapons to Allies on flagged ships.
  2. Americans would likely be pushed to war if Germans intervened.
  3. Began to explore options to keep America distracted or out of the war.
  4. They assumed number 3.
- Germans resume U-boat war in January of 1917.

THE U-BOAT WAR



RECAP OF THE EUROPEAN THEATER, 1 JANUARY 1917



KEY FIGURES IN THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND

ARTHUR ZIMMERMANN

THE STATE SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



- The primary architect of the Zimmermann Note.
- Born 5 October 1864 in Marggrabowa, East Prussia.
- Was decisive in his intent to work in the foreign service.
- Had attempted to diffuse war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia prior to 1914.
- Despite early attempts to cull war, World War I saw him turn into a warmonger.
- Served in office from 22 November 1916 thru 6 August 1917.

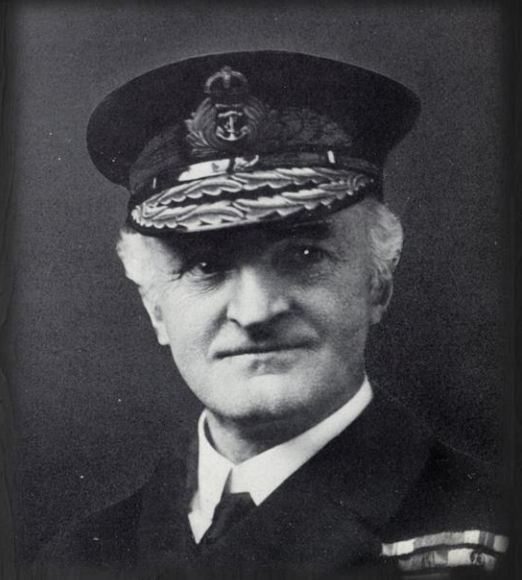
HEINRICH VON ECKARDT

GERMAN AMBASSIDOR TO MEXICO

- The one who was to receive and deliver the note to Carranza.
- Born 22 July 1861 in Riga, Russia.
- Despite the note being intercepted and publicized, he still approached Mexico with the proposal.

REGINALD "BLINKER" HALL & ROOM 40

THE BRITISH DECRYPTION TEAM



- Born 28 June 1870 in Britford, Witshire.
- Established the Royal Navy's Decryption Operation: Room 40.
- Fought against Alfred Ewing for control of the cryptanalysis sect of the British military (and won).
- Expanded Room 40's staff to over 30 by 1915, most staff with graduates from Oxford or Cambridge, specializing in German language.



- Intercepted over 15,000 German communications during World War I.
- In addition to cipher patterns, relied on capture of codebooks.
- Focused on communication interception, while MI6 focused on the arrest of spies, and MI5 on espionage.
- All communications were discretely disclosed, but usually kept secret from the public.

GERMAN PERCEPTION ABOUT POTENTIAL ALLIES

THE RECIPIENTS OF THE GERMAN OLIVE BRANCH



- Saw Mexico as an appreciable distraction for U.S.
- Considered dealing arms and munitions with Mexico.
- Knew what concessions to provide to the Mexican government.
- The Kaiser suggested that Zimmermann figure out a way to have the Mexicans “stir up trouble.”



- Noted Japan’s waning support for the Allies.
- Took neutral post-1914 stance as an open opportunity.
- Built their propositions based on Zimmermann’s experience in Asia.
- Sought to capitalize on Mexican-Japanese weariness of the U.S.



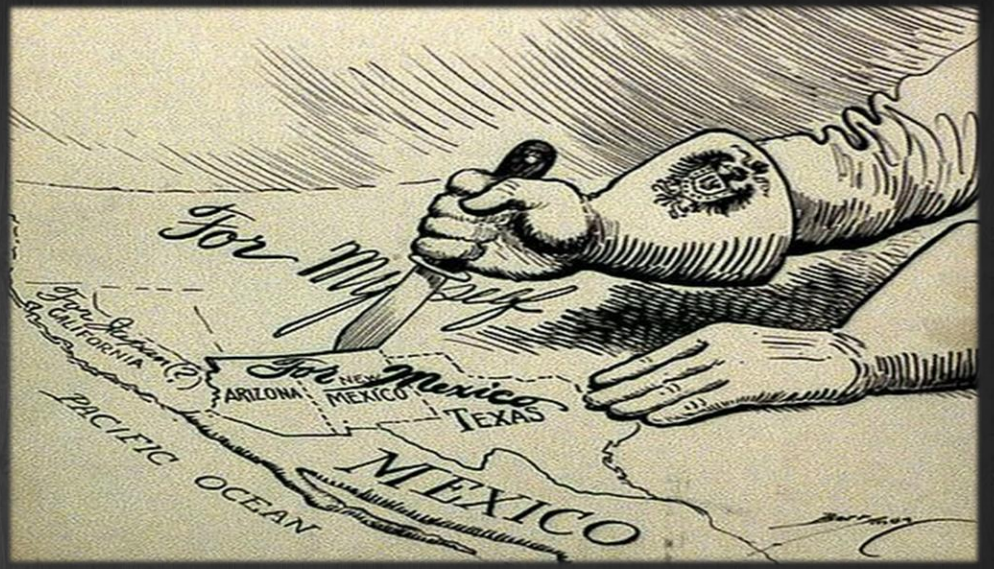
- Understood the need to delay American shipments of materiel to the Entente powers.
- Hoped that external war declarations (preferably from Mexico) would tie down American forces.
- At least allow time for European theater to be brought fully under control.

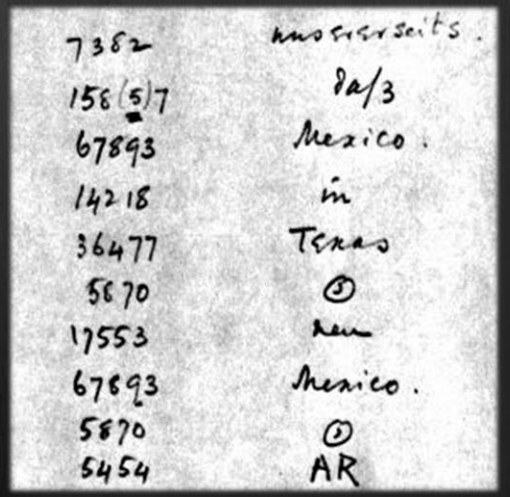
THE TELEGRAM

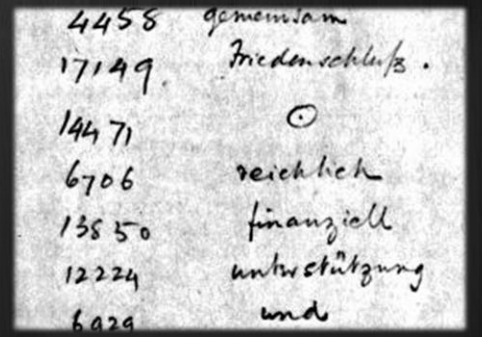
16 JANUARY 1917

- The Germans made the decision that they could not win the war if America was providing war materiel.
- Opted to resume Unrestricted Submarine Warfare.
- Quid-pro-quo, if the United States got involved, Mexico should declare war on the U.S.
- Germany would cede lost Mexican territory as compensation at the end of the war.
- Bolstered the need of cooperation with Japan and suggested that Mexico bring them in on the deal.
- The telegram was sent via the German embassy in the U.S.
- First Utilized Code 0075 (then 13040).
- Was sent in combination with other communications.

  Telegram 157 (Unrestricted Submarine Warfare) & 158 (Zimmermann Note)

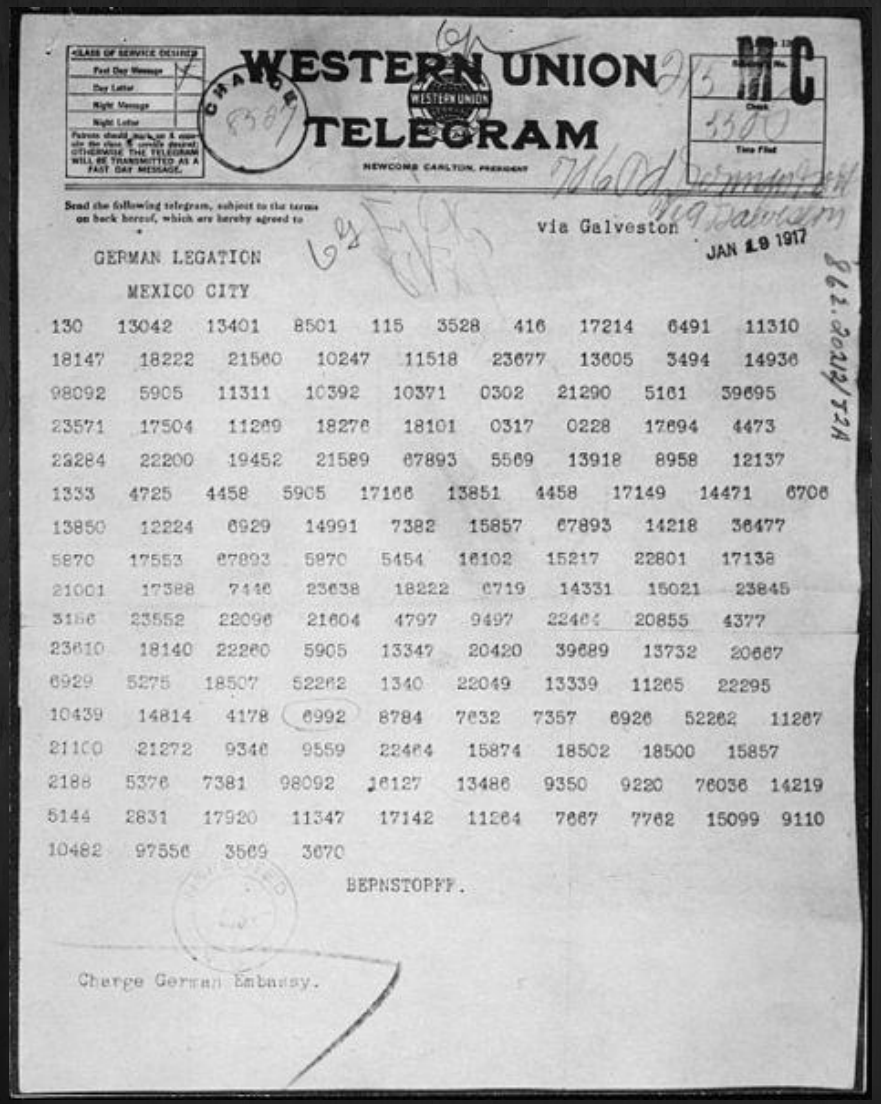






THE CONTENTS

ORIGINAL INTERCEPTION



WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

via Galveston

JAN 19 1917

GERMAN LEGATION

MEXICO CITY

130 13042 13401 8501 115 3528 416 17214 6491 11310
18147 18222 21560 10247 11518 23677 13605 3494 14936
98092 5905 11311 10392 10371 0302 21290 5161 39695
23571 17504 11269 18276 18101 0317 0228 17694 4473
23284 22200 19452 21589 67893 5569 13918 8958 12137
1333 4725 4458 5905 17166 13851 4458 17149 14471 6706
13850 12224 6929 14991 7382 15857 67893 14218 36477
5870 17553 67893 5870 5454 16102 15217 22801 17138
21001 17388 7446 23638 18222 6719 14331 15021 23845
3156 23552 22096 21604 4797 9497 22464 20855 4377
23610 18140 22260 5905 13347 20420 39689 13732 20667
6929 5275 18507 52262 1340 22049 13339 11265 22295
10439 14814 4178 6992 8784 7632 7357 6926 52262 11267
21100 21272 9346 9559 22464 15874 18502 18500 15857
2188 5376 7381 98092 16127 13486 9350 9220 76036 14219
5144 2831 17920 11347 17142 11264 7667 7762 15099 9110
10482 97556 3569 3670

BERNSTORFF.

Charge German Embassy.

DECIPHER

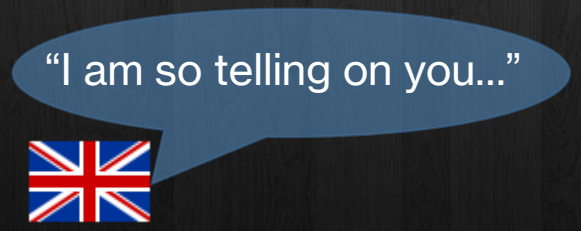
TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

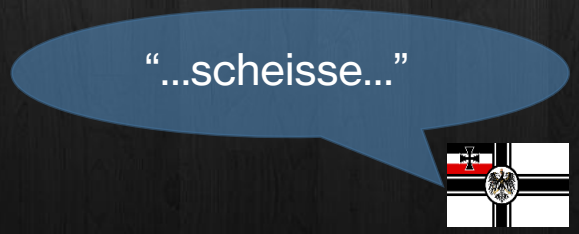
FROM 2nd from London # 5747.

"We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, ~~invite~~ Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace." Signed, ZIMMERMANN.

COMPLETED MESSAGE

We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, invite Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace. Signed, Zimmermann.

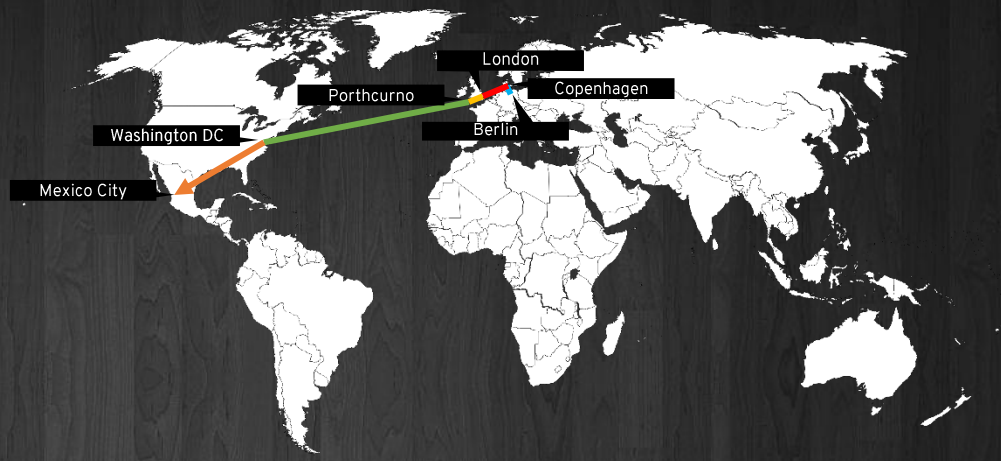




TRANSMITTING, INTERCEPTING, AND RECEIVING THE TELEGRAM

THE TELEGRAM PASSES THRU D.C.

- Telegram is sent thru the U.S. State Department Line.
  - Had to pass through London to make the jump across the Atlantic.
- Transmitted in code 0075.
- From the U.S., it was converted to 13040 to Mexico.
  - Required the convincing of U.S. Ambassador to transmit it coded.
- Second telegraph sent on 5 February.
  - "Convince the Mexican president, even now..."





- Intercepted on the day of transmission.
- Partial decrypt by "Dilly" Nox and Nigel de Gray.
- Hall opted to keep the telegraph secret.
- A full decrypt was not available until the 13040 transmission was retrieved in February.
- This full decrypt is what would be delivered to the Americans.

THE BRITISH DELIVER THE TELEGRAM

FIRST DISCLOSURE OVER ONE MONTH LATER

- Hall had to use restraint on the delivery, opts to wait for the second telegram from U.S. to Mexico.
- Hall also wanted to see if the Americans would enter war without intervention.
- Efforts made to ensure the U.S. was not made aware of the British spy operation on their cables.





Member of Audit Bureau of Circulations

THE ROCK ISLAND ARGUS.

Associated Press Leased Wire Report

SIXTY-SIXTH YEAR NO. 115. THURSDAY MARCH 1, 1917—FOURTEEN PAGES PRICE TWO CENTS.

BERLIN PLOT TO STRIKE AMERICA THROUGH JAPAN AND MEXICO BARED

GERMAN MENACE SPURS CONGRESS TO EMPOWER CHIEF

Washington, March 1.—Shocked and amazed by the revelation of Germany's attempt to unite Japan and Mexico to war upon the United States, congress today forgot its differences and began swinging into line behind the president.

Senate republicans abandoned their filibuster and gave democratic leaders assurances of their support to the president.

In the house, without a roll call, and under special provision for its immediate consideration, Representative Flood's bill to clothe the president with authority to arm ships was taken up under an agreement for a vote after three hours of debate.

President Wilson, however, will insist on being empowered to use

Revenue Act

Kaiser's Scheme Spurned by Japan, Evidence Held by United States Shows

Washington, March 1. The evidences at hand are that if Mexico, as Germany suggested communicated to Japan the proposal for an attack on the United States it met with a reception in Tokio which was quite contrary to what Berlin had expected. It is thought here that Germany's announcement that she intended to withdraw from the Pacific, as part of the making of peace, was carefully planned long ago to attract Japan to Germany's schemes with the prospect not only of occupying the German possessions in the Pacific and adding to her domination of that great ocean, but of settling the long standing friction with the United States.

Observers here believe that the break down of the scheme so far as Japan was concerned was signalled when the Mexican government suddenly reversed its attitude and announced that it had no intention of cutting off the British supply of naval fuel oil, as had plainly been indicated in General Carranza's proposal to make peace

food and munitions from neutrals.

Aside from the plan to alienate Japan from the entente and turn that country against the United States, the plot to embroil Mexico in a war against the United States, which was to have general financial support from Germany, commands added attention because it is regarded as proof of long smouldering suspicions of German activities to stir up trouble elsewhere on the western hemisphere, where the United States, by the Monroe doctrine, is morally obliged to maintain order.

Secretary Lansing, in an official statement, made clear that the United States did not believe Japan had knowledge of the scheme or would take part in it. He also expressed the confidence of the government that Mexico would take no part.

The Japanese embassy, in official comment declared that under no circumstances would Germany's proposal be considered by the Tokio government; reiterated the allegiance of Japan to the entente alliance and reaffirmed her

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DARING INTRIGUE AIMED AT U.S. STIRS CAPITAL OFFICIALS

Germany's Plot to Have United States Conquered

Berlin, Jan. 19, 1917.—"On the first of February we intend to begin submarine warfare unrestricted. In spite of this, it is our intention to endeavor to keep neutral the United States of America.

"If this attempt is not successful we propose an alliance on the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together and together make peace. We shall give general financial support and it is understood that

DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF COMMUNICATIONS.

Mexico City, Mex., March 1.—H. Von Eckhardt, German minister to Mexico, declared today that he knew nothing about the instructions alleged to have been sent to him by Foreign Secretary Zimmermann regarding a German-Mexican alliance.

Henry P. Fletcher, the American ambassador, left today with Secretary Aguilar for Guadalajara, where Carranza now is.

Washington, March 1.—

FEB

19 First to Edward Bell, who believes it to be a hoax.

20 Hall sends a copy to U.S. Ambassador Page.

23 The code-text is provided to Page for verification.

23 Page relays the information to President Wilson. It has been over a month since the original interception.

28 Wilson releases the telegram to the press.

THE BRITISH DELIVER THE TELEGRAM

FIRST DISCLOSURE OVER ONE MONTH LATER

- Diplomatic ties with Germany cut on 3 FEB.
- Were hesitant at first in believing authenticity of the telegram.
- Strong anti-European sentiment in the U.S. generally kept outrage to a minimum at first.
- Zimmermann's acknowledgement of the telegram on 3 March "opened the flood gates."



EXPLODING IN HIS HANDS.
—Kirby in the New York *World*.

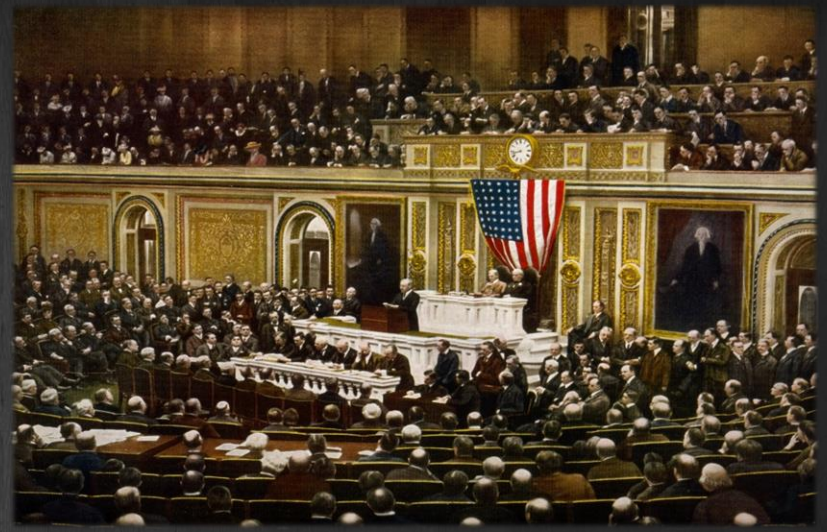


- Wilson had originally proposed the arming of merchant ships.
- Anti-war elements in the U.S. resisted any inclination of armed response.
- This caveat was removed when passenger and freight liners began to be sunk by the Germans.
- By mid-March public opinion had generally changed to demand action, despite acknowledging Wilson's anti-war presidential platform.

AN AMERICAN DECLARATION OF WAR

6 APRIL 1917

- A "war to end all wars." To make the world "safe for democracy."
- Wilson only mentions the telegram once in his address.
- Senate passes 82 – 6, House 373 – 50.
- The appeal from Wilson was on 2 April 1917.
- After congressional approval, the U.S. enters the war at 1:11 pm on 6 April 1917.



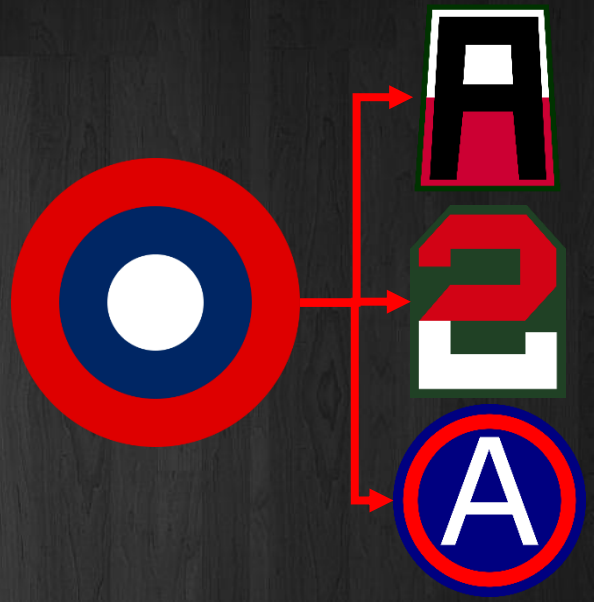
WHEREAS, The Imperial German Government has committed repeated acts of war against the people of the United States of America; therefore, be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the state of war between the United States and the Imperial German Government, which has thus been thrust upon the United States, is hereby formally declared; and that the President be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial German Government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

ANALYSIS & AFTERMATH OF THE TELEGRAM

AMERICA ENTERS THE WORLD STAGE

- Pershing is selected to command the AEF in May.
- Arrives in France in June to begin preparations.
- Permanent restructure of American military policy.
- First Americans hit the trenches by autumn.
- Forces soar from 27,000 to over 2 million by end of war.
  AEF becomes First, Second, and Third Armies in 1918.







ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH — NIGHT EDITION

Only Evening Paper in St. Louis With Associated Press News Service

VOL. 69. NO. 196. ST. LOUIS, SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 3, 1917—10 PAGES. PRICE

ZIMMERMANN ADMITS PLOT AGAINST U. S.

Seeks to Justify Intrigue as "Measure of Defense" in Event of War

STONE CONTINUES HIS FIGHT AGAINST ARMED SHIP BILL

La Follette Ready to Make Long Speech in Opposition to Measure —Amendment Offered to Remove Provisions for Arming "Fore and Aft."

PAUL O. SOMMER IS INDICTED; SAID TO BE $12,000 SHORT

Former Secretary of Holman Paper Box Co. Arrested on Bench Warrant.

FORGERY ONE OF CHARGES

He Also Is Accused of Embezzlement and Grand Larceny—Released on New Bond.

WILSON TO TAKE NO WAR STEP WITHOUT AN EXTRA SESSION

Lets It Be Known He Will Only Summon Congress in Event of Great Crisis.

PUSHES REVENUE BILLS

President Bending Every Effort to Have Appropriation Measures Passed.

German Foreign Minister Who Proposed Plot Against U. S.

DR. ALFRED ZIMMERMANN.

GOT TO WASHINGTON "THROUGH TREACHERY ON AMERICAN SOIL"

"Not Frivolous to Consider What Defensive Measures We Should Take," Says Foreign Secretary.

TELLS OF ALLEGED "PLOT" BY U. S. IN SOUTH AMERICA

Declares American Newspaper Man Said U. S. Was Waiting Only for Proper Moment in Order Opportunely to Assist the Entente.

By Associated Press.

BERLIN, March 3, by wireless to Sayville.—The follow

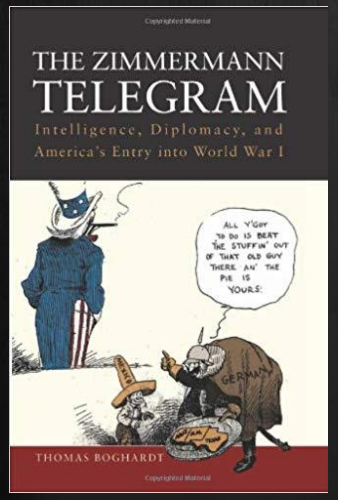
- The Germans were completely caught by surprise.
- Zimmermann opts to publicly accept/defend authorship.
- German public generally outraged at the *Willhelmstrasse*.
- Newspapers pointed out flaws in Zimmermann's reasoning.
- Neither Mexico nor Japan expressed interest in joining the German cause.

FURTHER READING & NOTES

Analysis as provided by the *Frankfurter Zeitung* (in regards to the Note)*

1. It was the responsibility of the foreign office in Berlin for ensuring the secrecy of the communication.
2. If the submarine war was going to bring Britain to it's knees in "weeks", why was a Mexico alliance required?
3. Carranza's control of Mexico was limited, reducing his value as an ally to the Germans.
4. The German's never even acknowledged Japan and never did establish a reason for them to switch sides.
5. Mexico's weakened state from the war effectively made them "useless" to the German cause.

- *"Let the American's, if they are bent on war, deal with their strong domestic opposition."* – Chancellor Riezler



"The United States certainly would have entered World War I regardless of the telegram, but by removing Wilson's final doubts about the wisdom of joining the Allies, it accelerated U.S. intervention, though perhaps only by a few weeks." - Thomas Boghardt

Boghardt, Thomas. *The Zimmermann Telegram: Intelligence, Diplomacy, and America's Entry into World War I.* Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, Maryland. 2012.

* Reasoning provided on p195.