

# *Deutschland Und America*

## *The Central powers*

### *Story outline/Timeline part 1*

1898- The German foreign minister Bernhard von Bülow is keeping eyes on tensions building between the U.S and Spain, hoping it will result in a war in the Caribbean (as Germany wants at least one colony there). When eventually war is declared on Spain by the U.S., Bernhard von Bülow goes to Kaiser Wilhelm II of the German Empire proposing an alliance with the U.S. The Kaiser is reluctant at first but quickly approves once he realizes that Cuba will likely become a German colony if the German Empire supports the U.S. Thus Germany declares war on Spain April 28, 1898.

American soldiers in camp preparing for the invasion of Cuba, 1898





German soldiers marching in Cuba, 1898

The war lasts only two months as the combined military power of Germany and the U.S is too great for the already crippled Spanish army. Grateful for their help and knowing it will yield great profit, the U.S agrees to give Cuba to Germany as a colony. However this causes much anger in the population of Cuba as they wished to be independent from any European power. Rebellious discussions and ideas become prominent in Cuba.

Postcard for German Cuba, 1903, Translation "come join us in German Kuba"



1899- A revolution rises in Cuba but is quickly suppressed by Both the German and American army. This is shown as an example of how powerful and reactionary the new German government is.

1900- The Boxer Rebellion erupts in China, Germany, and America ( along with many other countries) send expeditionary troops to suppress the rebels and secure their spheres of influence.

1901- After the Boxer rebellion is stopped, Oswald Samuel Konstantin Freiherr, the current German foreign minister, sends a Letter to the newly elected U.S President Theodore Roosevelt suggesting they join the pact with Austria. The U.S politely declines, but insures that they value Germany as a former war ally and incredibly important trade partner.



Map of European alliances during the Great War, 1914-1918

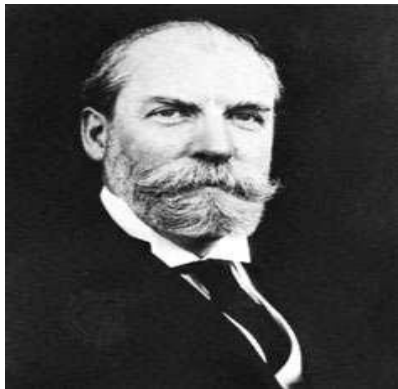
1914- Europe is flung into war on July 24, 1914 after the Archduke of Austria Franz Ferdinand is assassinated by a Serbian nationalist. As a result Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia. Russia and France join Serbia as Germany joins Austria-Hungary (along with the Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria in 1915). Germany proceeds with the Schlieffen plan, invading through Belgium in order to knock out France as soon as possible. Britain immediately joins France in order to protect Belgium and soon blockades Germany as well as its colonies which they soon invade. U.S. ships are halted by the British, confused by this the U.S. president Woodrow Wilson contacts Prime Minister of Britain David Lloyd George as to why this is. Lloyd responds to Wilson telling him about the blockade. Wilson then asks if they could let U.S. ships through which Britain agrees to. But only does so in Europe for multiple U.S. ships are still being halted near German Cuba because of how valuable it is to the Germans there. This upsets the U.S. government.

1915- In May, Britain finally invades German Cuba, but fails to completely overtake because of the strong trade with the U.S. As this is happening, stories from Germany slowly make their way to U.S. citizens. Stories about Britain denying food to the civilians there, which starts to shift the

U.S peoples perspective on the Entente. In July, David Lloyd George gives his approval and allows the Royal Navy to begin unrestricted submarine warfare.

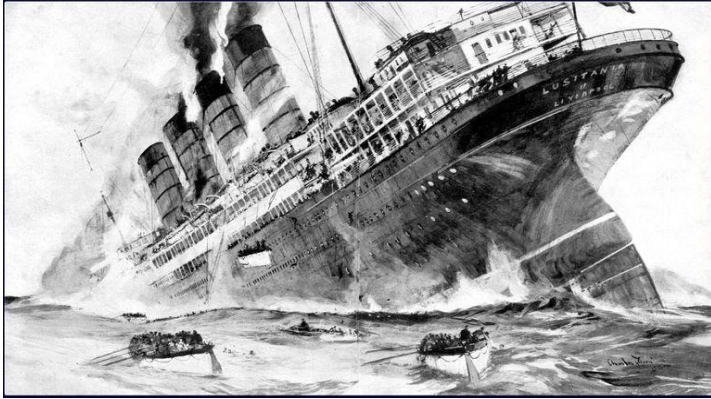
1916- A British battleship sails into a harbor in Puerto Rico. The Governor Arthur Yager orders the ship to leave the area and respect American neutrality in the war. The captain of the battleship ignores this request, so the Puerto Rican military fires a warning shot from the fort at the battleship. The crew of the ship sees this as a threat, and fires three shells from the ship's cannons, which kills three of the forts members and wounds five others. This along with reports of British submarines sinking trade ships in the Atlantic and Caribbean Sea makes the people of the U.S furious. Many are wanting war with Britain, some even turning to violence against the British residents in America, especially along the border with Canada. However President Wilson still wishes for neutrality, at least until the U.S Presidential Election in November. Charles.E.Hughes is nominated for the Republican party in the election while Woodrow Wilson runs for reelection for the Democratic party. It's a close call, but Charles.E.Hughes wins the election mainly because he believes the U.S should at least be prepared for a war with Britain. Wilson however still believed in neutrality, and with a British protectorate on America's border the people wish for security. In late December the American cruise liner the Lusitania is reportedly sunk by a British U-boat, the naval attack leaves 1,800 dead many among them Americans.

Charles.E.Hughes shortly after election, 1916





Artist's rendition of the sinking Lusitania, 1917



1917- In January, an American riot ( due to America not going to war with Britain over the sinking of the Lusitania) spills over into the Canadian side of the Northern U.S Border. So Both American and Canadian police are sent over to calm the riots down, but 6 of the 15 American police sent over there go missing and witnesses claim they were shot by Canadian police. This fuels the already strong anti-Entente and anti-British stance in America.

Believing war is inevitable David Lloyd George approves going to war with America, and allows planning and preparation for an invasion of the U.S through Canada. News from Germany comes to the U.S of people starving from the blockade which now paints Britain as a “heartless tyrant who cares not for human life” according to one U.S Newspaper. Also many news sources also start showing and revealing favoritism towards Germany as well as sympathy.

After months of preparation, the British launch their surprise invasion into America on April 7, 1917. As a result, America joins the Central powers with Germany. The invasion catches The U.S well off guard, in a matter of two months they capture Seattle, the majority of the northern counties in Montana and North Dakota, Bemidji and Duluth in Minnesota, Almost the entire state of Michigan, Buffalo, and Rochester in New York and the entire state of Maine.



Left: Seattle ,Washington under British occupation, 1917. Right: Eureka ,Montana after shelling by British artillery, 1917

However, by late June, the U.S can secure and halt the rapidly moving British-Canadian armies. The U.S soon starts drafting men for its army. Many men and women are compelled to fight the British as a large part of the population are of Irish descent as well as having ancestors who fought in the American War of Independence and the War of 1812. The the army capitalizes on this and uses it for propaganda. The British-Canadian army captures over half of the state of Alaska whose progress is halted due to the soldiers' lack of experience in the harsh environment. The British Royal Navy starts shelling the east coast of the U.S as well as skirmishing with American ships in the Atlantic and Pacific.

After the U.S army stops the British-Canadian army, both of the armies use mountain and guerrilla warfare in the North-West and trench warfare in the North-East. There is an attempt to break through further in Montana in July, but it fails and the U.S army pushes them back making it the first victory for the U.S in the American theatre of the Great War. Raids by biplanes are also conducted by both countries. In the final months of 1917, the German Foreign Minister Auther Zimmerman allows German generals to send blueprints of weapons and blueprints of other war equipment to the U.S. Some of them include the German Stahlhelm, Zeppelins, and tanks which the U.S soon start making their variants of. Australia along with Japanese aid invade the Philippines in December.

1918- The U.S has been having multiple victories in the American theatre as well as the Atlantic. They retake North Dakota by February and Montana along with Seattle by March. The U.S army has also been planning a huge offensive into Canada to take back Michigan, Northwestern counties of New York and Maine. And eventually, capture Ottawa which should secure victory in the American Theatre. In April The American armies begin the Pershing offensive led by John.J.Pershing into the captured states. The British-Canadians army defends their captured territory ferociously. Especially near Detroit as that is a very important and strategic point for both countries' armies, because of its economic and geographical position. But are the British-Canadian broken and driven completely out of the Northern U.S states. After many weeks of harsh fighting, the U.S captures Ottawa the capital of Canada which is a huge blow to British morale.

The aftermath of the battle for Ottawa, 1918



Protests break out in Canada by June as citizens no longer want war with America, but are forced to because of them being part of the British commonwealth. The British-Canadian armies are forced to subdue the rioters, pulling soldiers from the north. Fairly quickly the U.S armies can link up with the detached and exhausted state of Alaska, finally securing the American front. The British are forced to relive the blockade of Germany to suppress the harassment of supplies to Britain and France. The U.S also sends naval relief to the Philippines which had been almost completely overtaken in July. They also plan a naval invasion of France as well as the Middle East. The naval leaders agree to land in Donville-Les-Bains in France as it's pretty much defenceless and has a very low population and land troops in Acre in the Middle East, the landing in the Middle East will be a very important strategically point to gain for the Americans as it will allow them to supply and move troops to the Middle Eastern front, the Austrian front and the Western Front in Europe.

The naval landing led by the U.S Admiral Austin.M.Knight in Acre is Launched by the U.S on September 20th. After many weeks of fighting and shelling of British armies, the U.S secure Acre by September 30th and soon start sending troops to the fronts in Europe.



The city of Acre several days before the U.S Invasion, 1918



After the huge victory in the Middle East which has been very damaging to Entente moral, the invasion into France is conducted on October 6. The Invasion fleet is led by William.S.Benson another U.S Admiral and lands in Donville-Les-Bains.

The city of Donville-Les-Bains several days before the U.S Invasion, 1918



The Germans launched a huge offensive back in spring with great success, they were halted in September. With the U.S landings on the West coast of France multiple Entente armies are now having to try to prevent the U.S from pushing into Paris, while also trying to stop the newly re-enforced German armies on the East coast of France.

With the U.S landing in France and the Middle East, many countries have decided to leave the Entente out of fear starting with Greece in August, Portugal in September, Italy in October and eventually France on November 20 after Paris falls. With Britain now standing alone they agree to have a ceasefire to end the war on December 12, 12:00. Pretty much all hostilities on that date as Entente and Central powers politicians plan on a treaty meeting to be taken place and signed on September 28, 1919.

1919- Revolts break out in France and Britain as well as many other former Entente countries for either not ending the war sooner when the U.S joined or giving up regardless of the U.S joining. Meanwhile, Russia (who left the war in 1917 because of a revolution which overthrew the government) is in a civil war between anti-Communist militia “White Army” and the Communist-Socialists “Red Army”. The Communist-Socialist are winning the war, but Communism is something that Germany and the U.S both don’t want. So they send in military aid to the anti-Communist militia.

In September, the Treaty of Paris meeting commences (territorial gain and losses explained in the map). Britain and France are devastated by the treaty, they have to pay the Central Powers over \$32,000,000 in war debt as well as give up half of their naval force.

1920- After many protests in the Ottoman Empire the Sultan Mehmed VI proceeds with Kemal Atatürk proposal of giving the aggressive regions of the empire more autonomy.



Left: Ottoman Sultan Mehmed VI, 1920 Right: Austrian Kaiser Charles I A.K.A Karl, 1920

1921- Austria-Hungary’s ethnic population are still wanting more rights and self-determination especially after annexing Serbia. The Austrian Kaiser decides to reform the entire country's political system and creates the United States of the Austrian Kingdom. Many of the political higher-ups heavily disapprove of the Austrian Kaiser’s decision. Vladimir Lenin, the leader of Communist revolution in Russia, is assassinated by a radical Russian Socialist, believing that

Lenin, "Brought upon the Destruction of a Socialist Russia by allowing Germany to win the war". The assassination throws the Red Army into chaos. Back in the Ottoman Empire riots in the Arminian region against Ottoman rule are still active despite the Sultan giving them more autonomy, the Sultan makes the highly controversial choice to make Armenia a fully independent country.

1922- The White Army surrounds the Red Army in Southern Russia and soon surrender and the White Army along with its anti-Communist supporters is victorious. The German Empire wishes it to be a monarchy along with the former monarchists, while the U.S.A wishes it to be a democratic republic.

1923- The Monarchist and Republican Russians come to a compromise, making Russia a constitutional monarchy with Nicholas II as Tsar and Alexander Kerensky as prime minister.

Map of the World, 1923



Conclusion: Germany having the U.S as an ally proved to be vital in winning the Great War and practically humiliating the Entente. All the Central Powers have benefited greatly from the Treaty and have expanded the territory of their empire as well as their influence around the world. Despite this though the former Entente countries are eager for revenge and shall rise again more aggressive than ever before.