12-2: THE U.S. DECLARES WAR

Setting the Scene

- many Americans ∅ want 2 enter WAR.
- GERMAN / American Friction ↑ 1914-1917
- PREPAREDNESS MOVEMENT ↑
- Central Power Actions drag U.S. into WAR.

GERMAN SUBMARINE WARFARE

- U. Boat - Used 2 stop supplies fomentering G.B.
  - 1st surfaced to search & allow crew members to evacuate
  - British fired on exposed Subs.
  - OLD Rules abandoned: unrestricted Sub-warfar.
  - Sea Stalemate broken by GERMAN Sub.
- PASSENGER / MERCHANT Ships ∅ defense.
  - Developed hydrophones to detect the Subs.
- AMERICANS Accepted British naval blockade of Ger.
- Americans Viewed Ger. blockade of Brit with subs barbaric.
  - British cut the transAtlantic cable.
    - only info Comming from Europe came through G.B
    - Slanted perception of WAR.
- Shift in U.S opinion of NOT ENTERING the WAR.
  - May 7, 1915: Lusitania Sunk. - (carried Allied weapons)
    - 1300 Killed 128 Americans
  - Wilson Ask G. to stop unrestricted Sub warfar. G. promised
  - Demands payments to those families Killed
- Sussex Pledge
  - French passenger Ship
    - 80 Killed 2 Americans
    - G Promised to ~~Search~~ WARN B4 Sinking

MOVING TOWARD WAR

- Wilson Runs on the idea "He Kept us out of the WAR".
- Rep. Criticized Wilson Ø taking a Stronger Role.
- G. informed W.I. they Ø honor SUSSEX pledge.
  - thought they Could defeat G.B. & FRANCE B4 U.S Could Mobilize.
- Wilson Arms American ~~Ships~~ Merchant ships

ZIMMERMAN NOTE

- British revealed telegraph from G 2 Mexico
  - Mexico declare wave on U.S.
  - Mex. would recieve Southern territories
  - Ger. would help Mex. after WWI take America.

Russian Revolution

- EARLY 1917 Russia Suffered huge losses
  1.5 million Killed 2.5 mill prisoners
  millions more WOUNDED.
- AH/Germ deep into Russia.
- March 1917 Czar Nicholas II forced 2 give up throne to republican govt.
- U.S avoids joining war/Allies b/c Czar was an autocrat.
- No Monarch U.S. can now go to war.

WAR Resolution

- WAR U.S. Entered April, 1917