

## World War I DBQ

**Directions:** The following question is based on the accompanying documents 1-20. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise. Write your answer on the lined pages of the Section II free-response booklet.

This question is designed to test your ability to work with and understand historical documents. Write an essay that:

- Has a relevant thesis and supports that thesis with evidence from the documents.
- Uses all or all but one of the documents.
- Analyzes the documents by grouping them in as many appropriate ways as possible. Does not simply summarize the documents individually.
- Takes into account both the sources of the documents and the author's points of view.

You may refer to relevant historical information not mentioned in the documents.

1. Using the documents, analyze the main features, especially the causes of World War I between 1870 and 1914, and the effects of the war on regional and global alliances and political systems between 1919 and 1939. Special attention should be given to considering the consequences of World War I as the causes of World War II.

Document 1: ('Carte drôlatique d'Europe pour 1870')



**Document 2: The Dual Alliance Between Austria-Hungary and Germany - October 7, 1879**

**ARTICLE 1.**

Should, contrary to their hope, and against the loyal desire of the two High Contracting Parties, one of the two Empires be attacked by Russia the High Contracting Parties are bound to come to the assistance one of the other with the whole war strength of their Empires, and accordingly only to conclude peace together and upon mutual agreement.

**ARTICLE 2.**

Should one of the High Contracting Parties be attacked by another Power, the other High Contracting Party binds itself hereby, not only not to support the aggressor against its high Ally, but to observe at least a benevolent neutral attitude towards its fellow Contracting Party.

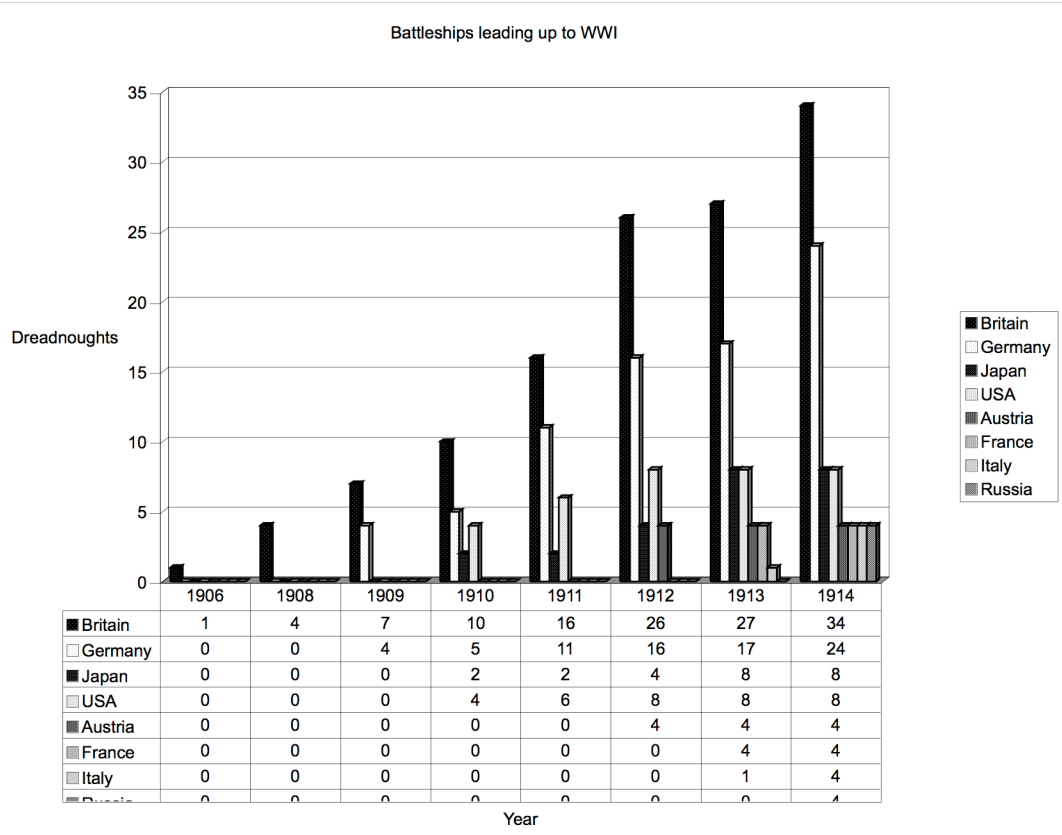
Should, however, the attacking party in such a case be supported by Russia, either by an active cooperation or by military measures which constitute a menace to the Party attacked, then the obligation stipulated in Article 1 of this Treaty, for reciprocal assistance with the whole fighting force, becomes equally operative, and the conduct of the war by the two High Contracting Parties shall in this case also be in common until the conclusion of a common peace.

**ARTICLE 4.**

This Treaty shall, in conformity with its peaceful character, and to avoid any misinterpretation, be kept secret by the two High Contracting Parties, and only communicated to a third Power upon a joint understanding between the two Parties, and according to the terms of a special Agreement.

Done at Vienna, October 7, 1879

**Document 3: Militarization of Navies prior to WWI**



Document 4: "Stirring Times in Austria" by Mark Twain

[This article first appeared in Harper's New Monthly Magazine for March, 1898 (Volume 96), pp. 530-40.]

**I. THE GOVERNMENT IN THE FRYING-PAN**

Here in Vienna in these closing days of 1897 one's blood gets no chance to stagnate. The atmosphere is brimful of political electricity. All conversation is political; every man is a battery, with brushes over-worn, and gives out blue sparks when you set him going on the common topic. Everybody has an opinion, and lets you have it frank and hot, and out of this multitude of counsel you get merely confusion and despair. For no one really understands this political situation, or can tell you what is going to be the outcome of it.

Things have happened here recently which would set any country but Austria on fire from end to end, and upset the government to a certainty; but no one feels confident that such results will follow here. Here, apparently, one must wait and see what will happen, then he will know, and not before; guessing is idle; guessing cannot help the matter. This is what the wise tell you; they all say it; they say it every day, and it is the sole detail upon which they all agree.

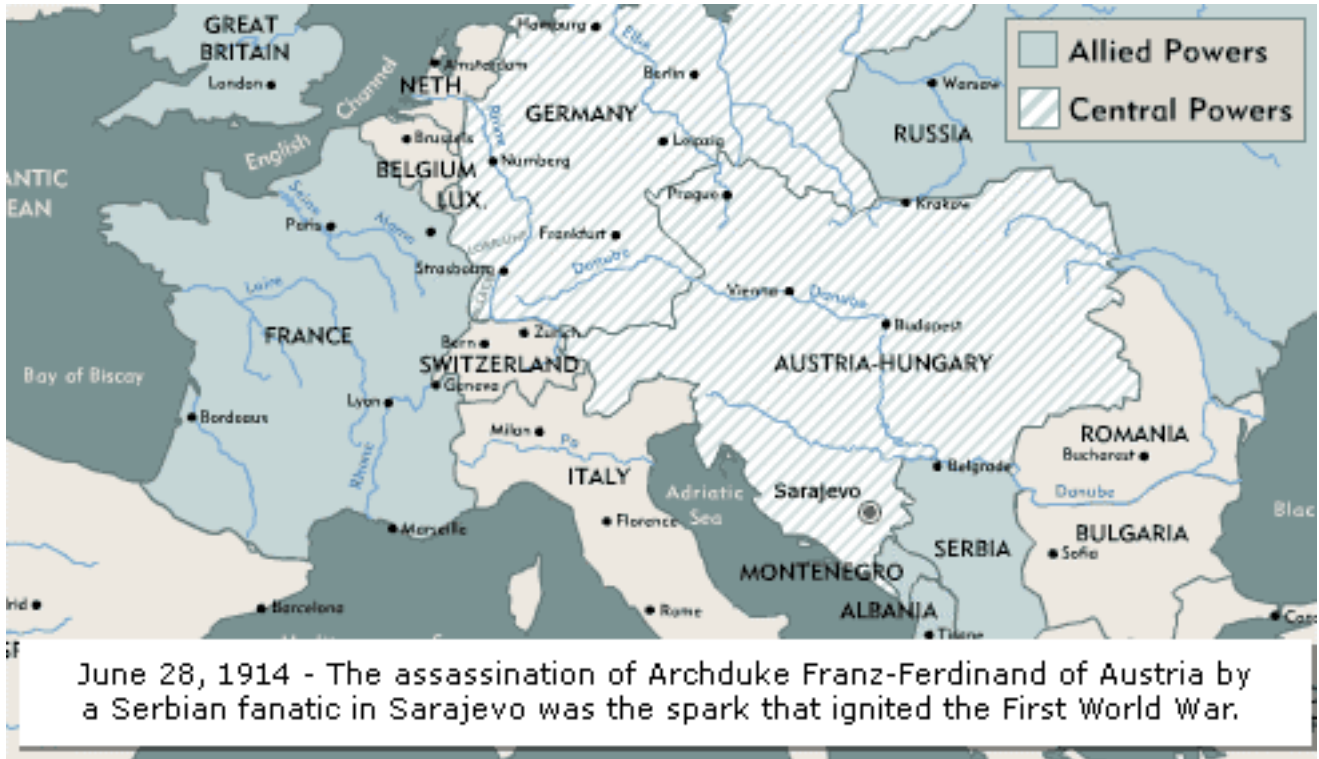
There is some approach to agreement upon another point: that there will be no revolution. Men say: "Look at our history: revolutions have not been in our line; and look at our political map: its construction is unfavorable to an organized uprising, and without unity what could a revolt accomplish? It is disunion which has held our empire together for centuries, and what it has done in the past it may continue to do now and in the future."

The most intelligible sketch I have encountered of this unintelligible arrangement of things was contributed to the Traveler's Record by Mr. Forrest Morgan, of Hartford, three years ago. He says:

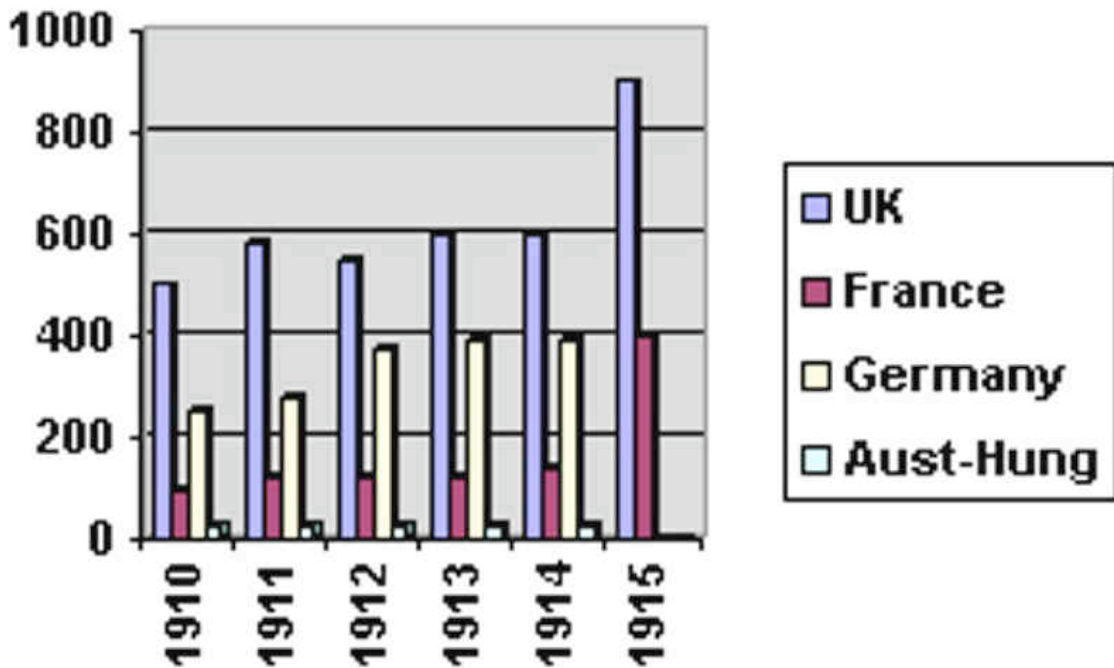
*The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy is the patchwork quilt, the Midway Plaisance, the national chain-gang of Europe; a state that is not a nation but a collection of nations, some with national memories and aspirations and others without, some occupying distinct provinces almost purely their own, and others mixed with alien races, but each with a different language, and each mostly holding the others foreigners as much as if the link of a common government did not exist. Only one of its races even now comprises so much as one-fourth of the whole, and not another so much as one-sixth; and each has remained for ages as unchanged in isolation, however mingled together in locality, as globules of oil in water. There is nothing else in the modern world that is nearly like it, though there have been plenty in past ages; it seems unreal and impossible even though we know it is true; it violates all our feeling as to what a country should be in order to have a right to exist; and it seems as though it was too ramsbackle to go on holding together any length of time. Yet it has survived, much in its present shape, two centuries of storms that have swept perfectly unified countries from existence and others that have brought it to the verge of ruin, has survived formidable European coalitions to dismember it, and has steadily gained force after each; forever changing in its exact make-up, losing in the West but gaining in the East, the changes leave the structure as firm as ever, like the dropping off and adding on of logs in a raft, its mechanical union of pieces showing all the vitality of genuine national life.*

That seems to confirm and justify the prevalent Austrian faith that in this confusion of unrelated and irreconcilable elements, this condition of incurable disunion, there is strength -- for the government. Nearly every day some one explains to me that a revolution would not succeed here. "It couldn't, you know. Broadly speaking, all the nations in the empire hate the government -- but they all hate each other, too, and with devoted and enthusiastic bitterness; no two of them can combine; the nation that rises must rise alone; then the others would joyfully join the government against her, and she would have just a fly's chance against a combination of spiders. This government is entirely independent. It can go its own road, and do as it pleases; it has nothing to fear. In countries like England and America, where there is one tongue and the public interests are common, the government must take account of public opinion; but in Austria-Hungary there are nineteen public opinions -- one for each state. No -- two or three for each state, since there are two or three nationalities in each. A government cannot satisfy all these public opinions; it can only go through the motions of trying.

Document 5: Europe on the eve of World War I



Document 6: United States Exports to Europe 1910-1915 (Numbers represent dollars (in millions))



Document 7: Photos of new technology and tactics from World War One



Document 8: YWCA War Effort Poster



Document 9: **Dulce Et Decorum Est** by Wilfred Owen and “Over There” by George M. Cohan**Dulce Et Decorum Est**

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,  
 Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,  
 Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs  
 And towards our distant rest began to trudge.  
 Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots  
 But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;  
 Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots  
 Of five-nines that dropped behind.

GAS! Gas! Quick, boys!-- An ecstasy of fumbling,  
 Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time;  
 But someone still was yelling out and stumbling  
 And floundering like a man in fire or lime.--  
 Dim, through the misty panes and thick green light  
 As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.  
 In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,  
 He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams you too could pace  
 Behind the wagon that we flung him in,  
 And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,  
 His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;  
 If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood  
 Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,  
 Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud  
 Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,--  
 My friend, you would not tell with such high zest  
 To children ardent for some desperate glory,  
 The old Lie: *Dulce et decorum est*  
*Pro patria mori.*

**“Over There”**

Johnnie get your gun, get your gun, get your gun,  
 Take it on the run, on the run, on the run;  
 Hear them calling you and me;  
 Every son of liberty.  
 Hurry right away, no delay, go today,  
 Make your daddy glad, to have such a lad,  
 Tell your sweetheart not to pine,  
 To be proud her boy's in line.

*Chorus:* Over there, over there  
 Send the word, send the word over there,  
 The Yanks are coming, the Yanks are coming,  
 The drums rum-tum tumming everywhere  
 So prepare, say a prayer,  
 Send the word, send the word to beware,  
 We'll be over, we're coming over,  
 And we won't come back till it's over, over there.

**Document 10: The Zimmerman Telegram (Arthur Zimmermann, January 16, 1917)**

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

In the event of this not succeeding, we propose an alliance on the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together and make peace together. We shall give generous financial support, and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona. The details of settlement are left to you.

You are instructed to inform the President [of Mexico] of the above in the greatest confidence as soon as it is certain that there will be an outbreak of war with the United States and suggest that the President, on his own initiative, invite Japan to immediate adherence with this plan; at the same time, offer to mediate between Japan and ourselves.

Please call to the attention of the President that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England to make peace in a few months.

**Document 11: The Balfour Declaration (2 November, 1917)**

Foreign Office  
November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,  
Arthur James Balfour



Document 12: Zones of French and British influence and control established by the Sykes-Picot Agreement



**Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs  
(PASSIA)**

Document 13: **Treaty of Versailles** (June 28, 1919)

**Article 22.** Certain communities formerly belonging to the Turkish Empire have reached a stage of development where their existence as independent nations can be recognized with the assistance of a Western power until such time as they are able to stand alone.

**Alsace-Lorraine:**

Article 51. The territories which were ceded to Germany on February 26, 1871 [Franco-Prussian War], and the Treaty of Frankfurt of May 10, 1871, are restored to French sovereignty as from the date of the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

**Article 119.** Germany renounces in favor of the Principal Allied Powers all her rights and titles over her overseas possessions.

**Article 156.** Germany renounces, in favour of Japan, all her rights and title [Chinese colonies]...which she acquired in virtue of the Treaty concluded by her with China on March 6, 1898 [Treaty System]

**Article 159.** The German military forces shall be demobilised and reduced as follows

**Article 160.** By a date which must not be later than March 31, 1920, the German Army must not comprise more than seven divisions of infantry and three divisions of cavalry.

The Army shall be devoted exclusively to the maintenance of order within the territory and to the control of the frontiers.

**Article 231.** Germany accepts the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied Governments have been subjected as a consequence of the war imposed upon them by the aggression of Germany and her allies.

**Article 232.** The Allied Governments recognize that the resources of Germany are not adequate to make complete reparation for all such loss and damage, however, they require that Germany will make compensation for all damage done to the civilian population of the Allied Powers and to their property during the period of the war.

Document 14: **The Fourteen Points****Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points Speech  
(Delivered in a Joint Session of Congress, January 8, 1918)**

We entered this war because violations of right had occurred which touched us to the quick and made the life of our own people impossible unless they were corrected and the world secure once [and] for all. What we demand in this war, therefore, is that the world be made fit and safe to live in; and particularly that it be made safe for every peace-loving nation which, like our own, wishes to live its own life... The program of the world's peace, therefore, is our program; and that program, the only possible program, as we see it, is this:

I. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.

III. The removal, so far as possible, of all economic barriers and the establishment of an equality of trade among all the nations consenting to the peace

IV. Adequate guarantees given and taken that national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.

V. A free and absolutely impartial [unbiased] adjustment of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty the interests of the local populations must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the imperial government.

VI. The evacuation of all Russian territory and such a settlement of all questions affecting Russia as will secure the cooperation of the other nations of the world in obtaining for her an opportunity for the independent determination of her own political development

VIII. All French territory should be freed and the invaded portions restored, and the wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 in the matter of Alsace-Lorraine, which has unsettled the peace of the world for nearly fifty years, should be righted, in order that peace may once more be made secure in the interest of all.

XII. The Turkish portion of the present Ottoman Empire should be assured a secure sovereignty, but the other nationalities which are now under Turkish rule should be assured an undoubted security of life and autonomous development, and the Dardanelles should be permanently opened as a free passage to the ships and commerce of all nations under international guarantees.

XIII. An independent Polish state should be erected which should include the territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, which should be assured a free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity should be guaranteed by international covenant [agreement].

XIV. A general association of nations must be formed under specific guidelines for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.

Document 15: Political Cartoon, 1919



President Wilson >

YOU CAN'T REALLY BLAME HIM FOR WANTING A LIFE-PRESERVER.

—Reid in *The National Republican*

Document 16: “Thoughts for the Times on War and Death”, Sigmund Freud, 1915

“We had expected the great ruling powers among the white nations upon whom the leadership of the human species has fallen...to whose creative powers were due our technical advances in the direction of dominating nature, as well as the artistic and scientific acquisitions of the mind--peoples such as these we had expected to succeed in discovering another way of settling misunderstandings and conflicts of interest.”

“And so, if we are to be judged by the wishes in our unconscious, we are, like primitive men, simply a gang of murderers.”

## Document 17: Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of Poisonous Gases and Bacteriological Methods of Warfare

Geneva, June 17, 1925

THE UNDERSIGNED PLENIPOTENTIARIES, in the name of their respective Governments:

Whereas the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and of all analogous liquids, materials or devices, has been justly condemned by the general opinion of the civilised world; and

Whereas the prohibition of such use has been declared in Treaties to which the majority of Powers of the world are Parties; and

To the end that this prohibition shall be universally accepted as a part of International Law, binding alike the conscience and the practice of nations; declare:

That the High Contracting Parties, so far as they are not already Parties to Treaties prohibiting such use, accept this prohibition, agree to extend this prohibition to the use of bacteriological methods of warfare and agree to be bound as between themselves according to the terms of this declaration.

The High Contracting Parties will exert every effort to induce other States to accede to the present Protocol. Such accession will be notified to the Government of the French Republic, and by the latter to all signatory and acceding Powers, and will take effect on the date of the notification by the Government of the French Republic.

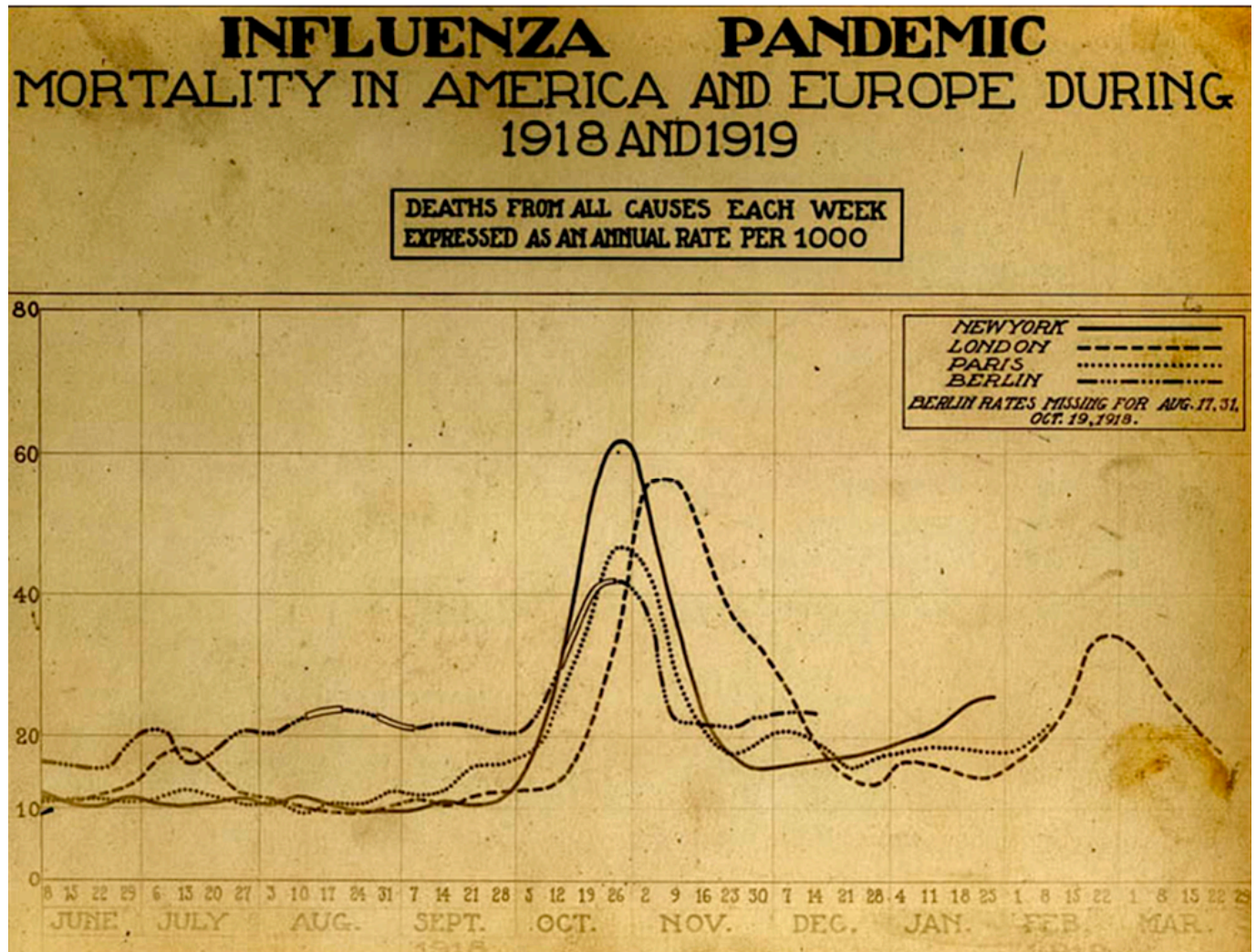
In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol. Done at Geneva in a single copy, the seventeenth day of June, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Five. (\*)

[For Germany:] H. VON ECKARDT  
 [For the United States of America:] THEODORE E. BURTON, HUGH S. GIBSON  
 [For Austria:] E. PFLUGL  
 [For Belgium:] FERNAND PELTZE  
 [For Brazil:] CONTRE-AMIRAL A. C. DE SOUZA E SILVA, MAJOR ESTEVAO LEITAO DE CARVALHO  
 [For the British Empire:] I declare that my signature does not bind India or any British Dominion which is a separate Member of the League of Nations and does not separately sign or adhere to the Protocol. ONSLOW  
 [For Canada:] WALTER A. RIDDELL  
 [For the Irish Free State:]  
 [For India:] P.Z.COX  
 [For Bulgaria:] D. MIKOFF  
 [For Chile:] LUIS CABRERA. GENERAL DE DIVISION  
 [For China:]  
 [For Colombia:]  
 [For Denmark:] A. OLDENBURG  
 [For Egypt] AHMED EL KADRY  
 [For Spain:] EMILIO DE PALACIO  
 [For Estonia:] J. LAIDONER  
 [For Abyssinia:] GUETATCHO U, BLATA HEROUY HEROUY, A. TASFAE  
 [For Finland:] O. ENCKELL  
 [For France:] J. PAUL-BONCOUR  
 [For Greece:] VASSILI DENDRAMIS, D. VLACHOPOULOS  
 [For Hungary:]

[For Italy:] PIETRO CIMIENTI, ALBERTO DE MARINIS-STENDARDO  
 [For Japan:] M. MATSUDA  
 [For Latvia:] COLONEL HARTMANIS  
 [For Lithuania:] DR. ZAUNIUS  
 [For Luxemburg:] CH. G. VERMAIRE  
 [For Nicaragua:] A. SOTTILE  
 [For Norway:] CHR. L. LANGE  
 [For Panama:]  
 [For the Netherlands:] W. DOUDE VAN TROOSTWIJK, W. GUERIN  
 [For Persia:]  
 [For Poland:] GENERAL CASIMIR SOSNKOWSKI, G. D. MORAWSKI  
 [For Portugal:] A. M. BARTHOLOMEW FERREIRA, AMERICO DA COSTA LEME  
 [For Roumania:] N. P. COMNENE, GENERAL T. DUMITRESCU  
 [For Salvador:] J. GUSTAVO GUERRER  
 [For Siam:] M. C. VIPULYA  
 [For Sweden:] EINAR HENNING  
 [For Switzerland:] LOHNER, ED. MULLER  
 [For the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes:] J. DOUTCHITCH, GENERAL KALAFATOVITCH, CAPT. D. FREG. MARIASEVITCH  
 [For Czechoslovakia:] DR. VEVERKA FERDINAND  
 [For Turkey:] M. TEVFIK  
 [For Uruguay:] ENRIQUE E. BUERO  
 [For Venezuela:] C. PARRA PEREZ .

\*The United States Senate has not consented to ratification.

Document 18: Chart of deaths in major cities due to Influenza Pandemic of 1918-19, and two common rhymes of the time



I had a little bird,  
 Its name was Enza,  
 I opened the window,  
 And in-flew-enza.  
 -American Skipping Rhyme circa 1918

“Obey the laws  
 And wear the gauze.  
 Protect your jaws  
 From septic paws.”  
 -Popular verse circa 1918

Document 19: **Adolf Hitler, SPEECH OF SEPTEMBER 18, 1922 (MUNICH)**

. . . ECONOMICS is a secondary matter. World history teaches us that no people became great through economics: it was economics that brought them to their ruin. A people died when its race was disintegrated. Germany, too, did not become great through economics.

A people that in its own life [volkisch] has lost honor becomes politically defenseless, and then becomes enslaved also in the economic sphere.

Internationalization today means only Judaization. We in Germany have come to this: that a sixty-million people sees its destiny to lie at the will of a few dozen Jewish bankers. This was possible only because our civilization had first been Judaized. The undermining of the German conception of personality by catchwords had begun long before. Ideas such as 'Democracy,' 'Majority,' 'Conscience of the World,' 'World Solidarity,' 'World Peace,' 'Internationality of Art,' etc., disintegrate our race-consciousness, breed cowardice, and so today we are bound to say that the simple Turk is more man than we are.

No salvation is possible until the bearer of disunion, the Jew, has been rendered powerless to harm.

1. **We must call to account the November criminals of 1918.** It cannot be that two million Germans should have fallen in vain and that afterwards one should sit down as friends at the same table with traitors. No, we do not pardon, we demand - Vengeance!

2. The dishonoring of the nation must cease. For betrayers of their Fatherland and informers the gallows is the proper place. Our streets and squares shall once more bear the names of our heroes; they shall not be named after Jews. In the Question of Guilt we must proclaim the truth.

3. The administration of the State must be cleared of the rabble which is fattened at the stall of the parties.

5. WE MUST DEMAND A GREAT ENLIGHTENMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF THE **PEACE TREATY**. WITH THOUGHTS OF LOVE? NO! BUT IN HOLY HATRED AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE RUINED US.

6. The lies which would veil from us our misfortunes must cease. The fraud of the present money-madness must be shown up. That will stiffen the necks of us all.

8. WE DEMAND IMMEDIATE EXPULSION OF ALL JEWS WHO HAVE ENTERED GERMANY SINCE 1914, and of all those, too, who through trickery on the Stock Exchange or through other shady transactions have gained their wealth.

9. The housing scarcity must be relieved through energetic action; houses must be granted to those who deserve them. Eisner said in 1918 that we had no right to demand the return of our prisoners - he was only saying openly what all Jews were thinking. **People who so think must feel how life tastes in a concentration camp!**

Extremes must be fought by extremes. Against the infection of materialism, against the Jewish pestilence we must hold aloft a flaming ideal. And if others speak of the World and Humanity we say the Fatherland - and only the Fatherland!

Document 20:  
Campaign Poster for  
Adolf Hitler (1938)

# Zug um Zug zerriß Adolf Hitler das Diktat v. Versailles!

**1933** Deutschland verläßt  
den Völkerbund von Versailles!

**1934** Der Wiederaufbau der Wehrmacht, der Kriegs-  
marine und der Luftwaffe wird eingeleitet!

**1935** Saargebiet heimgeholt!  
Wehrhoheit des Reiches wiedergewonnen!

**1936** Rheinland vollständig befreit!

**1937** Kriegsschuldfrage feierlich ausgelöscht!

**1938** Deutsch-Oesterreich dem Reich angegeschlossen!  
Großdeutschland verwirklicht!

Darum bekennt sich ganz Deutschland am 10. April  
zu seinem Befreier

**Adolf Hitler**

**Alle sagen:**

**Ja!**

Translation:

Step by Step  
Adolf Hitler ripped up  
the Mandate (Treaty) of Versailles!

1933 Germany leaves the League of Nations created by Versailles  
1934 Reconstruction of the Wehrmacht (army), the navy and the Luftwaffe (air force) begun!  
1935 Saarland brought back home! Armed power of the Reich regained!  
1936 Rhineland completely liberated!  
1937 The myth of war guilt ceremoniously extinguished!  
1938 Germany and Austria united in the Reich! Greater Germany achieved!

Therefore the whole of Germany will acknowledge their liberator on 10th April.

(To) Adolf Hitler All say: YES!!