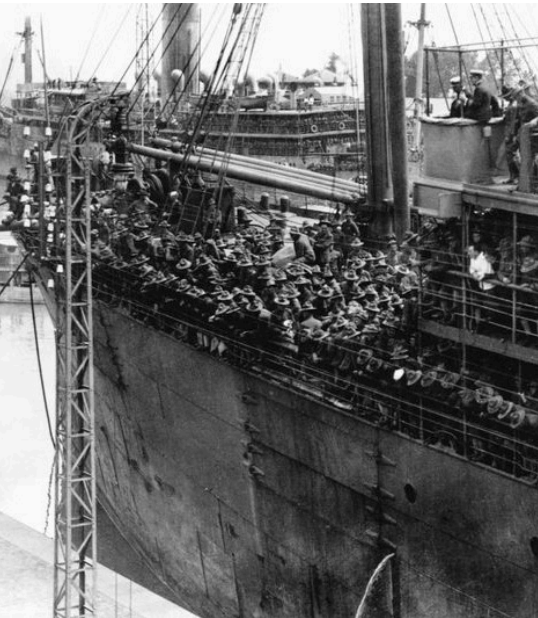


World War One Through our eyes



This magazine was created by pupils from France, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Germany, Georgia.

2016-2017 eTwinning



REPORT

Read about the
American troops
debarking in France

WEAPONS

Learn about Polish
weapons and uniforms



LIFE ON FRONT

See how Bulgarian
fought.



MEMORY OF WAR

Discover the Mărășești
mausoleum in Romania



WW1 through our eyes

Since 2014 we are talking a lot about the centenary of World War I. Therefore, it is a perfect time to have a European project dealing with this great event in our common history. Our students hear a lot of things on TV about it. We wanted to make them aware of what happened during this war, and particularly to learn and compare what happen in our different countries.

We decided to work collaboratively between European countries: France, Bulgaria, Germany, Poland, Romania and Georgia.

This magazine was made by pupils from all our countries.

We collaborate by using www.etwinning.net

You can see our website here:
<https://twinspace.etwinning.net/22168/home>

Our pupils worked on different themes and tried to organize everything they found into this magazine.

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Europe before
1 world war



Poland in the war

Poland was not independent for about 120 years, despite several uprisings. The Poles took part in the First World War, because they hoped to regain independence.

The Poles as citizens of Russia, Austria-Hungary and Germany fought within the armies of those countries, in addition there were created additional military units such as the Blue Army, also called the Haller's army, in France and the Polish Legions created by Jozef Pilsudski in Austria-Hungary. The latter fought on the side of the Entente since 1917. After the Battle of Verdun and the river Soma both the Central and Entente needed recruits. To convince Poles to fight on their side, they offered a variety of conditions and the shape of the borders of the future Poland e.g. The president of the U.S.A. promised the Poles an access to the sea. Britain and France wanted to separate Western Europe from Soviet Russia. The creation of an independent Polish meant the creation of a buffer state between engulfed Russia and Western Europe. He had correctly predicted that the war would ruin all three of the partitioners, a conclusion most people thought highly unlikely before 1918. Pilsudski therefore formed the Polish Legions to assist the Central Powers in defeating Russia as the first step toward full independence of Poland.

Since 1917 the Polish Legions no longer fought at the side of the Central Powers. Jozef Pilsudski was arrested and spent the rest of the war in prison in Magdeburg. He returned to Poland on 10.10. 1918. Role Dmowski: he spent the war years in Western Europe, hoping to persuade the Allies to unify the Polish lands under Russian rule as an initial step toward liberation. Dmowski eventually settled in Lausanne, where on August 15, 1917, he was unanimously elected the president of Polish National Committee. Roman Dmowski during the peace negotiations in Versailles.

Definitely Poland's borders were established in June 1922.

Biographies

Biographie of Raymond Poincaré

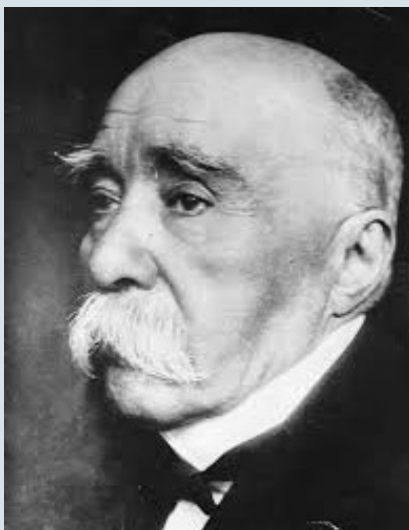
Raymond Poincaré (1860-1934) was born on August the 20th of 1860. He became lawyer in 1880. He became the president of the Republic of France in 1913. He is one of the main triggers of the First World War. He doesn't hesitate to come to the front and to speak to the soldiers to judge their moral.



Raymond Poincaré

Biographie of Georges Clemenceau

Georges Clémenceau (1841-1929) did medicine studies, but after, he decided to make politic. He becomes a senator from 1902 and president of council from 1906 till 1909. He comes to power as the conflict continues and the soldiers are tired to fight, Georges Clemenceau tries to cheer up troops by visiting the soldiers in trenches, in spite of the risks. He fights also resolutely against the mutinies and the desertions. Georges Clemenceau is nicknamed "Père de la Victoire" ("Father of Victory") or still "Le Tigre" ("The Tiger").



Georges Clemenceau

The "Union Sacrée" in France



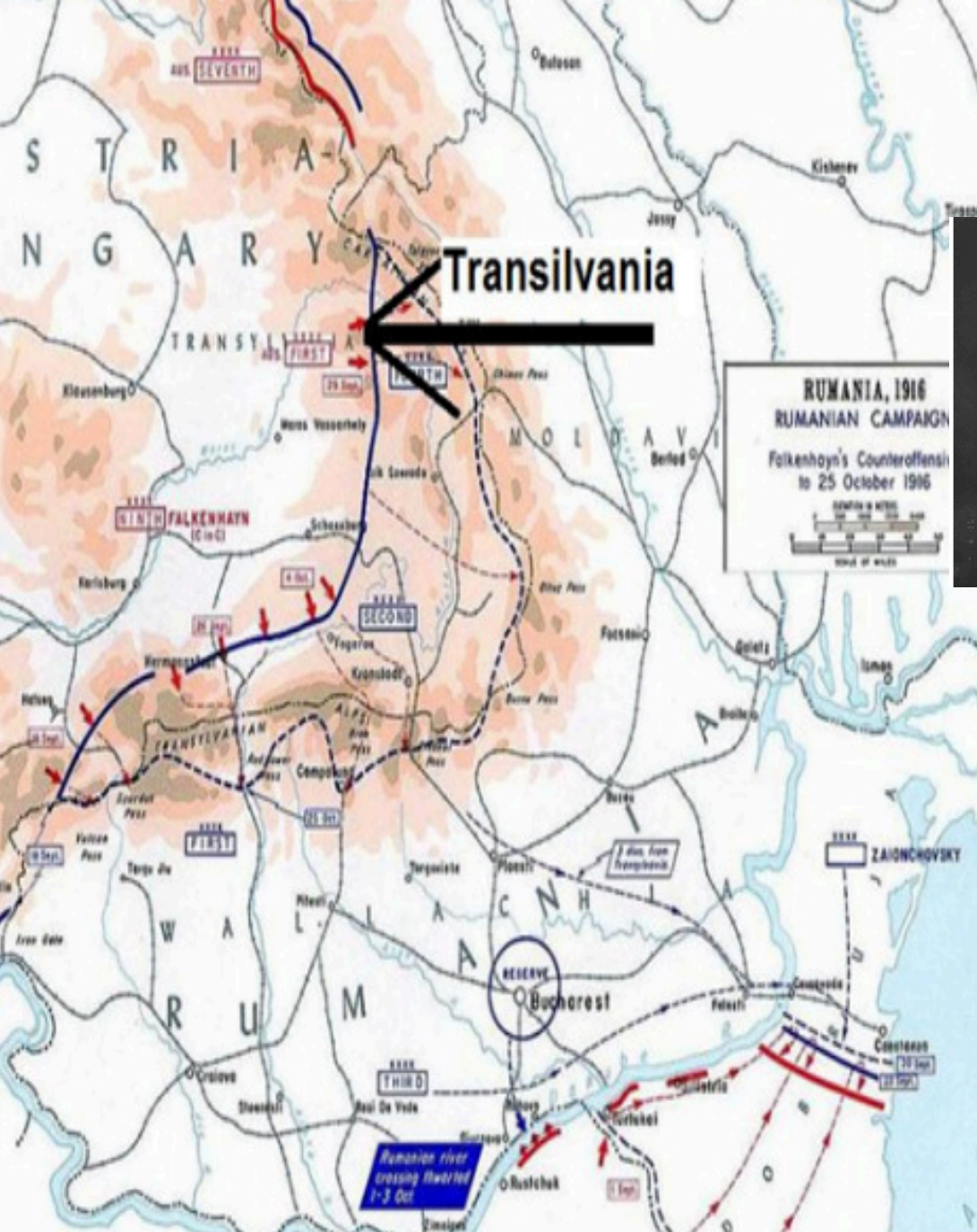
In France, the "Union Sacrée" was a political move which gather all the french political parties to concentrate the country on the war. It was on the 4th of August 1914 and France decided it to be stronger against the enemies. Before the war, France has done an alliance with United Kingdom and Russia.

It was named the Triple Entente. Those countries are allied against the Triple Alliance who were Germany, Italy and Austria-Hungary. The relations between the two camps were really strained because of territories rivalities, for example: between France and Germany.

The Triple Alliance : Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy

VS-

The Triple Entente : United Kingdom, France, Russia



Romania in war

At the outbreak of World War I, the new Romanian Prime Minister, Ion I. C. Brătianu (1865-1927) was able to prevent King Carol I and the conservative Germanophile politician Petre P. Carp (1837-1919) from engaging the country in war alongside the Triple Alliance. Neither the representatives of the Entente, nor those eded in drawing Romania onto their side from the beginning. Romanian society was split in two – on one side the ‘Germanophiles’ led by Carp, who, based on the last century’s experience feared an all mighty Russia and wanted to enter the war alongside the Triple Alliance, and on the other side, the Entente supporters, gathered around the figure of I. C. Brătianu, who wanted to pursue the war against Austria-Hungary for the liberation of Transylvania.

Prime Minister Brătianu, who was also acting as Minister of Defense, exercised great precaution in the negotiations, as public opinion was hostile towards the Triple Alliance due to the Romanian question in Transylvania. However, he needed a political and military deal from the Entente Powers if Romania were to join the war on their side. On 3 August 1914, the Crown Council, against the will of the king and the conservative political figure P. P. Carp, decided on provisional neutrality for Romania. Ion I.C. Brătianu

Opposite, a French propaganda poster saying: "Subscribe to the 'Victory' loan."



Principles of the propaganda in France in 1914

T

here is four principles of the propaganda.

The first principle is to have french people believe that the enemy doesn't know what he in attacking our country.

The second principle is to have people believe that it's a war which is deadly only for the enemy.

The third principle is that words doesn't have the same signification according to if it's allied forces or enemy.

Finally, the fourth principle is to make believe the people that the enemy is capable of any dishonour and that he has all the vices while the honor reign in our lines.

This is a post-card which says : "The beast feels coming the end !" (right picture)

For France, give
your gold
The gold fights for
the victory !



"A Good Month's Business"

On this anti-german propaganda, we can see devils (representation of the nazi) who look at a monthly report of murder :

164 murder of babies
178 murder of children
292 murder of women

We can see murder of non-combatants but we can't see how much.



French propaganda during the First World War

The propaganda was addressed to all the french population (women, old men...). The propaganda is also addressed to the young people to encourage them to go to fight. The three main kind of propaganda are posters, cinema and radio.

So let's recap :

- The propaganda is to demonize the enemy.
- To encourage the population to sacrifice herself/to contribute to the war effort.
- To justify the war

The concepts in the back of the mind

A German? That seems not important but yet...

- Ferocity
- Destruction
- Theft
- Combativeness



"Poles! Under the Polish flag on to the fight
<FOR OUR LIBERTY
AND YOURS> enlist to-
day"



**Polacy! Kościuszko i Pułaski walczyli
za wolność Polski i innych narodów!
Idźmy w ich ślady! Hej na bój z
wrogiem odwiecznym Polski i wolności!**

POLES! KOSCIUSZKO AND PULASKI FOUGHT FOR THE LIBERTY
OF POLAND AND OTHER NATIONS. FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE.
ENLIST IN THE POLISH ARMY!

"Poles! Kosciuszko and
Pulaski fought for the
liberty of Poland and
other nations. Follow
their example. Enlist in
the Polish army!"



**Polacy! Idźcie na bój
na prawy-
ziemię Polską, za pokrzywdzoną!**

POLES! UNDER THE POLISH FLAG ON TO THE FIGHT
FOR OUR LIBERTY AND YOURS!" ENLIST TO-DAY

POLISH POSTERS

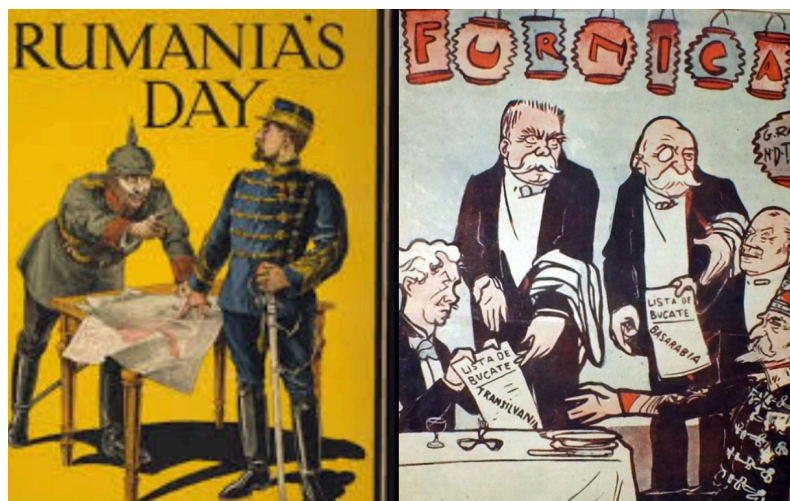
In 1918 Poland became independent after 123 years of occupation. Poles fought in armies of Germany, Russia and Austro - Hungarian Empire. They also supported the French army. There poster encourage volunteer to join the armies. WW1 was a great chance for Poles to restore the country.



**Śladami Ojców Naszych
w Szeregach Armii Polskiej
za Ojczyznę i Wolność**

FOLLOWING THE PATHS OF OUR FATHERS IN THE RANKS
OF THE POLISH ARMY FOR MOTHERLAND AND FREEDOM





Romania had been allied with the Central Powers since 1882. When the war began, however, it declared its neutrality, arguing that because Austria-Hungary had itself declared war on Serbia, Romania was under no obligation to join the war. When the Entente Powers promised Romania large territories of eastern Hungary (Transylvania and Banat), which had a large Romanian population, in exchange for Romania's declaring war on the Central Powers, the Romanian government renounced its neutrality and, on 27 August 1916, the Romanian Army launched an attack against Austria-Hungary

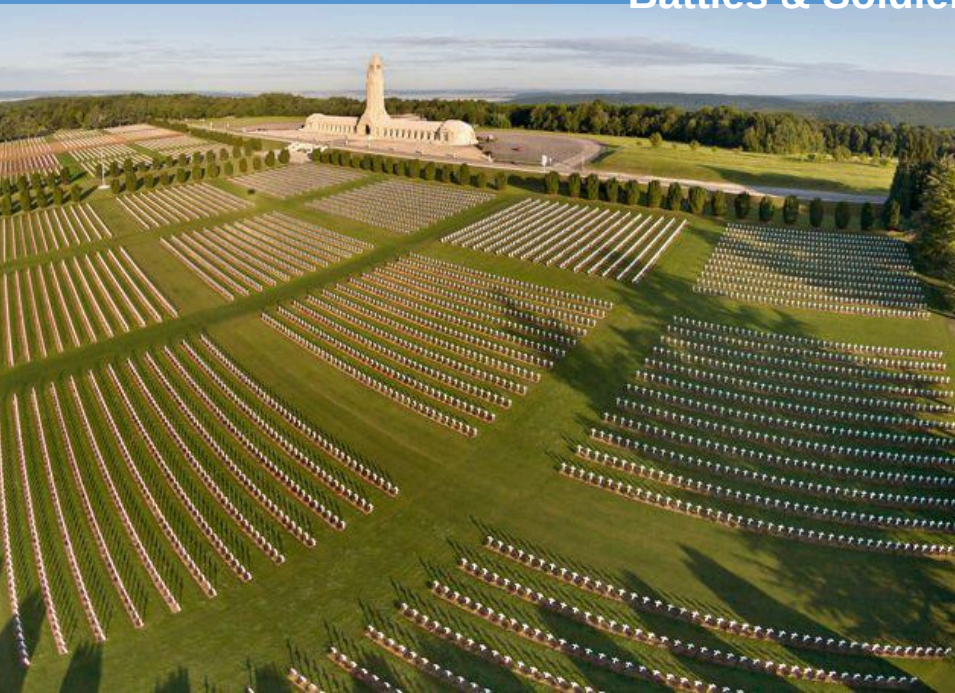
It is about the two alliance: Entente and Central Powers. They want to Romania choose their offer. Central Powers promised Romania, Basarabia territories of eastern Russia. Entente offer Transylvania and Banat.

In Romania of 1914-1916, didn't exist any state or private institutions designed for propaganda to proclaim or defend the national interest on the international stage, because each party or personality understand differently what that national interest should be. Beside, the Romanian state was far away from that level of social and political development that was the norm in Western Europe, to allow the birth of such organizations requiring political maturity, national structure, resolution and vigor. That's why the Romanian propaganda was done in a chaotic way at individual level of initiative, each person acting alone stimulated by personal pride instead of genuine patriotism and focused on their welfare instead of countrys' interests. For ideological reasons, communist propaganda ignored the strong opposition of some political leaders (like Petre P. Carp) against an alliance with Tsarist Russia, meanwhile the Conservatives (like Alexandru Marghiloman and Titu Maiorescu) encouraged a type of neutrality kind to Germany.

The strong hostility against Russia was motivated by Moscow's threat of expansion and domination over Eastern Europe (which happened a hundred years later) and by the terrible political and social regime imposed by the Russian authorities for the Romanians from Bessarabia. Professor Boia's book proves without a doubt that a lot of the Romanian political leaders were not willing to support an alliance with Antanta to free Transylvania, which meant forgetting Bessarabia. Even Ion Bratianu, the liberal leader and prime minister at the time, kept secret his Government decision to adhere Antanta powers, until the war was declared.

Propaganda Poster

This is about neutrality of Romania 1914-1916. This is wrote Nor any of the czar, but with the country! Nor any of the German, but with the Romanian people! This poster is about how strong people thought they are above everyone and stole their rights, and on the other side was freedom of speaking and being along with justice. "Let's go and fight for our country and our rights, let it be justice!"



↑ The location of the city of Verdun.

← Graves of the Ossuary of Douaumont which regroup corpses by religion.

Today, at Verdun, there is a construction which host all the soldiers who died during the war and tribute: the Ossuary of Douaumont.

This is how mass violence took place: 300 000 soldiers French and German died, 16 000 shells were drawn per day approximately, deadly tactics, women's remain without husbands and children without their fathers.

The Battle of Verdun

The Battle of Verdun took place during the WW1 from February 21th to December 19th 1916. This battle opposed France and Germany who wanted this city which is located on the German and French borders. Germans were the first to attack. At the beginning of the war, the area was French but during the war, Germans gained ground. Finally, France was the winner. This battle is important for the French memory because it's one of the most violent battle of the WW1, and french soldiers almost all fought at Verdun.



The sources

<http://www.chambredhotesaufildelaire-varenesenargonne.fr/centenaire-14-18/>

<http://www.cartes-2-france.com/villes/verdun-55100.php>

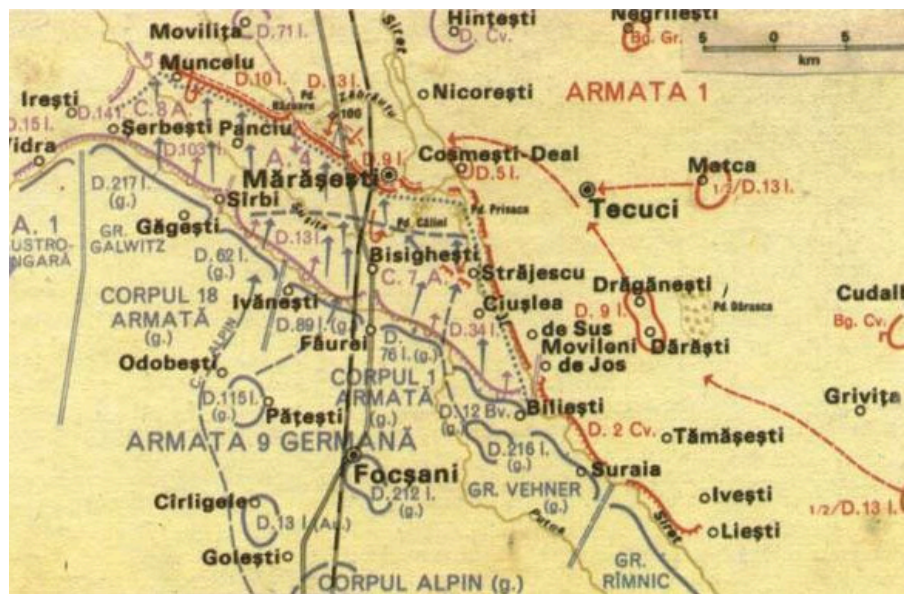
<https://fr.pinterest.com/explore/ossuaire-de-douaumont/>

← A shield located to Verdun. They're many shell holes.

The Battle Of Marasesti

It was fought between July 22 and August 1, 1917, and was an offensive operation of the Romanian and Russian Armies intended to encircle and destroy the German 9th Army that resulted in a marginal Romanian/Russian victory. The operation was planned to occur in tandem with the Nămolnasa offensive:

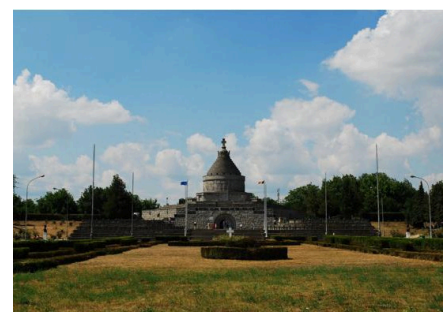
For 29 days, until September 3, this sector was the scene of the most important battle delivered by the Romanian army during the 1917 campaign. The Battle of Mărășești had three distinct stages. During the first stage (August 6–12), successively committed to battle, the troops of the Romanian First Army, together with Russian forces, managed to arrest the enemy advance and forced the Germans, through their resistance, to gradually change the direction of their attack north-westward. In the second stage (August 13–19), the Romanian Command completely took over the command of the battle from the Russians and the confrontation reached its climax on August 19, ending in a complete thwarting of the enemy's attempts to advance. The third stage (August 20 – September 3) actually saw the last German attempt at least to improve their positions in view of a new offensive, this one too baffled by the Romanian response. Romania lost over 27,000 men, including 610 officers, while Germany and Austria-Hungary lost over 47,000. The Romanian heroine Ecaterina Teodorescu was killed by machine gun fire on September 3. Five days later, Karl von Wenninger (de), a Major General in the German Army, was killed by artillery fire near the village of Muncelu.



Map of Marasesti

THE ROMANIAN FRONT 1917

During the hard winter of 1917/1918, the equipment from the Western Allies finally started to come in: 150,000 rifles, 2,000 MGs, 1,300,000 grenades, 355 artillery pieces, gas masks etc. The army was reorganized and retrained mostly with the help of the French military mission. It now had only 15 infantry divisions (in 1916 there were 23) and 2 cavalry divisions divided among 5 corps and two armies. There were also 6 observation squadrons, 4 fighter squadrons and 2 bomber squadrons.



The Battle

Marasesti

The Battle of Mărășești was one of the main battles to take place on Romanian soil in World War I.

Date: July 22 to August 1, 1917 **Location:** Mărășești, Eastern Romania

Result: Tactical Romanian victory

Belligerents: Commanders and leaders: Alexandru Averescu

Strength: 56 infantry battalions, 14 cavalry squadrons, 228 guns. **Casualties and losses** 4,879 casualties (romanian part).

Romania: Marasesti battle

Date August 6 – September 8, 1917 **Location** Mărășești, Vrancea, Eastern Romania **Result** Romanian and Russian defensive success

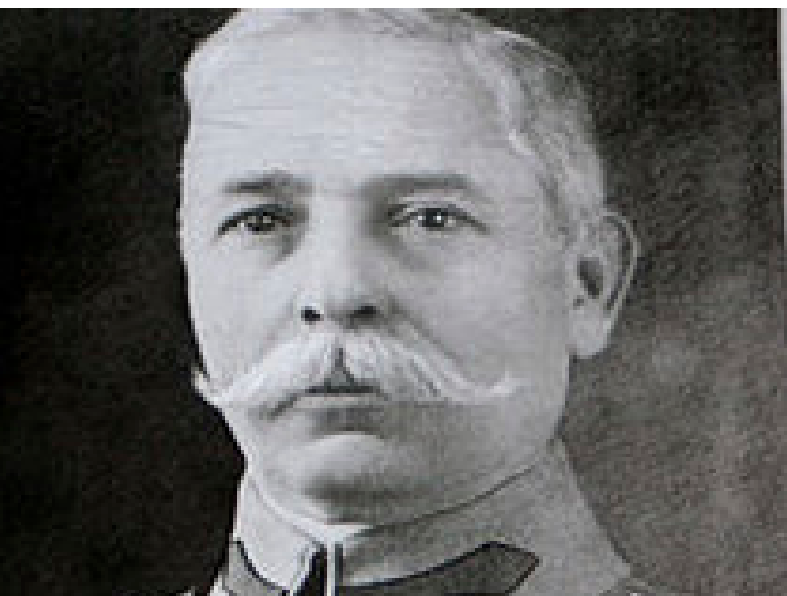
General development of the battle of Marasesti. The Battle of Mărășești (August 6, 1917 – September 8, 1917) was the last major battle between the German Empire and the Kingdom of Romania on the Romanian front during World War I. Romania was mostly occupied by the Central Powers, but the Battle of Mărășești kept the northeastern region of the country free from occupation.

The new offensive was going to be launched west of the Siret River, on the Focsani – Marasesti – Adjud direction, with the German 9th Army (general Johannes von Eben) and on the Oituz Valley with the Austro-Hungarian 1st Army (Archduke Joseph). The objective was to encircle and destroy the 2nd Army.

Battle of New Korczyn Between 15 and 24 of September 1914 heavy fighting took place in that area by only just forming Polish Legions Infantry Regiment commanded by Józef Piłsudski. On this important for stability part of Austrian front legionaries conducted operations preventing the progress of the Russian offensive by Cavalry Corps of gen. Aleksander Novikov. **Battle of Rarańczka** Took place in the night of 15 to 16 February 1918. Polish units of the Polish Auxiliary Corps (II Brigade of the legions under the command of Józef Haller) after receiving information about the Treaty of Brzesc refused to obey Austro-Hungarian command and broke through the Austrian front in order to connect with the Polish units in Russia.

Battle of Konary, 16 – 23 of May 1915, between the Austro-Hungarian and Russian armies. Part of Austro-Hungarian army was the Polish Legions Brigade under the command of Brigadier Józef Piłsudski. Buys of Konary were part of a larger operation, known as the battle of Opatów and Klimontów. From the Austro-Hungarian Empire side attacked the army under the command of Victor Dankla composed of I and II Corps. From the Russians' side there were the XXV Corps of Gen. Alexander Ragozy and XXXI Corps of Gen. Paul Myszczenko. The biggest intensity of the battle took place from 16 to 25 May 1915. Later both sides passed to the positional war until 23 of June. In a substantial length the front line was the river Koprzywianka. **Battle of Krzywopłoty** played on local fields between 14 and 17 of November 1914.





Famous soldiers in Romania during WWI

1. Alexandru Averescu

(b. March 9, 1859, Ismail - d. October 3, 1938, Bucharest), army general, then marshal, politician, honorary member of the Romanian Academy of 7 June 1923, he led the Romanian army to great victories from Marasti and Oituz in the War of unifying the nation. General Alexander Averescu was a special event in the political history of Romania. Speculating maximum grievances of people after World War I, he founded his own party, which has succeeded in establishing itself on the political scene of the first decade of wars. In the early years after the war, was really created a myth around him, the peasants considered him a "Messiah of the Romanian people." It will quickly sweep during its governments, when they saw clearly that between the collective imagination and reality is a big difference.

2. Eremia Grigorescu

(b. November 28, 1863, Targu Bujor, Galați - d. July 21, 1919, Bucharest) was an artillery general of the Romanian Army, War Minister between October 24, 1918 - November 29, 1918, a national hero. Romania entered World War I in 1916, finds him in the post of commander of 15 Infantry Division. Gets victories at Mulciova and Arabagi in Dobrogea. Here his is sent by emergency with his division at Oituz. He will earn three decisive battles, and managed to stabilize the front. By July 1917 he stays with his Division on positions, then sent to Nămolosa, as commander of the Army Corps VI. Hence the command is sent to Mărășești Romanian Army and of the fourth Russian.

3. General Constantin Christescu

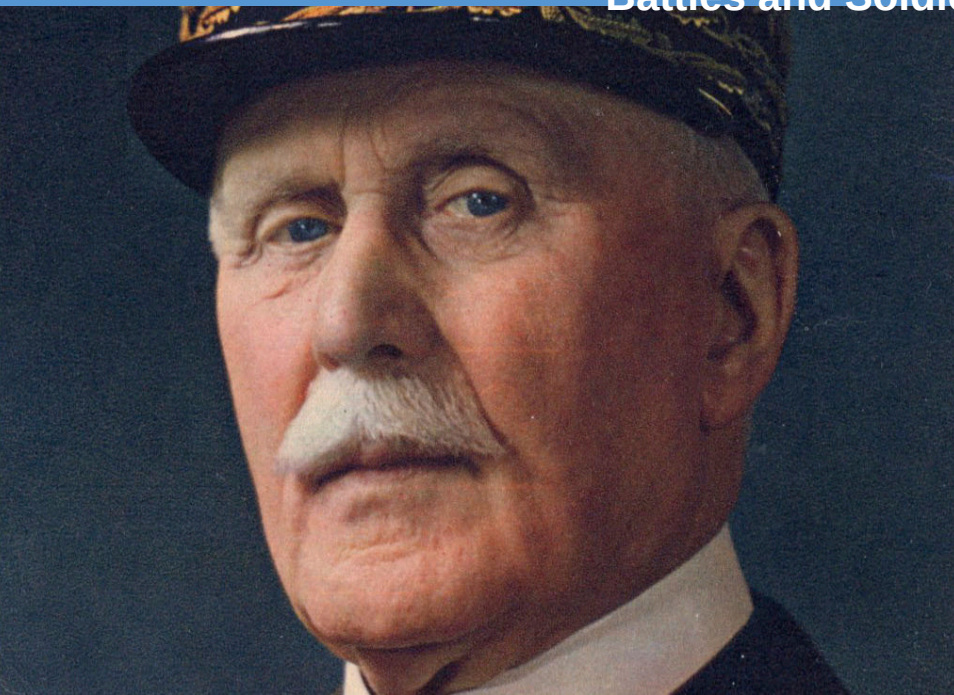
one of the main creators of the campaign plans of 1916 and 1917 and at the request of Serbia and campaign plan against the Bulgarian army was changed, perhaps unfairly, to lead Army, with only a few days before the onset of the great battles of Mărășești, but was replaced by a man of the same rank, General Eremia Grigorescu. His name has not been forgotten, and is recognized as one of the great commanders of the army and creator of school staff in Romania. His grave is at the Bellu Cemetery in Bucharest, and in 2013, 90 years after his death was commemorated by a great military ceremony.

4. Captain Grigorie Ignat

from 51/52 Infantry Regiment had been ordered to occupy the area Mărășești - At Răzoare positions weakened and resisted until it got reinforcements. And resisted fiercely with his soldiers under German artillery fire, including tens of shells and shootings and ordered that the dead be put into firing position. During the battle of August 6, 1917-Mărășești of all 180 soldiers fell heroically, as captain Ignat, found dead under enemy corpses, in a trench, with a machine gun in his arms.

A local soldier Ghita Gurgau

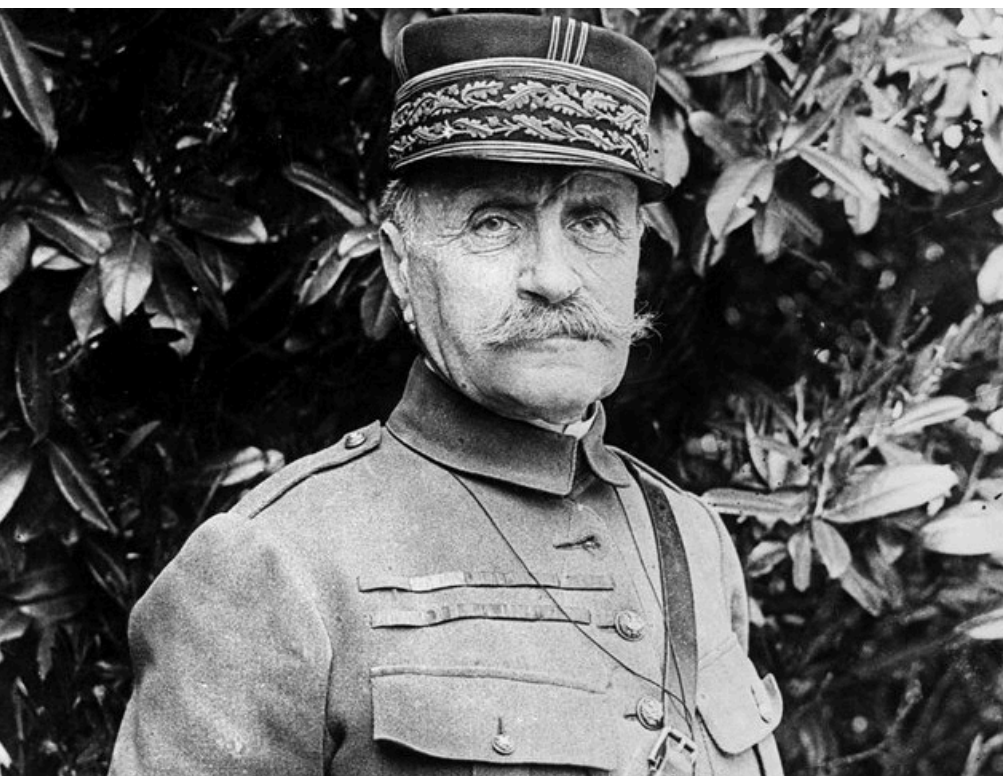
was born in Baltagești, Harsova, near Constanta, in a famous family. In the First World war, he was part of the Romanian Army. Ghita Gurgau fought in the district thirty-three, Tulcea and he was sublocotenent of the force. He was very young, only twenty-nine, but he was a very good fighter. When he was on the front, in a warm day of October, while his family was trying to find a safe place in Moldova, he was killed. He was shut in the head. The last words for this brave soldiers was: I fight a lot! I am happy because I dead for my country! Ghita Gurgau learnt how to die. Because of this, because he was so brave, because he died for his country, he is considered a hero.



Philippe Pétain, often called **maréchal Pétain**, was born on the 24th april 1856 in Cauchy-à-la-Tour (in the north of the France) and he is dead on the 23th july 1951 at Port-Joinville, (in the west of the France, near the sea), he was a soldier, diplomat and a french statesman. In 1900, boss of a battalion, he went to the battle of the Marne, and became a general of division in the 14th september. He was the Man of the Verdun Battle ! Named general in october, he realised many amazing actions during this war.

Famous and local soldiers in France during WW1

We did a research about a French soldier of our town, whose name is written in war monument in the cemetery, his name is Jean Baptiste Marie Babin. He was born on the 13th April in 1891 in St Etienne de Montluc. He was a farmer. He had brown hair, blue eyes and a medium forehead and a medium nose. He had a coloured skin. He went to the 4th regiment of "zouaves", he fought in Maroc against Germany and then he disappeared on the 25th of May 1915, he was 24 years old.



Ferdinand Foch (**maréchal** (the most important military rank) of the France, of Great Britain and Poland) was born on the 2th october 1851 in Tarbes and he is dead on the 20th march 1929 in Paris, is a general officer and a member of the French Academy. He did many things to save France.

Famous soldiers in Bulgaria during WW1



Vladimir Vazov



Alexander Nikolov Protogerov is a Bulgarian officer (Lieutenant General), politician and revolutionary. He is among the most important figures in the liberation movement of the Macedonian Bulgarians, as alternately occupy senior positions in the Supreme Macedonian-Adrianople Committee, Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization and the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization.

Kliment Boyadzhiev Evtimov is a Bulgarian officer (Lieutenant General). During World War he commanded the First Bulgarian Army during its successful offensive in Serbia. In operations of the Central Powers to defeat Serbia in autumn 1915 General Boyadzhiev commanded the biggest Bulgarian group - First Army.

Boris Drangov was born on 3 March (March 15 New Style) 1872 in Skopje, then the Ottoman Empire, the son of Stojan and Gyurga Drangov. His father was a wealthy merchant of timber. He graduated from fifth grade on Bulgarian pedagogical school in his hometown with honors. In 1891 he was admitted to the Military School in Sofia and by order №102 of 11 July he was assigned to 1st Junker company.

Konstantin Andonov Zhostov a Bulgarian officer (Major General), Chief of Staff of the Third Army during the Balkan War (1912-1913) and Chief of Staff of the army during the First World War (1915-1918).



Boris Drangov

Minchev Vladimir Vazov is a Bulgarian officer (Lieutenant General). He led Bulgarian forces during the successful defensive operation in Doiran during World War I. Vladimir Vazov was born on May 14, 1868 in Sopot and he was the eighth child in a family of Mincho Vazov and Saba Hadzhinikolova. His brothers writer Ivan Vazov, General Georgi Vazov and a politician Boris Vazov.

Ivan Kolev Stoyanov, known as Ivan Kolev, a Bulgarian military officer (Lieutenant General), called the father of Bulgarian cavalry. Ivan Kolev was born on September 15, 1863 in the Bessarabian village Banovka in the Russian Empire (today's Odessa region, Ukraine). During World War Major General Kolev was inspector of cavalry and horse commander of the First Division. Under his leadership the cavalry takes part in the offensive of the Third Army in Dobrogea - in battles at Kurtbunar, Kochmar and Karapelit, Dobrich, Mustafa FIA -

Uniforms, weapons



Equipment from french soldier in 1914



Tank of the First World War



Helmet during the World War I

The French foot soldiers still carry pants madder red become their distinguishing feature since 1829 and a condom grey or bluish iron closed by two rows of buttons.

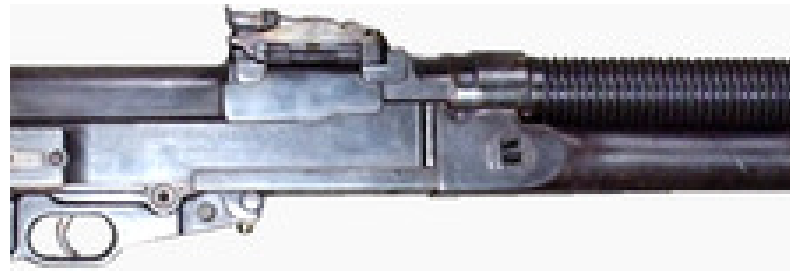


On 1915, a new light blue uniform is adopted. The condom (hood, greatcoat) finds a crossed buttoning which protects more the soldiers (2,60 m of length) replace the leather gaiters. He(it) is provided with pockets strengthened to store ammunitions or objects.

Improperly called "Lebel", the "rifle 86 modified 93".



Is the fruit of the works brought to a successful conclusion to the camp of Châlons in 1882 supervised by colonel Nicolas Lebel.



Weapons and Uniforms

In the first picture you can see French bolt action rifle Berthier 1892.

In the second picture is the French machine gun Hotchkiss Benet-Mercie.

Polish Army also had a tank regiment with Renault FT tanks.

On the last picture you can see Canon de Modele 1897- the french field artillery.

Poland in WW1

Because Poland is not independent state before WW1, Poles fought in different armies. They fought for Germany, Austro-Hungary, Russia and France.

Poland

Weapons and Uniform of Polish Blue Army



In the picture you can see french bolt action rifle Berthier 1892 used by Polish Blue Army.



Poland in Great War

Poland is not had independent country before WW1 so Poles fought in different armies. They fought for Germany, Austro-Hungary, Russia and France

History

Hotchkiss Benet-Mercie



Polish Uniform



Polish Army in France
used French machine
guns Benet-Mercie



General Haller

General Haller is Polish general.
He lead Polish Blue Army

More information

THE BULGARIAN ARMY IN THE MACEDONIAN

Art and Popular Design Books & Publications Documents Exhibits Film Photographs Sound Museum Administrative Records Managing Our Collections THE BULGARIAN ARMY IN THE MACEDONIAN CAMPAIGN, 1915-1918



THE BULGARIAN ARMY IN THE MACEDONIAN

Art and Popular Design Books & Publications Documents Exhibits Film Photographs Sound Museum Administrative Records Managing Our Collections THE BULGARIAN ARMY IN THE MACEDONIAN CAMPAIGN, 1915-1918



Life on front - Bulgaria

1. In 1917 tiredness and exhaustion of war prevail. The soldiers in the trenches freezing without warm clothes and shoes. Typhoid, cholera, dysentery and other serious infectious diseases mowed soldiers' ranks. There are no bandages and medicines, hygiene is poor, not enough military field hospitals and doctors. Communicable diseases take the lives of thousands of civilians.

2. Hungry, barefoot and frustrated soldiers are no longer willing to fight. Hundreds were shot to escape from the front and disobedience. When in September 1918 the troops of the Entente drilled Bulgarian positions at Dobro Pole, despair and anger igniting soldier discontent. 10,000 troops to leave Sofia request account by the rulers of Bulgaria's involvement in the war.

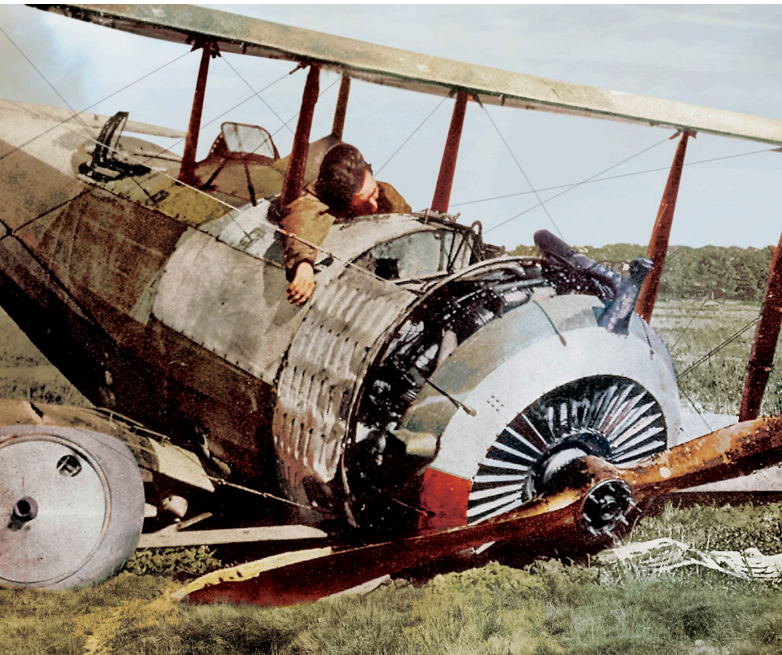


Bulgarian prisoners of war resting at the roadside during their march into captivity, November 1916.

MOMENTS OF WAR

In 1918, the daily ration of bread to the soldiers reached 250-300 grams. The country work 1/4 of enterprises. Agricultural production dropped by 1/3 of pre-war. To participate in the riots, anti-war activity, insubordination and leaving fronts sentenced 40 000 Bulgarian officers and soldiers. Of these, 450 were shot.

The food problem worsened from 1917 to 1918. Only low quality bread, made mainly from corn meal and sometimes augmented by ground corn husks, was available for the troops. After a tour of the front in June 1918, General Zhekov reported to Tsar Ferdinand, that, "The lack of food, mainly bread and meat, causes alarming unease and makes morale plummet." There was also a dearth of clothing and footgear. Some Bulgarian soldiers went into battle barefoot and in rags.



It was not too comfortable in the trenches, because the soldiers anyway would have to go to counterattack to die

The First World War was a war of position, the bloodiest and the cruelest in contemporary history

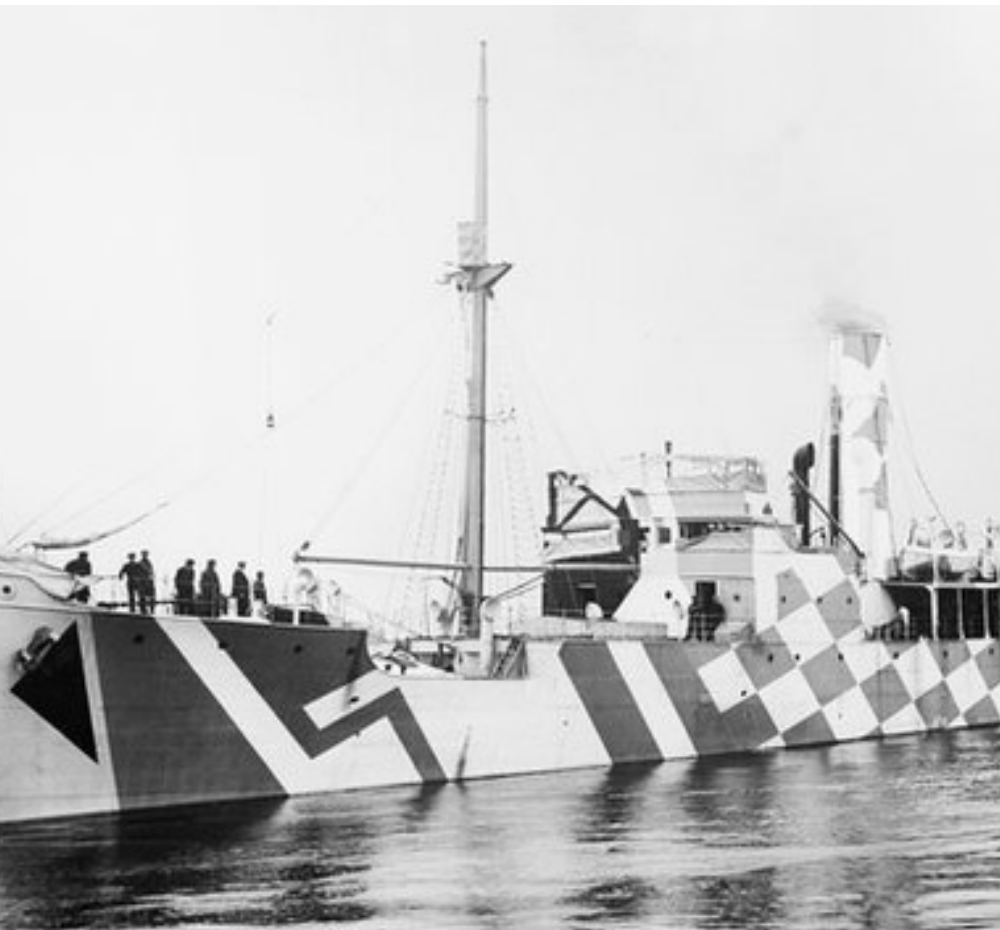
States of anticipation and routine were interrupted by the moment of the offensive and the beginning of the fight, which was the prelude to a hostile gunfire or artillery fire from the air

The end of the fight revealed the balance of losses and the land torn by missiles which was full of dead soldiers, fragmented bodies; the stench of burning blood and chlorine was wafting, cries and moans of wounded people and animals were heard everywhere.



A friendly atmosphere was only during the holidays; people could go out and share what they had

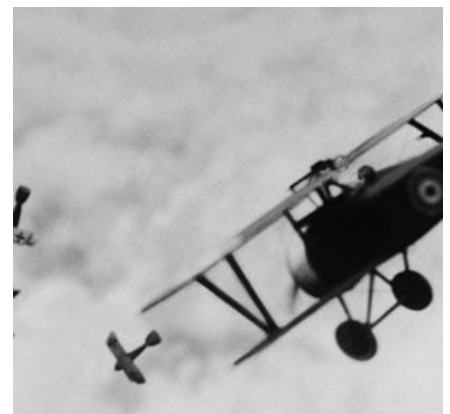




Finally, it is crucial to raise one more issue. Among the warring armies, the number of professional soldiers was small, Because they were random people e.g. a man who was a cobbler at the end of the war was unfit for work and social life, because he could not find his feet after 4 years of struggle

Typical Day In trenches

Around 5a.m. soldiers were woken up. (half an hour before daylight) Later half past five they had rum ration. At 6a.m. stand-to took place. An hour later they had breakfast (usually bacon and tea). After 8a.m. they washed themselves, cleaned the weapons and tidied their trenches. At noon they had dinner. After dinner they slept and had downtime (one man per ten on duty). At five o'clock they had traditional tea. At 6p.m. they stood down (half an hour after dusk), worked all night with some time for rest.



Free time in trenches:

Soldiers were:

- smoking,
- playing cards (poker, blackjack),
- cleaning their weapons,
- writing letters home

In the French trenches, life was very difficult for the soldiers. The living conditions in the trenches are atrocious.

There are lots of dead people because of very frequent shells. There are rats and louses because the soldiers don't wash themselves. When a trench is attacked by enemies, the soldiers are stucked for many days at the same place without drinking. For their rare moments of rest the soldiers write to their family. But the letters are banned so that they don't demoralize the civils. Some time the soldiers have a permission, they leave the zone of war for some days and they can go back in their house by train.



French trenches in the departement of the Meuse, in the north of the France.

Little extract of a french testimony :

Have a drinkable water after seeing ourselves like wilds animals, a ten of us around a hole shell to quarrel a quarter of stagnant water, muddy and dirty, to be able to eat something hot enough, something where there aren't mud inside, if only we have something to eat...



This pictures show the lifes conditions in the trenches. It shows the organisation and the dirtiness of the place.



DID YOU KNOW ?

The humans losses during the WW1 !

During the World War I there are a lots of dead people. In all, 18.6 millions of dead people. This number included 9.7 millions of soldiers and 8.9 millions of civils.



The life conditions in the Romanian Front were very difficult. Among Romanian marching discipline was very bad. Shipments traveled roads in any form, blocking anything, and no one seemed to notice this unless there was prevented their travel. Blockages were numerous. Wagons loaded though, were used by officers and troops. Food was exiguous. Sanitary conditions were unfavorable. The danger and death were everywhere. The real war was to survive in that conditions.

Life became increasingly heavy. Medicaments become very difficult to be found. More and more injured soldiers were coming every hour from the trenches. Their clothes were dirty and flawed and this was a very big disadvantage, because the soldiers could be injured easily in the fights.

IMAGES

DESCRIPTION

Image 1- During a brief appearance toilets Romanian soldiers on the front in Dobrogea, 1916

Image 2- Romanian soldier in a moment of rest in trenches , 1917

Image 3- The wounded soldiers are taken to the hospital

Image 4- Romanian soldiers in the trenches from reading press Mărășești



Queen Mary of Romania

During the war women were to be found mostly at the home front while a minority went close to the actual fronts where the war was being fought, some even into combat. Sufferings and injustices borne by disadvantaged categories such as women, elderly and children in the territories invaded by enemies, followed by humiliations and abuses they were subjected combatants Romanians who died in captivity are part of the price paid representatives of our people to achieve the ideal of national unity .

Romania Women's roles on the front line WWI

During World War I, dressed as a nurse, Queen Mary of hospitals organized campaign and was present among the sufferers, sharing medicines, food and blankets wounded soldiers on the front or sick with typhus. For his courageous attitude during the First World War he received the title of "Queen - soldier".

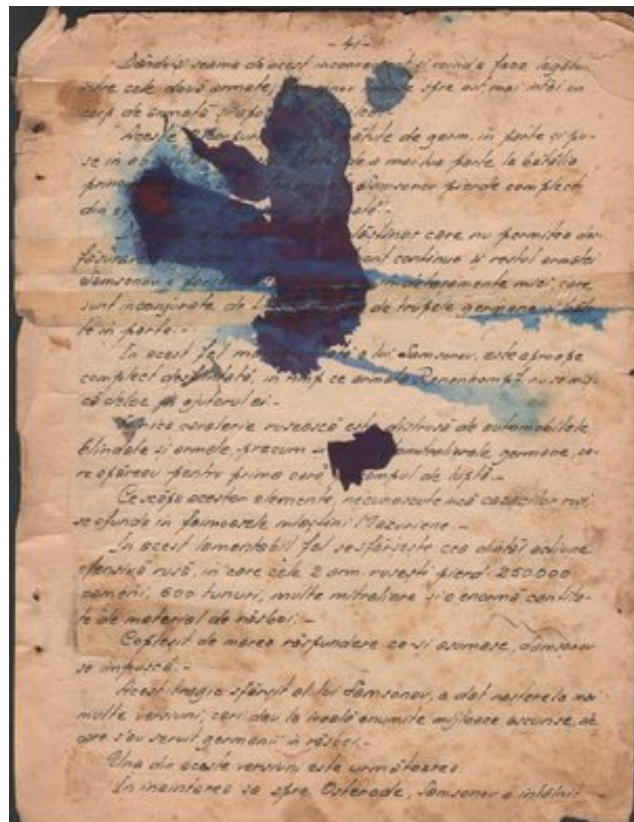
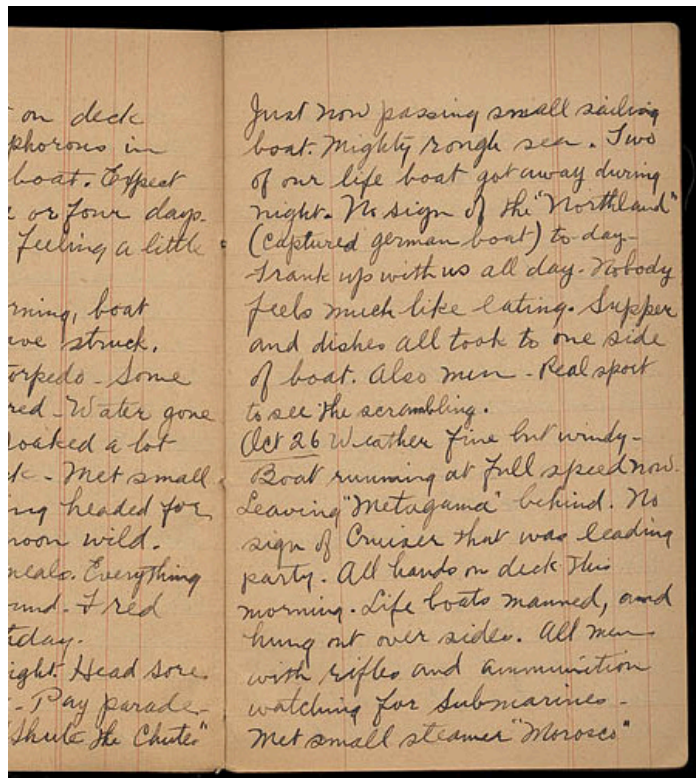


Did you know?

Women in World War I were mobilized in unprecedented numbers on all sides. The vast majority of these women were drafted into the civilian work force to replace conscripted men or work in greatly expanded munitions factories.

Letters : a treasury

During the war, two hundreds of thousands of letters were sent. The letters for the soldiers represented the only moment of happiness. They were like a treasury. As they were writing and read them, they forgot violence and could escape about the war. The family of the soldiers didn't send only letters, x sent food parcels, which supported them and helped them to resist to the lack of food.

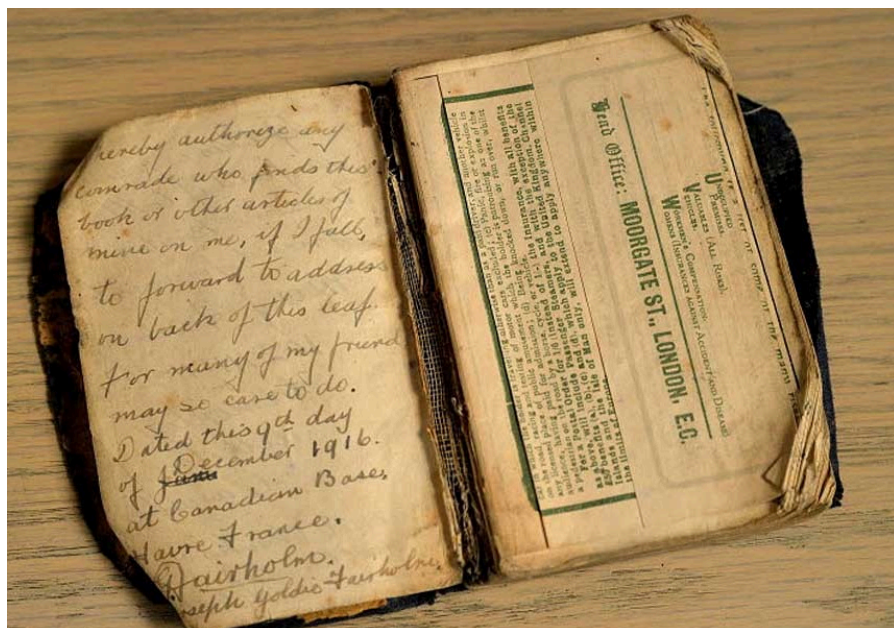


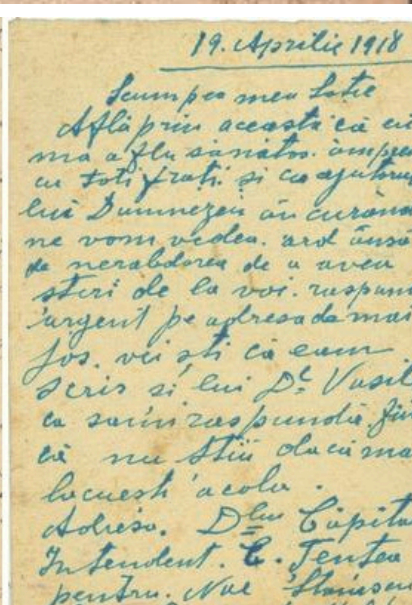
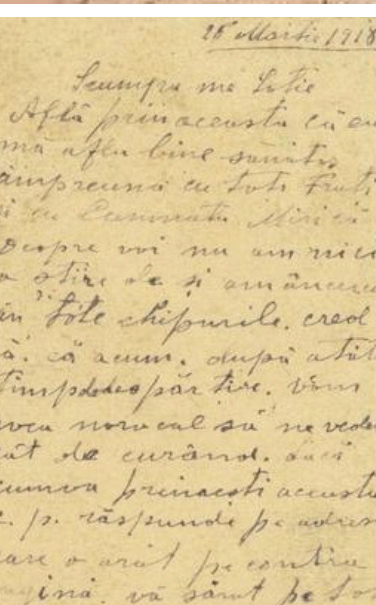
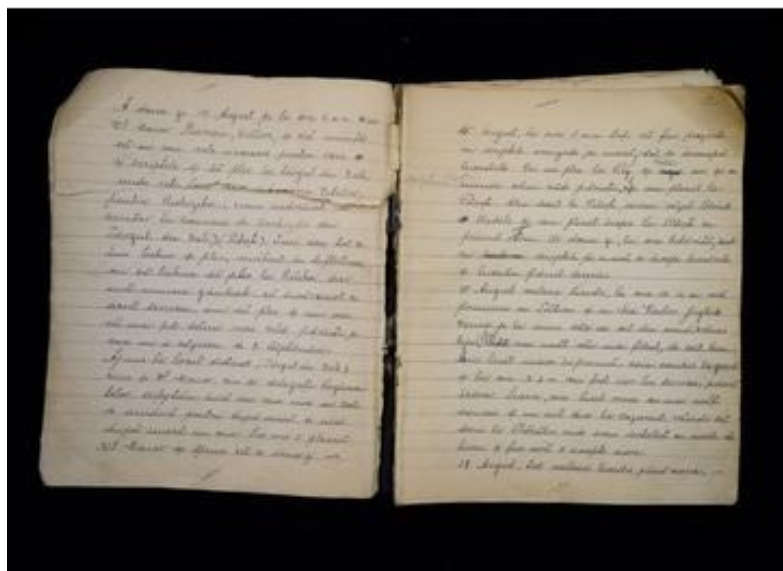
Diaries

During every war, soldiers wrote diaries. Write enabled to drain off what they felt, all the war's horror. In diaries, they could write what they couldn't write in letters because of censure.

The censure

The correspondence in wartime was watched and censored : The soldiers couldn't say their position, how they lived, and peaceful ideas. The censure ensured nationalism, patriotism and heroism. If the soldiers would write what they wanted, civilians thought that they weren't happy. The government needed that the soldiers and civilians keep faith in the fight, and continue to hate the enemy, because if they didn't, civilians stopped to give money of government. and soldiers





During the war were sent a lot of letters in, from and to Romania. All the soldiers had someone they cared for enough to write at least a single letter. „Încercă să uiți toate greșelile mele și amintește-ți de mine doar ca fiul tău iubitor” i-a scris Lubbock mamei sale. „Draga mea mamă, Mă aflu pe patul de spital, într-un loc unde moarte ne amenință pe fiecare. Știu că am promis că voi fi mereu alături de tine, însă acum sunt mai aproape de moarte ca niciodată. Un singur lucru mă macină, acum: că dispariția mea îți va provoca o durere imensă. Mă rog acum, pe patul de moarte ca gândurile mele bune să vegheze mereu asupra ta și să știi mereu că te-am iubit enorm” i-a scris mamei locotenentul Eric Lubbock. La 24 de ani, a murit la Ypres, în 1917. “Try to forget all my mistakes and remember me just as your loving son.” Lubbock told his mum. “Dear mother, I’m in hospital, where death is threatening us all. I know I’ve promised I will always be with you, but now I’m closer to death as ever. One thing bothers me: that my disappearance will cause you pain.

Marturie Dumitru Monica Bianca Ioan

Tanasescu, bunicul meu din partea mamei, a participat activ ca sergent in Regimentul de Infanterie nr. 28 Pitesti. In toata perioada razboiului a tinut un jurnal care povesteste atat intamplarile personale cat si pe cele ale regimentului sau. Pe coperta jurnalului este scris : "Campania 1916-1918. Jurnalul Regimentului de Infanterie nr.28. De Tanasescu Ioan care s-a inrolat voluntar-august 1916 in regim.de infanterie nr.28 din Pitesti." Ioan Tanasescu a fost numit "curierul(furierul) regimentului. Jurnalul nu este intocmit riguros pe zile (desi paginile sunt atent numerotate) dar sunt date interesante pentru tot parcursul campaniei. Este descris traseul regimentului incepand cu Pitesti-Campulung Muscel-trecatoarea Giuvala-satul Bran-Rucar-Poiana Marului -Sinca Noua.... Apoi este descris traseul regimentului pe teritoriul Munteniei,si inceperea retragerii spre Moldova.Jurnalul contine multe detalii interesante, descrie operatiuni militare intre 1916-1917,precum si experienta personala ca invalid.

Evidence from Dumitru Monica Bianca

Ioan Tanasescu, my maternal grandfather, was a Sergeant in the Infantry Regiment nr. 28 Pitesti. During the war, he kept a diary that tells stories both personal and as well those about the regiment. On the cover of the journal is written: "The campaign of 1916-1918. Infantry Regiment nr.28. About Tanasescu Ioan who enrolled voluntarily, in august 1916-infantry regiment 28 in Pitesti." Ioan Tanasescu was called "the courier of the regiment. The journal is not done rigorously (although the pages are carefully numbered) but there are interesting informations about the entire campaign. The route is described starting from Pitesti- Campulung Muscel- Giuvala passage-village Bran-Rucar-Poiana

Children working during the war.



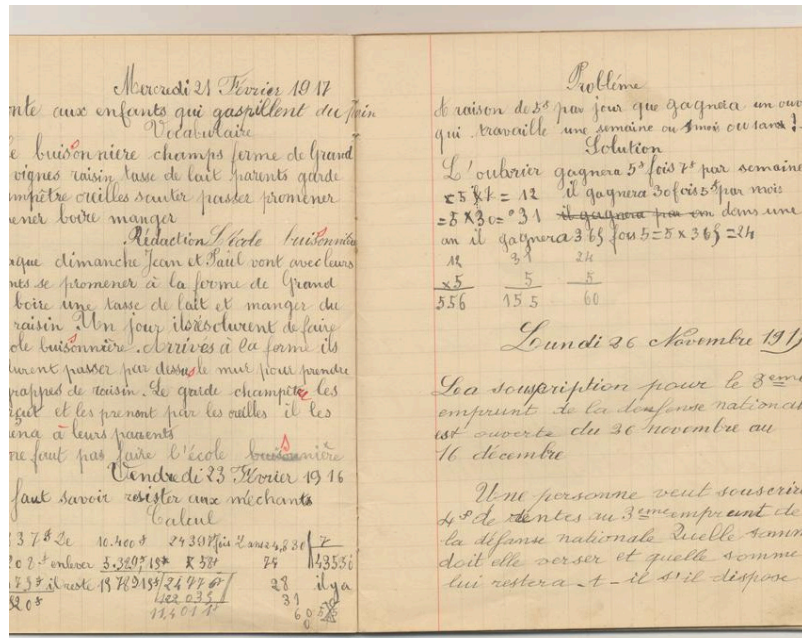
Life on homefront Children and school

Do you know that?

Some children were enthusiastic to do things are to talk, about the war.

In France, during the Great War, men changed of daily life and became soldiers but children's daily life changed too. Indeed, whatsoever at school or at home, War has upset their life. First of all, at school, all exercises were based on war and children played "at war". And games (like puzzles for example) are about war. Moreover they've done a lot of drawing linked war. In boy's schools, there were shoot training. Children were confronted with violence both physical and psychological.

Indeed, bombing, hunger and cold formed experience method to lots of children. Then, countless children are faced with the anguish to losing their homes, their property and their closed relations. During the war, children's fathers were absent because they were on the front but their mothers were absent too because they were in factories from 10 to 14 hours / day or they were nurses. Moreover, they were forced to share their point of view on War.



Exercise's book



When the food became increasingly scarce from 1915, many children suffered. There was not enough food and what to eat was often of poor quality. Many children were hungry, became weaker and end up sick. Often children were standing in queues in front of groceries to get some butter or some eggs.

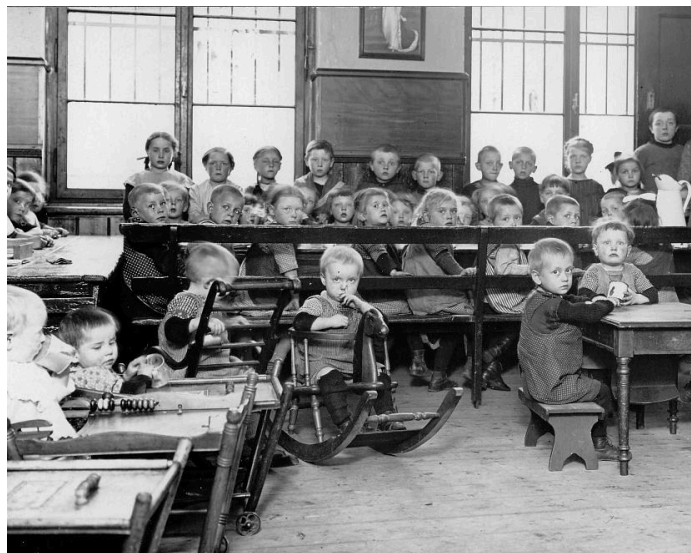


Many children were completely self-employed, as their mothers worked in the factories and the fathers were not at home. So they had to take care of their own food. It was very bad in the winter from 1916 to 1917. Now there was not even more coal to heat or cook.



Many children suffered in the First World War. The fact that their fathers went to the front and the mothers were forced to look for merit brought their lives completely apart. Even her normal everyday life in school suddenly looked quite different from before. In the classrooms, maps were hung up, with which the flag of the front could be recognized by means of small flags. For older students there was the danger of coming to the front. These facts gradually diminished the initial war enthusiasm. "Siegfrei" did not inspire all children. The war crept into the normal classroom.

Students of the lower classes practiced like the soldiers. Children worked as harvesters in the fields or were used for simple work. There was another victory at the front then everyone cheered and the children were "victorious". This may sound quite Inter-titre good, but in the long run no real lessons were possible. And soon after the first victories in 1914 there was nexperienced at the front, and that they could live normally again. Often the fathers had also lost their arms or legs and were no longer capable of pursuing their work.



What did "hamster" mean?

To escape the hardship, many children wandered to the countryside at weekends to "hurry". This means that you were buying supplies, just as hamsters would like to do this if they put anything into their backpacks. This was not really possible, but the hunger was so great that people could not be stopped by the farmers' hamster purchases, even with threats of hard punishment. If you want to learn more about everyday life in the First World War, you can find some of the evil Wolf, also exciting and informative games.



The great conflagration that changed the course of history and the world map, meant a large deployment. Children, youth, adults, persuaded or drawn through various campaigns, worked on the front line or behind it. Hundreds of thousands of children under 19 scouts or ordinary combatants showed courage and loyalty. In Romania, the first scouts were organized in 1913, Gheorghe Lazar High School in Bucharest, Sinaia, Braşov and Blaj. Among those in Sinaia and principles were Carol and Nicholas blessed by King Charles I who greet the new institution. Romanian Scouts Association, recognized as a legal entity in 1915, aim: to strengthen moral and physical youth, and love for the homeland. Their motto is "always ready" to serve, to help and do a good deed every day (Scout Law).

Under the leadership of Prince Charles, commander of the Legion of Great Romania Scout movement, made up of commanders, instructors, scouts and chicken hawks (children between 7 and 11 years) grew. Professor Gh. D. Mugur and engineer C. Niculescu are authors book scout, a real diary included on every page a maximum of Nicolae Iorga, and finally, medical indications, Morse and legions that made up the 34, 1916 Sea Scout Legion. Under the leadership of Prince Charles, commander of the Legion of Great Romania Scout movement, made up of commanders, instructors, scouts and chicken hawks (children between 7 and 11 years) grew. Professor Gh. D. Mugur and engineer C. Niculescu are authors book scout, a real diary included on every page a maximum of Nicolae Iorga, and finally, medical indications, Morse and legions that made up the 34, 1916 Sea Scout Legion.

Fact

Măriuca (or Maria as she was baptised) was born in the village of Razoare in 1905, not far from Marasesti. The surrounding forests and Mariuca's village itself were part and parcel of an ever-growing dispute between Romanian and German troops. Her grandfather Ion Zaharia built an observation post in a walnut tree at the back of his house for the Romanian artillery from whence one could see all that was going on along the Front. In the event of an attack, the soldier on watch duty would telephone and report the exact coordinates to the artillery who would then open fire on the oncoming enemy.



Camps and prisoners

Szczypiornísci

This name comes from Szczypiorna, now the district of Kalisz. There was a camp where the interned Polish legionaries were held in 1917. Under the conditions of boredom camps began to develop a new (as in Polish conditions) sports - handball - to which already attached a name associated with the place from which he derived.

Camp in Krosno Odrzańskie. In 1914 in Krosno Odrzańskie prisoner-of-war (POW) camp was established. The first prisoners were Russians, who extended the camp. In the camp there were barracks of the headquarters, bakery, kitchen, steam room, tailor, shop and church. Each barrack in the camp was heated. Most prisoners worked professionally. During the first World War Russian, French, Romanian and English prisoners were kept in the POW camp. In the camp there were also Scots, Americans, Italians and Poles-from Silesia and Greater Poland.

The camp was only for those who could work. Other prisoners were sent to other camps. It operated until 1918. POW camp in Görlitz was a German camp of the First World War. It operated between 1914-1919. In the first phase of the war in the camp there were around 15 000 Russian prisoners and 12 000 of British and French. They lived in tents and dugouts. In 1915 the camp was thoroughly modernized: barracks were built, water was brought and electricity. From September 1916 the living conditions were better. Prisoners could get packs from their families.

POW CAMP

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erlitz. Russischer Gottesdienst. — Service divin russe. —
vice. — Culto ruso. — Русское богослужение. Герлиц

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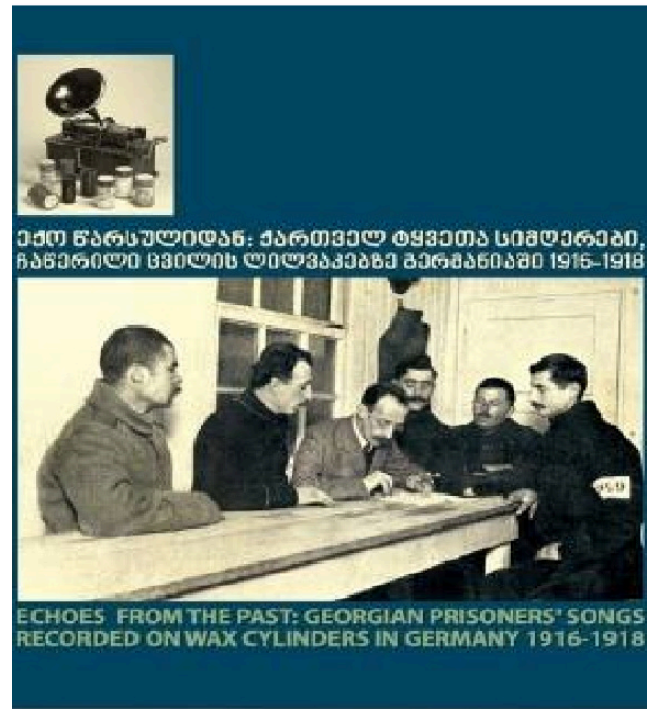
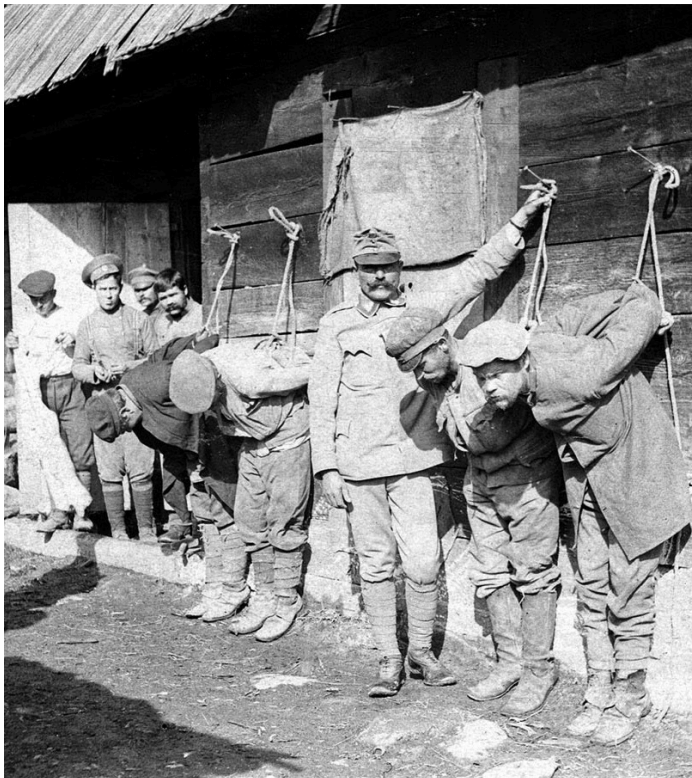
Since September 1916, the Romanian prisoners from the Transylvanian front were loaded into freight cars and transported to camps situated in the territories of Austria, France, Germany, Poland and Hungary.

Sometimes, Romanian prisoners reached their destination after a month, being forced to wait in wagons stationed in stations for days.

A lot of death

Improper nutrition and work on asphaltting roads, railway lines or drying of the marshes have been given that a number of prisoners died.

By 1917, Russia had more than 400 internment facilities. The size of POW camps was usually smaller in European Russia (between 2,000 and 5,000 men) than in Siberia (up to 35,000 men). The number of prisoners in camps often fluctuated and POWs tended to be moved repeatedly between camps. These consisted of log or brick barracks, zemlianki (huts dug into the ground), or other buildings such as stables and warehouses.



Soldiers' barracks varied greatly in size, holding between 500 and 1,000 men, notably fewer in the case of officers. According to Elsa Brändström, "rooms were overbooked by 50-100 percent without exception." Furniture was scarcely provided beyond bare bunks and stoves for heating.

Everyday life was very different for the rank and file than for officers. Officers received a monthly salary from which they had to procure their own food and other necessities. The death rate of POWs in Russia was among the highest of all countries. POW Labour and Life beyond Camps. According to pre-war agreements, captive soldiers could be used as labourers, whereas the officers were exempt from this obligation. Beginning in the spring of 1916, Russia systematically used POW labour in agriculture, industry and the public sector. Some officers had the privilege of living under strict surveillance in private housing.

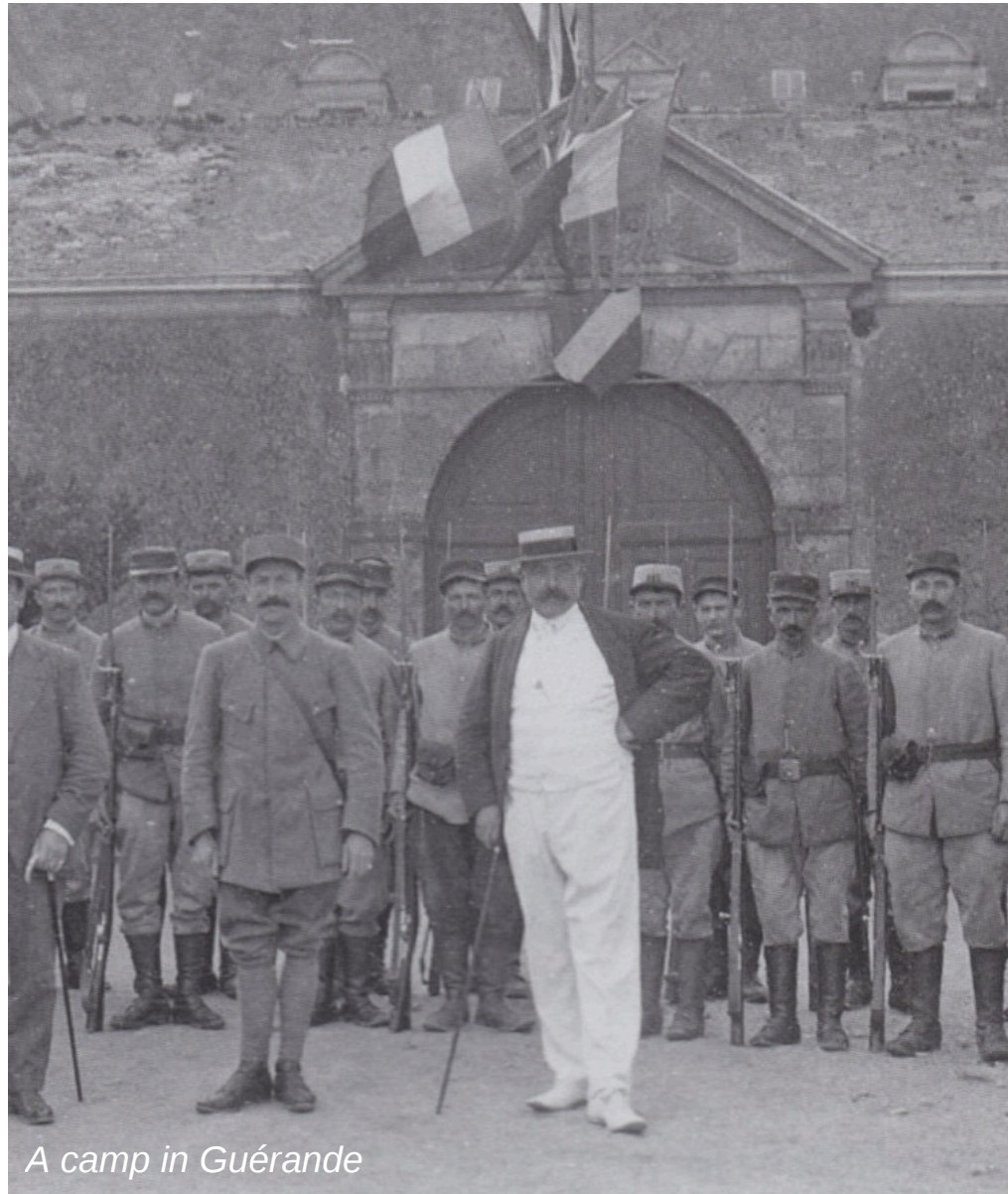


A prisoner camp in Gu r nde, France

During the WW1, there were 70 internment camps for prisoners in Pays de la Loire which is our region in France. There was a Camp in Gu r nde (point A on the map) between 1914 and 1919 and the function of this camp was to lock people who have German, Autrichian or with any enemies of France origins, politics suspects because they were all suspected by the government. The average number of people was around 400 prisoners, men and women.

Life in the camp

In the Camp, lots of people were regrouped according to their sex, but, part of them, had the rights to have a single room for themselves or for their family. Some people who couldn't work (children and seniors) were conducted to another special camp. People were not forced to work, but some people needed to work anyway to maintain cleaning, bring water and craft some useful objects to make money to help the camp having money. Some tasks were remunerated! People who were nurse, teacher, or doctor were paid.



A camp in Gu r nde

The entire burden of the country's economy lay on the shoulders of women.



WOMEN

Because men involved in the war were absent, women engaged in hard labor in order to provide for their families. Women were also present at the front, serving as doctors, nurses. Their role in society was limited to household and field work, giving birth, and raising children, with very few possibilities for more visible social engagement. Due to mobilization of men, they had to take on the burden of family support and economic activity, working primarily in agriculture but also in other sectors.

They struggled with famine, fuel shortages, and clothing shortages, as well as rising inflation and high cost of living. During the spring of 1918, famine and other social factors caused mass protests by women in Bulgarian towns ("Woman uprising"). Females riots were mass demonstrations and riots in which participate primarily mothers, wives and children of the front troops.

Hospitals, wounded, health

The Bulgarian army lost about 90,000 soldiers during World War I, more than much larger countries like Canada and Australia. Bulgarian casualties are: 87,500 total dead (48,917 killed, 13,198 died of wounds, 888? accidentally killed, 24,497 died of disease); 13,729 missing; 152,390 wounded and 10,623 prisoners. The Bulgarian War Office stated that "losses during the retreat from sickness and privations were much greater than the figures they possess"

Hospitals: After World War I was declared, the hospital's entire personnel took part in servicing the army's troops. During World War I head of the 6th local military hospital in Sofia (situated in the premises of Sofia First divisional hospital) was Ivan Karamihaylov, MD. The Austrian sanitary mission, which had arrived again in 1915, supplied the military hospital with consumables and materials, tools, sterilisation equipment, X-rays, water beds, electromechanical apparatuses, which upgraded the quality of medical care. Providing help to the wounded during World War I divisional hospitals were set up as follows: - General army military (and divisional) hospital in Sofia; - First-rate military hospitals with sanatoria for disabled people with 20 beds available; - Second-rate military hospitals with sanatoria for disabled people; - Garrison hospitals.



Escort bulgerian solder to Red Cross.

Marine sanitation service in the First World War.

The naval sanitation service was very well prepared, materially and organisationally in the First World War. Depending on the naval war strategy, the focus was placed on the initial supply of the crew of the fleet, the operation of military ships and naval bases. In the course of the war, challenges in the submarine anchoring service were added.



Hospital, wounded, health



Soon after the war in 1914, the Western Front froze. From the canal coast to the Swiss border the Germans dug, as well as French, British and their allies on the other side. What followed was a novelty: the use of poison gas, tanks and artillery killed hundreds of thousands. (...)

After the war on the west had rapidly become a position war with kilometer-long defensive lines, so many enemy soldiers had been facing each other as never before. The trench battles, in which the soldiers were exposed most of the time to the fire of an invisible opponent, which they could hardly resist, caused not only physical injuries.

Even on the soul of many soldiers, this war had a traumatic effect: they returned with heavy neuroses from the front. New was the phenomenon that soldiers after fighting showed psychological consequences, not. Mention was made of "dementia," as a result of wars, by the Dutch humanist Erasmus of Rotterdam in the sixteenth century. During the American Civil War between 1861 and 1865, doctors had observed that some soldiers returned with symptoms of the fighting that reminded them of heart disease. Those affected suffered heart palpitations, chest pain and sweating, they were tired and short of breath. "Soldier's Heart" was therefore the colloquial name of suffering, which doctors call cardiophobia. Today, it is thought to be a psychosomatic anxiety disorder.

In France, for one dead person, there were three or four people injured.

For hours, the wounded persons called for help but no one come help them. Then in the first post of care a necessary sorting had to be made: the doctors of the front were obliged to choose those that they would let die.



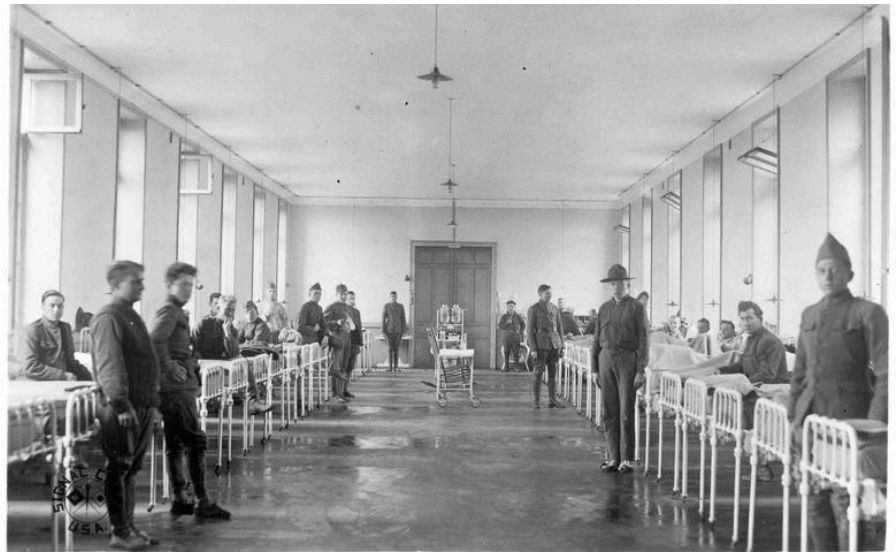
Soldiers and Nurses in a military hospital.

When they were slightly touched the soldiers had to apply themselves their bandages then to evacuate by their own average towards rescue posts situated immediately behind the frontline.



BULANCE AMERICAINE - Juilly (S.-et-M.) - La Sal

American ambulance



Surgical unit of Savenay's hospital (in France)

During the numerous fights raging on all the frontline and the number of increasing wounded soldiers, a chain of evacuation is very quickly organized by the Health service of the armies. The regimental Health service gathers the wounded persons, whom walk or fetch on the battlefield, they prepare the immobilized wounded persons for the evacuation.

Affected more seriously, having been bandaged by them the same or by a companion if there was one, the wounded persons had to wait for the stretcher-bearers. During the offensives in the middle of the fights, under bombardments the lifting of the wounded persons established an extremely difficult task and moreover very dangerous for rescuers. **A lot of injured died before the doctors came and treat them.**

Number of died

In France before The War World One, there are 41,6 million of french people and after, there are 38,7 million of french people.
2,9 million people died in this war.



Scottish women`s hospital in Romania (Dobroudja) The scottish women`s hospitals for foreign services was founded in 1914.They provided nurses, doctors, ambulance drivers, cooks and orderlies. By the end of World War I, 14 medical units had been outfitted and sent to serve in Corsica, France, Malta, Romania, Russia, Salonika and Serbia. One of this hospitals was located in Dobroudja, and it must be said that the head of this "operation" was dr. Elsie Inglis. The headquarters were in Edinburgh throughout the war, and there were also committees in Glasgow and London, working closely with the London office of the French Red Cross.

Scottish women`s medical unit arrived the first time in Dobroudja route Arkhangelsk-Moscow- Odessa -Reni. Their original purpose was helping volunteers serbs division I arrived here in Russia, but due to heavy losses this division was retired, so the nurses and the physicians cared scottish, romanian and soldiers on the front.The leader of this expedition in Romania was dr. Elsie Inglis, medical talent and personality recognized for its involvement in the movement for woman suffrage.

Hospital of the campaign

On 20th of August 1916, when the germans started the bombing, the Casino in Constanta (our city) has been used by the Red Cross on the post of the Hospital of the campaign. The building has been hit by burning shrapnel and then ten people died here.

The Americans in St Nazaire

St Nazaire is a city situated 30 minutes away from our school (in Cordemais).

It's in St Nazaire that the first group of american soldiers landed on the French land.

Between 1917 and 1919, about 198 000 men and daily average of 4 400 tons of marchandises landed in St Nazaire.



St Nazaire, Nantes et Savenay



The amerinan troupes just landed in St Nazaire, they are joining their stationing place.



SAVENAY

The city of Savenay (3 200 inhabitants), that is situated very close from Cordemais, played a very important role during this long world conflict, with the presence of an Americans military hospital (one of the most important in the country).



From the beginning of the WW1 the murder of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria shook Silesia up. On August 1, when the Emperor Wilhelm II declared war on Russia, panic broke out. Bytom people feared Russia and fled deep into Germany. They were calmed down a little by Paul von Hindenburg, who used the gymnasium (today music school) as his headquarters. Young people were told to take a gun and go into the army and were sent to different fronts

When Paul von Hindenburg left, many Bytom people left Bytom (went to Germany) for fear of the Russian army, there was even a plan to sink the Upper Silesian mines (but never completed). Bytom remained for a period throughout the first world war in the far back room. The Russians never travelled to the city, and in the following months the front drifted away from the city.

Paul von Hidenburg

His full name is Beneckendorff und von Hindenburg

Paul Ludwig Hans Anton von Beneckendorff und von Hindenburg known generally as Paul von Hindenburg; 2 October 1847 – 2 August 1934) was a German military officer, statesman, politician who served as the second President of Germany from 1925 until his death in 1934.



Our city is Constanta, Romania, a harbour to the Black Sea. In the summer of 1916, Romania was at war with Germany, with the Austro-Hungarian Empire, with Bulgaria and with the Otoman Empire. Leading the Germany-Bulgary-Turk army was August von Mackensen. On 31 August 1916, at night, Bulgarian troops attacked the Romanian army which was located on the border; therefore, Romania was obliged to keep up with the attacks on an extended battle field, starting from the Carpathian Mountains to the shores of the Danube and the Black Sea. The first battles of the Romanian army for freeing Transilvania were fruitless. Bulgary entered the war in order to regain South Dobrudja, which was lost due to a treaty made after the balcanic wars (1912-1913). On 9/22 October 1916, Dutch and Bulgarian troops entered in Constanta, finding it bombarded, deserted and evacuated. For two years, Constanta (as well as whole Dobrudja, Oltenia, Muntenia and a part of Moldavia) had been aquinted with the catastrophical invasion of the Central Powers

The city was administrated by the Dutch-Bulgarian army, the official language for authorities and courts of justice was Bulgarian, street and institution names and engravings were changed and on the city hall it was written "Bulgarian Realm Urban Community Constanta ". The authorities which cupped the city destroyed the locativ fund, the industrial installments, the monuments, killed many innocent people and humiliated citizens. Starting from February 1917, Constanta (as well as the whole county and the Southern half of the Tulcea county) was given for administration to Germany. At the end of November 1918, Romanian troops passed the Danube and accompanied the first Romanian administration staff who settled in the ruined cities. One of the members which accompanied the mayor remembered: "we entered Constanta, which was deserted, no human being was in sight, no light was visible, the once prosper city had been turned into a graveyard".

Fact

In 1916 Dobrudja and our city Constanta they were occupied by the German troops led by feldmarshal August von Mackensen. Carts with whole families-with women, old men, children- are stopped and shot seconds on end for posterity.

The Results/Consequences

Not to be outdone, English Prime Minister Lloyd George wrote the following to I.I.C. Bratianu:



I wish to express on behalf of the British Government our deep admiration for the heroic courage and momentum that the Romanian people have proven during a year of almost unmatched adversities. The resistance so precious for the common cause - which this army is using to fight against the enemy in very harsh conditions - gives a great example of the strength that freedom can instil to a liberal people. The English and French press also commented extensively on the successes achieved by the Romanian army at the gates of Moldavia. Comments in "Revue des Deux Mondes", if not typical then at least indicative, convey a sense of what the Romanians, with some support from Russian forces, achieved: The Russo-Romanian army attacked the valleys of Trotus, Susita, Putna, covering 60 km, and managed to push back the enemy lines for about 20 km; but the events that occurred on the Nistru River slowed down and halted the advance, if not, even putting it in danger.

Facing a large and well equipped enemy army, Romanians mobilised faultlessly and managed to annihilate the enemies' plans to destroy their country, because resisting meant in fact keeping the Romanian state united. The Romanian victories on the Eastern front were instrumental in causing the collapse of one of the most powerful offensives of the Central Powers against Russia. The Campaigns between 1916-1918 necessitated huge expenses from the Romanian state. On the other hand, the damages caused by having a war on Romanian territory, the economic exploitation of the areas under foreign occupation culminated with considerable material losses, estimated at 72 billion lei in gold, of which only 13 billion were accepted by the Commission for repairs after the war. According to the Peace of Bucharest, Romania lost land along its coast to Bulgaria, as well as control of the mouth of the Danube River, which the Central Powers commandeered. The Treaty of Versailles in 1919 reversed these losses, however; it also gave Romania control of the long-desired province of Transylvania. Romania regained its sovereignty when the Germans were defeated and withdrew. Romania was awarded important territories, including Transylvania which doubled its size, and was also given Bessarabia (eastern half of modern Moldavia) which elected to join Romania during the Russian civil war. During WWI: Joined the side of the Allies, but were quickly overrun by Germany/Austria. Occupied throughout most of the war, although continually resisted. After WWI: Regained sovereignty when Germany/Austria were defeated, and were forced to withdraw forces. Significant additional territories were awarded to Romania, including Transylvania (long under Austria-Hungary rule), which nearly doubled the size of Romania, and Bessarabia (eastern half of modern Moldavia), which elected to join Romania during Russian Civil War.

Fighting in World War I ended at 11:00 hours on November 11, 1918, after the signing of the armistice. Through its aftermath, the First World War profoundly affected the political, social and cultural development of the whole world, even to areas not directly involved in the conflagration. There are new state on the world map, old ones have disappeared or have changed radically boundaries have been established international organizations, political and economic ideas and we have earned a place in the world. The heroism displayed by the Romanian soldiers was noticed by the Entente powers, and Romanian soldiers received praise for their courageous victories. French General Franchet d'Esperay wrote to Romanian authorities in these glowing terms: I bow before the glorious martyrs and please accept my warm congratulations for the knowledge and energy carried out by commandment and headquarters, as well as the high value of the troops.

Romania Casualties: Total Deaths:
680,000
Total Deaths % of pop.: 9.1%
Troops: 750,000 Troops % of
pop.: 10%
Military Deaths: 250,000
Military Deaths % of Troops:
33.3%
Civilian Deaths: 430,000 Civilian
Deaths % of pop.: 5.7%

Consequences



The map of Bulgaria during WWI



The map of Bulgaria after WWI

The First World War devastated Bulgaria demographically, materially, and psychologically. Dobruza and Macedonia were lost again.

The army suffered 101,224 dead and 144,026 wounded. The country endured a total of 157,000 dead and 154,000 wounded in six years of fighting from 1912 to 1918. In addition, some 100,000 refugees flooded the country from Dobruza and Macedonia.

The Treaty of Neuilly of 1919 imposed upon Bulgaria reparation payments of 1.5 million gold francs to the Entente powers as well as the transfer of specified quantities of livestock and railroad equipment to Greece, Romania, and Yugoslavia. Bulgaria also had to deliver 50,000 tons of coal annually to Yugoslavia.



Neuilly contract

Neuilly contract is a contract between Bulgaria and the countries of the Entente, put an end to Bulgaria's participation in the First World War. Signed by the Bulgarian side of Prime Minister Alexander Stamboliyski on November 27, 1919 at City Hall of Paris suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine. Ratified is February 15, 1920.



« this is a map of Europe in 1923. There is Poland in the centre

2 million Poles joined different army powers. 450,000 of them died. One million of them were wounded. A few hundred thousand Polish civilians were moved to labor camps in Germany, and 800,000 were deported by Russians to the East. Total deaths from 1914–18, military and civilian, within the 1919–1939 borders, were estimated at 1,128,000.

The main consequence of WWI to Poland was the recovery of Polish statehood. It was possible thanks to the support of Great Britain, the USA, France and the revolution in Russia. Upper Silesia, Greater Poland, and apart of Ukraine and Belarus were attached to Poland.

War after war

After WWI Red Army invaded Poland in order to spread the communism

The first steps

The first steps towards peace took place in the spring of 1918, when the new provisional government of the Russian Empire concluded the peace treaty with Bres-Litovsk. On September 14th, 1918, Emperor Charles I proposed an understanding of the war opponents in a peace letter "To all!" Austria had made this offer to the Entente in the Alleyang without his allies. The victorious powers, however, insisted that the German Reich also make a ceasefire.

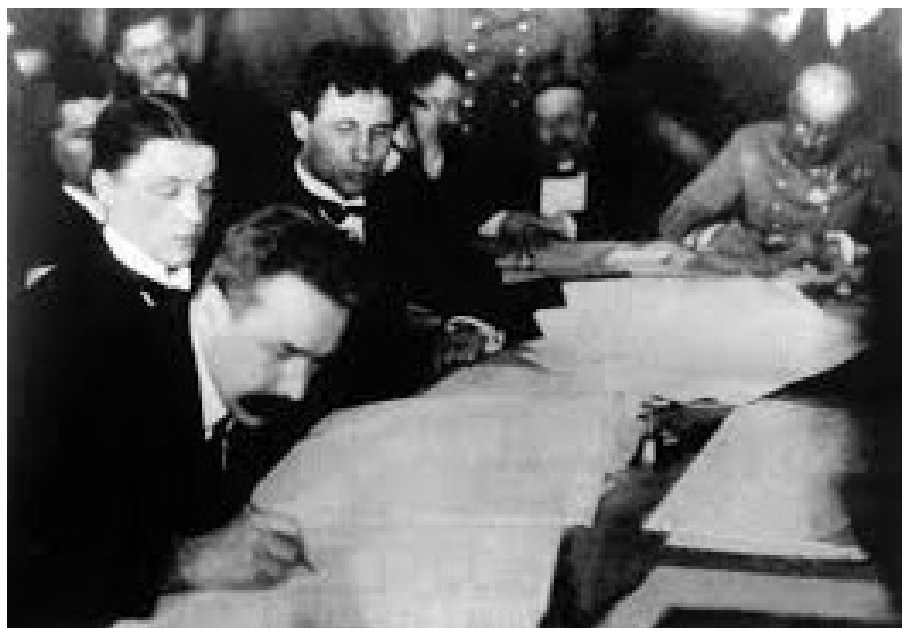


1918 Vienna

In the last October days of the year 1918 the events in Vienna surpassed: Within a short time, the Habsburg rule dissolved in Austria after nearly 640 years. On 3 November 1918 Austria-Hungary and the Entente concluded armistice. On November 11, the armistice agreement between Compiègne between Germany, France and Great Britain followed. This ended the fighting of the First World War. In Germany the Republic was called. Austria-Hungary fell apart. The nationalities of the monarchy formed their own states or joined other national states. The remaining German-speaking territories of the monarchy founded the Republic of Austria.

Austria

On 10 September 1919, representatives of the Republic of Austria signed the peace treaty at Saint-Germain-en-Laye Castle. Austria, together with Germany, was given the sole blame for the First World War. The state name "Deutschösterreich" and the connection to the German Reich were forbidden. Austria was obligated to make payments to the victorious powers, his armament factories and weapons had to be destroyed. A general conscription was forbidden, only a professional army of 30,000 men allowed. The newly established Republic of Austria had to transfer territories to other countries, among other things. South Tyrol to Italy. The Treaty of Trianon governed peace with Hungary, the other part of the former double monarchy. Thus a part of West Hungary as a new province Burgenland came to Austria.



Memorial of Mărăști: Mausoleum Mărăști in Romania



The Mausoleum of Mărășești

The Mausoleum of Mărășești is a memorial site in Romania containing remains of 5,073 Romanian soldiers and officers killed in the First World War and dedicated to the commemoration of the Battle of Mărășești and Romanian Army members who were killed during World War I. The memorial took 15 years to be build and was unveiled on 18 September 1938 by King Carol II.

The Battle of Mărășești, (August 6 to September 8, 1917) was a battle fought during World War I between Germany and Romania. Before launching the attack, the battle was thought to be fought at Nămolosa, and both sides were made up at that moment of a total of about 1 million soldiers. Field Marshal August von Mackensen launched an attack on August 6. The fighting lasted until September 8, when both sides ran out of fresh units. The German attempt to crush the last Romanian army led by General Eremia Grigorescu had failed, but the Romanians had not regained any more of their territory either. The motto of the Romanian Army during the battle was "Pe aici nu se trece" (English: "They shall not pass"), probably inspired from the famous slogan of General Nivelle during the Battle of Verdun. Romania lost over 27,000 men, including 610 officers, while Germany lost over 47,000 . Notably, the Romanian heroine Ecaterina Teodoroiu was killed at the end of this battle, on September 6, by machine-gun fire; two days later, Major General Karl von Wenninger was killed by artillery near the village of Muncelu, Străoane. The loss of human lives in the years of the First World War was enormous. Romania lost almost one million soldiers and civilians,

The Mausoleum is a county museum in Mărăști. The mausoleum is located northwest of Panciu (about 27 km). Monument shelters the remains of Romanian soldiers who died in World War I at the Battle of Mărăști (July 1917). At the entrance to the village, on a portal like a triumphal arch is written Mărășești Field history. Glorifying the heroism of Romanian soldiers have erected a mausoleum on the initiative of officers and generals, who founded the Mărășești Society. The mausoleum was erected at the same place where battles were fought. The building is designed by the architect Pandele Șerbănescu and decorated with reliefs A. Bordenache. In the basement there is a small museum which exhibited artefacts that belonged to General Văitoianu and weapons World War. On the facade of the monument were placed 15 white marble slabs which were engraved the names of regiments and soldiers participating in the battles carried out on these lands.

At the end of a century since Romania entered World War I, the Heroes Cemetery in Timisoara, held today, August 26, a ceremonial religious-military, commemorating the fallen heroes on the battlefield or in captivity during this conflagration world.

Over 300.000

Romanian Soldiers

have lost their lives after the world wars, and about 76,000 have disabilities. On this occasion, the Ministry of National Defense held ceremonies throughout the country to commemorate the more than 330,000 fallen soldiers. Centenary Romania's entry into the First World War was marked in Paris by a photo exhibition.

The Memorial of Verdun, France



Memorial of Verdun

What is being commemorated - German-French relations and the battle of Verdun

1 : When were they first unveiled ?
In 1967

2: What is being commemorated?
The history of the battle, the violence of this battle and the dead soldiers.

3: What do you think is "typically German" about this?
We think that it's "typically German" because they commemorate the battle of Verdun and their dead German soldiers.

4: Do you think the commemoration should be kept or left?
We think that it should be kept because it's a great thing to remember the history about billions of people. It's symbolic because it was a massacre and the monument symbolized to never repeat this.

The relationship between France and Germany had always been a bumpy one. The Napoleonic Wars only increased the enmity between the regions. During the Napoleonic Wars Germans fought on both sides, Napoleon's side eventually winning. The years of Occupation under Napoleon gave birth to German nationalism in opposition to Napoleon's occupation. After Napoleon's defeat, several German states (Prussia, Bavaria and the Duchy of Hesse) soon formed into one state and replaced France as the biggest nation (population-wise) in Europe. Soon after this, The Franco-Prussian war was won by Prussia (Germany) and France was forced to let go of more territory and was also forced to pay a large sum of money (5 billion Francs). This left a great need for revenge in the population of France especially over the loss of the region of Alsace and parts of Lorraine. This desire for revenge was one of the main reasons for France to join the first world war. They wanted to regain their lost territory and get revenge on the German people. Furthermore, they wanted to restore their status as the leading land power in Europe.

Now to the Battle of Verdun. It was first intended to bleed the French army dry as they could not give up the area due to morale. The German generals believed that the forts in the area were of too much historical importance to be given up and therefore the French army would be able to mount much of a resistance. Over the total course of the battle (more than 300 days) more than 360 thousand French soldiers died and up to 340 thousand Germans lost their lives. This massive loss of life changed something in the relationship between the two countries. The French still pushed for harsh punishments for Germany after them losing the first and second world war, but this mutual loss of so many men bonded the countries. After the end of the second world war the cold war started to develop. Germany and France had to get closer to become the center of today's Europe. The two countries developed a strong relationship and are now the backbone of the European Union. Also by commemorating the crucial battle together, the French-German relations had improved leaving no more of the former rivalry of "arch enemies". Still the commemoration of the battle of Verdun is not only acting as a remembrance for the lost soldiers, but also as a reminder against the cruelty of war to never let something like this terrible and senseless global war happen again. Angela Merkel herself described Verdun as a "terrible tragedy (...)" but also as something to draw lessons from and to represent the reconciliation between the two states." (Angela Merkel 29.5.16)

POINT OF VIEW

German pupils questions to French pupils.

What, do you think, is "typically German" about this? Do you think the commemoration should be kept or left?

It's typically German because the battle of Verdun was fought in world war 1 and it's France against Germany but they didn't win the world war 1 it's France who won the world war 1 against Germany and they commemorate the men who lost their lives during the battle and I think they should be kept because it's a good thing to remember this battle and try to avoid the mistakes of the past. On the other hand it would be a pity if the French-German friendship only relied on such commemoration.

Pupils from Poland, Germany, Bulgaria, Romania, Georgia and France participated to this magazine.

« It was interesting to work with other pupils from Europe on World War One »



In total, it is about 150 pupils that took part into that project, 85 in making this magazine.

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