

Chapter 1 : America enters World War I - HISTORY

A compiled register of campaign participation for Army units for World War I, showing where and when each unit fought. Combat Service of Organizations of the United States Army in the World War A compiled register by sector and date of U.S. Army units serving in World War I.

Wanderer For over a month work had been pushed to the utmost to prepare the yachts for foreign service. Furnishings and decorations of peaceful days were removed and stored in Brooklyn warehouses. White sides and glittering brightwork were hidden under coats of battle gray. Fore and aft, three-inch guns were mounted, and guns of smaller caliber were located on the upper decks. Cutlasses and rifles lined bulkheads of panelled oak or mahogany. Everywhere about the ships improvised quarters, in former smoking-rooms, libraries and sun-parlors, housed crews expanded by war-time necessity to four or five times the original quota required to operate the yachts in time of peace. The six yachts anchored until the morning of June 9 off Tompkinsville, S. On the twelfth of June, the force arrived at St. The yachts arrived at Brest, France, on the fourth of July, after a relatively uneventful voyage, where they found the Corsair and the Aphrodite, which had arrived ahead of them due to their greater size which enabled them to lay a direct transatlantic course. On July 14, , the squadron commander, Captain W. It is of historical interest to note that a few hours before entering the harbor, the Noma sighted a periscope. A few hours later, the S. Orleans was torpedoed, probably by the same submarine which the Noma sighted, and her thirty-seven survivors of the crew and the thirteen members of the United States naval armed guard were brought into Brest by the Sultana. During the month of July, the yachts received a strenuous introduction to the patrol duty, which consisted of a constant patrol of defined areas of water, so continuous and so thorough that the submarine activities, hitherto in a large measure undisputed, were materially hampered and the safety of the convoys passing through these waters was proportionately increased. On the afternoon of the twenty-ninth of August, the U. Guinevere and the U. Emeline came into the harbor, delayed by storms and with badly leaking decks. Noma - Lieut Com. Christabel - Lieutenant H. Harvard - Lieutenant A. Sultana - Lieutenant E. On the fifteenth of August, the Noma reported the first actual engagement with any enemy submarine as follows: A discharge was being emitted by the submarine, very much like smoke and was very misleading. Submarine was evidently charging her batteries. Submarine fired three shots at this ship, one striking about yards ahead of the ship and the other two shots well over and on the quarter. Proceeded to vicinity of submarine, but did not see her again. Dunraven, which was badly disabled by gunfire from a submarine. This ship had been shelled from astern by the submarine, one shell having exploded in the after magazine and disabled the steering gear. Soon after, the submarine approached closer to the Dunraven and fired a torpedo. The submarine was in this position when the Noma came up on the opposite side of the torpedoed vessel. Two depth charges were dropped by the Noma on the spot where the submarine submerged, but these being of the early type, failed to detonate. The next squadron of the patrol force, Captain T. Wakiva, the supply ship U. Bath, and the trawlers U. With these also arrived six foot patrol vessels, under the French flag. Due to the construction of the trawlers, which was soon proved to be entirely unsuited for the hard sea service required, they were withdrawn after a few weeks from escort duty and fitted for mine-sweeping. It was during this period that the United States armed transport Antilles in convoy with a group of three transports and store ships and escorted by the Corsair, Alcedo, and Kanawha, was torpedoed and sunk, on the seventeenth of October, outside of Quiberon Bay. No sign of a submarine was seen. The total number of persons on board the Antilles was , of whom were rescued by the escorting yachts. During the month of October, , the coal-burning destroyers U. Reid, arrived from Queenstown where they had been receiving training. They were accompanied by the U. Panther, a supply ship, which had acquired historical interest as a transport in during the war with Spain. The addition of this small destroyer flotilla was of inestimable value, for the yachts, until this time, had been required to perform the entire patrol and escort duty, including the deep-sea troop convoys for which they were structurally wholly unsuited and inadequate. It is interesting to imagine the hopes and fears of those early days of our participation. In the ancient port of Brest but a few remnants of the French fleet remained. The streets of the gray town were deserted. Gone were the

seamen that for centuries had given it its glory; gone too were the young men, now fighting and dying on the northern lines of France. Small indeed must have seemed these first contributions from the great ally beyond the Atlantic. A few converted yachts, a few destroyers; that was all. And yet, within the brief span of a year this almost deserted harbor was to become dense with shipping. Great transports were to swing at moorings beyond the breakwater. Wasp-like destroyers were to ride at their buoys in the inner harbor in rapidly increasing numbers. Khaki-clad soldiers by the hundred thousand were to look upon the gray town and pass on to their duty in the north. And from nothing, the establishment of the United States Naval Forces in France was to expand, with characteristic American enterprise, into a vast coherent organization, embracing in its manifold ramifications the complete machinery for the successful accomplishment of the tremendous work in hand. The force was entirely inadequate; the ships soon proved unsuited for the work required and the officers and men of the reserve force were new to the work. There has been little glory credited to the work that was performed, for it was at no time a kind of work with which glory associates most freely. Here was drudgery and danger; a silent service secretly to be performed. It was work for which a destroyer flotilla of the largest and fastest vessels would have been none too good. But such vessels were not available. The yachts were sent. As months passed by came slowly the coal-burning destroyers. Later came the great oil burners, and the yachts disappeared into the obscurity of hazardous coastal convoys and the deep-sea convoys of merchantmen in the rough waters of Biscay. Wilson arrived to take up the command. To Captain Fletcher should be given the credit for the inception and early organization of our naval forces on the French coast, credit which alone can offset the trials and disappointments of those early days. With the arrival of Rear-Admiral Wilson began the second and final period; a period of constant organization and amplification. Fortunately endowed in generous measure with those executive qualities characteristic of an American naval officer, Admiral Wilson was still further happy in the possession of a diplomatic nature and keen sympathy with the French people. With the limited tools available, he planned and executed a program which proved itself in its attainment of the desired end. And, as the means for prosecuting his purpose were increased, he developed his plans the further to assure their more perfect accomplishment. On November 27, 1917, the destroyers U. Monaghan arrived at Brest from Saint-Nazaire. Utilized previously for deep-sea escort duty from the United States they had never before touched at a French port, turning always in mid-Atlantic and returning to the United States. On this occasion, however, they had been assigned to escort the U. San Diego, on which Secretary of War Baker made passage to France, and arriving at Saint-Nazaire, found it necessary to proceed north to Brest for coal. As this duty was unforeseen, they were without coastal charts and proceeded to explore their way through the perilous mine and submarine zones with a large ocean chart as their only guide. Ignorant of the coast, they first explored the Bay of Douarnenez, but finding no city there, they kept on up the coast. Inasmuch as their ocean chart did not show the channel of Raz de Sein, they did not find it, and passed around it into the Iroise. A message was sent to them to avoid the Iroise, but as that also was not shown on their chart, they were forced to ignore the warning. Happily, they finally reached Brest without accident, where they were later permanently joined to the destroyer force there. Warrington joined the Brest forces at about the same time. In the middle of December, the torpedo boats U. Whipple reached Brest, and shortly after, arrived the U. Wadsworth, the first thousand-ton destroyer to be assigned to the French waters.

Chapter 2 : United States in World War I - Wikipedia

]] CHAPTER World War I: The U.S. Army Overseas. Included in the orders General Pershing received from the Secretary of War before he left for France was a stipulation "to cooperate with the forces of the other countries but in so doing the underlying idea must be kept in view that the forces of the United States are a separate and distinct component of the combined forces, the.

He also had five siblings: Pershing attended a school in Laclede that was reserved for precocious students who were also the children of prominent citizens. Completing high school in , he became a teacher of local African American children. While pursuing his teaching career, Pershing also studied at the State Normal School now Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri , from which he graduated in with a bachelor of science degree in scientific didactics. Pershing later admitted that serving in the military was secondary to attending West Point, and he had applied because the education offered was better than that obtainable in rural Missouri. West Point years[edit] Pershing as a cadet in Pershing was sworn in as a West Point cadet in the fall of Grant as it passed West Point in August While serving in the 6th Cavalry, Pershing participated in several Indian campaigns and was cited for bravery for actions against the Apache. During his time at Fort Stanton , Pershing and close friends Lt. Julius Penn and Lt. He also became an expert marksman and, in , was rated second in pistol and fifth in rifle out of all soldiers in the U. When the Sioux began firing at the wagons, Pershing and his troops heard the shots, and rode more than six miles to the location of the attack. The cavalry fired at the forces of Chief War Eagle, causing them to retreat. This would be the only occasion where Pershing would see action in the Ghost Dance campaign. The Citizens of Omaha presented the company with a large silver cup, the "Omaha Cup. The group renamed itself the Pershing Rifles in in honor of its mentor and patron. From Fort Assiniboine in north central Montana , he commanded an expedition to the south and southwest that rounded up and deported a large number of Cree Indians to Canada. West Point instructor [edit] Captain John J. Because of his strictness and rigidity, Pershing was unpopular with the cadets, who took to calling him " Nigger Jack" because of his service with the 10th Cavalry. In , he was awarded the Silver Citation Star for these actions, and in the award was upgraded to the Silver Star decoration. Pershing was commissioned as a major of United States Volunteers on August 26, , and assigned as an ordnance officer. In March , after suffering from malaria , Pershing was put in charge of the Office of Customs and Insular Affairs which oversaw occupation forces in territories gained in the Spanishâ€”American War, including Cuba, Puerto Rico , the Philippines , and Guam. He was honorably discharged from the volunteers and reverted to his permanent rank of first lieutenant on May 12, He was again commissioned as a major of Volunteers on June 6, , this time as an assistant adjutant general. When the Philippineâ€”American War began, Pershing reported to Manila on August 17, , was assigned to the Department of Mindanao and Jolo , and commanded efforts to suppress the Filipino Insurrection. He was cited for bravery for actions on the Cagayan River while attempting to destroy a Philippine stronghold at Macajambo. Pershing wrote in his autobiography that "The bodies [of some Moro outlaws] were publicly buried in the same grave with a dead pig. Letters and memoirs from soldiers describing events similar to this do not have credible evidence of Pershing having been personally involved. He served with the 1st Cavalry Regiment in the Philippines. He later was assigned to the 15th Cavalry Regiment , serving as an intelligence officer and participating in actions against the Moros. He was cited for bravery at Lake Lanao. In June , he served as Commander of Camp Vicars in Lanao, Philippines, after the previous camp commander had been promoted to brigadier general. At the time, Army officer promotions were based primarily on seniority rather than merit, [32] and although there was widespread acknowledgment that Pershing should serve as a colonel, the Army General Staff declined to change their seniority-based promotion tradition just to accommodate Pershing. They would not consider a promotion to lieutenant colonel or even major. This angered Roosevelt, but since the President could only name and promote army officers in the General ranks, his options for recognizing Pershing through promotion were limited. Warren , a Wyoming Republican who served at different times as chairman of the Military Affairs and Appropriations Committees. President Roosevelt employed his presidential prerogative and nominated Pershing as a brigadier general , a

move which Congress approved. Mills captain , Tasker H. Bliss major , and Leonard Wood captain. Upon returning to the United States at the end of , Pershing was assigned once again to the Philippines, an assignment in which he served until Six months later, Pershing chased Villa in Mexico. Nita Patton was engaged to Pershing in " With tensions running high on the border between the United States and Mexico, the brigade was deployed to Fort Bliss, Texas on April 24, , arriving there on the 27th. The arrangements were almost complete, when on the morning of August 27, , he received a telegram informing him of a fire in the Presidio in San Francisco , where a lacquered floor caught fire and the flames rapidly spread, resulting in the smoke inhalation deaths of his wife, Helen Frances Warren, and three young daughters, Mary, age 3, Anne, age 7, and Helen, age 8. Only his 6-year-old son Francis Warren survived. This expedition was ill-equipped and hampered by a lack of supplies due to the breakdown of the Quartermaster Corps. Although there had been talk of war on the border for years, no steps had been taken to provide for the handling of supplies for an expedition. He was officially installed in the position on May 10, , and held the post until On October 6, , Pershing, then a major general , was promoted to full general in the National Army. He bypassed the three star rank of lieutenant general, and was the first full general since Philip Sheridan in As AEF commander, Pershing was responsible for the organization, training, and supply of a combined professional and draft Army and National Guard force that eventually grew from 27, inexperienced men to two Armies, with a third forming as the war ended, totaling over two million soldiers. Pershing exercised significant control over his command, with a full delegation of authority from Wilson and Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, cognizant of the endless problems of domestic and allied political involvement in military decision making in wartime, gave Pershing unmatched authority to run his command as he saw fit. In turn, Pershing exercised his prerogative carefully, not engaging in politics or disputes over government policy that might distract him from his military mission. While earlier a champion of the African-American soldier, he did not advocate their full participation on the battlefield, understanding the general racial attitudes of white Americans. In addition, Wilson held reactionary views on race and owed political debts to southern Democratic politicians. In a show of American presence, part of the 16th Infantry Regiment marched through Paris shortly after his arrival. Pausing at the tomb of Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette , he was reputed to have uttered the famous line "Lafayette, we are here," a line spoken, in fact, by his aide, Colonel Charles E. Pershing never remarried, but in September the French government commissioned a portrait of Pershing by year-old Romanian artist Micheline Resco. Pershing removed the stars and flag from his car and sat up front with his chauffeur while traveling from his AEF headquarters to visit her by night in her apartment on the rue Descombes. Their friendship continued for the rest of his life. In late June, General Rawlinson , commanding the British Fourth Army, suggested to Australian Lieutenant General John Monash that American involvement in a set-piece attack alongside the experienced Australians in the upcoming Battle of Hamel would both give the American troops experience and also strengthen the Australian battalions by an additional company each. On June 29, General Bell, commanding the American 33rd Division, selected two companies each from the 1st and 2nd Infantry regiments of the 66th brigade. Monash had been promised ten companies of American troops and on June 30 the remaining companies of the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 1st regiment were sent. Each American platoon was attached to an Australian company, but there was difficulty in integrating the American platoons which numbered 60 men among the Australian companies of men. This difficulty was overcome by reducing the size of each American platoon by one-fifth and sending the troops thus removed, which numbered 50 officers and men, back to battalion reinforcement camps. The day before the attack was scheduled to commence, Pershing learnt of the plan and ordered the withdrawal of six American companies. This meant that battalions had to rearrange their attack formations and caused a serious reduction in the size of the Allied force. For example, the 11th Brigade was now attacking with 2, men instead of 3, Baker , and southern Democrats who promoted the " separate but equal " doctrine. African-American " Buffalo Soldiers " units were not allowed to participate with the American Expeditionary Force AEF during World War I , but experienced non-commissioned officers were provided to other segregated black units for combat service" such as the 28th Engineer Battalion. Most regiments of the 92nd and all of the 93rd would continue to fight under French command for the duration of the war. In early , entire divisions were beginning to serve on

the front lines alongside French troops. For this, he is considered the founding father of the United States MPs. In August the U. Instead, the AEF was required to redeploy and, aided by French tanks, launched a major offensive northwards in very difficult terrain at Meuse-Argonne. Initially enjoying numerical odds of eight to one, this offensive eventually engaged 35 or 40 of the or so German divisions on the Western Front, although to put this in perspective, around half the German divisions were engaged on the British Expeditionary Force BEF sector at the time. Pershing on the front page of the first issue of Stars and Stripes , February 8, The offensive was marked by a Pershing failure, specifically his reliance on massed infantry attacks with little artillery support led to high casualty rates in the capturing of three key points. This was despite the AEF facing only second-line German troops after the decision by Erich Ludendorff , the German Chief of Staff , to withdraw to the Hindenburg Line on October 3â€™and in notable contrast to the simultaneous British breakthrough of the Hindenburg Line in the north. Pershing was subsequently forced to reorganize the AEF with the creation of the Second Army, and to step down as the commander of the First Army. More ground was gained, but by this stage of the war the German Army was in worse shape than in previous years. First, he ordered the U. First Army to take "the honor" of recapturing Sedan , site of the French defeat in ; the ensuing confusion an order was issued that "boundaries were not to be considered binding" exposed American troops to danger not only from the French on their left, but even from one another, as the 1st Division tacked westward by night across the path of the 42nd Division accounts differ as to whether Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur , then commanding the 84th Brigade of the 42nd Division, was really mistaken for a German officer and arrested. Liggett, who had been away from headquarters the previous day, had to sort out the mess and implement the instructions from the Allied Supreme Command, Marshal Foch, allowing the French to recapture the city; he later recorded that this was the only time during the war in which he lost his temper. Second, Pershing sent an unsolicited letter to the Allied Supreme War Council , demanding that the Germans not be given an armistice and that instead, the Allies should push on and obtain an unconditional surrender. Roosevelt , felt that Pershing had been correct, at the time, this was a breach of political authority. House , and later apologized. At the time of the Armistice , another Franco-American offensive was due to start on November 14, thrusting towards Metz and into Lorraine , to take place simultaneously with further BEF advances through Belgium. In his memoirs, Pershing claimed that the American breakout from the Argonne at the start of November was the decisive event leading to the German acceptance of an armistice, because it made untenable the Antwerpâ€™Meuse line. This is probably an exaggeration; the outbreak of civil unrest and naval mutiny in Germany, the collapse of Bulgaria , the Ottoman Empire , and particularly Austria-Hungary following Allied victories in Salonika , Syria, and Italy, and the Allied victories on the Western Front were among a series of events in the autumn of which made it clear that Allied victory was inevitable, and diplomatic inquiries about an armistice had been going on throughout October. American successes were largely credited to Pershing, and he became the most celebrated American leader of the war. Similar criticism of senior commanders by the younger generation of officers the future generals of World War II was made in the British and other armies, but in fairness to Pershing, although it was not uncommon for brigade commanders to serve near the front and even be killed, the state of communications in World War I made it more practical for senior generals to command from the rear. He controversially ordered his troops to continue fighting after the armistice was signed. This resulted in 3, American casualties on the last day of the war, an act which was regarded as murder by several officers under his command. Congress authorized the President to promote Pershing to General of the Armies of the United States , the highest rank possible for any member of the United States armed forces, which was created especially for him. Both organizations still exist today and welcome new officer members to their ranks. Pershing himself would join the MOWF in Harding of Ohio , who went on to win the general election.

*The "National Army" is defined by John J. Pershing in his book *My Experiences in the World War* (), Vol. 1, p. "In the organization of our armies for the World War it was evident that if any considerable numbers were to be sent abroad, an additional force would be needed over and above the Regular Army and National Guard. The War.*

Early Years Europeans were fighting heavily on two fronts before the U. This assurance was confirmed in the week following the assassination, before William, on July 6, set off upon his annual cruise to the North Cape , off Norway. Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, Sophie, riding in an open carriage at Sarajevo shortly before their assassination, June 28, When the delivery was announced, on July 24, Russia declared that Austria-Hungary must not be allowed to crush Serbia. Though Serbia offered to submit the issue to international arbitration, Austria-Hungary promptly severed diplomatic relations and ordered partial mobilization. Home from his cruise on July 27, William learned on July 28 how Serbia had replied to the ultimatum. At once he instructed the German Foreign Office to tell Austria-Hungary that there was no longer any justification for war and that it should content itself with a temporary occupation of Belgrade. But, meanwhile, the German Foreign Office had been giving such encouragement to Berchtold that already on July 27 he had persuaded Franz Joseph to authorize war against Serbia. War was in fact declared on July 28, and Austro-Hungarian artillery began to bombard Belgrade the next day. Russia then ordered partial mobilization against Austria-Hungary, and on July 30, when Austria-Hungary was riposting conventionally with an order of mobilization on its Russian frontier, Russia ordered general mobilization. On July 31 Germany sent a hour ultimatum requiring Russia to halt its mobilization and an hour ultimatum requiring France to promise neutrality in the event of war between Russia and Germany. Both Russia and France predictably ignored these demands. On August 1 Germany ordered general mobilization and declared war against Russia, and France likewise ordered general mobilization. The next day Germany sent troops into Luxembourg and demanded from Belgium free passage for German troops across its neutral territory. On August 3 Germany declared war against France. In the night of August 3â€”4 German forces invaded Belgium. Thereupon, Great Britain , which had no concern with Serbia and no express obligation to fight either for Russia or for France but was expressly committed to defend Belgium, on August 4 declared war against Germany. Romania had renewed its secret anti-Russian alliance of with the Central Powers on February 26, , but now chose to remain neutral. Italy had confirmed the Triple Alliance on December 7, , but could now propound formal arguments for disregarding it: Thenceforth, they could be called the Allied , or Entente, powers, or simply the Allies. The outbreak of war in August was generally greeted with confidence and jubilation by the peoples of Europe, among whom it inspired a wave of patriotic feeling and celebration. The war was welcomed either patriotically, as a defensive one imposed by national necessity, or idealistically, as one for upholding right against might, the sanctity of treaties, and international morality.

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Chapter 4 : Discover The Military Ancestor In Your Family With Forces War Records

The United States declared war on Germany on April 6, , more than two and a half years after World War I started. A ceasefire and Armistice was declared on November 11,

Since August , the war between the Central and Entente Powers had devolved into a bloody stalemate, particularly on the Western Front. That was where the U. The war was dominated by industrially made lethal technology, like no war had been before. That meant more death on European battlefields, making U. In Europe, American combat troops would encounter new weapons systems, including sophisticated machine guns and the newly invented tank, both used widely during World War I. American forces had to learn to fight with these new technologies, even as they brought millions of men to bolster the decimated British and French armies. Engaging with small arms In certain areas of military technology, the United States was well-prepared. The basic infantrymen of the U. Army and Marine Corps were equipped with the Model Springfield rifle. Developed after American experience against German-made Mausers in the Spanish American War, it was an excellent firearm , equal or superior to any rifle in the world at the time. The Springfield offered greater range and killing power than the U. It was also produced in such numbers that it was one of the few weapons the U. The American soldier on the left, here greeting French civilians, is carrying a French Chauchat machine gun. Army Machine guns were another matter. In , American inventor Isaac Lewis had offered to give the U. Army his air-cooled machine gun design for free. When he was rejected, Lewis sold the design to Britain and Belgium , where it was mass-produced throughout the war. With far more soldiers than supplies of modern machine guns, the U. Army had to adopt several systems of foreign design, including the less-than-desirable French Chauchat , which tended to jam in combat and proved difficult to maintain in the trenches. Both nations had combat-ready machines available for American troops. Though American soldiers had never used tanks before entering the war, they learned quickly. Chemical weapons Also new to Americans was poison gas, an early form of chemical warfare. By artillery batteries on both sides of the Western Front commonly fired gas shells, either on their own or in combination with other explosives. Before soldiers were routinely equipped with gas masks, thousands died in horrific ways , adding to the already significant British and French casualty totals. Scientists on both sides of the war effort worked to make gas weapons as effective as possible, including by devising new chemical combinations to make mustard gas, chlorine gas, phosgene gas and tear gas. The American effort was substantial: British Army Naval power for combat and transport All the manpower coming from the U. That meant having a strong navy. For many years, it had been focusing much of its energy on preparing for a surface naval confrontation with Germany. But a new threat had arisen: Germany had made significant progress in developing long-range submarines and devising attack tactics that could have posed severe threats to American shipping. German Navy U-boats had, in fact, devastated British merchant fleets so badly by that British defeat was imminent. A German submarine surrenders at the end of World War I. In fact, as military historian V. Navy escorted convoy approaches the French coast, Navy Taking to the skies Some of those Americans who made it to Europe climbed above the rest â€” right up into the air. And in , air power was coming into its own, showing its potential well beyond just intelligence gathering. Planes were becoming offensive weapons that could actively engage ground targets with sufficient force to make a difference on the battlefield below. Army But with fewer than planes, the U. As a result, American pilots had to learn to fly British and French planes those countries could not man. Despite often lacking the weapons and technology required for success, it was ultimately the vast number of Americans â€” afloat, on the ground and in the air â€” and their ability to adapt and use foreign weapons on foreign soil that helped turn the tide of the war in favor of the Allies.

Chapter 5 : Air Force Historical Support Division > Home

Established: Under the War Department by General Order 1, Headquarters American Expeditionary Forces (AEF), May 26, , pursuant to letter, Secretary of War Newton D. Baker to General John J. Pershing, same date, transmitting Presidential instruction.

Apart from an Anglophile element urging early support for the British , American public opinion reflected that of the president: On the other hand, even before World War I had broken out, American opinion had been more negative toward Germany than towards any other country in Europe. President, it was Wilson who made the key policy decisions over foreign affairs: Until , Wilson made minimal preparations for a land war and kept the United States Army on a small peacetime footing, despite increasing demands for enhanced preparedness. He did however expand the United States Navy. In , with Russia experiencing political upheaval following widespread disillusionment there over the war, and with Britain and France low on credit, Germany appeared to have the upper hand in Europe, [5] while the Ottoman Empire clung to its possessions in the Middle East. In the same year, Germany decided to resume unrestricted submarine warfare against any vessel approaching British waters; this attempt to starve Britain into surrender was balanced against the knowledge that it would almost certainly bring the United States into the war. Germany also made a secret offer to help Mexico regain territories lost in the Mexican-American War in an encoded telegram known as the Zimmermann Telegram , which was intercepted by British Intelligence. Publication of that communique outraged Americans just as German U-boats started sinking American merchant ships in the North Atlantic. Wilson then asked Congress for "a war to end all wars " that would "make the world safe for democracy", and Congress voted to declare war on Germany on April 6, Early in the war, the United States started to favor the British and their allies. When the German U-boat U sank the British liner Lusitania on 7 May with US citizens aboard, Wilson demanded an end to German attacks on passenger ships, and warned that the US would not tolerate unrestricted submarine warfare in violation of international law and of human rights. On the other hand, Wilson came under pressure from war hawks led by former president Theodore Roosevelt , who denounced German acts as "piracy", [10] and from British delegations under Cecil Spring Rice and Sir Edward Grey. Wilson realized he needed to enter the war in order to shape the peace and implement his vision for a League of Nations at the Paris Peace Conference. Opposition to World War I American public opinion was divided, with most Americans until early largely of the opinion that the United States should stay out of the war. The great majority of German Americans, as well as Scandinavian Americans , wanted the United States to remain neutral; however, at the outbreak of war, thousands of US citizens had tried to enlist in the German army. Insull funded many propaganda efforts, and financed young Americans who wished to fight by joining the Canadian military , [21] Canada at that time being a Dominion of the British Empire. Preparedness Movement By , Americans were paying much more attention to the war. The sinking of the Lusitania aroused furious denunciations of German brutality. It argued that the United States needed to build up immediately strong naval and land forces for defensive purposes; an unspoken assumption was that America would fight sooner or later. Indeed, there emerged an "Atlanticist" foreign policy establishment, a group of influential Americans drawn primarily from upper-class lawyers, bankers, academics, and politicians of the Northeast, committed to a strand of Anglophile internationalism. The small regular army would primarily be a training agency. Public opinion, however, was not willing to go that far. The National Guard on the other hand was securely rooted in state and local politics, with representation from a very broad cross section of the US political economy. This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. September Learn how and when to remove this template message The Democratic party saw the Preparedness movement as a threat. Roosevelt, Root and Wood were prospective Republican presidential candidates. More subtly, the Democrats were rooted in localism that appreciated the National Guard, and the voters were hostile to the rich and powerful in the first place. Working with the Democrats who controlled Congress, Wilson was able to sidetrack the Preparedness forces. In reality, neither the US Army nor US Navy was in shape for war in terms

of manpower, size, military hardware or experience. The crews of the Texas and the New York , the two newest and largest battleships, had never fired a gun, and the morale of the sailors was low. The Army and Navy air forces were tiny in size. Despite the flood of new weapons systems unveiled in the war in Europe, the Army was paying scant attention. For example, it was making no studies of trench warfare , poison gas or tanks , and was unfamiliar with the rapid evolution of aerial warfare. The Democrats in Congress tried to cut the military budget in . The Preparedness movement effectively exploited the surge of outrage over the "Lusitania" in May , forcing the Democrats to promise some improvements to the military and naval forces. Wilson, less fearful of the Navy, embraced a long-term building program designed to make the fleet the equal of the British Royal Navy by the mids, although this would not come to pass until after World War II. The facts of submarine warfare which necessitated destroyers, not battleships and the possibilities of imminent war with Germany or with Britain, for that matter , were simply ignored. Specifically, they warned the chief warmongers were New York bankers such as J. Morgan with millions at risk, profiteering munition makers such as Bethlehem Steel , which made armor, and DuPont, which made powder and unspecified industrialists searching for global markets to control. Antiwar critics blasted them. These selfish special interests were too powerful, especially, Senator La Follette noted, in the conservative wing of the Republican Party. The only road to peace was disarmament in the eyes of many. In peacetime, War Department arsenals and Navy yards manufactured nearly all munitions that lacked civilian uses, including warships, artillery, naval guns, and shells. Items available on the civilian market, such as food, horses, saddles, wagons, and uniforms were always purchased from civilian contractors. Peace leaders like Jane Addams of Hull House and David Starr Jordan of Stanford University redoubled their efforts, and now turned their voices against the President because he was "sowing the seeds of militarism, raising up a military and naval caste. Wilson, in deep trouble, took his cause to the people in a major speaking tour in early , a warm-up for his reelection campaign that fall. Wilson seemed to have won over the middle classes, but had little impact on the largely ethnic working classes and the deeply isolationist farmers. Congress still refused to budge, so Wilson replaced Garrison as Secretary of War with Newton Baker , the Democratic mayor of Cleveland and an outspoken opponent of preparedness. The Army was to double in size to 11, officers and , men, with no reserves, and a National Guard that would be enlarged in five years to , men. Preparedness supporters were downcast, the antiwar people were jubilant. The United States would now be too weak to go to war. Bullard privately complained that "Both sides [Britain and Germany] treat us with scorn and contempt; our fool, smug conceit of superiority has been exploded in our faces and deservedly. Arguing this battle proved the validity of Mahanian doctrine, the navalists took control in the Senate, broke the House coalition, and authorized a rapid three-year buildup of all classes of warships. The very weakness of American military power encouraged Berlin to start its unrestricted submarine attacks in . It knew this meant war with America, but it could discount the immediate risk because the US Army was negligible and the new warships would not be at sea until by which time the war would be over, Germany thought, with Germany victorious. The notion that armaments led to war was turned on its head: Wilson released the Zimmerman note to the public and Americans saw it as a casus belli "a cause for war. President Wilson before Congress, announcing the break in official relations with the German Empire on February 3, . At first, Wilson tried to maintain neutrality while fighting off the submarines by arming American merchant ships with guns powerful enough to sink German submarines on the surface but useless when the U-boats were under water. After submarines sank seven US merchant ships, Wilson finally went to Congress calling for a declaration of war on Germany, which Congress voted on April 6, . United States home front during World War I The home front saw a systematic mobilization of the entire population and the entire economy to produce the soldiers, food supplies, munitions, and money needed to win the war. Although the United States entered the war in , there had been very little planning, or even recognition of the problems that the British and other Allies had to solve on their home fronts. As a result, the level of confusion was high in the first 12 months, then efficiency took control. The war came in the midst of the Progressive Era, when efficiency and expertise were highly valued. Therefore, the federal government set up a multitude of temporary agencies with , to 1,, new employees to bring together the expertise necessary to redirect the economy into the production of munitions and food necessary for the war, as well as for propaganda purposes.

Fancher and Henry Reuterdaahl , magazine and newspaper articles, and billboards. Bonds" calls on Boy Scouts to serve just like soldiers do; poster by J. Leyendecker , The nation placed a great importance on the role of children, teaching them patriotism and national service and asking them to encourage war support and educate the public about the importance of the war. The Boy Scouts of America helped distribute war pamphlets, helped sell war bonds, and helped to drive nationalism and support for the war. American Expeditionary Forces As late as , the United States maintained only a small army, one which was in fact smaller than thirteen of the nations and empires already active in the war. After the passage of the Selective Service Act in , it drafted 4 million men into military service. Several regiments of Marines were also dispatched to France. The British and French wanted US units used to reinforce their troops already on the battle lines and not to waste scarce shipping on bringing over supplies. The US rejected the first proposition and accepted the second. As an exception, he did allow African-American combat regiments to fight in French divisions. On the battlefields of France in spring , the war-weary Allied armies enthusiastically greeted the fresh American troops. They arrived at the rate of 10, a day, [47] at a time when the Germans were unable to replace their losses. However, many American commanders used the same flawed tactics which the British, French, Germans and others had abandoned early in the war, and so many American offensives were not particularly effective. Pershing continued to commit troops to these full- frontal attacks, resulting in high casualties against experienced veteran German and Austrian-Hungarian units. The Allies achieved victory over Germany on November 11, after German morale had collapsed both at home and on the battlefield. The public demanded a return to "normalcy", and repudiated Wilson with the election of conservative Republican Warren G.

Chapter 6 : US Navy, World War 1, in French Waters

This book covers World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Kuwait, Bosnia and Afghanistan to present. Over color patches and tabs pictured and identified. Covers the history of patches, US Army Patches, plus sections on the Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, National Guard, Special Forces and Civil Air Patrol.

Stripes focuses on the US 7th Corps, the 82nd Airborne and the 2nd Marine Division, allowing you to take formations from within these combat units. Lets have a look at them. Lets take a look at the M1 first. To have a valid formation, you must take your formation HQ of either 1 or 2 Abrams and a minimum of 2 Abrams platoons of tanks to a maximum of 3 platoons. As you can see, you also now have the option of upgrading your M1 tanks to the IPM1 Improved Performance which will cost you 1 point per tank, but the additional point of armour could be the difference between life and death against those big Warsaw Pact guns! Your other option is to take the older M60 Patton tank as your formation. The Army has access to the new M60A3 Patton. Again, you have to take a formation HQ consisting of Patton tanks and a minimum of 2 platoons of tanks, up to a maximum of 3 platoons. Both formations have the same optional support selections, allowing you the option of fielding: From there, you can take a minimum of 2 M Mech Platoons to a max of 3 and they have a full or short option. In both options, you can add an additional Dragon team for 1 point. As support for your Mech Combat team, you have the option of: Once you have that, you must take at least 1 Tank Platoon, either M1 or M There are no additional support options here The 82nd Airborne The 82nd Airborne has a long history in the US military stretching back to its formation in as the 82nd Division. UH-1 Huey Infantry Combat Team Ferried into battle inside the Huey transport helo rather than parachuting in, the 82nd is no less mobile as a result. You again have a full and short option with respect to your Rifle platoons. You do have the option, in both cases, to add an additional Dragon team for a point, up to 2 M GPMG teams for a point each and an M 60mm mortar team for a point. M Heavy Mortar Platoon Mounted in the versatile M chassis, the M mm mortar provides a great mobile artillery option for dislodging dug-in infantry and taking out lightly armoured targets. M Scout Section The Scout section give you the versatility of having a scout M alongside the M ITV to advance close to the enemy lines while still having the firepower to see off any advance elements that may be waiting in ambush. Able to fire the Shillelagh missile, it holds enough punch to deal with practically any opposition. It mounted twin 40mm Bofors AA guns coupled with search and track radar to increase accuracy. A Warthog Fighter Flight Able to complete a variety of roles from tank-busting to digging infantry out of foxholes, the A is a the close air support option of choice for the US Army. From there you must have at least 2 Tank platoons to a max of three. Unlike their Army counterparts though, the Marines can have between tanks per platoon. In support of your tank platoons, you also have access to:

Chapter 7 : Behind Enemy Lines Podcast: Stripes - US Forces in World War III

In the popular imagination, American GIs in postwar Germany were well-liked and well-behaved. But a new book claims that US soldiers raped up to , women at the end of World War II. Is there.

Comment The soldiers arrived at dusk. They forced their way into the house and tried to drag the two women upstairs. The men pulled them out and threw them onto two beds. The crime the six soldiers ultimately committed took place in March, , shortly before the end of World War II. The girl cried for help: Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of German women experienced a similar fate at the time. But this case was different. The rapists were soldiers from the United States of America and the crime took place in Spremlingen, a village near the Rhine River in the west. By the end of the war, some 1. But is that image consistent with reality? Reports from the Catholic Archive The work, which came out in German on Monday, takes a closer look at the rape of German women by all four victorious powers at the end of World War II. In particular, though, her views on the behavior of American GIs are likely to raise eyebrows. Gebhardt believes that members of the US military raped as many as , German women by the time West Germany regained sovereignty in , with most of the assaults taking place in the months immediately following the US invasion of Nazi Germany. The author bases her claims in large part on reports kept by Bavarian priests in the summer of The Archbishop of Munich and Freising had asked Catholic clergy to keep records on the allied advance and the Archdiocese published excerpts from its archive a few years ago. They were committed by heavily drunken Americans. The results of this decree are not difficult to imagine. Seventeen girls or women The oldest, a woman of Macho Fantasies The reports led book author Gebhardt to compare the behavior of the US army with the violent excesses perpetrated by the Red Army in the eastern half of the country, where brutality, gang rapes and incidents of looting have dominated the public perception of the Soviet occupation. The historian also believes that similar motives were at work. Just like their Red Army counterparts, the US soldiers, she believes, were horrified by the crimes committed by the Germans, embittered by their pointless and deadly efforts to defend the country to the very end, and furious at the relatively high degree of prosperity in the country. Furthermore, propaganda at the time conveyed the idea that German women were attracted to American GIs, further fueling macho fantasies. In the wake of the torture scandal at Abu Ghraib and other war crimes committed by US soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, many historians are taking a more critical look at the behavior of the American military during the days immediately preceding and following the end of World War II in Germany. Studies in recent years have shed light on incidents involving GIs plundering churches, murdering Italian civilians, killing German prisoners of war and raping women, even as they advanced across France. Despite such findings, the Americans are still considered to have been relatively disciplined compared to the Red Army and the French military -- conventional wisdom that Gebhardt is hoping to challenge. Still, all of the reports compiled by the Catholic Church in Bavaria only add up to a few hundred cases. Furthermore, the clergymen often praised the "very correct and respectable" behavior of the US troops. Their reports make it seem as though sexual abuse committed by the Americans was more the exception than the rule. How, then, did the historian arrive at her shocking figure of , rapes? The total is not the result of deep research in archives across the country. Rather, it is an extrapolation. Gebhardt makes the assumption that 5 percent of the "war children" born to unmarried women in West Germany and West Berlin by the mids were the product of rape. That makes for a total of 1, children of American fathers. Gebhardt further assumes that on average, there are incidents of rape for each birth. The result she arrives at is thus , victims. Such a total, though, hardly seems plausible. Were the number really that high, it is almost certain that there would be more reports on rape in the files of hospitals or health authorities, or that there would be more eyewitness reports. Gebhardt is unable to present such evidence in sufficient quantity. Another estimate, stemming from US criminology professor Robert Lilly, who examined rape cases prosecuted by American military courts, arrived at a number of 11, serious sexual assaults committed by November, -- a disgusting number in its own right. But Gebhardt is certainly correct on one point: For far too long, historical research has been dominated by the idea that rapes committed by GIs were implausible because German women wanted to jump into bed with

them anyway. How, though, is one to interpret the complaint filed by a hotelier in Munich on May 31, ? She reports that US soldiers had commandeered a few rooms and that four women were "running around completely naked" and were "exchanged several times.

Chapter 8 : The Doughboy Center - First Army

See a breakdown of numbers in the US military, by branch and year, in World War II.

Chapter 9 : John J. Pershing - Wikipedia

"What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American G.I. in World War II France," a book by the historian Mary Louise Roberts, documents rape and other misconduct among the greatest generation.