

Answers to Map Study

1. Austria-Hungary 2. Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire 3. Possible Answer: Germany was bordered by France on the west and Russia on the east. Their alliance meant that Germany would have to fight on two fronts.

The "Great War" Begins

"You will be home before the leaves have fallen from the trees," the **kaiser**, or German emperor, told his troops as they marched off to war. In August 1914, most Europeans thought the war would end soon. They were mistaken, however. The war dragged on for four blood-soaked years. At the time, it was called the Great War. Later, it became known as World War I.

The war pitted the **Central Powers**—Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire—against the **Allied Powers**—France, Britain, and Russia. In time, 21 other nations, including Italy, joined the Allies.

The Germans advance. German generals had long before drawn up a plan for fighting both France and Russia. It called for a quick attack to defeat France in the west. Then they would fight the slow-moving Russian giant in the east.

MAP STUDY

The war in Europe was fought on several fronts. The Allies clashed with the Central Powers in France, Belgium, Russia, Italy, and the Ottoman Empire.

1. In what country was Sarajevo located?
2. Which of the Central Powers bordered Russia?
3. Analyzing Information Judging from the map, why was the alliance between France and Russia a threat to Germany?



Connections With Language Arts Activity

Explain that the word *kaiser*, like the Russian word *czar*, is derived from the word *caesar*, the title of the Roman emperor in ancient times. Ask students what they know about any of the caesars and what that information suggests about the rule of a kaiser. You might extend this activity by having students brainstorm and create a class list of other titles for a country's leader. Ask: Are any of these words an appropriate substitute for *kaiser*?

Connections With Geography Activity

Challenge students to create, exchange, and solve additional questions about the map on page 650. You might use the following questions to get them started; then have them continue on their own.

- About how far is Paris from Moscow? Berlin from Moscow?
- Which countries bordered Serbia?
- Which countries bordered Italy? Based on that information, why do you think Italy sided with the Allies?

MAP STUDY

The treaties that ended World War I created several new nations. At the urging of President Wilson, the Allies recognized the right of these nations to self-determination.

1. Which new nations in Eastern Europe bordered Russia?
2. In which new nation was the city of Sarajevo located?
3. **Synthesizing Information** Compare this map with the map on page 650. Which nations had to give up land as a result of World War I?



The Senate and the Treaty

When the President returned home, he faced a new battle. He had to convince the Senate to approve the Versailles Treaty.

Many Americans opposed the peace treaty. Some said that it was too soft on the

defeated powers. Many German Americans felt that it was too harsh. Isolationists—or people who wanted the United States to stay out of world affairs—opposed the League of Nations.

Henry Cabot Lodge. Critics of the treaty found a leader in Senator Henry Cabot

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Answers to Map Study

1. Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Poland
2. Yugoslavia
3. Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia, and Bulgaria

Voices of Freedom

Primary Source You might assign selection 9-8, *Opposing the League of Nations*, on page 206 of *Voices of Freedom*. The selection is a cartoon that depicts how the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles often hinged on the question of the League. (Enrichment/Average)

Historical Sidelight Background

As discussed on pages 669 and 671, Senator Lodge led the move to amend the Versailles Treaty—specifically to add a set of reservations to it. European diplomats and Wilson's own advisers tried to get the President to see the need to accept at least some of the Lodge reservations. Even Lodge, however, noted: "Never under any set of circumstances in this world could [Wilson] be induced to accept a treaty with Lodge reservations appended to it." As he explained, Wilson's dislike for him was "as strong as any cable with its strands wired and twisted together." Indeed,

Wilson once exclaimed, "Accept the Treaty with the Lodge reservations! Never! Never! I shall never consent to adopt any policy with which that impossible name is so prominently identified." As he told his wife, Edith, "Better to go down fighting than to dip your colors to dishonorable compromise." Many critics at the time and present-day historians believe that the antagonism that Wilson and Lodge held for each other played as great a part as any other in keeping the United States out of the League of Nations.

Cooperative Learning Activity

Organize a debate around this statement: "The United States should have agreed to the Versailles Treaty and joined the League of Nations." Have one team of students prepare a list of reasons supporting the statement and another team prepare a list of reasons opposing it. You may wish to have a third group prepare a list of questions to ask the speakers. After the teams have argued their points, take a class vote on whether the United States should have joined the League of Nations.