

# The Interception of the Zimmermann Telegram



*Secret Communications Between Germany and  
Mexico Prompt America to Declare War*

# The Zimmermann Telegram

*Intelligence, Diplomacy, and America's Entry into World War I*

By the winter of 1916 to 1917, World War I had reached a deadlock. While the Allies commanded greater resources and fielded more soldiers than the Central Powers, German armies had penetrated deep into Russia and France, and tenaciously held on to their conquered empire. Hoping to break the stalemate on the western front, the exhausted Allies sought to bring the neutral United States into the conflict.

A golden opportunity to force American intervention seemed at hand when British naval intelligence intercepted a secret telegram detailing a German alliance offer to Mexico. In it, Berlin's foreign secretary, Arthur Zimmermann, offered his country's support to Mexico for reconquering "the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona" in exchange for a Mexican attack on the United States, should the latter enter the war on the side of the Allies. The British handed a copy of the Telegram to the American government, which in turn leaked it to the press. On March 1, 1917, the Telegram made headline news across the United States, and five weeks later, America entered World War I.



# The Zimmermann Telegram

*The National Cryptologic Museum Examines the Intercepted Message*

*Run Time: 1 Minute*

[Video](#)

# The Message that Changed History

## *Encoded Interceptions Turn the Tide of War*

- ❖ In 1917 President Wilson had just won re-election under the campaign slogan “He Kept Us Out of War.”
- ❖ Until this point the United States had been able to maintain neutrality and stay out of WWI after the Germans issued the Sussex Pledge, apologized for the sinking of the Lusitania and pulled back on unprovoked attacks on passenger vessels.
- ❖ In January 1917 the British blockade was having debilitating effects on the Germans and the Central Powers were becoming desperate. They knew that if they resumed unrestricted submarine warfare that the United States would likely enter the war on the side of the Allies.
- ❖ To slow the United States down, Germany sought to distract America by enlisting the help of Mexico. Tensions between America and Mexico at the time were heightened due to the Spanish-American War and Mexican Revolution from 1910 to 1916.
- ❖ On January 16, 1917, German Foreign Secretary Arthur Zimmermann sent an encoded telegram to the German Minister to Mexico, Heinrich von Eckhardt through the German Ambassador in Washington, D.C., Count Johann von Bernstorff. The message was to be delivered to the President of Mexico Venustiano Carranza, proposing an alliance to halt or undermine America’s entrance into WWI.
- ❖ The telegraph was intercepted on January 17, 1917, and decoded by British intelligence who shared its contents with the American government.
- ❖ In response to the breaking of the Sussex Pledge and rising anti-German public sentiment, the United States severed diplomatic relations with Germany, released the contents of the telegram to the press and plunged into WWI.

# The Zimmermann Telegram

## *Germany's Secret Message to Mexico*

*“We intended to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President (of Mexico) of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, invite Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace.”*

*—Arthur Zimmermann, German Foreign Secretary*

# The Zimmermann Telegram

*Decoding the Words, Understanding the Message*

**CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED**

Fast Day Message	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night Message	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>

Patrons should mark as X under the class of service desired. OTHERWISE THE TELEGRAM WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FAST DAY MESSAGE.

**WESTERN UNION**  
**TELEGRAM**

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

**WUC**

Check  
3500

Time Filed

**CHARGE**  
8587

via Galveston

JAN 29 1917

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

GERMAN LEGATION  
MEXICO CITY

130	13042	13401	8501	115	3528	416	17214	6491	11310
18147	18222	21560	10247	11518	23677	13605	3494	14936	
98092	5905	11311	10392	10371	0302	21290	5161	39695	
23571	17504	11269	18276	18101	0317	0228	17694	4473	
23284	22200	19452	21589	67893	5569	13918	8958	12137	
1333	4725	4458	5905	17166	13851	4458	17149	14471	6706
13850	12224	6929	14991	7382	15857	67893	14218	36477	
5870	17553	67893	5870	5454	16102	15217	22801	17138	
21001	17388	7446	23638	18222	6719	14331	15021	23845	
3156	23552	22096	21604	4797	9497	22464	20855	4377	
23610	18140	22260	5905	13347	20420	39689	13732	20667	
6929	5275	18507	52262	1340	22049	13339	11265	22295	
10439	14814	4178	6992	8784	7632	7357	6926	52262	11267
21100	21272	9346	9559	22464	15874	18502	18500	15857	
2188	5376	7381	98092	16127	13486	9350	9220	76036	14219
5144	2831	17920	11347	17142	11264	7667	7762	15099	9110
10482	97556	3569	3670						

BEPNSTORFF.

Charge German Embassy.

862.2029/721

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

FROM 2nd from London # 5747.

MAILED  
October 1-8-58  
London, State Dept.  
Eckhoff  
Oct. 27, 1917

"We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, ~~write~~ <sup>invite</sup> Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace." Signed, ZIMMERMANN.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Fast Day Message	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night Message	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired: OTHERWISE THE TELEGRAM WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FAST DAY MESSAGE.	



# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

Receiver No.	215
Check	5500
Time Filed	

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

via Galveston

JAN 19 1917

GERMAN LEGATION  
MEXICO CITY

130	13042	13401	8501	115	3528	416	17214	6491	11310
18147	18222	21560	10247	11518	23677	13605	3494	14936	
98092	5905	11311	10392	10371	0302	21290	5161	39695	
23571	17504	11269	18276	18101	0317	0228	17694	4473	
22284	22200	19452	21589	67893	5569	13918	8958	12137	
1222	1205	1152	5005	12166	13851	1158	17149	14471	6706

862.20219/521

# A Plot for Collusion

*Germany's Secret Proposal to Mexico Discovered by British Intelligence*

*Run Time: 1 Minute*

Video

# A Plan to Divide and Conquer

THE TEMPTATION



Dallas Morning News (2 March 1917)



Library of Congress

The Zimmermann Telegram ignited public fear of what would happen if Americans did not unite behind the war effort in Europe.

FROM THE PRINCE OF BOMBAY 1917.  
We intend to begin on the first of February  
unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor  
in spite of this to keep the United States of  
America neutral. In the event of this not succeed-  
ing, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the  
following basis: make war together, make peace  
together.

ARTHUR ZIMMERMANN  
German Foreign Minister

# Instigating International Tension

*How a Decrypted German Telegram Pushed the United States into WWI and  
Prompted a Wave of Hostility on the U.S.-Mexico Border*

*Run Time: 4 Minutes [Video](#)*

# Interception to Dissemination

*A Secret Message from Germany to Mexico  
Intercepted by Britain and Given to America*

- ❖ The Germans were often forced to use telephone cables belonging to neutral countries after their own Atlantic cables had been cut earlier in the war.
- ❖ Unknown to the Germans, British cryptographers had intercepted the telegram as it briefly passed over British territory and were decoding it at their cryptanalytic center, known as Room 40 using captured German codebooks found in combat and through military intelligence.
- ❖ When the British saw the decoded text with the announcement of resumed unrestricted submarine warfare, a proposed alliance with Mexico and Japan and the promise of restored territories from the American Southwest, they realized that they held a cryptanalytic “trump card” that virtually guaranteed America’s entry into WWI on the side of the Allies.
- ❖ Before the British could capitalize on the telegram they had to protect their own intelligence gathering sources and capabilities while convincing U.S. officials of the message’s authenticity.

4.

4458	gemeinsam
17149	Friedenschluß.
14471	⊙
6706	reichlich
13850	finanziell
12224	unterstützung
6929	und
14991	einverständnis
7382	ausserseits.
158(5)7	da/3
67893	Mexico.
14218	in
36477	Texas
5870	⊙
17553	neu
67893	Mexico..
5870	⊙
5454	AR
16102	IZ
15217	ON
22801	A

# The Plot is Published

Americans Awaken to a Call for War

❖ President Wilson made the decision to release the note to the press on February 28, 1917 in an attempt to convince U.S. lawmakers to pass legislation protecting American lives at sea.

❖ The March 1st, 1917 publication of the Zimmermann Telegraph outraged the American public by exposing Germany's attempt to reignite boundary disputes and ultimately incite a war between Mexico and America.

❖ As a result the U.S. Congress formally declared war on Germany and its allies on April 6, 1917.

# The Impact of Codebreaking

*The Role of Technology in Turning the Tide of American Sentiment*

- ❖ The Zimmermann telegram helped draw the United States into the war and profoundly changed the course of history.
- ❖ The telegram and ensuing cryptanalysis had enormous consequences, making an unprecedented impact on American opinion.
- ❖ Never before had so much turned upon the solution of a secret message.



National Security Agency

*World War I Radio Intercept Site*

# American Military Forces

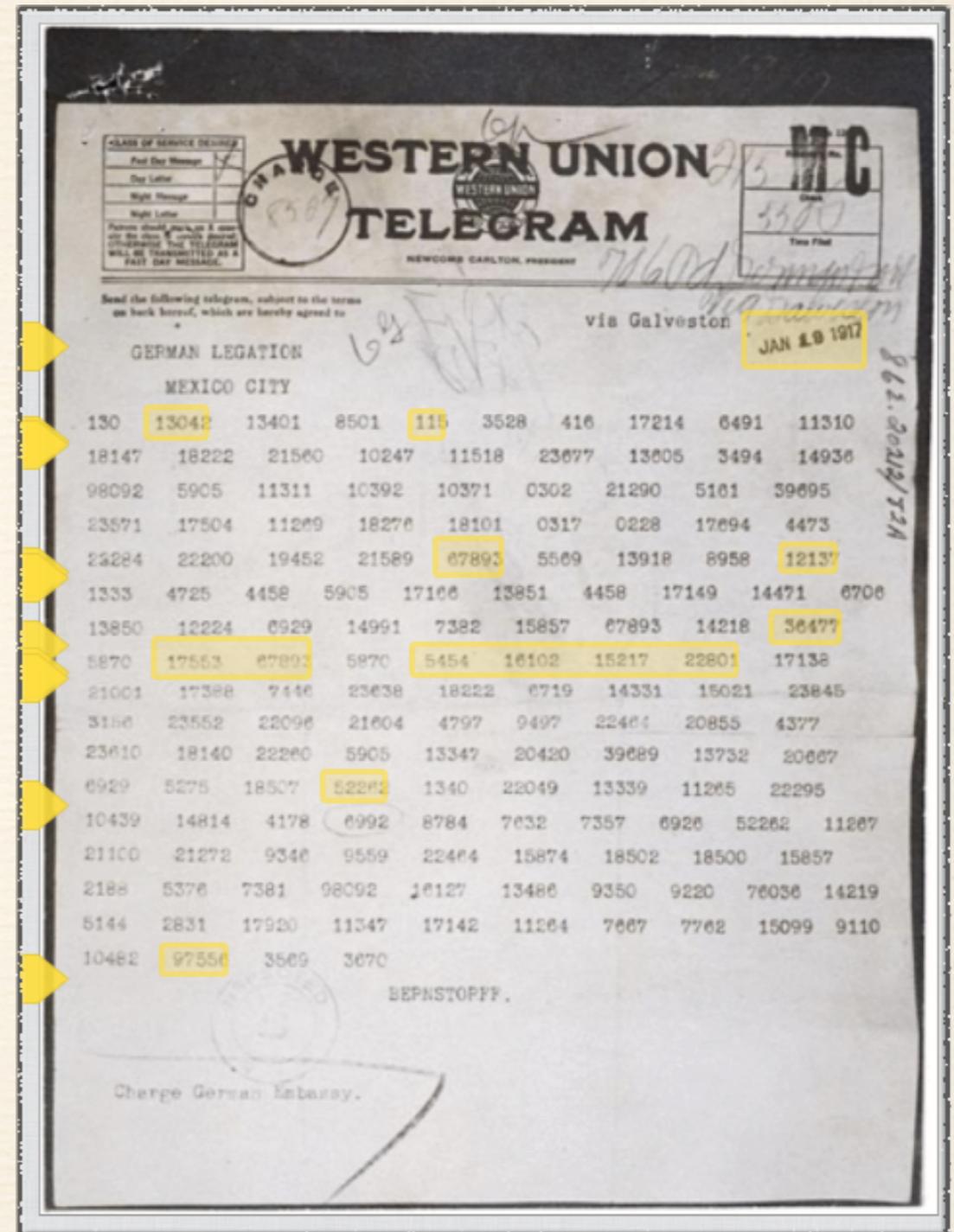
## *The Impact of the Industrial Revolution on Modern Warfare During WWI*

- ❖ During a period of world industrialization, the war brought technical advances such as the machine gun and airplane that forever changed both the strategy and tactics of combat.
- ❖ Similarly, the radio, which was still in its infancy, completely revolutionized military communications.
- ❖ The intelligence organizations of belligerent forces in Europe were aware of the information to be gained by “listening in” on enemy communications.
- ❖ With borrowed French radio equipment, the U.S. Army Radio Intelligence Section soon became an active and vital part of the American intelligence effort. Along with the machine gunner and the pilot, the radio intercept operator took his place in the new American Army born in the trenches of the “war to end all wars.”

# Zimmermann Telegram Full Analysis

Document 

*An analysis of the Zimmermann Telegram, based on a conversation with David Kahn, author of The Codebreakers; research by Barbara W. Tuchman, author of The Zimmermann Telegram; and information provided by the National Cryptologic Museum in Fort Meade, Maryland.*



# Humanitarian Aid

## *Precursor to War: American Foreign Aid Efforts*

- ❖ Prior to the interception of the Zimmermann Telegram the American public had supported humanitarian aid efforts across Europe.
- ❖ American citizens mobilized to send a constant stream of food, clothing, and assistance to countries suffering occupation such as Belgium, which was a neutral country invaded in August 1914 by the German Army.
- ❖ The plight of Belgium attracted worldwide sympathy. Successful businessman and future U.S. President Herbert Hoover undertook leadership of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, which sought to feed and clothe Belgians and avert starvation.
- ❖ In an expression of gratitude for U.S. humanitarian aid, thousands of Belgian schoolchildren and many of their teachers wrote letters of thanks to President Wilson and the American people expressing appreciation for their generosity.

# Humanitarian Aid

*A Shifting of American Sentiments and Efforts*



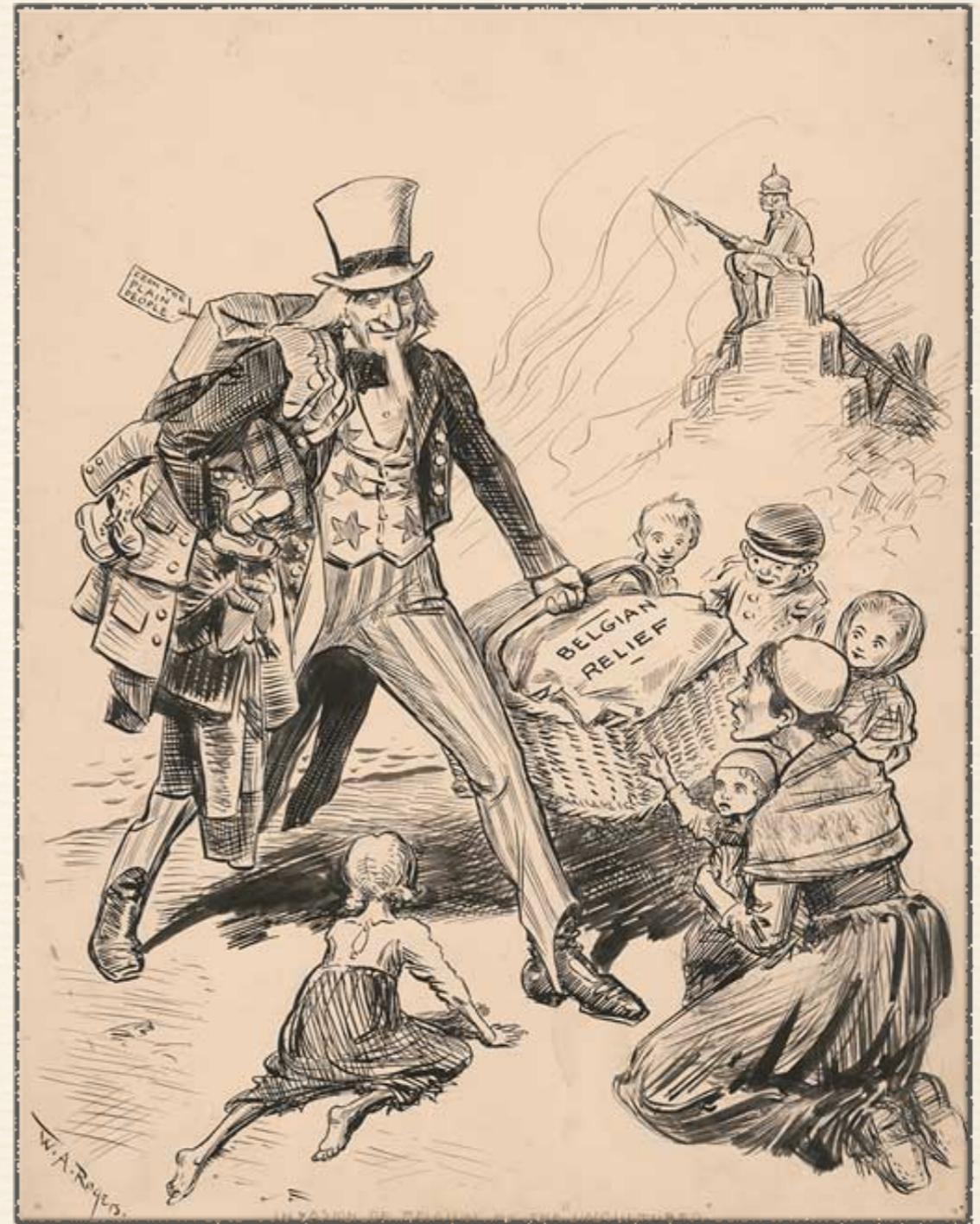
Library of Congress

- ❖ German immigrants demonstrated allegiance to their homeland by orchestrating charity events to benefit the widows and orphans of the Central Powers.
- ❖ As the war escalated, domestic tensions rose between German nationals and native-born American citizens.
- ❖ Ethnically German charity organizers argued, “There is no one in this country who can accuse us of disloyalty if we feel sympathy first for the country of our birth, so long as the United States is not directly involved.”

# International Relief Efforts

## *An Alternative Strategy to War*

- ❖ As long as the United States remained out of the war, humanitarian assistance offered an alternative response to the international crisis.
- ❖ Neutral Belgium, which was invaded and occupied by Germany, and other war-ravaged countries faced food shortages and the threat of starvation.
- ❖ At the urging of the U.S. embassy in London, Herbert Hoover—then a forty-year-old mining engineer and wealthy business leader—organized the Commission for Relief (CRB) in Belgium, which was designed to feed all of Belgium as the largest humanitarian relief operation to date.
- ❖ Relief efforts later expanded to occupied northern France, and by 1918 the CRB had delivered three million tons of food, largely averting starvation in the occupied territories.
- ❖ Americans also undertook much smaller voluntary relief efforts for suffering peoples within the Central Powers' territories including Germany, Austria, Hungary, Armenia, and Syria.



plete account of my experiences in Belgium for publication in these columns, but the object of the present communication is to acquaint subscribers with the fact that the flour and other supplies contributed through the Millers' Belgian Relief Movement, and shipped in the steamship South Point, arrived safely and in excellent condition in Belgium, and have been distributed to the people of that country.

This shipment was very timely, and was welcomed by those in charge of the relief work with the utmost enthusiasm. The flour was pronounced both the largest quantity and the best in quality that has yet been shipped into Belgium, and the blankets far superior to anything of the kind heretofore received.

The gratitude of the Belgians, exhibited in an infinite number of ways and by all classes of people, was overwhelming and even embarrassing. The national appreciation shown for the help of the Americans is both sincere and profound.

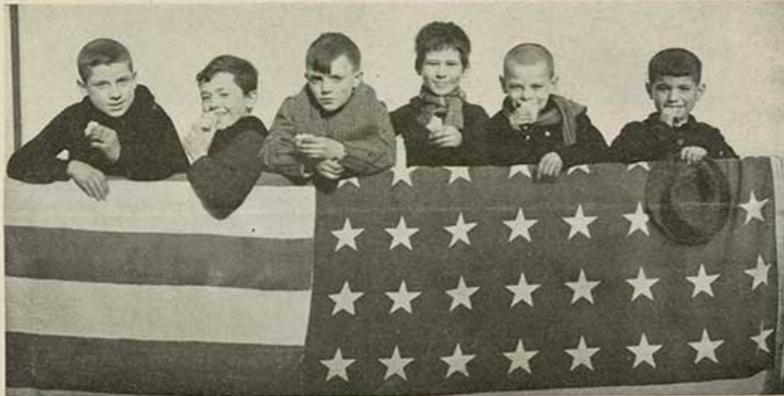
Touching the methods of distribution, I can conscientiously report that they are ideal in their application of sound common-sense and wisdom, thorough, effective and judicious. They reflect the highest possible credit upon the Commission for Relief in Belgium and the Belgian co-operating organization, the Comité National de Secours et d'Alimentation, and it would be impossible to improve upon them.

This combined agency of supply and distribution is heroically contending with hunger and want, and while Belgium is at best scarcely three weeks from the danger line of starvation, yet through its energetic and beneficent exertions over six million people now living in that country are being successfully cared for. This splendid organization, unexampled in its efficiency and unprecedented in the scope of its public helpfulness, is entirely worthy of the implicit confidence of all those who desire to assist the civil population of Belgium, a most self-respecting and admirably thrifty people, to maintain itself until the return of normal conditions.

The German military authorities now occupying Belgium are scrupulously ob-



Millers' Belgian Relief Flour at Brussels



"The Good Bread from America": A Testimonial from Youthful Belgians



One of the Commission's Delivery Trucks

servicing their agreement neither to interfere with the relief work nor to requisition for their own use, directly or indirectly, any portion of the supplies brought into the country for its people.

Without any mental reservation whatever, I am able to assure subscribers of the Millers' Belgian Relief Movement that every sack of flour and every other article included in the shipment of the South Point has reached its intended destination, and has been wisely and conscientiously applied to relief purposes in Belgium, according to the excellent system which has been devised and is in operation. I am fully satisfied with the methods employed in distribution and confident of their efficiency and wisdom.

Pending a full report, which I shall send to the Northwestern Miller as soon as possible, I extend greetings and congratulations to all those who so generously contributed to make up the cargo of the South Point, assuring them that their liberality was not fruitless, but materially assisted in keeping the people of Belgium from hunger, and in its arrival was most opportune.

I have been requested by His Excellency, Mr. Brand Whitlock, the American minister in Brussels, whose magnificent efforts in behalf of the people of Belgium have won their lasting affection and regard, and which reflect the greatest honor upon his country, to express his sincere and heartfelt thanks to the millers of the United States and to all others who have joined with them in sending this material contribution to the help of the Belgians. He desired me to assure them that it gave him especial pleasure and satisfaction to note this exhibition of generosity on the part of his countrymen.

More particularly, His Excellency, who is now fairly idolized by the people of Belgium, asked me to extend his thanks to the city of Toledo, which had expressed its admiration for him by contributing most substantially to the South Point's cargo. The greetings sent by Toledo which accompanied his gift moved him profoundly, and he was most grateful for the assurances of good will and high regard therein contained.

WILLIAM C. EDGAR.  
Rotterdam, March 24.

# THE MILLERS' GIFTS IN BELGIUM

CONTRIBUTORS to the Millers' Belgian Relief Movement may be interested in the outline report of the South Point, made at the Rotterdam office of the Commission for Relief in Belgium. It showed 573,568 bags of flour, 31 of beans, 34 of oatmeal, 14 of barley meal, 17 of peas, 174 of corn meal, 5 cases of Munsingwear and woolen jackets, 15 cases of blankets, 316 cases of condensed milk, a bag of grits and 3 bags of sweepings. The report bears this notation: "This steamer's cargo was in a very good state, only 416 bags of flour slightly damaged."

The five cases of Munsingwear and jackets were shipped, one to Maastricht, and the four others to various camps of Belgian refugees in Holland. Regarding these, the report states that "this shipment is the very best in quality of any that has been received. Every piece is absolutely new and of fine texture, and the clothing department is sure that the Belgians who receive these goods will be most grateful to the contributors."

The cargo of the South Point holds the record as the largest single shipment, representing entirely a gift, yet received, its total valuation being given in the Commission's report for March 8 at nearly \$600,000. All of it, except the underwear and the woolen jackets, already mentioned as being distributed to the Belgian refugees in Holland, was sent into Belgium, and it re-

Preliminary Report from Mr. Edgar—South Point's Cargo Reaches Belgium in Perfect Condition—Distribution Satisfactorily Accomplished—The System in Belgium Indorsed—A Message of Thanks from Minister Brand Whitlock—Complete Report to be Published Later

quired 20 barges loaded to capacity to carry the supplies to destination. The system of distribution makes Rotterdam the center of shipment. Thence the barges are sent to different supply depots in Belgium, according to the needs of the people in the various districts. Of the condensed milk, 77 cases were sent to the province of Limbourg, 97 cases to Brussels for that city and vicinity, and 142 cases to the province of Hainault. The 15 cases of blankets were shipped to Brussels.

Of the flour, nearly 40,000 sacks were shipped to Antwerp, about 47,000 to Brussels, 16,000 to the province of Brabant, 13,000 to Courtrai, 12,000 to Eysden, 39,000 to Ghent and East Flanders, over 16,000 to Louvain, nearly 10,000 to Luxemburg, about 14,000 to Namur, 60,000 to Tournai and about 12,000 to Bruges.

I followed the cargo into Belgium, and, making my headquarters in Brussels, travelled for several days through the provinces, in company with Mr. Albert N. Connett, director-general of the Belgian branch of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, visiting altogether about 15 cities and towns, and inspecting the system by which the Commission, co-operating with the Comité National de Secours et d'Alimentation, makes ultimate distribution of the food supplies brought into Belgium. Later I will write a more com-



Part of the South Point's Cargo in a Brussels Storehouse



In One of the Distributing Depots in Brussels



U.S. Entry Into  
World War I  
Kansas City, Missouri

C-SPAN3

Propaganda and an Intercepted Diplomatic Cable

*A Discussion on U.S. Motivation for Involvement in World War I*

*Run Time: 40 Minutes*    [Video](#)

**Extension Activity: The Military Lens**  
The Suffrage Movement and America's Women Soldiers in the  
Great War and Beyond

# The Suffrage Movement

*The Industrial Revolution and Technology Bring Women into the Workforce*

- ❖ The women's suffrage movement was already firmly part of the nation's consciousness by 1917 when the U.S. entered WWI.
- ❖ During the war millions of women contributed to the war effort, not only through volunteer service, but by entering the labor force as nurses, agricultural laborers, telephone operators, and factory workers.



Library of Congress



Library of Congress



# Dreams of Equity

*An Overview of the Struggle for Women's Rights in the Nineteenth Century*

*Run Time: 27 Minutes*

Video 

# Women in World War I

## *Women's Wartime Service Propels the Passage of the 19th Amendment*

- ❖ Upwards of 25,000 American women between the ages of 21 and 69 served overseas during World War I.
- ❖ They began serving in August 1914, at first alone or with a few companions, later with service organizations, and lastly at the request of the U.S. government.
- ❖ Although the largest number were nurses, women served in numerous other capacities from administrators and secretaries to telephone operators and architects.
- ❖ Many women continued to serve long after Armistice Day, some returning home as late as 1923.
- ❖ Their efforts and contributions in the Great War left a lasting legacy that inspired change across the nation. The service of these women helped propel the passage of the 19th Amendment on June 4, 1919, guaranteeing women the right to vote.



U.S. Army

# Women in the War to End All Wars

## *Wartime Service Sets Precedent for All Future Conflicts*

- ❖ The U. S. Army did not sanction the enlistment of women although leaders such as General John Pershing, the U. S. commander-in-chief in France, recognized the valuable service of British and French women and asked the War Department to send over American women with clerical skills.
- ❖ The Signal Corps employed some bilingual women telephone operators called “Hello Girls” while other women worked for the Quartermaster Corps as personnel clerks, cooks, and bakers.
- ❖ The Medical Department hired women as physical and occupational therapists and dieticians.
- ❖ WWI laid the foundation for the later establishment of the Women’s Army Corps which was established shortly after the United States entered World War II. Women stepped up to perform an array of critical army jobs. They worked in hundreds of fields such as military intelligence, cryptography, parachute rigging, maintenance and supply, to name a few. Additionally, more than 60,000 Army nurses served around the world and over 1,000 women flew aircraft for the Women’s Airforce Service Pilots.
- ❖ Over 150,000 American women served in the Army during World War II and the Women’s Army Corps proved it was a vital part to winning the war. The selfless sacrifice of those brave women ushered in new economic and social changes that would forever alter the role of women in American society.

# Women in American Cryptology



## WOMEN CRYPTOLOGISTS IN OP-20-G

In February 1941, the Office of Cryptologic Operations (OP-20-G) moved to a new quarters with facilities located in Arlington, S.C. It was almost an entirely male organization. By the war's end, however, almost 5,000 cryptologic operations were women. Women had integral management of the operations from machine maintenance to cryptanalysis.

The women also volunteered for the STUSS (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) to meet higher requirements for competition work that other firms couldn't do. After being a battery of tests, many found themselves involved in cryptology. Often, predominantly male teams in cryptology were recruited specifically for work in cryptology. Currently, most women in cryptology have advanced degrees in their field.

Although initially women had the roles of OP-20-G and with the shift of cryptologic operations to Arlington, S.C., the women were not given the same status as their male counterparts. They were often considered as "female help" and not as full-fledged cryptologists.

Women were involved in every aspect of Bombe operations. They were responsible for maintenance, machine operation, and cryptanalysis. They were also responsible for machine maintenance, machine operation, and cryptanalysis. They were also responsible for machine maintenance, machine operation, and cryptanalysis.

## WOMEN CRYPTOLOGISTS IN THE SIGNAL CORPS

As each war broke out, women were recruited into the Army Signal Corps communications intelligence units at Arlington Hall Station in the Washington, D.C. suburbs.

Women worked in the Women's Army Corps (WAC) to work in the Signal Corps units. They were responsible for machine maintenance, machine operation, and cryptanalysis. They were also responsible for machine maintenance, machine operation, and cryptanalysis.

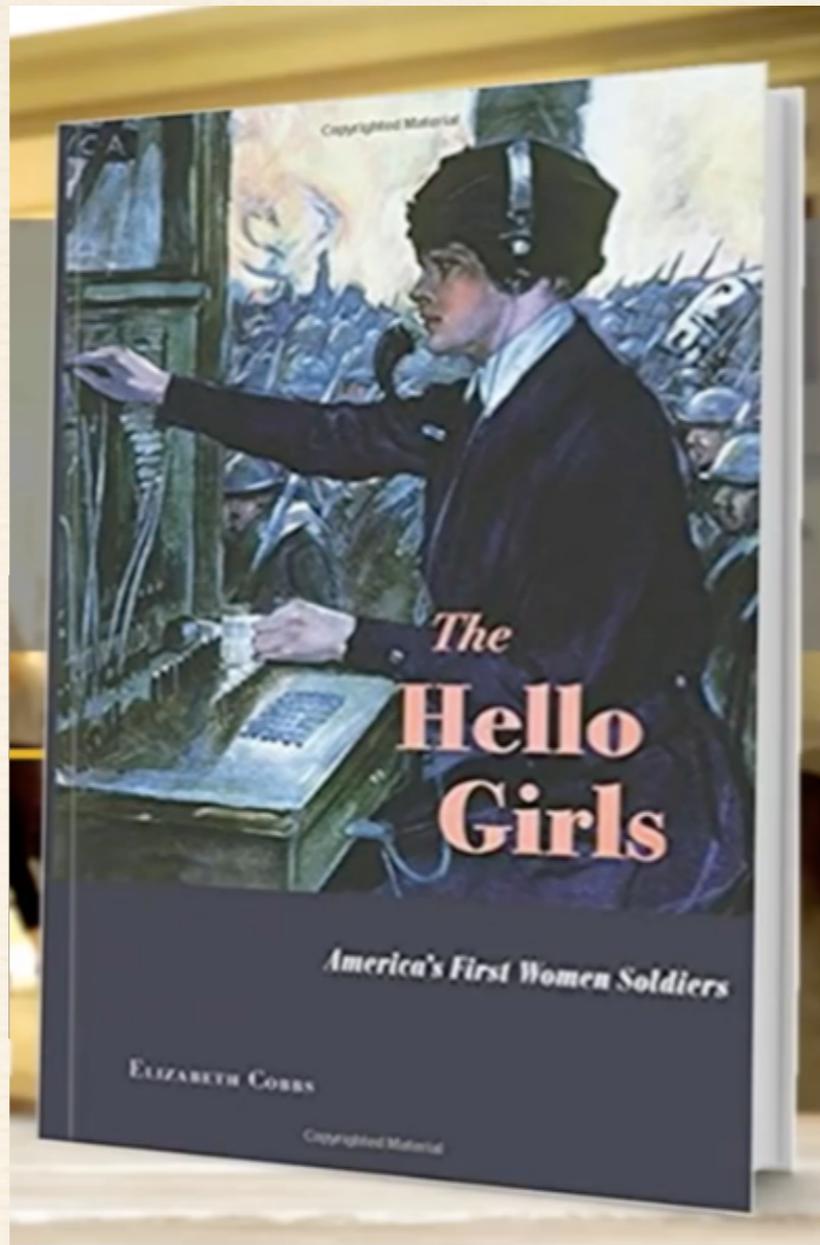
## WOMEN'S ROLE IN AMERICAN CRYPTOLOGY

Traditionally, the number of women in cryptology has been significantly lower than the number of men. However, women have been instrumental in many of the field's most important breakthroughs. Cryptology was one of the first areas of study that allowed women to work in a male-dominated field.

During World War II, thousands of women were recruited into the Signal Corps units. They were responsible for machine maintenance, machine operation, and cryptanalysis. They were also responsible for machine maintenance, machine operation, and cryptanalysis.



# Creating the Legacy



# The Hello Girls

*America's First Women Soldiers*

*Run Time: 54 Minutes* [Video](#)

# Women in the United States Army



U.S. Army

*“The defense of our nation is a shared responsibility. Women have served in the defense of this land for years before our United States was born. They have contributed their talents, skills and courage to this endeavor for more than two centuries with an astounding record of achievement that stretches from Lexington and Concord to the Persian Gulf and beyond.”*

*Retired General Gordon R. Sullivan  
Chief of Staff of the Army, 1991–1995*



# Tribute to Women in the U.S. Army

*The Permanent Presence of Women in the Modern Military*

*Run Time: 3 Minutes* [Video](#)

# Text Resources

Alexander, Mary Childress, and Marilyn Childress Alexander. "The Zimmermann Telegram." Educator Resources. Accessed 11 July 2017. <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/zimmermann>

Bellamy, Jay. "The Zimmermann Telegram." *Prologue Magazine* Vol. 48, no. 4 (Winter 2016). Accessed 11 July 2017. <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2016/winter/zimmermann-telegram>

Boghardt, Thomas. *The Zimmermann Telegram: Intelligence, Diplomacy, and Americas Entry into World War I*. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2013. Accessed 11 July 2017. <https://www.usni.org/store/books/clear-decks-50-90/zimmermann-telegram>

"Humanitarian Aid." Echoes of the Great War: American Experiences of World War I. Accessed 11 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/exhibitions/world-war-i-american-experiences/online-exhibition/arguing-over-war/humanitarian-aid/?st=gallery>

"National Cryptologic Museum Current Exhibits Image Gallery." Digital Media Center. Accessed 11 July 2017. <https://www.nsa.gov/resources/everyone/digital-media-center/image-galleries/cryptologic-museum/current-exhibits/>

"The Zimmermann Telegram." Echoes of the Great War: American Experiences of World War I. Accessed 11 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/exhibitions/world-war-i-american-experiences/online-exhibition/arguing-over-war/for-or-against-war/the-zimmerman-telegram/>

"Women in the United States Army: World War I (1917–1918)." Women in the U.S. Army. Accessed 11 July 2017. <https://www.army.mil/women/history/>

"World Wars Exhibits." Women of World War I. Accessed 11 July 2017. <http://www.awm.lee.army.mil/exhibits/world-wars/>

# Image Resources

Berryman, Clifford Kennedy, Artist. *[Hand carving up a map of the Southwestern United States]*. United States, 4 March 1917. Photograph. Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2016678747/>

*Dallas Morning News*. "The Temptation." Cartoon. March 2, 1917.

Decoded Zimmermann Telegram, 1917; Decimal File, 1910–1929, 862.20212/69, General Records of the Department of State; Record Group 59; National Archives. Accessed 17 July 2017. [https://www.ourdocuments.gov/document\\_data/pdf/doc\\_060b.pdf](https://www.ourdocuments.gov/document_data/pdf/doc_060b.pdf)

Fritz van der Mensbrugge letter [in English] to our Benefactors in America. Illustrated letter, ca. 1915. Belgian Children's Letter Collection, Woodrow Wilson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/exhibitions/world-war-i-american-experiences/online-exhibition/arguing-over-war/humanitarian-aid/giving-thanks/>

Herbert Hoover to Mr. E. Francqui. United States, 15 June 15, 1915. Typescript Letter. Brand Whitlock Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/exhibitions/world-war-i-american-experiences/online-exhibition/arguing-over-war/humanitarian-aid/commission-for-relief-in-belgium/>

"The Miller's Gifts in Belgium" in *The Weekly Northwestern Miller*, 21 April 1915. Brand Whitlock Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/exhibitions/world-war-i-american-experiences/online-exhibition/arguing-over-war/humanitarian-aid/commission-for-relief-in-belgium/>

# Image Resources

Reiss, Winold, Artist. [*Charity Bazar for the Widows and Orphans of German, Austrian, Hungarian and their Allied Soldiers / Winold Reiss*]. United States, 1916. [New York: Hegeman Print] Photograph. Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2002722436/>

Rogers, W. A., Artist, and United States Committee On Public Information. Division of Pictorial Publicity. *Red Cross nurse standing at the railing of a ship, has a vision of wounded soldiers across a stormy sea / W.A. Rogers*. Between 1914 and 1918. Photograph. Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2010717866/>

Rogers, W. A., Artist. *Invasion of Belgium by the "Uncultured" / W.A. Rogers*. United States, 1914. Photograph. Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2010717726/>

“U.S. Army Signal Corps—*Hello Girls*.” Women in the United States Army. The Official Home Page of the United States Army. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.army.mil/women/history/>

United States Army. Signal Corps, photographer. *Profiling Extractors – Eddystone Rifle Plant, Eddystone, Pa.* Eddystone Pennsylvania. [Between 1914 and 1918] Photograph. Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2002716625/>

*Smithsonian Magazine*, Megan Gambino. "Zimmermann Telegram Full Analysis." National Cryptologic Museum. Accessed 17 July 2017. <http://www.documentcloud.org/documents/404096-zimmermann-telegram.html>

# Image Resources

The Washington Herald. *Uncover Plot Against Nation*. (Washington, D.C.), 1 March 1917. Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. Library of Congress. Accessed 17 July 2017. <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045433/1917-03-01/ed-1/seq-1/>

"Women in American Cryptology." National Cryptologic Museum Exhibit Information. National Cryptologic Museum Current Exhibits Image Gallery. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.nsa.gov/resources/everyone/digital-media-center/image-galleries/cryptologic-museum/current-exhibits/>

"Women in the United States Army." The Official Home Page of the United States Army. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.army.mil/women/index.html>

WWI Radio Intercept Site. National Cryptologic Museum Exhibit Information. National Cryptologic Museum Current Exhibits Image Gallery. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.nsa.gov/resources/everyone/digital-media-center/image-galleries/cryptologic-museum/current-exhibits/>

Zimmermann Telegram as Received by the German Ambassador to Mexico, 19 January 1917. Record Group 59: General Records of the Department of State, 1756 – 1979 National Archives and Records Administration. National Archives Identifier 302025. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/zimmermann>

Zimmermann Telegram - Decoded Message Record Group 59: General Records of the Department of State, 1756 - 1979 National Archives and Records Administration National Archives Identifier 302022. Accessed 17 July 2017. <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/zimmermann>

# Audio/Video Resources

Boghardt, Thomas, Dr., performer. *The Zimmermann Telegram*. Recorded 27 July 2017. Elizabeth Autumn Seibel, 2017, MP3.

Dreams of Equity. U.S. National Archives. 24 April 2017. Accessed 14 July 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5yb3RPYUCg&feature=youtu.be>

How a Decrypted German Telegram pushed the United States into World War One. BBC News. 17 January 2017. Accessed 14 July 2017. <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-38581861>

The Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers. U.S. National Archives. 25 April 2017. Accessed 14 July 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RcnUrf7GGyM&feature=youtu.be>

Tribute to Women in the U.S. Army. United States Army. 29 January 2017. Accessed 14 July 2017. <https://www.army.mil/women/index.html>

U.S. Entry Into World War I. C-SPAN. 6 April 2017. Accessed 14 July 2017. <https://www.c-span.org/video/?426288-3%2Fus-entry-world-war>

Zimmermann Telegram. Accessed 14 July 2017. [https://cryptologicfoundation.org/visit/museum/museum\\_exhibits/videos/zimmermann-video.html](https://cryptologicfoundation.org/visit/museum/museum_exhibits/videos/zimmermann-video.html)

Zimmermann Telegram Germany's Secret Proposal to Mexico Discovered. National World War I Museum and Memorial. Accessed 14 July 2017. <https://www.theworldwar.org/explore/centennial-commemoration/us-enters-war/zimmermann-telegram>