

The Treaty of Versailles

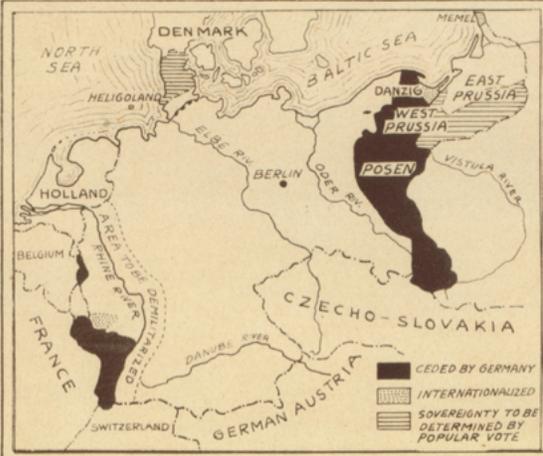
German and Central Power Reparations

The German envoy signed the Armistice agreeing to end fighting with the Allies on 11 November 1918. Half a year later in June of 1919, after months of negotiations during the Paris Peace Conference, the Allies and Germans signed the Treaty of Versailles. The treaty forced reluctant Germany to shoulder the blame for the war and outlined reparations that the belligerent nation had to make. The treaty limited the size of the German military and gave hundreds of square miles of territory back to France and other invaded nations as well as claimed Germany's overseas colonies. The Treaty of Versailles along with separate treaties signed between the Allies and other Central Powers changed the map of Eastern Europe with areas once occupied becoming independent nations. Resentment on the behalf of the Central Powers over the terms of the treaties would hinder international relations for years to come.

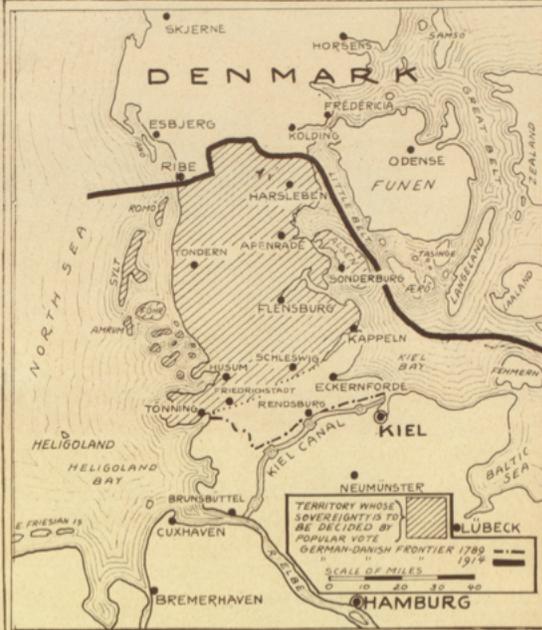
Directions: Examine the terms of the treaties signed with Germany and Austria. On a separate sheet of paper, write a one paragraph response detailing the geographic and population changes for each nation as well as any other stipulations in the treaties regarding the recognition of sovereignty or independence of territories formerly possessed by the imperial nations. Next, working with a partner, imagine that you were a German or Austrian representative sent to negotiate the terms of the treaty. Discuss your thoughts about the outcome of the treaties and propose alternative territorial concessions that could appeased reparation resentment at the conclusion of World War I.



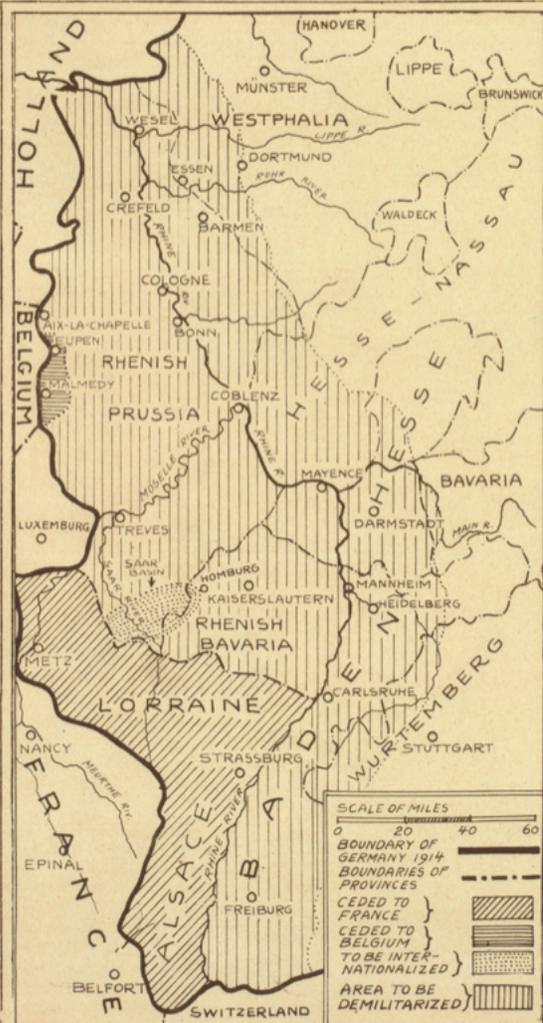
Boundaries of Germany Under Terms of Treaty



PORTIONS OF TERRITORY PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN FROM GERMANY BY TREATY DELIVERED MAY 7, 1919.



SCHLESWIG TERRITORY THAT MAY REVERT TO DENMARK. SUBJECT TO PLEBISCITE UNDER SUPERVISION OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

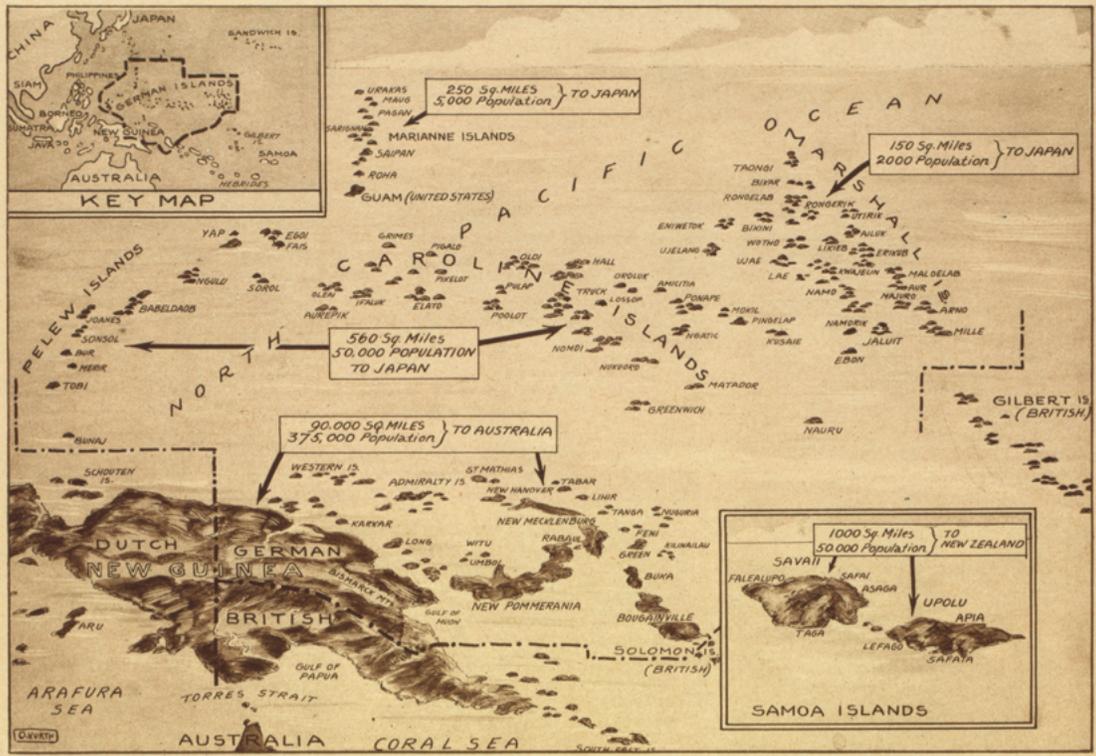


ALSACE-LORRAINE, THE SARRE COAL BASIN AND SMALL SECTIONS ABOUT EUPEN AND MALMEDY ON THE BELGIAN BORDER.



MAP OF EASTERN GERMANY SHOWING SECTIONS THAT ARE TAKEN AWAY, INTERNATIONALIZED OR SUBJECT TO PLEBISCITE OF THE POPULATIONS AFFECTED, WITH ESPECIAL RELATION TO THE NEW REPUBLIC OF POLAND.

Lost German Colonies in China, Africa, and South Seas



MAP OF SOUTH SEA ISLANDS CAPTURED FROM GERMANY IN FIRST YEAR OF THE WAR.

WHILE the territory that Germany loses in Europe is by far of the greatest importance, a vastly larger area measured by square miles is lost to her in what was formerly her colonial empire. The islands in the South Seas represent 95,560 square miles and a population of 600,000. These will henceforth be administered by the Australians and Japanese. In Africa the mandates of the League of Nations come into control of Togoland, 33,000 square miles; Kamerun, 191,130; Southwest Africa, 322,450, and East Africa, 384,180, aggregating 931,460 square miles. In China, Kiao-Chau and the Shantung Peninsula, from which the Germans were ejected in 1914, were definitely ceded to Japan, which has bound itself at some unspecified date to return them to Chinese sovereignty. Germany had been building up her colonial empire for many years and in the peace discussions vigorously protested against their loss.



KIAO-CHAU AND SHANTUNG PENINSULA CEDED TEMPORARILY TO JAPAN.

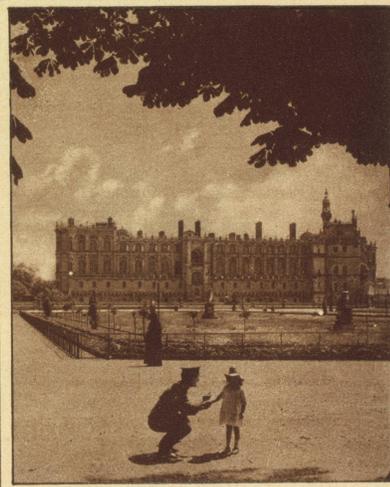
TERRITORY IN AFRICA AGGREGATING OVER 900,000 SQUARE MILES, FORMERLY UNDER GERMAN CONTROL, NOW TAKEN FROM HER BY PEACE TREATY.

Austrian Peace Delegates and Terms of Treaty



THE framing of the peace terms with Germany, as by far the most formidable of the Central Powers, naturally came first in time and importance, but shortly after the German treaty was delivered at Versailles the Austrian peace terms were handed to the Austrian delegates at St. Germain-en-Laye, near Paris. The ceremony took place on June 2, 1919, and was devoid of the unpleasant incidents that characterized the session at Versailles. Austria was left by the treaty a state of from 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 people, inhabiting a territory of from 5,000 to 6,000 square miles. She was required to recognize the complete independence of Hungary, Czechoslovakia and the Serb-Croat-Slovene State and to cede other territories which previously in union with her composed Austria-Hungary. She was also stripped of her naval and aerial forces, and compelled to renounce all her extra European rights and accept the provisions of the League of Nations covenant.

(At left.) Austrian envoys in the garden of the villa assigned to them in the suburbs of Paris. Chancellor Karl Renner, head of the delegation, is seated at left. Their freedom of movement has been only slightly restricted.



(Above.) Chateau Francois Premier at St. Germain-en-Laye, a suburb of Paris, where the Austrian peace delegates had the treaty handed to them on June 2, 1919. The treaty left Austria a mere shadow of its former self and effectually removed her as a menace to the peace of Europe.

(At left.) Former Austrian territory in dispute between Italy and Jugoslavia. Fiume, the former seaport of Austria-Hungary, was one of the storm centres of discussion. It is here shown with other harbors.

Demonstrations in Berlin Against Treaty Terms



(Above.) Great throngs assembled before the Reichstag in Berlin to protest against the peace terms as soon as they had become known. There was a chorus of denunciation from people, press, and pulpit, and it was declared that such terms could not possibly be accepted. The only exceptions were the Independent Socialists who declared for any treaty that would provide "bread and work."



(Above.) National Union of Young Germans gathered before the Roon Monument in Berlin bearing flags and placards inveighing against the peace treaty. Placard at the right reads: "In 1642-1684 Louis XIV. stole German-Alsace from us. In 1919 Clemenceau steals it."



(At left.) Protest of Germans from foreign countries and from those having investments there against the conditions of the peace treaty that adversely affected their properties. Dr. Friedrich Naumann, the noted advocate of the "Mitteleuropa" project, is addressing them before the Berlin Museum.

For additional resources to complete this activity please examine the terms Germany imposed upon France at the end of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871 to gain greater contextual understanding of the Treaty of Versailles.