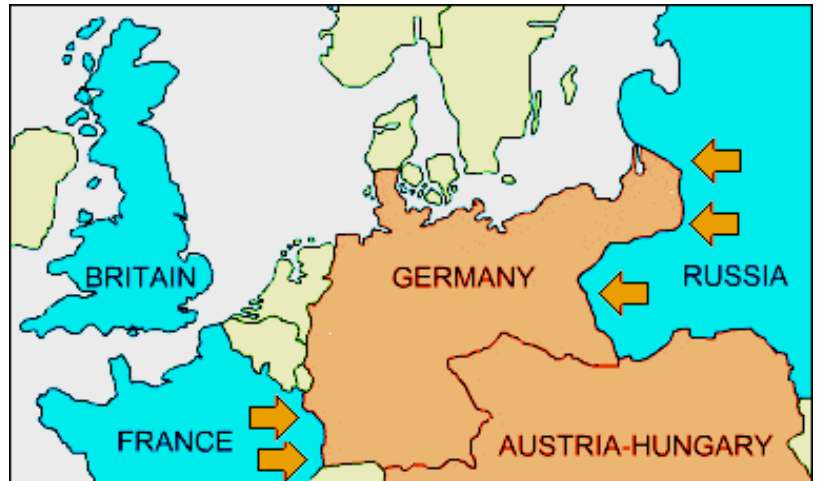


The Schlieffen Plan, the Western Front, and Trench Warfare

Even before World War One started, Germany had plans to take over other parts of Europe. The only problem is that Germany was located in between three countries that were all in an alliance. These countries were _____ and _____ to the West, and _____ to the East.

The Schlieffen Plan: Take out your weakest enemy first.

To avoid having to fight a war on two sides of their country, Germany developed a plan to defeat _____ quickly to the _____ before moving on to _____ in the _____. Because this was developed by a man named Alfred von Schlieffen, it was called the _____. When World War One began, Germany put the plan into action.



Germany originally planned to _____ defeat France and move on to its enemy to the east, _____. However, when it came time to use the plan, Germany had to travel through _____ in order to attack France. ***On the map above, circle Belgium.** Belgium refused to give Germany _____, so Germany had to _____ the Belgians too. Then, _____ stepped in to defend Belgium. Already, Germany was fighting _____ more countries than planned. To make things worse for Germany, _____ was able to get their army ready much _____ than expected. This meant that instead of _____ taking out France, Germany was forced to fight _____, _____, _____, and _____ all at once.

The Western Front: To the west.

Because _____ is _____ of Germany, people called the border where France and Germany met and fought the “_____.” France put up a much _____ fight than expected, so war _____ along the Western Front for many years. ***On the map above, draw a line along the Western Front.**

Trench Warfare: Time to dig in.



As it became clear that _____ wasn't giving up any time soon, Germany dug trenches along the _____ to stop _____ and other _____ from advancing. _____ had no choice but to _____. The result was years of _____, with both sides spending most of their time _____. Every once in a while, though, soldiers would go “_____” of the trenches to attack the enemy. _____

died this way, shot down by _____ fire.

Name _____

Mr. Hostetter

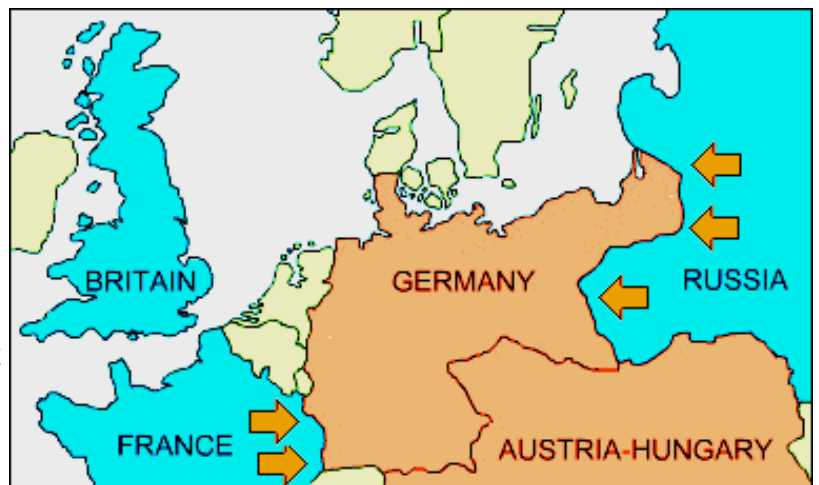
The Schlieffen Plan, the Western Front, and Trench Warfare

Even before World War One started, Germany had plans to take over other parts of Europe. The only problem is that Germany was located in between three countries that were all in an alliance. These countries were Britain and France to the West, and Russia to the East.

The Schlieffen Plan: Take out your weakest enemy first.

To avoid having to fight a war on two sides of their country, Germany developed a plan to defeat France quickly to the west before moving on to Russia in the east. Because this was developed by a man named Alfred von Schlieffen, it was called the Schlieffen Plan. When World War One began, Germany began putting the plan into action.

Germany originally planned to quickly defeat France and move on to its enemy to the east, Russia. However, when it came time to use the plan, Germany had to travel through Belgium in order to attack France.



***On the map above, circle Belgium.** Belgium refused to give Germany permission, so Germany had to fight the Belgians too. Then, Britain stepped in to defend Belgium. Already, Germany was fighting two more countries than planned. To make things worse for Germany, Russia was able to get their army ready much faster than expected. This meant that instead of quickly taking out France, Germany was forced to fight France, Britain, Belgium, and Russia all at once.

The Western Front: To the west.

Because France is west of Germany, people called the border where France and Germany met and fought the "Western Front." France put up a much stronger fight than expected, so war dragged on along the Western Front for many years. ***On the map above, draw a line along the Western Front.**

Trench Warfare: Time to dig in.



As it became clear that France wasn't giving up any time soon, Germany dug trenches along the Western Front to stop France and other Allies from advancing. France had no choice but to dig trenches too. The result was years of trench warfare, with both sides spending most of their time waiting. Every once in a while, though, soldiers would go "over the top" of the trenches to attack the enemy. Millions died this way, shot down by machine gun fire.