

## **Destruction During the Great War**

### *France:*

- 1.357 million military dead, 4.266 million wounded, 300,000 civilian deaths
- 888,783 tonnes of merchant shipping lost (average ~6,000 tonnes displacement per ship)
- 1,875 square miles of forest destroyed, 8,000 square miles of agricultural land destroyed
- 1,500 schools, 1,200 churches, 377 public buildings and 1,000 industrial plants destroyed, plus 246,000 other buildings
- In German occupied France nearly 300,000 houses were destroyed, 6,000 factories were stripped of their machinery and then sent to Germany
- During their retreat the Germans burned and looted houses and churches on a massive scale including the destruction of 1,000 miles of rail lines and 1,000 bridges. In the four years of occupation the Germans took 500,000 cows, 500,000 sheep and 300,000 horses and donkeys
- At the end of the war the French pulled up 300 million metres of barbed wire, and filled in over 250,000,000 cubic metres of trenches
- 20% of French crops were destroyed, as well as 90% of iron ore, and 65% of steel
- Owed 634 million pounds in war debts to the US, and 482 million pounds to the British

### *Britain:*

- 885,338 military dead, 1,663,435 wounded, 109,000 civilian deaths
- British Empire: 229,776 military dead, 426,777 wounded
- 7,756,659 tonnes of merchant shipping lost
- Owed 959 million pounds in war debts to the US
- Many German air-raids hit London, and the German Navy bombarded the east coast of Britain
- The Germans torpedoed five hospital ships without warning

### *US:*

- 116,708 military dead, 205,690 military wounded, 757 civilian dead
- 394,658 tonnes of merchant shipping lost

*Italy:*

- 651,000 military dead, 953,886 military wounded, 589,000 civilian deaths
- Owed 354 million pounds in war debts to the US and 459 million pounds to Britain

*Russia:*

- 1,811,000 military dead, 4,950,000 military wounded, 1.5 million civilian dead
- Owed 42 million pounds to the US and 631 million pounds to the British

*Germany:*

- 2,050,897 military dead, 4,247,143 military wounded, 426,000 civilian deaths (primarily starvation and disease from the British Blockade during the war)
- Lost 123 million pounds in gold reserves during the war
- Lent 290 million pounds to her allies during the war

*Austria-Hungary:*

- 1,100,000 military dead, 3,260,000 wounded, 467,000 civilian deaths