

Weimer Germany & The Big Three @ Treaty of Versailles

10+ “punishments” dictated to Weimer Germany (headed by Ebert) at Versailles, who were forced to sign, or face a resumption of the war:

1. Germany was forced to pay \$33 billion dollars in Reparation payments to the ‘winning’ countries (The Big Three).
2. The German military was to be reduced to 100 000 men.
3. They had to give up colonies in Africa and the South Pacific to Britain and France (became mandates).
4. Conscription in the German Army was forbidden and therefore enlistment was on a volunteer only basis with 12 year contracts
5. The German Air Force was to be destroyed and submarines weren’t allowed. Their navy was reduced in size and material and they had to hand over some ships to Britain. In order to avoid giving Britain their ships, the Germans sunk over 400 000 tons of their own shipping.
6. They had to sign the ‘War Guilt Clause’ (article 231), which placed complete blame on Germany for starting the war. **see map pg. 36**
7. Anschluss, a political or military union between Austria and Germany was forbidden.
8. The Rhineland, an area between France and Germany was de-militarized and an Allied force would occupy this zone for 15 years.
9. Alsace-Lorraine were given back to France as well as the land taken from the Treaty of Brest Litovsk with Russia. This land became four independent nations: Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Finland.
10. National Self-Determination was forbidden for the Germans living outside of Germany. This included Germans living in the Sudetenland, Austria and the Polish Corridor.

Country:	France	United States	Britain
Leader:	Georges Clemenceau	Woodrow Wilson	David Lloyd George
(4) Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Revenge ➤ Guaranteed Safety ➤ Demilitarized and economically dependent Germany ➤ Blame on Germany 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Just & lasting peace ➤ N.S.D. for minorities ➤ Spread of democracy ➤ His 14th Point, a League of Nations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Public” revenge and reparations ➤ Economically stable Germany as a trading partner ➤ Feared spread of communism and refugees of N.S.D. ➤ Rejuvenate English economy
Why? (4) Reasons & Rationales For Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76.3% of their mobilized forces were casualties 1.357 million of which were dead • French towns, farms, factories and mines were completely destroyed ex. 20% of French crops were destroyed, as well as 90% of iron ore, and 65% of steel • Cost them over 24 billion dollars • 300 000 civilian deaths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did not want another war in the future • Believed that if Nations were nationally pure, conflict would subside • Feared the spread of communism after the Russian Revolution • Wanted to create a force that could stop conflict through multiple country economic sanctions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost them over 35 billion dollars • Wanted Germany to invest in British industry • Communism is appealing to those in desperation, such as N.S.D. refugees, Russia could spread communism throughout Europe • Although the German and Ottoman Empires were abolished, Britain still wanted to grow

<p>What “got” from T.O.V. (4 examples)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Alsace-Lorraine back from Germany ✓ Unrestricted access to the coal mines in the Saar Valley region for 5 years, after 15 years, the people of the region would vote to join France or Germany ✓ Germany took full blame (War Guilt Clause, 231) ✓ Promise of German reparation payments (33 billion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A League of Nations (that they did not join, because the US retreated to isolationism) ✓ European self-determination (albeit flawed) ✓ A demilitarized Germany (100 000 men) ✓ Post-war economic prosperity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A promise of reparation payments from Germany (33 billion) ✓ Gained mandates from the Ottoman Empire and Germany ✓ A de-militarized Rhineland ✓ A weakened German Army (100 000) and abolition of German Air Force
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