# World War I: The Great War

#### The Great War Western Front

- Germans, Austria-Hungarians vs. French, British and later Americans
- Germany develops the Schlieffen Plan (a fast rush into France)
- > Trench Warfare on the Western Front

### The Great War Eastern Front

- Russians and Serbs vs. Germans and Austria-Hungarians
- War more mobile but still a stalemate
- Russia's disadvantages
  - Not Industrialized
  - Short on Supplies
  - War is Unpopular
- Russia's advantage
  - LOTS of People

# Russia Exits the War

- March 1917, Nicholas II abdicates his throne
- Russian Duma continues to fight
- October 1917: Lenin and the Bolsheviks take command: The Soviet's want to leave the war
- March 1918: Soviets leave the war

# US Road to War

- In the beginning the US stays neutral.
- British Blockade did not allow products to leave or enter Germany
- German U-Boat Response counter to blockade, destroy all boats headed for British shores

# US Road to War

May 7<sup>th</sup> 1915: Sinking of the Lusitania



#### 1916 Presidential Election And the Winner is...

Woodrow Wilson

Because

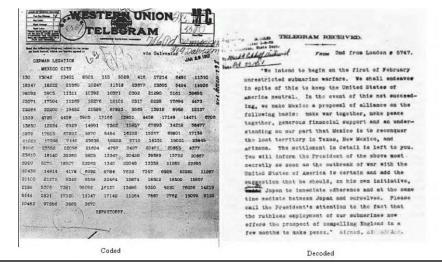
"he kept us out

of the war"



### US Road to War The Last Straw

#### Zimmerman Note



#### US Declares War

- Senate Declares War April 4<sup>th</sup> 1917
- House of Representatives Declares War April 6<sup>th</sup> 1917
- Wilson's reason for War: make the world "Safe for Democracy"

## War on the Homefront

- World War I as a <u>Total War</u>
  - All Resources devoted to war
- Gov't took over factories to make Military goods
- All had to work (Women took place of men in factories)
- Rationing- limit consumption of resources/goods necessary for the war effort
- Propaganda- ideas spread to influence public opinion for or against a cause.