**World War I (1914-1918) Essential Knowledge Study Guide**

***Causes of WWI (MAIN)***

• **M**ilitarism

• **A**lliances

• **I**mperialism

• **N**ationalism

- The spark that set off all the tensions was the assassination of

 the Austria-Hungary Archduke Franz Ferdinand by the

 Serbian terrorist Gavrilo Princip

***Reasons for United States involvement in World War I***

• Inability to remain neutral

• German submarine warfare: Sinking of the Lusitania

• United States economic and political ties to Great Britain

• The Zimmermann Telegram

***Major Allied Powers*** ***Central Powers***

- Great Britain - Germany

- France - Austria-Hungary

- Russia - Bulgaria

- Serbia - Ottoman Empire

- Belgium

- United States (1917)

***Warfare Technology***

• WWI is often referred to as the first modern war

• Trench warfare made the war deadly and drawn out

• Several new weapons made the war especially deadly:

 - Airplanes - Tanks - Machine Guns

 - Submarines - Poison Gas

***United States Leadership as the War Ended***

• At the end of World War I, President

 Woodrow Wilson prepared a peace plan

 known as the Fourteen Points that called

 for the formation of the League of Nations, a

 peacekeeping organization.

• The United States decided not to join the

 League of Nations because the United

 States Senate failed to ratify the Treaty of Versailles.

• The Treaty of Versailles severely punished Germany:

* Germany had to accept blame for the war
* Germany had to pay war reparations
* Germany had to decrease the size of its military