

# THE GREAT WAR – 1914-1918

**COURSE:** CHC 2D - Canadian History Since World War One

**SPECIFIC EXPECTATION(S) EXPLORED:** Historical Inquiry - A1.2: Select and organize relevant evidence and information on aspects of Canadian history since 1914 from a variety of primary and secondary sources ensuring that their sources reflect multiple perspectives

**ABSTRACT:** Key events and focuses of World War One centered around the big six historical thinking concepts; Lessons include identifying evidence, comparing and contrasting documentation, creating a propaganda poster, identifying significance of Canada's involvement in World War One, comparing primary source documents and writing an opinion piece on the ethical dimension of warfare, understanding the causes and outcome of World War One; By the end of these lessons, students will be able to organize and interpret evidence from the First World War based on the historical thinking concepts.

**KEYWORDS:** Evidence; Trench Warfare; Pictures, Video; Continuity and Change; Reporting; Documentation; Comparison; News Articles; Middle East; Conflict; Historical Perspectives; Propaganda; Media; Advertising; Messages; Historical Significance; Canada; World War One; Battles; Vimy Ridge; Passchendaele; Amiens; Somme; Ethical Dimension; Warfare; Gas; Technology; German; Britain; Historical Letter; Cause and Consequence; Outbreak; Outcome; Allies; Axis

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**PRIMARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Evidence

**SECONDARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Historical Significance

**LESSON:** 1

**TITLE:** Trench Warfare

**OVERVIEW:**

In this lesson, students will look at a variety of primary source images of trench warfare in order to determine what life would have been like during the war in these conditions. The lesson will wrap up with an informative YouTube video that contains a lot of primary footage from the trenches in World War One.

**MATERIALS:**

1. Primary Source Documents: PSD 1.1, PSD 1.2, PSD 1.3, PSD 1.4, PSD 1.5, PSD 1.6, PSD 1.7

**PLAN OF INSTRUCTION:**

**Step 1: Warm Up (10min)**

Project PSD 1.1 and PSD 1.2 on the screen. Students are to make a list of their observations and discuss what they think this is. Why? When were these photos taken?

**Step 2: Discussion (10min)**

When were these photos taken? Direct the class' thinking to 1914. What was happening in the world at this time? What factors may lead you to believe these photos are historical pieces of evidence? List class thoughts on evidence on board. What are the criteria to call something evidence?

**Step 3: Guided Practice (15min)**

Students divided into small groups where they will then explore what evidence can be found in PSD 1.3, and PSD 1.4. What new evidence can we see in these pictures given the context we now know about them? Students will write down their observations in small groups and will then write their ideas specifically about this evidence on the board. We will then discuss the ideas that the class has generated and have a discussion about this.

**Step 4: Independent Activity (15min)**

In the same groups, students will compare and contrast PSD 1.5 and PSD 1.6. Students will draw upon ideas that have been written on the board, and begin to piece together “evidence” the class has observed in the previous documents to formulate an idea of what life was like in the trenches during World War One. Students will record their findings on a sheet of paper. Discuss findings in a class discussion.

**Step 5: Sharing / Discussing / Teaching (10min)**

Wrap up the lesson by showing video PSD 1.7. This video will reinforce many of the concepts of what trench warfare is and include primary video footage of life in the trenches. It is rather informative and is a good wrap up to the lesson.

**ASSESSMENT:**

Through walking around the classroom and observing group work, you may assess the student’s comprehension of thinking historically about evidence and guide their thinking if needed. Students will hand in group work about ideas of evidence.

**SOURCES:**

"Controversial Topics." : THE WESTERN FRONT: A CENTURY LATER. June 1, 2014. Accessed December 1, 2014.  
<http://controversialdocumentaries.blogspot.ca/2014/06/the-western-front-century-later.html>

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P92guhd7d-8>.

"The Scars of World War One Battlefields a Century Later." July 1, 2014. Accessed December 1, 2014. <http://www.newsweek.com/world-war-1-261816>

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<http://www.derelictplaces.co.uk/main/showthread.php?t=8159#.VISVrt56d>

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**PRIMARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Continuity and Change

**SECONDARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

**Evidence**

**LESSON:** 2

**TITLE:** Reporting / Documentation of War

**OVERVIEW:** Students will be able to identify the characteristics of how war was documented and reported on in the First World War in comparison to how it is done today.

**MATERIALS:**

1. Primary Source Documents: PSD 2.1, PSD 2.2, PSD 2.3, PSD 2.4, PSD 2.5, PSD 2.6, PSD 2.7

**PLAN OF INSTRUCTION:**

**Step 1: Warm Up (5min)**

Play clip from CBC's Power and Politics starting at 19:50-21:50 (PSD 2.7). Get the students thinking about how war/conflict is reported on in contemporary media.

**Step 2: Discussion (10min)**

List different news mediums we can access to learn about war and conflict in the world (this list should be fairly long and technological). Then switch gears and ask students to identify ways in which we could learn about the First World War during the period of 1914-1918. (This list should be relatively small).

**Step 3: Modeling (5min)**

Identify a similarity between the two lists and how you identified it.

**Step 4: Guided Practice (10min)**

Have students' work in small groups to identify the similarities and differences in the lists. Ask students what some of the similarities/differences they came up with.

**Step 5: Independent Activity (20min)**

Split class into six groups (three groups will have a news article from the First World War (PSD 2.1, PSD 2.2, PSD 2.3) and three will have modern articles on the Middle East (PSD 2.4, PSD 2.5, PSD 2.6). Each group will identify the characteristics of their article (what does it tell us about the event? How much detail is there? Is there a location?)

**Step 6: Sharing / Discussing / Teaching (25min)**

Have groups pair up so there are now three groups with an article from the First World War and the Middle East. Each group will share their characteristics and compare/contrast the way war was reported. Bring it back for a class discussion What's different about how war/conflict was reported 100 hundred years ago and what has stayed the same?

**ASSESSMENT:**

Observation/participation: Observe the effectiveness of students in group work and understanding of how war reporting has changed and or stayed the same over the past 100 years.

**SOURCES:**

Author Unknown "Canadians to be sent to front on arrival." The Globe and Mail, June 27, 2014 originally published August 8, 1914.  
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/wwi-throwback-reliving-moments-leading-to-the-great-war/article19361566/> (accessed November 28, 2014)

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[http://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2014/08/31/germans\\_are\\_60\\_miles\\_from\\_walls\\_of\\_paris\\_ww1\\_dispatches.html](http://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2014/08/31/germans_are_60_miles_from_walls_of_paris_ww1_dispatches.html) (accessed November 28, 2014).

Author Unknown "Have Germans occupied Calais?: WW1 dispatches." The Star, August 28, 2014 originally published August 28, 1914.  
[http://www.thestar.com/news/world/ww1/2014/08/28/have\\_germans\\_occupied\\_calais\\_ww1\\_dispatches.html](http://www.thestar.com/news/world/ww1/2014/08/28/have_germans_occupied_calais_ww1_dispatches.html) (accessed November 28, 2014).

Author Unknown "Canadians to be sent to front on arrival." The Globe and Mail, June 27, 2014 originally published August 8, 1914.  
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/wwi-throwback-reliving-moments-leading-to-the-great-war/article19361566/> (accessed November 28, 2014)

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Bowen, Jeremy. "Jerusalem attack reflects rising Israeli-Palestinian tension." BBC News, November 18, 2014. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-30106039> (accessed November 28, 2014)

Halton, David. Interviewed by Evan Solomon, *Power and Politics*, CBC, November 11, 2014.

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**PRIMARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Historical Perspectives

**SECONDARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:** Evidence

**LESSON:** 3

**TITLE:** Propaganda in World War One

**OVERVIEW:** Students will be able to identify the characteristics of propaganda and recognize different perspectives on the First World War.

**MATERIALS:**

1. Primary Source Documents: PSD 3.1, PSD 3.2, PSD 3.3, PSD 3.4, PSD 3.5, PSD 3.6
2. Blank Paper and Pencil Crayons

**PLAN OF INSTRUCTION:**

**Step 1: Warm Up (5min)**

Ask students to recall images in the media, or forms of advertising they have seen and has stuck with them. Has it had any effect on them? If so why?

**Step 2: Discussion (5min)**

What do they already know about propaganda? Write down general facts on board they have come up with to describe propaganda.

**Step 3: Modeling (15min)**

Show propaganda (can print and hand out or show via internet or power point (PSD 3.1, PSD 3.2, PSD 3.3, PSD 3.4, PSD 3.5). How do these represent the criteria the class has discussed for propaganda? What is the message each of these posters is sending? Can we add or subtract from the list? How do these images relate to the modern advertising they identified at the beginning of class?

**Step 4: Guided Practice (5min)**

Show students propaganda example (PSD 3.6) and discuss creative steps.

**Step 5: Independent Activity (30min)**

Students will now create their own WW1 propaganda posters using blank paper and pencil crayons. The aim behind this is for students to capture the idea behind using propaganda and why it was an effective use of media.

**Step 6: Sharing / Discussing / Teaching (15min)**

When students are done making their posters have them put them up on the board for all to see. Have class do a gallery walk. Go through them as a class discussing the message behind the poster and how/why it would appeal to Canadian's during the First World War.

**ASSESSMENT:**

Listen to student comments when writing list of general ideas about propaganda (this will tell you about students previous knowledge to compare with their knowledge after the lesson). Examine final products to see how students adopted the perspective of recruiting propaganda.

**SOURCES:**

Jiggy Communications. "Canadian WW1 Propaganda Posters." *World War 1 Propaganda Posters*. <http://www.ww1propaganda.com/world-war-1-posters/canadian-ww1-propaganda-posters> (accessed November 27, 2014)

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**PRIMARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Historical Significance

**SECONDARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Evidence

**LESSON:** 4

**TITLE:** Canadians at War - Canada's Role in WW1

**OVERVIEW:** Students will engage in justifying why we learn about certain battles from the First World War and how they pertain to Canadian History.

**MATERIALS:**

1. Primary Source Documents: PSD 4.1, PSD 4.2, PSD 4.3, PSD 4.4, PSD 4.5, PSD 4.6

**PLAN OF INSTRUCTION:**

**Step 1: Warm Up (5min)**

Play 2 minute video on Vimy Ridge. (PSD 4.6). Pose this question to the class: did the creator of this video put enough information in? Ask students if they felt the film portrayed a sense of importance for the battle.

**Step 2: Discussion (10min)**

Discuss as a class the criteria one has to consider when writing history. What are the things we as a class must be able to recognize and determine from a source? Make a list of this criteria on the board for the class to refer to.

**Step 3: Modeling (10min)**

Read Arthur Currie on the Lys Offensive as an example of how to pull out what is significant from that source. (PSD 4.4). Link it back to the criteria they listed. Divide class into four groups. Each group will have one of four battles (Somme(PSD 4.1), Vimy Ridge (PSD 4.2), Paschendale/Third Battle of Ypres (PSD4.3), and Amiens (PSD 4.5).

**Step 4: Guided Practice (20min)**

Each group will go through their source and highlight what they believe is significant about each battle and provide justification for their choice. Where applicable they should link it back to their list of criteria. Each group will share their findings with the class.

**Step 5: Independent Activity (20min)**

Students will now write their own descriptions of any one of the battles discussed in class highlighting what we as Canadians should know about these battles and why. As well they should justify why we should even care about learning about these battles in history. (Limit them to one page)

**Step 6: Sharing / Discussing / Teaching (10min)**

Have each student share a little from what they have written. If they are uncomfortable with this have them hand in what they wrote.

**ASSESSMENT:**

Pay attention to the criteria student list in step 2. (Assessment For Learning)

Listen for students who volunteer to speak and read through the rest to see whether or not they have an understanding of significance. Circulate around classroom and speak to all students to solidify ideas of understanding and comprehension of historical significance.

**SOURCES:**

Duffy, Michael. "Canadian War Records Office on the Battle of Vimy Ridge, April 1917," *First World War: A multimedia history of World War One*, [http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/vimy\\_warrecordsoffice.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/vimy_warrecordsoffice.htm) (accessed November 30, 2014).

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**PRIMARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Ethical Dimension

**SECONDARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:** Evidence

**LESSON:** 5

**TITLE:** Warfare Advances and Technology

**OVERVIEW:** Students will understand the advances in technology during the war that advanced warfare to include gas as a weapon. Students will develop an opinion on the use of gas as a weapon and write a historical letter based on their ethical stance on this issue.

**MATERIALS:**

1. Primary Source Documents: PSD 5.1, PSD 5.2, PSD 5.3

**PLAN OF INSTRUCTION:**

**Step 1: Warm Up (10min)**

Students will have a look over PSD 5.1 (Chemical Warfare: World War One) projected on the board. Students will begin to have an idea of what this type of warfare entailed during the war.

**Step 2: Discussion (15min)**

Open discussion on the findings presented in this chart. Which chemical was the most effective? Why? Which was the least effective? Why? Was there justification to using gas as a weapon?

**Step 3: Guided Practice (20min)**

Students are to read PSD 5.2, and 5.3. These letters detail both a British account of the use of gas during battle, and the German account of the use of gas in battle. Students are to make notes on points in these articles they agree with and disagree with. Students will then use these notes to complete the following activity.

**Step 4: Independent Activity (30min)**

Using their notes, students will write a letter to the Minister of National Defense of Canada arguing for or against the use of gas as a weapon during World War One.

Students must reference the historical letters and statistics shown in class in their letter to back up their opinion surrounding the ethical use of gas in warfare.

**ASSESSMENT:**

Students will hand in their letter they have written.

**SOURCES:**

"Chemical Warfare: Poison Gases in World War 1." Compound Interest. May 17, 2014.  
Accessed December 1, 2014.  
<http://www.compoundchem.com/2014/05/17/chemical-warfare-ww1/>.

Source Records of the Great War, Vol. III, ed. Charles F. Horne, *National Alumni* , 1923

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**PRIMARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:**

Cause and Consequence

**SECONDARY HISTORICAL THINKING CONCEPT EXPLORED:** Historical Significance

**LESSON:** 6

**TITLE:** The Origins and Outcome of World War One

**OVERVIEW:** In this lesson, students will become familiar with the causes of World War One and will work in groups to diplomatically avoid entering the war.

**MATERIALS:**

1. Primary Source Document: PSD 6.1

**PLAN OF INSTRUCTION:**

**Step 1: Warm Up (20min)**

Show students video PSD 6.1. This video contains lots of live footage from the war, in addition to numerous primary source documents. While students are watching the video they are to write down five causes of World War One that they have taken away from the video.

**Step 2: Discussion (10min)**

Think Pair Share: Class breakout into smaller groups to discuss the causes of the war they have listed from watching the video.

**Step 3: Independent Activity (40min)**

Class will be divided into different countries in 5 groups (Great Britain / Canada, France, Germany, Russia, Austria/Hungary). These groups must work out diplomatically how to avoid war at all costs. Teacher prompts will be actual causes of World War One thrown into discussion (ex. Germany has just increased it's military size) to prompt students to change their country's strategy.

**Step 4: Sharing / Discussing / Teaching (5min)**

Lesson will wrap up by teacher outlining how these countries were brought into the war, and the outcome for these countries as a result of World War One.

**ASSESSMENT:**

Students will be assessed on participation and contribution to the diplomatic conversation.

**SOURCES:**

Mediakrafts Networks. "WWI Starts - How Europe Spiraled Into the Great War I THE GREAT WAR - Week 1." YouTube. July 28, 2014. Accessed December 1, 2014. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FgaL0xIazk&list=PLB2vhKMBjSxMK8YelHj6VS6w3KxuKsMvT>.

**APPENDICES:**

**PRIMARY SOURCE DOCUMENTS:**

**PSD 1.1:**



**PSD 1.2:**



**PSD 1.3:**



**PSD 1.4:**



**PSD 1.5:**



**PSD 1.6:**



## **PSD 1.7:**

Hard and Muddy Times – THE TRENCH WARFARE

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P92guhd7d-8>

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## **PSD 2.1**

The Toronto Daily Star “Have Germans Occupied Calais?: WW1 Dispatches”

HEAVY LOSSES WHEN BRITISH FIGHT 200,000 GERMANS, BERLIN WIRELESS CLAIMS GERMANS OCCUPY CALAIS

German Losses Equally Severe, Announces Premier Asquith, Informing Commons of Whole Day’s Fighting Near Cambria, in the Department of the Nord.

GERMANS CLAIM THE ALLIES SURROUNDED

There has been a kaleidoscopic change in the situation today. The British army is definitely located at Cambria, in France, about 30 miles south of Lille, and perhaps the same distance south-west of Mons, in Belgium where it fought on Sunday. At Cambria they fought all day Wednesday. This position of the allies’ line indicates that a considerable portion of French territory, including Lille, Valenciennes, Donai, and perhaps Mauberge has been conceded to the Germans.

British despatches frankly discuss the possibility of an advance on Paris, but it is yet only a possibility. Meanwhile Berlin claims sweeping German victory. One claim is that the northern allied army, including the British, is surrounded. This may in a sense be true, but a glance at the map also shows that the northern German army is equally surrounded, with British, Belgians and French in its rear at Ostend and Antwerp.

Meanwhile it is still a case of “Fight on!”

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, AUG. 28.—In the House of Commons today Premier Asquith made the following statement:

“We have heard from Field Marshal Sir John French, commander-in- chief of the British expeditionary force, that in the fighting which took place between his army and the enemy on Wednesday, Aug. 26. and which appears from French official reports to have been in the neighborhood of Cambria and Lecateau, our troops were exposed to the attack of five German army corps, two divisions of cavalry, and a reserve corps of cavalry, and a second cavalry division.

The Germans charged again and again, but were driven back with very heavy losses, the British rifles, supported by their artillery, proving very effective.

“Our second corps in the fourth division bore the brunt of the cavalry attack. Our first army corps was attacked on the right, and inflicted a very heavy loss on the enemy.

“I regret to say that our casualties were heavy, but the exact numbers are not yet known. The behavior of our troops was in all respects admirable.

“General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, in a message published this morning, conveys his congratulations and sincere thanks for the protection so effectively given by our army to the French flank.”

Under the German army formation an army corps is made up of ten regiments of infantry, which, at war strength, number 3,000 men to a regiment; four regiments of cavalry, of about 730 men each; four regiments of field artillery, and one of heavy artillery of about 930 men each, and two battalions of engineers. This would make the force which attacked the British approximately 188,350 men.

Have Germans Occupied Calais?

Special to The Star.

WASHINGTON, AUG. 28.— Count Von Bernstorff, German ambassador, announces he received reports today that German troops were in the outskirts of Calais, France. He said the information came by wireless from Berlin via Sayville, L.I., Although it was not communicated in an official despatch to the embassy.

Calais is on the English channel opposite Dover. It was one of the points at which the English continental expedition landed, and its occupation would be of the highest importance, both as a base for air raids on England and to prevent further landings in that vicinity.

From:

[http://www.thestar.com/news/world/ww1/2014/08/28/have\\_germans\\_occupied\\_calais\\_ww1\\_dispatches.html](http://www.thestar.com/news/world/ww1/2014/08/28/have_germans_occupied_calais_ww1_dispatches.html)

## PSD 2.2

The Toronto Daily Star “Germans are 60 miles from walls of Paris: WW1 dispatches”

### GERMANS ARE 60 MILES FROM WALLS OF PARIS

And May Get Between the French Army and the Capital of the Country.

Canadian Press Despatch.

London, Aug. 31.—The Post today editorially calls attention to a statement issued by the French embassy as indicating that the allied forces have again been compelled to fall back by the German advance in the neighborhood of Lafere, which is over 20 miles nearer to Paris than the Cambrai – Le-Cateau line where the allies reorganized after the Germans crossed the French border. Fighting is also reported in the vicinity of Amiens. Lafere is only a little more than sixty miles from Paris as the crow flies. The Post says: “A statement Issued by the French embassy discloses a situation of much gravity. A German army was on Saturday attacking from the east the line on Launcis-Signy-L’Abbaye, while another German army was attacking from the west the line from Lafere to Guise, and though unsuccessful at Guise was making progress at Lafere. These two German armies were therefore only forty miles apart.

“The German army attacking on the front at Guise and Lafere has clear country behind it, and a sharp offensive turning movement on the south-east by this army will interpose it between the French and Paris.”

The World’s Cause

Winston Churchill in an interview with an American journalist, William G. Shepherd, says that Great Britain is now fighting the battle of freedom and democracy for the world. “We are at grips with Prussian militarism,” he says. “If Germany wins, It will not be a victory of the quiet, sober, commercial elements in Germany, nor of the common people of Germany, with all their virtues, but the victory of the blood and iron military school, whose doctrines and principles will then have received a terrible vindication.”

That is absolutely true. If Germany wins, there will be no peace for the world; the neutral powers will be in imminent danger from the military ambition of the princes and lords of Germany. The very virtues of the German soldiery, the splendid organization, the unquestioned courage of the troops will become menaces to the world. This continent cannot escape, with its huge area, its magnificent resources and its comparatively small population it is full of rich prizes for military ambition and despotic power. America is a continent of republics, and the only exception is a British democracy. For that kind of peaceful, industrial civilization Prussian militarism has nothing but contempt and hatred. Not only would peace and liberty be endangered by Prussian ambition, but the whole fabric of business and industry would be threatened. The United States may gain some advantage, but even the resources of the United States would be severely taxed by such a state of chaos as would be produced by the letting loose of the ambitions of a military despotic power.

But the success of Great Britain would have a steadying effect upon the world. Great Britain is not in this war for conquest. It has entered the war reluctantly, as an act of good faith toward an ally and a neutral power. Its interests are virtually the same as those of the United States— peace, freedom, democracy, and the restoration of the steadiness of business. A decided victory over the German forces would mean an immediate

improvement in business In the United States and in almost every other part of the world. It would mean that these advantages would be shared even by Germany, whose peaceful progress would be at once resumed if the fanatical ambition of its princes and war-lords were curbed.

In a word, as Winston Churchill says, it is the old struggle of a hundred years ago, against Napoleon, who terrorized and almost paralyzed Europe for twenty years. The Kaiser, owing to his fanatical belief in his mission, is even more dangerous and disturbing than Napoleon. The world will never breathe freely until he is subdued. The world is on its defence. It must fight for its right to carry on its peaceful industry, 'to till its farms, and build up its cities without fear.

From:

[http://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2014/08/31/germans\\_are\\_60\\_miles\\_from\\_walls\\_of\\_paris\\_ww1\\_dispatches.html](http://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2014/08/31/germans_are_60_miles_from_walls_of_paris_ww1_dispatches.html)

### **PSD 2.3**

The Globe and Mail “Canadians to be sent to front on arrival” Saturday, August 8, 1914

Link to pdf of original article

[http://beta.images.theglobeandmail.com/static/national/wwone/paperpdfs/1914\\_08\\_08\\_p3.pdf](http://beta.images.theglobeandmail.com/static/national/wwone/paperpdfs/1914_08_08_p3.pdf)

If the above link does not work follow this link to site and scroll to second article

(Saturday, August 8, 1914 Canadians to be sent to front on arrival)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/wwi-throwback-reliving-moments-leading-to-the-great-war/article19361566/>

# STORIES FROM THE SCENE OF WAR

## TERRITORIAL BATTERY MADE A NEW RECORD

### Quick Transportation of Heavy Guns—War Office Will Not Give All Details

(Special Correspondence of The Globe.) London, July 28.—Acting on the assumption that a hostile force had reached the east coast at the mouth of the Humber, a Territorial battery of the Royal Horse Artillery one morning last week hitched its guns and ammunition wagons behind powerful touring cars and made a dash for the coast. Without a single casualty the battery accomplished in nine and one-half hours what with horse draught would have required from three to four days, and thereby established a world's record for the movement of heavy guns.

The nature of the feat may be gauged by the fact that the ammunition wagons had to make a detour of over forty-three miles in order to pick up ammunition. When they reached their destination they had travelled 115 miles of country. The start is thus described by an eye-witness: "It was an eerie sight when just before 1 o'clock the West Riding Battery, composed of the polo ground in front of the historic mansion of Wentworth. Their advent was heralded by a roar like an approaching express. The position of each gun and wagon in the darkness was marked by the powerful electric headlights on the cars that were acting as tractors. These lights were 100 candle-power per pair, and were all operated by the electric starting appliances with which the cars were fitted. At 2 a.m., shortly before day-break, the wagons left Wentworth for Selby."

There are many details of the feat which the War Office will not give out, but it may interest motorists to know that the gun and limber behind each car weighed 28 hundredweight, and that 99 miles of the journey were accomplished on just eight gallons of petrol. The guns, which were of the 15-pounder, rapid-fire type, were attached to the chassis of the touring cars by special hauling brackets made in the Sheffield-Simplex works. These brackets were fitted with stout rope washers to save "chattering." Three spare chassis accompanied the column, to assist, if necessary, on the hills or in case of breakdown, and each of the guns carried spare wheels, but neither precaution was availed of.

## VOICE OF BRITAIN THE EMPIRE'S VOICE

### South Africa Extols Mother Country's Action

The Cape Times Says the Sword of Britain Cannot be Sheathed Until Europe's Peace is Restored—South Africa Will Help.

(Canadian Associated Cable.) London, Aug. 7.—The Capetown correspondent of The Morning Post states that Britain's declaration of war upon Germany was received there with tremendous enthusiasm. The Cape Times, which the correspondent says represents the universal feeling of South Africa, says: "The sword of Great Britain cannot be sheathed till the peace of Europe is restored and the overweening ambition of Germany is checked. The voice of Great Britain is the voice of the Empire. The South African nation, with Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, will range herself without hesitation or reservation by the side of the united nations of Great Britain and Ireland."

"If peace with honor is impossible for Great Britain none of the nations of the Empire will gird on the sword with greater alacrity or with greater certainty of the righteousness of Britain's cause than the South African nation."

Proceeding, The Times says that the form of co-operation should be left to the Union Government, which is in consultation with the Imperial authorities.

## SEVEN LINERS TO SAIL FROM MONTREAL TO-DAY

### CARRYING WHEAT AND OTHER FOODSTUFFS—BIG PARADE FOR ST. LAWRENCE.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Montreal, Aug. 7.—Seven ocean liners are due to sail from Montreal to-morrow morning, having taken out clearance papers for Saturday, August 8, and if they all go it will be one of the biggest parades of steamships down the St. Lawrence seen in many a day. Following are the vessels and the ports to which they are bound: Scandinavian, Glasgow; Canada, Liverpool; Maxman, Bristol; Montevideo, London; Tyrol, London; Leitta, Glasgow; and Alunia, Glasgow. They will go as far as Quebec. Whether they will continue out to sea will depend upon war developments.

When these seven liners join the Victorian, the Empress of Britain, Alsatian and smaller vessels already waiting at Quebec, there will be gathered at the ancient capital one of the largest fleets in the history of Canadian merchant marine. The ocean liners which are to sail from Montreal carry wheat and other foodstuffs for England.

### BRITISH LEGATION MOBBED.

Dresden, Aug. 7 (via London, Aug. 7).—The British Legation here was mobbed to-day and all the windows broken.

## CANADIANS TO BE SENT TO FRONT ON ARRIVAL

### Col. Hughes Wants More for Garrison Duty

## ENLISTMENT HAS BEGUN

### No Action Yet Resolved Upon to Stop Exportation of Foodstuffs to United States—Inflation of Prices to be Checked at Once.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.) Ottawa, Aug. 7.—Announcement is made by the Militia Department today that the British War Office has notified the Dominion Government that it is the intention to send the Canadian contingent to the firing line in Europe as soon as they arrive in England, which will be in about three or four weeks' time.

In addition to recruiting the contingent for abroad, Col. Sam Hughes proposes to raise a force of volunteers to be used for garrison duty in Canada. According to present plans the main contingent will be mobilized at Quebec some time next week, where they will be well drilled for about two weeks before they sail for England under sealed orders. Enlistment began to-day and promises to be general and enthusiastic.

The Government has not yet decided to take any action on the suggestions made by prominent businessmen that the exportation of foodstuffs to the United States be stopped in order to conserve the food supply for Great Britain. Leading millers informed Premier Borden yesterday that there is no cause for concern about the food supply in Canada.

The inquiry instituted by the Government to prevent the inflation of prices by Canadian dealers, using the war as an excuse, is regarded here as a salutary action. Hints have come that preparations were being made for an advance in the price of many general commodities, and this is to be checked at once. The board of inquiry consists of Mr. F. C. T. O'Hara, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce; Mr. R. H. Coats, Statistician of the Labor Department, and one of the legal officers of the Department of Justice.

## ALAS! EVEN "MY LADY" SUFFERS FROM THE WAR

### FRENCH CHAMBER OF DRESS-MAKING CONTEMPLATE SENDING MODELS TO U. S.

(Special Cable Despatch to The Globe.) Havre, Aug. 7.—The far-reaching effect of the war was made manifest by an important meeting of the French Chamber of Dressmaking today. The modistes are considering sending all models for the coming season to one American house for distribution. It looks as though there would be a chance for American designers to make their own fashions for several seasons.

## BRITAIN GETS READY TO TRANSPORT TROOPS

### REQUISITIONS 21 STEAMERS TO CARRY SOLDIERS ACROSS TO BELGIUM.

New York, Aug. 7.—A London cable this afternoon says: "The Admiralty has requisitioned 21 steamers to be used in transporting troops to Belgium immediately. France and Belgium have both been urgent in their appeals to England to hurry reinforcements forward, and the first of the transports will probably leave to-night. The others will follow to-morrow."

ADDITIONAL TAXES WILL BE IMPOSED IN U. S.

### REVENUE HAS FALLEN OFF GREATLY OWING TO THE EUROPEAN WAR.

(Special Cable Despatch to The Globe.) Washington, Aug. 7.—Congress leaders are unanimous for the imposition of additional taxes to make up for the falling off of revenue, due to the European war. The additional tax proposed is to operate for two years.

A government conference is to be held here to make arrangements for sending the American army abroad. Naval vessels will be used in carrying mail and light freight to South America. The military garrison is contemplating plans for sending ships to Europe for travelling Americans who are unable to get home. An understanding is being reached with the steamship companies, under which the Government undertakes to do what is equitable in the matter of payment for transports. Only one company has threatened to raise its prices.

### GENERAL'S SON DEAD.

Amsterdam, Aug. 8 (via London, Aug. 7, 5.35 a.m.).—The nineteen-year-old son of the German General Count Von Arnim, was wounded before Liege, and died to-night.

## "ABSOLUTE INACTIVITY OF THE GERMAN FLEET"

### Conditions, Imposed by Great Britain Too Drastic

## AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT

### Mr. Haimhausen Discusses the Anglo-German Situation—Sir Edward Grey Tried to Impose One-sided Conditions.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) New York, Aug. 7.—Prior to Germany's attack upon Liege, Sir Edward Grey tried to impose upon Germany conditions which Great Britain could have obtained only after a successful war, according to a statement issued here to-night by Haniel Von Haimhausen, head of the German Embassy in Washington. In the absence in Europe of Count Von Bernstorff, the Ambassador.

"These conditions," said Mr. Haimhausen, "would, if accepted by Germany, have led to absolute inactivity on the part of the German fleet." The statement of the German Charge d'Affaires was prompted, he said, by the nearly complete absence of news from official sources in the Fatherland owing to the present European conditions, including cable ownership.

"It is erroneous to assume," said Mr. Haimhausen, "that the British declaration of war was exhausted by Germany's invading Belgium. Negotiations in London had preceded the German attack on Liege. During these negotiations, Sir Edward Grey promised that Britain would remain neutral only under the following conditions:—

- Conditions of Neutrality. "First, Germany is not allowed to commit any act of hostility against the French coasts in the North Sea."
- "Second, German troops are not allowed to pass through Belgian territory."
- "Third, the German navy is not allowed to attack Russia from the Baltic Sea."

"Sir Edward tried to impose conditions which would have secured to Great Britain without running any risks all the benefits which it could have obtained only by a successful naval war. The acceptance of these conditions would have led to the bottling-up of the whole German fleet, forcing it to absolute inactivity."

"Knowing, on the other hand, that a great number of French officers had crossed the Belgian frontier in about fifty motor-cars, rushing up to Liege, which was a flagrant violation of Belgian neutrality, knowing further that Antwerp was ready to open its most important harbor to the British fleet and landing corps, Germany was reluctantly compelled to refuse compliance with the British conditions."

## GERMAN AND FRENCH TREATMENT OF TOURISTS

### SHOCKING STORIES OF BRUTALITY BY GERMAN SOLDIERS AND COURTESY OF FRENCH.

(Special Cable Despatch to The Globe.) Havre, Aug. 7.—Hundreds of American tourists arriving here, including several prominent women, tell shocking stories of brutal treatment by German soldiers and courtesy by the French. They are most bitter concerning the treatment accorded them by the German soldiers. They state they were forced to walk many miles, some of the men carrying semi-paralyzed women. They also charge that money and valuables were forcibly taken from them.

## GERMANY'S REAL PERIL IS INTERNAL REVOLUTION

### Her Industries Are Stopped, Her Fields Neglected and Credit Threatened—Social Democrats Are Growing Restless and Menacing

(Special Cable Despatch to The Globe.) PARIS, Aug. 7.—Les Debats in a remarkable article declares that Germany's real peril is not war but an internal revolution. The falsity of the Triple Alliance is revealed in the fact that Austria until yesterday was officially at war only with Serbia. Italy has never had her heart in it because of grievances against Austria.

Within three days of the outbreak of the war there were no active warships in the Mediterranean Sea except British and French. Austria may hope that Italy will remain estranged from France or that she may be unable to scale the height of infatuation upon which the Kaiser and his General Staff are living. The German Government, or perhaps we should rather have said the Prussian Government, is isolated morally, economically and in a military sense to a degree that would have seemed fantastically impossible a fortnight ago. The South German States can foresee no such compensation as obtained in 1870, and can only be lukewarm as partners.

The article points out that the unity of all parties in France and Belgium is conspicuous, which is a factor of no small importance, if only because of the quietude of the great cities.

### Germany Will be Pinched First.

"Germany, whose industries are stopped, fields neglected and credit imminently threatened, will feel the pinch long before the allies begin to feel it. Every day the internal pressure will increase the political education so strangely arrested for the last half century, and the country will be forced into a life of repressed hostility. North and south will burst the bounds and social democracy will take on an altogether new aspect. There has not been a flicker of revolution in Germany since 1848. The great fact on the eastern frontier two months hence may well be not war but revolution."

## LUSITANIA MAKING SPLENDID TIME ACROSS

### Expects to Reach Her Destination Sunday

## WAS WARNED BY ESSEX

### Message From Berlin to German Cruiser Dresden to Intercept Canadian—News of Her Sailing Likely Flashed From Long Island.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.) Sydney, N.S., Aug. 7.—A transatlantic wireless message received at Longburg from Clifden, Ireland, this afternoon, says that a message was relayed ashore from the Cunard liner, Lusitania, to the effect that the latter steamer was making splendid time in her race across the Atlantic from New York to Liverpool. The vessel had accomplished more than half the distance, and expected to reach her destination Sunday if she did not meet with mishap.

Twenty-four hours out from New York the Lusitania received a wireless message from the British cruiser Essex to steer north of the regular course, as the German cruiser Dresden had received orders to be on the watch for and, if possible, intercept the big Cunarder. The German message to the Dresden came from Berlin, and it is practically certain that news of the Lusitania's sailing for Europe had been flashed across the ocean from the Long Island wireless station, where German operators have been working the past three days. Messages to the Dresden, Karlsruhe and Strassburg, in German code, undoubtedly to operators here, have been passing constantly between this station and the German ships.

## BRITISH SUBJECTS ARE HELD IN GERMAN FORTRESS

### AMERICAN EMBASSY MAKING EFFORTS TO SECURE THEIR RELEASE.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Oldenzaal, Netherlands (via London), Aug. 7.—The correspondent in Berlin of Reuter's Telegram Company of London, who, with other British subjects, was expelled from the German capital, arrived here with several other newspaper correspondents on the train which conveyed the British Ambassador, Sir William Edward Goschen.

The correspondent says the British declaration of war on Germany was followed by an attack on the British Embassy. A crowd besieged the building for hours, smashing all the windows. The same night two English and two American correspondents were arrested on suspicion of being spies, but were released a few hours later through the efforts of the United States Ambassador.

All British subjects in Germany, according to the correspondent, are being rounded up by the police, and about forty of them have been kept as prisoners in the fortress of Spandau, but the American Embassy in Berlin hopes to be able to secure their release.

Among those held is Captain Horace H. Holland of the British navy, who had been lent to the Turkish Government as Naval Instructor.

## FRENCHMAN SHOT AS A SPY.

### Taken From Train and Despatched at Essen Station.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, Aug. 7.—Karl Von Lawvery, an American, who arrived in London to-day from Germany, asserted that he saw a Frenchman taken from a train under the suspicion that he was a spy, and shot on the station at Essen in the presence of all the passengers.

Store Hours: 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. During August, Store Closes 1 p.m. Saturday. No Noon Delivery.

## Every Eye is Straining Seawards



In these days of waiting, but there's no un-British frenzy, and the real strength of Canada is shown by the way in which she goes about her work as usual.

Confident that fresh argosies will be forthcoming, we offer many imported things at reduced prices in the lists below. By all means come down Monday, get the war news as it filters in, lunch at Simpson's and do a bit of shopping!

## Clearing Bathing Suits

One-quarter to one-third has been knocked off the price of every Bathing Suit in stock. Extensive range of styles, but not a full range of sizes in any one. Reduced by One-quarter to One-third.

### \$2.00 to \$3.50 Corsets at \$1.39

Many handsome styles and every oddment is included in one great bargain for Monday shoppers. Phone orders filled. Sizes 19 to 29 inches in the lot, but not in each style. Regularly \$2.00, \$2.50, \$2.75, \$3.00 and \$3.50. Monday, all to go at \$1.39

### Women's 63c Combinations, fine ribbed white Lisle thread. Sizes 32 to 38 bust . . . . .29c

### Women's 76c Bloomers, fine ribbed Lisle thread, white, grey or navy, elastic at waist and knee, silk bow. Sizes 32 to 40 bust. Reduced to . . . . .35c

## Summer Blouses

High-class Lingerie Blouses, styles of the moment, of best imported materials. Endless choice of style and sizes in these \$2.95 and \$3.95 blouses at, Monday, . . . . . \$1.79

## Wash Waists

Piques, lawns and voile, open front. A choice of 6 designs and a full range of sizes. Regularly \$1.00, Monday, 8.30 a.m. . . . .39c (No phone or mail orders)

## Wash Goods

PRINTS. Direct from the Mill. 31-inch and 36-inch Prints, light and heavy makes, in light and dark grounds. Per yard . . . . .10c (On sale at the Print Dept. and at the Bargain Circle, Main Floor.)

40-inch Ratine Stripe Crepe in white only. Monday, special . . . . .27c

30-inch Duro Nurse Cloth, sky, Copen. and navy, also in stripes. Price . . . . .25c

## Stationery

Queen's Court Papeterie, contains 24 sheets white linen note paper, lettered initial in gold, with envelopes to match. . . . .19c a box

Mayfair Correspondence Cabinet, contains 24 linen faced note cards, embossed gold initial, with envelopes to match. . . . .25c a box (Math Floor)

## Heavy Price Reductions in the Hosiery Sale

Women's American Silk Hose, good white colors. Regularly \$2.00. Hosiery Sale price, Monday . . . . .1.49

Women's Silk Boot Hose, Lisle thread, deep garter top, spliced heel, toe and sole. Black, white, tan. Monday, pair . . . . .23c

Women's Lisle Thread Hose, a variety of kinds—plain black and colors, silk embroidered end laces, all imported goods. Regularly 25c and 35c. Monday, pair, 20c; 3 pairs . . . . .55c

Women's Long Silk Gloves, black and white, double-tipped fingers, double fasteners. All sizes. Regularly 75c. Monday . . . . .50c

Women's Wrist-length Silk Gloves, black and white. Regularly 80c. Monday, pair . . . . .25c

Women's Cashmere Hose, Pen-Angle brand; seconds; black, tan and some colors. Regularly 50c. Monday, pair . . . . .25c

Men's Silk Socks, seconds of a guaranteed make, black and tan. Regularly 75c quality. Monday, pair . . . . .20c

Men's Black Cashmere Socks, Regularly 25c. Monday, 20c, 3 pairs for . . . . .55c

Men's Lisle Thread Socks, black, tan and colors. Regularly 35c. Monday . . . . .25c

Men's Cashmere Stockings, ribbed, black, ly. English made. Regularly 25c and 35c. Hosiery Sale price, Monday, pair, 20c; 3 pairs . . . . .55c

Misses' Fine Elastic Ribbed Black Cashmere Stockings, double spliced heel, toe and sole, English made, soft, fine and splendid wearing. Sizes 6 to 8 1/2. Regular 35c. Monday . . . . .29c

Infants' and Children's Lisle Thread Fancy Top Socks. All sizes. Reg. 25c. Monday . . . . .12 1/2c

## The Robert SIMPSON Company Limited

## ESSEX STEAMS OUT AMID CHEERS OF THRONGS

### MEMORABLE SCENE AS THE BRITISH CRUISER LEAVES HALIFAX HARBOR.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Halifax, Aug. 7.—Amid the cheers of thousands of people lining the wharves and house-tops, H. M. S. Essex steamed out of Halifax harbor at 6.15 this evening, her band playing "Rule, Britannia," which the citizens sang as she glided down the stream. The cheers of the people could be heard over in Dartmouth, across the harbor, where the residents immediately signalled the water-front, and their enthusiastic farewell re-echoed across the harbor. It was one of the never-to-be-forgotten scenes which have been witnessed locally since the war started.

Ten Halifax men enlisted on the warship to fight for the Empire.

## CONDUCTOR GRAPPLES WITH ARMED ROBBER

(Special Despatch to The Globe.) Trenton, Aug. 7.—To-night, while C. N. R. train No. 10 was running between Trenton and Belleville, an armed robber attempted to hold up Conductor Anderson in one of the passenger coaches. Mr. Anderson, not hoodwinked by the robber's command to "give over," grappled with him and succeeded after a desperate struggle in getting his revolver. He then held the prisoner down with his feet while he signalled the engineer to stop the train. The robber, however, renewed his fight, and as the train was stopping threw himself through the window. The train crew was unable to find any trace of him on the track, and continued to Belleville, where the police were notified.

There were no passengers in the coach when the hold-up occurred. The conductor was walking up the aisle when he was confronted by the robber. His conduct in battling with the armed man is winning him much praise.

## MORATORIUM IN PERU

Lima, Peru, Aug. 7.—The Peruvian Government to-day issued a decree proclaiming a moratorium for thirty days from August 8.

## THE RAINBOW AT PISCO

San Francisco, Aug. 7.—The Canadian cruiser Rainbow put in here to-day. Collector Davis sent out boarding officers to learn her intentions. Under the neutrality laws she can take on only sufficient coal to make another port and she may not remain here more than twenty-four hours.

### BIG GERMAN PRIZE.

Pekin, China, Aug. 7.—The German cruiser Emden, which was reported to have sunk yesterday, is said to have returned to Tsing-Tau to-day with one of the big vessels of the Russian volunteer fleets sailing

## FROM THE FRONT

London, Aug. 7.—The Prince of Wales has been given a commission in the Grenadier Guards and will go into active service, probably in England.

## GERMAN FLEET BOTTLED UP.

London, Aug. 7.—An authentic report received here states that the German squadron has been bottled up at Tsing-Tau by the British.

## GERMAN SHIP CAPTURED.

Cherbourg, Aug. 6 (via London, Aug. 7, 5.25 a.m.).—The French mine-layer Pluton captured and brought here a German merchant ship of 5,000 tons.

## OIL STEAMER RECALLED.

Philadelphia, Aug. 7.—Recalled by wireless, the German steamer Pennon, which left here on July 27 with 2,000,000 gallons of oil for Germany, returned to her dock to-day.

## GERMAN VESSEL CAPTURED.

Plymouth, Aug. 7, 11.28 a.m.—The British light cruiser Vidette to-day captured the German steamer Schlesien of 3,328 tons and brought her to this port. The Schlesien was on the voyage from Brisbane, Australia, to Bremen.

## MORATORIUM IN PERU.

Lima, Peru, Aug. 7.—The Peruvian Government to-day issued a decree proclaiming a moratorium for thirty days from August 8.

## AUSTRIAN WARSHIP LEAKING.

Rome, Aug. 7.—A despatch from Brindisi to The Giornale d'Italia states that the Austro-Hungarian warship Taurus has taken refuge in the harbor there on English territory. The Taurus is reported, is leaking. The Taurus is a small cruiser of 1,200 tons displacement. For some time she was stationed at Constantinople.

## WILL NOT DEFEND WARSAW.

Washington, Aug. 7.—The State Department has no reports of the taking of Warsaw by the Germans. Officials attributed a rumor to that effect to an earlier despatch, which said the Russian General Staff had decided not to defend the city.

## HADN'T HEARD OF WAR.

Montreal, Aug. 7.—It was a surprised skipper who greeted the pilot when he stopped aboard the Devona at Father Point early Wednesday, on her way to Montreal. Never a whisper of the war trouble in Europe had the captain heard.

## TWO SAILINGS CANCELLED.

London, Aug. 7.—The sailings of the Atlantic transport liner Minneapolis on Saturday and the White Star liner Cymric Tuesday, from London and Liverpool respectively, have been cancelled. Passengers booked by the Holland-American liner Nieuw Amsterdam must go to Holland to embark. The spreading of mines may curtail the passenger service to Holland and possibly suspend it entirely.

## PREP. REGIMENT READY.

The 35th Regiment has signified its willingness to go to the front. The officers said yesterday that they could make ready within twenty-four hours if necessary. A very large number of recruits have volunteered.

## PSD 2.4

### BBC News Middle East “Jerusalem attack reflects rising Israeli-Palestinian tension”

Jerusalem attack reflects rising Israeli-Palestinian tension

By Jeremy Bowen

BBC Middle East editor

Tension has been rising in Jerusalem since the summer. And in Jerusalem, tension, coupled with the absence of any light on the political horizon, tends to escalate into violence.

It has been fed by the fact that once more the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians has been left to fester. An attempt by the Americans to revive a peace process failed, despite energetic diplomacy from the US Secretary of State John Kerry.

The two sides are further apart than ever. Their conflict used to be, at root, about the possession of land. But since Israel captured the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in 1967 it has become more defined by religion.

Ultra Orthodox Jewish men are seen during the funeral of Rabbi Moshe Twersky on November 18, 2014 in Jerusalem, Israel.

Ultra Orthodox Jews during the funeral of one of the victims of Tuesday's synagogue attack

Perhaps that was why the Palestinians chose a synagogue for the attack that killed the four Jewish worshippers. There have been other attacks on Israelis in recent months by Palestinians, one of which killed a baby.

Many Palestinians believe Israel is preparing to allow Jews to pray in the compound of the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, the third holiest site for Muslims after Mecca and Medina.

The Israeli government has denied that emphatically. But Palestinians listen to calls from hard right-wing Jewish nationalists and believe it might happen.

Palestinian Muslims perform the morning Eid Al-Fitr prayer in front of the Dome of Rock at al-Aqsa mosque compound, July 2014

Palestinians fear Israel will allow Jews to pray at the Al Aqsa compound - something denied by Israel

Graphic showing Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount in Jerusalem

Some Israeli right wingers say that they have a right to pray inside the compound as it was the site of the Jewish Temple until it was destroyed by the Romans some 2,000 years ago, and remains the holiest site in Judaism.

The Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has called for Palestinians to defend al-Aqsa. For Palestinians that sounds reasonable. The Israeli government has condemned it as incitement to terrorism.

President Abbas commands some respect among Palestinians, but he is not very popular.

#### Settlement growth

The failure of the Fatah movement, which he leads, to deliver an independent state has caused bitterness and cynicism among many Palestinians.

Calls to defend al-Aqsa are the kinds of things Palestinians want to hear from their leaders.

President Abbas, who has said many times that he is against the use of violence, has been overshadowed for many Palestinians in recent years by Hamas, the Islamist rivals of Fatah in the Palestinian national movement. In the last five years Hamas has gone to war three times.

Palestinians are also angry about the continued growth of Jewish settlements in East Jerusalem. The big settlements in occupied land in East Jerusalem were built on largely open ground. But now the emphasis is on settling Jewish families in areas that are otherwise populated by Palestinians.

An Israeli settlement building in Al Tur, occupied east Jerusalem

An Israeli settlement building in Al Tur, occupied east Jerusalem

The proximity of the two sides, and the feeling that Palestinians have that their land is being taken by armed settlers, leads to trouble.

A particular flashpoint is Silwan, near the walled old city, which settlers have renamed City of David.

There is almost daily violence there between local Palestinians and the expanding community of Jewish settlers, who are protected by armed guards paid for by the Israeli government.

The two Palestinian killers this morning are from the district next to Silwan.

Both Palestinians and Israelis are now talking about a third Palestinian uprising - or intifada. It's too early to say one has started. But in the absence of political action to stop the violence escalating, another intifada is a distinct possibility.

From:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-30106039>

## **PSD 2.5**

### The Guardian “Israeli soldiers wounded in Egypt border attack”

Israeli soldiers wounded in Egypt border attack

Female officer and male soldier injured after their vehicle is struck by anti-tank missile in southern Negev desert

Two Israeli soldiers have been injured after their vehicle was fired on with an anti-tank missile and small arms from across the Egyptian border.

An Israeli military spokesman said the attack occurred in southern Negev desert near Ezuz and that the soldiers were evacuated to a hospital in Israel. “Two soldiers were injured by fire directed at them from Egypt,” a statement from the Israeli military added, without identifying the attackers.

The army said a female officer and a male soldier had been injured, both of whom were members of the predominantly female Caracal battalion responsible for defending the Israel-Egypt border.

The frontier between Israel and Egypt is usually quiet,. However, Islamic militants in Egypt’s lawless Sinai peninsula have attempted to carry out attacks against Israel in recent years. No one immediately claimed responsibility for Wednesday’s attack.

In September 2012, an Israeli soldier was killed in a similar shooting. A year earlier, a series of coordinated attacks killed seven Israelis.

Al-Qaida-linked militants in Sinai have also carried out deadly attacks against the Egyptian military, which has been trying to crack down on their activity in the desert.

Since July 2013, Egypt’s security forces have struggled to contain an insurgency in the northern Sinai peninsular waged by the jihadist group Ansar Beit al-Maqdes, which loosely means Champions of Jerusalem.

The Israeli military said it had dispatched troops to the area to prevent infiltration into its territory. In the meantime, it asked residents to remain in their homes.

A spokesman for Egypt’s police force, Maj-Gen Hany Abdellatif, claimed there had been a gunfight between smugglers and Egyptian police officers on the border with Israel at about 12.30pm. But he gave no further information and said he did not know whether any Israelis had been affected.

Israeli sources said, however, the incident in which the soldiers were wounded occurred an hour and a half later.

A spokesman for the Egyptian military would not confirm Abdellatif’s statement, and gave no further comment.

Security concerns and an influx of tens of thousands of African migrants prompted Israel to erect a 250km (160-mile) barrier from the Red Sea port of Eilat to the Palestinian Gaza Strip on the Mediterranean. It was completed in 2012.

From:

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/oct/22/israeli-soldiers-wounded-egypt-border-attack>

## **PSD 2.6**

### **The Huffington Post “Palestinians And Israeli Police Clash On Jerusalem's Temple Mount”**

#### **Palestinians And Israeli Police Clash On Jerusalem's Temple Mount**

Palestinian demonstrators clashed with Israeli police at a sensitive holy site in Jerusalem on Wednesday, leaving three officers lightly injured, a police spokeswoman said.

The clashes erupted after several dozen masked Palestinians began throwing rocks, firecrackers and other pyrotechnical devices at police when the site — known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary — opened for prayers on Wednesday morning, said spokeswoman Luba Samri.

There was no immediate information on whether any Palestinian protesters were hurt.

Police chased the demonstrators toward the Al-Aqsa mosque, where they barricaded themselves inside and continued hurling objects in the direction of the police, said Samri.

The site is the holiest in Judaism and the third holiest in Islam, and is a frequent flashpoint for demonstrations.

Samri said the violence began as the masked Palestinians threw rocks at tourists and Jewish Israelis who visited the site early Wednesday, before the start of the Jewish festival of Sukkot at nightfall. Palestinians view such visits as a provocation and often respond violently.

Samri said the Palestinians had prepared for the confrontation ahead of time, and had set up obstacles at the holy site to slow down police. She said the Palestinians threw firebombs and rocks at police from within the mosque.

Police responded with "nonlethal riot control means," Samri said, without elaborating. Three police officers were hurt and 15 Palestinians were arrested, she said.

A radical Islamic cleric in Israel, Raed Salah, had called on Muslims to be present at the mosque Wednesday morning. About 30 young Palestinians slept the night before at the mosque in preparation for the confrontation, according to Palestinian eyewitnesses.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas blamed Israel for the friction at the holy site, saying that it was deliberately raising tensions there.

"The Israeli attacks on Al-Aqsa mosque, led by settlers and extremists, and under the auspices of the Israeli government, have recently increased and intensified," Abbas said.

An Israeli Tourism Ministry decision earlier this week to expand the entrance to the Jerusalem site was condemned by Palestinian officials as a unilateral change in the status of the sensitive holy site.

Tensions have been high in Jerusalem since Hamas militants abducted and killed three Jewish teenagers in the West Bank in June and Jewish extremists killed a young Palestinian several weeks later, in an apparent revenge attack. Those events helped precipitate the 50-day-long Gaza war that killed more than 2,100 Palestinians, according to the U.N., and 72 on the Israeli side — all but six soldiers. The war ended Aug. 26.

From:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/10/08/temple-mount-clash\\_n\\_5951548.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=israeli-palestinian-conflict](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/10/08/temple-mount-clash_n_5951548.html?utm_hp_ref=israeli-palestinian-conflict)

**PSD 2.7**

**CBC's Power and Politics with Evan Solomon**

<http://www.cbc.ca/player/News/TV%2BShows/Power%2B&%2BPolitics%2Bwith%2BEvan%2BSolomon/ID/2596698022/>

PSD 3.1

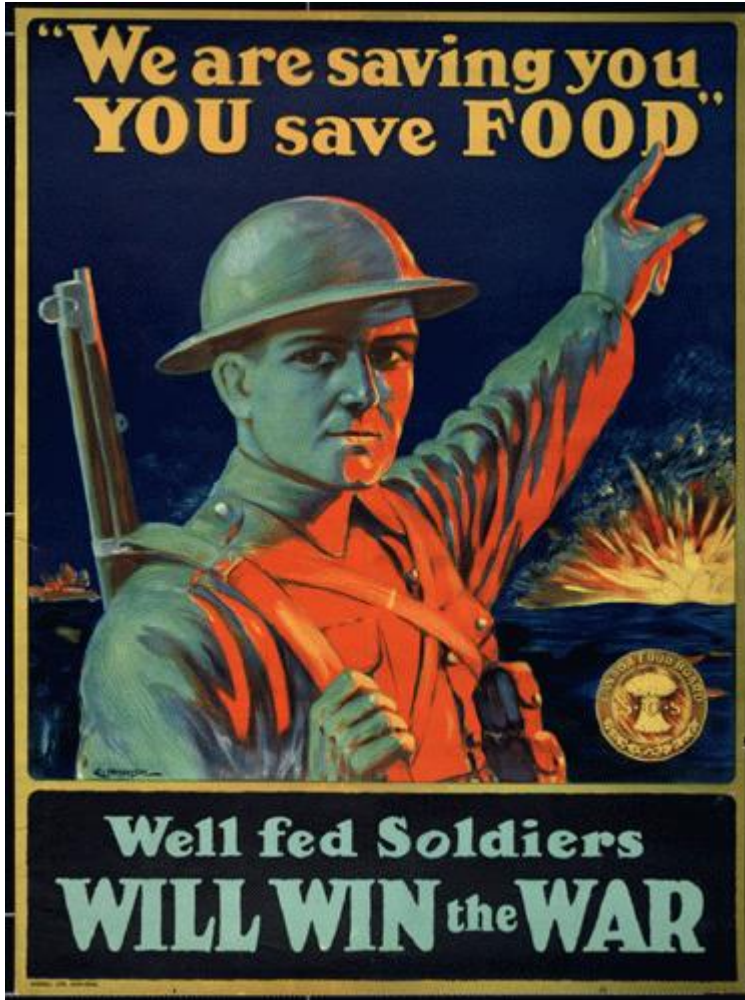


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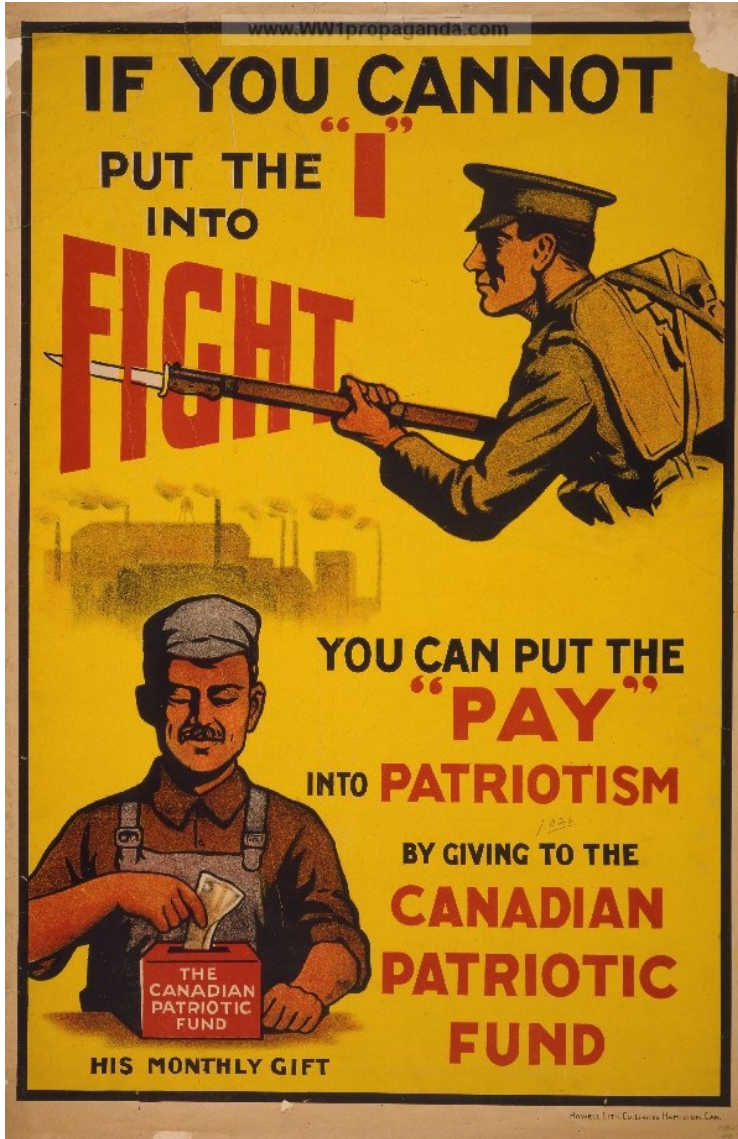
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PSD 3.5



From:  
<http://www.ww1propaganda.com/world-war-1-posters/canadian-ww1-propaganda-posters?page=27>

**PSD 3.6**



Example by Nathan MacLean

## PSD 4.1

### The Battle of the Somme by Official British War Correspondent Philip Gibbs

From January to May of this year the German Command on the Western front was concentrating all its energy and all its available strength in manpower and gun power upon the attack of Verdun. The Crown Prince had staked all his reputation upon this adventure, which he believed would end in the capture of the strongest French fortress and the destruction of the French armies.

He demanded men and more men until every unit that could be spared from other fronts of the line had been thrown into this furnace. Divisions were called in from other theatres of war, and increased the strength on the Western front to a total of about 130 divisions.

But the months passed, and Verdun still held out above piles of German corpses on its slopes, and in June Germany looked East and saw a great menace. The Russian offensive was becoming violent. German generals on the Russian fronts sent desperate messages for help. "Send us more men" they said; and from the Western front four divisions containing 39 battalions were sent to them.

They must have been sent grudgingly, for now another menace threatened the enemy, and it was on the Western side. The British armies were getting ready to strike. In spite of Verdun, France still had men enough - withdrawn from a part of the line in which they had been relieved by the British - to cooperate in a new attack.

It was our offensive that the German Command feared most, for they had no exact knowledge of our strength or of the quality of our new troops. They knew that our army had grown prodigiously since the assault on Loos, nearly a year before.

They had heard of the Canadian reinforcements, and the coming of the Australians, and the steady increase of recruiting in England, and month by month they had heard the louder roar of our guns along the line, and had seen their destructive effect spreading and becoming more terrible.

They knew of the steady, quiet concentration of batteries and divisions on the north and south of the Ancre.

The German Command expected a heavy blow, and prepared for it, but as yet had no knowledge of the driving force behind it. What confidence they had of being able to resist the British attack was based upon the wonderful strength of the lines which they had been digging and fortifying since the autumn of the first year of war - "impregnable positions" they had called them - the inexperience of our troops, their own immense quantity of machine guns, the courage and skill of their gunners, and their profound belief in the superiority of German generalship.

In order to prevent espionage during the coming struggle, and to conceal the movement of troops and guns, they ordered the civil populations to be removed from villages close behind their positions, drew cordons of military police across the country, picketed cross-roads, and established a network of counter espionage to prevent any leakage of information.

To inspire the German troops with a spirit of martial fervour (not easily aroused to fever-pitch after the bloody losses before Verdun) Orders of the Day were issued to the battalions counselling them to hold fast against the hated English, who stood foremost in the way of peace (that was the gist of a manifesto by Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, which I found in a dugout at Montauban), and promising them a speedy ending to the war.

Great stores of material and munitions were concentrated at railheads and dumps ready to be sent up to the firing lines, and the perfection of German organization may well have seemed flawless - before the attack began.

The British attack began with the great bombardment several days before July 1st and was a revelation, to the German Command and to the soldiers who had to endure it, of the new and enormous power of our artillery.

A number of batteries were unmasked for the first time, and the German gunners found that in "heavies" and in expenditure of high explosives they were outclassed.

They were startled, too, by the skill and accuracy of the British gunners whom they had scorned as "amateurs" and by the daring of our airmen who flew over their lines with the utmost audacity "spotting" for the guns, and registering on batteries, communication trenches, cross-roads, railheads, and every vital point of organization in the German war-machine working opposite the British lines north and south of the Ancre.

Even before the British infantry had left their trenches at dawn on July 1st German officers behind the firing lines saw with anxiety that all the organization which had worked so smoothly in times of ordinary trench-warfare was now working only in a hazardous way under a deadly storm of shells.

Food and supplies of all kinds could not be sent up to front line trenches without many casualties, and sometimes could not be sent up at all. Telephone wires were cut, and communications broken between the front and headquarter staffs. Staff officers sent up to report were killed on the way to the lines. Troops moving forward from reserve areas came under heavy fire and lost many men before arriving in the support trenches.

Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, sitting aloof from all this in personal safety, must have known before July 1st that his resources in men and material would be strained to the uttermost by the British attack, but he could take a broader view than men closer to the scene of battle, and taking into account the courage of his troops (he had no need to doubt that), the immense strength of their positions, dug and tunnelled beyond the power of high explosives, the number of his machine guns, the concentration of his artillery and

the rawness of the British troops, he could count up the possible cost and believe that in spite of a heavy price to pay there would be no great break in his lines.

At 7.30 a.m. on July 1st the British infantry left their trenches and attacked on the right angle southwards from Gommecourt, Beaumont Hamel, Thiepval, Ovillers, and La Boisselle, and eastwards from Fricourt, below Mametz and Montauban.

For a week the German troops - Bavarians and Prussians - had been crouching in their dugouts, listening to the ceaseless crashing of the British "drum-fire."

In places like Beaumont Hamel the men down in the deep tunnels - some of them large enough to hold a battalion and a half - were safe as long as they stayed there. But to get in or out was death. Trenches disappeared into a sea of shell-craters, and the men holding them - for some men had to stay on duty there - were blown to fragments of flesh.

Many of the shallower dugouts were smashed in by heavy shells, and officers and men lay dead there as I saw them lying on the first days of July, in Fricourt and Mametz and Montauban.

The living men kept their courage, but below ground, under that tumult of bursting shells, wrote pitiful letters to their people at home describing the horror of those hours.

We are quite shut off from the rest of the world," wrote one of them. "Nothing comes to us. No letters. The English keep such a barrage on our approaches it is terrible. Tomorrow evening it will be seven days since this bombardment began. We cannot hold out much longer. Everything is shot to pieces.

As far as the German troops were concerned there were no signs of cowardice, or "low morale," as we call it more kindly, in those early days of the struggle. They fought with a desperate courage, holding on to positions in rearguard actions when our guns were slashing them, and when our men were getting near to them making us pay a heavy price for every little copse or gully or section of trench, and above all serving their machine guns at La Boisselle, Ovillers, above Fricourt, round Contalmaison, and at all points of their gradual retreat, with a splendid obstinacy until they were killed or captured.

But they could not check our men or stop their progress.

After the first week of battle the German General Staff had learnt the truth about the qualities of those British "New Armies" which had been mocked and caricatured in German comic papers. They learnt that these "amateur soldiers" had the qualities of the finest troops in the world - not only extreme valour but skill and cunning, not only a great power of endurance under the heaviest fire, but a spirit of attack which was terrible in its effect.

They were great bayonet fighters. Once having gained a bit of earth or a ruined village nothing would budge them unless they could be blasted out by gunfire. General Sixt von Arnim put down some candid notes in his report to Prince Rupprecht.

The English infantry shows great dash in attack, a factor to which immense confidence in its overwhelming artillery greatly contributes. It has shown great tenacity in defence. This was especially noticeable in the case of small parties which when once established with machine guns in the corner of a wood or a group of houses were very difficult to drive out.

The German losses were piling up. The great agony of the German troops under our shell fire was reaching unnatural limits of torture. The early prisoners I saw - Prussians and Bavarians of the 14th Reserve Corps - were nerve-broken, and told frightful stories of the way in which their regiments had been cut to pieces.

The German Generals had to fill up the gaps, to put new barriers of men against the waves of British infantry. They flung new troops into the line, called up hurriedly from reserve depots.

But now, for the first time, their staff work showed signs of disorder and demoralization. When the Prussian Guards reserves were brought up from Valenciennes to counterattack at Contalmaison they were sent on to the battlefield without maps or local guides, and walked straight into our barrage. A whole battalion was cut to pieces, and many others suffered frightful things. Some of the prisoners told me that they had lost three-quarters of their number in casualties and our troops advanced over heaps of killed and wounded.

The 122nd Bavarian Regiment in Contalmaison was among those which suffered horribly. Owing to our ceaseless gunfire they could get no food supplies and no water. The dugouts were crowded, so that they had to take turns to get into these shelters, and outside our shells were bursting over every yard of ground.

"Those who went outside," a prisoner told me, "were killed or wounded. Some of them had their heads blown off, and some of them had both their legs torn off, and some of them their arms. But we went on taking turns in the hole, although those who went outside knew that it was their turn to die, most likely. At last most of those who came into the hole were wounded, some of them badly, so that we lay in blood."

It is one little picture in a great panorama of bloodshed.

The German Command was not thinking much about the human suffering of its troops. It was thinking, necessarily, of the next defensive line upon which they would have to fall back if the pressure of the British offensive could be maintained - the Longueval-Bazentin-Pozieres line. It was getting nervous. Owing to the enormous efforts made in the Verdun offensive the supplies of ammunition were not adequate to the enormous demand.

The German gunners were trying to compete with the British in continuity of bombardments and the shells were running short. Guns were wearing out under this incessant strain, and it was difficult to replace them. General von Gallwitz received reports of "an alarmingly large number of bursts in the bore, particularly in field guns."

General von Arnim complained that "reserve supplies of ammunition were only available in very small quantities." The German telephone system proved "totally inadequate in consequence of the development which the fighting took."

The German air service was surprisingly weak, and the British airmen had established a complete mastery.

"The numerical superiority of the enemy's airmen," noted General von Arnim, "and the fact that their machines were better made, became disagreeably apparent to us, particularly in their direction of the enemy's artillery fire and in bomb-dropping."

On July 15th, one of the greatest days in the history of the Somme battles, the British troops broke the German second line at Longueval and the Bazentins, and inflicted great losses upon the enemy, who fought with their usual courage until the British bayonets were among them.

A day or two later the fortress of Ovillers fell, and the remnants of the garrison - 150 strong - after a desperate and gallant resistance in ditches and tunnels where they had fought to the last, surrendered with honour.

Then began the long battle of the woods - Devil's Wood, High Wood, Trones Wood - continued through August with most fierce and bloody fighting, which ended in our favour and forced the enemy back, gradually but steadily, in spite of the terrific bombardments which filled those woods with hell-fire, and the constant counter-attacks delivered by the Germans.

"Counter-attack!" came the order from the German Staff - and battalions of men marched out obediently to certain death, sometimes with incredible folly on the part of their commanding officers, who ordered these attacks to be made without the slightest chance of success.

In all the letters written during those weeks of fighting and captured by us from dead or living men there is one great cry of agony and horror.

"I stood on the brink of the most terrible days of my life," wrote one of them. "They were those of the battle of the Somme. It began with a night attack on August 13th-14th. The attack lasted till the evening of the 18th, when the English wrote on our bodies in letters of blood 'It is all over with you.' A handful of half-mad, wretched creatures, worn out in body and mind, were all that was left of a whole battalion. We were that handful."

"We entrained at Savigny," wrote a man of one of these regiments, "and at once knew our destination. It was our old Blood-bath - the Somme."

In many letters this phrase was used. The Somme was called the "Bath of Blood" by the German troops who waded across its shell-craters, and in the ditches which were heaped with their dead. But what I have described is only the beginning of the battle, and the bath was to be filled deeper in the months that followed.

The tale of defeat, of great losses, of grave and increasing anxiety, was told clearly enough - as I have read in captured letters - by the faces of German officers who went about in these towns behind the lines with gloomy looks, and whose tempers, never of the sweetest, became irritable and unbearable so that the soldiers hated them for all this cursing and bullying. A certain battalion commander has a nervous breakdown because he has to meet his colonel in the morning.

"He is dying with fear and anxiety," writes one of his comrades. Other men, not battalion commanders, are even more afraid of their superior officers, upon whom this bad news from the Somme has an evil effect.

The bad news was spread by divisions taken out of the line and sent back to rest. The men reported that their battalions had been cut to pieces. Some of their regiments had lost three-quarters of their strength. They described the frightful effect of the British artillery - the smashed trenches, the shell-craters, the great horror.

It is not good for the morale of men who are just going up there to take their turn.

The man who was afraid of his colonel "sits all day long writing home with the picture of his wife and children before his eyes." He is afraid of other things.

Bavarian soldiers quarrelled with Prussians, accused them (unjustly) of shirking the Somme battlefields and leaving the Bavarians to go to the blood-bath.

"All the Bavarian troops are being sent to the Somme (this much is certain, you can see no Prussians there), and this in spite of the losses the 1st Bavarian Corps suffered recently at Verdun! And how we did suffer!... It appears that we are in for another turn, at least the 5th Bavarian Division. Everybody has been talking about it for a long time. To the devil with it! Every Bavarian regiment is being sent into it, and it's a swindle."

It was in no cheerful mood that men went away to the Somme battlefields. Those battalions of grey-clad men entrained without any of the old enthusiasm with which they had gone to earlier battles. Their gloom was noticed by the officers.

"Sing, you sheep's heads, sing!" they shouted.

They were compelled to sing, by order.

"In the afternoon," wrote a man of the 18th Reserve Division, "we had to go out again: we were to learn to sing. The greater part did not join in, and the song went feebly. Then we had to march round in a circle and sing, and that went no better. After that we had an hour off, and on the way back to billets we were to sing 'Deutschland uber Alles,' but this broke down completely. One never hears songs of the Fatherland any more."

They were silent, grave-eyed men who marched through the streets of French and Belgian towns to be entrained for the Somme front, for they had forebodings of the fate before them.

Yet none of their forebodings were equal in intensity of fear to the frightful reality into which they were flung.

From:

[http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/somme\\_gibbs.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/somme_gibbs.htm)

## **PSD 4.2**

### Official Announcement by the Canadian War Records Office on the Battle of Vimy Ridge, April 1917

Again the Canadians have "acquired merit."

In the capture of Vimy Ridge on April 9th, as in the lesser action of Courcelette in September of last year, they have shown the same high qualities in victorious advance as they displayed in early days in desperate resistance on many stricken fields.

At half-past five on Easter Monday morning the great attack was launched with terrible fire from our massed artillery and from many field guns in hidden advanced positions.

Our "heavies" bombarded the enemy positions on and beyond the ridge, and trenches, dugouts, emplacements, and roads, which for long had been kept in a continual state of disrepair by our fire, were now smashed to uselessness. An intense barrage of shrapnel from our field guns, strengthened by the indirect fire of hundreds of machine guns, was laid along the front.

At the same moment the Canadian troops advanced in line, in three waves of attack. Flurries of snow drifted over the battlefield as the Canadians left their jumping-off trenches behind the rolling barrage. The light was sufficient for manoeuvring purposes and yet obscure enough to obstruct the range of vision and lessen the accuracy of fire of the German riflemen and machine gunners.

The troops on the extreme left made a start under conditions as favourable as those in the centre and right, but they were soon confronted by a strong and constantly strengthening opposition. The advance of these troops was soon checked between its first and second lines of objectives by heavy fighting, which was more formidable against the centre of the line than against the flanks.

A dip in the ground caused a change of direction, which swung these troops off their central objectives. They reached their goals on the flanks, only to find themselves subjected to heavy, close-range fire of machine guns and rifles.

To be enfiladed from the centre and the north was bad enough, but to add to the situation, caves, or a tunnel, in the hostile line over which we had already advanced now disgorged Germans, who promptly reoccupied their old front and opened fire on our rear. The enemy at these points fought with unusual vigour and resolution.

These troops on the extreme left fought all day against the Huns, and by 10 o'clock at night succeeded in disposing of the enemy in their rear and capturing the major portion of the enemy trenches in their centre. "The Pimple," in the north, still remained to the enemy, but by then snow was falling heavily and it was wisely decided to consolidate the

hard-won gains and prepare for a counter-attack rather than to undertake a further assault that night.

"The Pimple" would keep for the morrow.

In the meantime the other troops fought forward to one line after another without serious check, but with many brisk encounters and not without casualties. Most of these were the result of shrapnel fire, only a small percentage were fatal, and the majority of the wounds were of a minor character.

On the German second line the troops drew breath and consolidated their gains. Our barrage was laid before them steady as a wall. Fresh troops came up and deployed into position. They waited for the barrage to lift at the ordained minute and lead them on. The enemy's artillery fire - their counter-barrage and bombardment of our gun positions - was not strong as strength in such things is considered today.

Prisoners were already hurrying to our rear in hundreds, pathetically and often ludicrously grateful to the fortunes of war that had saved them alive for capture. They surrendered promptly and willingly.

The barrage lifted, and the two divisions on the right followed it forward to the German third line. Here again they paused for a time, then advanced again, behind the ever-ready and unslackening barrage, for a distance of about 1,200 yards.

This advance included the capture of several villages, Hill 140, a number of fortified woods, and several trenches and belts of wire. And still the enemy surrendered by hundreds and scuttled rearward to safety. Their resistance grew feebler, their hands more eager to relinquish their weapons and ascend high above their heads, at each stage of our advance.

At 10 o'clock snow fell heavily from black clouds sweeping low across the ridge. Half an hour later the snow ceased, the clouds thinned, and the sun shone fitfully over the shattered and clamorous battlefield.

Word was received at the advanced headquarters that the British division on our immediate right was enjoying a degree of success in its operations equal to the Canadian success.

Events continued to develop with rapidity and precision. By 1 o'clock every point in the enemy's third line of our objectives had been reached and secured. By this time the troops on the right had consolidated their gains and advanced strong patrols. From their new positions they commanded a wide view of enemy territory to the eastward.

They reported a massing of Germans on a road in the new field of vision, and our heavy guns immediately dealt with the matter. By noon one of the battalions of a division had received and dealt drastically with three counter-attacks. Its front remained unshaken.

Shortly after this the Canadian Corps was able to state that the prisoners already to hand numbered three battalion commanders, 15 other officers, and more than 2,000 non-commissioned officers and men - with plenty more in sight - making for our "cages" as fast as their legs could carry them.

The final stage of the attack of the troops on the right was now made. They passed through the wide belts of enemy wire which fringed the plateau by way of wide gaps torn by our heavy artillery at fixed intervals. So they issued on the eastern slopes of Vimy Ridge - the first allied troops to look down upon the level plain of Douai since the German occupation in 1914.

They saw the villages of Farbus, Vimy, and Petit Vimy at their feet, and beyond these the hamlets of Willerval, Bailleul, Oppy, and Mericourt. They pressed on to Farbus Wood and Goulot Wood, and possessed themselves of several hostile batteries and much ammunition.

By an early hour of the afternoon all our objectives, save those of the left of the attack, were in our possession, and the task of consolidating and strengthening our gains was well in hand. Throughout the day the most courageous and devoted cooperation was rendered to the Canadian Corps by a brigade and a squadron of the Royal Flying Corps.

The night saw all of Vimy Ridge, with the exception of a few trenches on Hill 145, secure in Canadian hands.

From:

[http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/vimy\\_warrecordsoffice.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/vimy_warrecordsoffice.htm)

### PSD 4.3

#### General Sir David Watson on the Third Battle of Ypres

What a sacrifice this operation entailed, and yet so necessary in the great final victory.

No one of us, who had previous experience of the Ypres Salient fighting, could anticipate without horror and dread, the orders received for the great effort and still greater sacrifices of Passchendaele. The approaches to the front, and on beyond, were simply beyond description. Wastes of mud, destroyed houses, roads torn up by constant shelling and above all, the vile weather conditions, that made life a burden.

Sir Douglas Haig, at a conference with the Canadian Generals some days prior to the attack, stated that the Canadian Corps would be the determining factor, for the date of the operation, as ours was the big effort, all the others being subsidiary to our main operation of the capture of Bellevue Spur, Crest Farm, and Passchendaele itself.

Our engineers at once started to lay our French Railways, guns were brought well forward, dumps of ammunition and supplies established, dressing stations located, and proper jumping off positions for the infantry were dug and prepared. Night and day the work progressed under most trying and difficult situations.

It was decided to carry out the scheme in three staged operations, all of which as explained in the story following, were successfully accomplished and carried out precisely according to schedule.

It need hardly be a matter of surprise that the Canadians by this time had the reputation of being the best shock troops in the Allied Armies. They had been pitted against the select guards and shock troops of Germany and the Canadian superiority was proven beyond question. They had the physique, the stamina, the initiative, the confidence between officers and men (so frequently of equal standing in civilian life) and happened to have the opportunity.

As Philip Gibbs said of the battle of Passchendaele:

The Canadians have had more luck than the English, New Zealand and Australian troops who fought the way up with most heroic endeavour, and not a man in the army will begrudge them the honour which they have gained, not easily, nor without the usual price of victory, which is some men's death and many men's pain.

After an heroic attack by the Canadians, they fought their way over the ruins of Passchendaele and into the ground beyond it.

Their gains held, the seal is set upon the most terrific achievement of war ever attempted and carried through by British arms.

At and around Passchendaele was the highest ground on the ridge, looking down across the sweep of plains into which the enemy had been thrust and where he had camps and dumps. Sir Douglas Haig's official report said:

Night operations were undertaken this morning (November 6th, 1917) by Canadian troops with complete success against the enemy's defences in and around Passchendaele and on the spur north and north-west of the village. The assembly of our troops for the attack was carried out successfully, and at 6 a.m., the assault was launched as arranged.

The enemy had been ordered to hold this important position on the main ridge at all costs. Hard fighting took place at a number of points on the Goudberg Spur. None the less our troops made steady progress, and at an early hour the village of Passchendaele was captured with the hamlet of Mosselmarkt and Goudberg.

Before mid-day all our objectives had been gained, and a number of prisoners had been taken.

The enemy might brush aside the advance for the moment as the taking of a mud patch, but to resist it had at one time or another put nearly a hundred divisions into the arena of blood; and the defence cost him legions in dead and wounded. To defend the ridge the Germans had massed great numbers of guns, machine guns which seemed absolutely without number, so incredible was their volume, and many of the finest divisions in the German army.

Passchendaele was but a dot on the map, but that the British should not take it the enemy spent much of his man-power and gun-power. There had flowed up to his guns tides of shells, almost as great as flowed up to our guns in those later days of ammunition without stint. Throughout these months he never ceased, by day and night, to pour out hurricanes of fire over all these fields in the hope of smashing the British progress.

A few days before, orders were issued to the German troops, given in the name of Hindenburg himself, that Passchendaele must be held at all costs, and if lost must be recaptured at all costs.

For several days the enemy had endeavoured to thrust the British back from the positions held round Crest Farm and on the left beyond the Paddebeek, where all the ground was a morass. The Naval Brigade who had fought there on the left in the last days of October, had a hard and tragic experience; but it was their grim stoicism in holding on to exposed out-posts-small groups of men under heavy shell fire-which enabled the Canadians to attack from a good position.

Great tribute is due to two companies of British infantry, who with Canadian guides, worked through a large plantation, drove a wedge into the enemy territory, and held it against all attempts to dislodge them.

Through the night the enemy, who was not taken by surprise in what was happening, increased his fire, as though he at least guessed his time was at hand and he must fight with all the strength of desperation. All night long he flung down barrages which were harassing, rained shells from his heavies and used gas shells to search and asphyxiate our batteries. All night through he tried every devilish thing in war to prevent the assembly of troops. Yet it was done.

The Canadians assembled lying out in shell craters and in the deep slime of the mud under all this fire. Though these were anxious hours and a great strain upon officers and men, and casualties happened here and there, the spirit of the men was not broken, and in a wonderful way they escaped losses.

The night had been soft and moist, with threatening rain, but at daylight the sun shone in a clear sky. Below the ridge our field guns were firing steadily and from away behind them heavy guns were sending through the air shells high overhead into the German lines. The forces which made the attack were from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Eastern and Western Ontario. The enemy had added to his defensive army a new division, brought up the day before from Champagne.

All below the Passchendaele Ridge, the German monster shells were flinging up masses of earth and water. Through all this the Canadians burst upon the enemy. They fought up to and around the crest village from which the place takes its name. They fought up to and captured blockhouses which were spitting streams of machine gun fire. They fought in the cellars, in and around the village of Mosselmarkt and on the Goudberg spur.

The Germans could not withstand the fury of the onslaught. Shot down, bayoneted and prisoners, they yielded, and the attacking forces passed on.

The bit of ridge so dearly held by the enemy was in the hands of the Canadians, and they had direct observation upon the enemy everywhere for miles around. How many were taken prisoner by the Canadians can never be known. Thousands of the stream which was sent back never reached our lines, being blown to pieces by their own barrage fire.

It is known that the cost to the Germans was fully 100,000 men. The enemy simply swept all over the territory with his barrage fire when he knew he had lost. That is why so many of the German prisoners became German dead.

Passchendaele was proudly added to the list of splendid engagements on the colours of Canada. The northern bastion of Flanders and a position of vital importance had been captured. The last of the chain of heights which the enemy had begun to fortify between the sea and Soissons at the end of 1914 had fallen. It had gone the way of the Albert, Vimy and Messines ridges.

From:

[http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/ypres3\\_watson.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/ypres3_watson.htm)

#### **PSD 4.4**

##### Sir Arthur Currie's Appeal to the Canadian Corps

Looking back with pride on the unbroken record of your glorious achievements, asking you to realize that today the fate of the British Empire hangs in the balance, I place my trust in the Canadian Corps, knowing that where Canadians are engaged there can be no giving way.

Under the orders of your devoted officers in the coming battle you will advance or fall where you stand facing the enemy.

To those who fall I say, "You will not die, but step into immortality. Your mothers will not lament your fate, but will have been proud to have borne such sons. Your names will be revered for ever and ever by your grateful country, and God will take you unto Himself."

Canadians, in this fateful hour I command you and I trust you to fight as you have ever fought, with all your strength, with all your determination, with all your tranquil courage. On many a hard-fought field of battle you have overcome this enemy. With God's help you shall achieve victory once more.

From:

[http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/lys\\_currie.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/lys_currie.htm)

## **PSD 4.5**

### Philip Gibbs on the Battle of Amiens, 27 August 1918

In July it was Rupprecht's army that was the chief threat against us, and it was an army of perhaps 250,000 fresh troops, apart from those in line waiting to be hurled against us if the German Crown Prince could do without them.

We knew then that some of Rupprecht's divisions had been sent down hurriedly to his relief, but the question still remained whether the armies holding our part of the battlefield would still be strong enough to attack us or strong enough to check any attempt of ours to advance against them.

After that the tide turned in an astonishing way. It is now the enemy who is on the defensive, dreading the hammer blows that fall upon him day after day, and the initiative of attack is so completely in our hands that we are able to strike him at many different places.

Since August 8th we must have taken nearly 50,000 prisoners and nearly 500 guns, and the tale is not yet told because our men are going on, taking new strides, new batches of Germans, and more batteries.

The change has been greater in the minds of men than in the taking of territory. On our side the army seems to be buoyed up with the enormous hope of getting on with this business quickly. They are fighting for a quick victory and a quick peace so they may get back to normal life and wipe this thing clean from the map of Europe and restore the world to sane purposes.

That is, I am sure, their hope, and for almost the first time in very truth they see something of its reality in sight.

But there is a change also in the enemy's mind. Those German soldiers and their officers are changed men since March 21st, when they launched their offensive. They no longer have even a dim hope of victory on this western front. All they hope for now is to defend themselves long enough to gain peace by negotiation.

Many of them go even further than this and admit they do not care how peace comes so long as there is peace. They are sullen with their own officers, and some of those whom I saw today were more than sullen.

The arrival of the Canadians on August 26th was an immense surprise to the Germans. The last heard of them was outside of Roye after their glorious advance on the left of the French, and the last thing in the world which the enemy expected was to find them right in the north beyond Arras.

That was a brilliant piece of secret manoeuvre. Before the Germans had any inkling of their presence the Canadians were advancing upon them with a sweep of shellfire in front of them. Without encountering much resistance, they swung around by Guemappe and Wancourt over the high ground on each side of the Cojeul.

Germans of the 214th Division, made up of men from Rhineland, Stettin, Lower Schleswig, and Hessians, were aghast at this sudden assault, and either retired or gave themselves up in the early stages of the Canadian advance.

Their resistance stiffened on the crest of Monchy Hill, and there was fierce fighting all night in the trench on the top of Wancourt Spur. But the Canadians were determined to get this place, and with great individual gallantry and good leadership and most dogged spirit, they worked around the machine guns which were holding them off and rushed them in the darkness.

By morning they held the spur, and this body of Canadians, who had taken over 820 prisoners yesterday morning, added another 150, with many machine guns, most of which were captured in the valley below the ridge. All told, the Canadians and Scots attacking with them had taken about 1,800 prisoners.

The highest point most desired by the Canadians was the old Wancourt tower on the tip of the crest, and this they gained in time for a new departure this morning, having to change their direction three times, owing to the lie of the ground, and face south instead of east after the beginning of the battle, which is always a difficult operation.

A little further north other Canadian troops, who had crossed Orange Hill and Monchy, that hill which dominates many miles of country, so that the loss of it a few months ago was serious to us, advanced again this morning to two woods on equally high ground beyond for which our men strove many times in vain in May of last year.

Those are the Bois du Sart and the Bois de Vert, which we used to see like green eyes staring down on our lines around Wancourt and Henin, and from which always there used to come wicked machine-gun fire when any of our troops moved in the open valley below.

The success of our infantry is the more remarkable because in this battle very few tanks have been used, and machine-gun nests had to be taken in many cases without their help.

This advance gives a sense of the enormous movement behind the British lines, and there is not a man who is not stirred by the motion of it. They are feeling that they indeed are getting on with the war. It is like a vast tide of life moving very slowly but steadily.

From:

[http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/amiens\\_gibbs.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/amiens_gibbs.htm)

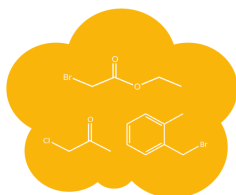
**PSD 4.6**

Video on Vimy Ridge

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Smz3ITIJ6\\_c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Smz3ITIJ6_c)

# CHEMICAL WARFARE WORLD WAR 1

WORLD WAR ONE IS SEEN AS THE DAWN OF MODERN CHEMICAL WARFARE, WITH A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT CHEMICAL AGENTS BEING EMPLOYED ON A LARGE SCALE, RESULTING IN APPROXIMATELY 1,240,000 NON-FATAL CASUALTIES, AND 91,000 FATALITIES. A VARIETY OF POISONOUS GASES WERE USED THROUGHOUT THE CONFLICT, WITH EACH HAVING DIFFERING EFFECTS UPON VICTIMS.



## TEAR GASES

(ethyl bromoacetate, chloroacetone & xylol bromide)

### SMELL & APPEARANCE

Both ethyl bromoacetate and chloroacetone are colourless to light yellow liquids with fruity, pungent odours. Xylol bromide is a colourless liquid with a pleasant, aromatic odour.

### EFFECTS

Tear gases are what is known as 'lachrymatory agents' - they irritate mucous membranes in the eyes, mouth, throat & lungs, leading to crying, coughing, breathing difficulties, and temporary blindness.

### FIRST USED

**1914** In August 1914, the French forces used tear gas grenades against the German army, to little effect.

### ESTIMATED CASUALTIES

**0** These gases were used to incapacitate enemies rather than to kill; symptoms commonly resolved within 30 minutes of leaving the affected area.



## CHLORINE

### SMELL & APPEARANCE

Chlorine is a yellow-green gas with a strong, bleach-like odour. Soldiers described its smell as 'a distinct mix of pepper and pineapple'.

### EFFECTS

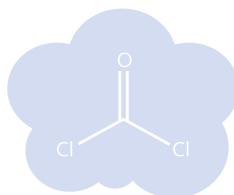
Chlorine reacts with water in the lungs, forming hydrochloric acid. It can cause coughing, vomiting, and irritation to the eyes at low concentrations, and rapid death at concentrations of 1000 parts per million.

### FIRST USED

**1915** Used by German forces at Ypres in April 1915. British forces used it for the first time at Loos in September.

### ESTIMATED CASUALTIES

**5,000** Chlorine was devastating as troops were initially unequipped to deal with it. Later, gas masks limited its effectiveness.



## PHOSGENE

(carbonyl dichloride)

### SMELL & APPEARANCE

Phosgene is a colourless gas with a musty odour comparable to that of newly mown hay or grass. If the odour is detectable, it indicates a hazardous level of phosgene. Its density is four times that of air.

### EFFECTS

Reacts with proteins in lung alveoli, causing suffocation. Causes coughing, difficulty breathing and irritation to the throat & eyes. Can cause delayed effects, not evident for 48hrs, including fluid in the lungs & death.

### FIRST USED

**1915** In December 1915, the German forces used phosgene against the British at Ypres.

### ESTIMATED CASUALTIES

**85%** It's estimated 85% of all gas-related fatalities in World War 1 resulted from phosgene. It was often used in combination with chlorine.



## MUSTARD GAS

(bis(2-chloroethyl) sulfide)

### SMELL & APPEARANCE

When pure, mustard gas is a colourless and odourless liquid, but it's used as a chemical agent in impure form. These are yellow-brown in colour and have an odour resembling garlic or horseradish.

### EFFECTS

Powerful irritant and vesicant (blistering agent) that can damage the eyes, skin, & respiratory tract. Causes chemical burns on contact with skin. Forms intermediates that react with DNA leading to cell death.

### FIRST USED

**1917** On 12<sup>th</sup> July 1917, German forces used mustard gas against the British at Ypres.

### ESTIMATED CASUALTIES

**2-3%** The mortality rate of mustard gas casualties was low - but its effects were debilitating, and patients required elaborate care.

## PSD 5.2

### Primary Documents - Sir John French on the Use of Poison Gas at the Second Battle of Ypres, 15 June 1915



Reproduced below is an account of the incidence of, and reaction to, the use of poison gas by the German Army at Ypres at the start of the Second Battle of Ypres. The summary was written by British Expeditionary Force Commander-in-Chief Sir John French as part of a wider official report to London.

He, along with his French allies, made quite clear his dismay and disgust at the Germans' use of poison gas as a new form of warfare. In this the Germans accused the French government of straightforward hypocrisy, given that the French had themselves pioneered the use of gas.

#### **An Account of the German Use of Gas at the Second Battle of Ypres on 22 April 1915**

**by Sir John French, British Army Commander-in-Chief**

Headquarters, June 15, 1915

I much regret that during the period under report the fighting has been characterized on the enemy's side by a cynical and barbarous disregard of the well-known usages of civilized war and a flagrant defiance of the Hague Convention.

All the scientific resources of Germany have apparently been brought into play to produce a gas of so virulent and poisonous a nature that any human being brought into contact with it is first paralyzed and then meets with a lingering and agonizing death. The enemy has invariably preceded, prepared and supported his attacks by a discharge in stupendous volume of these poisonous gas fumes whenever the wind was favourable. Such weather conditions have only prevailed to any extent in the neighbourhood of Ypres, and there can be no doubt that the effect of these poisonous fumes materially influenced the operations in that theatre, until experience suggested effective counter-measures, which have since been so perfected as to render them innocuous.

The brainpower and thought which has evidently been at work before this unworthy method of making war reached the pitch of efficiency which has been demonstrated in its practice shows that the Germans must have harboured these designs for a long time.

As a soldier I cannot help expressing the deepest regret and some surprise that an Army which hitherto has claimed to be the chief exponent of the chivalry of war should have stooped to employ such devices against brave and gallant foes.

It was at the commencement of the second battle of Ypres on the evening of April 22nd that the enemy first made use of asphyxiating gas.

Some days previously I had complied with General Joffre's request to take over the trenches occupied by the French, and on the evening of the 22nd the troops holding the lines east of Ypres were posted as follows:

From Steenstraate to the east of Langemarck, as far as the Poelcappelle Road, a French Division. Thence, in a south-easterly direction toward the Passchendaele-Becelaere Road, the Canadian Division.

Thence a Division took up the line in a southerly direction east of Zonnebeke to a point west of Becelaere, whence another Division continued the line southeast to the northern limit of the Corps on its right.

Of the 5th Corps there were four battalions in Divisional Reserve about Ypres; the Canadian Division had one battalion of Divisional Reserve and the 1st Canadian Brigade in Army Reserve. An Infantry Brigade, which had just been withdrawn after suffering heavy losses on Hill 60, was resting about Vlamernighe.

Following a heavy bombardment, the enemy attacked the French Division at about 5 p.m., using asphyxiating gases for the first time. Aircraft reported that at about 5 p.m. thick yellow smoke had been seen issuing from the German trenches between Langemarck and Bixchoote. The French reported that two simultaneous attacks had been made east of the Ypres-Staden Railway, in which these asphyxiating gases had been employed.

What follows almost defies description. The effect of these poisonous gases was so virulent as to render the whole of the line held by the French Division mentioned above practically incapable of any action at all. It was at first impossible for any one to realize what had actually happened. The smoke and fumes hid everything from sight, and hundreds of men were thrown into a comatose or dying condition, and within an hour the whole position had to be abandoned, together with about fifty guns.

I wish particularly to repudiate any idea of attaching the least blame to the French Division for this unfortunate incident. After all the examples our gallant Allies have shown of dogged and tenacious courage in the many trying situations in which they have been placed throughout the course of this campaign it is quite superfluous for me to dwell on this aspect of the incident and I would only express my firm conviction that if any troops in the world had been able to hold their trenches in the face of such a treacherous and altogether unexpected onslaught, the French Division would have stood firm.

The left flank of the Canadian Division was thus left dangerously exposed to serious attack in flank, and there appeared to be a prospect of their being overwhelmed and of a successful attempt by the Germans to cut off the British troops occupying the salient to the East.

In spite of the danger to which they were exposed the Canadians held their ground with a magnificent display of tenacity and courage; and it is not too much to say that the bearing and conduct of these splendid troops averted a disaster which might have been attended with the most serious consequences.

They were supported with great promptitude by the reserves of the divisions holding the

salient and by a brigade which had been resting in billets.

Throughout the night the enemy's attacks were repulsed, effective counter-attacks were delivered, and at length touch was gained with the French right, and a new line was formed.

The 2nd London Heavy Battery, which had been attached to the Canadian Division, was posted behind the right of the French Division, and, being involved in their retreat, fell into the enemy's hands. It was recaptured by the Canadians in their counter-attack, but the guns could not be withdrawn before the Canadians were again driven back.

During the night I directed the Cavalry Corps and the Northumbrian Division, which was then in general reserve, to move to the west of Ypres, and placed these troops at the disposal of the General Officer Commanding the Second Army. I also directed other reserve troops from the 3rd Corps and the First Army to be held in readiness to meet eventualities.

In the confusion of the gas and smoke the Germans succeeded in capturing the bridge at Steenstraete and some works south of Lizerne, all of which were in occupation by the French.

The enemy having thus established himself to the west of the Ypres Canal, I was somewhat apprehensive of his succeeding in driving a wedge between the French and Belgian troops at this point. I directed, therefore, that some of the reinforcements sent north should be used to support and assist General Putz, should he find difficulty in preventing any further advance of the Germans west of the canal.

At about ten o'clock on the morning of the 23rd, connection was finally insured between the left of the Canadian Division and the French right, about 800 yards east of the canal; but as this entailed the maintenance by the British troops of a much longer line than that which they had held before the attack commenced on the previous night, there were no reserves available for counter-attack until reinforcements, which were ordered tip from the Second Army, were able to deploy to the east of Ypres.

Early on the morning of the 23rd I went to see General Foch, and from him I received a detailed account of what had happened, as reported by General Putz. General Foch informed me that it was his intention to make good the original line and regain the trenches which the French Division had lost. He expressed the desire that I should maintain my present line, assuring me that the original position would be re-established in a few days. General Foch further informed me that he had ordered up large French reinforcements, which were now on their way, and that troops from the North had already arrived to reinforce General Putz.

I fully concurred in the wisdom of the General's wish to re-establish our old line, and agreed to cooperate in the way he desired, stipulating, however, that if the position was not re-established within a limited time I could not allow the British troops to remain in so exposed a situation as that which the action of the previous twenty-four hours had compelled them to occupy.

During the whole of the 23rd the enemy's artillery was very active, and his attacks all along the front were supported by some heavy guns which had been brought down from the coast in the neighbourhood of Ostend.

The loss of the guns on the night of the 22nd prevented this fire from being kept down, and much aggravated the situation. Our positions, however, were well maintained by the vigorous counter-attacks made by the 5th Corps.

During the day I directed two brigades of the 3rd Corps, and the Lahore Division of the Indian Corps, to be moved up to the Ypres area and placed at the disposal of the Second Army.

In the course of these two or three days many circumstances combined to render the situation east of the Ypres Canal very critical and most difficult to deal with.

The confusion caused by the sudden retirement of the French Division, and the necessity for closing up the gap and checking the enemy's advance at all costs, led to a mixing up of units and a sudden shifting of the areas of command, which was quite unavoidable. Fresh units, as they came up from the South, had to be pushed into the firing line in an area swept by artillery fire, which, owing to the capture of the French guns, we were unable to keep down.

All this led to very heavy casualties, and I wish to place on record the deep admiration which I feel for the resource and presence of mind evinced by the leaders actually on the spot.

The parts taken by Major-General Snow and Brigadier-General Hull were reported to me as being particularly marked in this respect.

An instance of this occurred on the afternoon of the 24th, when the enemy succeeded in breaking through the line at St. Julien.

Brigadier-General Hull, acting under the orders of Lieutenant-General Alderson, organized a powerful counter-attack with his own brigade and some of the nearest available units. He was called upon to control, with only his brigade staff, parts of battalions from six separate divisions which were quite new to the ground. Although the attack did not succeed in retaking St. Julien, it effectually checked the enemy's further advance.

It was only on the morning of the 25th that the enemy were able to force back the left of the Canadian Division from the point where it had originally joined the French line.

During the night, and the early morning of the 25th, the enemy directed a heavy attack against the Division at Broodseinde cross-roads, which was supported by a powerful shell fire, but he failed to make any progress.

During the whole of this time the town of Ypres and all the roads to the East and West were uninterruptedly subjected to a violent artillery fire, but in spite of this the supply of both food and ammunition was maintained throughout with order and efficiency.

During the afternoon of the 25th many German prisoners were taken, including some officers. The hand-to-hand fighting was very severe, and the enemy suffered heavy loss.

During the 26th the Lahore Division and a Cavalry Division were pushed up into the fighting line, the former on the right of the French, the latter in support of the 5th Corps. In the afternoon the Lahore Division, in conjunction with the French right, succeeded in pushing the enemy back some little distance toward the north, but their further advance was stopped owing to the continual employment by the enemy of asphyxiating gas.

On the right of the Lahore Division the Northumberland Infantry Brigade advanced against St. Julien and actually succeeded in entering, and for a time occupying, the southern portion of that village. They were, however, eventually driven back, largely owing to gas, and finally occupied a line a short way to the south. This attack was most successfully and gallantly led by Brigadier-General Riddell, who, I regret to say, was killed during the progress of the operation.

Although no attack was made on the south-eastern side of the salient, the troops operating

to the east of Ypres were subjected to heavy artillery fire from this direction, which took some of the battalions, which were advancing north to the attack, in reverse.

Some gallant attempts made by the Lahore Division on the 27th, in conjunction with the French, pushed the enemy further north; but they were partially frustrated by the constant fumes of gas to which they were exposed. In spite of this, however, a certain amount of ground was gained.

The French succeeded in retaking Lizerne, and made some progress at Steenstraate and Het Sas; but no further progress was made toward the recapture of the original line.

Source: *Source Records of the Great War, Vol. III*, ed. Charles F. Horne, *National Alumni 1923*

From: [http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/2ndypres\\_sirjohnfrench.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/2ndypres_sirjohnfrench.htm)

### PSD 5.3

#### Primary Documents - German Statement on the Use of Poison Gas at the Second Battle of Ypres, 25 June 1915



Reproduced below is the official German statement - issued via the German press - released in the wake of international revulsion at the German use of poison gas at the start of the Second Battle of Ypres on 22 April 1915.

The essence of the statement was straightforward: French criticism of Germany's use of poison gas was hypocritical given that France had itself pioneered use of gas some months earlier. To substantiate Germany's claim the text of a French War Ministry memo dated 21 February 1915 - i.e. prior to the opening of 2nd Ypres - was published.

#### **First Gas Attack at Ypres**

#### **Official German Press Report, 25 June 1915**

For every one who has kept an unbiased judgment, the official assertions of the strictly accurate and truthful German military administration will be sufficient to prove the prior use of asphyxiating gases by our opponents.

On April 16th the French were making increased use of asphyxiating bombs. But let whoever still doubts, consider the following instructions for the systematic preparation of this means of warfare by the French, issued by the French War Ministry, dated February 21, 1915:

Ministry of War, February 21, 1915

Remarks concerning shells with stupefying gases:

The so-called shells with stupefying gases that are being manufactured by our central factories contain a fluid which streams forth after the explosion, in the form of vapours that irritate the eyes, nose, and throat.

There are two kinds: hand grenades and cartridges.

Hand Grenades. The grenades have the form of an egg; their diameter in the middle is six centimetres, their height twelve centimetres, their weight 400 grams. They are intended for short distances, and have an appliance for throwing by hand. They are equipped with an inscription giving directions for use. They are lighted with a small bit of material for friction pasted on the directions, after which they must be thrown away. The explosion follows seven seconds after lighting. A small cover of brass and a top screwed on protect the lighted matter. Their purpose is to make untenable the surroundings of the place where they burst. Their effect is often considerably impaired

by a strong rising wind.

Cartridges. The cartridges have a cylindrical form. Their diameter is twenty-eight millimetres, their height ten centimetres, their weight 200 grams. They are intended for use at longer distances than can be negotiated with the hand grenades. With an angle of twenty-five degrees at departure, they will carry 230 metres. They have central lighting facilities and are fired with ignition bullet guns. The powder lights a little internal ignition mass by means of which the cartridges are caused to explode five seconds after leaving the rifle. The cartridges have the same purpose as the hand grenades but because of their very small amount of fluid they must be fired in great numbers at the same time. Precautionary measures to be observed in attacks on trenches into which shells with asphyxiating gases have been thrown:- The vapours spread by means of the shells with asphyxiating gases are not deadly, at least when small quantities are used and their effect is only momentary. The duration of the effect depends upon the atmospheric conditions. It is advisable therefore to attack the trenches into which such hand grenades have been thrown and which the enemy has nevertheless not evacuated before the vapours are completely dissipated. The attacking troops, moreover, must wear protective goggles and in addition be instructed that the unpleasant sensations in nose and throat are not dangerous and involve no lasting disturbance.

Here we have a conclusive proof that the French in their State workshops manufactured shells with asphyxiating gases fully half a year ago at least.

The number must have been so large that the French War Ministry at last found itself obliged to issue written instructions concerning the use of this means of warfare. What hypocrisy when the same people grow "indignant" because the Germans much later followed them on the path they had pointed out!

Very characteristic is the twist of the French official direction: "The vapours spread by the shells with asphyxiating gases are not deadly, at least not when used in small quantities." It is precisely this limitation that contains the unequivocal confession that the French asphyxiating gases work with deadly effect when used in large quantities.

Source: *Source Records of the Great War, Vol. III*, ed. Charles F. Horne, *National Alumni* 1923

From: [http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/2ndypres\\_germanstatement.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/2ndypres_germanstatement.htm)

**PSD: 6.1**

WW1 Starts – How Europe Spiraled Into The Great War – THE GREAT WAR – Week 1  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FgaL0xIazk&list=PLB2vhKMBjSxMK8YeIHj6VS6w3KxuKsMvT>