

ARMIES AND ARMAMENT CENTRES, 1914

Triple Alliance
 Triple Entente
 Circles indicate relative sizes of armies

B.E.F. 8 Divisions
 T.A. 28 Divs.
 plus Empire forces

62 Infantry Divisions
 10 Cavalry Divs.
 All trained to attack in the best tradition of Napoleon

50 divisions plus 32 in reserve
 Superbly trained and equipped

54 Divisions but efficiency reduced by numerous nationalities and languages

114 Infantry Divisions
 36 Cavalry Divisions
 Poorly trained and badly equipped

Small and totally unprepared for war

One cynical Frenchman observed that the Italian army would "rush to the aid of the victors."

Comparison between different organisations of infantry divisions

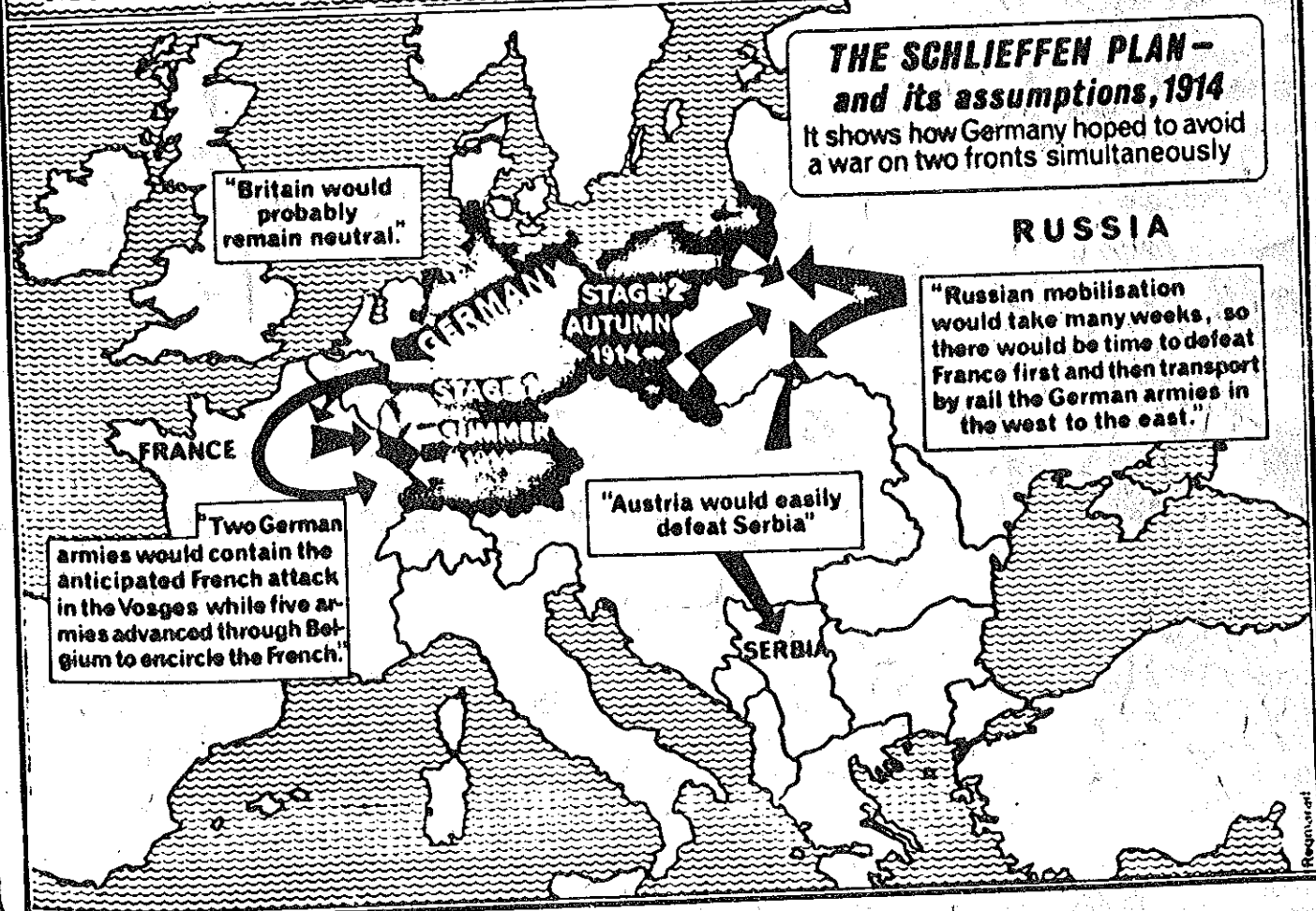
BRITISH DIVISION:
 18,000 men, 5,000 horses, 76 guns, 24 machine guns
GERMAN DIVISION:
 17,500 men, 4,000 horses, 72 guns, 24 machine guns
FRENCH DIVISION:
 15,000 men, 5,000 horses, 36 guns, 24 machine guns

NAVIES AND NAVAL BASES, 1914

German naval base
 Allied naval base
 Triple Alliance
 Triple Entente
 (Italy did not fight on Germany's side in 1914, and later joined the Allies)

TYPE	BR.	GER.
Dreadnoughts	20	13
Older Battleships	40	22
Battlecruisers	8	5
Cruisers	58	7
Light Cruisers	44	34
Destroyers & MTBs	300	144
Submarines*	73	28

*Notice that even here Britain had a marked numerical superiority



... t e k s h f o m a n e d w e r e d m-

BLOCKADE AND COUNTER-BLOCKADE, 1914-1918



Comparative losses at Jutland

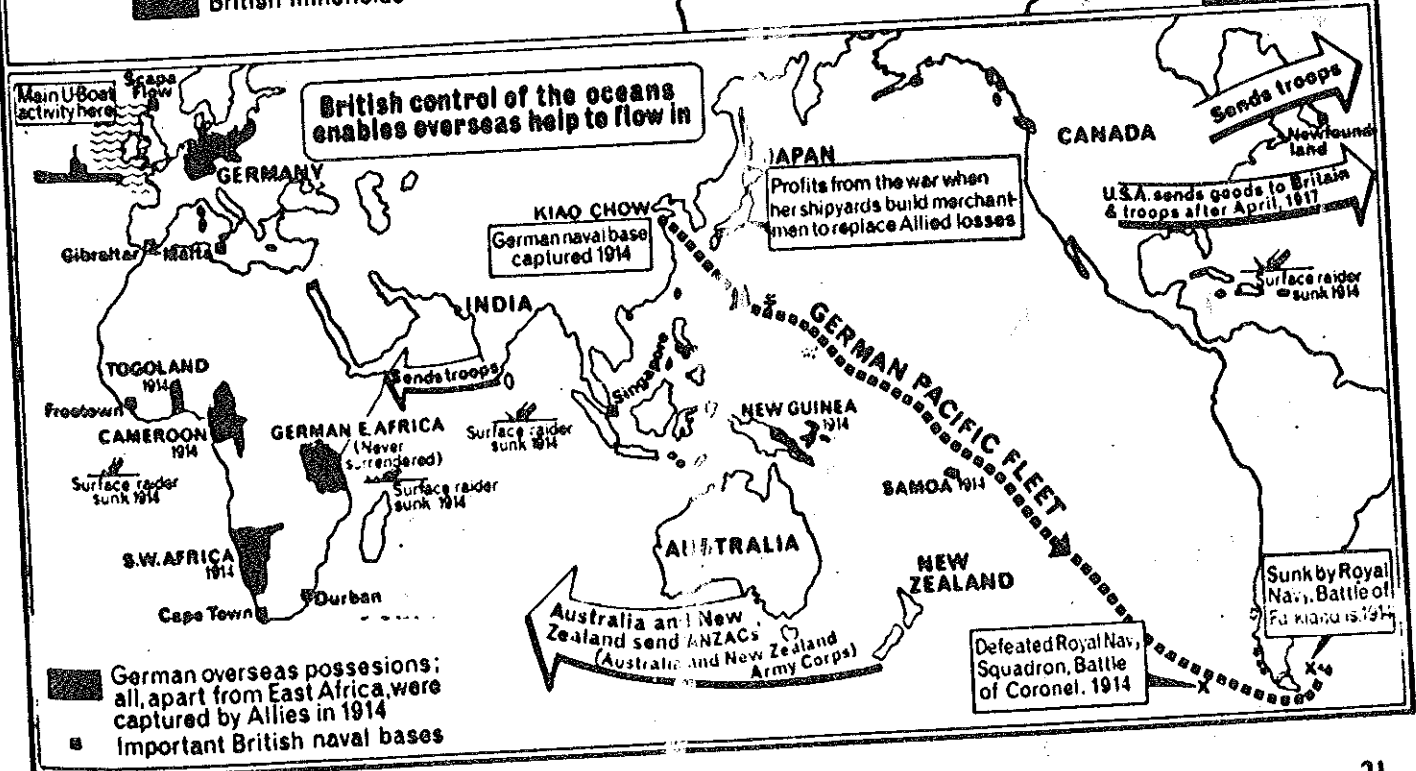
Casualties (killed) :-
BRITISH 6000 GERMAN 2500

Ships sunk :- BR. GER.

Pre-Dreadnaughts	1	1
Battlecruisers	3	1
Cruisers	3	4
Destroyers	6	5

CONVOYS FROM NORTH AMERICA



 German minefields
 British minefields



British control of the oceans enables overseas help to flow in

JAPAN
 Profits from the war when her shipyards build merchantmen to replace Allied losses

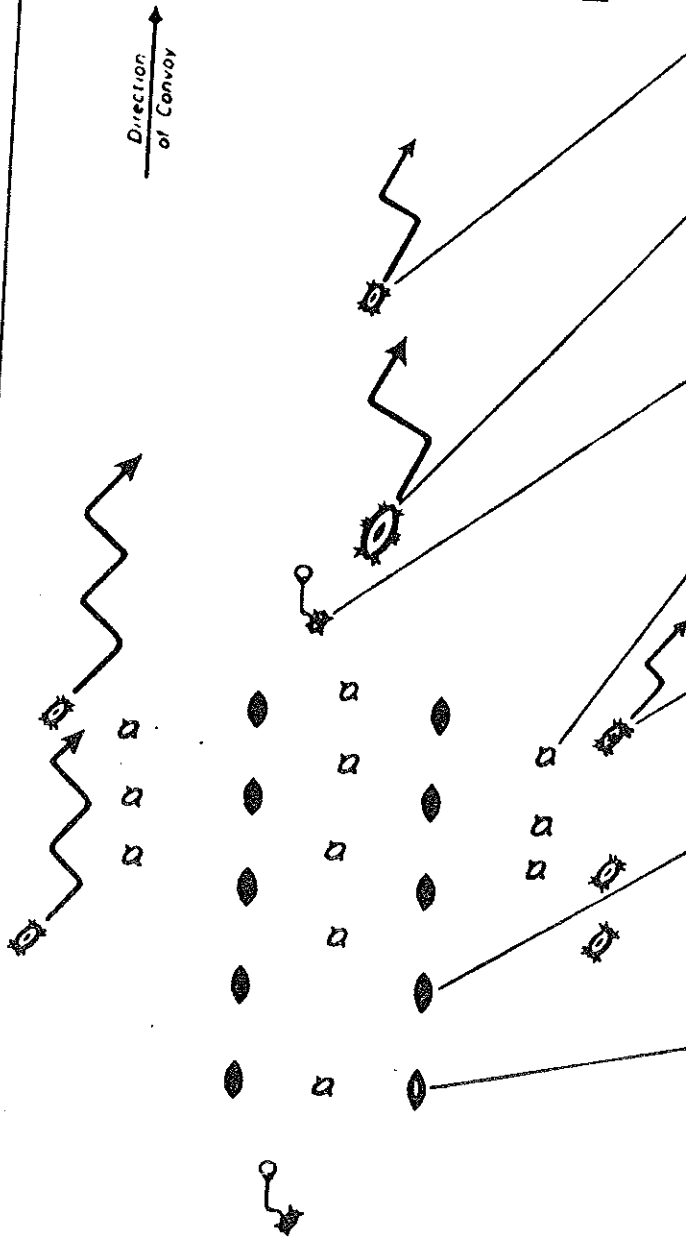
CANADA
 Sends troops
 U.S.A. sends goods to Britain & troops after April, 1917

 German overseas possessions: all, apart from East Africa, were captured by Allies in 1914
 Important British naval bases

Defeated Royal Navy Squadron, Battle of Coronel, 1914

Sunk by Royal Navy, Battle of Falkland is 1914

A TYPICAL CONVOY 1917-1918



DESTROYER
with equipment which could detect the sound of a submarine's engine

CRUISER
with the Commander of the Convoy, directing its speed and course

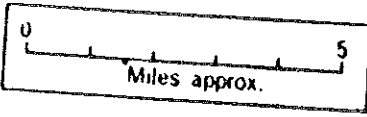
TORPEDO BOAT
with an aerial balloon in whose basket observers could look down on the convoy, and detect underwater submarines and torpedo tracks

ARMED TRAWLERS
giving close protection in the event of attack

DESTROYERS
flanking the convoy, and following a zigzag course in order to mislead submarines

MERCHANT SHIPS
their hulls painted with varying camouflage designs. Convoys were made up of merchant ships able to make similar speeds

TROOPSHIPS
were also taken in convoy. When the United States troopship, the "Tuscania" was torpedoed in February 1918, the convoy of which she was part rescued 2,187 of the 2,397 troops on board



Using the convoy system, 1,100,000 United States troops crossed the Atlantic Ocean in British ships 1917-1918. Of this considerable total, only 637 were drowned

THE EASTERN FRONT 1914 - 1917



- RUSSIA**
- ← Russian attacks, 1914
 - Offensives by the Central Powers, 1915-1917
 - ↗ Allied attempts to land on the Gallipoli peninsula
 - ▭ Territory occupied by Central Powers by end of 1917

Turkey straddled the entrance to the Black Sea. Britain and France wanted to defeat the Turks, break through into the Black Sea and send war aid to Russia

Unsuccessful landings by British, French and ANZAC troops in the Dardanelles area 1915-1916

SIGNIFICANCE OF BREST LITOVSK

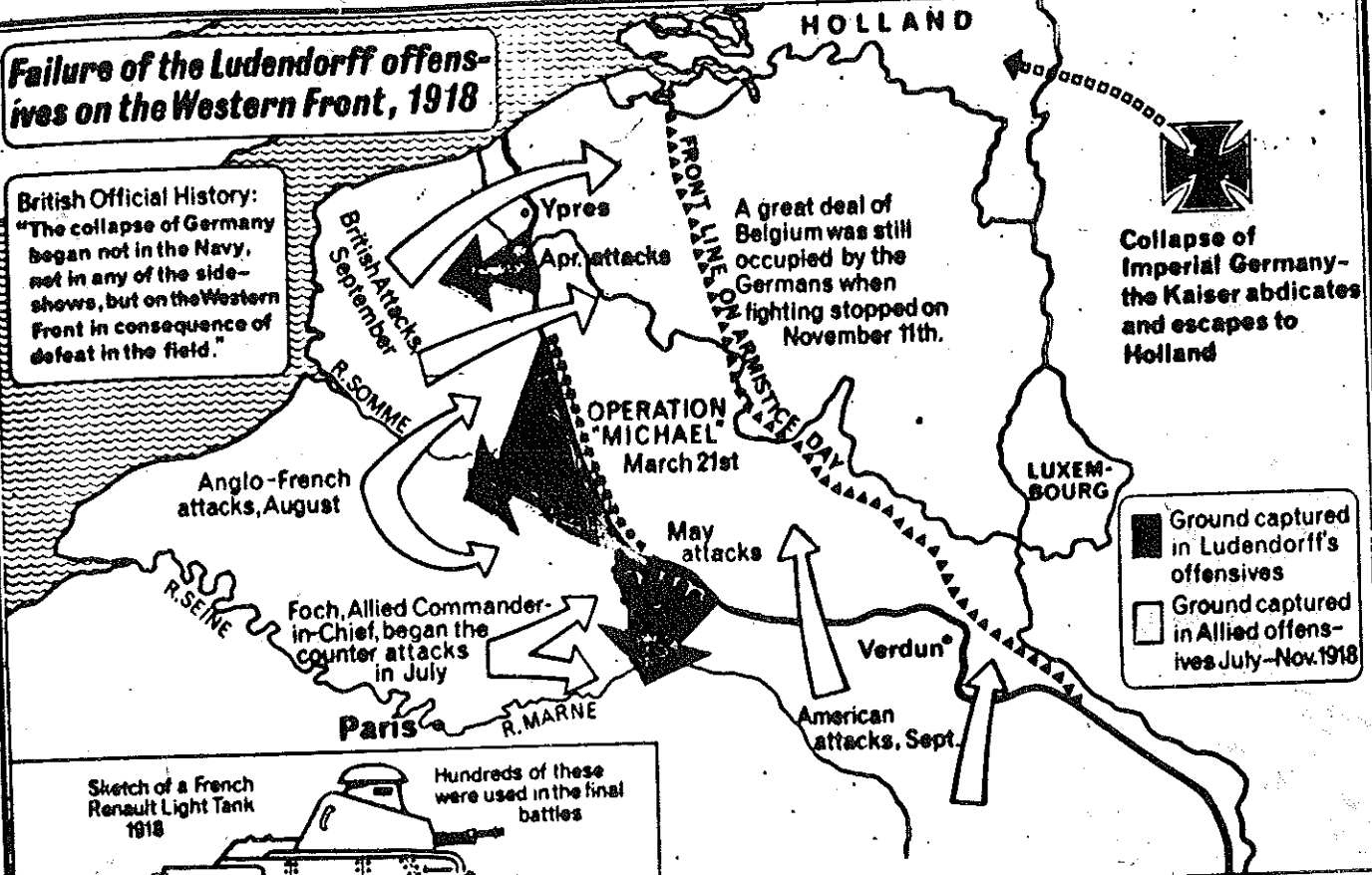


By the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, Russia ceded this territory to Germany and allowed German troops to enter and occupy including the rich wheat lands of the Ukraine


- ① German troops harvested the crops of the Ukraine in 1918
- ② German front-line units were transferred to the Western front

Failure of the Ludendorff offensives on the Western Front, 1918

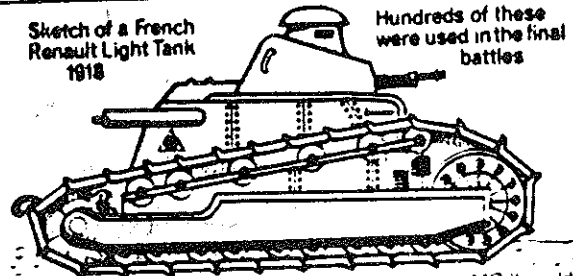
British Official History:
 "The collapse of Germany began not in the Navy, not in any of the side-shows, but on the Western Front in consequence of defeat in the field."



A great deal of Belgium was still occupied by the Germans when fighting stopped on November 11th.


Collapse of Imperial Germany-
 the Kaiser abdicates and escapes to Holland

Sketch of a French Renault Light Tank 1918



Hundreds of these were used in the final battles

Manned by a crew of 2, armed with an 8mm Hotchkiss MG, it could travel at 6mph, and cross a trench 8ft wide. 13ft 6ins in length.

THE DEFEAT OF GERMANY'S PARTNERS 1918

