

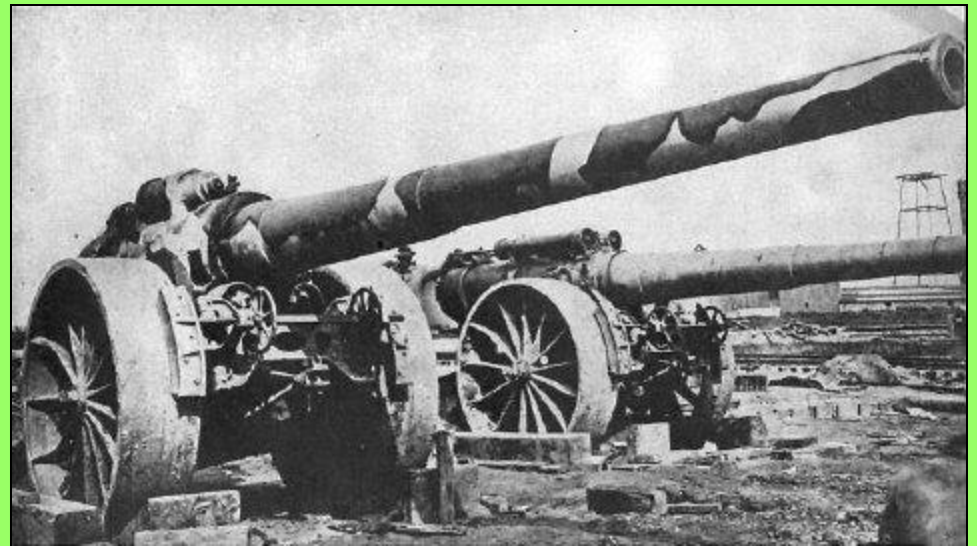
Technology and Weapons in WWI

- The Industrial Revolution and new technology resulted in advanced weapons
- Factories used mass production to make guns, shells, and bombs faster than ever
- These weapons made fighting much more deadly than it had been before



Technology and Weapons in WWI

- Machine guns became widely used
- Long-range artillery fired shells miles away



Technology and Weapons in WWI

- Poison gases were used for the first time
- Gas masks were used to protect soldiers



Technology and Weapons in WWI

- Flame throwers blasted fire at advancing troops or were thrown into “foxholes”
- Submarines attacked ships at sea



Technology and Weapons in WWI

- Airplanes fought battles in the sky for the first time
- Tanks rolled over bombed-out battlefields



Warfare Strategy of WWI

- Quickly after war broke out, both sides realized that there would not be a “quick victory”
- Because of the way alliances were arranged, a two-front war emerged
- A front is a line where two opposing armies face each other
- On the western front, troops engaged in a style of fighting called trench warfare
- In trench warfare, soldiers fight from two lines of ditches



Warfare Strategy of WWI

- The western front was the battle zone between France and Germany
- On the eastern front, armies fought conventional battles

Aircraft can warn of the build-up of enemy troops before an attack



Concrete block house for a machine-gun

Long-range artillery is placed about 10 km behind the front line. These guns fire at advancing enemy troops

Reserve trench

Support trench

Front-line trench

Barbed wire: metres deep and an impassable obstacle for any troops able to reach it

Communication trenches allow reserves to be brought forward without exposing them to enemy fire


No Man's Land (the stretch of land between the trenches of the opposing sides) has already been churned up by shell fire. In wet weather it becomes a mass of mud, making it even harder for troops to cross

Front-line dug-outs provide protection but not against a direct hit from an artillery shell

A deep dug-out. German ones could be 15 m below ground and too well constructed to be damaged by shell fire

PROBLEMS FACING ATTACKING TROOPS



 World War I. The Central Powers were in the unenviable position of fighting wars on two major fronts. The inset shows the stabilized Western Front of trench warfare in northern France and Belgium.

Human Cost of WWI

- As a result of the more lethal weapons and new fighting styles, human casualties reached into the millions
- A casualty is someone who has been injured or killed
- Over 8 million military personnel died during World War I
- Civilians, which are non-military citizens, accounted for 7 million deaths

Life in the Trenches Article





“Man your posts!”

Put your book bags in the blue seat of your desks and have a seat on the floor next to your desk

What was life like in the trenches?

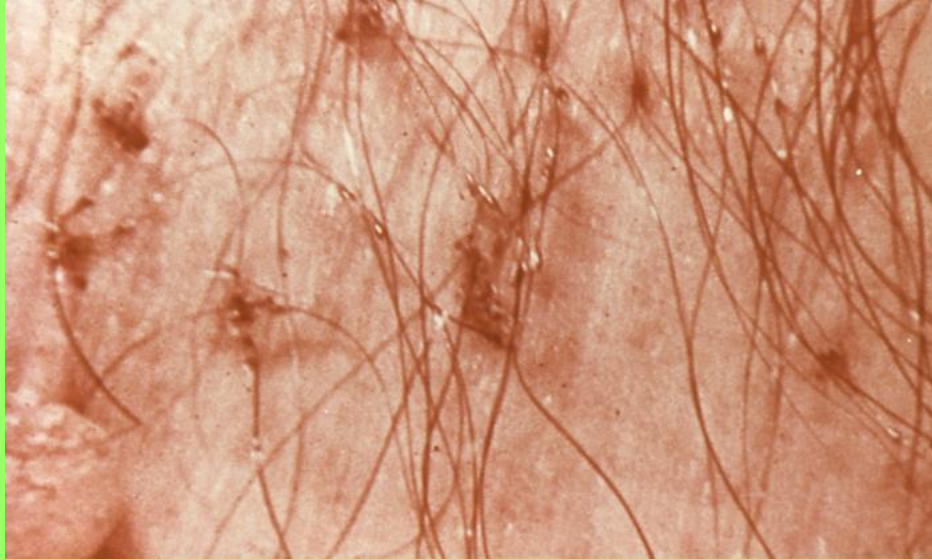
During Times of Battle

- Watch out for heavy artillery! It can come at any time!
- Don't peek into "No-Man's Land!"
You might get shot by a sniper!

RATS!!!!!!!



LICE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



FROGS, SLUGS, AND BEETLES!!!!



TRENCH FOOT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



**Why did so many people
die?**

WWI - Letter Home

Imagine that you are a soldier in World War I. Write a half-page letter to a loved one back at home that explains your experiences in this war. Possible questions to address are:

1. What was life like in the trenches?

2. Did a lot of people die? Why?

3. What do you do on a day-to-day basis?

4. What are your feelings?