"Ending the War to End All Wars"



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NOVEMBER 11, 1918

What is an armistice?

 A temporary suspension of hostilities by agreement between opponents, a truce.



"All the News That's Fit to Print."

The New York Times.

ARMISTICE SIGNED, END OF THE WAR! BERLIN SEIZED BY REVOLUTIONISTS; NEW CHANCELLOR BEGS FOR ORDER: OUSTED KAISER FLEES TO HOLLAND

Hindenburg Also Believed to be Among Those in His Party.

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The State Department in Washington Made the Announcement at 2:45 o'Clock.

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Terms Include Withdrawal from Alsace-Lorraine, Disarming and Demobilization of Army and New, and Occupation of Strategic Naval and Military Points.

A. Th. Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Monday, Nov. 11, 2:48 A. The armistice between Germany, on the one hard, and the allied Governments and the United States, on the other, has been signed.

The State Department amounced at 2:45

Armistice Fast Facts

- Signed on November 11th
 1918 and went into effect at
 11am.'
 - "The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month."
- Signed by Allied military personnel and Germany civilian and military personnel
- Took place on a train car in the Compiègne Forest





Armistice Terms

- Termination of military hostilities
- Immediate removal of all German troops from France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Alsace-Lorraine.
- Removal of all German troops from territory on the west side of the Rhine plus the occupation of a few German cities by the Allies on the east side of the Rhine
- Surrender of [German war] material

- Removal of all German troops at the eastern front to German territory as it was on 1 August 1914
- Renouncement of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk with Russia and of the Treaty of Bucharest with Romania
- Internment of the German fleet
- The armistice would last 36 days and would then have to be ratified again.

After the Armistice



- 1. Supreme Allied Commander Ferdinand Foch (France)
- 2. Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss (Britain)
- 3. General Maxime Weygrand (Britain)
- 4. Rear Admiral George P.W. Hope (Britain)
- Royal Navy Captain JPRMarriott (Britain)
- **6. General Desticker** (France)
- 7. Captain le Mierry (France)
- 8. Commander Riedinger (France)
- 9. Interpreter Lapreche (France)

French Reaction



American Reaction



British Reaction





German Reaction



"A nation of seventy millions can suffer,
but it cannot die."

~ Matthias Erzberger of Germany after signing the Armistice

German, Remember!



What Happens Now?

The Tasks of Peace



-From The New York Tribune.

Now All She Has to Do Is to Wash the Dishes, Feed and Quiet the Children, Straighten Up the House and Pay the Bill

Paris Peace Conference

- A meeting of the Allied Powers to set the peace terms for Germany and other defeated nations.
- It involved diplomats from 29 countries, but it was lead by the "Big Four"
 - US President Woodrow Wilson
 - British Prime Minister David Lloyd George
 - French Premier Georges Clemenceau
 - Italian Prime Minister Vittorio Orlando
- Treaty of Versailles
 - Determined the fate of post-WWI Germany

Paris Peace Conference

Treaties prepared:

Treaty of Saint-Germain

Dissolved the Austro-Hungarian Empire into various independent nations

Treaty of Sèvres

Partitioned the Ottoman Empire into various zones of Allied occupation

Treaty of Neuilly-sur-Seine

Forced Bulgaria to cede territory to various countries

Treaty of Trianon

Reduced the size of Hungary and ceded territory to various countries

German Reactions to the Treaty of Versailles

- The Germans hated everything about the treaty:
 - They were angry that they had not been allowed to negotiate.
 - 'Deutsche Zeitung', a German newspaper, vowed: "We will never stop until we win back what we deserve."
 - Count Brockdorff-Rantzau, leader of the German delegation at Versailles said Article 231- the war-guilt clause - was: "a lie". Germany officially denied the war-guilt clause in 1927.
 - There was a revolution (the Kapp Putsch) against the treaty in Berlin in 1920.
 - Germany hated reparations. It had to be made to pay in 1921, defaulted in 1923 and eventually Hitler refused to pay altogether.

British Reactions to the Treaty

- Britain gained some German colonies and the German navy was destroyed but:
 - Lloyd George thought the treaty was too harsh, saying: "We shall have to fight another war again in 25 years time."
- The British diplomat Harold Nicolson called it: "neither just nor wise" and the people who made it: "stupid".
- The economist John Maynard Keynes prophesied that reparations would ruin the economy of Europe.

French Reactions to the Treaty

- France got Alsace-Lorraine, German colonies, harsh reparations and a tiny German army but:
 - Many French people wanted an independent, not a demilitarized, Rhineland.
- Most French people did not think the League of Nations would protect them against Germany.

American Reaction to the Treaty

- Woodrow Wilson got the League of Nations, and new nation-states were set up in Eastern Europe but:
 - Wilson thought the treaty was far too harsh.
 - Self-determination proved impossible to implement -Yugoslavia for example did not survive as a united country, and Czechoslovakia was annexed in stages by the Nazis in 1938 and 1939.
 - Many Americans did not want to get involved in Europe, and in 1920 the American Senate refused to sign the Treaty of Versailles, or join the League of Nations.