

The Russian Revolution

1917 - 1918

Marching Toward War

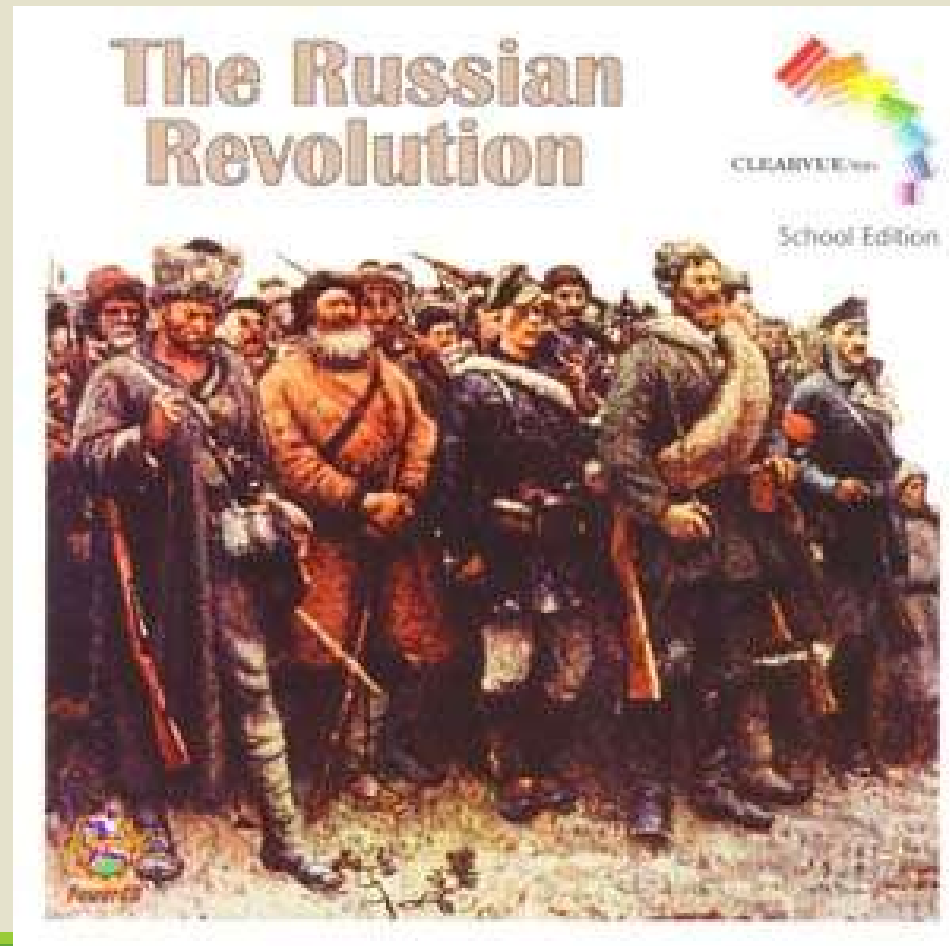
- **Main Idea**

- *In Europe, military buildup, nationalistic feelings, and rival alliances set the stage for a continental war.*

- **Why It Matters Now**

- *Ethnic conflict in the Balkan region, which helped start the war, continued to erupt in that area in the 1990's.*

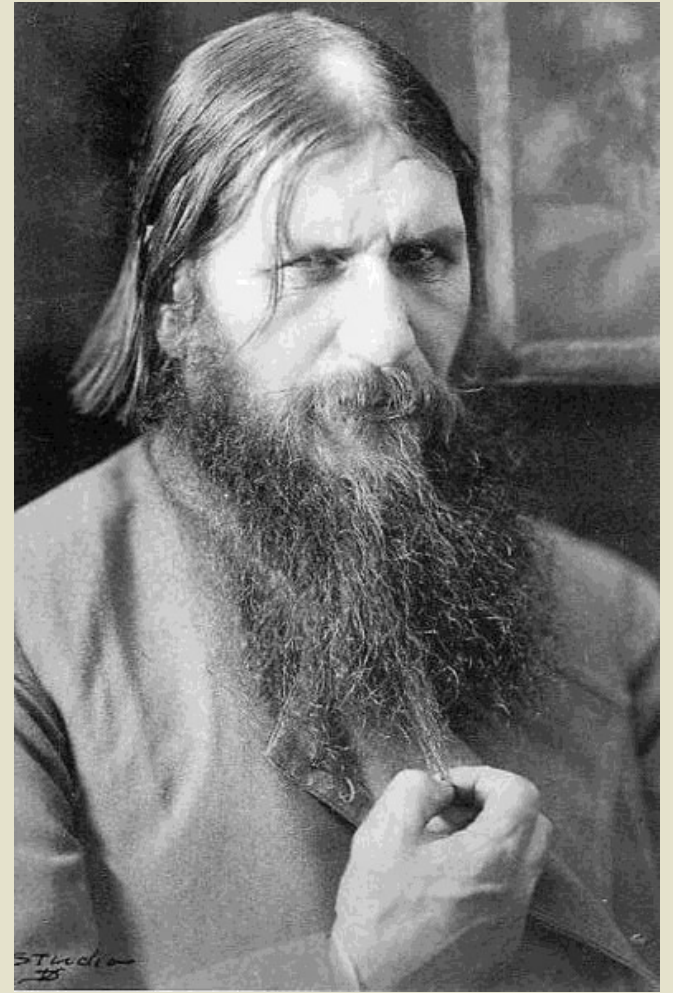
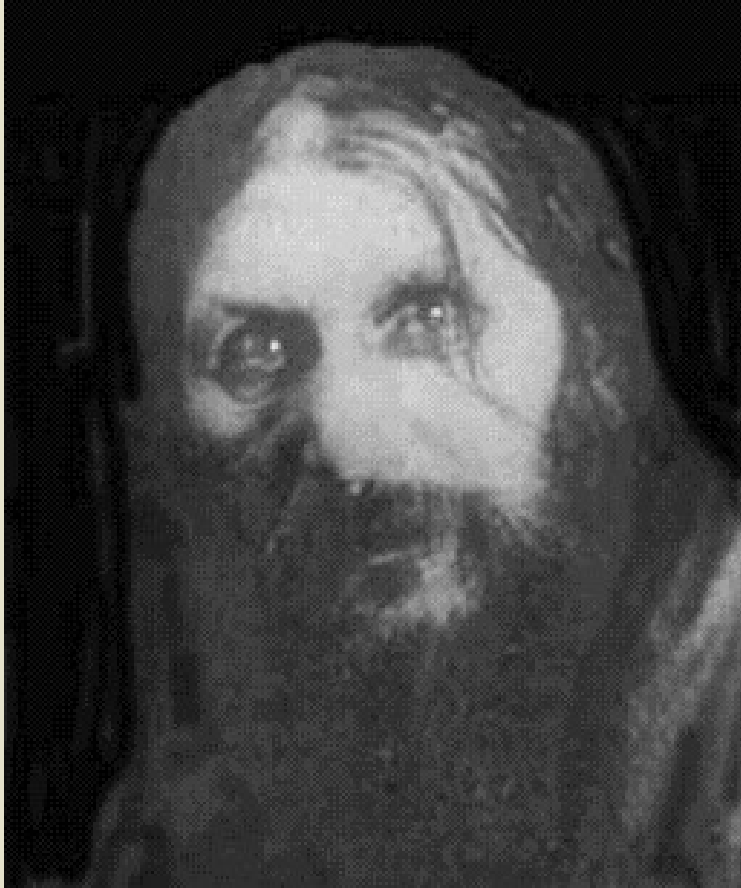
The Russian Revolution



World War I in Russia

- Russia honors alliances and joins World War I
- Tsar Nicholas II takes personal command of the army
- Strange monk, Rasputin, gains power with tsarina back at the court
- Russian nobles finally plot and murder Rasputin
- Army suffers many military defeats
- Results
 - *Discontent of soldiers, peasants, and workers*
 - *Russia suffers most devastating losses in World War I*





The terrible losses due to Russia's involvement in WWI leads to the Russian government being overthrown and Czar Nicholas being forced to step down.

- A provisional government is established
 - *Stays in the war*
- In October, The Bolschevik Revolution began
- Bolscheviks were radical Marxist revolutionaries
 - *Soviet councils armed themselves*
 - *Stormed the Winter Palace and took over the government*
- Vladimir Lenin (former leader of the Moscow soviet) bows out of WWI, signs peace treaty with Germany



Revolution in Russia

The Bolshevik Revolution

- Lenin and the Bolsheviks gained control of the soviet in the city of Petrograd and several other major Russian cities.
- In November 1917, workers stormed the palace, took over the government offices, and arrested the leaders.
- Lenin ordered that all farmland be distributed among the peasants and gave control of factories to the workers.



The Bolshevik Revolution

The Bolshevik Revolution

- The Bolshevik government also signed a truce with Germany to stop all fighting.
- Over the next three years, the Bolsheviks (Red Army) fought a civil war with the White Army for control of the country.
- In the end, the Red Army crushed the opposition, but 14 million Russians died during the conflict.



The Bolshevik Revolution

Lenin Restores Order

- Over the next several years, Lenin's New Economic Policy allowed the Russian economy to slowly recover.
- In 1922, the country was named the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).
- The Bolsheviks renamed their party the Communist Party.
- The Communist Party held all the power and Lenin had established a dictatorship.



The Bolshevik Revolution

Stalin Becomes Dictator

- After Lenin's death in 1924, Joseph Stalin maneuvered himself into control of the Communist Party. By 1928, he was in total command.



Totalitarianism

By ridding himself of all opposition, Stalin worked to establish total control of all aspects of life in the Soviet Union. He controlled the government, the economy, and many aspects of citizens' private lives.



Totalitarianism

A Government of Total Control

- Totalitarianism – a government that takes total, centralized, state control over every aspect of public and private life.
- Totalitarian governments use several tactics to dominate an entire nation.



Police Terror	Indoctrination
Propaganda and Censorship	Religious and Ethnic Persecution

Totalitarianism

Stalin Builds a Totalitarian State

- In 1934, Stalin turned against members of the Communist Party. He launched the Great Purge, a campaign of terror directed at eliminating anyone who threatened his power. Estimates put the death toll between 8 and 13 million.

