CHAPTER 21: America and the Great War 1914–1920

Visual Review

The Origins of Global Conflict
National rivalries lead to global war.

A War of Attrition
Old fashioned tactics and new technology lead to stalemate.

America’s Response to War
Despite an official declaration of neutrality, the U.S. government establishes ties with the Allies.

The Shock of War

AMERICA AND THE GREAT WAR, 1914–1920

The Path to War, 1914–1917

Conflicting Visions of National Security
People and groups disagree on U.S. participation in war.

U.S. Mediation, the Election of 1916, and Challenges to Neutrality
The United States tries to mediate peace.

Intervention in Latin America
President Wilson commits military power in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Decision for War
U.S. Congress declares war after naval attacks by Germany.

Mobilizing People and Ideas
Government builds enthusiasm for war.

Controlling Dissent
Congress passes laws that curb speech and redefine treason.
The United States is gripped by a growing fear of communism. Nations meet to conclude the peace treaty. The U.S. Senate fails to ratify the Versailles Treaty.

Women and African Americans face special challenges and opportunities during wartime.

American troops encounter hardships and grueling trench warfare.

The Czar’s overthrow in Russia and events within Germany complicate the war effort.

A global pandemic ravages the world resulting in a huge loss of life.

The federal government creates new regulatory agencies to mobilize the economy.

Women and African Americans face special challenges and opportunities during wartime.

The War Department promotes enlistment.

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