WORLD WAR I

1914 – 1918

The War To End All Wars

World War I was also known as the Great War and The War To End All Wars. It was a global conflict that began in Europe in 1914 and lasted until 1918. The war was fought between the Allied Powers: Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Portugal, Greece, Serbia, Romania and the United States and the Central Powers; Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire.
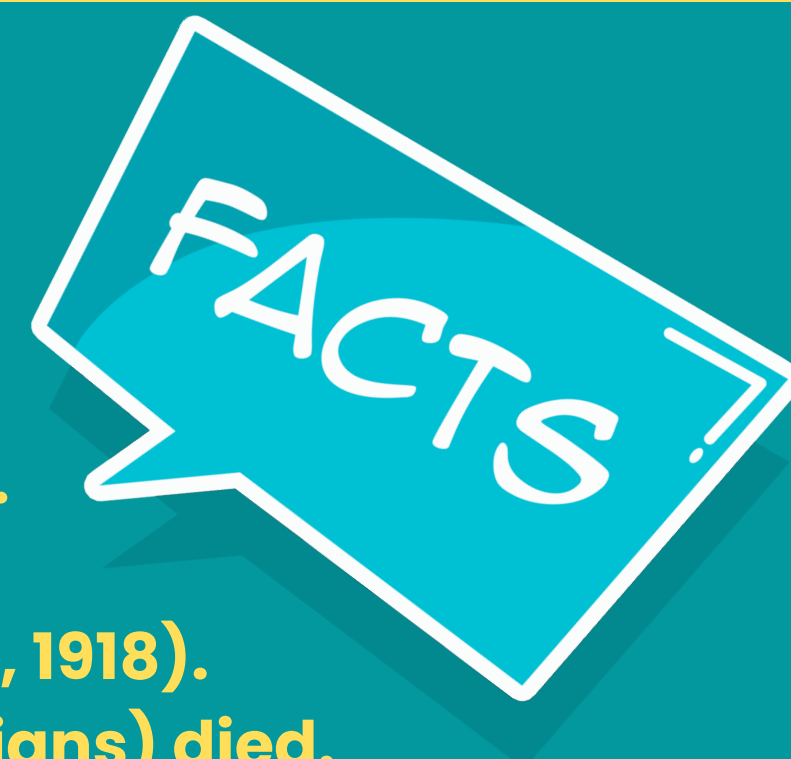
What started WWI ?

On the 28th June 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne and his wife, Duchess of Hohenberg are assassinated by Gavrilo Princip, a Bosnian Serb nationalist. A month later, Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia and Europe rapidly descends into chaos.
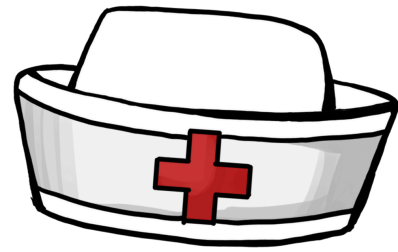
AUSTRIA–HUNGARY

Sarajevo

Facts About WWI

- The war started on 28th July, 1914.
- The war ended on 11th November, 1918.
- The war was fought against the Allies and the Central Powers.
- It was a war of destruction.
- The War ended when Germany signed the Armistice (11th Nov, 1918).
- It is estimated that about 20 million people (soldiers and civilians) died.
- The last battle fought in WWI was the Battle of Mons.
- The first convoy of Australian and New Zealand soldiers destined for the war in Europe left Albany on 1st November 1914.
- The first tank to be used in action was invented by the British –named Mark I, in 1916.
- Soldiers did not wear metal helmets in 1914. The French were the first to introduce them in 1915.

FACTS

Nurses in WWI

By the end of WWI, about 90,000 women from the British Empire, had volunteered as nurses. More than 3,000 were Australians and about 550 were from New Zealand. Just like the men, the nurses were decorated for bravery with eight (8) receiving the Military Medal during WWI.
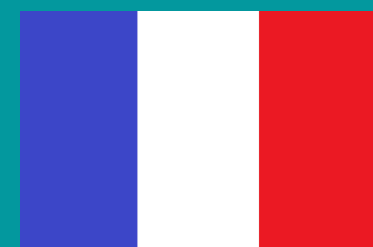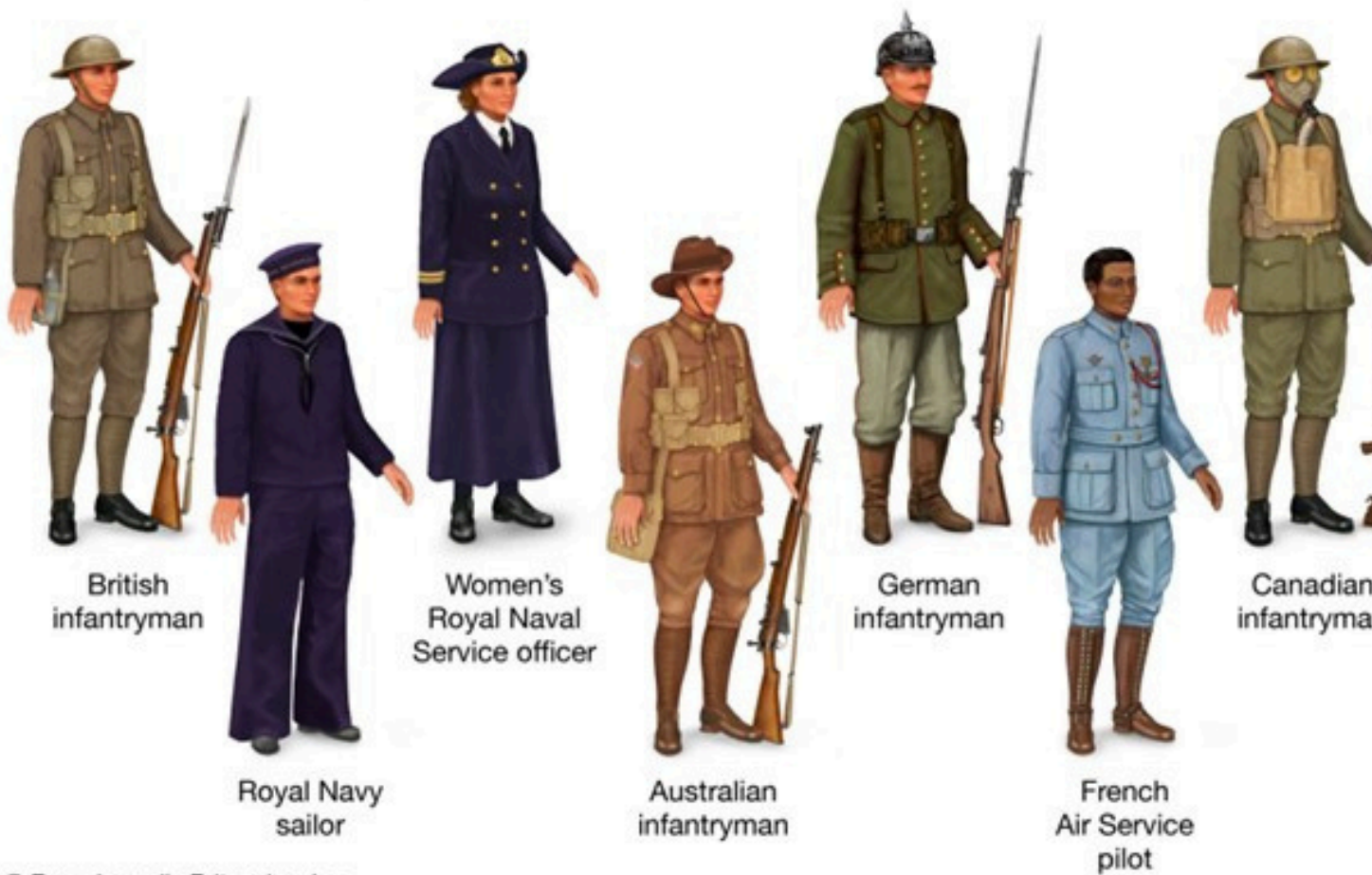
WORLD CASUALTIES

40 million

There were 20 million deaths and 21 million wounded. The total number of deaths includes 9.7 million military personnel and about 10 million civilians.

The Two Sides in WWI

Over 30 nations declared war between 1914 and 1918. The majority joined on the side of the Allies. The Allies' original members were the British Empire, France, and Russia. Later Italy and United States joined. The Australia and New Zealanders fell under the British Empire. The other side was known as the Central Powers which was Germany, Austro-Hungarian and the Ottoman Empire.

Seven soldiers in World War I

British infantryman

Women's Royal Naval Service officer

German infantryman

Canadian infantryma

Royal Navy sailor

Australian infantryman

French Air Service pilot

© Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

The War Lasted
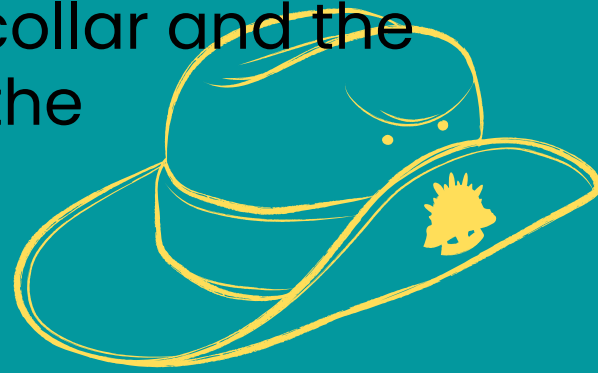
4 Years **3** Months

13 Days

Why do we wear poppies?

The reason poppies are used to remember those who give their lives in battle is because they are the flowers which grew on the battlefields after World War One ended.

Australian Infantry Uniform

The Australian service dress jacket was made of Australian wool and its loose fit and pleated back gave the soldiers more movement. The four large pockets were very useful and the uniform was made with double thick cloth down the back where the soldiers pack rubbed against. The pants were corduroy worn with wool wrap puttees 'legwarmers'. The slouch hat is the most distinctive part of the uniform. The "Rising Sun" badge on the collar and the fold of the slouch hat was distinctive to the Australians.

Australian infantryman

© 2014 Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

The Anzacs

The Anzac legend was born on 25th April 1915, when some 16,000 soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZACs) landed on the shores of Gallipoli. **ANZAC** stands for **A**ustralian and **N**ew **Z**ealand **A**rmy **C**orp. Today, Anzac' represents all men and women who serve Australia and New Zealand.

MORE THAN

50,000

More than 50,000 Australians served at Gallipoli.

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

61,678 Number of Australian soldiers that died in WWI.

155,000 Number of Australian soldiers wounded in WWI.

NUMBER OF

Australians served

More than 416,000 Australians enlisted during WWI, with more than 330,000 serving overseas. Many served in Gallipoli, the Western Front and the Middle East.

Anzac Biscuits

Before Anzac biscuits were sweet and golden, they were called 'hard tacks' an oatmeal biscuit, rock hard and sent to the Australian soldiers at Gallipoli. After the Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed at Gallipoli on 25th April 1915, they were named ANZAC Biscuits.