

## Lesson #69 U.S. History

### The Great War 1915

#### Battles of Ypres

1<sup>st</sup> Battle October to November 1914

2<sup>nd</sup> Battle April 22, 1915

Germans used chlorine gas for 1<sup>st</sup> Time a greenish – white mist open gap to coast filled by British & Canadians before Germans reacted. They had use it in January 3, 1915 but weather was so cold the gas froze instead of vaporizing.

Then in December 1915 Germans used Phosgene gas for 1<sup>st</sup> time

The Gas was developed by Fritz Haber (a Jewish chemist) for IG Farben Company to make up shortage of nitrates for explosives that came from South America.



Gassed by John Sargent

January 19, German Zeppelin bombs England

British plan to hit the “soft underbelly” of the Central Powers at the Dardanelles at Gallipoli  
April 25 landings begin and waited to climb the cliffs until unloaded. Mustafa Kemal rush to the heights and held the Allied troops on the beach with “I don’t order you to attack, I order you to die.”

May 23, Italy enter the War after being given promises of territory at end of war.

July Germans lose Southwest Africa

September German troop pushing into Russia take Brest-Litovsk

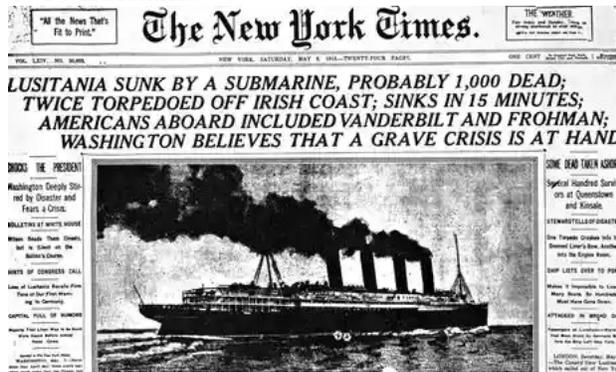
October the Battle of Loos the British use Gas for the first time.

December 19 British evacuated Gallipoli after 259 days and 500,000 men lost. Last man off the beach was at 3:45 a.m. January 9, 1916

Neither side was prepared for a long war 1915 is the building supplies for the real bloodbath of 1916.



## 1915 Lusitania



Cunard Shipping Lines on May 12, 1913 special shell racks installed along with revolving gun-rings mounted on rear deck for 2 six-inch guns and 4 six-inch guns along the sides.

August 8, 1914 the guns were installed, and the ship was registered as an Armed Auxiliary Cruiser with Admiralty

In 1914 Winston Churchill wrote to the Board of Trade “We need to entangle neutral ships with German submarines, and the ships we most need to involve are the Americans” British ships were ordered to sail under neutral flags in British waters. The Cunard Line flew under the American flag.

December 23, 1914 British warships told to fire on U-boats under a “White Flag”

February 27, 1915 Churchill order “survivors should be taken or shot – whichever is the most convenient.

Captain Turner of the Lusitania told not to proceed at “full speed” to use only 3 of the 4 engines because of fuel shortage

Before the ship set sail the German Government representative place a notice in the newspapers warning of the danger of ailing on the Lusitania – that it would be sailing in a combat zone.

The warship that was to escort the Lusitania was ordered to Queenstown because it had no torpedo protection.

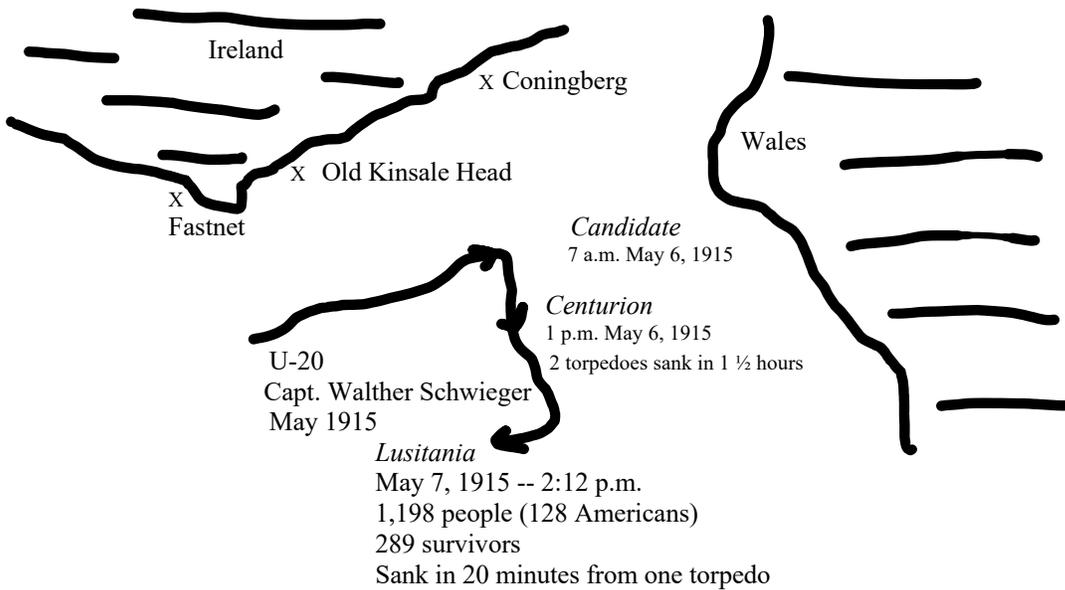
The Government did not notify the Lusitania of this or to take a different route.

On May 7, 1915 at 11 a.m. the Admiralty sent a signal to all British ships of U-boat activity in the Southern Irish Sea. “Make certain Lusitania get this”

The Battle of Gallipoli was a major concern in May of 1915

May 7, 1915 Churchill was in France and Admiral Fisher was at home

Events up to the Sinking and the Report after



Admiral Coke order the HMS Juno to pick-up survivors then Admiral Fisher order it back for fear of a torpedo attack against a destroyer? Of the 289 survivors statements only 13 were made public. The British navy removed survivors from civilian ship only minutes out port to control information.

The official report did not mention the weapons that had been armed on the *Lusitania* and instead listed the ship as unarmed. The ship also had ammunication on board. Admiral Fisher sent a message that the bodies selected for inquest not to have been mutilated (damage) by means that we do not wish to be made public. British reported that the ship was hit by two torpedoes

One Captain Webb said that Captain Turner was incompetet of the Germans had gotten to him.

The German government issued a Medal coin to award the Crew of the U-20 for the sinking  
2 ½ inches and 1 ½ oz  
One side had “No Contraband”  
The other “Business above All”

*SS Titanic* sunk in 150 minutes  
*SS Lusitania* sank in 20 minutes

British Blockade – Neutrals and Contraband  
Freedom of the Seas: (Civil War) continuous voyage rule  
March 28,1915 *Falaba* 1 American killed  
May 1, 1915 *Gulfight* 2 Americans killed  
May 7, 1915 *Lusitania* 128 Americans killed  
Bryan resigned  
*Arabic* 2 Americans killed  
Germany gives -- *Arabic* Pledge – will warn ships