**Exciting and Useful Info® #5**  
**Some Important Engagements / Campaigns in the War**

1914

Aug  Battle of **Tannenberg** in East: Germans defeat Russian armies in East Prussia.  
    Austrian offensive against Serbia is repelled.

Sept  Battle of **Masurian Lakes**: 2nd major German victory over Russia in E. Prussia. 
    Battle of **Marne**: Entente allies stop the German advance in West. 
    Major Russian advances into Austrian **Galicia** and Bukovina.

Oct   First battle of **Ypres**: Germans unsuccessfully attempt to dislodge allies.

Dec   Austria's 3rd offensive against Serbia takes Belgrade only temporarily.

1915

Feb/Mar  Entente begins **Gallipoli** campaign against Turkey along Dardanelles

April  Second battle of **Ypres**: Germans fire chlorine gas at allies in Belgium.

May/June  Austrian and German forces retake **Galicia** from Russian

Aug-Sep  Austrians and Germans take major portions of Poland, Lithuania, & Courland

Oct-Nov  Serbia attacked and overrun by Germans, Austrians, & Bulgarians.

Dec   **Gallipoli** campaign ends unsuccessfully; allies withdrawn.

1916

Jan   Montenegro & Albania (the latter was neutral) fall to Austrians.

Feb   Beginning of battle of **Verdun**: Germany's unsuccessful attempt to "bleed" France.

May   Inconclusive naval battle of **Jutland** between Germany & Britain

June  Britain launches **Somme** offensive against Germans ("the Great Fuck-Up")

July/Aug  Russians launch **Brusilov offensive** against Austria, recapture parts of **Galicia**

Oct-Dec  Germans launch attack against Rumania, capture Bucharest in December

1917

June/July  Russians launch unsuccessful **Kerensky offensive** against Austria.

July-Aug  Third battle of **Ypres**: largely unsuccessful British effort to break through.

Oct-Nov  Italians defeated at **Caporetto**, driven back from frontier by Germans & Austrians

Dec   Bolsheviks sign armistice with Central Powers.

1918

March  Germans launch "Ludendorff offensive," ultimately unsuccessful.

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1 This German success establishes the hero status of Paul von Hindenburg and Erich Ludendorff.
2 By stopping the German advance, this indecisive battle ensures that the war will not be short.
3 The Austro-Hungarian army loses almost 1/3 of its combat strength in these engagements. These losses also make Austria-Hungary almost completely dependent on Germany.
4 By this time the first (February) Russian revolution had occurred, and so this campaign was undertaken by the Provisional Government.
5 This battle is sometimes called **Paaschendaele** and is generally associated with **mud**.
A Chronology on Entry and Exit from War

July, 1914
Austrian declaration of war on Serbia

August, 1914
Entrance into war of Germany (on Austrian side) and Russia, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro, Luxembourg, and Japan (with Entente)

November, 1914
Ottoman Empire enters war with Central Powers

May, 1915
Italy enters war on side of Entente

October, 1915
Bulgaria enters war with Central Powers

March 1916
Portugal enters war as associated power¹

August, 1916
Rumania enters war as associated power²

November, 1916
Greece enters war as associated power³

April, 1917
United States enters war as associated power

March, 1918
Bolsheviks sign treaty of Brest-Litovsk, lose western portion of empire

May, 1918
Rumania signs separate treaty of surrender with Central Powers

November, 1918
Armistice

The two Blocs (with month & date of entry for each):

Central Powers
Austria-Hungary (07.14), Germany (08.14), Ottoman Empire (11.14), Bulgaria (10.15)

Allied & Associated
Serbia (07.14), Russia (08.14), Luxembourg (08.14), France (08.14), Belgium (08.14), Great Britain (08.14), Montenegro (08.14), Japan (08.14), Italy (05.15), San Marino (06.15), Portugal (03.16), Rumania (08.16), Greece (11.16), US (04.17), Cuba (04.17), Guatemala (04.17), Siam (06.17), Liberia (08.17), China (08.17), Brazil (10.17), Panama (11.17), Nicaragua (05.18), Costa Rica (05.18), Haiti (07.18), Honduras (07.18)

Various terms, concepts, people, institutions, and other such stuff

Burgfrieden (Truce of the Fortress) Union Sacrée (Sacred Union)
"Business as usual" "Miracle on the Marne"
Tannenberg & Masurian Lakes Austrian Galicia
Erich von Falkenhayn Liège (Belgium)
Franc-tireur Schrecklichkeit (lit. "frightfulness")
Pact of London (Sept. 1914) Sykes-Picot agreement (1916)
September Program (Bethmann-Hollweg) Mitteleuropa
Mittelafrika Defense of the Realm Act (DORA)

¹ Portugal committed itself to military actions against Germany in November, 1914 and seized German ships in its harbors in February, 1916.
² Rumania signed a separate treaty of surrender with Central Powers (Treaty of Bucharest) in May, 1918, but re-entered the war in November, 1918 (with eight days left!).
³ A provisional government in Greece entered the war in November, 1916, but the royal government's declaration came only in June, 1917.