

- Western Front = static; Russia = collapsing
 - Brits devise plan to help Russia
 - Focus = naval strength
 - Pre-war reforms by Sir John “Jacky” Fisher
 - Brit calculus = “two-power” standard
 - NOTE: Admiral Alfred von Tirpitz
 - NOTE: Alfred Thayer Mahan
 - Anglo-German naval race begins
 - Game changer = HMS Dreadnought
 - By 1914, Brits won naval race
 - Brit Strategy
 - Admiralty divided like Army
 - Irony = use of fleet increased likelihood of accidents
 - Result = Brits launch blockade
 - NOTE: Ger view blockade as illegal

- “Easterners” get chance
 - New Year’s Day 1915, terrorist strike near Broken Hill
 - But where?

- Target = Dardanelles Straits
 - Goal = seize Constantinople
 - Critical flaw = Brit ego
 - Campaign “supposed to” change war
 - 1st shots fired Feb 19th = Admiral Sackville Carden
 - Royal Marines deployed; opt failed
 - Churchill assures War Council
 - Mar 18, Admiral John De Robeck renews assault
 - NOTE: stretched Turks to breaking point

- Apr 25th = attempt landing troops at Gallipoli
 - Issue #1 - just off beaches terrain rises gradually to high ridges
 - Issue #2 – Individual ship captains had discretion over covering fire

- June, 2nd push – no avail
- Aug, 3rd push – same
- Oct, Bulgaria enters war
- Nov = brutal weather
- Dec = had enough
- Campaign = 9 months
- Failure from incompetence & hesitancy
- NOTE: Churchill = scapegoat
- Salonkia Campaign
 - Grew out of state of Balkan politics
 - October 1915, Falkenhayn pushed armies across Danube & Sava rivers
 - Bulgarians enticed to join
 - Serbs struggled valiantly
 - Sought help from Greeks
 - Greek PM Eleutherios Venizelos convince Entente to intervene
 - Campaign made some strategic sense
 - But no planning or preparations
 - 1st mistake = insufficient forces
 - 2nd mistake = delayed landing

- 3rd mistake = Brit troops already exhausted
- In Dec, brief Battle of Kosturino takes place
- Allies dig in; construct “The Birdcage”
- Africa
 - War = opportunity for Brits in Africa
 - NOTE: Berlin Conference of 1885
 - Called by Bismarck
 - All agree to “Principle of Effective Occupation”
 - Brits = 1st ones to ignore international law
 - West Africa
 - Brits & FR should have been able to roll across Africa
 - But mutual distrust = stumbling block
 - One exception = Campaign in Togoland
 - Colony = important due to Ger radio station
 - Elsewhere, situation more difficult.
 - South Africa
 - Help from Louis Botha & Boers
 - Formed South African Defense Force (SADF)
 - Triggered rebellion among radical Boers
 - When crushed, Botha seized S.W. Africa

- East Africa = greater challenge
 - Lt. Col Paul von Lettow-Vorbeck
 - In Aug 1914, invaded Kenya
 - In Nov, crushed Indian force near Tanga
 - Aided by Ger control of Lake Tanganyika
 - NOTE: *Graf Goetzen*
 - Brits fought back methodically
 - Captured Kigoma
 - Dynamic shifts
 - Goal = trapping Lettow-Vorbeck near Tabora
 - Allies frustrated
 - Reappeared in 1917, then slipped away
 - Nov 13, 1918 – Lettow-Vorbeck captures Kasama
 - Lettow-Vorbeck = celebrated even today
- War in the Pacific
 - Brits world's largest navy put to use
 - Japan also saw opportunity
 - Sought to rid China of Ger influence
 - 1st = port of Tsingtao
 - Overlooked Kaiochow Bay

- Japan launched siege
- Japan next exerted pressure on China
 - NOTE: Q'ing Dynasty collapsed 1912
 - Warlord = Yuan ShiKai seizes control
 - Works with Dr. Sun Yat-sen to create Republic of China
 - Sensing weakness, Japan pounced
 - In Jan 1915, Jap issued the famous – 21 Demands
 - China's hopes raised when US declares war in April 1917
 - NOTE: Wilson's interest in "self-determination"
- Entente's global aggressiveness = strategic dilemma for Ger
 - Brit blockade doesn't need action to remain effective
 - Ger only beat it by confronting it
 - Tirpitz advocated for aggressive response
 - Doesn't have much support
 - Kaiser & advisers favors *Kleinkrieg*
 - Reason = Sir John Jellicoe's strategy
 - NOTE: defensive strategy stymies defensive strategy
- Outside of North Sea region = minor naval skirmishes
 - Most important = *Goeben & Breslau*
 - Another significant skirmish = Battle of Coronel

- Sir Christopher Craddock vs. Maximilian Graf von Spee
 - Met off coast of Chile near Coronel
 - Battle = Nov 1st, 1914; completely lopsided
- Brit response = Sir Frederick Sturdee
 - Arrives in Port Stanley on Dec 7, 1914
 - Spee, unaware, attacks Port Stanley
 - Battle of the Falkland Islands = as lopsided as Coronel
 - By end of 1914, oceans free of German raiders
 - Battle of Jutland
 - Naval pundits long expected Ger & Brit fleets clash
 - Shift from new commander = Reinhard Scheer
 - Scheer hopes to engage David Beatty
 - Battle took place on May 31, 1916
 - NOTE: Think of a T.
 - In advance, Ger stations U-boats
 - » Brits intercept signals
 - Beatty sights Hipper's force at 3:30pm
 - Beatty's withdrawal reverses course of battle
 - 6:30-8:30, fleets engage twice
 - Jellicoe attempts to cut off Scheer

- Both sides immediately claimed victory
 - Jellicoe's caution disappointed many at home
 - Scheer's plan failed
 - Brit strategy did succeed
- NOTE, Jutland = last battle of battleships