

Relative influence on the American Decision to Declare War on Germany

Every country must have reasons for fighting a war. Sometimes it is to help an ally or to protect national interests. America had a choice to enter World War I, and certain instances, like German naval policy, American economic interests, and Allied propaganda, pushed them into it.

One of the first reasons Americans wanted war was the German naval policy. The Germans developed U-Boats, which were submarines. This gave them an advantage over Britain's supreme navy, which did not have submarines. The Germans were ruthless with U-Boats, repeatedly sinking ships with torpedoes. The most famous ship that went down was the Lusitania. 128 Americans died from that ship. It wasn't the only ship that was sunk, but it aroused more anti-German sentiment than any other ship. After each attack, Wilson asked Germany for an apology. They apologized, but kept on attacking.

The second reason for entering the war was economic interest. America ~~was to~~ had the choice of trading with Germany, but losing Great Britain, or vice versa. Britain was a country they traded much with, so America decided to trade with them. America benefited from the war. They experienced a boom for the next fifteen years, as a result of the war economy.

Allied propaganda aroused anti-German sentiment. Newspapers and others portrayed the Germans as cruel and brutal. They were terrorizing Europe, according to the propaganda. They were portrayed as raping people and etc.

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