**Comparison of WORLD WAR I to WORLD WAR II –** We will do **all** of WORLD WAR I first.

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| **Trait** | **World War I (7/1914-6/1919)** | **World War II (9/1939-5/1945; Japan 9/1945)** |
| Nations we join | Allies –France, Great Britain, Russia and more U.S. in 4/1917 | Allies – France, Great Britain, USSR and more  U.S. in December 7, 1941  France-a republic; Great Britain-constitutional monarchy; Russia-monarchy. |
| Nations we oppose | Central Powers – Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire | Axis – Germany, Italy, Japan (for a while the USSR)  Germany and Japan-fascist dictatorships; Japan-fascist acting but does not have a cult dictatorship since the emperor was considered a god. |
| U.S. government’s initial position | Officially neutrality |  |
| Assets of nations on the Allies side | Great Britain-navy; France-manpower but it lost a generation. (Problem: Russia poor and ill-equipped; its defeat to Germany let to 1917 Bolshevik Revolution.) |  |
| Assets of nations we oppose | Germany often compared to U.S. in 1890s. (Problems: Austria-Hungary, ethnically volatile. Ottoman Empire, very poor.) |  |
| Technology | New technology: tanks, land mines, flame throwers, poison gas.  Germany: submarine |  |
| Traits of war | Trench warfare, attrition, high death counts |  |
| Trade and U.S. banks | U.S. bankers made loans to France and Great Britain. |  |
| Trade with belligerents | Great Britain blockaded the Central Powers from being able to buy. Only Allies were able to reach the U.S. and buy.  Germany eventually resorted to submarine warfare to stop the British supplies. |  |
| Trigger event for war | Assassination of an archduke of Austria-Hungary when visiting a nationalist area |  |
| Trigger event for U.S. | Zimmerman Note |  |
| Veterans when the war is over | Veterans return to no jobs for them and widespread unemployment and recession. Also terrorist bombings, race riots, strikes (20% of workers).  Government & 1st Red Scare. |  |
| Attempt to stop a repeat of this war | League of Nations (US does not join.) | United Nations |

**In WORLD WAR I, How High Is the Casualty Rate?**

American forces are used on the Western front.

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| **Date** | **Br** | **Fr** | **Ger** | **Ru** | **US** |
| 1914 | - | 900K | - | - |  |
| 1915 | 73K D  240K W | 330K D  1M W | 170K D  680K W | - |  |
| Total |  |  |  | 3.6M D | 113K D  51K war  62K disease |