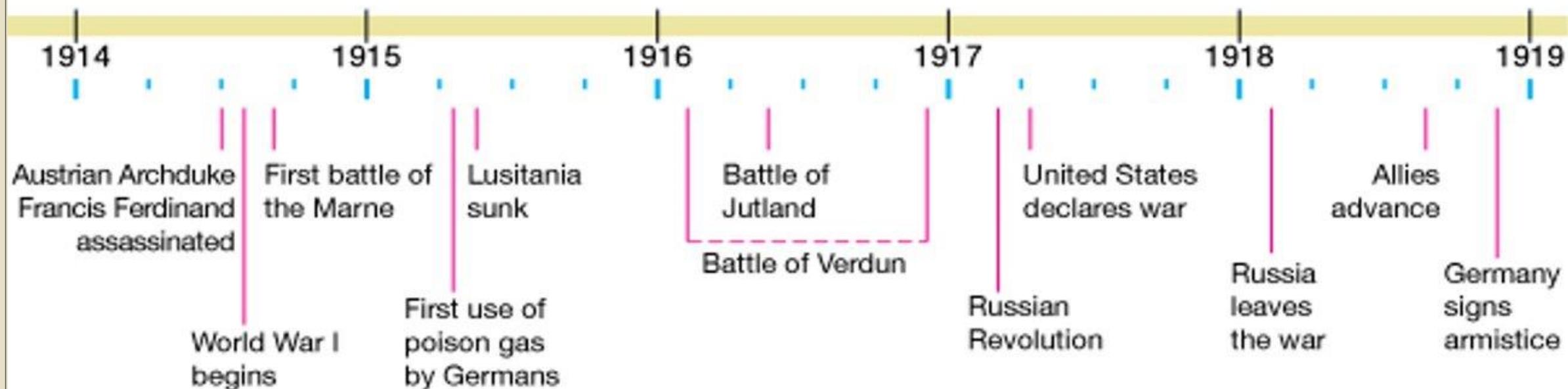


Chief Events of World War I, 1914–18



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The Russian Revolution (1917)

- **Russian Revolution** – consisted of two revolutions in 1917
- the first of which, in February (March, New Style), overthrew the imperial government
- the second of which, in October, placed the Bolsheviks in power.

In 1917-

- Tsar Nicholas II was in power- Tsarist government
 - Fraught with corruption and disunity
 - Poor working/living conditions for peasants
 - Tsars wife and Rasputin





Causes of the Russian Revolution

Corruption and inefficiency were widespread in the imperial government, and ethnic minorities were eager to escape Russian domination.

- Peasants, workers, and soldiers finally rose up after the enormous and largely pointless slaughter of World War I destroyed Russia's economy as well as its prestige as a European power.
- Russia was in a tough spot during/after WWI

Two Revolutions

◦ March Revolution-

- The revolution began when a number of workers decided to strike. Many of these workers got together during the strike to discuss politics. They began to riot.
- The Tsar, Nicholas II, ordered the army to suppress the riot. However, many of the soldiers refused to fire on the Russian people and the army began to mutiny against the Tsar.
- After a few days of riots, the army turned against the Tsar. The Tsar was forced to give up his throne and a new government took over.
- The government was run by two political parties: the Petrograd Soviet (representing the workers and soldiers) and the Provisional Government (the traditional government without the Tsar).

Factions within the Soviet party

Second Revolution



oOctober Revolution-

oOver the next several months the two sides ruled Russia.

o One of the main factions of the Petrograd Soviet was a group called the Bolsheviks. They were led by Vladimir Lenin and believed that the new Russian government should be a Marxist (communist) government.

oIn October of 1917, Lenin took full control of the government in what is called the Bolshevik Revolution. Russia was now the first communist country in the world.