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The Lost Peace

In January 1917 American President Woodrow Wilson proposed that the United States take part in a postwar League of Nations to maintain world peace. Wilson's proposals became known as "Wilson's Fourteen Points**" and also had a plan to end World War I.**

After Germany's defeat at the Second Battle of the Marne in August 1918, her allies began to sue for peace. Morale at home disintegrated, open revolts took place in the streets, there were mutinies in the armed forces, and the Kaiser abdicated. The new government now turned to Wilson to make good on his proposals.

France, Britain, and Italy thought that the proposals were too lenient and demanded that changes be made. Britain objected to the idea of "freedom of the seas" and all three demanded that Germany pay for war damages. These changes were eventually made and Germany surrendered on November 11, 1918.



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