



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of National Diversity and Social Integration

NATIONAL
ARCHIVES
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

presents

THE
WORLD WARS:
ONSET, IMPACT
&
CARIBBEAN LEGACY



MAIN EVENTS OF THE GREAT WAR



JUNE 28TH, 1914:

Archduke Frantz Ferdinand assassinated at Sarajevo



JULY 28TH-AUGUST 3RD, 1914:

Triple Alliance declared war

AUGUST 4TH, 1914:

Entente Powers declared war



OCTOBER 29TH, 1914:

Trench warfare began

MAY 7TH, 1915:

The "Lusitania" was sunk by a German U-boat

MAY 23RD, 1915:

Italy declared war on Germany and Austria



FEBRUARY 21ST, 1916:
The Battle of Verdun began

JULY 1ST, 1916:
The Battle of the Somme began where tanks were used in mass for the first time

MARCH 3RD, 1918

The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk was signed between Russia and Germany

Lenin, Trotsky, Germany and the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk

The Collapse of the World Revolution
November 1917-November 1918



by Yuri Felshinsky

DECEMBER 9TH, 1917:

Britain captured Jerusalem from the Turks

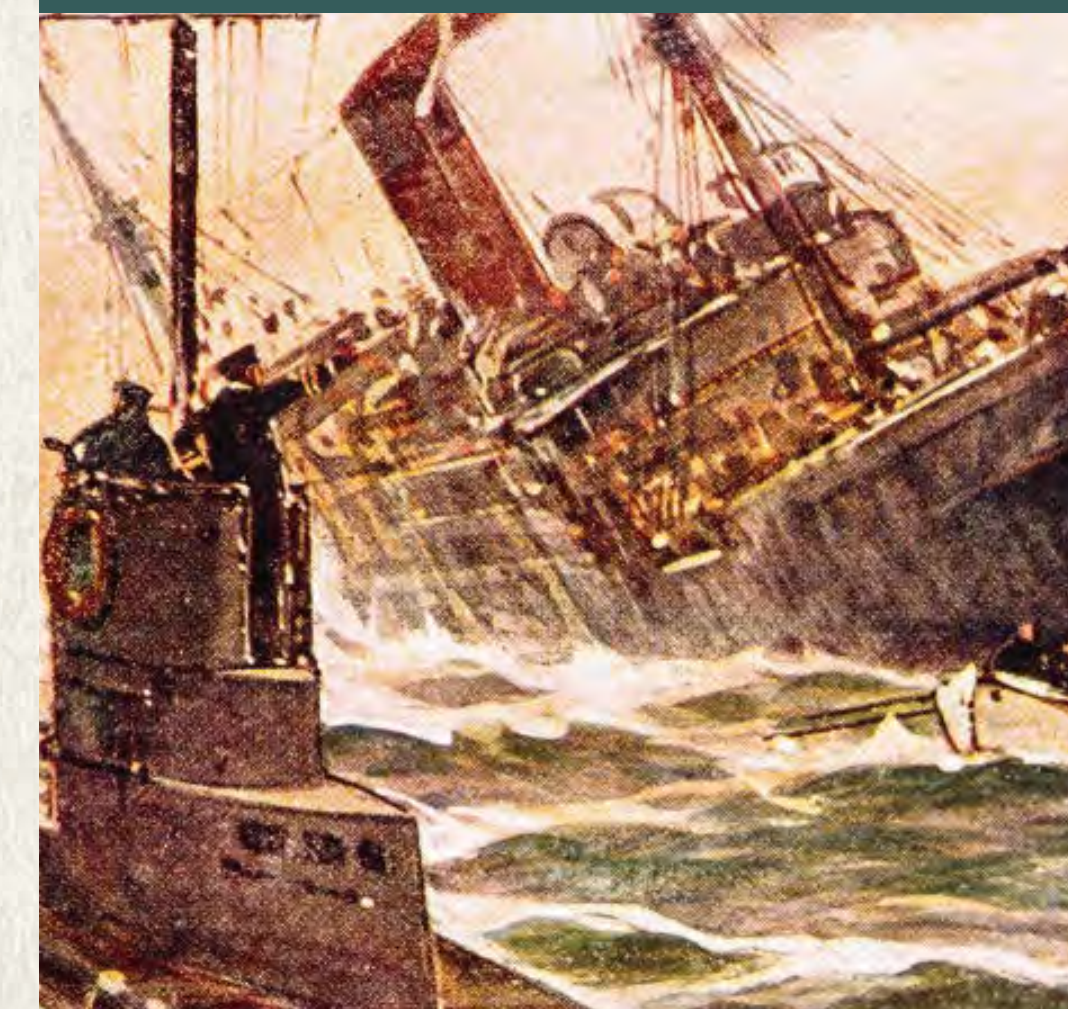
APRIL 6TH, 1917:

The United States of America declared war on Germany



FEBRUARY 1ST, 1917:

The start of Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare



AUGUST 8TH, 1918:

The Battle of Amiens begins

OCTOBER 4TH, 1918:

Germany asked the Allies for an Armistice

OCTOBER 29TH, 1918:

Germany's navy mutinied

OCTOBER 30TH, 1918:

Turkey made peace

NOVEMBER 3RD, 1918:

Austria made peace

NOVEMBER 11TH, 1918:

The Great War officially ends with the signing of an armistice



Signature de l'Armistice

JUNE 28TH, 1919:

The Treaty of Versailles was signed by Germany



CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE GREAT WAR

CAUSES

NATIONALISM

Extreme Nationalism or national self-determination is a key factor in the outbreak of the Great War. Throughout the 19th century nationalistic ideals spread and led to the unification of Italy and Germany. These nations had to prove themselves as strong independent countries and as such war was unavoidable. This pursuit of nationalistic goals and belief in national superiority resulted in the eruption of the Great War.

HOSTILE ALLIANCES

A number of alliances had been signed by countries between 1879 and 1914. The formation of the Triple Alliance and the Entente Powers is extremely important when looking at the causes of the Great War. The Triple Alliance consisted of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy while the members of the Entente Powers were France, Russia and Britain. These were important because it meant that countries had no option but to declare war if one of their colleagues declared war first.

THE ASSASSINATION OF ARCHDUKE FRANTZ FERDINAND

The heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne Archduke Frantz Ferdinand and his wife were assassinated on the 28th June 1914 on a visit to Sarajevo, Bosnia by Serbians. After the assassination Austria-Hungary sent an ultimatum to Serbia who in turn refused. With the Alliance System in place, the receipt of this refusal prompted Austria-Hungary to declare war on Serbia. This declaration led to the mobilisation of the various alliances thus, starting the Great War.

CONSEQUENCES

DEATH TOLL

The figures for the casualties of the Great War are hard to agree upon by historians. Considered the most detrimental war of that time, The Great War took the lives of roughly 13,000,000 people. It was estimated that approximately 29,000,000 million people were wounded and that the war left roughly 10,000,000 widows and orphans.

TREATY OF VERSAILLES

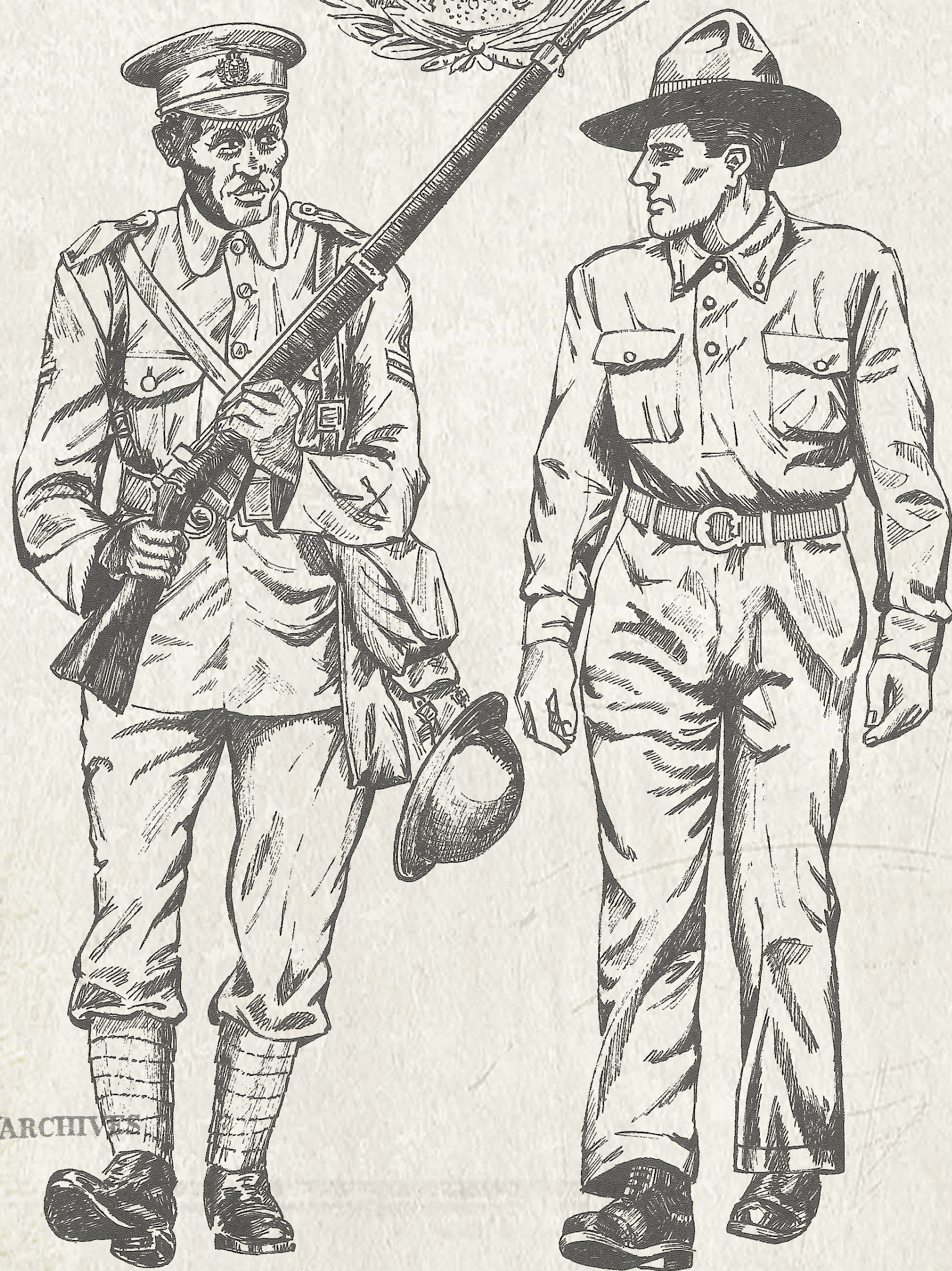
At the end of the Great War numerous treaties were signed, most notably the Treaty of Versailles. Germany under The Treaty of Versailles was devastated as she was found guilty of provoking the war. Under the Treaty of Versailles all of Germany's colonies were taken away and she was forced to pay 6,500,000,000 in reparations.

FORMATION OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Point fourteen of President Wilson's Fourteen Point Plan was carried out and the League of Nations was formed. A precursor to the United Nations, this was the first international organisation created deliberately to protect independent nations from aggression and to preserve the peace.

THE BRITISH WEST INDIES REGIMENT (B.W.I.R.) 1915 – 1918:

B.W.I. REGT. BADGE



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

CORPORAL, 1st BATTALION,

RECRUIT FROM TRINIDAD IN ENGLAND

FORMATION

The British West Indies Regiment was a unit within the British Army made up of volunteers from the British West Indies. With the outbreak of the War in 1914, many West Indians left the colonies and sought to enlist in the British Army. The War Office, concerned that the number of black soldiers in the regiments would increase, wanted to prevent them from enlisting. Through the intervention of King George V, the British West Indies Regiment was established on the 26th October 1915.

SERVICE AND RECRUITMENT

The British West Indies Regiment consisted of men from the Bahamas, Barbados, British Honduras (Belize), British Guiana (Guyana), Grenada, Jamaica, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, and Trinidad and Tobago. There were eleven battalions within the British West Indies Regiment. The first battalion was created in Seaford, Sussex, England in 1915 under the command of Colonel A.E. Barchard. The men of the British West Indies Regiment served in Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, East Africa, India, France, Italy, Belgium and England. The first and second battalions saw service in Palestine and Jordan fighting against the Turks in 1918. The other battalions were stationed in Europe, on the Western Front, where coincidentally they were not involved in combat. Instead, they were used for doing menial labour such as carrying ammunition, digging trenches and gun emplacements, as garrison troops and as workers unloading ships. At the end of the war in November 1918, 15,204 British West Indians had enlisted into the British West Indies Regiment. The recruitment strategies used to garner men for this force are varied and included:

Recruitment campaigns in major newspapers.

Moral obligation campaigns put forth by the major religious denominations.

Patriotic ad campaigns to encourage enlistment through different media.

Glamorised ideas of glory and fame.

Added allure of high wages and tax exemptions.

THE MUTINY AT TARANTO

On December 6th 1918, the members of the ninth battalion of the British West Indies Regiment mutinied in Taranto, Italy. This mutiny lasted four days and disillusionment swept throughout the ranks of the Regiment. To quell the mutiny, the Worcestershire Regiment was despatched and order was restored. As a result the ninth battalion was disbanded and 60 men tried for the mutiny. Those convicted spent 5-20 years in jail whilst one member died via firing squad. This mutiny was a result of the demeaning racist treatment meted out to the British West Indies Regiment in all spheres of military life. Even though the mutiny was crushed, the dissatisfaction persisted. Meetings were held amongst those of the British West Indies Regiment to discuss the issues of black rights, self determination, independence and a closer union in the West Indies. As a result of this mutiny the Caribbean League was also formed.

Bibliography:

Howe, Glenford D. Race, War and Nationalism: A Social History of West Indians in the First World War.

Kingston: Ian Randle, 2002. Print.

REMEMBER OUR FALLEN

1914 - 1918 1939 - 1945
IN HONOUR OF
ALL WHO SERVED
IN MEMORY OF
THOSE WHO FELL

British West Indies Regiment

PTE. Bertie H. Abraham
CPL. Poyatt Ahlstedt
PTE. Carlyle Ainslie
PTE. Lucien Alexander
PTE. Thompson Alexander
PTE. David Alleyne
PTE. Frank Austin
LC. CPL. Vivian Babb
PTE. Hubert Benn
PTE. Aaron Bonnett
PTE. Henry Boyd
PTE. Malcolm Brathwaite
PTE. Vincent Briggs
S.M. Leonard F. Browne
PTE. Ciprian Brown
PTE. Alfred W. Bunting
PTE. Fitzherbert Cains
PTE. Clarence Carter
PTE. William Charles
PTE. Leonard Crichlow
PTE. Norman Crosby
PTE. Sydney Cumberbatch
2nd LIEUT. Jacques V. de Boissiere
S.M., Joseph J.A. De La Bastide
LC. CPL. Arthur Des Vignes
PTE. David Dick

PTE. John H. Dorset
PTE. Adolphus C. Wright
PTE. James Dove
PTE. Esau Duncan
PTE. Cornelius Eddy
PTE. Philip Gordon
PTE. Carleton Hall
PTE. Moses Hercules
PTE. Albert Holder
PTE. Adolphus Jack
PTE. George H. Jacob
PTE. Leo Jeremiah
PTE. Gascoigne Jordan
PTE Emmanuel Joseph
SGT. Samuel E. Lang
PTE. Adolphus Layne
PTE. Domingo Lezama
PTE. Francis Lett
PTE. Emmanuel Mathew
PTE. Hubert Modest
PTE. James A. Moraldo
PTE. John Morgan
PTE. Bruno Nelson
PTE. Albert Niles
PTE. Malco J. Orosco
PTE. Abraham Patrick

PTE. Archibald Peters
PTE. Nathaniel Phillips
PTE. Fredrick Pierre
PTE. Reginald Pierre
PTE. Fitzroy E. Pinder
PTE. Moses Prentice
PTE. Francis L. Ramirez
PTE. Louis Reid
PTE. Inkerman Romney
PTE. Fitzarthur Rojas
PTE. George Sandy
PTE. Egbert V. Scarborough
PTE. Joseph E. Smith
PTE. Alexander Solomon
PTE. Samuel Songster
PTE. Alfred Squires
PTE. Lucien Stephen
PTE. Alexander Taylor
PTE. David Taylor
PTE. Loderick Thompson
PTE. Aubrey Vincent
PTE. Valton Went
PTE. Augustus Williams
PTE. Edmond Williams
PTE. Wilfred Wiltshire
SGT. Ernest W. Wood

BRID. Eugene A.H. Agostini FR. ART.
PTE. Malcolm C. Alston R.F.
PTE. Murray Archibald R. SCOTS.
PTE. Robert Archibald R. SCOTS.
CPL. William Bain LON. SCOTS.
ASPIRANT Antoine C. Bariou 358th F. INF.
PTE. Richard H. Bascombe KINGS LIV. R.
LIEUT. Callum M. Bell RAF.
LIEUT. Wilfred Bishop 11th BORDER R.
2ND LIEUT. Frank V. Bonyun RFC.
TPR. Alfred S. Bourne 2nd L.G.
2ND LIEUT. John H. Browne R.WAR.R.
PTE. George N. Bryne R.F.
2ND LIEUT. Gordon W. Burke R.W.F.
2ND LIEUT. Leon H. Centeno SUPE.R.
LC. CPL. Victor L.M. Collins 1st K.E.H.
TPR. Hampden T.A. Cox K.E.H.
LIEUT. Henry C. Cunha 18th J.S.C. U.S.A.
PTE. Louis L. D'Abadie R.F.
SFR. Antonio DA Costa R.E.
PTE. Edward R. D'ADE R.F.G.
PTE. W. Oliver F. Darling R.I.R.
PTE. Dominique Decori 8th F. COL INF.
2ND. LIEUT. Edward P. Doyle W.Y.R.
SUB. LIEUT. George L. Dranguet 92nd F. I.N.F.
PTE. Maxime A.M. Dubanton F. COL. I.N.F.
PTE. Arthur J. Duff C.E.F.
PTE. Alfred H. Duff R.B.
CAPT. Robert A. E. Eakin 1st K.S.L.I.
COL. Robert Eccles OXFORD R.
CAPT. Vernon J.L Eccles K.O.L.R.
2ND. LIEUT. John V.W. Eccles H.A.C.

PTE. Hilton B. Eccles C.M.G.C.
TPR. Napoleon Edghill 2nd D.C.
SURG. LIEUT. Fredrick w. Clemens R.N.
SURG. LIEUT. Fernand L. M. J. De Verteuil R.N.
MIDSHIPMAN William C. Hoadley R.N.
SEAMAN Frank Lavrack R.N.
FIREMAN Charles J.L. McDonald R.N.
COMMDR. Frederick A. Warner R.N.
SEAMAN Edward N. Williams R.N.
LIEUT. COMMDR. John S. Tucker R.N.
SUB. LIEUT. Louis S. Tucker R.N.R.
BR. Ruthven I. Pegus CANADIAN ARTILLERY
PTE. Derrick A. K. Pile L.R.B.
PTE. Carlos J. Pollonais QUEENS WESTM
PTE. Leonard E. Power 60th. CANADIANS
PTE. Valleton A.S. Redman 4th. LON. R., R. F.
PTE. Julian E. Reverand DORSET R.
PTE. William B. Robertson H.L.I
2ND. LIEUT. Cecil Scott ESSEX R.
CAPT. Norman McG. Smith R.A.M.C.
PTE. Leonard Sorzano LON. R., M. G. C.
CAPT. Robert A. Steel CAMERON HRS
PTE. James Syder CANADIANS
PTE. Sydney G. Syder CANADIANS
SGT. Wellesley S. Taylor CANADIANS
GNR. Raymond A. Vignale CANADIANS
CAPT. George N. Viner MDDX. R.
PTE. James A. Wade 20th. LON. R.
CAPT. Thornton S. Warner GLOS. R.
TPR. John R. Williams SHROPS. YEOMANRY.
MAJ. Harry S. Wilson R. MUN. F.
SGT. George S. Wilson CANADIANS

TPR. Hector Wilson STRATHCONA'S HORSE
Lieut. Edward C. Ellis GLOS R.
PTE. James T. FitzE. EVERSLEY 4th LON.R., R.F.
PTE. Walter K. Exley 75th. BATT. C.E.F
SURG. LIEUT. Jean R. Fortier 152ND. R..F.INF
2ND LIEUT. Oilver V Gibbon W. YORKS. R.
PTE. Francis O Gittens ADDX. R.
LIEUT. Ellis L.G.N Grell. 27TH PUNJARTS
PTE. Cecil E. A Hackshaw PRINCESS PATS R.
2ND LIEUT. Ernest S. Hadley GOLS. R.
LIEUT. (The Rev.) Ernest W. Howelock R.I
PTE. Edwin L. Hay CANADIANS
CAPT. Charles G. Haynes R.A.F
PTE. William I. Howard IRISH GDS
TPR. Robert E. Johnstone 17TH. LANCERS
LIEUT. Kenneth J. Knaggs R.F.C
TPR. Harold D. Knox 2ND KING EDWARDS HORSE
S.M., Carleton E. Laurence K.R.R
PTE. Joseph J. Limongi 144TH F. INF.
2ND Lieut. James P. Logie GORDON HRS.
SOUS. LIEUT. John S. Luckett R. IRISH F.
PTE. Edmund Maingot 28TH. LON. R., A.RHS.
2ND LIEUT. William J. S. Miller RFC.
CPL Hugh H. Miller SCOT. GDS
PTE. Richard O. McLean GLOS. R.
INTERP. REV. Henri M. Nouais F. ARMY
CPL. Alfred H. Oliver R.B.
REMN. Charles W. Payne R.B

VETERANS OF THE GREAT WAR



NAME:
Agostini, Eugene Augustin Henri

DATE OF BIRTH: 17th April 1890
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
DESIGNATION: Army: Artillery
BRANCH: Artillerie de Compagne, de 75 of the 31st Regiment of Artillery
RANK: Brigadier
THEATRE OF WAR: Western Europe – Belgium
YEARS OF SERVICE: 1913-1915

COMMENDATIONS:
His conduct during the Battle of Mons, brought him to the attention of his seniors, and when he distinguished himself at the Battle of Marne, was awarded the Croix de Guerre (Cross of War) with citation for bravery.

NOTES ON CAREER: Being the recipient of the award in 1914, signified Agostini as the first Trinidad and Tobago born soldier to be decorated for bravery in the Great War.

FORM OF REPOSE: Contracted typhoid fever in war torn Belgium, he was admitted to the hospital in the French town of Breteuil s/Nogie but did not recover. He died on 28th of January 1915.



NAME:
Bain, William

DATE OF BIRTH: 10th August 1890
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
DESIGNATION: Army: Infantry
BRANCH: 1st London Scottish Regiment
RANK: Corporal
THEATRE OF WAR: Western Europe – France
YEARS OF SERVICE: 1914 – 1916

NOTES ON CAREER:
Fought at Loos where half of his battalion was lost and all but nine of his platoon survived. He fought at Hulluch where half of the Brigade was lost. He also fought at Vermelles.

FORM OF REPOSE:
He was killed by a shot to the head on 1ST July 1916 at the Battle of Somme in the 3rd German Trench. His body was never recovered.



NAME:
Bentley, Charles Arthur Campbell

DATE OF BIRTH: Unknown
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
DESIGNATION: Army: Infantry
BRANCH: Royal Warwickshire Regiment First Battalion 4th Division
RANK: Captain
THEATRE OF WAR: Western Europe - France
YEARS OF SERVICE: 1912-1914

NOTES ON CAREER:
Fought in the first Battle of Ypres, led an attacking force of 270 Royal Warwicks against a German battalion of 800 men and succeeded.

FORM OF REPOSE:
Sustained heavy enemy fire to his body in 3 places and succumbed to his wounds mere hours after his victory. He was buried in Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres, France. He was the 1st soldier from Trinidad and Tobago to give his life in the Great War.



NAME:
Cipriani, Arthur Andre

DATE OF BIRTH: 31st January 1875
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
DESIGNATION: Army: Infantry
BRANCH: British West Indies Regiment (B.W.I.R.)
RANK: Captain
THEATRE OF WAR: North Africa – Egypt
YEARS OF SERVICE: 1916 – 1918

NOTES ON CAREER:
Captain Cipriani was influential in the recruitment of soldiers for the Great War in the colony of Trinidad and Tobago. He raised four contingents from the colony. He advocated for the British West Indies Regiment to fight on the front lines in Western Europe. In the last years of the Great War he became known as the 'Prisoners Friend' at Court Martials for all members of the army who were stationed in Egypt. He continuously clashed with Colonel Wood-Hill and General Carey Bernard due to their racist actions against the members of the British West Indies Regiment.

POST WAR:
Cipriani returned to the colony of Trinidad and Tobago in 1919. In 1921 he was elected to a seat on the Port of Spain City Council which gained him entrance into the Legislative Council. In 1923, Cipriani became the leader of the Trinidad Workingmen's Association (T.W.A.) a leading trade union on the island. Cipriani became Mayor of Port of Spain in 1925 and served eight consecutive terms. The Trinidad Labour Party (T.L.P.) was formed by Captain Cipriani in 1934.

FORM OF REPOSE:
He died of natural causes on the 18th April 1945.

THE PORT OF SPAIN GAZETTE

ZETTE, THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1940. GUARDIAN OF THE BRITISH CONVOY

BRITAIN AND FRANCE SET HITLER NOON DEADLINE TO REPLY OR— WAR AGAINST GERMANY

PARLIAMENT MEETS TODAY... 34 German 'Planes Shot Down... Polish Death Toll From Air 1,500

More British Successes In Africa

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT... ALL TRINIDADIANS JOIN IN PRAYER TO PAY HIM A LAST TRIBUTE.

Place: Pearl Harbour; Time: Dec. 7, 1941

"A Date To Live In Infamy"

Thunder Of Bombs Brought America Into World War 11

By JOHN L. SPRINGER... Pearl Harbour was awakened on the morning of December 7, 1941, by the thunder of bombs and the crumpling of steel.

London Is Ever Ready

ITALIANS RETREATING IN ERITREA... ARMYMEN ADVANCING ON EASTERN FRONT

MIDWAY HELD

Despite Heavy Attacks... Japanese Win Cheap Victories

French Push Through Elba

Chat With Vatican Guards... Patriot Army Harass Nazis

Allied Forces Push Deeper Into Normandy In Move To Seal Off Cherbourg Port

Trinidadian Freed From Nazis Now Homesick For The Sun

INVASION STARTED

Allied Troops Land In Northern France

Churchill Says Invasion Proceeding Satisfactorily

How Axis Once Terrorised The Globe

CAN BRITAIN BE INVADED?

asks CAPTAIN LIDDELL HART, Britain's foremost military commentator, who in this article examines frankly some vital phases of the position in Europe today.

STERILISATION OF MARRIED JEWS

Our women's page Women In War Time

WORK NEAR HOME

The woman inspector may have to be on duty by day or night, according to factory shifts.

DIFFERENT DIVISIONS

Some women, after a month's preliminary training at the Aeronautical Department's school in the West Country, may show themselves particularly good at testing materials of all kinds used in aircraft production.

NEW ZEALAND GIFTS

What specially pleased me when I was there a few days ago was the arrival from Wellington, New Zealand, of an enormous box, full of children's clothes to be distributed to war time orphans and to any other children in need.

EASILY MADE KNICKERS

Well-made knickers, like those which can be fastened from 1 1/2 yards of material, if you happen to have an old pair or patterned piece, may be made in little time.

TRINIDAD SONS JOIN R.C.A.F.

Geoffrey and Neville Murray, brothers from TRINIDAD, arrived in London to join the R.C.A.F. They said they were glad to be in the front line and to get into the fight.

RUSSIANS LAY SIEGE TO VIENNA

Atomic Bombs Were Not Creation Of Terrible Urgency Of War

Fight-to-Finish Call By Japanese Premier

Churchill In Normandy

Assault Troops Pour Ashore

Churchill In Normandy

Churchill In Normandy

Churchill In Normandy

Churchill In Normandy

Churchill In Normandy

Churchill In Normandy

Caribbean Regiment Trains In U.S. For Active Service

At War Without War Declaration... AIR OFFENSIVE ON OCCUPIED EUROPE

TRINIDAD STANDS BY BRITAIN

GESTAPO AGENT HELD IN TRINIDAD... RADIOGRAM THROUGH BBC

Acquisition of Lands for U.S. Bases

Government Issues Notice in Gazette Extraordinary

Jet-Propelled Robot Planes Me. By Fighters

On Sunday morning last a radio gram came through from the B.B.C. stating that a man by the name of Hirsch had been arrested in Paris.

Food For Britain

MR. CHURCHILL AND GOVERNOR EXCHANGE MESSAGES... TEXT OF AGREEMENT TRINIDAD AREA LEAD AND SPECIAL AGREEMENT MADE PUBLIC

PRISONERS IN GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMP

NEWS USED FOR EXPERIMENTAL PURPOSES... German authorities are using prisoners for all conceivable purposes in Poland for experimental purposes.

Japanese Launch Widespread Attacks In Pacific

Japanese Defeated In Battle Of Okinawa

Russia Joins War Against Japan

Trinidad Guardian

PEACE!

JAPAN CONCEDES TOTAL DEFEAT

Gen. MacArthur Made Church Bells Toll

Mr. Attlee Broadcasts News To Tense Nation

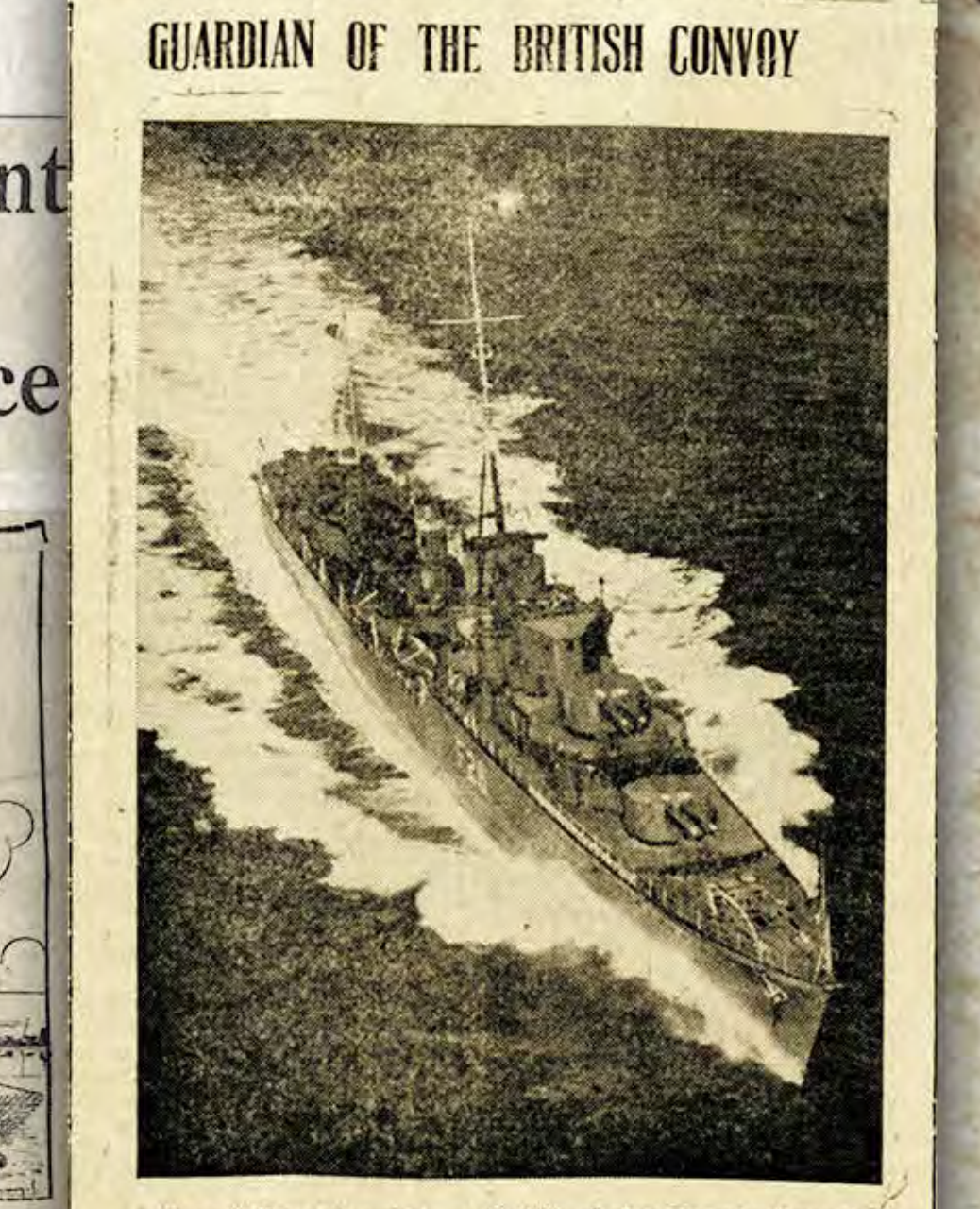
Heart of Tokyo Burnt By Incendiaries

Japanese Suicide Attacks To Be Countered

President Says Great Day For Democracy

Pettin Found Guilty: Death Sentence

Rising Sun Has Set



Gracefully and swiftly a British destroyer cuts through the water. But for all her grace, the U-boats fear her, for destroyers play a large part in defeating German submarines.



"The National Socialistic Programme believes in the community of the people."



MR. CHURCHILL AND GOVERNOR EXCHANGE MESSAGES



RUSSIANS LAY SIEGE TO VIENNA



Atomic Bombs Were Not Creation Of Terrible Urgency Of War



Fight-to-Finish Call By Japanese Premier



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Assault Troops Pour Ashore

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MAIN EVENTS OF WORLD WAR II

OCTOBER 25TH - NOVEMBER 1ST, 1936:

Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy sign a treaty of cooperation on October 25th and November 1st, the Rome Berlin Axis was announced.

NOVEMBER 25TH, 1936:

Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan signed the Anti-Comintern Pact.

JULY 7TH, 1937:

Japan invaded China

APRIL 7TH, 1939:

Fascist Italy invaded Albania



AUGUST 23RD, 1939:

Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a nonaggression Pact

SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1939

Germany invaded Poland, initiating The Second World War

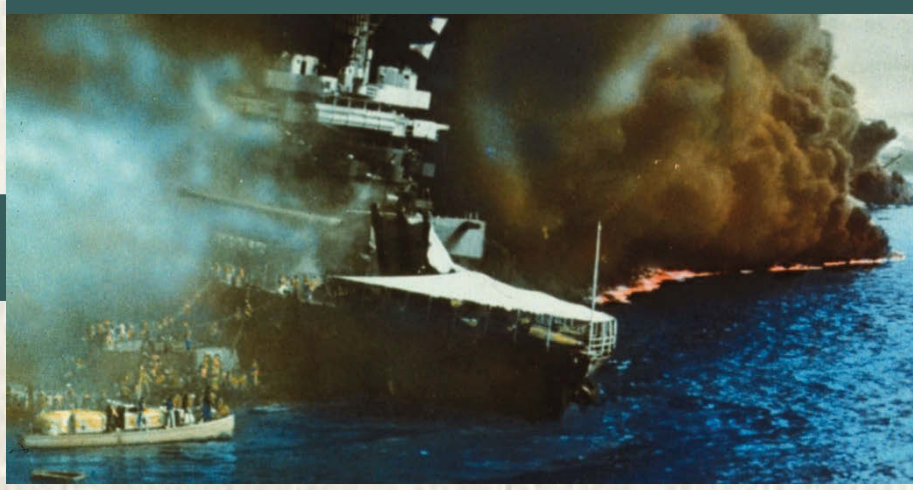


SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1939:

Great Britain and France declared war on Germany.

DECEMBER 7TH 1941:

Japan bombs Pearl Harbour



JUNE 22ND, 1941:

Germany launched Operation Barbarossa- The Invasion of Russia

SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1940:

Germany, Italy and Japan signed the Tripartite Pact



In September 1940, Japan, Italy, and Germany sign the Tripartite Pact. Photo: JAP/Wide World.



JUNE 10TH, 1940:

Italy enters the war.

MAY 10TH- JUNE 22ND, 1940:

Germany attacks Western Europe.

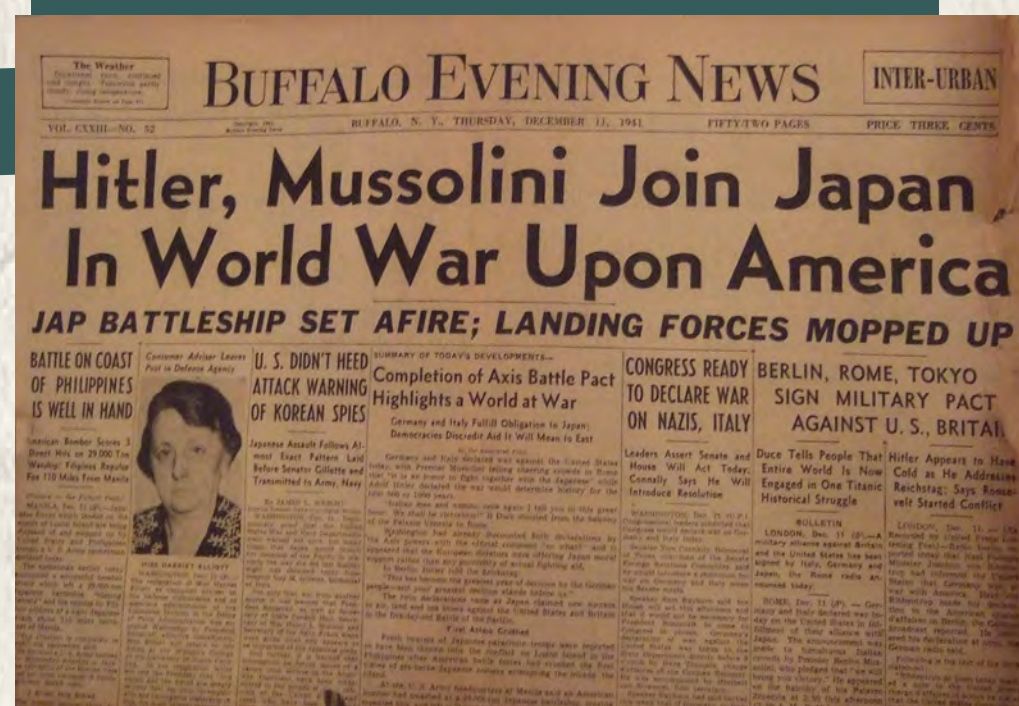


DECEMBER 8TH, 1941

The United States of America declared war on Japan

DECEMBER 11TH, 1941

Nazi Germany declared war on the United States of America



JUNE 4TH, 1942:

The Battle of Midway began

JULY 17TH, 1942

The Battle of Stalingrad began



MAY 10TH- JUNE 22ND, 1940:

Germany attacks Western Europe.

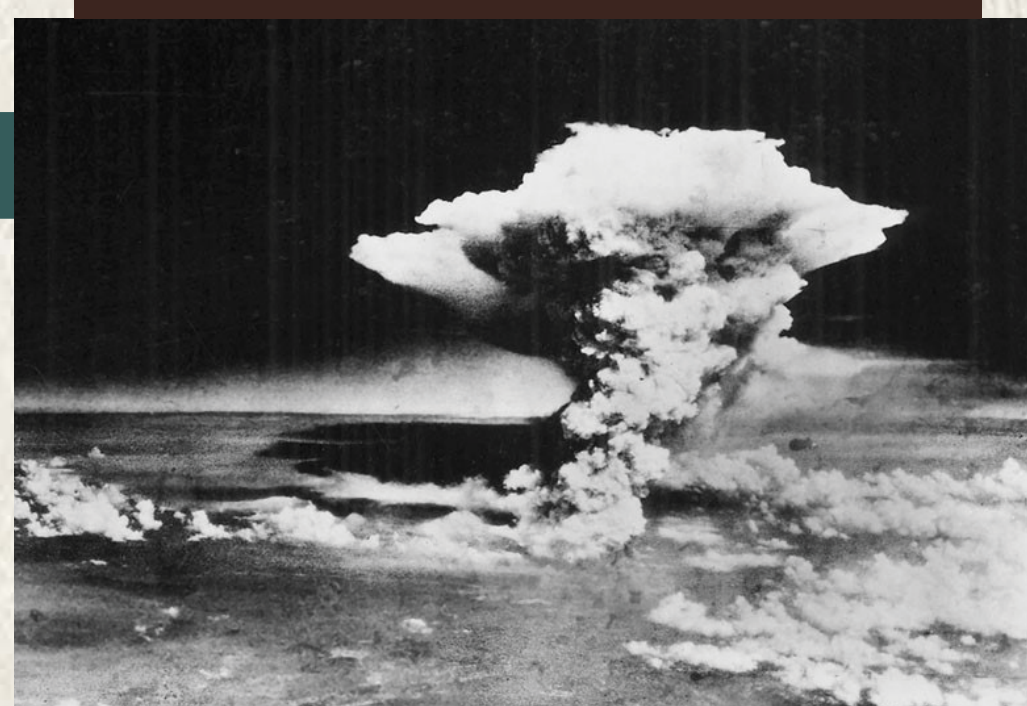


NOVEMBER 8TH, 1942:

Operation Torch began. The United States of America and British troops land at several points on the beaches of Algeria and Morocco in French North Africa.

AUGUST 6TH, 1945:

The United States of America drops an atomic bomb on Hiroshima



MAY 7TH - 9TH, 1945

Germany surrendered



APRIL 30TH 1945:

Hitler commits suicide

OCTOBER 20TH, 1944:

American troops land in the Philippines.

DECEMBER 16TH, 1944:

The Battle of the Bulge begins

APRIL 21ST, 1945:

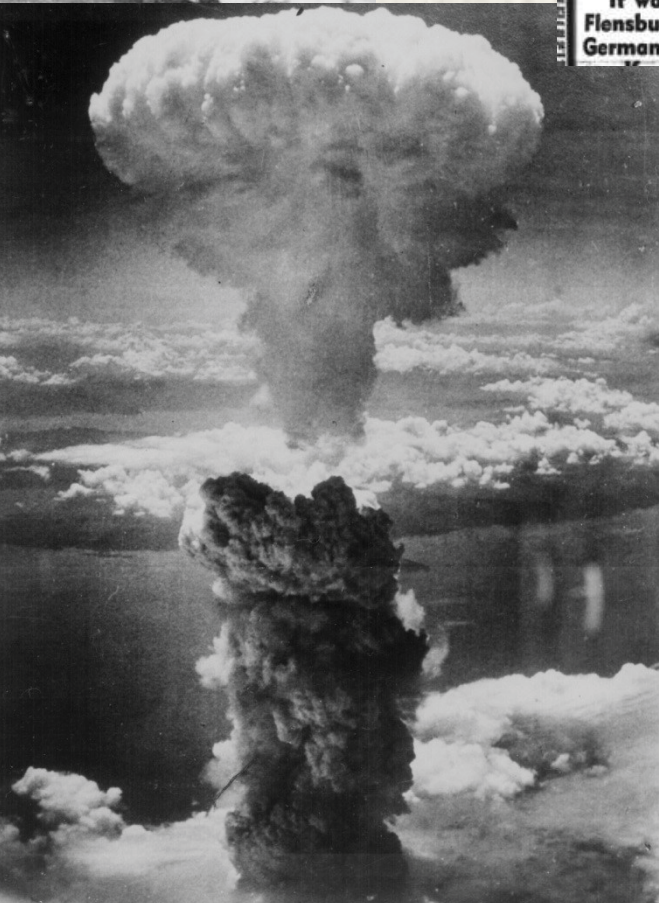
The Soviet Army encircled Berlin

JUNE 6TH 1944:

Operation Overlord code name D-Day occurred. British and American troops successfully land at Normandy.



AUGUST 8TH, 1945
The Soviet Union declared war on Japan and invaded Manchuria



AUGUST 9TH, 1945:

The United States of America drops an atomic bomb on Nagasaki



SEPTEMBER 2ND, 1945:

Japan formally surrendered ending the Second World War leading the Allies to celebrate V-J day.

CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF WORLD WAR II

CAUSES

RISE OF EXTREME IDEOLOGIES

People lost confidence in their governments' ability to handle the rise of poverty, food shortages and economic issues during the post war period. This lack of confidence allowed for the emergence of extreme ideologies such as Fascism, Nazism and Totalitarianism. Under these ideologies tyrants promised to create jobs, relieve hunger and restore the economy thus winning the hearts of the disgruntled people.

FAILURE OF POST GREAT WAR INITIATIVES

Several initiatives were enacted during the post Great War period to prevent another catastrophe. Two of these initiatives were the formation of the League of Nations and several diplomatic treaties, most notable the Treaty of Versailles. The League of Nations was founded to protect independent nations from aggression, to preserve peace and to prevent further disasters. Several reasons caused the League of Nations to fail some of which included: the League being dominated by major powers leaving no role for smaller nations, these major powers using the League to serve their own purposes and the League not having an armed force to deter aggressors. At the end of the Great War, Germany bore the brunt of the 'punishment' as she was declared guilty of initiating the war. As such her punishments were laid out in various treaties. Germany was decimated economically due to the £6,500,000,000 reparations they had to pay. Plagued by various social issues, Germans became disgruntled and susceptible to the ideologies of Nazism where Hitler promised them that Germany would regain its power. Under Nazism, Hitler began rearming Germany and invaded countries such as Czechoslovakia and Austria. The Anglo-French foreign policy known as the Appeasement Policy was enacted which entailed making concessions to the dictatorial powers in order to avoid conflict. Under this approach, Hitler's acts of aggression were ignored and as a result, Germany was allowed to commit acts of aggression without any major punishment.

GERMANY INVADES POLAND

Germany, continuing their imperialistic quest, demanded the city of Danzig from Poland. With the guaranteed protection of Britain and France, Poland refused to yield to Germany's demand. Furious, Germany invaded Poland on September 1st 1939. This invasion pulled Britain and France into the conflict consequently plunging the world into another World War.

CONSEQUENCES

HUMAN AND ECONOMIC COST

Human fatalities during World War Two were extremely high. It was estimated that 23,620,100 soldiers were killed while civilian casualties were estimated at 33,833,000. The amount of people killed at concentration camps amounted to about 5,907,000. The dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan killed about 1,600,000 people and those who survived suffered from various diseases through the generations. The war is estimated to have cost about one trillion dollars in damages and another trillion in war efforts.

THE FORMATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

The United Nations is a world organisation intended to provide peace. The term "United Nations" was first coined by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the first draft for the Charter of the United Nations was signed by fifty nations on June 26th 1945 in the United States of America. Officially coming into existence on the 24th of October 1945, The United Nations has a charter containing nineteen (19) chapters and clearly listed purposes.

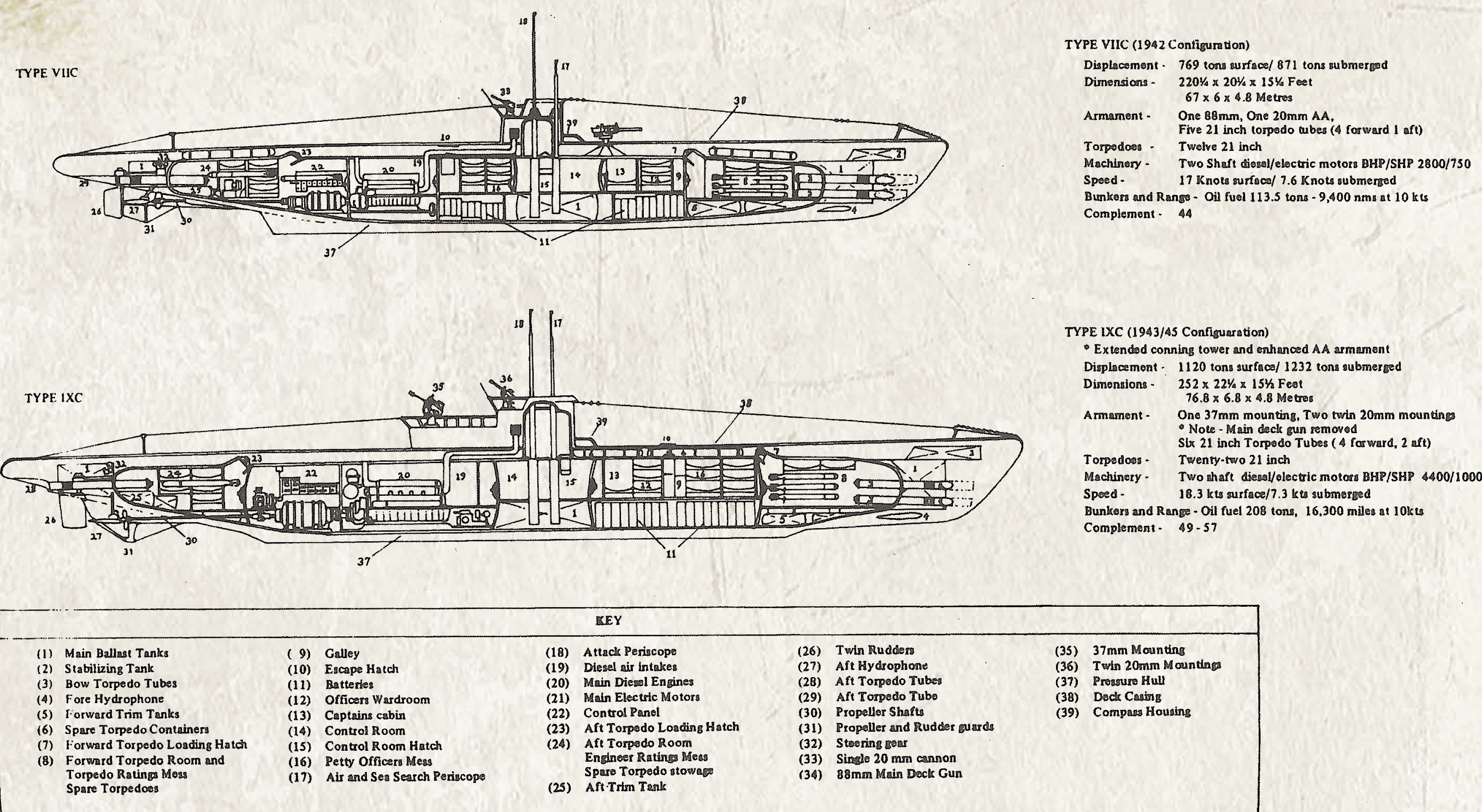
RISE OF NEW WORLD SUPERPOWERS

At the end of World War II a shift in world powers occurred. France and Britain faced economic challenges both on a domestic front and in their colonies. These problems fueled the demand of their colonies for Independence. To be a superpower, a nation needs to have a strong economy, an overpowering military, immense international political power and related to this a strong national ideology. These were the characteristics that were once held by Britain and France but now belonged to the United States of America and The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

WORLD WAR II

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO EXPERIENCE

THE BATTLE OF THE CARRIBEAN AND THE U-BOAT MENACE



Cross-section of a U-boat. (Gaylord Kelshall, *The U-Boat War in the Caribbean* [Shrewsbury, UK: Airlife, 1994].)

The Growling Tiger's prediction came to fruition when in 1942, U-161, captained by Albrecht Achilles sailed into the Port of Spain Harbour and sank the 7400 ton American freighter, Mohikana and the British tanker, British Consul. On the 26th February 1942, U-156, captained by Werner Hartenstein sunk the oil tanker La Carriere south of the Monos Passage resulting in the loss of 16 Trinidadian lives. The German U-Boats had a successful Caribbean campaign, sinking 400 merchant ships, damaging 56 whilst only 17 U-Boats were sunk. The U-Boat menace was integral to Trinidad and Tobago's experience during the war.

Metzgen, Humphrey and John Graham. *Caribbean Wars Untold: A Salute to the British West Indies*. Kingston: University of the west Indies Press, 2007. Print.

Steele, Beverley A. *Grenada in Wartime: The Tragic Loss of the Island Queen and Other Memories of World War II*. Port of Spain: Paria Publishing Limited, 2011. Print.

Rohlehr, Gordon. *Calypso and Society in Pre-Independence Trinidad*. Kingston: The University of West Indies Press, 1990. Print.

THE INTERNMENT OF THE ASHKENAZI JEWS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



The Ashkenazi Jews of Eastern Europe sought refuge from Nazi Germany in the Americas and eventually made their way to Trinidad and Tobago. These Jews who made Trinidad and Tobago their home were referred to as 'Calypso Jews'. In 1939, the calypsonian Gorilla sang "Jews in Trinidad", which chronicled the immigration of the Jews to the West Indies. He noted:

Tell me what you think of a dictator
Trampling the Jews like Adolph Hitler
Tumbling them out of Germany
Some running for refuge in the West Indies

However, by 1939 the British Government considered the approximately 600 Jews who made Trinidad their home, enemy aliens. The Jews therefore were to be placed in internment camps. An internment camp was a prison camp for enemy aliens or prisoners of war. The internment of the Jews took place in two phases. Phase One required all men and women 16 – 60 years in age to report to Police Headquarters where they were then transported to Nelson and Caledonia Island respectively. Phase Two was the internment of both men and women at Camp Rented in Trinidad. At Camp Rented the Jews, Germans (inclusive of captured crew from submarines), Austrians, Nazi Sympathizers and Japanese were interred. All those who were interred at Camp Rented were subject to the same regulations and comparatively their treatment was quite humane. Camp Rented was a prison camp which meant that its prisoners were subject to regular inspections and little access to individuals outside the camp. Privacy was non-existent since they were continuously monitored. Many suffered from depression and intense boredom. In 1943, some of the Jews were released from the camp but had to adhere to wartime constrictions such as being banned from driving cars or riding bicycles, they had to report to the nearest police station daily and they were under curfew from 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM. The period of Jewish internment in Trinidad and Tobago came to an end in January 1944 when Camp Rented closed its doors marking the end of an era in the history of the colony.

De Vertuil, Anthony. *Edward Lanza and the Jews in Trinidad*. Port of Spain: Litho Press, 2014. Print.

Rohlehr, Gordon. *Calypso and Society in Pre-Independence Trinidad*. Kingston: The University of West Indies Press, 1990. Print.

WORLD WAR II

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO EXPERIENCE

WOMEN IN THE WAR



The landscape of women's work had been changed dramatically during the Second World War in occupied Trinidad and Tobago. Many women from the upper and middle classes joined the uniformed services open to females, namely the Women's Voluntary Services and the Auxiliary Territorial Services. Some of the women from the upper echelon of society also founded and ran a multitude of organisations in which volunteers worked towards the war effort.

Additionally they:

1. Helped to nurse and care for wounded or ill servicemen.
2. Established and ran canteens for foreign troops.
3. Helped to entertain them with concerts, teas and parties.
4. Drove vehicles for military purposes.
5. Worked in the censorship service (incoming and outgoing letters to Trinidad were read and censored in case they contained sensitive military information).
6. Knitted and sewed innumerable garments for troops and prisoners of war abroad and took up clerical and other posts at the British and American bases and headquarters.

However, there was also an alternative dimension to women's work in this period which was conceptualized in Lord Invader's, "Rum and Coca Cola",

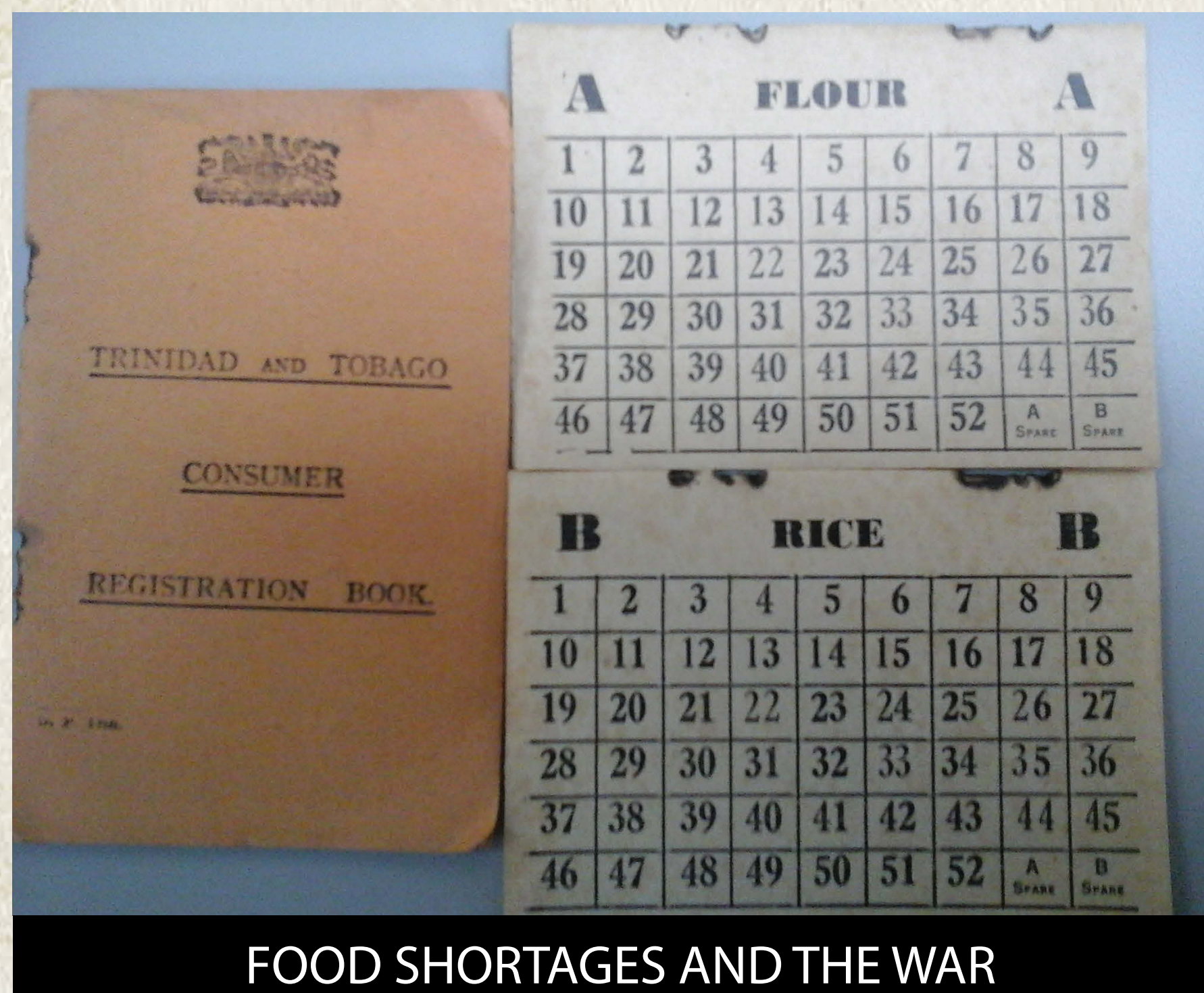
*And when de Yankeys first went to
Trinidad, Some ah de young girls
Were more than glad,
Deh said that de Yankeys treat dem
Nice and deh give dem the better
Price.*

This calypso captured the idea that women's main "contribution" was to provide sexual services to American soldiers and sailors. This also highlighted the absence of cash flow in households due to economic hardships of the war. This did not mean that there was no prostitution existing in Trinidad prior to the war, but it was the catalyst for it becoming more prominent especially near the two main U.S. bases stationed in Chaguaramas and Waller field.

Brereton, Bridget. "Women in Wartime." Trinidad Express Newspapers [Port of Spain] 20 Nov. 2013: n. pag. Print.

Rohlehr, Gordon. Calypso and Society in Pre-Independence Trinidad. Kingston: The University of West Indies Press, 1990. Print.

FOOD SHORTAGES AND THE WAR



FOOD SHORTAGES AND THE WAR

One of the consequences of World War II experienced by Trinidad and Tobago was food shortages. With the disruption of the importation of food from the United States, proposals for food rations were implemented. The Growling Tiger in his 1942 calypso, "Let Them Fight for a Thousand Years" emphasised the growing problem of food shortage as he stated:

*Before the war I was living nice
Hot potato with me bacon, stew pork and rice
Toast bread with butter and jam
Seven eggs in the morning with junk o' ham
Today ah living like a wandering bird
If a see a pot for seconds ah can't find me food
Ah living by guess. Oh have sympathy!
Since the war declare with England and Germany*

According to the Ecclesville Agricultural Society, "children and adults are starving in the country on account of the scarcity of the basic foods as rice and flour." It was proposed that the government's attention be drawn to the plight of the people and compulsory rationing be introduced to secure

equitable food distribution. Sybil Gibbs, reflecting on her life during colonialism and the Second World War, laments that "there were food shortages of imported staple goods of flour and rice in Trinidad and Tobago." In order to accommodate the population, each family was allowed to purchase a weekly quota or ration of rice and flour. To keep track of this weekly quota 'Ration Cards' were produced. The dynamics upon which the card operated was that when weekly rations of flour and rice were purchased at the shops, the consumer gave the card to the shopkeeper who placed an X in the boxes on the ration cards for each item bought.

Gibbs, Sybil. A Child of Colonialism and World War II: My Memories. I Universe, 2002. Web.

Rohlehr, Gordon. Calypso and Society in Pre-Independence Trinidad. Kingston: The University of West Indies Press, 1990. Print.