Wilson's Foreign Policy

1912-1916

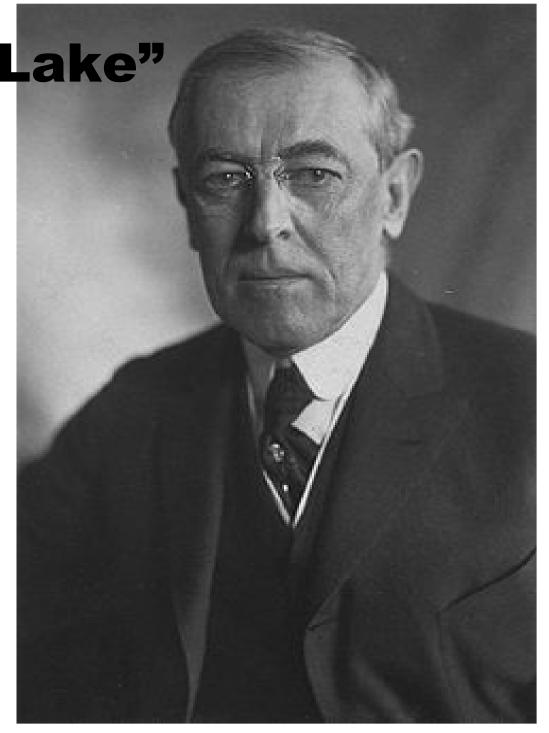
The "Yankee Lake"

Wilson laid out a foreign policy that drew back from the "big stickism" of both TR and Taft

Isolationism

However, he is going to send Marines to protect US interests in Haiti, and the Dominican Republic

The Caribbean was solidly in US hands from 1914 until World War II



Moralistic Diplomacy

"I am going to teach the South American Republics to elect good men."

-Wilson 1914

Revolution in Mexico causes a flood of immigration into the US

Americans push Wilson to quell the violence along the Southern border

3 leaders were vying for control of the Mexican government:

Huerta Carranza Villa

Wilson opposed Huerta

Tampico Incident

In 1914 Mexican officials arrested US sailors in Tampico

Wilson ordered the US Navy to seize Veracruz to prevent weapons shipments from reaching Huerta's troops

Both Huerta and Carranza opposed this intrusion

Mediation

Huerta is deposed and replaced by Carranza

Punitive Expedition



1916 cartoon by Clifford K. Berryman, via National Archive Berryman collection

In 1916 Pancho Villa wanted to trigger a conflict b/w Carranza and Wilson

Villa crossed the border and attacked the New Mexican town of Columbus

In retaliation, Wilson dispatched General Pershing to Mexico to destroy Villas' guerrilla band

As events ramped up in Europe, Wilson w/drew the Army from Mexico

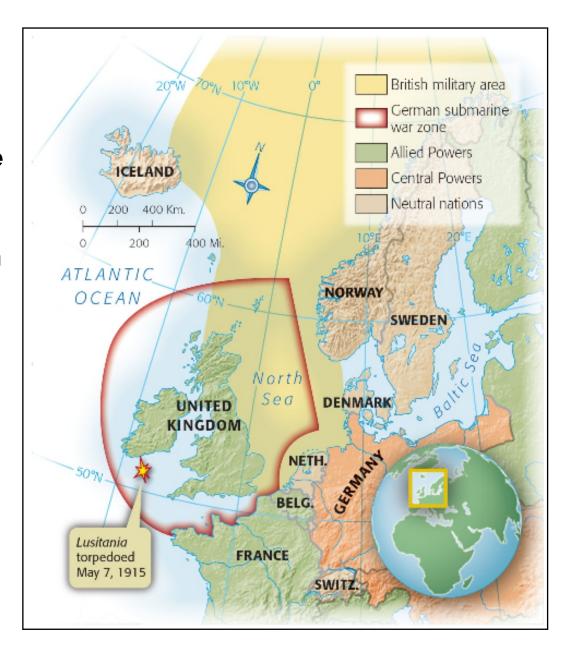
Neutrality

An Arms Race, assassination, and a series of interlocking alliances plunge Europe into war in 1914

US was courted by both the Allies and the Central Powers

Wilson urged Neutrality

British blockades and German submarines make real neutrality impossible



Lusitania

The British passenger liner Lusitania was torpedoed and sunk off the coast of England by U-20, a German submarine in 1915

128 Americans were killed

Lusitania was carrying weapons in the hold

Wilson demanded that Germany apologize and promise not to sink another unarmed passenger ship without warning



Election of 1916

