

The Homefront & Total War

- ✦ **Total War – a country puts all of its resources into the war effort – both human and industrial**
- ✦ Most countries **rationed supplies** in their countries to reserve as much as possible for the war effort
- ✦ Production needed to continue with men gone to war
 - ✦ **Specialized workers** used for war production
 - ✦ **Women take to the factories in large numbers**
 - ✦ Both sides needed women in factories
 - ✦ Women also needed in hospitals
 - ✦ **Edith Cavell – nurse executed by Germans in 1915**
- ✦ **Soldiers were drafted from the civilian population**
- ✦ **National morale maintained by using propaganda**
- ✦ **Total war also means fighting for complete victory**
 - ✦ Doing whatever is necessary to defeat enemy
 - ✦ In **Belgium**, the Germans committed terrible **atrocities** against the Belgian civilians – killed anyone in sight
 - ✦ WWI saw the first examples of the **bombing of cities**
 - ✦ First by zeppelins, later by aircraft
 - ✦ **Taking the war to the civilian population**
- ✦ **Mata Hari – Gertrud Margarete Zelle**
 - ✦ Erotic Dancer who was recruited to be a **spy** by German intelligence in 1907
 - ✦ Was trained in codes, weapons, safe-cracking, hand-to-hand combat, poisoning, forgery, and photography
 - ✦ **Used sex to get close to military & govt. leaders**
 - ✦ Got them to talk about what they were doing
 - ✦ **Her secrets led to the sinking of 17 allied ships**
 - ✦ **Also passed on information about a planned Allied offensive**
 - ✦ **250,000 Allied soldiers died in a failed battle**
 - ✦ She got greedy – tried to become a double agent
 - ✦ **Captured by the French and executed by firing squad on Oct. 15, 1917**

