

United States Trade, 1914-1916

The chart below contains information about the business that the United States did with nations who were fighting against each other in World War I. After studying the chart, summarize the information in the space below.

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United States Exports to the Major Warring Nations, 1914-1916 (in millions of dollars)

Nations	1914	1915	1916
Major Allied Powers: France, United Kingdom, and Czarist Russia	785.0	1341.8	2465.6
Major-Central Powers: Germany, Turkey, and Austria-Hungary	370.7	30.9	.3

The Zimmermann Letter Angers Americans

On February 26, 1917, the British Naval Intelligence Service intercepted this note from the German government (Foreign Secretary Zimmermann) to the German ambassador in Mexico and forwarded it to the United States Department of State. When it appeared in the newspapers, public reaction in the United States was strong. After you have read the letter, summarize the information in your own words in the space below.

Berlin, January 19, 1917

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On the first of February we intend to begin unrestricted submarine warfare. In spite of this, it is our intention to keep the United States of America neutral.

If this attempt is not successful, we propose an alliance on the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together [against the United States] and together make peace. We shall give general financial support, and it is understood that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona. The details are left for your settlement.

You are instructed to inform the President of Mexico of the above in the greatest confidence as soon as it is certain there will be an outbreak of war with the United States.

Please call to the attention of the President of Mexico that submarine warfare now promises to force England to make peace in a few months.