**Occupation of Luxembourg**

**PART 1: THE INVASION**

On 1st August 1914 the events are overturning. After Germany declared war against Russia, as a result of the Dual Alliance (#RSU-#RUS-SERB#), Germany began with the mobilization. The troop movements were based on the Schlieffen-Plan, which was aligned on a two-front war against Russia and France and launched an offensive through Belgium & Luxembourg by injuring their neutrality.

---

**EUROPE 1914**

Triple Entente  Central Po-  Russian Allies

---

**01.08.1914**

4.00 pm: French mobilization to the German borders.

5.00 pm: Wilhelm II of Germany orders mobilization.

**ENGLISH DISPATCHES:**

British Foreign Minister Lord Grey and Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg: Last try to resolve tensions through diplomatic channels. In response, Germany interrupts the invasion of the Spanish division from Trier to Luxembourg.

6.30 pm: German soldiers stationed over the border to Troisvierges.

7.00 pm: Germany declares war against Russia.

11.00 pm: DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS FAILED

The Chief of the German General Staff Moltke turns his version of the Schlieffen Plan into reality. The next day, the full invasion of Luxembourg begins.

---

**02.08.1914**

3.00 am: German troops cross the bridge of Wasserbillig.

6.00 am: First armed train reaches the railway station in Luxembourg City. Throughout the day, German troops flow over Wasserbillig, Remich and Grevenmacher into the country.

3.00 pm: Vanguard reaches Esch-sur-Alzette. Most troops gather in Merl and move on to the Belgian border.

---

**03.08.1914**

6.00 pm: German government declares war against France. Previously, the Belgian government refused the march through its country.

---

**04.08.1914**

At the request of the German minister the French minister in Luxembourg becomes expelled.
OCCUPATION OF LUXEMBOURG

PART 1. THE INVASION

In this new series, we present the situation of Luxembourg between the years of the First World. The series starts with the occupation of Luxembourg.

---

ERSTER TEIL. DIE INVASION

Mit dieser neuen Serie, möchten wir ein Jahrhundert nach dem Ausbruch des Ersten Weltkrieges die Situation Luxemburgs während der Kriegsjahre thematisieren. Den Anfang macht die erste Besetzung Luxemburgs durch das Deutsche Reich am Mobilmachungstag.

---

BENOÎT MAJERUS
LUXEMBOURG
research
majerus.hypotheses.org

GIANNA THOMMES
LUXEMBOURG
research

CHARLES ROEMER
LUXEMBOURG
research

JAN HILKEN
GERMANY
graphic & layout

---

WITH FRIENDLY SUPPORT OF
MAT FRËNDLECHER EINERSTÉTZUNG VUN

---

UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBOURG
Chronicle of Luxembourg

After the German occupation, Luxembourg had to justify partially its position between the years 1914 and 1918. There were some questions about the neutrality, not least because of the economic cooperation and the lack of any defense against occupation. To understand the situation of Luxembourg in World War One, it is necessary to take a view on the chronicle of the country.

Lucilinburhuc 963

At that time Luxembourg (Lucilinburhuc) was only a topographic name for a rock ledge

Manifeste de la Nation 1789

The term "nation" has been used in the "Manifeste de la Nation" in connection with Luxembourg for the first time and that means the sovereign people rebelling against the monarch of that time, the Emperor Joseph II. Although the attitude of the manifest doesn't seem to be strongly represented and stays without consequences because of the French annexation. The duchy of Luxembourg was dissolved and 1795 to 1815 the term nation refers to French nation.

Congress of Vienna 1815

Dividing of the Napoleonic empire. The congress of Vienna decides the foundation of the luxembourghish state in the form of an Grand Duchy and a personal union with the United Kingdom of Netherlands as a part of the German Nation. 1816

The Fortress of Luxembourg becomes a "federal fortress" of Prussia. From this point the stationed soldiers consist of ¼ Dutch troops and and ¾ Prussian troops

Belgian Revolution 1839

The dividing of the United Kingdom of the Netherlands is executed. A part of Luxembourg gets allocated to the Kingdom of Belgium which developed from the dividing of the Netherlands. Luxembourg gets sovereign autonomy and the personal union with the Kingdom of Netherlands remains.

German Zollverein 1842

Luxembourg becomes a member of the German Customs Union and a country with a strong heavy industry.

Own Constitution 1848

an independent Government is formed

Decision 1858

In 1858 the legislator decides, that the luxembourghish nationality exists since 1815.

Railway System Luxembourg 1907

The rail network was essential to ensure the success of the Schleifen Plan and had to be saved on the first day of mobilization. For supplying the German troops, the Wismar and the Prince-Henri network were used. Both have been built with money from the German Reich.

Luxembourg Crisis 1866

As a result of the dissolving of the German Federation the destruction of the fortress of Luxembourg and the everlasting neutrality of the country is decided. The development and the connected withdrawal of the prussian garrison could have supported the Foundation of the Nations.

2nd Treaty of London 1867

Prussian troops leaving Federal Fortress

Railway Convention 1872

Agreement for taking over the management of Wilhelm Luxembourg Railways by the German Imperial Railway Administration

Death of Wilhelm III (NE) 1890

Wilhelm III, dies without descendants. The personal union is dissolved Luxembourg receives its own monarch, Adolph von Nassau Weilburg. The new dynasty adopts the position of "national" rulers and takes part in the list of middle aged royals.
CHRONICLE OF LUXEMBOURG

In the framework of the realization of an exhibition, members of the Institute for History at the University of Luxembourg undertook research on Luxembourg during the First World War. Their focus was on concrete experiences of war in Luxembourg – hunger, death, occupation – in the years 1914-1918.

WITH FRIENDLY SUPPORT OF
MAT FRÉNDELECHER ENNERSTÉTZUNG VUN

UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBOURG
AIR ATTACKS
ON LUXEMBOURG DURING WORLD WAR ONE

Between 1914 and 1918, Luxembourg was attacked by British and French air forces. Although the attacks mainly focused on heavy industry and supply routes, the population suffered also among the numerous bombings.

NUMBER OF ATTACKS
- 5
- 10
- 15
- 20
- 30
- 40
- 50

IRONWORKS

The heavy industry is based on the rich ore deposits in the southwest of the country. Since Luxembourg joined the German "Zollverein", both benefit from these deposits.

One of the ironworks is the Adolf-Emil-Hütte in Esch-sur-Alzette.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

The first dropped bombs were simple hand grenades, which had been thrown out of balloons, airships and early aircrafts. From the first bombing in 1911 till the end of the Great War, air attacks became an often used hit against the civil population and a tool to hinder the enemy's logistical supply.

VICTIMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonnevoie</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clausen</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differdange</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dommeldange</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudelange</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ech</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eschbruck</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P.W.-BOMBS: GERMANY
50Kg, 100Kg, 300Kg, 12.5kg, 1000Kg

ZEPPELIN (STRASSEN) R.VI
GERMAN PLANE THAT FLEW ATTACKS ON LONDON DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

42.2M
AIR ATTACKS

In the framework of the realization of an exhibition, members of the Institute for History at the University of Luxembourg undertook research on Luxembourg during the First World War. Their focus was on concrete experiences of war in Luxembourg – hunger, death, occupation – in the years 1914-1918.

Im Rahmen eines Ausstellungsprojektes unternahmen die Mitarbeiter des Instituts für Geschichte an der Universität Luxemburg Forschungen zu Luxemburg im ersten Weltkrieg. Im Mittelpunkt standen die konkreten Erfahrungen des Krieges in Luxemburg – Hunger, Tod, Besatzung – in den Jahren 1914-1918.

BENOÎT MAJERUS
LUXEMBOURG
research
majerus.hypotheses.org

GIANNA THOMMES
LUXEMBOURG
research

CHARLES ROEMER
LUXEMBOURG
research

JAN HILKEN
GERMANY
graphic & layout

WITH FRIENDLY SUPPORT OF
MAT FRÄNDLECHER ENNERSTÉTZUNG VUN

UNIVERSITY OF
LUXEMBOURG
HUNGER

FOOD CRISIS IN LUXEMBOURG DURING WORLD WAR ONE | 1914 – 1918

Luxembourg was not directly involved into the great war, but made the experience of what was called TOTAL WAR. Like many other countries during those years, the people of Luxembourg were exposed to a severe form of food shortage.

FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION BEFORE WAR

1. NOT SELF-SUFFICIENT
   dependent on imports of food products
2. WELL FILLED STORAGE
   reserves available grannary filled with imported wheat
3. STEADY DECLINE
   grain production

1914

1918

GREED
Luxembourg's farmers increase the food price

1917

DEPENDENCE
Luxembourg signs agreement with Germany and waives on delivery from neutral countries

1916

DEPENDENCE
The food supply of Luxembourg in totally dependent on Germany

HELP
Nearly 100,000 kg of cereals, vegetables, potatoes and butter were sent to Longwy (france) & the region of Luxembourg (Belgium)

DEPRESSION
Luxembourg buys food from neutral countries (NL) (RO) (CH)

MILITARY PRESENCE
4,500 - 5,500 German soldiers were stationed in Luxembourg

FOOD PRICES
Permanently more expensive

MAXIMUM PRICES
Without success, the government introduces a limited height for food prices

SABOTAGE FOOD SUPPLY
GB sabotages collaboration between USA & Luxembourg

POOR HARVEST

FILLING FOODSTOCK

MILITARY PRESENCE
Germany refuses transit of goods purchased by Luxembourg

REGULATION OF PRICES
State gets dictatorial powers to protect economic interests
THE PEOPLE HUNGER

In the framework of the realization of an exhibition, members of the Institute for History at the University of Luxembourg undertook research on Luxembourg during the First World War. Their focus was on concrete experiences of war in Luxembourg—hunger, death, occupation—in the years 1914-1918.

Im Rahmen eines Ausstellungsprojektes unternahmen die Mitarbeiter des Instituts für Geschichte an der Universität Luxemburg Forschungen zu Luxemburg im ersten Weltkrieg. Im Mittelpunkt standen die konkreten Erfahrungen des Krieges in Luxemburg—Hunger, Tod, Besatzung—in den Jahren 1914-1918.

BENOÎT MAJERUS
LUXEMBOURG
research
majerus.hypotheses.org

GIANNA THOMMES
LUXEMBOURG
research

CHARLES ROEMER
LUXEMBOURG
research

JAN HILKEN
GERMANY
graphic & layout

WITH FRIENDLY SUPPORT OF
MAT FRËNDLECHER ÉINNERSTÉTZUNG VÜN
D'GELLE FRA
MONUMENT DU SOUVENIR

The Monument of Memory, better known by the name of Gëlle Fra is situated at the Place de la Constitution in Luxembourg City. The statue of a gilded bronze lady holding a laurel wreath, was inaugurated in 1923 to commemorate the Luxembourgers who perished in World War I. Over the years, the history of the Gëlle Fra changed her original meaning for remembrance. Nowadays, the Monument of souvenir is no longer just a place to remember the years of the first world war.

ADRESSE:
MONUMENT DU SOUVENIR
PLACE DE LA CONSTITUTION
1478 LUXEMBOURG

HISTORY:
1920 competition launched
funded by donations, sale of stamps
1923 Mai 23. - Mai 27. inaugurated
200.000 times printed in 2 pads
1940 Okt. monument torn down by the nazi
1951 new construction of the monument
without the Golden Lady
1981 return of the Golden Lady
refound under the Stade Josy-Bartel
1985 Jun. 23. inaugurated again
2001 Lady Rosa of Luxembourg
2010 March 2. - Expo 2010 Shanghai
2010 Nov. Luxembourg

MONUMENT DU SOUVENIR
Designed by Claus Cito
[1861-1934]
from 1920 - 1923

FRIDENSKINNEN
cost: 15,700 Franc
BRONZE WITH GOLD PLATING

SQUARE
4 x 1.5m

GRANITE OBELISK
21m tall

SOLDIERS
cost: 27,300 Franc
BRONZE WITH GOLD PLATING

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

LADY ROSA OF LUXEMBOURG
Croatian artist Sanja Ivekovic erected a similar monument. Criticise the very secondary role that was given to women in general memory during war times. It provokes a long controversy by satirising the common memory conventions.

FURTHER WORKS:
- The altar of the crypt of the Cathedral of Our Lady
- Statue of the Grand Duchess Charlotte of Luxembourg
- Statue Mere eplore (incomparable mother) at the cemetery in Leudelingen
Luxembourg in World War One
Maintopic Issue #2 | Nr.5

D'GELLLE FRA

In the framework of the realization of an exhibition, members of the Institute for history at the University of Luxembourg undertook research on Luxembourg during the First World War. Their focus was on concrete experiences of war in Luxembourg - hunger, death, occupation - in the years 1914-1918.

Im Rahmen eines Ausstellungsprojektes unternehmen die Mitarbeiter des Instituts für Geschichte an der Universität Luxemburg Forschungen zu Luxembourg im ersten Weltkrieg. Im Mittelpunkt standen die konkreten Erfahrungen des Krieges in Luxemburg – Hunger, Tod, Besatzung – in den Jahren 1914-1918.

BENOÎT MAJERUS
LUXEMBOURG
research
majerus.hypotheses.org

GIANNA THOMMES
LUXEMBOURG
research

CHARLES ROEMER
LUXEMBOURG
research

JAN HILKEN
GERMANY
graphic & layout

WITH FRIENDLY SUPPORT OF
MAT FRÉNDLECHER ÉNNERSTÉTZUNG VUN

UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBOURG