

FROM ISOLATION TO WAR

I. Motives for Isolationism

Isolationism: _____

A. Tradition of Neutrality:

B. Economic Strain:

C. Nature of War:

D. Ethnic Diversity:

E. Pacifism:

II. Motives for U.S. Entry

A. Trade Imbalance:

B. Freedom of the Seas:

C. The Zimmerman Note:

D. Democracy

“...[T]here can be no assured security for the democratic governments of the world. We are now about the accept gauge of battle with this natural foe to liberty... We are glad, now that we see the facts with no veil of false pretence about them, to fight thus for the ultimate peace of the world and for the liberation of its peoples, the German peoples included: for the rights of nations great and small and the privilege of men everywhere to choose their way of life and of obedience. The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty.”

-Woodrow Wilson, 1917

QUESTIONS

- 1. According to the document, what does Wilson believe the purpose of World War I is?**
- 2. How did President Wilson’s position on World War I change over time?**