

No Man's Land

The Extremes of Humanity

Trench Warfare: Prelude

French uniforms
in 1871
(during the
Franco-Prussian War)



Trench Warfare: Prelude

French uniforms in 1914, as seen on a postcard from that year. Uniforms had remained unchanged for over 40 years.



Trench Warfare: Prelude

French “horizon
blue” uniforms
(by 1916)



Trench Warfare: Prelude

German
uniform in
1914



German
uniform
by 1916



Trench Warfare: Prelude



Trench Warfare: Prelude

Officer HQ in Union trenches at the Second
Battle of Fort Wagner (South Carolina, 1863)



Union trenches during the Siege of Petersburg
(Virginia, 1865)



Trench Warfare: Prelude



Trench Warfare: Prelude

U.S. soldiers at the Battle of San Juan Hill in Cuba
(Spanish-American War, 1898)



U.S. Marines outside Manila (Philippine
Insurrection, 1903)



Trench Warfare: Prelude

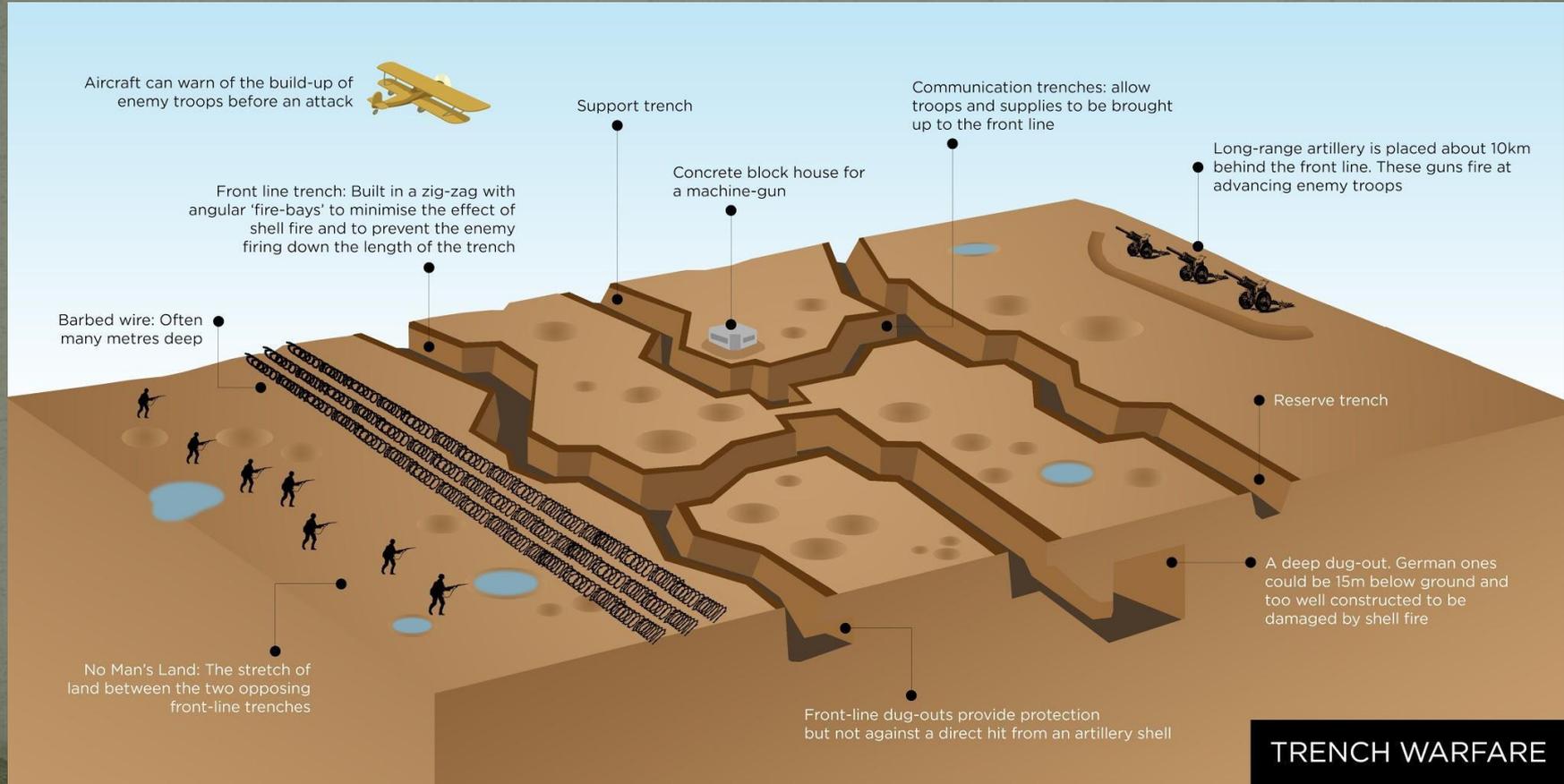


Trench Warfare: Prelude

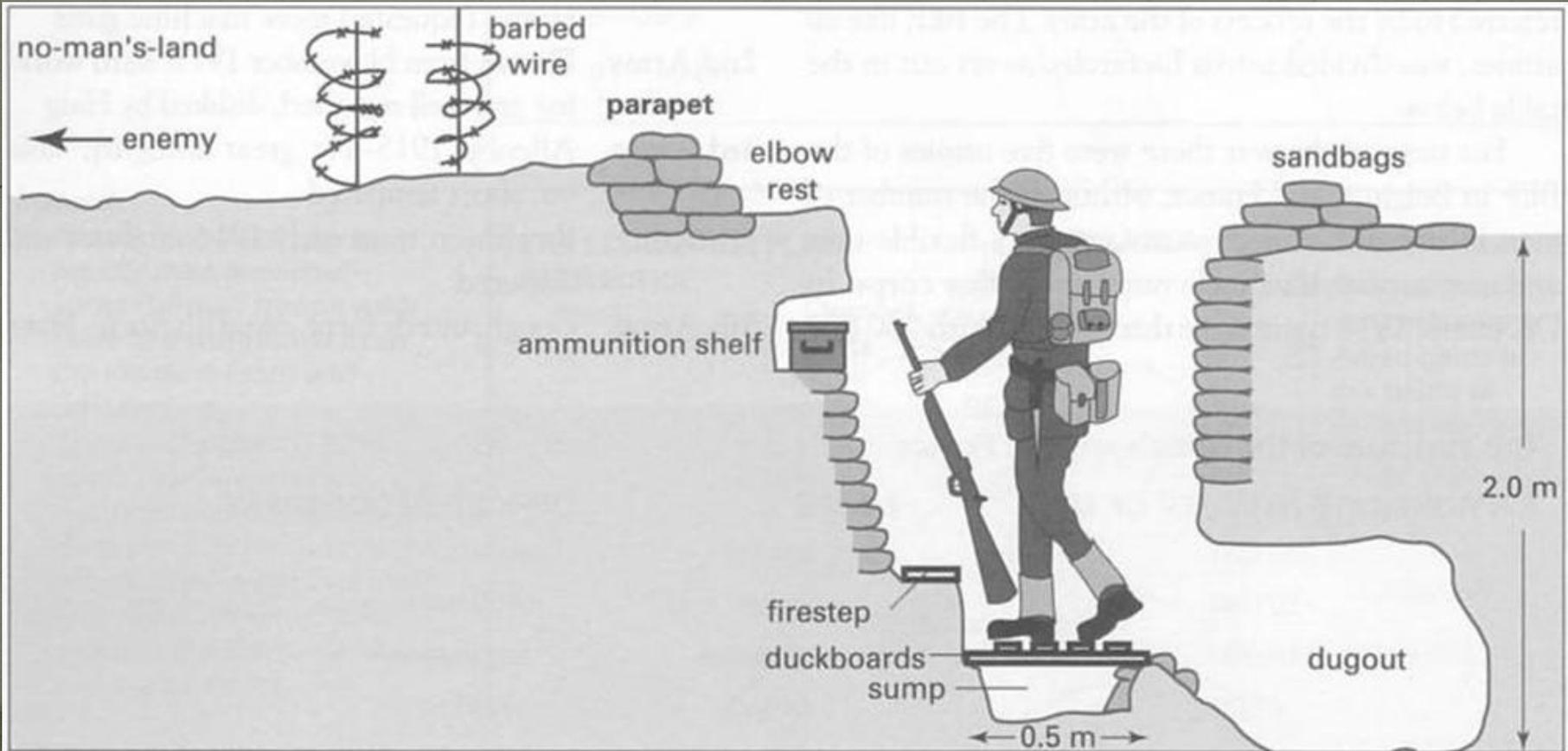
Japanese troops in trenches
during the
Russo-Japanese War
(c. 1904)



Trench Warfare



Trench Warfare



Trench Warfare

Benefits

- (Relative) Safety from machine guns, artillery, and snipers.

Disadvantages

- Poor drainage in a rainy climate
- Poor sanitation measures
- Poor shelter from the elements
- Rodent / parasite infestation
- Constant shelling



Trench Warfare

Disease

- Trench Foot
 - Necrosis of the foot, caused by constant immersion in cold, insanitary water. Sometimes results in amputation.
- Trench Fever
 - Caused by lice feces: symptoms include five-day fever, severe headache, pain on moving the eyeballs, soreness of leg and back muscles, and hyperesthesia of the shins. Noted sufferers are J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis.
- Trench Nephritis
 - An inflammation of the kidneys, resulting in breathlessness, swelling of the face or legs, and sore throat.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

E00572

Australian war correspondent Capt. C.E.W. Bean makes his way through a trench.

Trench Warfare



Artillery

The Battle of Verdun (1916)

- A 10 month long German offensive against French positions. Both sides fire between 40 and 60 million artillery shells. These barrages demolished 9 French towns, and caused roughly 70% of the 800,000 casualties.

The Battle of the Somme (1916)

- British forces fired over 1.7 million shells on German lines during the opening week. After 4 months, there are over 1 million casualties on both sides, and Allied forces move 6 miles (roughly the distance between Wilsonville and Sherwood).

The Battle of Passchendaele (Third Ypres, 1917)

- British forces fired over 4.5 million shells from over 3,000 cannons on German lines for over two weeks during the opening attack. The British sustain over 310,000 casualties and make no significant gains over a 4 month campaign.

Casings from fired shells during the Battle of Vimy Ridge (Part of the Battle of Verdun, 1916)



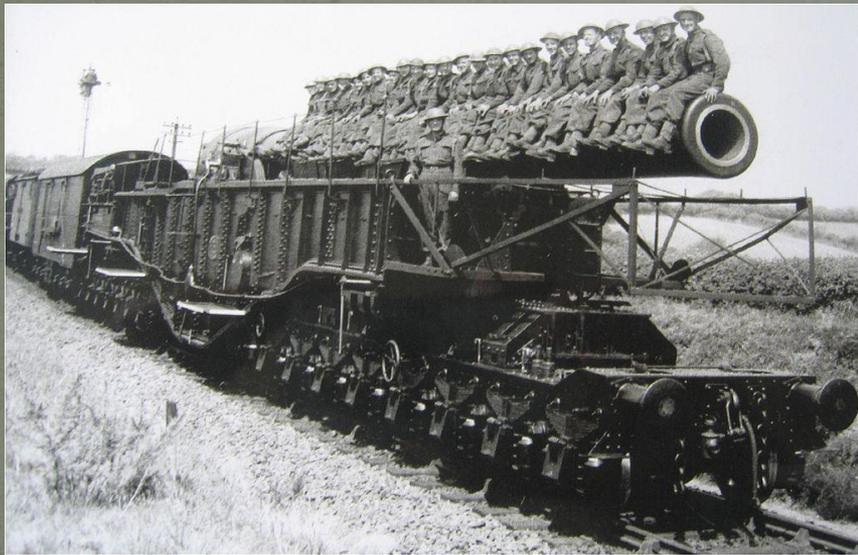
Artillery



Artillery



Artillery







STONE



The village of Fleury during the Battle of Verdun (1916)

Artillery: “Shell Shock”

Symptoms

- Erratic behavior
- Tinnitus
- Amnesia
- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Tremors
- Hypersensitivity to noise
- Mutism
- Fugue

Treatment

- After it became such a major issue, the British army removed shell shock a symptom for removal from the front, and many soldiers were executed for “cowardice.”
- 19 British hospitals were devoted solely to the treatment of shell shock
- 10 years after the war, as many as 65,000 veterans were still receiving treatment for shell shock
- Cases could be viewed in French hospitals as late as 1960



Chemical Warfare



The Other Extremes: Christmas Truce of 1914

