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National World War I Museum Releases Special Online Exhibition
War Fare: From the Homefront to the Frontlines

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – In the earliest months of World War I, a certain undercurrent of optimism could be felt as troops on both sides of the conflict were well supplied and well fed, but that optimism quickly faded as food supplies started running short. Explore delicious vintage recipes and an often overlooked aspect of the war in the new online exhibition [War Fare: From the Homefront to the Frontlines](#) from the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial.

War Fare: From the Homefront to the Frontlines reviews the effects of food in the first global conflict in human history. The online exhibition includes detailed ration lists for soldiers from different countries, photographs and comments from key figures in the Great War. The exhibition also includes the U.S. State Department-issued 1918 cookbook “Win the War in the Kitchen,” with updated recipes and images for the modern era by Vancouver-based food-blogger Joey Armstrong.

“As we approach the Centennial of World War I it is absolutely critical to examine the impact of the war from every vantage point and that includes food,” National World War I Museum President & CEO Dr. Matthew Naylor said. “Food is frequently an afterthought in reviewing critical aspects of war and this exhibition showcases how one of the most basic of all human necessities directly affected the outcome of the Great War.”

Poor access to food impacted all sides of the war with riots in France and the Ottoman Empire. An example of the significant impact of food on the war is easily seen in a review of the German food supply. As the war endured longer than expected, German rations progressively worsened as blockades were used as an effective tool in a war of attrition. Lack of food prompted riots in many German cities and malnutrition eventually led to disease and death. Yet, as much food as possible was still being directed toward the frontlines to support the troops and the continued war effort. The strategic importance of food during wartime was continually reinforced during World War I.

The homefront and the frontlines felt the effects on food as propaganda posters, ration tickets, Meatless Mondays and Wheatless Wednesdays were introduced to in response to this desperate situation. The exhibition includes photographs and stories about how various countries handled the food crisis during World War I.

The online exhibition is available at exhibitions.theworldwar.org and is made possible through the generous support of the Regnier Family Foundation.

About the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial

The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial is the only American museum solely dedicated to examining the personal experiences of a war whose impact still echoes in the world today. The National World War I Museum holds the most diverse collection of World War I objects and documents in the world and is the second-oldest public museum dedicated to preserving the objects, history and experiences of the war. The Museum takes visitors of all ages on an epic journey through a transformative period and shares deeply personal stories of

courage, honor, patriotism and sacrifice. Designated by Congress as America's official World War I Museum and located in downtown Kansas City, Mo., the National World War I Museum inspires thought, dialogue and learning to make the experiences of the Great War era meaningful and relevant for present and future generations. To learn more, visit www.theworldwar.org.



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