**Dulce Et Decorum Est**
Life of a soldier on the Front Lines

- Trenches on the Western Front
  - 700(+) rounds,
  - 8200 feet

**Trench Runners**

**Deadlock on the Western Front**

- Aug 1914 - Jan 1916
  - Germany
    - over stretched
    - Germany on the Defensive
  - Elaborate trenches

- Aug 1914 - Jan 1916
  - Allies
    - BUT forces are growing
    - 2,000% increase in arms production, 10-fold increase in army size
    - Allies preparing joint offensive
“The Death Trap”: Verdun (Feb 1916 - June 1916)
- Verdun = fortress city, “quiet sector”
- German strategy = hopes “the forces of France will bleed to death”

Verdun Battle (cont’d)

- German strategy:
  - Infantry attack across 12 mile front
  - mobile units break through trench defenses
- Results:
  - French defensive =
  - Approx 700,000 casualties

“The Death Trap”: Verdun

- Allied Strategy:
  - shell artillery barrage (1 week)
  - Cross No Man’s Land with lines of Infantry
  - German trenches far more advanced
  - July 1, 1916 (1st Phase):
  - By Nov 1916
  - 7 miles, at least 1 million casualties

The Somme Holocaust

- Nov 19, 1916
- Allied Strategy:
  - shell artillery barrage (1 week)
  - Cross No Man’s Land with lines of Infantry
  - German trenches far more advanced
  - July 1, 1916 (1st Phase):
  - 2nd Phase:
  - By Nov 1916
  - 7 miles, at least 1 million casualties
The Horrors of War

- Modern Weapons
  - Airplanes (and German)
  - Machine guns, repeating rifle, fast-firing artillery
  - Hand grenades and flame throwers
  - Barbed wire
- Tanks - Somme (1916), Cambrai (1917)

America and Armageddon

- By Spring 1918:
  - War in the East ending
  - German Offensives on
  - Germany’s Gamble
  - “They will not break even, because our submarines have destroyed their fleet.” - Admiral Capelle
  - “This America from a military point of view means nothing, just upon nothing and for a third time nothing.” - Admiral Capelle
- American Expeditionary Force
  - “Lafayette, I am here.”
- Naval Strategy
  - Minefield in North Sea
- Selective Service Act of 1917
  - 2.8 million drafted