OUTLINE

- Background
- Americans in Theater
- On the American Front
- Questions
- Conclusion
BACKGROUND

- No early involvement by allies
- Germans use geologists
- Mid 1915 allies think about geology
  - water supplies
  - mine/countermine operations
  - hydro mapping
Mine warfare mostly over

American Expeditionary Force
- Assigned 10 geologists
- 27th Engr Spec Mining Regiment
- 26th Engr (water supply)
Americans in Theater
(2 of 3)

- LTC Alfred H Brooks
  - USGS worker
  - Organized geological effort
  - Office of Chief Engineers, Trans
  - Engineering Intelligence

- Staff Impacts
  - Topo maps, 5mm maps in 5 months
  - First US use of aerial photo maps
  - Annex for Meuse-Argonne Offensice
Americans in Theater
(3 of 3)

- **27th Engr Spec Mining Regt**
  - 6 x 250 man companies
  - Western “hard rock” miners preferred
  - Horizontal construction, bridging, quarrying

- **26th Engineers**
  - 1500 troops in 7 companies
  - Oil Drillers
  - Artesian well (4mil gpd) at Bordeaux
National Research Council

R.A.F. Penrose “What a geologist can do in the War”

- 43% of Army Training Corps schools had no geology courses
- Only 12% beyond introductory
- Incorporated as an elective
On the American Front
(2 of 2)

- U.S Geological Survey
  - Locating and developing energy
  - Oil in Oklahoma
  - Natural gas in W. Virginia
  - Worked with U.S. Bureau of Mines
  - War Industries Board
  - War Finance Committee
CONCLUSION

“I did not realize that geology had anything to do with military mining.”

BGEN R.N. Harvey
Inspector of Mines (English)
19 May 1919