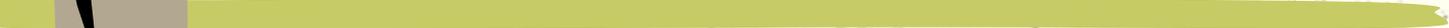


# THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



# **Part I Leading Up to the Russian Revolution**



# Pre-Revolutionary Russia

- # **Only true autocracy left in Europe**
- # **Nicholas II became last Russian czar in 1894**
- # **He believed he was the absolute ruler anointed by God**



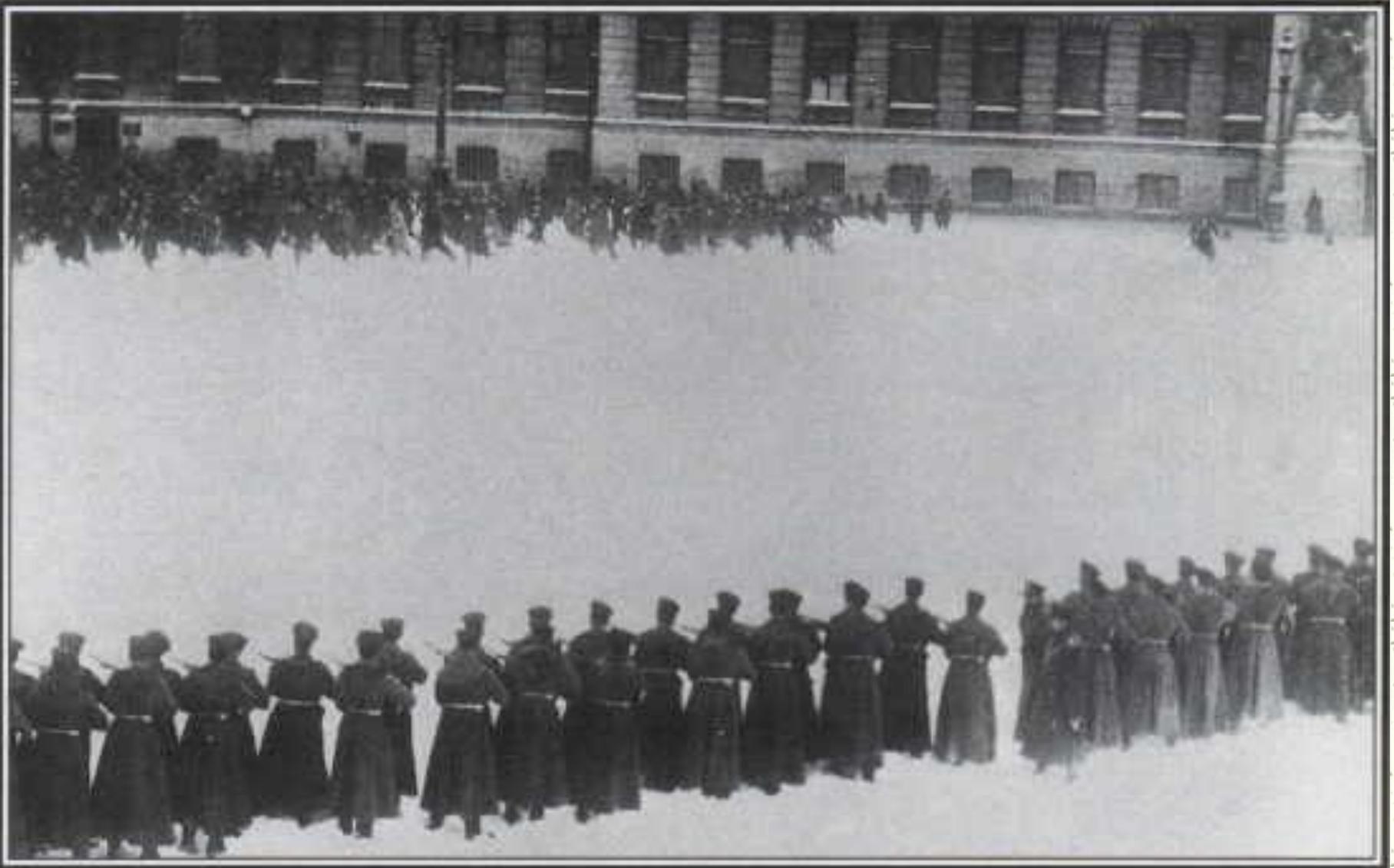
# Russia's Serfs (Peasants):

- # **Russia was divided into 2 groups—the very rich and the very poor (serfs)**
- # **In exchange for working long hours for a landlord, a serf received a small log hut, a tiny piece of land, and a few animals.**
  - **Most of the serfs' crops went to pay the landlord's taxes.**
  - **Anyone who resisted the rules was beaten with a leather and wire whip. Many tried to escape, but few succeeded...**



# **“Bloody Sunday”**

- # 1905: Russia lost a war with Japan**
  - This angered many serfs and workers**
  - January 22<sup>nd</sup>: thousands of people marched on the Winter Palace to ask Czar Nicholas for reforms**
    - Palace troops shot people in the crowd; this became known as “Bloody Sunday”**
    - More and more riots began to occur after this...**



# The Effects of World War I

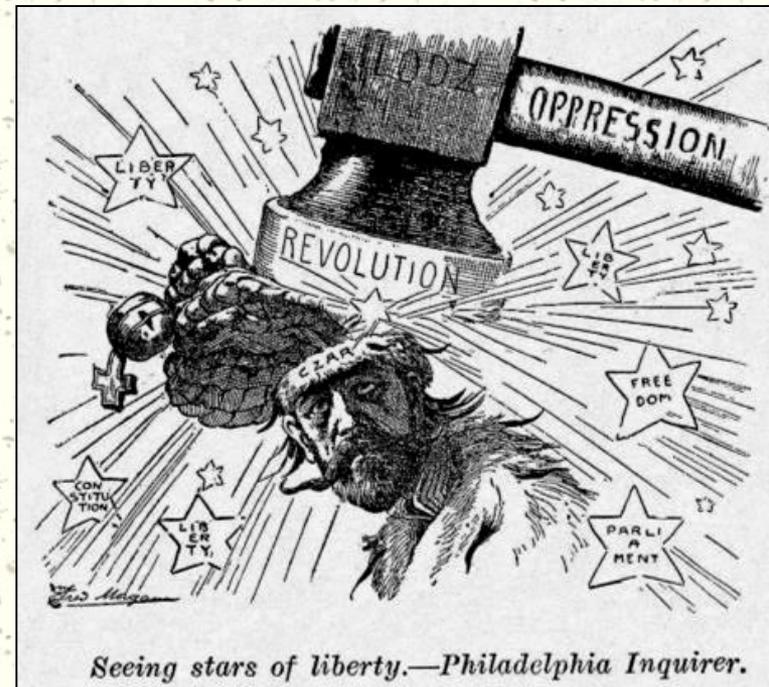
- # 1914: Russia entered World War I and did not do well
  - Millions of soldiers were killed, wounded, or missing,
  - people suffered severe food shortages,
  - Soldiers did not have enough clothes, shoes, or weapons.

# The Effects of World War I

- # Czar Nicholas ignored the signs that people were unhappy
- # He was seen as a weak man & became increasingly remote as a ruler
  - He did not see that changes were needed in the way that his country was run
  - Numerous Soviets thus began to appear on the scene...

# Time for a Change

- **Early 1917—there were riots in the streets**
- **Women, factory workers, and farmers demanded a change**
- **Groups greatly outnumbered the police & the military could not keep the peace**
- **Czar Nicholas was forced to give up his throne, and a weak government took over**
- **Czar & his family were captured**



*Seeing stars of liberty.—Philadelphia Inquirer.*



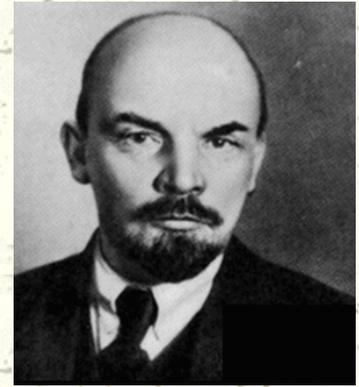
# The Revolution Spreads...



# Part II Lenin



# Lenin Brings Communism to Russia



- # **1917:** Vladimir Lenin pushed the weak government aside and **Communists took control of Russia**
  - Czar Nicholas & his family were executed
- # **1922:** Lenin reorganized the country and named it the **Soviet Union**
  - Joined Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia, & Ukraine



# Why Communism?



- # A theory that says the government should own the farms and factories for the benefit of all the citizens
- # Everyone should share the work equally and receive an equal share of the rewards
  - Appealed greatly to many Russians (split between rich and poor)
  - Lenin promised that communism would bring fairness and equality to ALL Russians...