

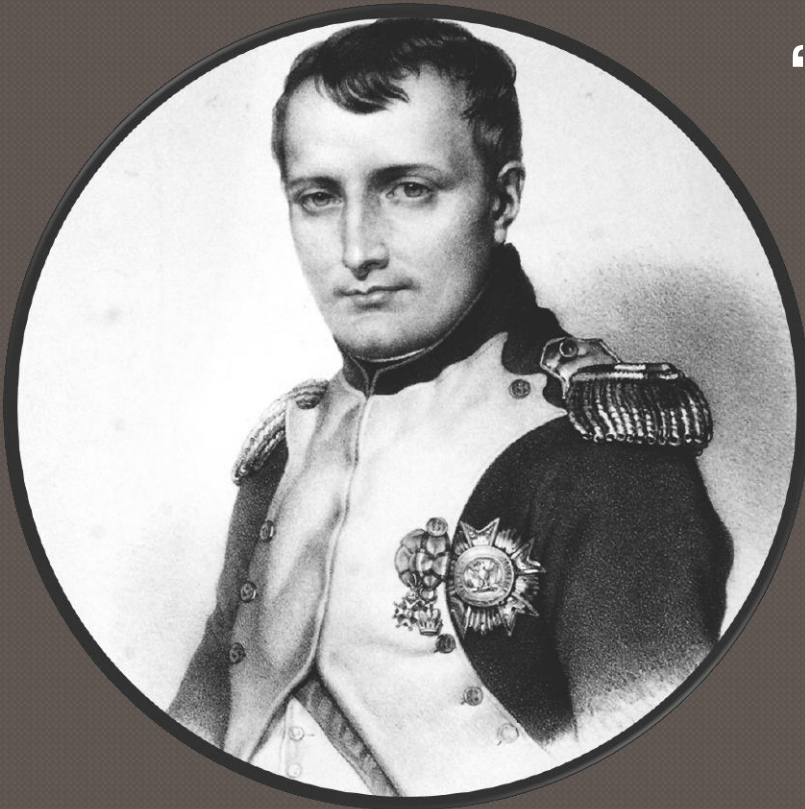
# Who Won World War One

Ten Extraordinary Individuals

By  
Tim Fischer

# Napoleon Bonaparte

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*“I would rather have  
a General who was  
lucky than one  
who was good”*

# Who were the elixirs of victory?

- On the Western Front
- On a significant scale
- In the last year of the War - 1918

# In relation to this list of ten

- All went within inches of being killed
- All showed incredible initiative
- All were totally focussed on victory
- All survived the War

# King Albert I

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# King Albert I

## King of the Belgians

### Anchor of the Western Front

- 1909 became King and actual Commander in Chief
- 1914 ordered general mobilisation
- Resisted German advances
- Held on to Ypres Salient for the entire duration of the War

# Sir Winston Churchill

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# Sir Winston Churchill

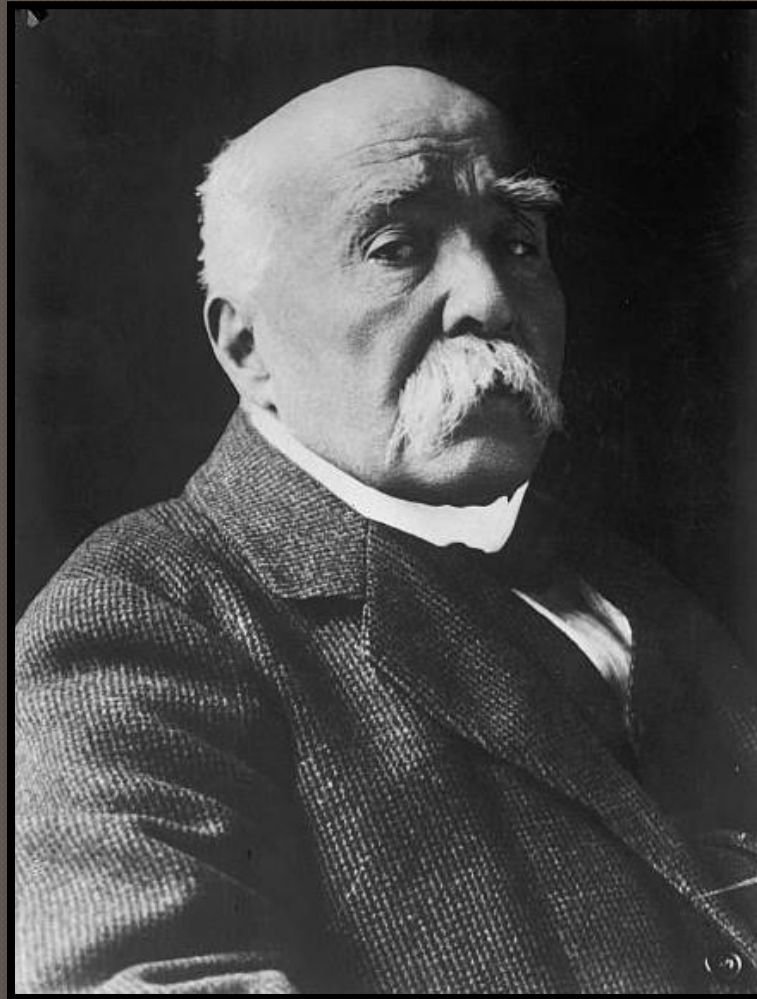
## Minister for Munitions - 1918

- After Dardenelles disaster resigned as Minister
- Commanded in the trenches
- Spear-headed development of tanks Mark 4 and Mark 5



# George Clemenceau

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# Georges Clemenceau

*“America is the only nation in history which miraculously has gone from barbarism to degeneration without the interval of civilisation”*

# Georges Clemenceau

## Prime Minister France 1918

- Minister for War 1917-1920
- Masterminded allied unity to focus on victory over the Germans
- Physically visited the Front regularly

# Sir Arthur Currie

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# Sir Arthur Currie

## Canadian Commander

### CEF

- Masterminded Vimy Ridge victory
- Brilliant leadership on the right flank of Monash 8/8/1918 Battle of Amiens
- Still in battle on morning of 11/11/1918

# Ferdinand Foch

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# Ferdinand Foch Supreme Allied Commander 1918

- Liaised with British closely before the War
- Achieved much needed coordination from  
March 1918
- Finessed a strong armistice



# Douglas Haig

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# Douglas Haig

## BEF Supreme Commander

- October 1917 Passchendaele Disaster
- May 1918 Approved Monash promotion
- Last 100 days-pushed for victory

# Sir John Monash

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# Sir John Monash

## Australian AIF Commander from May 1918

- 24/25 April 1918 - helped turn back German lunge
- 4 July 1918 – Battle of Hamel (93 minutes)
- 8 August 1918 Huge Battle of Amiens

# John J. Pershing

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# General J.J. Pershing

## Commander of the American Expeditionary Force

- In 1917 led the US Force to France
- 1918 Meuse-Argonne successful offensive
- Promoted to General of the Armies
  - (US equivalent of Field Marshal)



# Sir Henry Wilson

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# Sir Henry Wilson

## Ultimate Defence Liaison Officer Extraordinaire

- Fluent in French from childhood
- Ultimate most senior liaison officer DLO  
1918 - Chief of the Imperial General Staff
- Promoted to Field Marshal July 1919

# William Lawrence Bragg

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# William Lawrence Bragg

## Creator of device for pinpointing enemy artillery

- Born and grew up in Adelaide
- Youngest ever Nobel Laureate winner in conjunction with his father
- Later leading engineer, physicist UK

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Arguably this list of ten will be controversial but points to those who made a huge contribution to ending the stalemate on the Western Front and achieving victory against the Germans

# Versailles 1919

- Peace conference affirmed and created:
  - Four Empires obliterated: Austrian/Hungarian, German/Prussian, Ottoman and Imperial Russia
  - Finland and Poland recreated as nation states
  - Total 14 new nation states affirmed in Europe and Middle East

# Many Thanks/Any Questions

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Further information on John Monash of  
Melbourne and Jerilderie

# Maestro John Monash

Australia's greatest Citizen General

1865-1931



*Sunday August 11th 1918*  
***Western Front in Amiens Area***



**MONASH**



*Chateau Bertangles*



**CHURCHILL**

Chateau Bertangles was used by Lt General John Monash as the leader of the AIF Army Corps throughout the critical middle months of 1918, the last and decisive year of the Great War. It is recorded that John Monash met with Winston Churchill, then Minister for War Munitions at Chateau Bertangles on the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> of August, before proceeding to the large meeting with the generals nearby at the Red Chateau, Villers Bretonneux.

Churchill was keen to discuss with Monash the performance of the new British built tanks (Mark V) and receive a briefing from Monash on the very successful battle of Amiens that took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> August, punching 16kms through the German lines and described by the German General E. Ludendorff as “the black day of the German Army”.

Created by Tim Fischer AC, former Army Officer 1 RAR, and author of  
*“Maestro John Monash: Australia’s Greatest Citizen General”*

*Tim Fischer © Copyright 2016*

# Early Life

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- ◉ 1865 Born Melbourne
- ◉ Son of Louis and Bertha Monash
- ◉ Grew up in Jerilderie NSW
- ◉ Met Ned Kelly in Jerilderie



# Academic Prowess

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- ◉ 1881 Equal Dux Scotch College
- ◉ Graduated Melbourne University;  
Law, Arts, Engineering

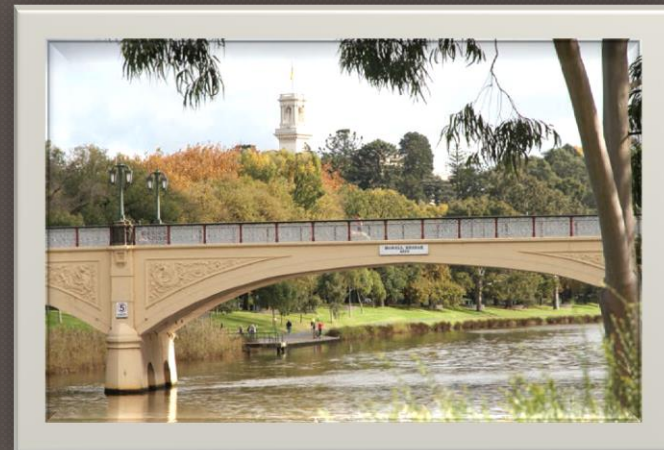




# Employment

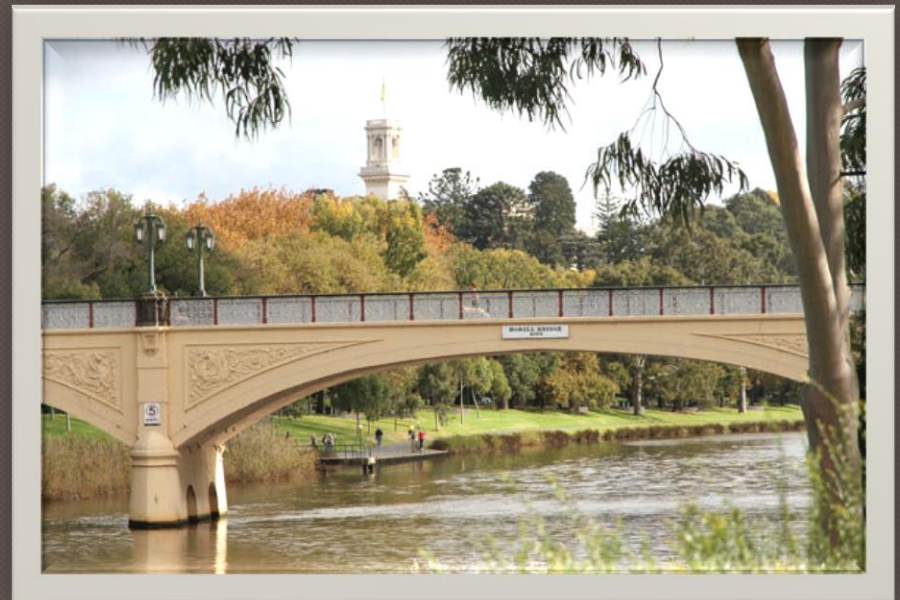
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- ◉ First Job Engineer on Princes Bridge
- ◉ Built Monash Outer Circle railway
- ◉ Created Monash and Anderson Co.
- ◉ Built many bridges, Bendigo and beyond



# Employment

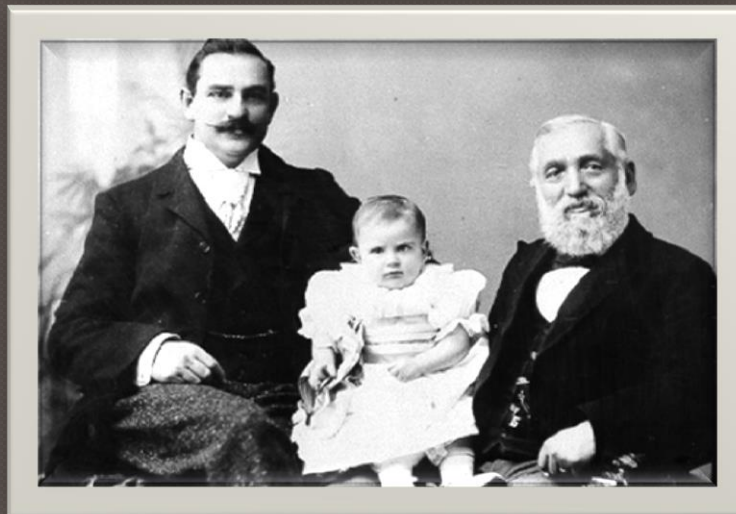
- Built many bridges, in Bendigo and beyond



# Personal Life

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- ◉ 1891 married Victoria Moss
- ◉ One daughter Bertha
- ◉ Lived in Iona, Toorak



# Monash Footprint

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Built dome of  
State Library



Ultimately created  
the Shrine



# Second AIF Convoy

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- Sailed 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1914 via Albany
- Colombo 14<sup>th</sup> January; twenty AWOL



# Gallipoli

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- ◉ Huge gap between Australian and British, with both strategy and tactics
- ◉ Monash made errors at Gallipoli but he was determined to learn from them
- ◉ Monash promoted to Brigadier
- ◉ Maintaining equilibrium especially after leave

# Gallipoli

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# Third Division AIF

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- ◉ Mid 1916 Monash promoted
- ◉ Third Division reviewed by King George V
- ◉ Into battle on the Western Front
- ◉ 3<sup>rd</sup> ANZAC Day 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1918,  
Germans stopped at Villers-Bretonneux

# Third Division AIF

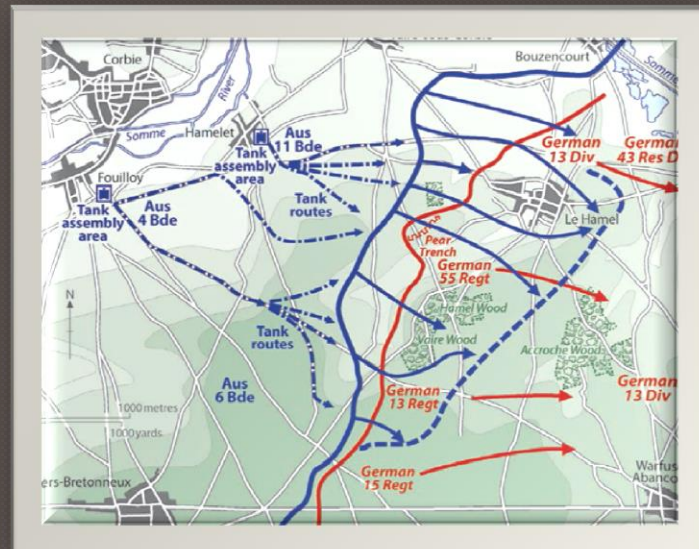
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*“I hate the business of war and soldiering with a loathing that I cannot describe- the awful horror of it, the waste... my only consolation has been the sense of faithfully doing my duty to my country”*

John Monash writing to his wife, 1917

# Battle of Hamel 4/7/1918

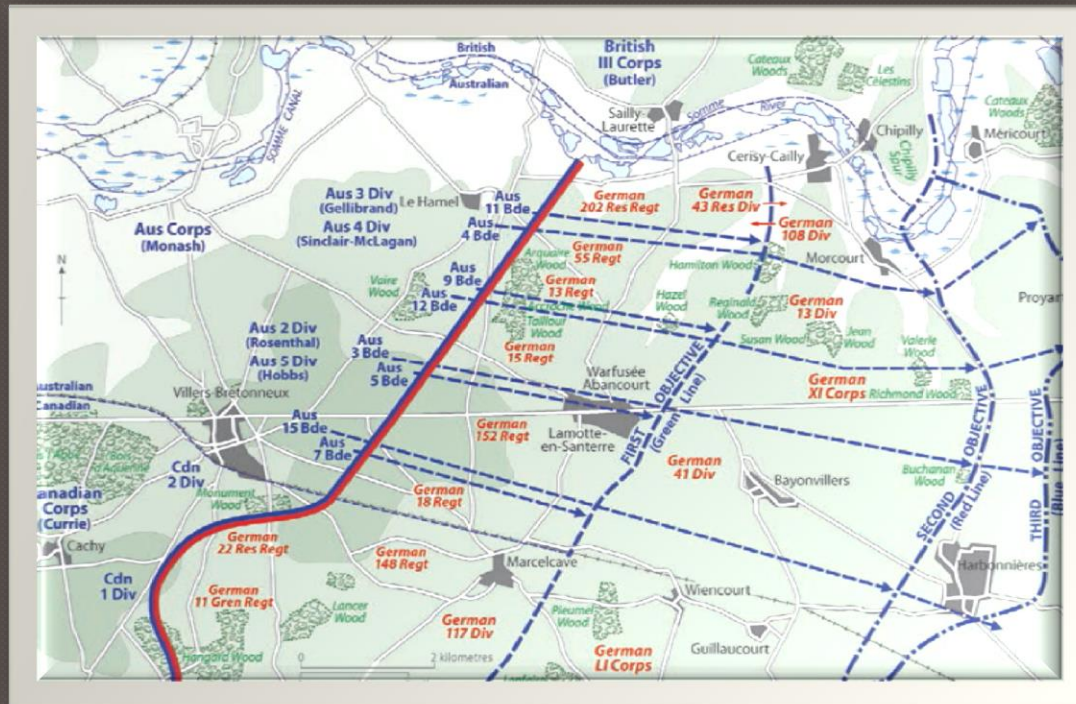
- 7000 Australians 1000 US soldiers
- Record ratio of capture of enemy for minimum Allied casualties; Monash at holistic best





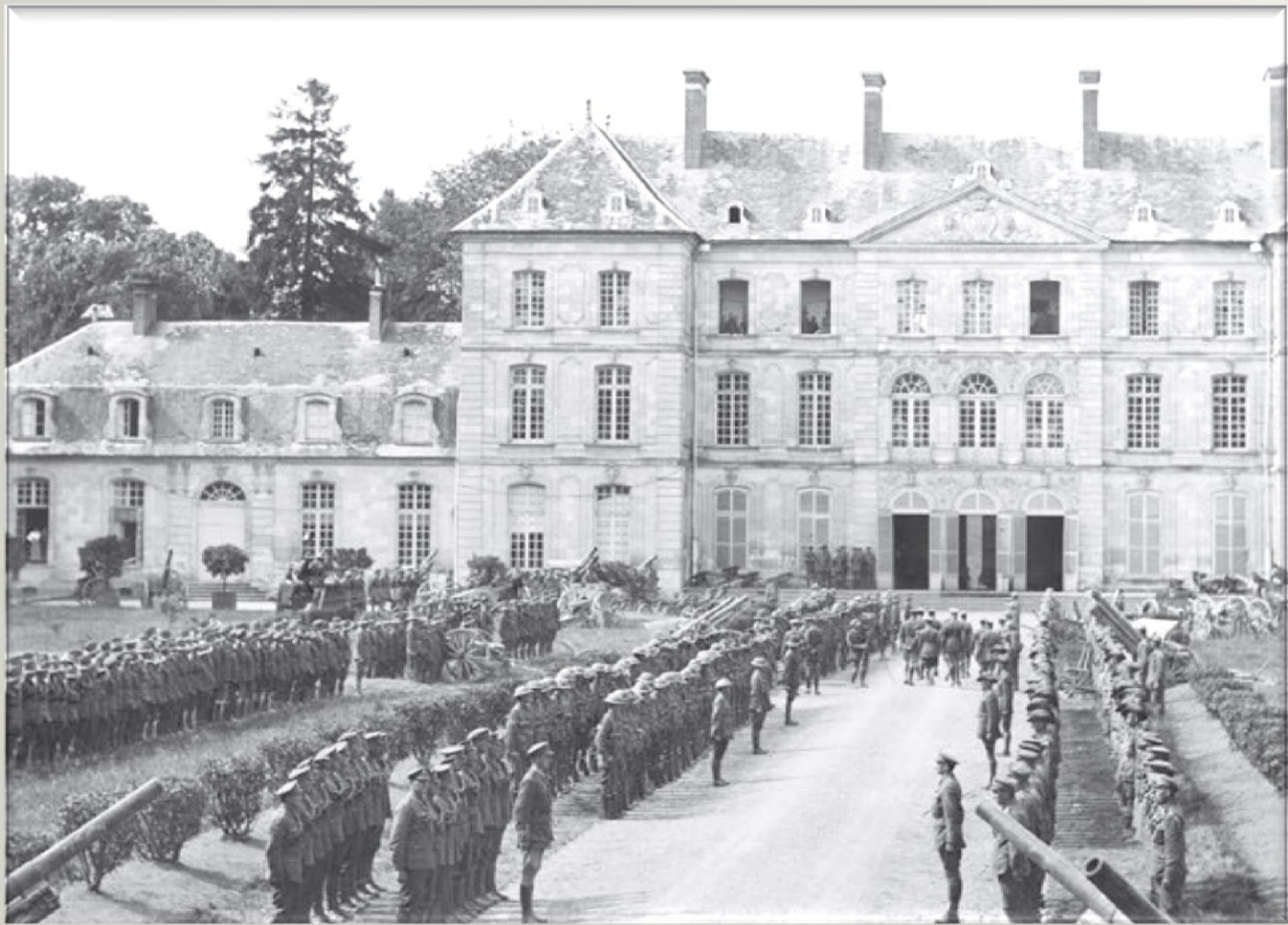
# Battle of Amiens 8/8/1918

- Black day of German army
- Canadians on right flank





# HQ Chateau Bertangles



# Clery (Howard and Howard)

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# Western Front Victory

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# Buckingham Palace Banquet

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# Discrimination against Monash

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- ◉ Descendant of Prussian migrants
- ◉ Jewish as trumpeted by Rawlinson
- ◉ Not Duntroon or Sandhurst but CMF
- ◉ Aged at Gallipoli; 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on beach

# Further Discrimination

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- ◉ CW Bean; anti-Semite, anti-Monash
- ◉ Two mistresses; Annie and later Liz
- ◉ PM W.M. Hughes became jealous
- ◉ Monash frozen at Lt General for 11 years

# Monash Quote for Democracy



*“The only hope  
for Australia is the  
ballot box and  
good education”*  
-1930



# Field Marshal

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○ Ends- Questions