CHAPTER 18 SECTION 3

FRENCH REVOLUTION TURNS RADICAL
1. DOWN WITH THE KING

• In August of 1792 France was losing many battles to PRUSSIA and blame was placed on LOUIS XVI.

• A mob went to the royal palace killing many of the King’s GUARDS and forcing the king to retreat to the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

• The SEPTEMBER MASSACRES were when 1,200 NOBLES and CLERGY charged with CORRUPTION were killed.
THE SEPTEMBER MASSACRES
OTHER NATIONS CONDEMN THE SEPTEMBER MASSACRES
2. The Convention and the Death of the King

- A POLITICAL GROUP called THE CONVENTION became the MAJORITY in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY and called for UNIVERSAL MALE SUFFRAGE (voting rights for all), the end of the Monarchy, and to take land from the nobles.

- About 700 members of the National Assembly voted to EXECUTE LOUIS XVI, this vote passed by a large majority and he was BEHEADED in January of 1793, followed by MARIE ANTOINETTE in October.
3. TERROR GRIPS FRANCE 1793-1794

• Besides being at war with SPAIN, BRITAIN, and PRUSSIA, France was fighting PEASANT REBELLIONS and FOOD SHORTAGES.

• THE COMMITTEE of PUBLIC SAFETY was a 12 person group that demanded TAXES from all citizens for the war, and were in charge of TRIALS and EXECUTIONS for anyone that challenged the goals of the REVOLUTION.
4. ROBESPIERRE and the REIGN OF TERROR

- MAXIMILIEN ROBESPIERRE was the leader of the COMMITTEE of PUBLIC SAFETY and felt that France could only have a “REPUBLIC of VIRTUE” if criminals (those against the Revolution) “LOSE THEIR HEADS.”

- He planned the REIGN of TERROR (1793-1794) which led to the arrest of 300,000 and death of 17,000 by THE GUILLOTINE or DISEASE in packed PRISONS.

- Robespierre was arrested because other members of the Committee feared for their lives, and after he was beheaded, executions stopped.
ROBESPIERRE AND THE GUILLOTINE
5. The Third Stage of the Revolution

• The Constitution of 1795 set up a more MODERATE gov’t with a 5 man EXECUTIVE called THE DIRECTORY (1795-1799) with a 2 house LEGISLATURE.

• They dealt with BREAD RIOTS from the SANS-CULOTTES and allowed CATHOLIC EMIGRES to return to France.

• When supporters of a CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY won a majority in the LEGISLATURE, France feared another REVOLUTION and turned to WAR HERO, NAPOLEON BONAPARTE to restore order.