**Honors U.S. History**

**“World War I – Documentary – “Birds of Prey”**

**Mr. Fernandez**

Review the following information from the documentary in preparation for your Unit Seven Review Test:

1. U.S. air power ranked 14th in the world when WWI broke out in 1914.
   1. President Wilson requested $600,000 from Congress for the U.S. Air Service, which was a part of the U.S. Army…
   2. The U.S. Air Force was not established independent of the Army until 1947.
   3. American aces in World War I included Raoul Lufbery and Eddie Rickenbacker.
   4. America “Threw its hat in the ring!” – emblem on fighter planes.
2. Evolution of the airplane during WWI:
   1. Reconnaissance, first hand-drawn maps and then photography
   2. Bombardiers literally throwing grenades, artillery shells, and then bombs out of the back seat of the planes.
   3. Observers, who were originally viewed as heroes, started fighting from the back seat of the plane... firing pistols, then rifles, then machine guns, and finally a mounted machine gun on a turret.
   4. Although the French were the first to mount a machine gun which fired actually through a steel-protected prop (see article on website), Dutch designer Anthony Fokker develops the “interrupter gear,” allowing planes to fire mounted machine gun directly through the propeller… scary proposition.
      1. This capability for the Germans created what became known to the Allies as the “Fokker Scourge,” also known as the “Fokker Scare.”
   5. The battlefield became “three-dimensional” during the Great War due to dog fights in the air.
   6. Prime Minister Lloyd George considers pilots during the Great War to be “Knighthood of the War.”
3. German records conflict concerning the history and combat victories of their pilots.
   1. Max Immelman, the “Eagle of Lilly,” one of Germany’s first aces, buried with full honors by enemy… “gesture from another era.”
   2. Germany’s pilots flew in formations called “circuses,” so the Red Baron’s deadly squadron becomes known as “Richthofen’s Flying Circus.”
   3. Hero “aces” from Germany, Oswald Boelcke (“Father of the Dog Fight”) and Manfred Von Richthofen (80 confirmed kills), were both downed by the Allies and buried with full honors by their enemies.