**4-minute presentation outline**

* Interest precipitated by Doctor Who (*Twice Upon A Time,* 2017 Christmas Special)
	+ Obviously not very historically accurate but certainly recommended
	+ Not aware of event before show, not an expert now after research but have better knowledge of/appreciation for it
* Background
	+ What/when
		- Temporary unofficial truces/ceasefires between opposing forces for the Christmas Eve, Christmas, and Boxing Day 1914 holiday
			* Boxing Day history: British Christmas celebrations for staff who didn’t get Christmas off
	+ Who
		- Soldiers on both sides of the western front, generally in British/German areas though some French and Belgian troops participated in some places
			* German soldiers put up candles and Christmas trees (Tannenbaum) in many cases sparking interest from the other side
			* Not all places/soldiers were for the truces
				+ Then Corporal Adolph Hitler vehemently rejected the occasion
	+ Where
		- Many different areas along the western front
			* Flanders, Belgium heavily discussed
	+ Why
		- “Live and Let Live” mentality
			* “you no shoot, we no shoot”
		- War weariness
		- Mostly there wasn’t outright hatred for the opposing sides yet because the war was so new allowing for friendliness
		- Germans love Christmas
* Sources
	+ Weintraub (2001)
		- Perspectives from both sides
		- Perspectives from both regular soldiers and higher-ranking officers
			* Challenges misconception that all officers were opposed to the ceasefire and wanted units to get back to the fighting
			* Though there were plenty higherups opposed
		- Discusses lingering questions about the event and what might have happened had the truces developed and solidified
	+ Charles River Editors *The Christmas Truce* (2016); Terri Blom Crocker *The Christmas Truce* (2015)
		- Cites Weintraub numerous times
	+ Jim Murphy *Truce* (2016)
		- Children’s book
		- Cites *The First World War* by Michael Howard
	+ Generally similar in structure
		- Follow a cohesive, chronological account of the truces
			* Events leading to the truces
			* Christmas Eve and the truces made on that day
			* The recognition/recovery and burials (sometimes joint) of the dead in No Man’s Land
			* The comradery between the forces that in many instances led to war enemies becoming friendly
				+ Exchanging of gifts and food

Button trading was very popular

* + - * + Carol/song singing between trenches

Somewhat competitive in some instances

* + - * The football/soccer games played that help to launch the event as sort of mythic
* Thank you/questions