

In April of 1917 the United States entered World War I. Lots of medical personnel were called to duty. Fort Riley, Kansas was an important training facility for soldiers and in March of 1918 the Spanish Flu was born in the USA at this training facility. Six months of disease spread throughout the Country.

But then what happened? In May of that year literally hundreds of thousands of military personnel traveled to Europe each month. The flu resurged at another military camp in Boston in September.



Over the three months from September to November, the second wave of the virus broke out and was responsible for the majority of the total 675,000 deaths in the United States. In November World War I was

over, and the pandemic resurged as celebrations occurred and military personnel began returning home. By the end of the war, our military had 4.7 million soldiers and they were all over Europe and were grouped together both in battle and while coming and going across the Atlantic.



The deaths in the United States were tragic and to say the least the entire event was made much worse by the absence of a full compliment of nurses and doctors because of their deployment during the pandemic was over.

the president at the time his collapse at the Conference in April of that Spanish Flu. All in all, 50 Corpses were placed in awaiting burial. Masks were required in many places and authorities placed quarantined signs on homes. Rules were much more stringent



war. Finally in 1919 the Woodrow Wilson was and it is speculated that Versailles Peace year was due to the million people died. cold storage plants

then. There were 3 waves of the virus, none of them were good. But the second one was epic and very lethal. From the time of first discovery to the end of the war was about a year. It wasn't until summer of 1919 that the third wave of the pandemic subsided. That was just short of a year and a half.



So what's different now? Not all that much minus the lack of shortages of nurses and doctors. We stayed at home for a while unless we were "essential". We made a short attempt to socially distance. And just like in the time of World War I when troops gathered and traveled together, we now gather in the streets and protest, side by side. Will there be another resurgence

of the illness? If history has taught us anything it certainly seems very likely. The part of the puzzle yet to be solved is the true mortality of the disease. Is this virus as bad as the influenza of 1918? We simply won't have the data on this until it's long gone and we are all worried about something else a few years from now. So just to keep it in perspective of the Spanish flu, we are in that time of the first wave when things appeared to be getting better. And we just began to gather again in very large groups. Whatever your opinion is about all these gatherings they do seem to be occurring at an unfortunate time in history.