Conflict in the Ruhr
How It Started

- The **Ruhr uprising** (German: *Ruhraufstand*) or **March Revolution** (Märzrevolution) was a left-wing workers' revolt in the Ruhr region of Germany in March 1920.
- The uprising took place initially in support of the call for a general strike issued by the Social Democrat members of the German government, the unions and other parties in response to the right-wing Kapp Putsch of 13 March 1920.
- Under the Treaty Germany agreed to pay 6600 million pounds in reparations to the allies. (The first installment of 50 million pounds was paid in 1921, but in 1922 nothing was paid.)
What happened afterwards

- Ebert tried to negotiate concessions from the Allies, but the French ran out of patience.
- In 1923 French and Belgian soldiers took what was owed by the Germans by force from Ruhr.
- This proved to be quite disastrous for the Germans, so the government ordered the German workers to go on strike. (This was done to prevent the French from taking their resources.)
- But then the French reacted harshly, killing over 100 workers and expelling over 100,000 protesters from the region.
- Because they did not have goods to trade and no money to buy things with, this ultimately led to hyperinflation.
Members of the Reichswehr and shot members of the Red Ruhr Army, 2 April 1920, Möllen near Duisburg
THE END

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