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0521831245 - Vienna and the Fall of the Habsburg Empire: Total War and Everyday Life
in World War I - Maureen Healy

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Vienna and the Fall of the Habsburg Empire

Maureen Healy examines the collapse of the Habsburg Empire from the perspective of everyday life in the capital city. She argues that a striking feature of “total war” on the home front was the spread of a war mentality to the mundane sites of everyday life – streets, shops, schools, entertainment venues and apartment buildings. While Habsburg armies waged military campaigns on distant fronts, Viennese civilians (women, children, and “left-at-home” men) waged a protracted, socially devastating war against one another. Vienna’s multi-ethnic population lived together in conditions of severe material shortage and faced near starvation by 1917. The city fell into civilian mutiny before the state collapsed in 1918. Based on meticulous archival research, including citizens’ letters to state authorities, the study offers a new and penetrating look at Habsburg citizenship by showing how ordinary women, men and children conceived of “Austria” in the Empire’s final years.

MAUREEN HEALY is Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Oregon State University. She was the winner of the Fraenkel Prize from the Wiener Library and Institute of Contemporary History, London, 2000.

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Total War and Everyday Life in World War I

Maureen Healy

Oregon State University



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For my parents, Ingrid and Jack Lynch.

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Abbreviations

ABGB	Allgemeines bürgerliches Gesetzbuch
AdBDW	Archiv der Bundespolizei-Direktion Wien
AdR	Archiv der Republik
AHR	<i>American Historical Review</i>
AOK	Armeeoberkommando
AVA	Allgemeines Verwaltungsarchiv
GZNB	Gemeinsames Zentralnachweisbüro
HHStA	Haus-, Hof-, und Staatsarchiv
JMH	<i>Journal of Modern History</i>
KA	Kriegsarchiv
KM	Kriegsministerium
KÜA	Kriegsüberwachungsamt
MdI	Ministerium des Innern
MfKuU	Ministerium für Kultus und Unterricht
Min [u. St.A.] f. soz. Verwaltung	Ministerium [und Staatsamt] für soziale Verwaltung und Volksgesundheit
MK/KM	Ministerialkommission im Kriegsministerium
MKSM	Militärkanzlei Seiner Majestät
Nö	Niederösterreich
NÖLA	Niederösterreichisches Landesarchiv
ÖStA	Österreichisches Staatsarchiv
Pol. Dir.	Polizei-Direktion
Präs.	Präsidialakten
RGBL	Reichsgesetzblatt
WSLA	Wiener Stadt- und Landesarchiv
WSLB	Wiener Stadt- und Landesbibliothek
ZAS	Zeitungsausschnitt-Sammlung