

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>List of Maps</i>	xi
<i>List of Tables</i>	xii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xiii
Introduction	1
PART I. HUBRIS	
1 The Road to War	9
2 ‘It Can Hardly Go Wrong Now’: The Schlieffen Plan and Its Failure	36
3 Tannenberg and the Rise of Hindenburg	55
4 The European Stalemate	67
5 A Strategy of Muddling Through? The War in 1915	86
6 ‘An Unparalleled Act of Barbarism’: The Naval Blockade, Submarine Warfare and the Battle for American Neutrality	109
7 ‘Potato-bread Spirit’: The German Home Front in 1914–1916	128
8 Squaring the Circle: Falkenhayn and Verdun 1916	147
9 Summer 1916: The Allied Attack on All Fronts and Its Failure	166
PART II. CLIMAX: AT THE APEX OF WAR	
10 ‘Only a Miracle Can Save Us Now’: Germany and the War in the Autumn of 1916	183
11 Action Stations, Panic Stations: The Radicalisation of Germany’s Strategy under the Third OHL	199
12 ‘A Stroke of Genius’: Tentative Offers of Peace in December 1916	221
13 The Misjudged Stand-off: Unrestricted Submarine Warfare and the USA’s Entry into the War	234

CONTENTS

PART III. NEMESIS: THE DEFEAT OF THE CENTRAL POWERS AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN ORDER		257
14	Military Developments in the First Half of 1917	259
15	The First Russian Revolution and the Opportunity for a Peace Agreement with the Russian Democracy	272
16	‘War Psychosis’? The Reichstag’s Peace Offer and Bethmann Hollweg’s Demission	283
17	‘The Unmasking of the Central Powers’? Victory and Peace in the East	296
18	‘Glorious, but Hopeless’: Germany’s Position at the Turn of the Year 1917/18	324
19	‘Ludendorff’s Hammer’: The Western Offensive of 1918	344
20	‘Now the War Was Lost’: The Military Collapse of the Central Powers	377
21	‘Savage in Victory, Contemptuous in Defeat’: Germany’s Route out of the War	394
	The Final Reckoning: A Terrible Debt that Must Be Paid	418
	<i>Acknowledgements</i>	431
	<i>Notes</i>	433
	<i>Bibliography</i>	505
	<i>Index: People</i>	547
	<i>Index: Places</i>	553