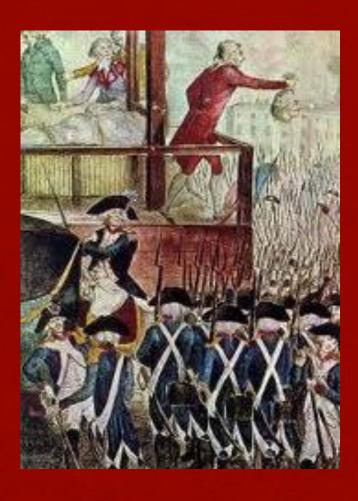
# THE REIGN OF TERROR 1793-1794

#### THE FRENCH REVOLUTION



# THE EXECUTION OF THE KING



- English example: Charles 1<sup>st</sup>.

  Treason no longer something people do against the king but against the nation.
- The Big Argument: kill the king or put him on trial. After putting him on trial another argument arises over whether to execute him or not.
- Executed 21st January 1793. Robespierre: "Louis must die, so that the country may live".

(Louis XVI died before the Terror began)

### ISSUES RESOLVED?

- Debate was over whether France was going to be limited monarchy or democracy.
- Issued decided and France becomes a republic.
- So why the violence?
- Other issues also motivating people.
- What to do about the church, the currency and food crises, power struggle, the war going badly.

### ENEMIES WITHIN

- Many start to believe the real enemies are not without but within and that they need to be dealt with.
- The Prussians and Austrians are on their way to Paris.
- The people have to be armed (having been wisely disarmed).
- The revolutionary crowd come back into politics with a vengeance.
- The sections of Paris turn the guns not on the Prussians but within and have the king executed.

# REVOLUTION AND COUNTER-REVOLUTION THE BEGINNING OF THE TERROR

- March 7: Outbreak of rebellion against the Revolution: War in the Vendée.
- March 11: Revolutionary Tribunal (type of court for the trial of 'public offenders) established in Paris.
- Trials were often unfair--- guilt was assumed
- Not everyone who went to the guillotine got a trial.
- April 6: Committee of Public Safety established.
   (12 man oligarchy, collective dictatorship)
- May 30: A revolt breaks out in Lyon.



#### REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNALS

- 8% of victims were aristocrats.
- 14% were middle class.
- 72% were workers or peasants accused of hoarding, rebellion, avoiding the draft, desertion, etc.



