BRIEF TIMELINE OF THE GERMAN REVOLUTION OF 1918-19

29 September. General Ludendorf asks the Reich government to ask for an armistice.

2 October. Count Hertling resigns as Chancellor.
3 October. Max of Baden appointed Chancellor.
26 October. Ludendorf’s forced resignation.
28 October. Reichstag amends imperial constitution to require Chancellor and ministry to have confidence of a majority in the Reichstag.
29-30 October. Beginning of the naval revolt at Kiel.

7 November. Socialist, republican revolution in Munich, Bavaria.
9 November. Kaiser abdicates.
9 November. Friedrich Ebert, Leader of the SPD, appointed Chancellor.
9 November. One of the leaders of the SPD, Philip Scheidemann declares Germany a republic.

[from early November until the election of the National Assembly on 19 January, Germany was ruled in parallel fashion by the formal government ministry under Ebert and the Executive Committee of the Soldier’s and Workers Councils. Ebert and other SPD leaders served in both government and Council Executive and coordinated several important policy decisions.]

10 November. Chancellor Ebert makes an oral alliance with Army to keep order.
11 November. Armistice signed at Compiègne.

[during October and early November, the German government was exchanging notes with President Woodrow Wilson about an armistice. These notes led many Germans into false hopes for a liberal, negotiated peace treaty.]

16 December. Congress of Soldier’s and Worker’s Councils assembles in Berlin.
19 December. Congress votes in favor of a National Assembly to be elected on 19 January.
30 December. Spartacus League of left socialists reconstitutes itself as Communist Party of Germany. (KPD). Votes against participation in National Assembly.

12 January. Luxemburg and Liebknecht arrested.
15 January. Luxemburg and Liebknecht murdered.
19 January. Elections to a National Assembly, which succeeds the Reichstag as government of Germany until June, 1920.

11 August. Constitution of the German Republic approved by the National Assembly.