



# Origins of World War I

The Causes and events leading up to World War One

# Pre War Conditions

- Government Series of complex alliances to ensure stability in Europe



# Causes of the War (NIMS)

- Nationalism
- Industrialism
- Militarism
- alliances





# Governmental Responsibilities

- Public Opinion Kings have to be aware of public opinion and have to justify war to public (through use of Nationalism/Propaganda)
- Romantic War heavily Nationalistic/Patriotic
- Warfare Feeling that and war would be short and controlled



# Mis-Calculated Factors

- Conscription  
Allowed armies to reach unprecedented sizes
- Industrialization  
Allowed for development of new weapons that would make killing quicker and more efficient



# Pre War Feelings

- British: Scared of a strong Germany, does not want France to win war without them
- Germany: Trying to establish self as global power(Navy), very anti-French
- Serbia: Heavily Nationalistic
- Austria/Hungry: Trying to save empire
- Russia: Trying to save Monarchy
- France: Stop growth of Germanic Empires, Expand overseas empire





ICELAND  
(DENMARK)

0 300 600 miles

ATLANTIC  
OCEAN

NORWAY

SWEDEN

FINLAND

DENMARK

IRELAND  
GREAT  
BRITAIN

NETHERLANDS

GERMANY

BELGIUM

LUX.

FRANCE

SWITZ.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

RUSSIA

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

ITALY

ROMANIA

BULGARIA

OTTOMAN EMPIRE

PERSIA

CORSICA

BALEARIC IS.  
(Sp.)

SARDINIA

MONTE  
NEGRO

ALBANIA

SERBIA

GREECE

SPANISH  
MOROCCO

FRENCH  
MOROCCO

ALGERIA  
(Fr.)

TUNIS  
(Fr.)

SICILY

MALTA  
(Gt. Britain)

DODECANESE IS.  
(Gt. Britain)

CRETE  
(Greece)

CYPRUS  
(Gt. Britain)

# Unrest in the Balkans

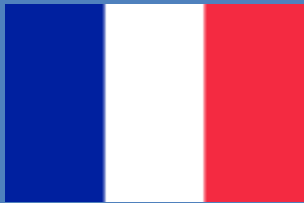
- Numerous Wars fought between different powers in Balkans
  - Balkan war of 1912 (Italy vs. Turkey)
  - First Balkan War 1912 (Turkey vs. Serbia, Greece, Bulgaria, and Montenegro)
  - Second Balkan War 1913 (Bulgaria vs. Turkey and Romania)
- Russians step in and claim to be protector of pan-Slavic peoples



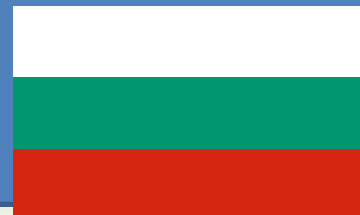


# Picking Sides

- Triple Entente: Alliance of France, Russia, and Great Britain

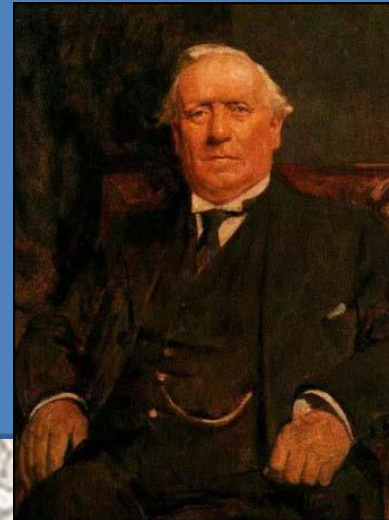


- Central Powers: Germany, Austro-Hungarian Empire, Bulgaria(?????), Ottoman Empire(???????)



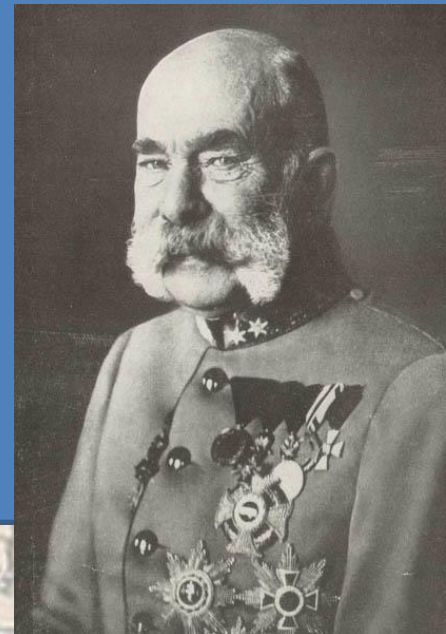
# Key People (Triple Entente)

- Russia: Tsar Nicholas II (Monarch)
- France: Raymond Poincare (President)
- Great Britain: Herbert Henry Asquith (Prime Minister)



# Key People (Central Powers)

- Germany: Wilhelm II (Monarch)  
Helmut von Moltke (Army Chief of Staff)
- Hapsburg: Franz Josef (Monarch)





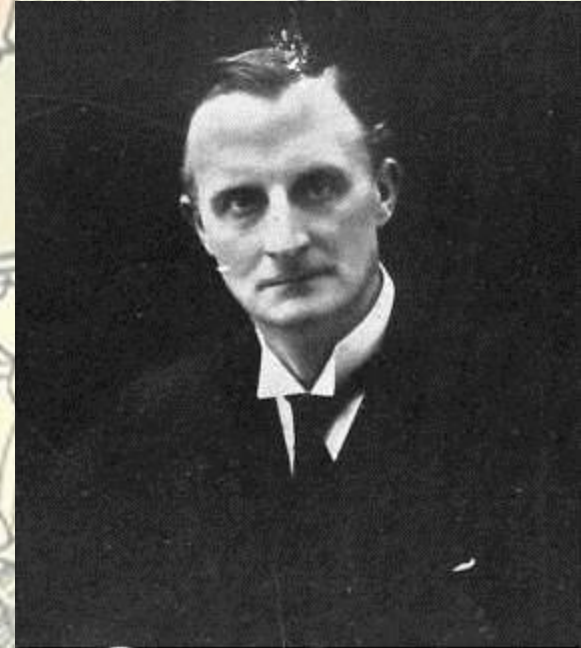
# The Shot Heard round the World

- June 28<sup>th</sup> 1914  
Savajevo
- Franz Ferdinand  
(Heir to Hapsburg  
throne), Sofie and  
unborn child
- Gavrilo Princip  
member or ultra  
nationalist “Black  
Hand”



# Hapsburg Response

- Issues Ultimatum to Serbia
  - Hand over those responsible
- Ultimatum given to Sir Edward Grey (British Foreign Secretary) to give to Serbs
- Serbs Refuse





# Germany's "Blank Cheque"

- Telegram from Germans to Austrians
  - Offered full support to Austria
- Germany using war as excuse to gain "Place in the Sun"





The background of the slide features a stylized illustration. On the left, a soldier in a brown uniform is depicted in a dynamic, forward-leaning pose, holding a sword aloft. On the right, a large, clenched fist is shown, symbolizing strength or conflict. The overall style is reminiscent of early 20th-century propaganda art.

# Response

- July 28, 1914 Austria Hungary declares war on Serbia
- Russia mobilizes against AH
- Germany declares war on Russia August 1
- France declares war on Germany on August 3
- Britain declares war on Germany on August 4
- Japan declares war on Germany on August 23

# What about the Americans?

- Heavily Isolationist
- Many recent German Immigrants
- War seen as Europe's problem
- Sells supplies and gives loans to British and French



# What about the Italians?

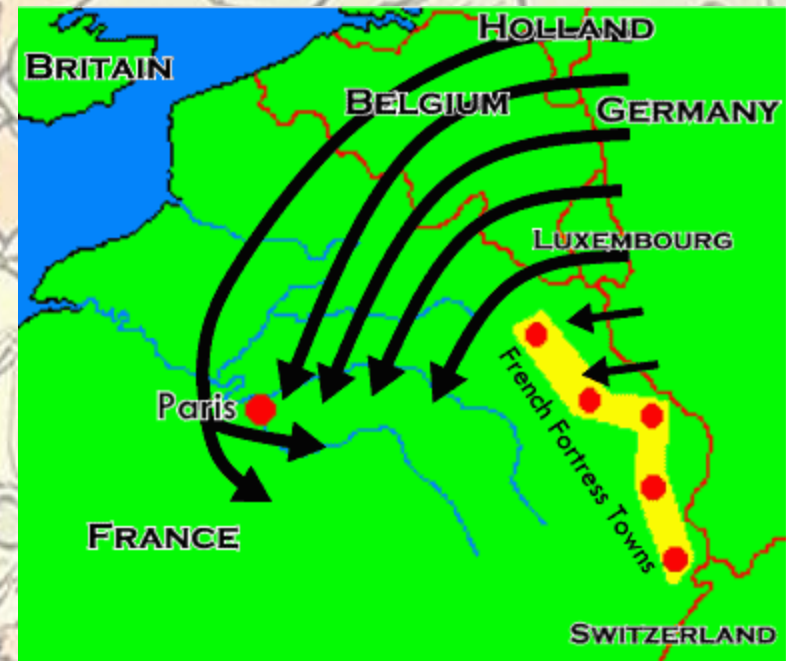
- Officially allied with AH and Germany
- Declares their neutrality on onset of WW1
- Eventually persuaded to join war on side of allies in 1915





# Hostilities Begin

- Schlieffen Plan
  - Banked on Russia's slow mobilization
  - Aimed at knocking French out as quickly as possible
  - Quick strike through Belgium, drive to Paris



# Best of Plans

- Germans advance 200 miles to outskirts of Paris.....In 2 weeks
- Front Stalled.....Pushed Back..... Then Frantic struggle in “Race for the Sea”



# Stalemate

- Both Sides settle in to “trench warfare”
- Becomes obvious very quickly war would not be over anytime soon
- Russians take 6 weeks to mobilize

