

World War I Begins

Chapter 12 Section 1
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I. Causes of the War

A. The system of nation-states in Europe led not to cooperation but rather to competition.

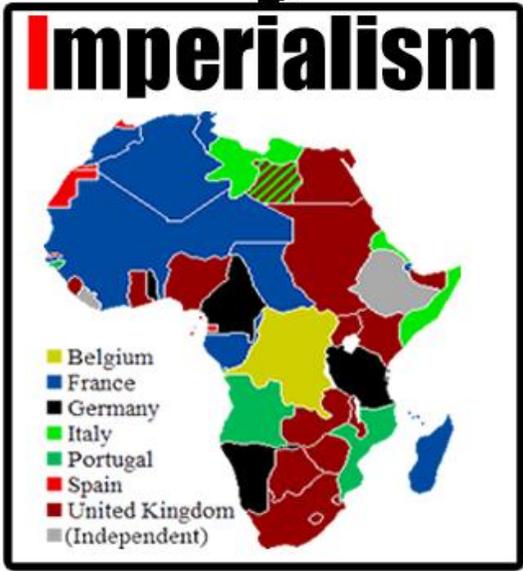
1. Each European nation-state regarded itself as subject to no higher interest or authority.

2. Each state was guided by its own self-interests and success.

a. Most leaders thought that war was an acceptable way to preserve power.



WWI



B. The imperialist expansion of the last half of the nineteenth century also played a role in the coming of war.

1. The competition for lands led to conflict and rivalries among European states.

C. Nationalism- Not all ethnic groups had become nations in Europe.

1. Slavic minorities in the Balkans and the Austro-Hungarian Empire still dreamed of their own national states.
2. The Irish in the British Empire.
3. Poles in the Russian Empire.

D. Industrialization offered new methods of shipbuilding and the use of iron, steel, and chemicals for new weapons.

1. The growth of mass armies and navies after 1900 heightened tensions in Europe.

E. Most Western countries had established conscription, as a regular practice before 1914.

1. European armies doubled in size between 1890 and 1914.

a. Russian army had 1.3 million men.

b. The French and German armies had 900,000 soldiers each.

c. The British, Italian, and Austro-Hungarian had between 250,000 and 500,000.

F. Militarism—the aggressive preparation for war—was growing.

1. In 1914, countries made decisions for military instead of political reasons.

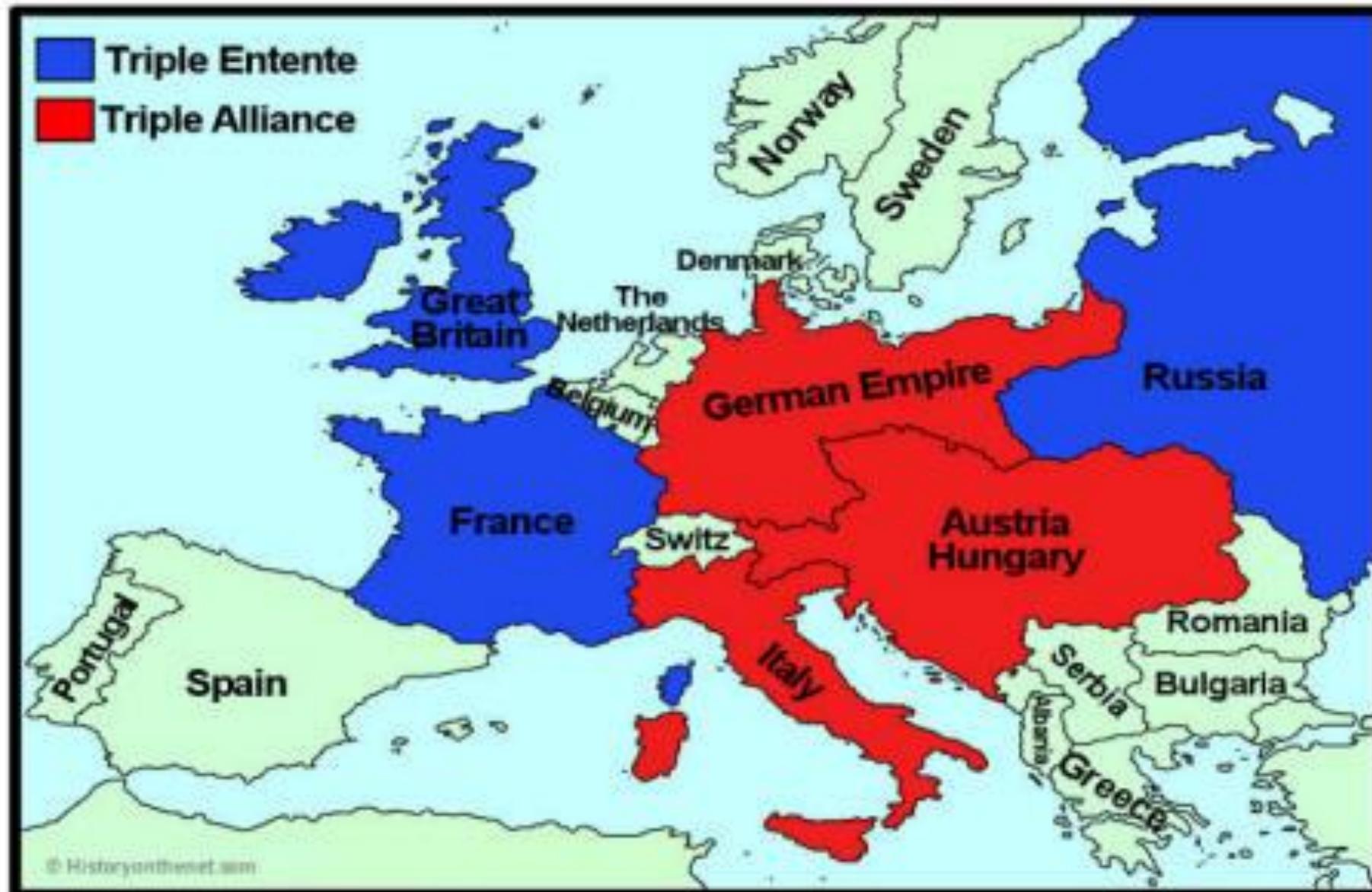
G. A system of alliances intensified the dangers of militarism.

1. Europe had been divided into two loose political alliances.

a. Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy formed the Triple Alliance.

b. France, Great Britain, and Russia created the Triple Entente.

World War One Alliances 1914



H. A series of crises tested these alliances.

1. In the Balkans between 1908 and 1913.

- a. Left European states angry at each other and eager for revenge.
- b. They were willing to use war to preserve their power and the power of their allies.

II. The Outbreak of War

A. Nationalism and imperialism, militarism and alliances, and the desire to stifle internal dissent might all have played a role in starting World War I.

1. However, it was the crisis in the Balkans that led directly to conflict.

B. By 1914 Serbia, supported by Russia, was determined to create a large, independent Slavic state in the Balkans.

1. Austria-Hungary was determined to prevent that from happening.



C. On June 28, 1914, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the Hapsburg throne of Austria-Hungary, and his wife Sophia visited the city of Sarajevo in Bosnia.

D. Gavrilo Princip, a 19-year-old Bosnian Serb.

1. Princip was a member of the Black Hand, a Serbian terrorist organization that wanted Bosnia to be free of Austria-Hungary.
2. An assassination attempt earlier that morning by one of the conspirators had failed.
 - a. Later that day, however, Princip succeeded in fatally shooting the archduke and his wife.



E. The Austro-Hungarian government blamed the Serbian government.

1. They saw it as an opportunity to attack Serbia.
 - a. They feared that Russia would intervene on Serbia's behalf.
2. Austria-Hungary signed an alliance with Germany.
 - a. Germany promised full support if war broke out between Russia and Austria-Hungary.
3. On July 28, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia.

F. Russia was determined to support Serbia's cause.

1. On July 28, Czar Nicholas II ordered partial mobilization of the Russian army against Austria-Hungary.

G. Since Russia's mobilization plans were based on a war against both Germany and Austria-Hungary, the czar ordered full mobilization of the Russian army on July 29.

1. He realized that Germany would consider this order an act of war.

- I. The German government warned Russia that it must halt its mobilization within 12 hours.
 - 1. When Russia ignored this warning, Germany declared war on Russia on August 1.
- J. The Germans had a military plan known as the Schlieffen Plan.
 - 1. It called for a two-front war with France and Russia.

J. According to the Schlieffen Plan, Germany would carry out a rapid invasion of France through Belgium.

1. After France was defeated, the German invaders would move to the east against Russia.



K. Germany issues an ultimatum to Belgium demanding that German troops be allowed to pass through Belgian territory.

1. Belgium, however, was a neutral nation.

L. On August 4, Great Britain declared war on Germany, officially for violating Belgian neutrality.

ARTILLERY OF AUSTRIA AND SERBIA WILL PLAY PROMINENT PART IN BIG WAR.

BRITAIN SENDS ULTIMATUM TO GERMANY
 LONDON, Aug. 4.—Great Britain today sent a practical ultimatum to Germany demanding a satisfactory reply by midnight-tonight on the subject of Belgian neutrality.
 A proclamation by King George commanding the mobilization of the British army was read here today. A huge crowd cheered and sang.
 TOKIO, Aug. 4.—The Japanese foreign office issued a statement today that if the war extends to the Far East and England is involved, Japan may find it necessary to participate.
 LONDON, Aug. 4.—A second ultimatum sent by Germany to Belgium today declared that Germany is prepared to carry through by force of arms any measures she considers necessary.
 BRUSSELS, Aug. 4.—Rumors are in circulation today that Germany had actually declared war on Belgium. German troops crossed the frontier at Gemmenich, near the junction of Dutch, Belgian and German territory. A special train carrying all the securities of the National Bank of Belgium left for Antwerp today.

ENGLAND-GERMANY AT WAR
WAR BETWEEN FRANCE AND GERMANY IS TODAY FORMALLY ANNOUNCED
ENGLAND ENTERS THE FRAY

THE EVERETT DAILY HERALD
 EVERETT, WASHINGTON, TUESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 4, 1914
 Page 4 On News Stand 5 Cts.

Member Associated Press.

WILSON ASKS TWO MILLIONS
 Adds Addition to \$250,000 Already Appropriated for American Aid

HALF A BILLION EMERGENCY FUND IS VOTED BY ENGLAND

WAR BETWEEN GERMANY AND FRANCE DECLARED

GERMAN SHIP WITH CARGO OF SUPPLIES LEAVES NEW YORK

FOREIGNERS CAN'T QUIT GERMANY FOR PRESENT

GERMAN CRUISER BOMBARDS FRENCH PORT

CHICAGO WHEAT ADVANCES

COMMITTEE IN SENATE WANTS REGISTRY BILL

WAR STRENGTH OF EUROPEAN ARMIES INVOLVED IN CONFLICT

SERBIA BLOCKS AUSTRIA
 Austrian Troops Defeated With Heavy Losses by Serbians, Says Dispatch
 WORD OF BATTLE FROM SERBIAN SOURCE
 Says Austrians Have Failed in Attempt to Force Passage of River

TREASURE SHIP RUNS SAFE INTO MAINE HARBOR
 Arrived at Bay Harbor After 4-Day Forced Run With Lights Hidden

LEARNERS OF DANGER BY INTERCEPTING WIRELESS
 Financiers in Maj-Ocean Offer to Buy Ship Whose She is Hounded Back

BRITONS ORDER BARK HELD AT PORTLAND
 Owners of the North Order Vessel to Be Held for Further Instructions

GERMANS MAKE RAIDS
 Outposts along the frontier by making numerous raids into the territory. The French, however, refused to draw back the 20-mile zone, left unoccupied along the frontier.

GERMAN CRUISER BOMBARDS FRENCH PORT
 The German cruiser Breslau bombarded the small station of St. Pierre this morning, after firing off at full speed in a westerly direction.

CHICAGO WHEAT ADVANCES
 Chicago, Aug. 4.—The price of wheat advanced 1/4 cent to 1 1/4 cents per bushel today. The report was a net advance of 1/4 cent.

COMMITTEE IN SENATE WANTS REGISTRY BILL
 Washington, D. C., Aug. 4.—The committee on foreign relations today announced that it has passed a bill to require the registration of all foreign ships entering American waters.

WAR STRENGTH OF EUROPEAN ARMIES INVOLVED IN CONFLICT
 Russia 2,500,000
 France 1,000,000
 Germany 2,000,000
 Austria 1,000,000
 Serbia 1,000,000
 Hungary 1,000,000
 Italy 1,000,000
 Japan 1,000,000
 United States 1,000,000

WAR BETWEEN GERMANY AND FRANCE DECLARED
 PARIS, Aug. 4.—The French cabinet today declared war on Germany. The declaration was made in the name of the French people.

GERMAN SHIP WITH CARGO OF SUPPLIES LEAVES NEW YORK
 With Only Running Lights Burning, Heads Southeast, Away From Europe

FOREIGNERS CAN'T QUIT GERMANY FOR PRESENT
 Berlin, Aug. 4.—The German government today announced that it has refused to allow foreigners to leave the country.

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