

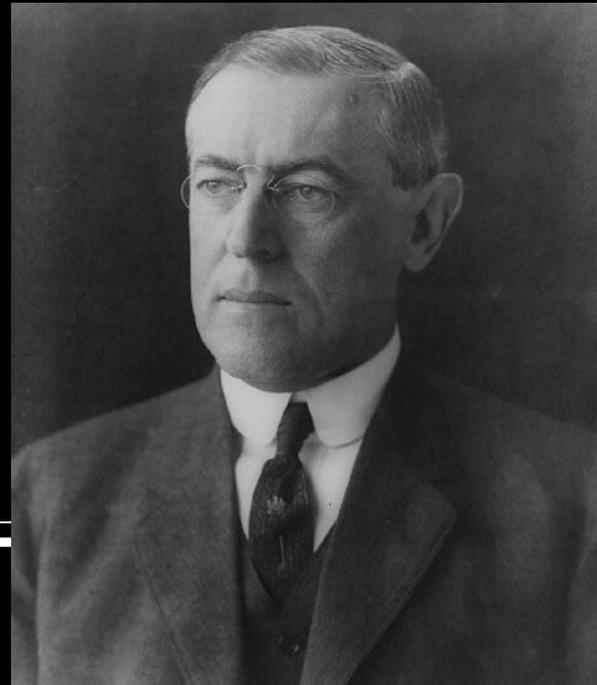
“The War to End all Wars...”

The MAIN causes of World War I

The leaders

- Germany- Kaiser Wilhelm II
- England- George V
- Russia- Czar Nicholas II
- France- George Clemenceau
- Austria-Hungary: Franz Josef

- US- Woodrow Wilson



The MAIN causes of WWI

- Each cause, in order, spells out the word M-A-I-N. This is to make learning the causes easier to absorb.

The “M” cause- Militarism

- During the 1890s-1910s, there was a massive arms build up among the European nations
- Weapons of choice: Large artillery guns, battleships
- England and Germany started an arms race in battleship construction
- All nations started drafting war plans (more later...)

The “A” cause- Alliances

- Alliances are basically agreements among nations to help each other out in a time of war
- Two major alliances:
 - Triple Entente- England, France & Russia
 - Triple Alliance- Germany, Austria-Hungary & Italy (until 1915, when they bolted to the Allies)

EUROPE IN 1914



The “I” causes- Imperialism and Industrialization

- The race for colonies created problems among the European nations. Some nations began disputing other nations' claims.
- The industrialization of Europe brought about new businesses and companies that lead to the massive arms build-up

The “N” cause- Nationalism

- Nationalism is the pride that one nation has and the idea that all other nations are no good.
- This “chest-beating” by nations led to jealousy and discomfort for those involved.

The Balkans- the “powder keg”

- Balkans- SE European region with several different ethnic groups
- Ruled by Austria-Hungary
- Serbia is the major power in the region

The “spark” June 28, 1914

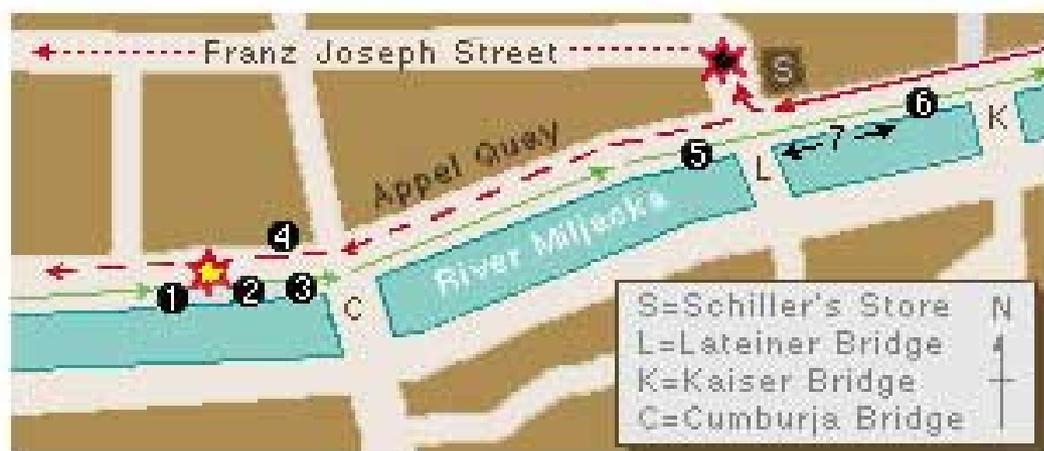
- Franz Ferdinand- heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne
- Makes a visit to Sarajevo, Bosnia, to visit Austrian officials
- Seven assassins wait patiently on the road to the City Hall...

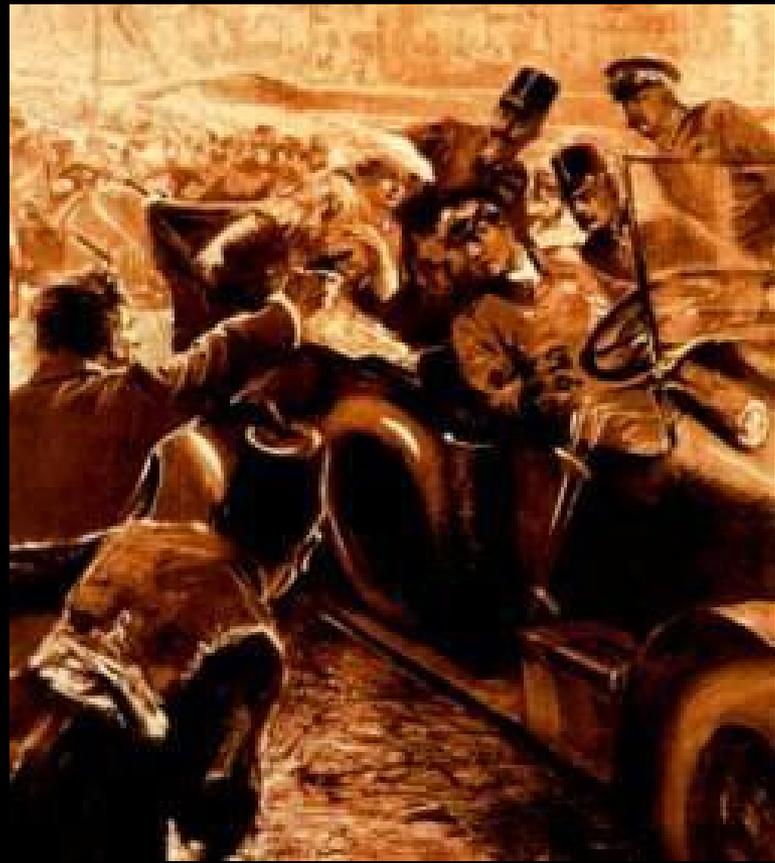


Leaving City Hall, June 28, 1914

Positions of Sarajevo Assassins

- ① = Mehmedbašić ★ = Čabrinović's Bomb
- ② = Čabrinović ★ = Princip's Shots
- ③ = Čubrilović → = Route to City Hall
- ④ = Popović +---+ = Original Return Route
- ⑤ = Princip +---+ = Altered Return Route
- ⑥ = Grabež
- 7 = Ilić, no fixed position





The “snowball effect”

- Serbia is accused of shooting the Archduke
- Austria declares war on Serbia
- Germany offers Austria a “blank check” for the war to Austria
- Serbia’s alliance with Russia kicks in
- Germany, fearing Russian invasion, invades France to knock them out and defend against Russia
- When Germany invades neutral Belgium, England gets involved.
- All of Europe is at war

The Schlieffen Plan

- Germany's attack plan for France and Russia
- 1- Invade France quickly
- 2- Capture Paris
- 3- Move everyone over Germany to hold off Russia
- 4- The whole plan must work over two months
- 5- Germans get bogged down in France....the war won't end quickly



The Schlieffen Plan



So what really caused WWI?

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4TKTRV4HM0>