

Chapter 14: Section 1 The Great War Begins

By 1914, Europe had been in relative peace for around a century. In 1899 there was the First Universal Peace Conference and were steps towards keeping peace.

Militarism-the glorification of the military. The strong build up of the a country's military and arms.

Alliance – formal agreement between two or more nations or powers to cooperate and come to one another's defense.

Nationalism – a strong feeling of pride in and devotion to one's country.

Imperialism – domination by one country of the political, economic, or cultural life of another country or region.

Assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand while driving through Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia. Bosnia-under rule of A-H. Visit angered many Serbian nationalists- Gavrilo Princip shot Archduke and his wife.

Alliance - formal agreement between two or more nations or powers to cooperate and come to one another's defense.

Entente – a non-binding agreement to follow common policies. Led to close military and diplomatic ties.

Triple Alliance

1. Germany
 2. Austria-Hungary
 3. Italy
- *Will become the Central Powers*

Triple Entente

1. Russia
 2. France
 3. Britain
- *Will become Allied Powers*

Other alliances formed. Germany signed treaty with Ottoman Empire. Britain also drew close to Japan.

The Start of WWI:

Germany gives Austria a blank check. Due to this, Austria sent Serbia an ultimatum that couldn't be met. Serbia agreed to most of the demands, but not all, and due to this Austria declared war on Serbia on July 28, 1914.

Alliances Kick In:

Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia. Serbia turns to Russia who urges Austria to soften its demands. Once this failed, Russia started to mobilize. On Aug. 1, 1914 Germany declares war on Russia. Russia then turns to its ally, France. They saw it as a chance to avenge their loss of Alsace and Lorraine in the Franco-Prussian War. Germany demanded France keep out of the conflict, when they refused, Germany declared war on them.

At the beginning of the war Italy and Britain remained neutral. Germany presented the possibility of a two-front war-against France in the west and Russia in the east. Alfred von Schlieffen created a plan to avoid this. The plan included Germany attacking France first, because Russia was less industrialized and it would take them longer to mobilize. This plan included knocking France out of the war quickly so they could quickly turn around and fight Russia. This plan included marching through neutral Belgium, the goal being to encircle and crush France's army. The Germans invaded Belgium on August 3rd. This move forces Britain to declare war on Germany on Aug 4. Once war was set in motion it seemed impossible to stop. Military leaders mobilized quickly and negotiation was not feasible.

Reasons for Entering the War July-August 1914

Country	Allied With	Reasons for Entering War
Austria-Hungary	Germany	Wanted to punish Serbia for encouraging terrorism
Germany	Austria-Hungary	Stood by its one dependable ally, Austria-Hungary
Serbia	Russia	Attacked by Austria-Hungary after assassination of Archduke Ferdinand
Russia	Serbia, France, Britain	Wanted to defend Slavic peoples in Serbia
France	Russia and Britain	Wanted to avoid facing Germany alone at a later date
Belgium	Neutral	Invaded by Germany
Britain	France and Russia	Outraged by invasion of Belgium

Reaction to the War

Britain struggled with labor unrest and issue of home rule in Ireland, and Russia was dealing with problems from the Revolution of 1905. War brought a renewed sense of patriotism and governments emphasized that their countries were fighting for justice and men rushed to enlist. Edward Grey, a British diplomat, stated "The lamps are going out all over Europe. We shall not see them lit again in our lifetime."