

# Assassination

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- In June 1914, a Serbian-nationalist terrorist group called the Black Hand sent groups to assassinate the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria.
- Serbian nationalist named **Gavrilo Princip** assassinated him and his wife while they were in Sarajevo, Bosnia which was part of Austria-Hungary.
- This was in protest to Austria-Hungary having control of this region.





# The "Great War" Starts

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- This assassination led to **Austria-Hungary** giving Serbia an ultimatum- they could only comply with 2/3 demands
  - Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia
- When Russia began to mobilize due to its alliance with Serbia, Germany declared war on Russia.
- Thus began the expansion of the war to include all those involved in the mutual defense alliances.

# Two Teams Emerge

- Britain, Belgium, France, Russia (Serbia) = Triple Entente = Allies
- Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire = Triple Alliance = Central Powers



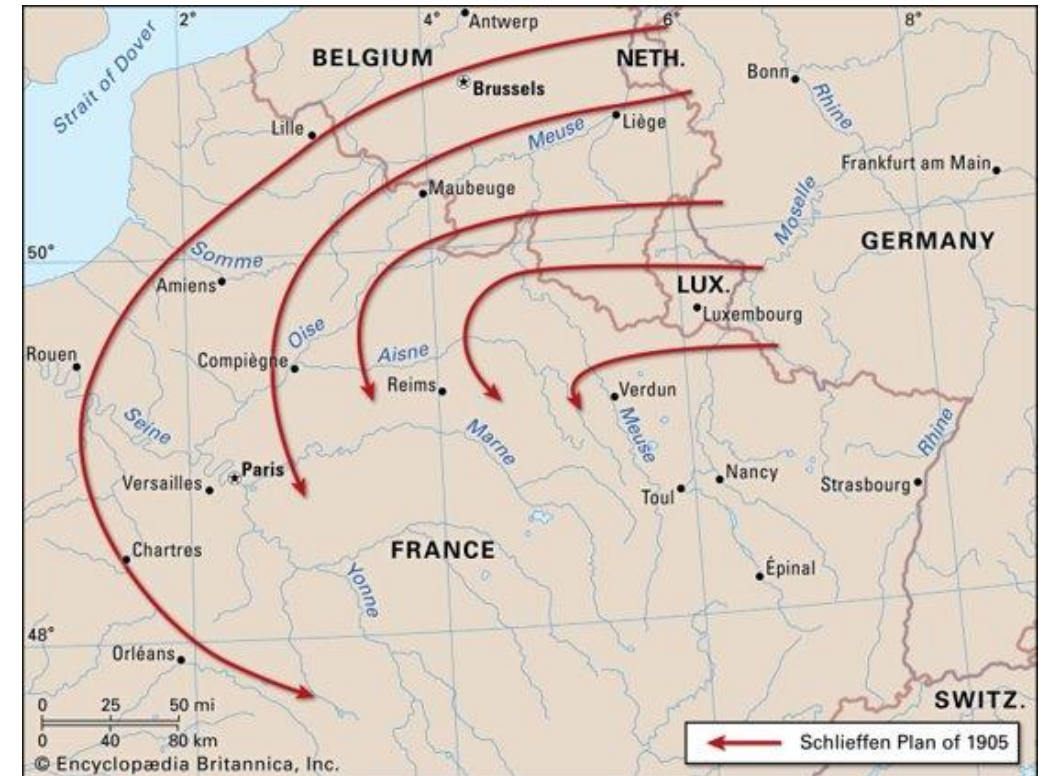


# Timeline of World War One

1914		
	June 28th	Francis Ferdinand assassinated at <a href="#">Sarajevo</a>
	July 5th	Kaiser William II promised German support for Austria against Serbia
	July 28th	Austria declared war on Serbia
	August 1st	Germany declared war on Russia
	August 3rd	Germany declared war on France and invaded Belgium. Germany had to implement the Schlieffen Plan.
	August 4th	Britain declared war on Germany

# The Schlieffen Plan

- Set up in 1905
- Concerned about being attacked on two fronts- France and Russia
- Plan- Attack France by going through Belgium, then attack Russia in the East
- Belgium was neutral at this time









Who and  
what is  
responsible  
for the start  
of WWI?

## **M.A.I.N**

Germany

Austria-Hungary

Serbia

Russia

Great Britain

France

# Mobilization- The Great War begins!

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- In the summer of 1914-Hundreds of thousands of men from all sides enthusiastically sign up to join the war-
  - Some as young as 15-16 (lied about their age)
  - Past tensions led to many people actually being excited about the war
  - Both sides thought it would be a quick easy victory.

In the US- President Woodrow Wilson declared American Neutrality



# The First Battle- Battle of the Marne



- September 6-12, 1914
- Located East of Paris, France
- Franco- British Victory
- **Pivotal battle → led to 4 years of trench warfare on the western front!**



# Battle of Marne- importance

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## Importance

- 1.) one of few non-trench battles on Western Front
- 2.) led to dig in, trench warfare
- 3.) 1<sup>st</sup> use of planes for reconnaissance
- 4.) called by some historians most important battle of 20<sup>th</sup> century (set tone for WWI & WWII)

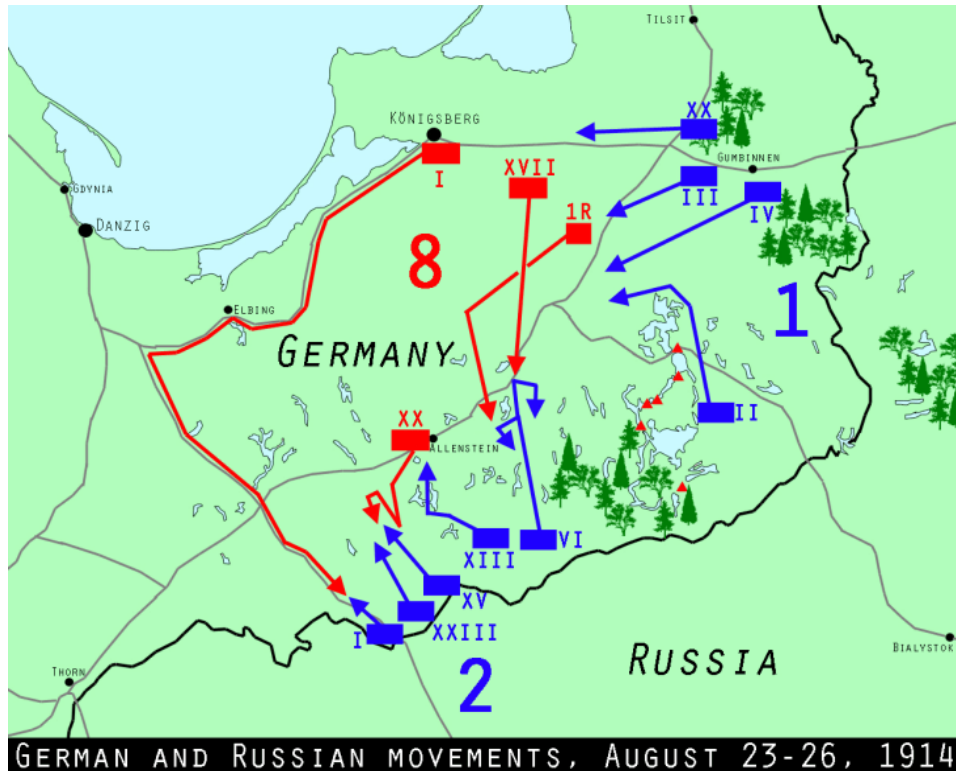


# Total War

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- **Total war** is **warfare** that includes any and all civilian-associated resources as legitimate military targets, mobilizes all of the resources of society to fight the **war**, and gives priority to **warfare** over non-combatant needs.
- The world has NEVER seen a more brutal, technological, or world wide war like this before

# Battle of Tannenberg (Aug. 23-30 1914)



Fought between Germans and Russians → first major battle of Eastern Front in what is now Poland

Russians outnumbered Germans 400,000 to 160,000

Germans circle Russians

- ½ the Russian army falls apart and runs away
- Other half is encircled w/ 100,000 dead, 78,000 prisoner and 10,000 escape; Germans capture 500+ artillery

# Battle of Tannenberg- Importance

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## Importance:

- Establishes German dominance in Eastern Front—a front they will never lose
- Exposes weakness of Russian Army
- Unites Germany via nationalism

