

GUNS OF AUGUST

- I. Murder With Millions of Victims
 - a. Austria Hungary controlled Bosnia, province with many Serbians
 - b. Archduke Francis Ferdinand decides to go to Sarajevo on June 28 1914
 - i. June 28 is important date of Serbian nationalism
 - 1. conquered by Ottomans in 1389, freed from Turks in 1912
 - ii. Archduke was unpopular
 - 1. married beneath him – wife was from lower social class
 - 2. saw nationalism was problem, so was going to make concessions to Slavs
 - a. Austrians saw this as weakness
 - b. Slav nationalist fear would prevent getting own nation
- II. Assassination
 - a. 7 assassins along parade route
 - b. first two don't do anything
 - c. third throws a bomb which is knocked away by Archduke
 - i. injures an officer
 - d. Archduke decides to visit officer in hospital after official business
 - i. Driver makes a wrong turn
 - e. Driver stops car to make u-turn, stops; in front of Gavrillo Princip
 - f. Princip shoots both Archduke and wife, killing them
- III. Peace Unravels
 - a. Austria issues ultimatum to Serbia
 - i. Must end all anti Austrian activities
 - ii. Allow Austria to investigate in Serbia
 - iii. Arrest all conspirators
 - b. Serbia agrees to most, but not all so Austria declare war on Serbia
 - c. Conflict grows
 - i. Blank Check
 - 1. Germany gave Austria blank check following assassination
 - a. Germany would support Austria no matter what
 - ii. Serbia-Russian alliance
 - 1. Serbia had secret treaty with Russia for support
 - 2. Russia mobilizes troops to try to stop Austria
 - 3. Germany declares war on Russia
 - iii. Russian-French alliance
 - 1. Russia ask France to support them because Germany declared war
 - 2. France want to avenge Franco Prussian war
 - a. Tell Russia will support Russia
 - 3. Germany declare war on France
 - iv. England and Italy stay neutral
 - 1. neutral – don't take a side
 - d. Schlieffen Plan

- i. Germany is in between France and Russia
 - 1. need to avoid two fronts
- ii. Believe it would take Russia very long to mobilize
- iii. Plan
 - 1. Attack France first with all German army
 - a. Go through Belgium and Netherlands
 - b. Allow to come up behind French lines
 - 2. Once defeat France, take railroads east and beat Russia
- iv. Britain had pledged to protect Belgium's neutrality
 - 1. when Germany invade Belgium, Britain declare war on Germany