

WORLD WAR I AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Section 1: The Great War Begins

Alliances Draw Lines



- Because of distrust among nations, two large alliances emerged—the Triple Alliance of Germany, Italy, and Austria-Hungary and the Triple Entente of France, Russia, and Britain.

Rivalries and Nationalism Increase Tension

- Economic rivalries, struggles over colonies, arms races, and aggressive nationalism pushed Europe toward war.
- In Sarajevo the nephew of the Austrian emperor was assassinated by a Serbian nationalist, causing Austria (backed by Germany) to declare war on Serbia.
- Serbia enlisted the help of its ally, Russia, which brought France along with it into the war. Britain joined the war when Germany invaded neutral Belgium

Reaction to the War



- The war took peoples' minds off domestic problems and united the citizens of each country under patriotism.

World War I and the Russian Revolution

Events Leading to World War I

Alliances Form

- Triple Alliance, 1882—Germany, Austria, Italy
- Triple Entente, 1904—Russia, France, Britain
- Germany signs treaty with Ottoman Turkey.
- Britain develops relations with Japan.

Tensions Rise

- Powers want to protect status.
- Compete overseas for colonies
- Militarism
- Britain feels threatened by Germany; Germany fears Russia.
- Sensational journalism stirs public feeling.
- Nationalism
- Balkan wars

The War Begins

- Archduke of Austria assassinated by Serbian nationalist.
- Austria gives Serbia ultimatum.
- Serbia will not meet all terms.
- With German support, Austria declares war on Serbia.
- Russia mobilizes; Germany declares war on Russia.
- France supports Russia; Germany declares war on France.
- Germany invades Belgium.
- Britain declares war on Germany.

Reasons for Entering the War, July-August 1914

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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
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

The Schlieffen Plan

