

The Road to War

Chapter 8 Section 1

Focus Questions

- Describe at least three factors that lead to World War I.
- Identify at least two reasons Americans and the Federal Government sided with the British and Allies.
- Identify at least two factors that pushed America into World War I.

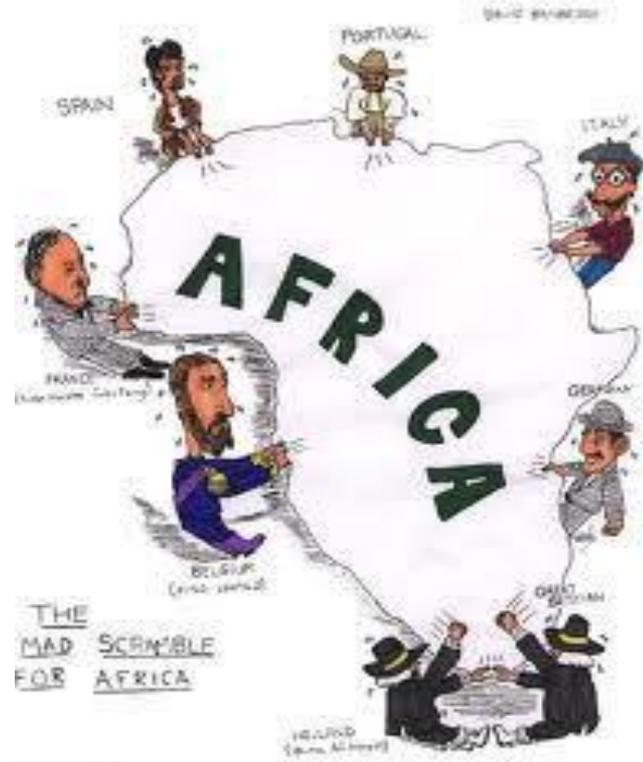
Causes That Lead to War

- There is no one cause that leads to war. Instead there is a number of issues and changes that Europe undergoes that eventually lead to war.
- The assassination of the Archduke Ferdinand was the final step towards war.



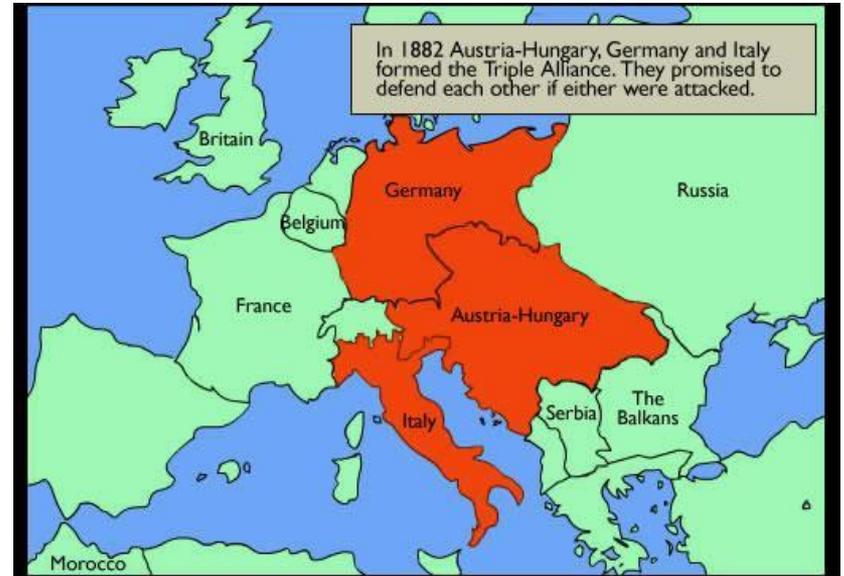
Imperialism

- As nations expanded competition for new territories drove a wedge between European nations.
- Raw materials and new markets for manufactured goods also created conflict.
- Social Darwinism/Survival of the Fittest.



Alliance System

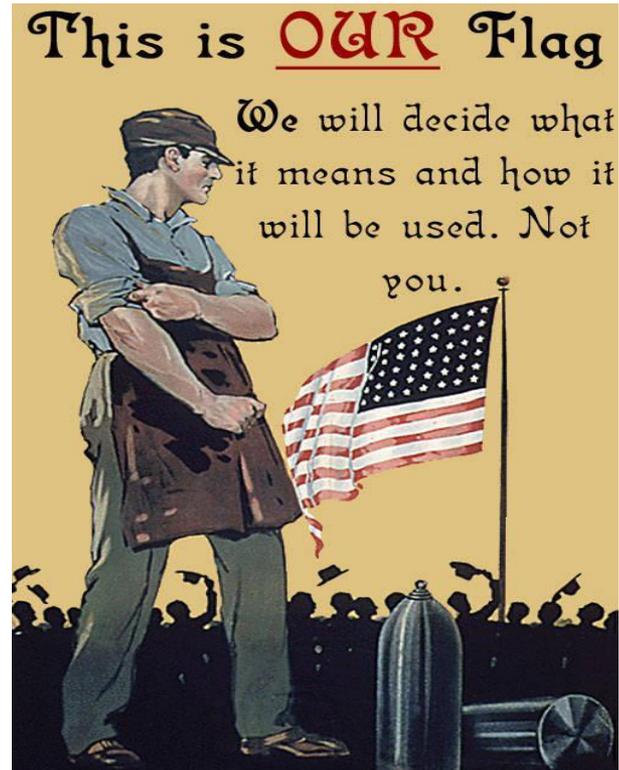
- Alliance systems were established around 1880 as a method of protecting one's nation and interest.
- The first alliance formed was the Triple alliance made between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy.
- In response the Triple Entente was established by the French, British, and Russians.
- Early on in the 20th century a number of crises tested these alliances.
- Many of these test came from the region know as the Balkans.



Map of Europe 1839-1914

Nationalism

- During the 20th century many ethnic groups under colonial rule pushed for independence.
- National desires, industrialization, division between the middle and lower classes, all contributed to the conflicts in the area know as the Balkans.



Balkan Crisis

- Both the Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian Empire's were made up of many different nations.
- As nationalism became a powerful force, many different national groups began to press for independence and self-determination.
- Several super powers supported many of the groups pushing for independence. (Russians supporting the Serbs)
- Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Bosnian revolutionary launches WWI.



Naval Race

- Germany begins building a navy, which challenged Great Britain's dominance at sea.
- By the early 1900's an arms race (weapons race) begins between Great Britain and Germany.
- The Naval Race greatly increases tensions between Germany and Great Britain.
- Great Britain decides to align themselves with Russia and France. (Triple Entente)



Americans take Sides

- Many Americans did side with the Germans and Central Powers.
- Yet, the majority of Americans along with the Federal Government sided with the British.
- The country valued the heritage, language and political ideals they shared with Britain.
- Others treasured America's historic link with France, who sided with America during the Revolutionary War.

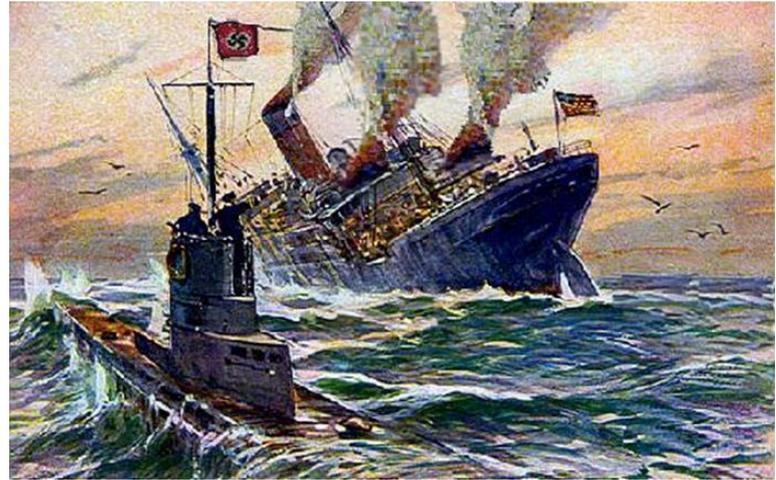
America and Great Britain

- Business from the East Coast had strong ties with businesses with the Allies. (France, Great Britain)
- Banks were heavily invested in an Allied victory. Banks had over two billion dollars invested.
- The countries prosperity rested on the hands of the Allies.



- In 1915 the Germans declare unrestricted submarine warfare on any ships they found in the waters of Britain.
- The goal was to prohibit materials such as food, military equipment, and other supplies that could help the allies win.
- This announcement triggered outrage in the U.S.

- The Germans use this tactic until 1917, shortly after the U.S declares war.



Zimmermann Telegram

- German official sends a telegram to Mexico.
- The message urged Mexico to take sides with the Germans.
- In return Mexico would re-gain territories lost during the Mexican American War.
- The attacks on American ships and the Zimmermann telegram pushed the U.S to declare war on Germany in 1917.



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SOME PROMISE!

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