## World War I M.A.N.I.A.C

Causes of the First World War

# M - Militarism



King George V inspecting munitions factory

• The belief that a country should have a strong military, with the capability to use it aggressively to defend or promote itself at a moments notice

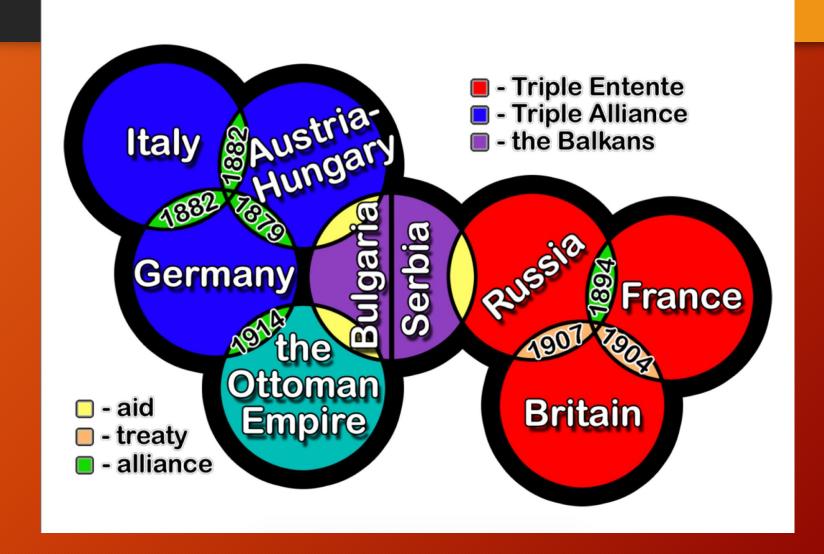
 Nations and Empires began to feel threatened by neighbouring militarism, which spurred on their own military expansion and this

vicious circle continued across Europe

 Increased military strength would also allow empires to gain more colonies versus other industrialized powers they were competing with



### A - Alliances



- Countries and Empire's signing secret alliances
  - Entente signed in 1907
  - Alliance signed in 1882
- These alliances meant that if one nation or empire was brought into a conflict, many more would be brought in as a result.





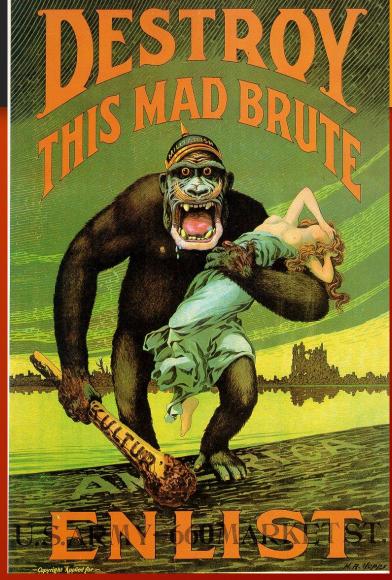
### N - Nationalism





- Nationalism is the extreme pride in one's country/culture/history/language
  - Nationalists believe their culture is superior to others
- People will identify with their regions or their ethnic groups as opposed to their ruling empires

 More people began joining the military to support their countries efforts to expand

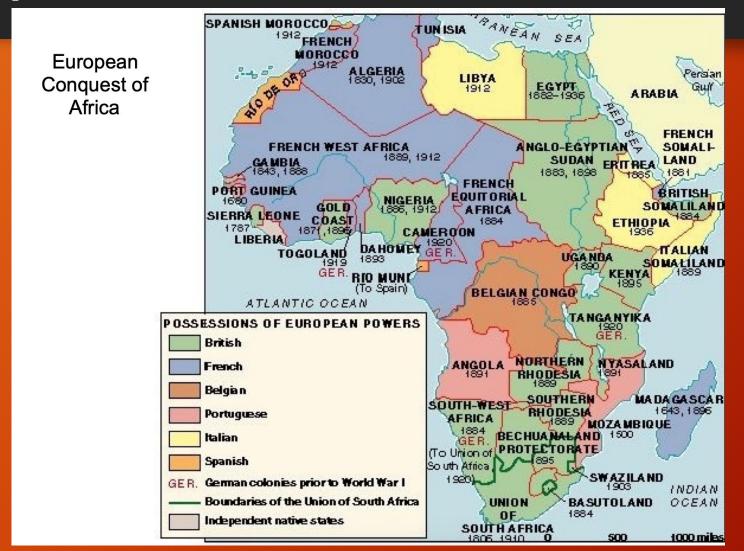


**U.S Enlistment Poster** 

#### In the Middle East

- the Ottoman Empire was rapidly crumbling under nationalist pressure
  - Syria was under Ottoman rule, but began pushing for autonomy with British backing
  - Palestine was also under Ottoman rule, but pressure from European zionists who were again backed by the British created even more internal nationalist issues
- Iran remained neutral throughout the war, but was occupied by the Ottomans, Russians and British during various periods

## I - Imperialism



- Nation's and Empires began claiming land across the world to gain access to natural/raw resources while expanding their spheres of influence
  - Countries had exhausted their own natural resources but were thirsty for more

 Stronger countries began extending power through military force and using it to conquer large portions of

land (Africa especially)

 Poland, for example, did not exist during this time, it was instead split between Germany, in what was then known as Prussia, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and Russia

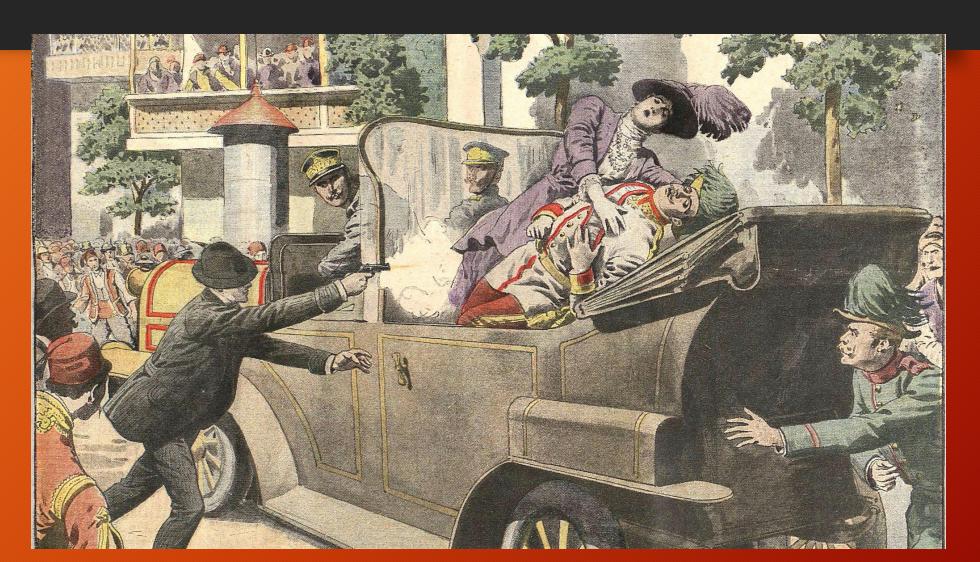


Political cartoon from 1882 depicting Britain as the 'octopus' of imperialism

- In Asia, Japan had annexed Korea in 1910 and parts of China
  - the Philippines were under United States rule after the Phillipine-American War of 1899-1902



### A - Assassination



 Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary is murdered along with his wife in Sarajevo (modern day Bosnia)

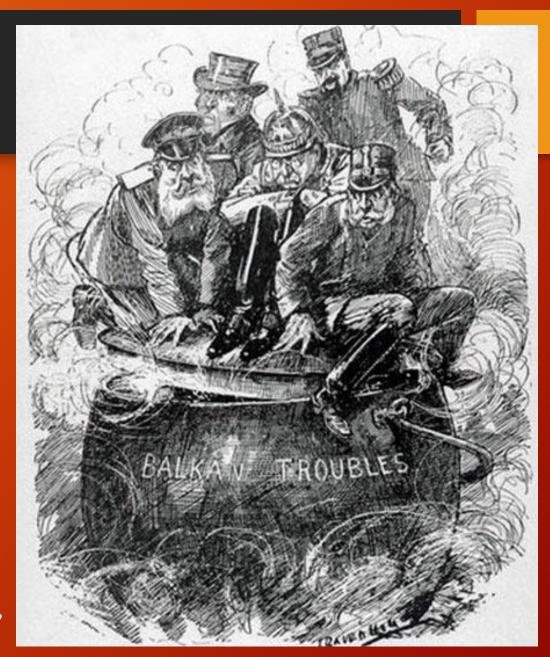
#### Gavrilo Princip

- Serbian nationalist from Bosnia, working for the terrorist group the Black Hand
- Austria-Hungary presents Serbia with an ultimatum to remove all anti-Austrian propaganda and that Austria-Hungary be allowed to conduct their own investigations into the murder
  - Serbia conceded to these demands but Austria went ahead with a military response

### C - Crisis



Political cartoon from 2 October 1912 entitled, "Boiling Point" ->



- First Balkan War (1912)
- Second Balkan War (1913)
- Fragility and insecurity left by the receding Ottoman Empire
- Romania gained its independence in 1877 from the Ottomans
  - along with Bulgaria, Montenegro and Serbia



#### **Domino Effect**

Austria Hungary blamed Serbia for Ferdinand's death and declared war on Serbia.



#### **Domino Effect**

Germany <u>declares</u> war on Russia.

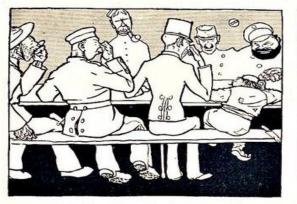
France pledges their support for Russia.

Germany declares war on France.

Germany invades Belgium on the way to France.

Great Britain supports Belgium and declares war on Germany.

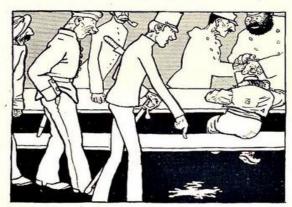
#### Der Stänker



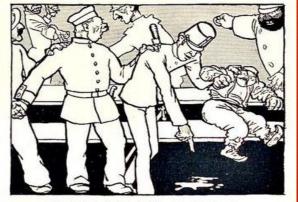
Die Nachbarn (alle 5 Minuten): "Das geht aber wirklich nicht mehr so weiter!"



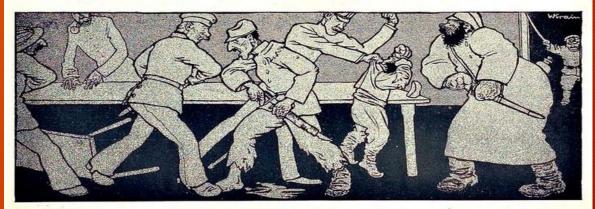
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Ofterreich: "Sofort das Meffer herausziehen!"



(Der Ruffe dreht plötflich das Licht aus)



Alles ruft durcheinander, voller Migwerftandnis: "Heraus das Meffer!" Auf den Larm bin lauft ein neuer Gaft bingu.