

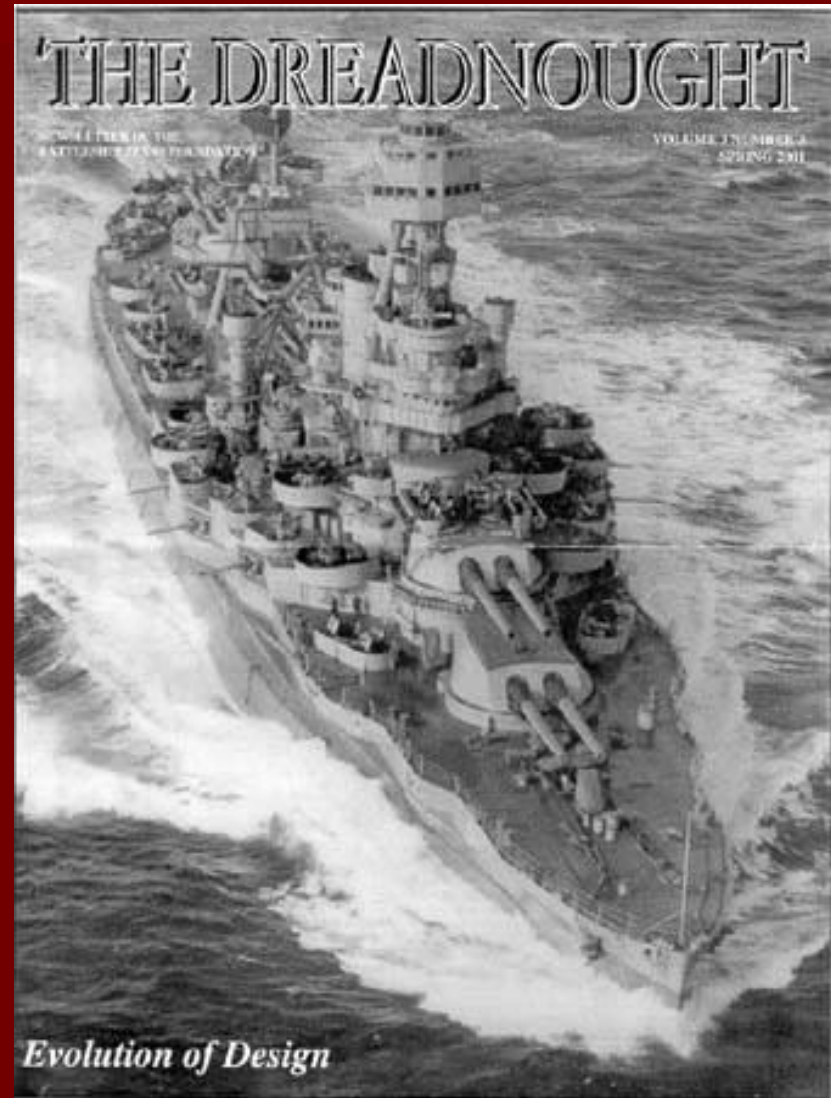
The Causes of WWI

- **M**ilitarism
- **A**lliances
- **I**mperialism
- **N**ationalism

Militarism

- Build up of military and expansion of Armies

	<u>1880</u>	<u>1914</u>
■ Germany	1.3m	5.0m
■ France	0.73m	4.0m
■ Russia	0.40m	1.2m



- TUPLE ALLIANCE
- TUPLE ENTENTE
- NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

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Pre-WWI Alliances

Triple Alliance

- Germany
- Austria-Hungary
- Italy

Triple Entente

- France
- Russia
- Great Britain

Imperialism

- All nations of Europe were competing for colonies/territory.
- The British feared Germany's navy.
- The Austrians feared Serbia and Russia in the Balkans

Nationalism

Serbia's
national
flag

- Nations wanted to assert their power and independence.
- European Slavs, aided by Serbia and Russia, wanted to be free of Austrian rule.



PRO-GERMAN VS. PAN-SLAVIC MOVEMENTS

Pro-German Movement

- Wanted to unite all German speaking people
- Led by Austria-Hungary and Germany

Pan-Slavic Movement

- Wanted to unite all Slavic speaking people
- Led by Russia

Otto von Bismarck

- Used war to unite Germany and create a larger empire
- Then wanted to maintain peace in Europe
- Saw France as the biggest threat to Germany



Build up to War

“Germany must have its place in the sun. The world belongs to the strong.”

- France loses Franco-Prussian war (1871), gives up Alsace and Lorraine
- Kaiser Wilhelm II becomes Chancellor in 1890, builds up German military and colonies
- Seen as a threat by other European powers



Build up to War, contd.

- June 28, 1914
- Heir to Austrian throne, Franz Ferdinand, visits Sarajevo.
- Hotbed of Slavic nationalism



Seal of the
Black Hand
group

- “Black Hand” terrorists attack the Arch Duke
- Bomb attempt fails in morning
- Gavrilo Princip shoots Archduke and wife in the afternoon.
- Austrians blame Serbia for supporting terrorists.



Build up to War, contd.

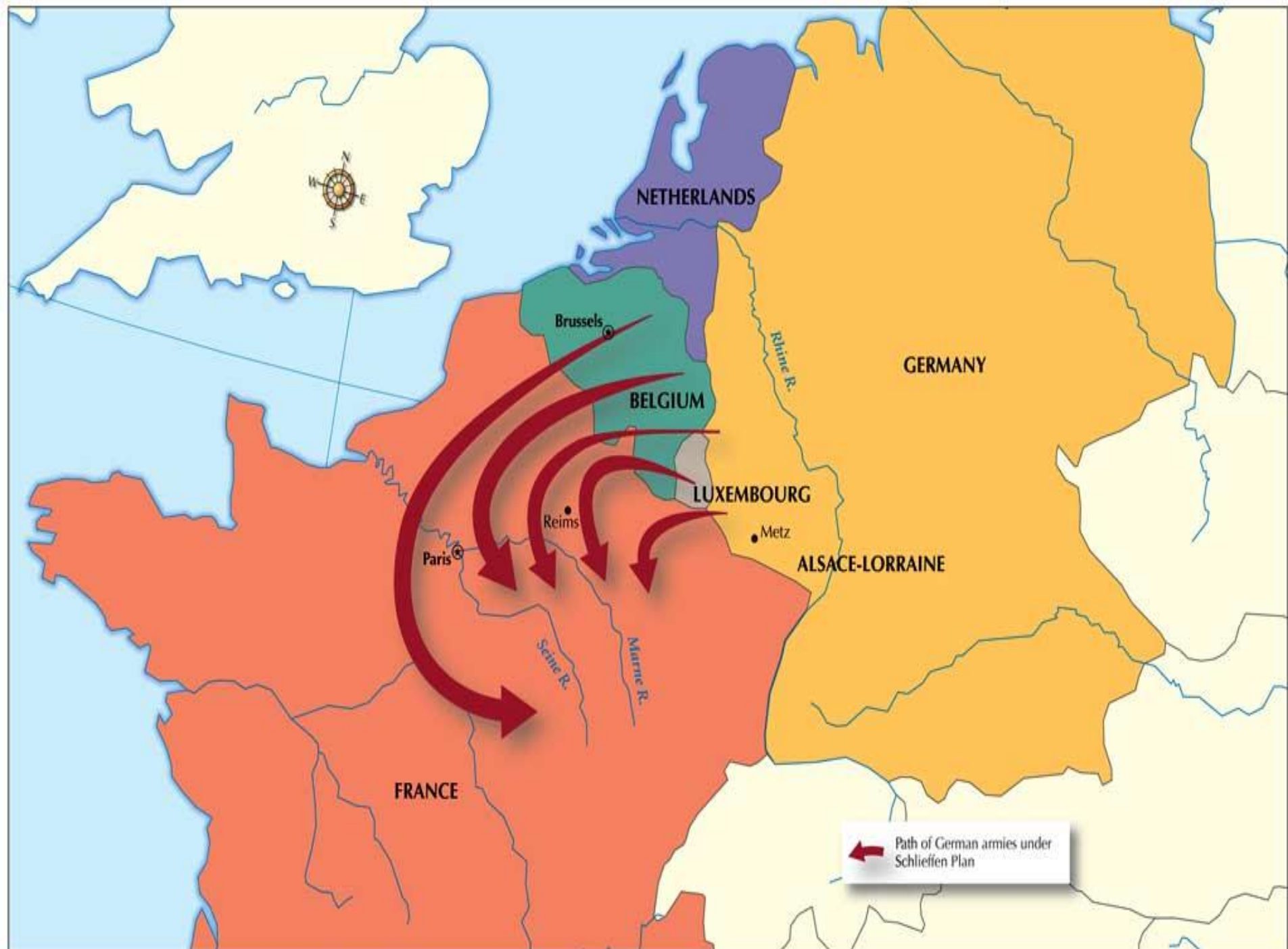
- Austria, supported by Germany, sends Serbia a tough ultimatum
- Serbia agrees to all but one term
- Russia mobilizes troops to support Serbia
- Germany demands Russia stand armies down
- Germany declares war on Russia

“Demands must be put to Serbia that would be wholly impossible for them to accept ...” –
Count Berchtold,
Austria Prime
Minister



The Schlieffen Plan

- Germany's military plan to defeat France and Russia.
- "Knock out blow" aimed at France first.
- Avoid French defences by invasion of Belgium.
- Germans thought Britain would not intervene.



NETHERLANDS

GERMANY

Brussels

BELGIUM

LUXEMBOURG

Reims

Metz

ALSACE-LORRAINE

Paris

FRANCE

← Path of German armies under Schlieffen Plan

Build up to War, contd.

- 1831 - UK had signed a Treaty to protect Belgium, also scared of Germany controlling Channel ports.
- UK issued ultimatum to Germany to withdraw troops from Belgium. War declared August 4, 1914



Reasons for Entering the War, July–August 1914

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

WWI Alliances

ALLIED POWERS

- GREAT BRITAIN
- RUSSIA
- FRANCE

CENTRAL POWERS

- GERMANY
- AUSTRIA-
HUNGARY
- OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Europe Goes to War, 1914

