

The Spark that Started the War

The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, by a Serbian nationalist.

Why did this start a war? Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. Because of an earlier alliance, Russia agreed to defend Serbia. They mobilized (prepared military) for war. So...

Germany declared war on Russia and France, which led...

Britain to declare war on Germany, which led...

Austria-Hungary to declare war on Russia!

Who's is on which side now?

Central Powers {
Austria-Hungary
Germany

Allied Powers {
Britain
France
Russia
Italy**

** Note: Italy switched sides in 1915!

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