“THE GUNS OF AUGUST”:
The Great War in Europe & American Neutrality

Gathering of the Storm in Europe

"European Balance of Power, 1914"
Gathering of the Storm in Europe

- Two Armed Camps:
  - Central Powers (Ger, Aust, Turkey)
  - Allies (Rus, Fran, GB, Italy)
- Balkan Time Bomb & Serbian Nationalism
- Serbs = slavic (kinship to Russia)
- Austria-Hungary annexed
- The Black Hand
- June 28, 1914
- June-August 1914
- Aust-Hung. demands = excessive
- from Germany
- Schlieffen Plan → Belgian neutrality violated
- GB declares war (Aug 4)
The year is 1914, and you are a diplomat for your country. In Europe, tensions are rising. Consider the following:

- What strengths or weaknesses does your country have if you decided to enter into a major war?
- What about your history/background influences your decision on whether to fight or not?
- What would you hope to achieve through warfare?