

# OUTBREAK / TÚS



Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie only minutes before their assassination

An tArd-Diúc Franz Ferdinand agus a bhean Sophie cúpla nóiméad sular feallmharaíodh iad

The assassination of the Austro-Hungarian heir to the throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, in Sarajevo triggered a chain reaction that led to the German invasion of Belgium and France in August 1914.

As part of the British Expeditionary Force, Irish soldiers were sent to support the French army in defending their territory. They were forced back by the overwhelming numbers and firepower of the German Army.

Ba é marú Ard-Diúc Franz Ferdinand, an t-oidhre ar an gcoróin Ostra-Ungárach, a chuir tús le slabhra imeachtaí as ar lean ionradh na Gearmáine ar an mBeilg agus ar an bhFrainc i Lúnasa 1914.

Cuireadh saighdiúirí Éireannacha, mar chuid d'Fhórsa Sluaíochta na Breataine, chun na Fraince chun cabhrú le hArm na Fraince a dtír a chosaint. Ach bhí i bhfad níos mó saighdiúirí in Arm na Gearmáine agus níos mó armlóin acu, mar sin brúdh siar iad.

## The French Army

France was able to mobilize 1.1 million soldiers in August 1914, and by the end of the war 84% of its eligible manpower had been conscripted.

In case of war, the French Army had already planned to invade Germany and take back Alsace-Lorraine. This plan, called Plan XVII, failed and the first battles on 17th August were a shocking defeat for the French Army.

## Arm na Fraince

Bhí ar chumas na Fraince 1.1 milliún saighdiúir a shlógadh i Lúnasa 1914, agus faoi dheireadh an chogaidh bhí 84% de na fir in aois troda coinscríofa.

Bhí beartaithe ag an bhFrainc ionradh a dhéanamh ar an nGearmáin agus Alsace-Lorraine a ghabháil ar ais, dá mbeadh sé ina chogadh. Plean XVII a tugadh ar an bplean sin, ach teip a bhí i ndán dó i ngeall ar an mbua tubaisteach ar Arm na Fraince an 17 Lúnasa.



French reserve soldiers arriving in Paris to receive their equipment

Saighdiúirí cúltaca Francacha i bPáras, ag bailiú a gcuid trealaimh



French infantry in action in 1916

Saighdiúirí coisithe Francacha i mbun comhraic i 1914

## 22nd August

In one day in August, 27,000 soldiers of the French Army were killed, wounded and reported missing. The British Army would not experience such losses until the first day of the Battle of the Somme on 1st July 1916.

The French Army now moved north to stop the Germans invading through Belgium, which they eventually did at the Battle of Marne, and the war settled into trench warfare.

## An 22 Lúnasa

Maraíodh, goineadh agus cailleadh 27,000 saighdiúir d'Arm na Fraince ar lá amháin i mí Lúnasa. Níor chaill Arm na Breataine an oiread sin fear go dtí an chéad lá de Chath an Somme, an 1 Iúil 1916.

Dhruid Arm na Fraince ó thuaidh anois chun cosc a chur le hionradh na Gearmáine tríd an Bheilg, rud a rinne siad ag Cath Marne. Cogadh trinse a bhí ann ina dhiaidh sin.