



37 Days: Countdown to World War One

30 June: Britain and Germany united

Prof Margaret MacMillan:

It's the last day of the Royal Navy's friendly visit to the German base at Kiel. The Navy's Captain Henderson briefs London:

Captain Henderson:

I think it would not be out of place here to call your attention to the striking progress made by the German navy in sports and games. Speaking generally, our men were entirely outclassed in all the usual sports: running, jumping; and in the tug-of-war the Germans simply walked away with us. The Germans have systematically invaded what we have hitherto regarded as our national preserve – the realm of sport.

Prof Margaret MacMillan:

As the British squadron steams out of harbor. The German admiral sends a message

German Admiral:

Best wishes for a pleasant journey.

Prof Margaret MacMillan:

His British counterpart thanks him and makes a promise.

British Admiral:

Comrades in the past and always.