



37 Days: Countdown to World War One

26 July Britain makes a bid for peace

Sir Edward Grey – Foreign Secretary:

I would like to propose a round table conference here in London to be attended by the Ambassadors of the disinterested parties. If we start talking Austria will be forced to join the conversation.

HH Asquith – Prime Minister:

How many days do we have before Austria actually declares war?

Grey:

Well, that depends on the state of their army and how well they've digested this year's conscripts .. ah perhaps four days ... maybe a week

Asquith:

It's crucial for Germany to be involved in any conference

Grey:

Unthinkable without her

Asquith:

You can manage that?

Grey:

I believe so. We have more than a few carrots to offer

Churchill:

There should be a stick too.