



## 37 Days: Countdown to World War One

### 7 July: Austro-Hungarian action against Serbia delayed

Prof Margaret Macmillan:

At 3 pm Austria-Hungary's leaders meet in Vienna. Now that Germany has promised support most want to move against Serbia - which they blame for the assassination in Sarajevo. And they hope to do it quickly before Serbia's protector Russia can get involved. But Istvan Tisza, the Hungarian Prime Minister, still isn't convinced

Tisza - Hungarian Prime Minister:

I will never consent to a surprise attack upon Serbia without a previous diplomatic action. We would play a sorry figure in the eyes of all Europe and draw upon ourselves the enmity of all the Balkan states.

Margaret Macmillan:

After two hours debate an immediate attack is ruled out. They settle instead on a stiff ultimatum to Serbia. Tisza will agree to that. But time is passing and Hungary's objections mean Russia will now have a chance to intervene.