



## How close did WW1 bring Glasgow to revolution?

### Video transcript – Imperial stronghold to revolutionary hotbed

Growing up in Glasgow, my father used to tell me stories about when this city and the surrounding area was one of the world's great industrial powerhouses...

Mighty ships were launched on the Clyde...

... it was a 'workshop of the world'...

...its factories were famous and goods from Clydeside's factories were shipped around the globe...

When World War One broke out in 1914, this engineering might was turned to the cause...

... its men volunteered for the army...

... the region raised millions of pounds to help fund Britain's fight against its enemies.

In some ways, this doesn't seem like a left-wing city before World War One – there wasn't even a Labour candidate here in Govan at the 1910 general election.

Although we've got to remember that it was expensive to run for parliament...

The years immediately before the war were turbulent on the Clydeside. There was a significant increase in strikes and trade union membership.

But in 1914, all across Clydeside the people re-asserted their loyalty to King, country and empire.

Yet just 5 years later the establishment thought this city was on the brink of a revolution

...so much so that tanks and machine guns were deployed in the very heart of this city.