Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Period\_\_\_\_\_

Underlying Causes of WWI

In the end, no one was singing the glories of war. World War I lasted four long years from 1914 to November 1918. It was triggered by the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria, but long standing tensions allowed this event to launch Europe into the Great War. By August 4, 1914, armies across Europe were squared off against each other. By late 1918, over 10,000,000 soldiers and civilians were dead and another 20,000,000 were wounded. It is important to try to understand the underlying causes of this tragedy. Along with Europe at its peak and nationalism, three long-term causes were responsible: a network of alliances, militarism, and imperial tension. Of these \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were the most important.

First Body Paragraph

Second Body Paragraph

It is important to emphasize that there was no single cause behind the Great War. Europe at its peak, barely touched upon here, was a key factor. But the two forces driving European powers to war were primarily \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .Together these two factors were the strongest causes of World War I because . . .