

# The New Criterion

Books April 2004

## Guilty as charged

by Robert Messenger

A review of *Europe's Last Summer: Who Started the Great War in 1914?* by David Fromkin

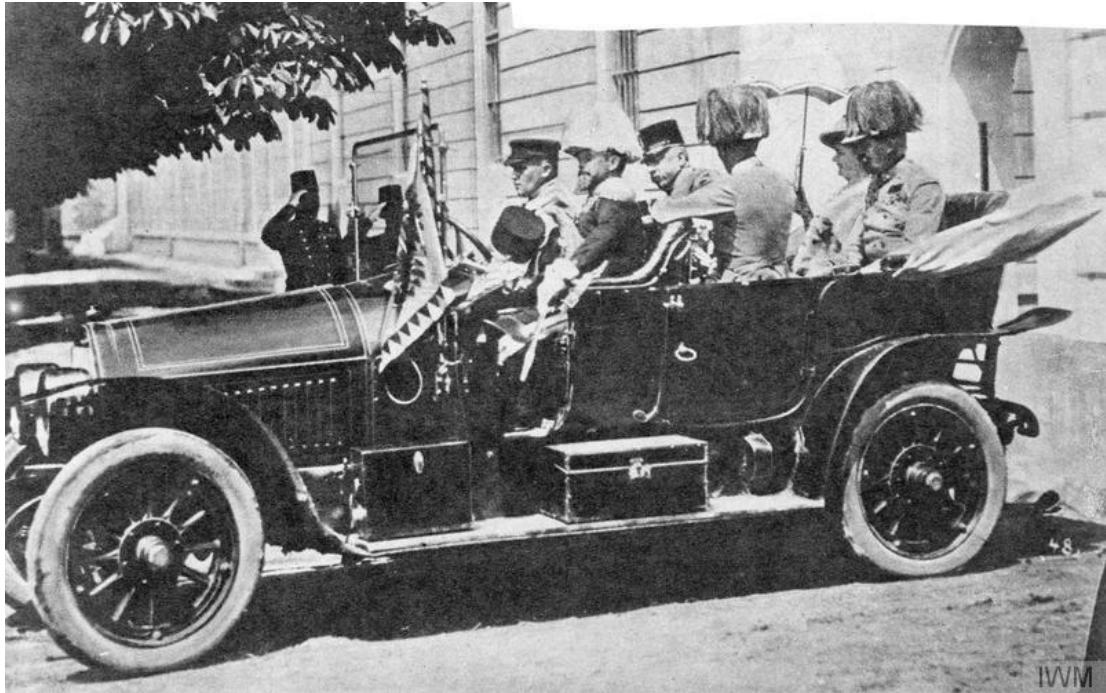
### BOOKS IN THIS ARTICLE



*David Fromkin*

*Europe's Last Summer: Who Started the Great War in 1914?*

Knopf, 368 pages, \$26.95



*Photo: The Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, June 1914  
Archduke Ferdinand and his wife on an official visit to Sarajevo in June 1914, shortly before  
their assassination by Gavrilo Princip.*

*I write you under the black cloud of portentous events on this side of the world, horrible, unspeakable, iniquitous things—I mean horrors of war criminally, infamously precipitated.*

—Henry James, August 6, 1914

**W**ho started the Great War in 1914? David Fromkin's excellent new book wants to put the question to rest. This work, from the author of the bestselling *A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of...*

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