

"THE GREAT WAR (THE CGI SERIES EPISODE)"

By

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TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT.: SARAJEVO - JUNE 28, 1914 - DAY

SFX: PEOPLE TALKING

June 28, 1914

It was Summertime in Europe as SERBIAN MAN NAMED GAVRILO PRINCIP is standing at Schiller's Delicatessen waiting for the arrival of ARCHDUKE FRANZ FERDINAND AND HIS WIFE, SOPHIE. Princip saw the motorcade coming towards him. As the motorcade stopped in the middle of the road, Princip PULLS OUT his Model 1910 Belgium Automatic Pistol and FIRES TWO SHOTS at Ferdinand and his wife. One bullet STRIKES Ferdinand's jugular vein and other bullet STRUCK at the Duchess' abdomen. Princip is under arrest by Austro-Hungarians and the Great War has begun!

CUT TO:

TITLE: THE GREAT WAR: THE ANIMATED SERIES

CUT TO:

EPISODE TITLE: THE GREAT WAR

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT I

FADE IN:

EXT. MAP OF EUROPE - 1914

The map of Europe in 1914 shows two countries, Serbia (shown in blue) and Austria-Hungary (shown in red).

NARRATOR (V.O.)

World War I, also known as the Great War, began in the Summer of 1914 when Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, Sophie, were assassinated in the city of Sarajevo. Gavrilo Princip and his Black Hand Assassins were found guilty of their crimes and Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia.

A map of Europe also shows the Allied Powers highlighted in blue and the Central Powers highlighted in red.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Russia formed the alliance with Serbia, along with France, Belgium, and Great Britain, but Austria-Hungary is one of the Central Powers, along with Germany, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire. The story begins with a STUDENT at Sandhurst Military Academy in Great Britain.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT.: SANDHURST MILITARY ACADEMY, CLASSROOM - DAY

Two months later.

Inside the classroom, the student is talking to the TEACHER after class.

STUDENT

Uh, Sir, how did I do for the final exam?

TEACHER

How did you do? You got a perfect score for the final exam.

STUDENT

I did?

TEACHER

Yes, you studied very well today, Young Man.

The Teacher receives a letter from Young.

YOUNG

(Stutters)

Uh...

TEACHER

Go on. Read it.

Young pulls out the letter and reads:

YOUNG

"Dear Mr. Young, you worked very hard at the Military Academy. You are now enlisted with the British Infantry Division at the British Army Training Camp. Signed, GENERAL SIR HORACE SMITH-DORRIEN."

Young is excited to become a soldier.

YOUNG (CONT'D)

Guess what? I'm joining the British Army.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT.: BRITISH TRAINING CAMP - DAY

Outside the British Training Camp, the BRITISH CADETS are having their conversation. Young came to see them.

BRITISH SOLDIER

(Waving his hand)

Hi, there! Welcome to the camp.

CADET YOUNG

My name is Cadet Young. Who are you?

A young cadet salutes Young.

CADET ADAMS

Cadet Finley Adams, and this
is CADETS ANDERSON and
ATKINSON.

Cadet Anderson shakes Cadet Young's hand.

CADET ANDERSON

Pleased to meet you, Young.

CADET YOUNG

It's an honor to meet you too, guys.

CADET ATKINSON

We've heard the news that Germans invaded
Belgium.

CADET YOUNG

Wait! Are you saying Germany allied with
Austria-Hungary after the assassination in
Sarajevo?

CADET ADAMS

Not just Sarajevo. Germany declared war on
France as well and thinks it's just a
"scrap of paper" or some sort of...thing.

They heard a TRUMPET as the British General Sir Horace
Smith-Dorrien and FIELD MARSHALL SIR JOHN FRENCH arrived at
the British Training Camp.

SIR HORACE SMITH-DORRIEN

Troops! Attention!

The British Cadets are standing up with their military
procedure.

SIR HORACE SMITH-DORRIEN (CONT'D)

Gentlemen, welcome to the training camp.
I'm General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien...

(MORE)

SIR HORACE SMITH-DORRIEN (CONT'D)

...and this is Field Marshall Sir John French of the British Expeditionary Force. We have learned Germany's violation of Treaty of London with an invasion of Belgium and now you're here to practice for your training. Commander French?

SIR JOHN FRENCH

That means you need to practice some training. Once your training is complete, you'll be ready for combat on the Western Front to become soldiers. First, you'll be starting with the obstacle course, then you'll practice at the shooting range, and finally, you lads will practice melee combat with your bayonets.

CUT TO:

EXT.: OBSTACLE COURSE - CONTINUOUS

The British Cadets are practicing the obstacle course starting with shutter-step tires.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Let's go! Right, left. (x2)

The British Cadets are using their quick feet motion. Next, the British Soldiers climbed up and over the wall by using the rope to get the other side.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Keep climbing! Don't let go of your rope!

The final obstacle course is the belly crawl. The British troops crawl under the barbed wires.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Come on, you, guys! Don't give up! Just keep crawling!

CUT TO:

EXT.: SHOOTING RANGE - DAY

The British Cadets are at the shooting range for target practice. They're using Lee-Enfield rifles to aim at the target for shooting.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Everyone, keep your eye on your target.

Each British Cadets fired at the target, but Cadet Young is reloading his rifle.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Cadet Young, are you having trouble reloading your gun?

PRIVATE YOUNG

No, Sir.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Good. Keep shooting.

Sir John French turns to Cadet Anderson.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Cadet Anderson, you're supposed to aim at the target!

CADET ANDERSON

I'm sorry, Sir. I was practice shooting.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Then, stay on your bloody target.

CADET ANDERSON

Yes, Sir.

Sir John French saw that Cadet Atkinson didn't reload his gun during the target practice. Cadet Atkinson's gun remains silent.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Cadet Atkinson! Why aren't you reloading your bloody gun?

CADET ATKINSON

I was aiming at the target, Sir.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Then reload your gun with your bloody cartridge, Cadet Atkinson! That's an order!

CADET ATKINSON

Yes, Sir!

Sir John French checking every British Soldiers until he saw Cadet Adams made a bullseye on the target.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Bloody good, Adams. You hit the target perfectly. You're promoted to Second Lieutenant.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

Thank you, Sir.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Please report to GENERAL Smith-Dorrian for your further orders.

Second Lieutenant Adams salutes Sir John French and leaves the Shooting Range.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT I

ACT II

FADE IN:

INT.: GENERAL SMITH-DORRIEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Second Lieutenant Adams enters General Smith-Dorrien's office. The General is waiting for him along with TWO NEW RECRUITS.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

(Saluting to General Smith-Dorrien)

Second Lieutenant Adams, reporting for duty!

GENERAL SIR HORACE SMITH-DORRIEN

Second Lieutenant Adams, I want you to meet the new recruits, Smythe and Woolsey.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

(Handshake to Woolsey)

You must be Medical Officer Woolsey.

MEDICAL OFFICER HIS REWOOLSEY

Yes, Adams. I was assigned to take care of the wounded men. Smythe was assigned as the Sniper, who never missed a target with his rifle.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

And that's why I came here to train for a long-range target.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

(Handshake to Private Smythe)

Welcome to the British Regiment, you two.

CUT TO:

INT.: BRITISH TRAINING CAMP - DAY

Inside the British Training Camp, Lieutenants Adams, Smythe, and Woolsey came to see Young.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

Private Young, I want you to meet
Lieutenants Smythe and Woolsey.

PRIVATE YOUNG

(Handshake to Woolsey)

I'm very pleased to join you two.

PRIVATE WOOLSEY

We need to practice with our bayonet,
today, Young.

PRIVATE YOUNG

I will, Woolsey.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

And don't forget, Young. We'll be on the
Western Front soon.

CUT TO:

EXT.: GRAVEL ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Sir John French and the British Cadets are jogging on the
gravel road.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Keep running, Men! It's not a breaktime!

CUT TO:

EXT.: BAYONET TRAINING CAMP - DAY

Sir John French demonstrated to the British Cadets about
bayonets.

SIR JOHN FRENCH

Gentlemen, this is a bayonet. It was
designed for melee attack on hand-to-hand
combat in the war. Take the bayonet and
attach it to your rifle.

The British Soldiers attached bayonets to their rifles.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Now use your bayonet to stab the sandbag
hang.

The British Soldiers practice stabbing the sandbag hang
target with their bayonets.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

And halt!

The British Soldiers stop practicing.

SIR JOHN FRENCH (CONT'D)

Excellent job, Soldiers. You completed
your training and now you'll be ready for
tomorrow at the Western Front. So, pack
your stuff together, our transport will
arrive tomorrow. Dismissed!

The British Soldiers returned to their camps.

CUT TO:

INT.: BRITISH TRAINING CAMP - NIGHT

Private Young packed his stuff together for tomorrow
morning.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

Private Young, what are you doing?

PRIVATE YOUNG

We're getting ready for the Western Front
tomorrow.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

To fight the Germans?

PRIVATE YOUNG

Yep. That's exactly what we're doing for
tomorrow.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

But, Young. Cadets Anderson and Atkinson
are relieved from duty today.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

They won't be able to become soldiers like us. That's why we have Woolsey and Smythe to join us.

PRIVATE YOUNG

Then, I'm coming with you.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

Very well, Young. Meet us at the Royal Navy Dockyard tomorrow morning.

PRIVATE YOUNG

Alright, Adams, but don't be late.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

See you tomorrow morning, Young.

PRIVATE YOUNG

You too, Adams.

Second Lieutenant Adams exits the camp, leaving Private Young behind.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT II

ACT III

FADE IN:

EXT.: ROSYTH ROYAL NAVAL DOCKYARD - DAY

SFX: BOAT HORN

August 22, 1914.

The next morning, over one million British Soldiers board six British Troop Transports, including HMT *Olympic*, HMT *Mauretania*, and HMT *Aquitania*.

PRIVATE YOUNG

Hey, is that a ship, *Titanic*?

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

No. *Titanic* sank two years ago. This is her sister ship, *Olympic*.

PRIVATE YOUNG

I thought *Olympic* was a British Ocean Liner.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

Not anymore, Young. It's not safe for the civilians. Therefore, we don't need tickets to ride the ship. If I were a civilian, then I would've boarded that ship to get across the ocean from one place to another.

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOLSEY

Guys, there's no time for conversation, let's board the ship. The Allies need our help on the Western Front.

Lieutenants Adams, Woolsey, Young, and Smythe boarded the HMT *Olympic*.

CUT TO:

INT.: HMT *OLYMPIC* - SAILING - NIGHT

Six British Troop Transports were escorted by 54 British Fleet in case the German Warships show up.

Second Lieutenant Adams is looking at the map to find a safe place to dock. While other British Soldiers are having a conversation, and some are playing games in the transport.

PRIVATE YOUNG

Are we going to France or Belgium?

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

We're going to France near Belgium border.

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOLSEY

The French suffered heavy casualties, so we must ensure Belgium doesn't fall to the German hands.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

If the Germans went after us, then we'll have to retreat to our own line.

PRIVATE YOUNG

ADAMS, how many submarines are there?

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

I counted eight submarines for our escort.

PRIVATE YOUNG

How could I forget? These submarines are used for underwater surface to sink the enemy surface ships undetected.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

Don't worry, Young. They'll take care of the German ships, while we'll fight them on the ground.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

There it is, Boys!

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOLSEY

France! Finally! Let's get our stuff ready for battle.

PRIVATE YOUNG

I'm on it, Woolsey.

CUT TO:

EXT.: MAUBEUGE, FRANCE - DAY

August 23, 1914.

The British Troops arrive at Maubeuge, France. They carry the rifles with Them.

PRIVATE YOUNG

That's strange. Where's the French?

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

They're still fighting against the Germans at Lorraine.

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOLSEY

And so does Ardennes and Charleoi.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

If we can defend Mons from the Germans, then Belgium will be safe.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

I'm not sure it's a good idea, but let's keep moving.

CUT TO:

EXT.: MONS, BELGIUM - CONTINUOUS

The British Soldiers are patrolling at the Belgian city of Mons.

PRIVATE YOUNG

That's strange. There's nobody inside the city.

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOLSEY

Then, we got to be more cautious.

The British Soldiers walk slowly, one British Soldier was shot by a single bullet.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

What the bloody hell was that?

Suddenly, the GERMAN SOLDIERS come out of the buildings on both sides!

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

It's the Germans! Open fire!

Shots are fired on both sides. The British and the Germans are either killed or wounded. The Germans charge with their bayonets attached to their rifles.

SECOND LIEUTANENT ADAMS

Retreat! (x2)

GERMAN SOLDIER

(Shouting in German)

Don't let them get away!

The Germans went after the British, leaving the dead soldiers behind.

CUT TO:

INT.: HMS ARETHUSA - SAILING - DAY

August 28, 1914.

The British Fleet are patrolling on the North Sea. COMMODORE SIR REGINALD YORKE TYRWHITT leads the British Fleet in battle.

BRITISH SAILOR #1

Commodore Tyrwhitt, our ground forces have retreated from Mons.

COMMODORE SIR REGINALD TYRWHITT

We can't let the Germans take Paris. Send the reinforcements to aid the French.

BRITISH SAILOR #1

Yes, Sir!

CUT TO:

EXT.: HMS *ARETHUSA* - SAILING - DAY

Using the binoculars, ONE OF THE BRITISH SAILORS spots the German Fleet. The German Fleet includes six light cruisers, 19 torpedo boats and 12 minesweeper ships.

CUT TO:

INT.: HMS *ARETHUSA* - SAILING - DAY

British Sailor #2 run inside the bridge.

BRITISH SAILOR #2

Sir! Enemy ships on the starboard side!

COMMANDORE SIR REGINALD THRWITT

Prepare for a battle station.

BRITISH SAILOR #2

Yes, Sir!

The British Sailor #2 exits from the bridge to call out the sailor.

BRITISH SAILOR #2 (CONT'D)

All hands man your battle station!

SFX: SAILOR WHISTLE BLOWS.

The British Ship's alarm alerts the British Sailors to man their battle station and waiting for further orders as the German warships are closing in.

CUT TO:

INT.: HMS *ARETHUSA* - SAILING - DAY

BRITISH SAILOR #1

Sir, our guns are ready.

COMMANDORE SIR REGINALD THRWITT

Open fire.

British Sailor #1 nods his head.

CUT TO:

EXT.: BRITISH AND GERMAN FLEET - CONTINUOUS

The British Grand Fleet and the German High Seas Fleet clash at Heligoland Bight. These German warships are small compared to the Mighty British ships. The German ships FIRE at the British Fleet and miss their targets. The British used their full broadside to aim at the German ships. The British ships OPEN FIRE at the German ships. The British shells make a DIRECT HIT on the German light cruisers and torpedo boats. The British sink four German ships and six of them are damaged with no British loses. All the German minesweepers were either sunk or damaged. The British Sailors cheer as the German Fleet is in full retreat.

CUT TO:

INT.: HMS *ARETHUSA* - SAILING - DAY

BRITISH SAILOR #1

Sir, the Germans are in full retreat.

COMMANDORE SIR REGINALD THRWITT

Excellent. Send a message to HMS *Lurcher* to rescue any survivors from SMS *Mainz*.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT III

ACT IV

FADE IN:

EXT.: MARNE RIVER NEAR BRASLES - DAY

September 6, 1914.

The Allied ground forces are in trouble! The Germans invaded Belgium. The British Soldiers ran as fast as they could as the German Soldiers took out some of the British Soldiers during the Great Retreat. Luckily, they found the Allied reinforcements, including the BRITISH MACHINE GUNNER, PRIVATE ARMSTRONG, who is waiting for them at their own line including, Young, Adams, Woolsey, and Smythe.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

Whew! Thank goodness we're safe!

PRIVATE YOUNG

Who is that Machine Gunner?

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOSLEY

This is Lieutenant Armstrong.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

Armstrong is a Machine Gunner who defends our line against the German Attackers.

PRIVATE ARMSTRONG

It's nice to see you guys.

PRIVATE YOUNG

How did you get here so fast?

PRIVATE ARMSTRONG

I came here to find a good place to build a trench along the line.

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOLSEY

Oh, bloody hell! It'll take weeks to complete the trench before the Germans get here!

PRIVATE SMYTHE

Not if we deal with the Germans, first.

BRITISH SOLDIER #1

Here they come!

CUT TO:

EXT.: MARNE RIVER NEAR BRASLES - CONTINUOUS

The Germans are attempting to cross the bridge at Marne River.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

Destroy the bridge!

The bridge is destroyed to prevent the Germans advance towards Paris. Private Armstrong opens fire with his Vickers machine gun, killing the German troops before reaching the Allied Line. Both sides FIRED at each other with their rifles. Second Lieutenant Adams KILLS a German soldier with his pistol while on both sides many are either killed or wounded by a GUNFIRE. The German soldiers suffer more casualties than the British soldiers at the First Battle of the Marne. The Germans retreat to their own line, leaving the dead German soldiers behind. The British soldiers celebrate their first victory over the Germans.

LIEUTENANT YOUNG

Yes! We did it! We saved Paris!

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

Yes, we did, Young. We did.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT IV

ACT V

FADE IN:

EXT.: WESTERN FRONT - DAY

The British Soldiers dig the trench along the line with their tools and shovels.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

You did a good job today, Young.

PRIVATE YOUNG

Thanks, Adams. Without the French support, Paris would be lost to the Germans.

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOSLEY

Thanks to us.

Lieutenant Smythe has a note on his hand.

PRIVATE SMYTHE

We have news from HMS *Lurcher*.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

What does it say?

Lieutenant Smythe reads the message from HMS *Lurcher*:

PRIVATE SMYTHE

We rescued the German survivors of SMS Mainz at Heligoland Bight. We took them before sending her into a watery grave.

PRIVATE YOUNG

Looks like we're not the only one who won the battle against the Germans on the ground.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ADAMS

But the victory at sea as well.

MEDICAL OFFICER WOOSLEY

Enough talking. Let's get to work.

The British continue digging along the trench before their job is finished.

FADE OUT:

THE END