

Lesson 12

Austria-Hungary took control of Bosnia, which bounded the small country of Serbia. There were already struggles for power in the Balkan Peninsula as the Turks were being pushed out. Serbians living in Bosnia, bitter about Austrian rule, wanted one powerful Serbian homeland.

Imperialism is when one country gains control of new lands and imposes their own power and rule. When, by 1900 the British Empire had colonies on five continents and France had control of large areas of Africa, Germany was late into the game and had to compete for the little that was left. This caused rivalry and Germany was especially aggravated.

Assassination! The trigger event!

‘Sophei, Sophei, don’t die. Stay alive for the children!’¹ With these last frantic words the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Sophie, both died from an assassin’s bullets that fateful day in Sarajevo, June 28, 1914. The attacker was a member of the Serbian terrorist group, The Black Hand, which had threatened to kill the Austrian Archduke if he came into Bosnia. When other world leaders heard the news they were sad but not alarmed, never guessing that these shots would trigger massive destruction and four long years of deadly world war. In a few months, Canadians were swept into the conflict.

QUESTIONS:

1. List the countries of the Triple Alliance.
Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy
2. List the countries of the Triple Entente.
France, Russia and Britain
3. Why did Germany become dissatisfied by imperialism?
There were not many unclaimed lands left in the world so Germany did not have what they considered a fair share.

¹ “Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, 1914,” EyeWitness to History, www.eyewitnesstohistory.com (1998)

Lesson 12 Assignment

MANIA

Record a summary for all the points in the acronym MANIA

The following (taken from the text.) should be in the student's own words.

M ilitarism

The policy of giving the military a high profile, strong powers, and preparedness.

A lliances

When two or more countries band together and promise to help each other in times of war.

N ationalism

A sense of strong loyalty to your own homeland.

I mperialism

When one country gains control of new lands and imposes their own power and rule

A ssassination

The trigger event when Archduke Ferdinand of Austria and his wife were killed.