

"I am not a criminal, for I destroyed a bad man. I thought I was right."—

Princip (below) after he performed his assassination



A new crisis made headlines in June of 1914. That day, the Archduke of Austria Hungary, Franz Ferdinand, and his wife rode through Sarajevo, the capital city of Austria Hungary's southern province of Bosnia. Along the route were members of a terrorist group named the Black Hand. The Black Hand wanted Bosnia to break away from Austria and become part of their next door neighbor, Serbia. A member of the group, Gavrilo Princip, stepped in and shot the archduke and his wife.

Austria-Hungary accused the Serbian government of hatching this plot to kill Franz. When they threatened to go to war over the incident, Russia stepped in to protect Serbia. The rest is history.

- 1. Who was Franz Ferdinand?
- 2. Who was the Black Hand and what did they want?
- 3. Why would Austria-Hungary blame Serbia for the assassination?
- 4. How did this conflict between Austria-Hungary and Serbia eventually grow to involve more countries?
- 5. What do you think America did as this crisis was unfolding in Europe?
- 6. Video: Why were Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sofia in Sarajevo?
- 7. Video: How did the assassins know what route the Archduke was taking?
- 8. Video: How many assassins were there along the route?
- 9. Video: What brought the Archduke and his wife back to Gavrillo Princip?