

WHO'S WHO IN 1914? LECTURE NOTES

Directions: Lecture notes should be taken and reviewed inside of a map of Western Europe with the U.S. attached in the margins.

Germany

- only recently formed as a whole nation from a collection of smaller states, wanted to be more influential, wanted to amass a colonial empire, supposed to stay in a majority of three major powers, Wilhelm got into minority of two

Austro-Hungarian Empire

- ancient empire and a collection of peoples connected by nothing else, Balkan provinces and others wanted to break away, goal was to survive

France

- wanted to recover its eastern provinces of Alsace-Lorraine that it had lost to Prussia/Germany during the Franco-Prussian War, wanted to exact revenge on Germany

Russia

- boiling over with revolution and the threat of revolution, Czar Nicholas II was very weak, wanted to regain prestige it had lost during the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05, presented self as the champion of all Slavic peoples everywhere

Great Britain

- no axe to grind with Germany and no desire for more European territory, but desperately wanted to preserve and extend its African, Indian and Asian empire, wanted to keep Germany from expanding its empire, had been in an arms and naval race with Germany since Kaiser Wilhelm II had taken the throne

Italy & Turkey

- waited to see which side to go on

United States

- saw no reason at all to get involved in European affairs