

HEIR TO AUSTRIAN THRONE KILLED

ARCHDUKE & WIFE SHOT DEAD BY RADICAL SERBS



Headshot of the Archduke.



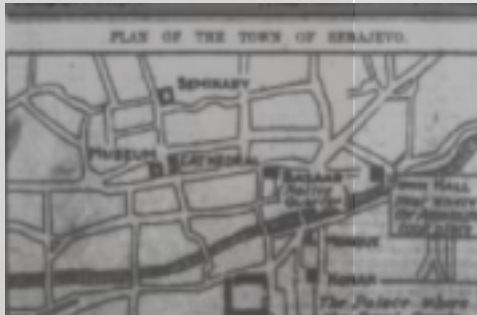
Aftermath of the shooting (via The Bosnian Times)

FAILED BOMB PLOT TURNED INTO PISTOL MURDER

A group of ultra-nationalist Slavs (now identified as having ties to the “Black Hand” radical group) took part in the assassination of heir presumptive of the Austro-Hungarian empire Archduke Franz Ferdinand yesterday morning at 10:45am (June 28th) in the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo. The main assassins have been identified as Gavrilo Princip, Nedeljko Cabrinovic, and Trifun Grabez (more details have yet to be revealed about the rest of the individuals involved). It is

believed Princip is to have been the gang member that actually fired the shots that killed the Archduke and his wife, Sophie, Duchess of Hohenberg. In addition, it has also been reported the initial plot involved a bombing attempt on the Austrian couple that failed as the device bounced off the back of the car and detonated (harming cars behind the one housing the Archduke, but leaving him and his wife unscathed). That being said, after their scheduled city hall visit, the

Archduke insisted on visiting the men that had been wounded on the previous attempt on his life just hours earlier at the hospital. According to locals, Ferdinand’s car allegedly took a wrong turn and ended up face-to-face with



The Archduke’s route.

one of the members of the “Black Hand” gang that had plotted to assassinate him a few hours earlier. The individual, now identified as 18-year-old schoolboy Gavrilo Princip, fired two shots at the couple (who died within minutes). The suspect was immediately tackled by the crowd and brought into Sarajevo police custody a few moments later.

BEHIND THE MOTIVE

What was it that prompted a squadron of seven men to plot against and successfully kill the Archduke and Archduchess of Austria-Hungary? Speculation by experts

suggests the Serbian government may be behind the attempts. This may be due to the fact Serbs resent the rise and takeover by the Austro-Hungarians in Bosnia (many of which are of Serbian descent). Ferdinand, who often sympathizes with the Bosnian people and is generally well-liked, is considered a threat to Serbian freedom (in Serbia), as if the Bosnian Serbs take his side, there “will be no room for an uprising”.



GAVRILO PRINCIP