

## **TITLE: INVESTIGATION INTO ARCHDUKE FERDINAND'S ASSASSINATION**

DATE: 29 September 1914

TASK: WRITE YOUR ANSWERS IN FULL SENTENCES

1. Source A: Which organisations were involved in the assassination?
2. Source A: What feelings does Princip probably have about Serbia?
3. Source B: How does Young Bosnia feel about Austria-Hungary? Why do they feel this way?
4. Sources B & C: What do Young Bosnia and the Black Hand group want to achieve? How?
5. Source D: What did Princip hope to achieve with the assassination?
6. Sources E and F: How were Ferdinand and Sophie murdered?

### **Challenge Box**

7. Source G: Where did Princip's bombs come from? What does this suggest about who else may have been behind the murder of Franz Ferdinand – Princip pulled the trigger, but who supported Princip behind the scenes?
8. What do you think Austria-Hungary's next move was? And what happened after that? (Use your knowledge from previous lessons to think about this).

# Austro-Hungarian Police

## Sarajevo Division

### SOURCE A: PROFILE REPORT

DATE: 12 September 1912

**NAME:** Gavrilo Princip

**AGE:** 19



**BACKGROUND:** Born in Bosnia. One of nine children of a poor family. Suffers from tuberculosis. Achieved well at school. After joining Young Bosnia in 1911 became politically active. Expelled from Bosnia after a protest in 1912 and went to Belgrade, Serbia. While crossing the border he kissed the soil of Serbia. Volunteered for Serbian Army but rejected for being "too small and weak".

**KNOWN ASSOCIATES:**

Nedeljko Cabrinovic, Trifko Grabez, Vaso Cubrilovic, Cetres Popovic and Mehemed Mehmedbasic (all members of the 'Young Bosnia' group)

**LINKS TO CRIMINAL GROUPS:**

Princip is a known member of Young Bosnia, a revolutionary youth organisation of terrorists and freedom fighters. Their aim is to unite all Serbian population groups in the area. It is believed they have links with the 'Black Hand', who have supplied them with guns and grenades.

Source B

# **TO ALL BOSNIAN SERBS: END THE AUSTRIAN OCCUPATION!**

**Since 1878 we have been occupied by the imperialist Austria-Hungary. In 1908 Emperor Franz Josef formally made Bosnia and Herzegovina part of the Austrian Empire without consulting any Bosnian Serb living there.**

**This occupation must be brought to an end so that we can join our Serbian brothers and unite to create our own nation.**

**We ask anyone who believes in independence for Bosnia**

**to take up arms and fight!**

**YOUNG BOSNIA**

# Austro-Hungarian Police

## Sarajevo Division

### INVESTIGATION INTO THE 'BLACK HAND'

DATE: September 1912

The Black Hand is a secret organisation based in Serbia that was founded last year (1911) and is linked to the Serbian government. Their intention is to unite all territories containing Serbian populations, including those living in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is now formally part of the Austrian Empire. They wish to create an independent large Serb nation.

They have links to other revolutionary groups who have similar aims and are at work inside Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially here in Sarajevo. Many of these groups, including the Black Hand, advocate the use of violence to achieve their goals. One method used previously has been assassination.

I recommend that all necessary means are used to monitor these groups and to end their dangerous activities.

Detective Karl Ludwig

**SOURCE D:**

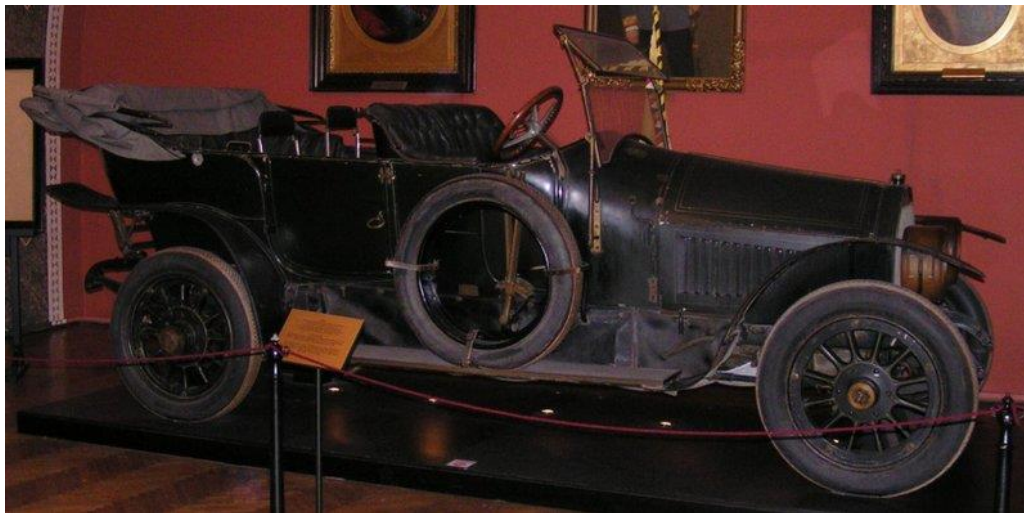
Belgrade, May 1914

Dear Cabrinović

Many thanks for organising the necessary paperwork for me. I will be travelling to the agreed destination on 26 June in order to be familiar with the city and the route that the royal couple will take. We are fortunate that they have chosen to visit on such a day so that the crowds will be large and we may be invisible until the last moment.

I pray that we will succeed and help to free our people from the grip of the evil empire. If, however, we are caught we must keep our vow of silence. Death is preferred to uncovering any future plans that will lead to an independent Bosnia.

Gavrilo.



**SOURCE E:**

Automobile in which the Archduke Francis Ferdinand was riding at the time of his assassination on June 28, 1914. The bullet which killed the Archduke's wife Sophie left a hole in the side of the car which can be seen above the rear wheel as a small silver circle in the black paint.



### SOURCE F:

The arrest of Gavrilo Princip. He attempted suicide at the scene but the gun was knocked from his hand by an onlooker. His second attempt at suicide was by cyanide, but it made him retch and he vomited up the poison.

## SOURCE G: The Official Austrian Report

*Record of the District Court at Sarajevo, touching the proceedings there instituted against Gavrilo Princip and confederates on account of the crime of assassination perpetrated on June 28, 1914, on His Imperial and Royal Highness the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Este and Her Highness the Duchess Sophie of Hohenberg.*

Gavrilo Princip, Nedeljko Cabrinovic, Trifko Grabez, Vaso Cubrilovic and Cetres Popovic confess that in common with the fugitive Mehemed Mehmedbasic they contrived a plot for the murder of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand and, armed with bombs and in the case of some of them with Browning pistols, laid wait for him on June 28, 1914, on his progress through Sarajevo for the purpose of carrying out the planned attack.

Gavrilo Princip confesses that he fired two shots from a Browning pistol against the Archducal motor car, by which the Archduke Franz Ferdinand and the Duchess Sophie of Hohenberg received fatal wounds.

Both perpetrators confess that the act was done with intent to murder.

These confessions have been fully verified by means of the investigations which have taken place, and it is established that the deceased Archduke Franz Ferdinand and the deceased Duchess Sophie of Hohenberg died as a result of the revolver shots fired at them by Gavrilo Princip.

In the opinion of the judicial experts the bombs are Serbian hand-grenades which were factory-made and intended for military purposes. It is thus proved that the grenades which were used in the attempt against the Archduke Franz Ferdinand also came from the stores of the Army Depot at Kragujevatz in Serbia.