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STUDY GUIDE

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Letter from USG

Dear participants, it is such an honor and privilege for me to welcome you all to Crisis Cabinet: Dissolution of Austro-Hungary Empire. Contrary to the usual, instead of using my position to have authority on you, I will be serving to teach you all my knowledge about topic and crisis committees. You can certainly believe that every member of the cabinet is going to have an amazing crisis experience while learning how to write directives in the most efficient way. You, as the representatives of essential roles in empire, will be rewriting history by trying to use more subtle and useful strategies than past. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact with me via my email adress below.

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1. Key Words

Fighter Ace: Pilots who achieves to destroy more than 5 enemy battle jets take this promotion. It's also known as Flying Ace or Air Ace.

Advance: Marching through enemy lands during a war or expanding borders.

Artillery: Even if almost everyone knows, it's a confusable term with cannon. The difference between cannon and artillery is pretty distinguishable indeed. Artillery is a heavy military ranged weapon mostly used on infantries so sieging a fortress was not easy with artilleries. That's why cannons are built in a much stronger way. Crashing a castle wall with a cannon is far more easier than doing with artillery.

Abdicate: Stop controlling or managing something that you are in charge of. It is used in meaning of leaving the throne in history.

Side on: Supporting or taking side militarily on one of the 2 countries which is in officially war.

Holding: An area of land held by lease that is the currency resource of a kingdom or country.

Legislation: Basically a law or set of laws suggested by a government and made official by a parliament.

Capitulate: To surrender after a destructive defeat by giving the weapons up for enemy as an obligation.

2. History of Austro-Hungary Empire

French Revolution which was occurred in 1789 because of some ideas like nationalism, democracy and republicanism is the first primal factor that affected almost all empires in a bad way, most importantly Austrian Empire. This event left a few major consequences behind itself.

1. Nationalism got strengthened in Europe and world.
2. It was accepted that sovereignty belongs to people.
3. Empires such as Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian got into the separation process as a result of strengthened nationalism.
4. Human Rights Report was turned into an international report.

Thanks to these results, emperors started to understand that people support is more important than anything to create a stronger and issueless empire. Secondly, Napoleonic Wars which were a series of major conflicts pushing the French Empire and its allies to fight against European powers have big impacts on topic. These conflicts happened between 1803 and 1815. French side was being commanded by Napoleon I while United Kingdom was commanding the European powers. After Napoleonic War is ended by Anglo-Alliance forces' victories, major powers of Europe established The Conference of Vienna that was managed by Austria Empire's Prince, Klemens von Metternich. In this conference, they divided European lands for balanced power. By using advantages of that, Austrian Empire gained Venice back and gave up its holding in Low Lands. After a while, Austrian administration added much more ethnic diversity to empire and caused their problems to get worse. Workers, students, also unemployed army members rioted in Vienna to get more representation and rights for themselves in 1848 but Austria responded these rebels with gun power. Right after the aggressive attitudes from government, riots officially turned into revolutions so eventually people have successfully rioted in the city of Pest. Then, they declared Kingdom of Hungary as a separate country but specified that there will be ruled by Ferdinand of Austria. Austria couldn't suppress the strong revolts so they transferred armies in Italy to suppress revolts but by doing this, Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia attacked Austrian Empire to seize Milan and Venice. Story was not going as Austrians demanded and it even got worse. Austrian army retreated to Vienna when they couldn't deal with revolts. Prince and minister-president of Austria's province Schwarzenberg, Felix Ludwig Johann Friedrich, asked Ferdinand to abdicate in favor of Franz Joseph. As a hardline absolutist monarch Franz Joseph, asked Russian Empire which was another absolutist state to help in order to suppress revolt in Hungary. Afterwards Russia accepted that, both Austria and Russia armies gathered then easily suppressed the revolt. Also, Piedmont-Sardinia Kingdom's invasion got pushed back by these armies and in a year, Austria government established their authority to all regions of Austria Empire. Russia joined a risky conflict with Ottoman Empire in 1853 by expecting help of Austria but it didn't happen. It was Crimean War. When United Kingdom, France and Piedmont-Sardinia got involved to war by Ottoman Empire, European states aimed to keep Russia out of Europe and Mediterranean. Since Austria Empire didn't fight with Russia against Ottoman Empire, relationship between them fastly got disrupted then they paid cost of this action. Austria lost many wars when Russia took their support from them. In 1859, Austria Empire declared war on Piedmont-Sardinia Kingdom for revenge and also to establish full authority on Italian provinces but France quickly sided on them. As a result, France defeated Austria by putting government to a irreversible bad way in economic and political situations. Austria not only lost the war but also their holdings in Lombardy which included Milan, wealthiest province after Vienna to Piedmont-Sardinia Kingdom. Consequences quickly hit the Austria. Their banking system and government collapsed, in addition banks refused to loan any money until a new constitution was added by Franz Joseph. Reforms finally ended in 1861 but didn't

please anyone. Franz Joseph held his grip on military and foreign affairs but legislations, domestic bureaucracy's management transferred to Imperial Council. This parliament into two stages; The House of Deputies and House of Lords. House of Deputies favoured the wealthy Germans within the empire and House of Lords members were appointed by Franz Joseph. Nobody was happy about this outcome but at least Franz Joseph got his money. When Austria lost the battle against Piedmont-Sardinia that was supported by France army, they took up their interest and hope from Italy back but changed their target to German provinces. It was one of the biggest mistakes that Austria Empire made since Kingdom of Prussia had the most powerful army in Europe continent. Austria army couldn't suppress their own revolts so in the end, they entered War of Brothers with Prussia. Austria army was weak against them so lost the war then dreams of profiting from German lands and last holdings in Italy to Piedmont-Sardinia. This second defeat affected people of Austria so much that maybe the empire could have gone dissolution. These fears took Franz Joseph and he started some actions by trying to compromise with ever restless Hungarians. This led to 1867 Ausgleich Treaty between them and creation of the "Dual Monarchy", better known as Austro-Hungary Empire. According to treaty, Kingdom of Hungary and Empire of Austria were going be ruled as separate governments and it also means different domestic affairs within their own lands. Only things they shared were same foreign policy, military, ruler. Franz Joseph was the one to rule the both emperors. This treaty had an expiration date of 10 years so they had to gather in every 10 years to rewrite the rules. This led to minorities alongside Hungarians wanting more authority and hardline Germans to believe that they lost so much than other side. After provided some kind of stability in Austro-Hungary, Franz Joseph and his government turned their eyes to Balkans because of unified Italy and Germany. In the conference of Berlin, Austrians gained Bosnia, Herzegovina back from Ottoman Empire by also getting the chance of controlling land militarily. This caused Russians to feel more hatred against Austria since Russia saw itself not only liberator but also protector of all Slavs and Austria was invading them. Therefore they once again started to see each other rival. Some Austrian liberal thinkers were not supporting the occupation so they started to protest but a politician named Eduard von Taaffe established coalition of The Iron Ring from minorities to stop liberal protests and Franz Joseph completely allowed this. After his decision about supporting The Iron Ring, Germans worried as Austro-Hungary was leaving them so Chancellor of German Empire Bismarck offered an alliance to Austro-Hungary to help their rivalry with Russia. They desperately accepted the offer from Germans. Austria government faced some serious problems between 1878 and 1908. Two heirs to the throne died, one from suicide, one from typhus disease so that throne heirship passed to Franz Ferdinand, who was going to face a terrible fate in 1914. Among the government side, some minister-presidents passed away. Consequently, they couldn't fix empire's troubles and Austria government started to scare from German Empire's dominance on them so they tried to restore their relationship with Russia but it didn't go on as expected. At the end of 1908, Austria, by seeing Ottoman Empire dealing

with some revolts, annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina. This firstly frustrated Russian Empire then other great powers in Europe. These movements of Austria caused them to have just one powerful ally, German Empire.

3. Process of Napoleonic Wars

During the war, European side was formed into 5 different coalitions. First one is The Third Coalition which includes Holy Roman Empire, Russia, Britain. It was a European conflict spanning the years 1803 to 1806. France and its client states under Napoleon I defeated an alliance, The Third Coalition. The Fourth Coalition fought against Napoleon I's French Empire and was defeated in a war between the years of 1806-1807. Main coalition partners were Prussia, Russia with the Saxony, Sweden and Great Britain also contributing. War of The Fifth Coalition was fought in 1809 by a coalition of Austrian Empire and the United Kingdom against Napoleon's French Empire and its allied German States, including Bavaria. In the war of The Sixth Coalition, sometimes known in Germany as the War of Liberation, a coalition of Austria, Prussia, Russia, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Sweden, Spain and a number of German States defeated France between 1813 and 1814 so they drove Napoleon into exile on Elba island. The Seventh Coalition, also The Hundred Days Offensive was a series of massive allied attacks which ended the First World War. Beginning with Battle of Amiens on 8 August 1918 on the Western Front. the Allies pushed the Central Powers back, undoing their gains from the Spring Offensive. The Germans retreated to the Hindenburg Line, but the Allies broke through the line with a series of victories, starting with the Battle of St Quentin Canal on 29 September. The offensive, together with a revolution breaking out in Germany, led to the Armistice of 11 November 1918 which ended the war with an Allied victory. The term "Hundred Days Offensive" does not refer to a battle or strategy, but rather the rapid series of Allied victories against which the German armies had no reply. The Hundred Days marked the period between Napoleon's return from exile on the island of Elba to Paris on 20 March 1815 and the second restoration of King Louis XVIII on 8 July 1815. This period saw the War of The Seventh Coalition. Napoleon returned while the Congress of Vienna was sitting. On 13 March, seven days before Napoleon reached Paris, the powers at the Congress of Vienna declared him an outlaw, and on 25 March Austria, Prussia, Russia and the United Kingdom, the four Great Powers and key members of the Seventh Coalition, bound themselves to put 150,000 men each into the field to end his rule. This set the stage for the last conflict in the Napoleonic Wars, the defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo, the second restoration of the French kingdom, and the permanent exile of Napoleon to the distant island of Saint Helena, where he died in May 1821

4. July Crisis in 1914

After years, Austro-Hungarian Empire's dual monarchy got weak thus other regional powers such as Serbia, Italy, and Romania saw it as an opportunity to expand their borders. This led Austro-Hungarian Empire to need to assert its authority in Balkans. One way to do this is sending heir Franz Ferdinand to visit Bosnia provinces of Sarajevo. Franz Ferdinand got tried to being assassinated during his visit on Sarajevo by a Serbian nationalist named Gavrilo Princip in 28 of June 1914. He blamed Serbian Government about this and it's still unknown that Serbians prepared the assassination or not. Franz Joseph found his excuse for war and sent impossible demands to Serbian government in 23 of July 1914. He asked German Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm II to support his demands before sending the list of wishes. Wilhelm II asked Serbia to give Blanque Check to Austria. When Serbia refused it in 1914, Germany declared war on Serbia and prepared a bombing operation on capital, Belgrade.

5. First World War

After declaration of war, Austro-Hungary Empire was in a so poor situation that they capitulated to Serbia before Kingdom of Bulgaria joined the war. Central powers were not able to dominate Russia at eastern front until Germans arrived. They mostly fought against Italians that joined the war after Entente Treaty, an agreement which was signed by France, Britain and Russia. German superiority on region got repulsed at Italian front then minorities' activites against government caused lower morale on Austria army. These events led Austria to lose the war so they retreated until their own lands by thinking they could stand on Isonzo River first. Firstly, Bulgaria signed an armistace and resigned from war in September, 1918. Ottoman Empire followed them after the Battle of Vittoro Veneto, lastly Austro-Hungary Empire asked for armistace in 3rd of November, 1918.

6. Dissolution of Austro-Hungary Empire

While The Battle of Viterbo Veneto not even started, Hungarian side of army was deserting and more importantly, Ukrainians as Ruthenians, declared Galician Republic at the 18th of October. After the final war started, Krakow, which was a city that mostly Polish people inhabited in and one of the wealthiest cities of empire added to almost formed Poland and 5 days later, actual dissolution occurred. Czechoslovakia, Croatia declared independence from Austrian side of the empire. Right after that, Austria army got cut off from supplies since their only supplier was Croatia and started to retreat. They first pulled out from Montenegro, Banat provinces. At 3rd of November in 1918, Charles I also known as Karl I, Austria's last emperor, asked for a separate armistice from alliance and Austro-Hungary Empire was out of war after a day of his request. Italian forces pushed back the Austrian army that was already trying to escape from them and they even started to invade Trento, a city in Austria Empire which was mostly inhabited by Italians. Finally, Germany signed an armistice to end the Great War on 11th of November, 1918. There was not Austro-Hungary Empire anymore but only Hungarian Republic and German Austria under control of Karl I.

7. References

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