

Impacts of first world war essay



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? Impact of WWI When Great War started, it influenced the entire world policy and economy.

Millions of people died and equal number of people became homeless. Big empires of 20th century fell apart and new small national countries were established. We can say that WWI caused a really big disaster, especially for country which was participant. But there are similarities and differences how it did effect. On different countries in the same way war had different influence.

The example for that is Germany and Serbia. ? PoliticWar had the most influence on politic in Germany. The German Empire—often called the Second Reich to distinguish it from the First Reich, established by Charlemagne in 800—was based on two compromises. First agreement was between the King of Prussia and the rulers of the German states, to accept Wilhelm II as the emperor of Germany. The second was agreement between lots of segments of Germany society to accept a unified Germany based on constitution that combined powerful authoritarian monarchy with a weak representative body. The beginning of war was the perfect opportunity for Germany to secure ‘ place under the Sun’ as the Keiser Wilhem II put it, which was supported by the current nationalism of the public.

The Kaiser Wilhem II hoped that the War will join the public behind monarchy, and reduce the dramatic growth of the Social Democratic Party of Germany. Despite their history, the Social Democratic Party of Germany ended its differences with the government and abandoned its principles of internationalism to support the war effort. The wars lead Kaiser being forced

into abdication. So, this influenced to making space, which was field by the Weimar Republic. In Serbia it was entirely different.

John Reed concluded that Serbia was one of the most democratic ones in the world. In reality, it was about the atmosphere of spontaneously occurred nation war for the defense of independence and, at the same time, for the ideal of liberation of the non-liberated brothers and unification. War was a tough blow for the entire social democracy, and especially for the Serbian one. European social democratic latter clearly took its unique, communistic path, by breaking away from the social patriotism. Serbian social democracy was in an extreme hard situation.

Maybe, even harder than any other social democratic party of Europe those days, exactly because it fulfilled its duties towards the ideals and the programmed attitudes. In Serbia in our circles lived the ideal of unification with Montenegro. This ideal, in the essence, equalized all Yugoslav nations. In the Austro-Hungarian supreme command huge lobbying took place in the advantage of joining Serbia and concluding that the grounds were appropriate for “planting hope” and establishing a “huge all-Serb country”. This kind of idea of unification appeared in Serbia as an extremely powerful ideological moral unifying strength.

And it enabled this country to accept the war to “all or nothing”. American Reed concluded, according to everything he saw and heard while he was traveling through Serbia:” Secret dream every Serb is the unification all Serb nations into a one huge empire – empire as strong as 15 million inhabitants, which would stretch from Bulgaria to Adriatic and from Trst to east and north

far to Hungarian". Yugoslavian program in 1915 had low success rate on the international political scene. Atanta and the central forces not only did not accept it but attempted to implement their own plans in which they counted not only on the Yugoslav territories in the monarchy but on those which were parts of the Serbian country back them. ? Economy situation Economic consequences of war on Germany were enormous.

Just cost during the war was nearby 40\$ Billion. German economy had suffered terribly during the WWI. Industrial productions fell down by over 40% between 1914 and 1918. Machinery was run by ill trained people, and the reason for that are dead millions working man.

The work force was exhausted and not physically fit enough to work. Estimates suggest that up to 35% of all trade was organized illegally on the Black market. From 1915 until the end of the war, Germans were forbidden to drive a car. The situation hardly improved because of the Armistice. As a consequence of the war the Germans did not have the means to purchase fuel on a large scale and found it difficult to purchase raw materials in any case since the international community shunned them.

The situation in Serbia was different, because economy was based on agriculture, and not on Industry like in Germany. But the consequences were also was enormous. Agricultural life in Serbia was in the sign of crucifixion between level of damage, utterly exhaustion and bigger expenses with the goal of successful continuance of war. A huge scarcity was present in the form of raw materials, money and labor.

Extremely fertile plains in Macva were desolated during the war in Serbia which created a lack of food for people and cattle. Experts of the Ministry of the agriculture saw the cause for the economic distortion of the country in this: “ during this war on our territory around 400 000 mobilized soldiers moved, 500 000 enemy troops, and above everything 60 000 captured enemies were supposed to be kept alive by the expense of the people”. Serbia received insufficient aid from Antante. Reasons for this were the unsuitable traffic routes.

In the February of 1915 the minister of Finance asked the president of the government to secure the finance of Serbia by the ally countries. He also requested 150 000 000 million dinars loan and pointed out that if Serbia does not receive that aid it will not be able to completely support the army and lead a successful war. ? Propaganda The locomotive of historical change was set in full flight in 1914 for both warfare and propaganda. German material abroad—purchasing probable propaganda material from publishers and encouraging propaganda works. The majority of this material was books, official documents, speeches and even anthologies of “ war poetry,” fiction, and children’s books.

All types were usually by Germans and were originally written in German. A minority was periodical, especially The Continental Times which ran to 15, 000 copies in 1916; the monthly Kriegs-Chronik. Much German propaganda showed the war from the German perspective although eliminating any negative aspects. While Germany was investing more in propaganda in the form of media, Serbia was propaganda by using the battles itself for advertisement. Successful defensive battles in 1914 brought to Serbia huge

sympathy in ally and neutral states. Battle of Cer as a first ally victory and even more a huge turnover in battle of Kolubara attracted a lot of attention to Serbia.

At the end of 1914 and during the first eight months in 1915 many foreigners came to Serbia in order to make an acquaintance and report back to their countries and public about what they saw and found out. All over the ally countries organizations reported which provided moral, political and material aid to Serbia. In London there was a foundation of the British supportive trust fund. The reputation of the Serbia grows in that extent that the war-loving current in Italy leads propaganda for their country to enter the war using the name of Serbia. ? Conclusion: It is pretty strange how the same thing can have different influences.

Impact of WWI had a totally different influence on politic, economic and propaganda in Germany and Serbia. Still it was disastrous for both countries, but the way this disaster contributed to problems was different. The reason for that is that Germany was much more powerful than Serbia in every way. They did share one great similarity, though; both suffered enormous losses.

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