

Journal #4



The Arrest of Gavrilo Princip 28 June 1914. Today concrete footprints now mark the spot where the Bosnian student stood to shoot the Archduke--the killer who became a national hero. According to Austro-Hungarian law, capital punishment could not be imposed on someone who was under the age of twenty when they had committed the crime. Princip therefore received the maximum penalty of twenty years. Gavrilo Princip died of tuberculosis on 28th April 1918.

If an assassination occurred, should blame be placed on the nation from which the assassin came? Should the home country be liable? Should it be punished as well as the assassin? Explain.

Letter

In a letter to his parents, Private Pressey of the Royal Artillery described the quality of the food men were receiving on the Western Front.

The biscuits are so hard that you had to put them on a firm surface and smash them with a stone or something. I've held one in my hand and hit the sharp corner of a brick wall and only hurt my hand. Sometimes we soaked the smashed fragments in water for several days. Then we would heat and drain, pour condensed milk over a dishful of the stuff and get it down.

1. Describe the biscuits British soldiers had to eat while in the front.
2. How did the soldiers prepare them for eating?
3. Why did they not simply find something better to eat?

Vocabulary

Baby's Head: Meat pudding. Part of the British army field ration.

Bully Beef: Tinned corned beef. The principal protein ration of the British army. From French *boeuf bouilli* - boiled beef - but in popular usage long before the Great War

Dixie: Large oval-shaped metal pot with lid and carrying-handle for cooking.

Duff: (1) Pudding (2) To perform incompetently. (3) To Beat up someone.

Hardtack: British army biscuit ration (iron rations), eaten cold, usually with bully beef. The biscuits, if kept dry, also served as useful firelighters.

Maconachie: Tinned beef stew, named after the manufacturer.

Pozzy: Jam. Issued as part of the British army field ration, tinned plum and apple was common. Strawberry was considered a luxury item.

Spotted Dog: Currant pudding