

which detonated the Balkan wars that led to World War I. Carasso oversaw the implementation of this intentionally provocative policy. He also ran the Young Turk intelligence organization in the Balkans.

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## Turkification provokes the Balkan wars

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The characteristic way that Byzantium, Venice, and the Ottoman Empire had controlled the Balkans over millennia, was through playing off conflicting, irreconcilable claims to territory and population by the diverse populations of the region. Massacres were common, and the peoples of the region had come to hate each other with a greater passion than they hated their imperial overlords.

But by simultaneously threatening to eradicate all the cultures of the region, and to reduce all the population to one uniform Turkic identity, Carasso provoked what would otherwise have seemed impossible: a temporary unity of Greeks, Bulgarians, Albanians, Romanians, and Serbs against the Turks.

But that was the policy's actual intent; after all, it was a policy made in London.

In the summer of 1909, Carasso began blowing up the Balkans and the empire generally. The following account of the effects of the policy is taken from William Miller, a British intelligence official on the scenes in Athens who managed the advocates of Greater Greece. As a result of this policy:

- The Bulgarians of Macedonia protested against the immigration of Bosnian Muslims, and renewed their revolutionary organization in self-defense. They invited Britain, France, and other imperial powers to intervene into the region against Turkey.

- The Druse religious minority revolted in Lebanon; a new Mahdi, Said Idris, appeared in poorly held Yemen, threatening Turkish rule.

- A Greek bishop was murdered and the Ecumenical Patriarch proclaimed equality to be a mere phrase, declaring the Greek Church within the empire to be in mortal danger. Renewed calls for imperial assistance against Turkey were made.

- The representatives of the "Twelve Islands" of what is now Greece complained that their privileges had been annulled; the Cretan Christians protested against the attempt to send them Muslim judges.

- The Muslims of northern Albania objected to the payment of dues, to military service in distant Yemen, and to the destruction of their fortified towers.

In 1909, the Albanians began fighting in the north of the country; the Catholic tribes known collectively as the Mountain Men began a fresh insurrection in 1911, put down

with great savagery by Kurdish troops. Great excitement was raised in Montenegro, where many Albanians had found refuge among their Albanian relatives; war was only prevented by the influence of the king, and a "provisional government of Albania" was formed.

Immediately following the Albanian insurrection, Turkey found itself at war with Italy, which had used the occasion to seize the long-coveted Tripoli (Libya). The war was declared in September 1911. To aid the effort, Italy occupied some of the Turkish Aegean islands in the spring of 1912. A congress of delegates on one of them, however, called for union with Greece and proclaimed in June an autonomous "state of the Aegean."

In other words, Turkification had begun to set the empire aflame.

A vivid description of the intent behind Carasso's Turkification policy is found in London *Times* editor Henry Wickham Steed's autobiography. Steed was a British intelligence controller of the Serbs, and one of the persons responsible for triggering World War I.

"Less agreeable [than Turkish Grand Vizier Talat] but equally interesting was Emmanuel Carasso effendi, the Salonika Jew who had helped to dethrone the Sultan Abdül Hamid. He looked like an efficient and ruthless brigand, a bold buccaneer, frank and fearless. Though he and his fel-

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## The war guilt clause of the Versailles Treaty

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The entire international public order of the post-1919 era, including the League of Nations and, by extension, the United Nations, has been based on the absurd lie that Germany was solely responsible for the outbreak of World War I. This finding was officially reported to the Paris Peace Conference at the close of the war by a "Commission on the Responsibility of the Authors of the War," which was chaired by American Secretary of State Robert Lansing. Lansing refused to allow any Germans to take part in his deliberations, and the commission ignored a new "German White Book" compiled in 1919 by Hans Delbrück, Professor Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Count Montgelas, and Max Weber, which contained enough evidence to show that the thesis of exclusive German war guilt was untenable. The kernel of Lansing's conclusions was as follows:

"The War was premeditated by the Central Powers together with their allies, Turkey and Bulgaria, and was the result of acts deliberately committed in order to make it unavoidable. Germany, in agreement with Austria-

lows of the Salonika Committee for Union and Progress [Young Turks] had been responsible for the atrocious policy of 'Turkification' which had led to the formation of the Balkan League and to the Balkan Wars, their power was apparently still as great as their information was prompt and accurate. Carasso knew even then, September 1913, of the Austrian attempt to make war upon Serbia a month before, and, as he explained to one of my friends, he was convinced that though the big war had not quite 'come off' that time, it would come before long and that Turkey would then have her chance. One Sunday, in September, I was at Prinkipo in the company of Carasso's cousin, Maitre Salem, a Salonika Jew who had become, under Young Turk auspices, the leading lawyer of Constantinople. When not gambling at the Casino, Carasso joined our party and talked freely. Answering the question what he and his like were going to do with Turkey, he said:

" 'Have you ever seen a baker knead dough? When you think of us and Turkey you must think of a baker and of his dough. We are the bakers and Turkey is the dough. The baker pulls it and pushes it, bangs it and slaps it, pounds it with his fist until he gets it to the right consistency for the baking. That is what we are doing. We have had one revolution, then a counter-revolution, then another revolution and we shall probably have several more until we have got the dough just

right. Then we shall bake it and feed upon it.' "

"Carasso's nephew, who was manager of a bank, looked at his uncle in terrified amazement. 'What is to become of business with all these revolutions?' he asked. Carasso patted him affectionately on the head and replied, 'Don't worry, my boy. Things will come out all right.' "

"Maitre Salem, overhearing this conversation, turned to Carasso and said sharply, 'What *are* you saying, Emmanuel?'

" 'Shut up, Salem' retorted Carasso. 'What would *you* have been without the revolution? A pettifogging little Salonika lawyer.' And Salem held his peace."

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## The London Balkan Committee

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The Greater Serbian, Greek, Bulgarian, and Young Turk movements were established by Mazzini and his associates by the 1860s. These movements were largely alien impositions; to the extent that they can be considered "indigenous," they had their basis in earlier Byzantine, Venetian, and Ottoman manipulation.

In 1903, the British established the Balkan Committee, as the London-based command center of these movements. It is this little-known institution which orchestrated the various

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Hungary, deliberately worked to defeat all the many conciliatory proposals made by the Entente Powers."

This false verdict was then incorporated into the infamous Article 231 of the Treaty of Versailles, which alleges:

"The Allied and Associated Governments affirm, and Germany accepts, the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied and Associated Governments and their nationals have been subjected as a consequence of the war imposed upon them by the aggression of Germany and her allies."

The German delegates were coerced into signing the Versailles Treaty by threats of renewed war and by the economic blockade still imposed on Germany after the armistice by the fleets of the Entente. The thesis of exclusive German war guilt was required by the Entente as a premise for the Carthaginian peace imposed on the Central Powers, which included the demand for more than \$32 billion in war reparations, especially to France, plus interest for servicing this debt over decades into the future.

In the years after the war, documentary evidence was published which further undermined the Big Lie of Versailles. This included Karl Kautsky's *Outbreak of the World War* (New York, 1924), the *Soviet Materials for the History of Franco-Russian Relations from 1910 to*

*1914* (Moscow, 1922), the *Austrian Red Book of 1919*, and the diary of Baron Schilling of the Russian Foreign Ministry (London, 1925).

The false verdict of Versailles had already become a scandal in America during the 1920s, when historians like H.E. Barnes demanded the revision of the war guilt clause. Typical is this conclusion from the academic historian Sidney B. Fay of Harvard in 1930: "The verdict of the Versailles Treaty that Germany and her allies were responsible for the War, in view of the evidence now available, is historically unsound. It should therefore be revised. However, because of the popular feeling widespread in some of the Entente countries, it is doubtful whether a formal and legal revision is as yet practicable. There must first come a further revision by historical scholars, and through them of public opinion."

Now, after fascism, a second world conflict, the Cold War, and the fall of the communist regimes in Europe, the time has come to reopen the Versailles Treaty. The treaty must be revised to specify the war guilt of an international conspiracy masterminded first by King Edward VII of England, and after him by Sir Edward Grey, in which figures like Izvolski, Sazonov, and Clemenceau were participants. The center of war guilt must be fixed in London.—*Webster G. Tarpley*