



AP[®] European History 2002 Sample Student Responses

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Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

Although their motives ~~being~~ were vastly different, Prince Klemens von Metternich of Austria and Otto von Bismarck both ~~also~~ made foreign policy maneuvers to ensure the stability of their nation. Metternich was the quintessential conservative, while Bismarck increased Prussian power and united Germany.

Prince Klemens von Metternich entered the scene at the Congress of Vienna following the defeat of Napoleon. He sought to restore Europe to the pre-Napoleonic War boundaries and ensure a balance of power. Metternich was a staunch conservative who attempted to crush the sentiment of liberalism and nationalism that Napoleon had created. His first concern was Austria and worked actively to maintain Hapsburg control of the Empire. He restored the Bourbons to power in France, by placing Louis XVIII on the throne. His greatest achievement was the Concert of Europe or Congress System designed to ensure stability for all of Europe. The Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle met to discuss rebellions in Spain, which France was told to put down. The Congresses of Troppau and Leoben met in 1821 to discuss insurrection in the Balkans and Greece. The Congress of Verona was also to discuss problems in the Balkans, ~~however~~ however the Congress System eventually failed due to Britain's desire for isolation. The source of Metternich's conservatism was in the desire to protect his own country. Austria was a conglomerate of Magyars, Slavs, Germans, Serbs, and Romanians who each desired ~~to~~ separate autonomy. Their hopes were crushed through Metternich's unrelenting conservative views which halted any form of nationalism. He could not however

stop the insurrection of 1848 triggered by the French deposition of their King Louis Philippe. Student groups, or Burschenschaften ~~became~~ began to rise and forced Metternich to flee from Vienna. Metternich's foreign policy centered on the self-preservation of the Austrian Empire.

Similarly, Otto von Bismarck worked on the ~~of~~ for Prussian and later German stability, while also increasing power. Bismarck began by paving the way toward German Unification. Bismarck's ~~first~~ first move was to take Schleswig-Holstein on an alliance with Austria. After an easy defeat of Denmark he provoked a war with Austria. In the Seven Weeks' War he demonstrated Prussian military strength by crushing Austria. He then united the Northern States of Germany with Prussia. ~~Getting~~ Needing another war to draw the Southern states in, he created tension between France over the Ems Dispatch. He prompted France into declaring war, and thus the Franco-Prussian war began. It soon ended with the Battle of Sedan where Napoleon III was captured. France gave up Alsace-Lorraine and Germany became fully united in 1871. In order to ensure stability ~~of~~ of his fledgling country, he created a system of alliances to isolate France in the event of a French revenge war. A Dual Alliance was formed in secret with Austria, and eventually the Dreikaiserbund was established with Russia, Austria and Germany. Problems between Austria and Russia caused a break of the three emperors league, however Bismarck wisely signed a Reinsurance Treaty with Russia ~~rather than~~ Bismarck ~~was~~ like

17

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Metternich called for the congress of Berlin in 1885 to discuss colonial disputes in Africa. Bismarck wanted to avoid a dramatic war between the powers of Europe. Bismarck was deposed in 1890 after friction with the new Kaiser Wilhelm II, but his impact was incredible. Bismarck managed to keep peace for Germany, so his infant country could survive.

Both men had a significant impact over the balancing of power in Europe. Both worked intensely for the stability of their countries; Metternich kept his country from falling apart, while Bismarck united Germany and created a powerful nation.

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Section II Part C
#7

Metternich of Austria and Bismarck of

AAA,

Prussia were two figures heads of foreign policy during the nineteenth century. Both men were very successful in their goals and managed to maintain peace in Europe. While they ~~both~~ differed on the subject of nationalism they had both had the same goal of maintaining peace and stability in Europe.

Metternich came to the forefront during the Congress of Vienna in 1815 after the defeat of Napoleon. He intelligently left defeated France intact to keep them from growing hostile and bitter while granting each of the victorious nations of Great Britain, Prussia, Austria, and Russia territorial concessions. After the Congress Metternich became committed to stamping out revolution and keeping the monarchies in power. He crushed revolts in Italy and Poland and encouraged the French who crushed the revolt in Spain. Metternich held the multinational Austrian empire together and even formed an alliance with Prussia and Russia to ~~put~~^{crush} revolutionaries. However in 1848 the revolutionary tide had become too great and he was forced out of office.

Bismarck became the hero of Germans after his policy of "Blood and Iron" united Germany. When Bismarck came to power his first goal was to unite Germany, something that was always feared by France and Austria. Through a succession of three wars against Denmark, Austria, and France this dream became a reality with the crowning of Kaiser Wilhelm I in the Hall of Mirrors at ~~Versailles~~ Versailles. Bismarck's next goal was to keep France diplomatically isolated. He did this by remaining on good terms with

Great Britain and signing alliances with Austria and Russia. Bismarck kept France without ~~the~~ Russia in particular by signing the Alliance of the Three Emperors and the Russo-German Reinsurance Treaty. He also eased tensions between Russia and Austria at the Congress of Berlin by granting both nations territory from the ~~of~~ fading Ottoman Empire. Finally, Bismarck attempted to reconcile with France by encouraging them to expand into Africa to forget Alsace-Lorraine. In the end Bismarck's policies would be far not as his dismissal by Kaiser Wilhelm II in 1890 would begin Germany's path toward destruction.

Metternich and Bismarck were the two most influential men in Europe during the nineteenth century. While they differed on nationalism, Metternich attempted to crush it while Bismarck used it; they were both very successful. Both men accomplished their goals while maintaining peace and stability in Europe.