2/5 The Congress of Vienna

I. Meaning of Legacy

2). Main Actors

3) Territorial Settlement

4) Atmosphere

Redrawing the map of Europe. Started to meet after Nap exiled to Elba. Compare to Paris & or Versaille congress after WW I. 1919-1920.

Stability & 100 year relative peace. France included in Congress. Popular ~~issues~~ pressure not strong in 1815. All men, similar culture, all spoke French, - the language of wealthy & educated people.

4 main powers - Austria, England, Prussia & Russia

had great difficulty in determing peace. Poland was dividing point. Russians wanted Poland as a satellite, Austria feared that.

Main actors -

Russia - Alexander 1st - Czar Head of State

Others sent Foriegn ministers.

Alex was volitile & unpredictable. Father was murdered. Terrible military leader. Great savior of Europe. Main concern was to create a large Poland.

Metternich From Austria - self infatuated, saw himself as perfect, womanizer. Skilled diplomat. Peers often despised him. Did have principles - balance among great powers of Europe. Hobby was building clocks - good metaphor. Wanted to subordinate some national policies to international goals. Internationalist.

Prussian representative - Hardenberg. Berlin was capital of Prussia. Wish to expand Prussian territory & keep France weak. Wanted Polish territory back but would trade for other territory.

Lord Castlereagh - Great Britians representative. Political moderate. Played role of broker. Maritime rights import. Never allow one continental power to threaten world peace & Britian. Volitile person, given to fits of rage & depression. Eventually comitted suicide. Not killed by Lord Byron.

Tallyrand - France. Originally was supposed to be kept out. Important that he was included. Foriegn minister for Nap. empire. Worked for revolution & before that the Kings. Opportunist. Man of church too. Was an athiest. Pursed women & food. Was lobbyist. too. Brought moderation to the table.

Polished demeaner. Threatened to mobilize minor powers if not let in. Wanted France to remain a great power.

Atmosphere:

Often derided for frivolity of balls, masquerades, hunts, etc for many months. Frivolity diverted minor powers so they would not get in the way & still feel important. Spanish delegate floated away in hot air balloon. Lots of scandals & affairs. Cossacks - hard core Russian soldier. Uncouth, not house trained.

Territoral Settlement:

Restore legitimacy of old empires. Suppressed rise of national states like Poland. Duchy of Warsaw was a satelite of France. Czar wanted control of larger Poland. Cracow became a free city. Split Silesia & Galecia off to Austria & Prussia. Czar gets ⅝ most of Duchy of Warsaw. Saxony, allie of Nap, gets part of it. Left bank of Rhine goes to Prussia. ~~Her~~ Area is Cathalic & founded by Rome. Prussians were Lutheran & beer drinkers. Resentment. Nuremberg also went to Prussians. Cavalier actors at Congress. No one asked residents what they wished.

Italy - divided between France & Austria.

Germany - hodgepodge of separate states. Pulled together partially by Nap. Divided into 38 separate states - loose confederation. Austria & Prussia were dominant players in confederacy. Austria prevailed. Monarchy ruled each state. Some very tiny & held together by culture. Bismark was author German unification → blood & steel.

Austria got more than it could handle.
Prussia was scattered but became dominant player in German region.

Congress redrew map of Europe. Nap. abolished parts of slave trade. Congress considered slavery immoral but took no action.

Jews - Nap. enfranchised & liberated Jews in conquered areas. Congress left question of Jews to local rulers.

Balance of power but nationalism left to Fester.