The First World War had recently ended

meanwhile, elsewhere…

Charles Wootton, a black Royal Navy sailor was lynched in Liverpool

KEY INFORMATION:

World War One ended in _____. A year after in Liverpool riots broke out in Liverpool over a lack of jobs and racial tensions. A black Bermudan sailor, Charles Wootton, who had served in the Royal _____ was chased by a mob and lynched.

''At around ten O'clock on the evening of 5 June 1919… a 24 year old sailor from Bermuda who had served in the Royal Navy during the war was chased by a mob through the streets of Liverpool. He was pursued by a mob that was between 200-300 strong… he was eventually chased to the Queen's Docks and surrounded on the water's edge by the hostile crowd… in the chaos that followed Wootton was at one point seized by a policeman , but was ripped out of the officers grasp by the mob. Stones were thrown, driving Wootton into the water. Some reports say that members of the crowd at that point shouted, 'Let him drown'… as Wootton floundered in the water, 'a detective climbed down a ship's rope and was about to pull the man out of the water when a stone thrown from the middle of the crowd struck Wootton in the head and he sank. His body was later recovered… Although a number of police officers were at the scene of the night of the murder no arrests were made.''(**D. Olusoga, *Black and British: a Forgotten History*).**

1. How many black soldiers served in the British Army during WW1?

_____

2. What was the British West Indian Company?

_____
_____
_____

Research a black soldier who fought for the British in WW1 and write your findings below:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

1. What is a 'lynching'?

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_____
_____

2. What happened to Charles Wootton?

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3. Why is the lynching of Charles Wootton so shocking?

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Useful websites, videos and podcasts
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-48527393
https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-heroes/how-black-soldiers-helped-britain-in-first-world-war/

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