1945 UN is formed.

1947 India is independent.

1939–1945 World War II

1948 Israel is founded.

1960–1980 Independence comes to dozens of former colonies.

1980 Solidarity Union begins challenging communist rule in Poland.

1991 Soviet Union collapses, 15 new countries are formed.

2001 Terrorists attack World Trade Center and Pentagon.

| 1910 | 1920 | 1930 | 1940 | 1950 | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 |

1914–1918 World War I

1917 Russian Revolution

1930 Gandhi leads first protests against British in India.

1946–1991 Cold War between East and West

1961 Berlin Wall is built.

1965–1973 Vietnam War involves U.S. forces

1975 Vietnam War ends.

1979 Iranian Revolution

1991 Persian Gulf War

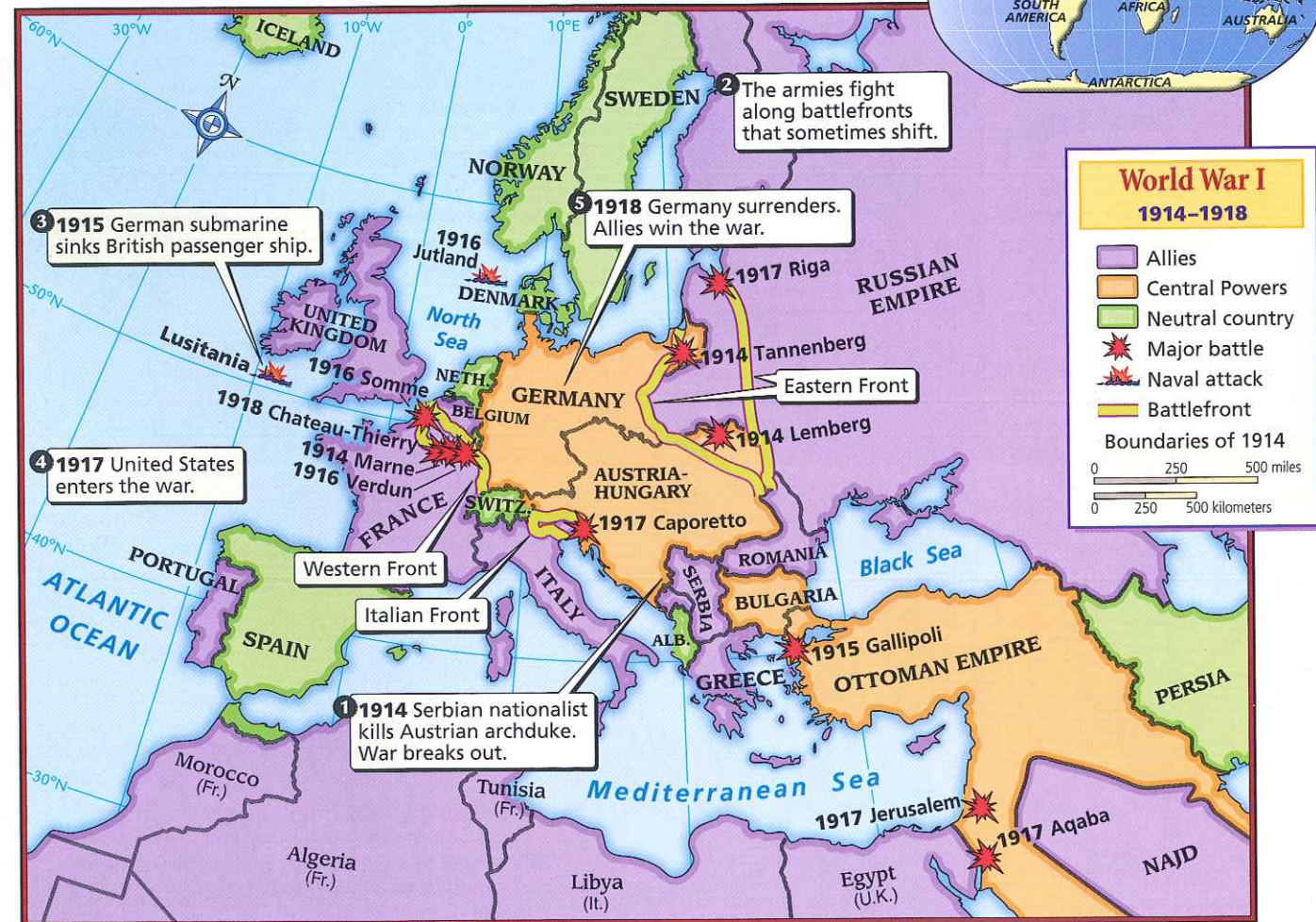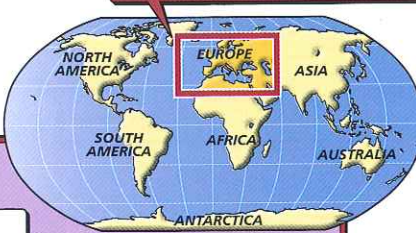**2003** War in Iraq

World War I Changes Europe

In 1914 an Austrian archduke was assassinated by a Serbian nationalist. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, and military alliances soon brought most of Europe into the conflict.

- The war was fought between the Central Powers and the Allies. The main Central Powers were Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire. The Allies included the United Kingdom, France, Russia, Serbia, and later the United States.

- New technology, especially machine guns and chemical weapons, made World War I deadlier than previous wars.

- The war ended in 1918 with the surrender of Germany. New countries were formed out of the defeated empires.

Where was the front?
A **front** is the long battle zone that forms where two armies meet. The bloodiest fighting in World War I took place on the Western Front. There both sides fought from elaborate defensive trenches.

Area shown in maps A and D

B Both sides used poison gases that burned eyes, skin, and lungs, and killed thousands of troops. After the war, most countries agreed to ban chemical warfare.

Military Deaths in Wars

Thirty Years' War (1618–1648)

Napoleonic Wars (1803–1815)

Russo–Japanese War (1904–1905)

World War I (1914–1918)

0   2   4   6   8   10
Military deaths in millions

C Fighting in World War I was so deadly that people hoped it was "the war to end all wars."

World War I 1914–1918

- Allies
- Central Powers
- Neutral country
- ★ Major battle
- ⚔ Naval attack
- Battlefront
- Boundaries of 1914

0   250   500 miles
0   250   500 kilometers

② The armies fight along battlefronts that sometimes shift.

③ **1915** German submarine sinks British passenger ship.

⑤ **1918** Germany surrenders. Allies win the war.

④ **1917** United States enters the war.

① **1914** Serbian nationalist kills Austrian archduke. War breaks out.

1916 Jutland
1917 Riga
1914 Tannenberg
Eastern Front
1914 Lemberg
1916 Somme
1918 Chateau-Thierry
1914 Marne
1916 Verdun
1917 Caporetto
Western Front
Italian Front
Lusitania
1915 Gallipoli
1917 Jerusalem
1917 Aqaba

RUSSIAN EMPIRE

ICELAND, SWEDEN, NORWAY, DENMARK, UNITED KINGDOM, NETH., BELGIUM, GERMANY, AUSTRIA-HUNGARY, SWITZ., FRANCE, ITALY, SERBIA, ROMANIA, BULGARIA, ALB., GREECE, OTTOMAN EMPIRE, PERSIA, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, Morocco (Fr.), Algeria (Fr.), Tunisia (Fr.), Libya (It.), Egypt (U.K.), NAJD

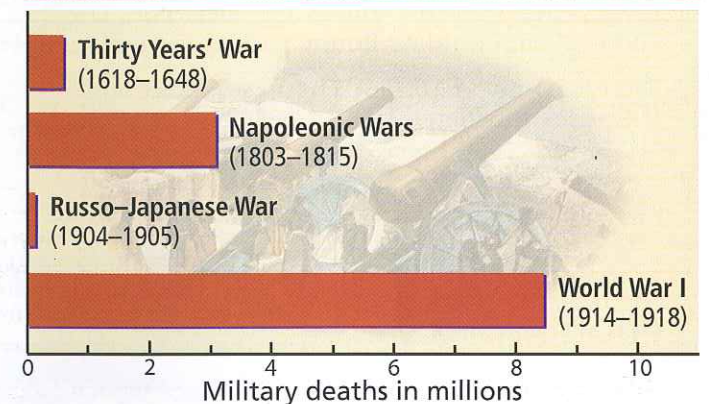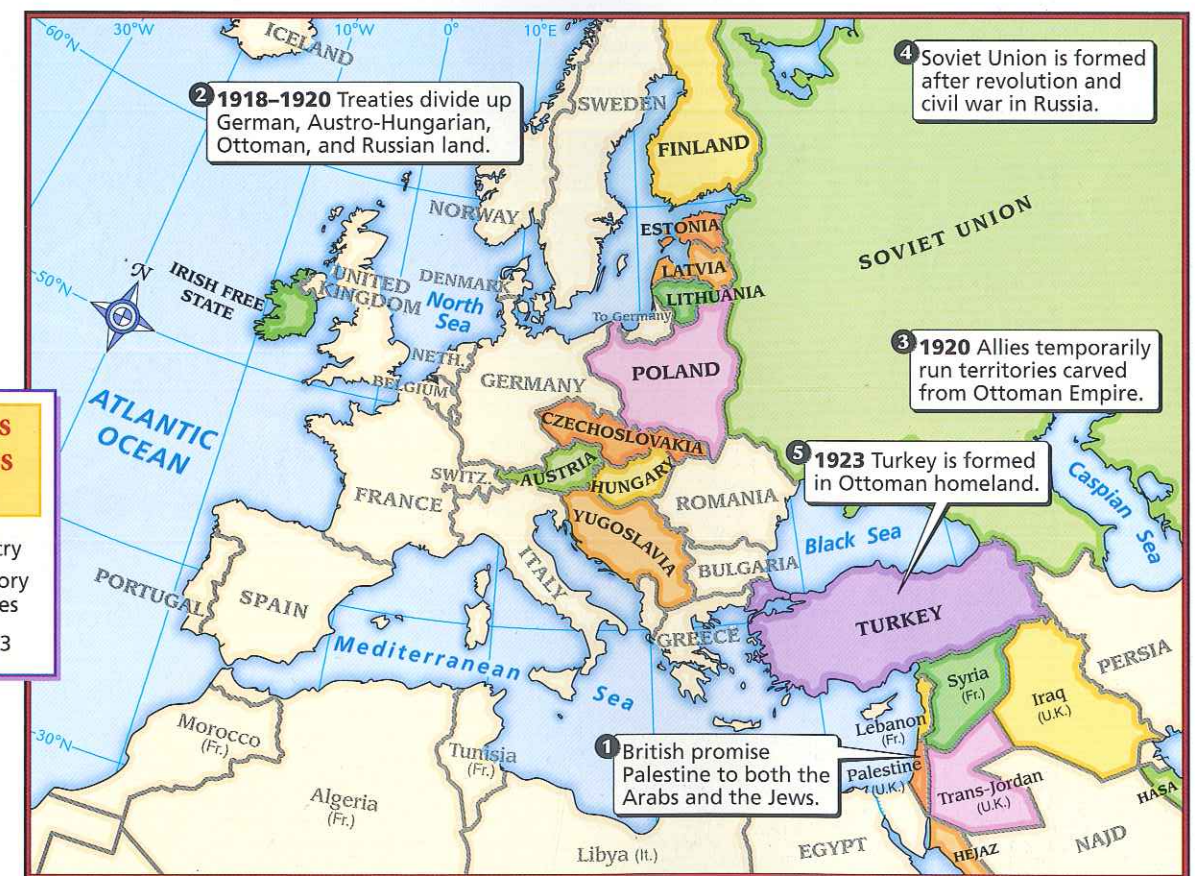North Sea, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, ATLANTIC OCEAN

A Fighting along the Western Front, the most important battleground, was deadlocked. For over three years, the defensive strength of the trenches prevented the armies on both sides from gaining ground.

New Countries and Territories 1918–1923

POLAND   New country

Syria (Fr.)   New territory run by Allies

Boundaries of 1923

④ **1918–1920** Treaties divide up German, Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman, and Russian land.

④ Soviet Union is formed after revolution and civil war in Russia.

③ **1920** Allies temporarily run territories carved from Ottoman Empire.

⑤ **1923** Turkey is formed in Ottoman homeland.

① British promise Palestine to both the Arabs and the Jews.

ICELAND, SWEDEN, FINLAND, NORWAY, ESTONIA, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, SOVIET UNION, IRISH FREE STATE, UNITED KINGDOM, DENMARK, NETH., GERMANY, POLAND, BELGIUM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, SWITZ., AUSTRIA, HUNGARY, ROMANIA, FRANCE, ITALY, YUGOSLAVIA, BULGARIA, GREECE, TURKEY, PERSIA, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, Syria (Fr.), Lebanon (Fr.), Iraq (U.K.), Palestine (U.K.), Trans-Jordan (U.K.), HEJAZ, NAJD, Morocco (Fr.), Algeria (Fr.), Tunisia (Fr.), Libya (It.), EGYPT

To Germany, North Sea, ATLANTIC OCEAN, Black Sea, Caspian Sea, Mediterranean Sea

D After the war, boundaries were changed and new countries were carved from the defeated Central Powers—and also from Russia, which had been one of the Allies. Compare the countries on this map with the countries on map A.