

IMPACT OF WORLD WAR I

- World War I has been called a **“*war with many causes but no objectives.*”**
- This profound sense of ***waste and pointlessness*** will shape European politics in the post-war period.

New Horrors for a New Century

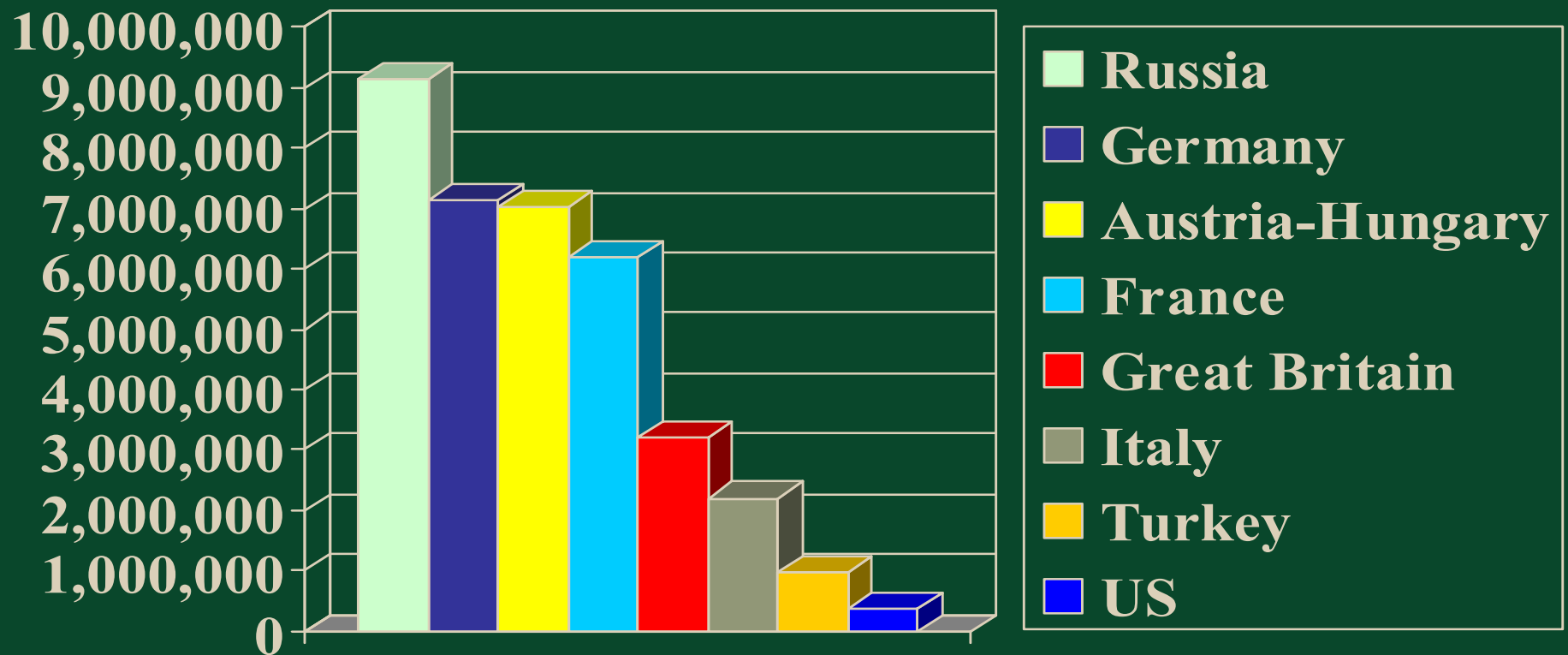
- **Total War**
- **Industrial weapons of mass-killing**
- **Extreme Nationalism**
- **Civilians targeted**
- **Genocide: Turks slaughter Armenians**
- **Communist Revolution**
- **Terrorism**

Aftermath of World War I: Consequences

Social:

- almost 10 million soldiers were killed and over 20 million are wounded
- millions of civilians died as a result of the hostilities, famine, and disease
- the world was left with hatred, intolerance, and extreme nationalism.

World War I Casualties



The Spanish Flu (Influenza) - 1918

- Struck in the trenches of the Western Front and then flourished when soldiers returned home.
- It became the greatest public health disaster of modern history
 - The pandemic killed between 22 and 30 million people worldwide, or roughly twice as many as had died during the fighting
 - In Spain, it killed roughly 40 percent of the population (8 million), thus giving it the name of the Spanish Influenza.
 - British colonial troops carried it to India where it killed 12 million.
 - No disease, plague, war, famine, or natural catastrophe in world history had killed so many people in such a short time.

Turkish Genocide Against Armenians



A Portent of Future Horrors to Come!

Turkish Genocide Against Armenians

Districts & Vilayets of Western Armenia in Turkey

| | <u>1914</u> | <u>1922</u> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Erzerum | 215,000 | 1,500 |
| Van | 197,000 | 500 |
| Kharbert | 204,000 | 35,000 |
| Diarbekir | 124,000 | 3,000 |
| Bitlis | 220,000 | 56,000 |
| Sivas | 225,000 | 16,800 |

Other Armenian-populated Sites in Turkey

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Western Anatolia | 371,800 | 27,000 |
| Cilicia and Northern Syria | 309,000 | 70,000 |
| European Turkey | 194,000 | 163,000 |
| Trapizond District | 73,390 | 15,000 |
| Total | <u>2,133,190</u> | <u>387,800</u> |

Aftermath of World War I: Consequences

Economic:

- the total cost of the war: over **\$350** billion. How was this paid for???
 - heavy taxes → causes lower standard of living for the European people.
- international trade suffers → nations raise the tariffs on imports and exports.
- Russia → Communists seize power and introduce a new economic system.
- Economic collapses bring on the Great Depression of the late 1920's and 1930's.

Aftermath of World War I: Consequences

Political:

- U. S. emerges as a world power because of the assumption of international responsibilities.
- 3 major European dynasties are taken out of power: Romanovs in Russia, Hohenzollerns in Germany, Hapsburgs in Austria-Hungary.
- New states are created in central Europe, some containing several different nationalities, especially in Poland and Czechoslovakia.
- The League of Nations is created to solve international problems and maintain world peace → Will be a failure.
- Many nations turn to military dictatorships—primarily Russia, Italy, and Germany, to control their political problems.

A Difficult Peace

Although peace had come to the battlefield, the leaders of the war's major countries still had to work out a formal peace agreement. This task would prove difficult.

Wilson's Vision

- Wilson announced his vision of world peace, **Fourteen Points**
- Included reduction of weapons, right of people to choose own government
- Proposed organization of world nations, protect from aggression

Allied Goals

- Leaders of four major Allies all had different ideas of peace treaty
- French wanted to punish Germany, reparations for cost of war
- British wanted to punish Germany, but not weaken it

Italy's leader hoped to gain territory for his nation, but was disappointed to find himself mostly ignored by other leaders during peace talks.

The Treaty of Versailles

After difficult negotiations, the Allies finally compromised on the **Treaty of Versailles**. The treaty was named after the French Palace of Versailles, where the treaty signing took place.

Key points

- Germany forced to pay enormous amount of money to war's victims
- Treaty also assessed responsibility for the war on Germany

Weaker Germany

- Military size limited
- Return conquered lands to France, Russia
- German land taken to form Poland
- Other colonies given to various world powers

German reaction

- Furious, though no choice but to sign
- Reparations crippled economy
- Bitterness would affect German politics in years to come

Aftermath

League of Nations

- Organization of world governments proposed by Wilson
- Established by Treaty of Versailles

Main goals

- Encourage cooperation, keep peace between nations
- Germany excluded
- U.S. did not ratify treaty, not member, weakened League

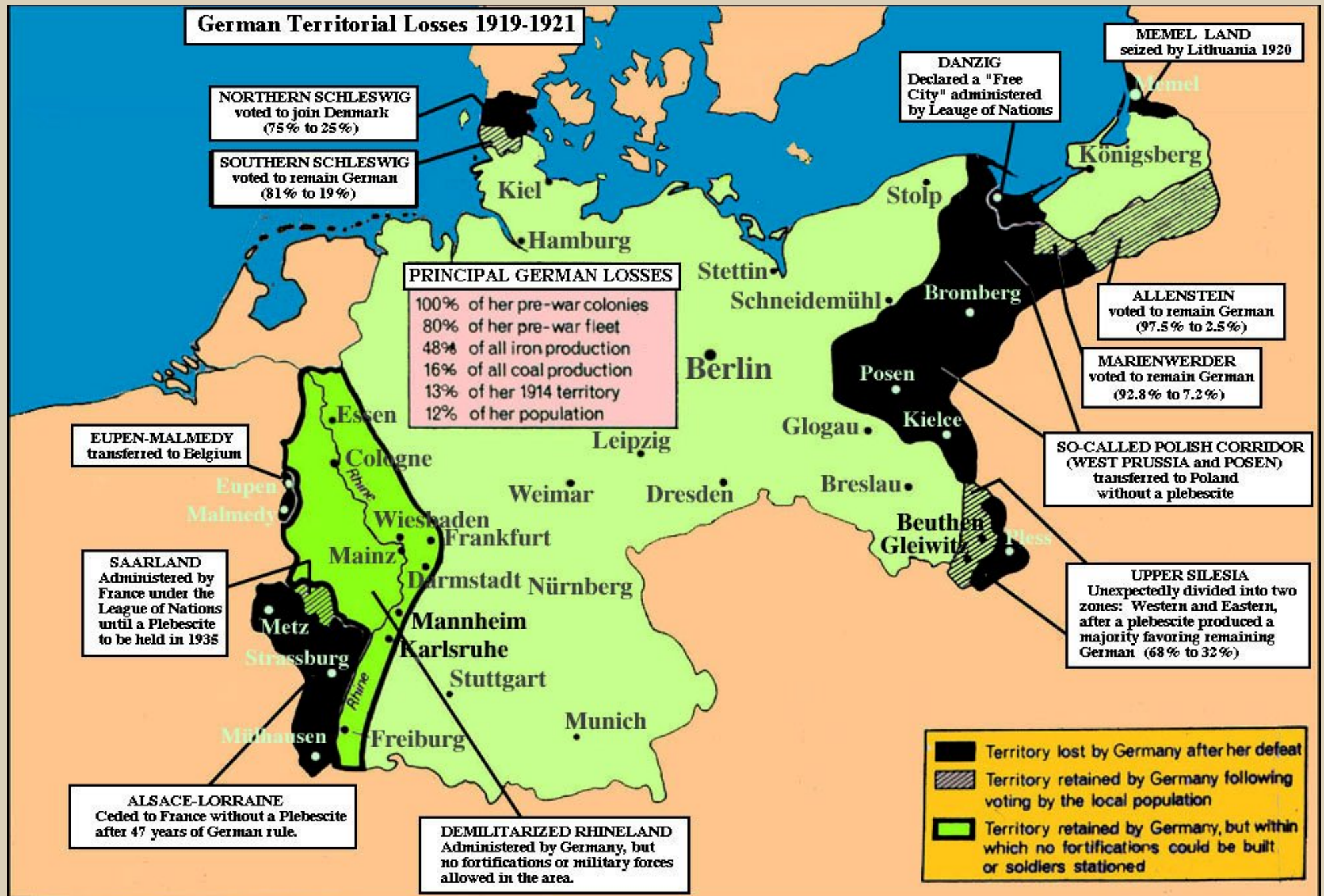
Other treaties

- Separate agreements with all defeated Central Powers
- Made important changes to Europe

Changes in Europe

- Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire lands broken apart
- Independent nations created: Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Turkey

German Territorial Losses: 1919-1921



Europe Before World War I, 1914



Europe After World War I



The Costs of the War

Unrest in Colonies

- Many colonists who fought in war heard noble words about importance of freedom, democracy
- After fighting for colonial rulers, expected rights for themselves
- Wartime sacrifices did not win new freedoms
- European powers split up lands controlled by Germans, Austro-Hungarians, Ottomans and redistributed them to other colonial powers

The Middle East

Changes in Middle East

- Former Ottoman lands turned into **mandates**, territories to be ruled by European powers
- Syria, Lebanon became French mandates
- Palestine, Iraq became British mandates
- European nations supposed to control mandates only until they were able to govern selves

Zionist movement

- Movement to create a Jewish state in the Middle East
- **Balfour Declaration** favored establishing Jewish state in Palestine
- Britain created Transjordan from Palestine Mandate
- Mandates eventually became colonies

French and British Mandates

Nationalist Hopes

- Supported by British, Arab nationalists rebelled against Ottoman Empire, 1916
- Wanted to create independent Arab state from Syria to Yemen
- Zionism, Jewish national movement to rebuild Jewish state in ancient homeland
- British government supported Jewish homeland in Palestine

Mandates

- British did not fulfill nationalist hopes
- Peace agreements established French, British mandates in Middle East
- France controlled Syria, Lebanon; British controlled Iraq, Palestine Mandate
- Arabs, Jews believed wartime promises broken

Palestine Mandate

British created Jordan, 1921

- **Created from eastern part of Palestine Mandate**
- **Palestine's population rapidly expanded**
 - Tens of thousands of Jews, Arabs immigrated
 - Palestinian anger over Jewish immigration led to mid-1930s conflict
 - Conflict in region continues today

Persia

Similar reforms took place in Persia

- **Reza Khan led overthrow of shah, 1921**
- **Khan became shah, 1925**
 - Ruled as Reza Shah Pahlavi
 - Wanted to make Persia into modern, independent nation
 - Sought to advance industry, improve education
 - Changed Persia's name to Iran, 1935

The Middle East

The years after World War I saw nationalist hopes and dreams flourish throughout much of the Middle East, too. Some of these nationalist movements achieved their goals-others did not.

Turkey and Atatürk

- Ottoman Empire agreed to give up homeland of ethnic Turkish population after World War I
- Allied Powers planned to give lands to Greece, others

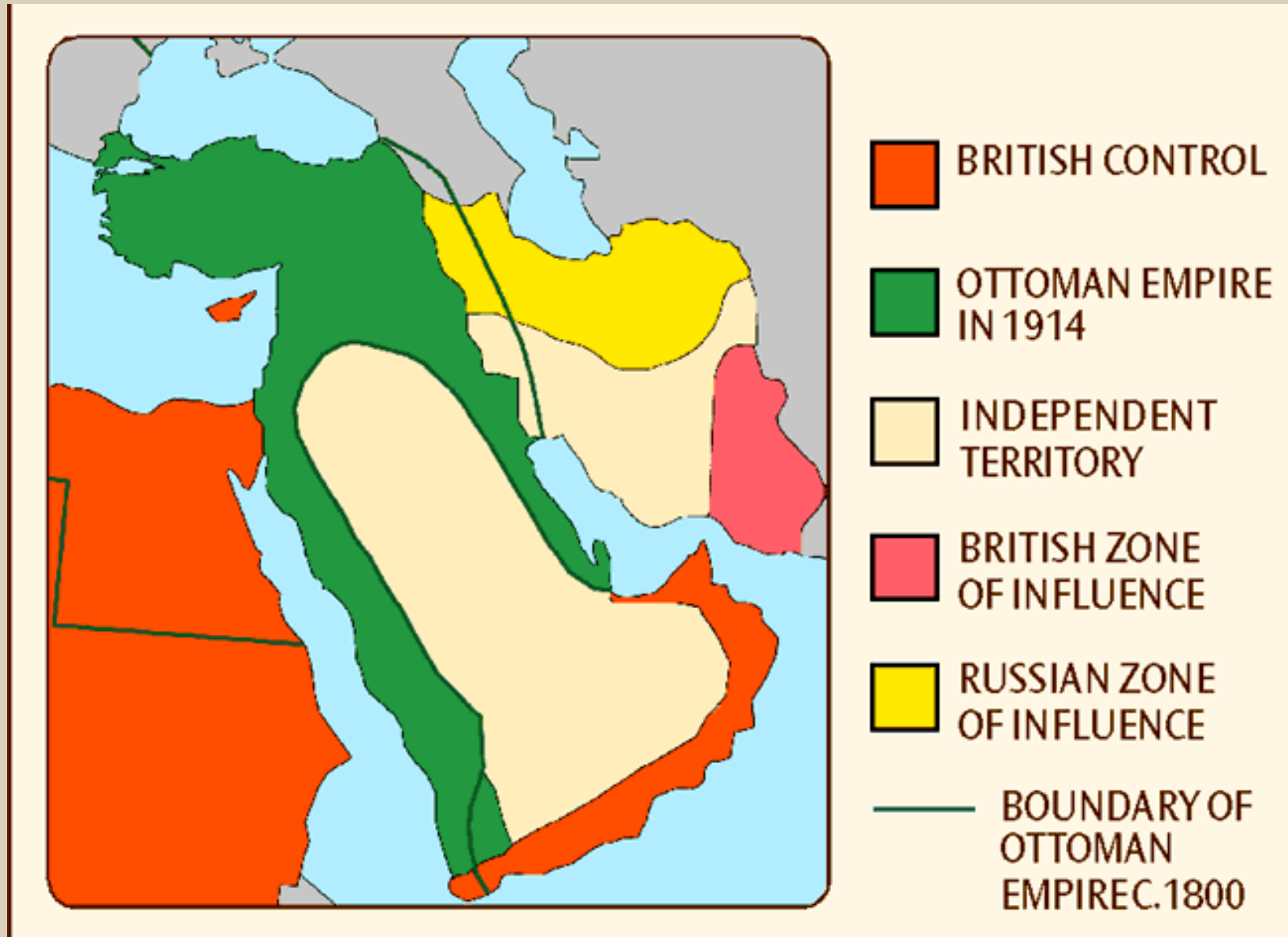
Kemal Mustafa

- World War I hero
- Fought plans to give up lands
- Defeated Greek forces sent to claim Turkish territory
- Established Republic of Turkey, October 1923

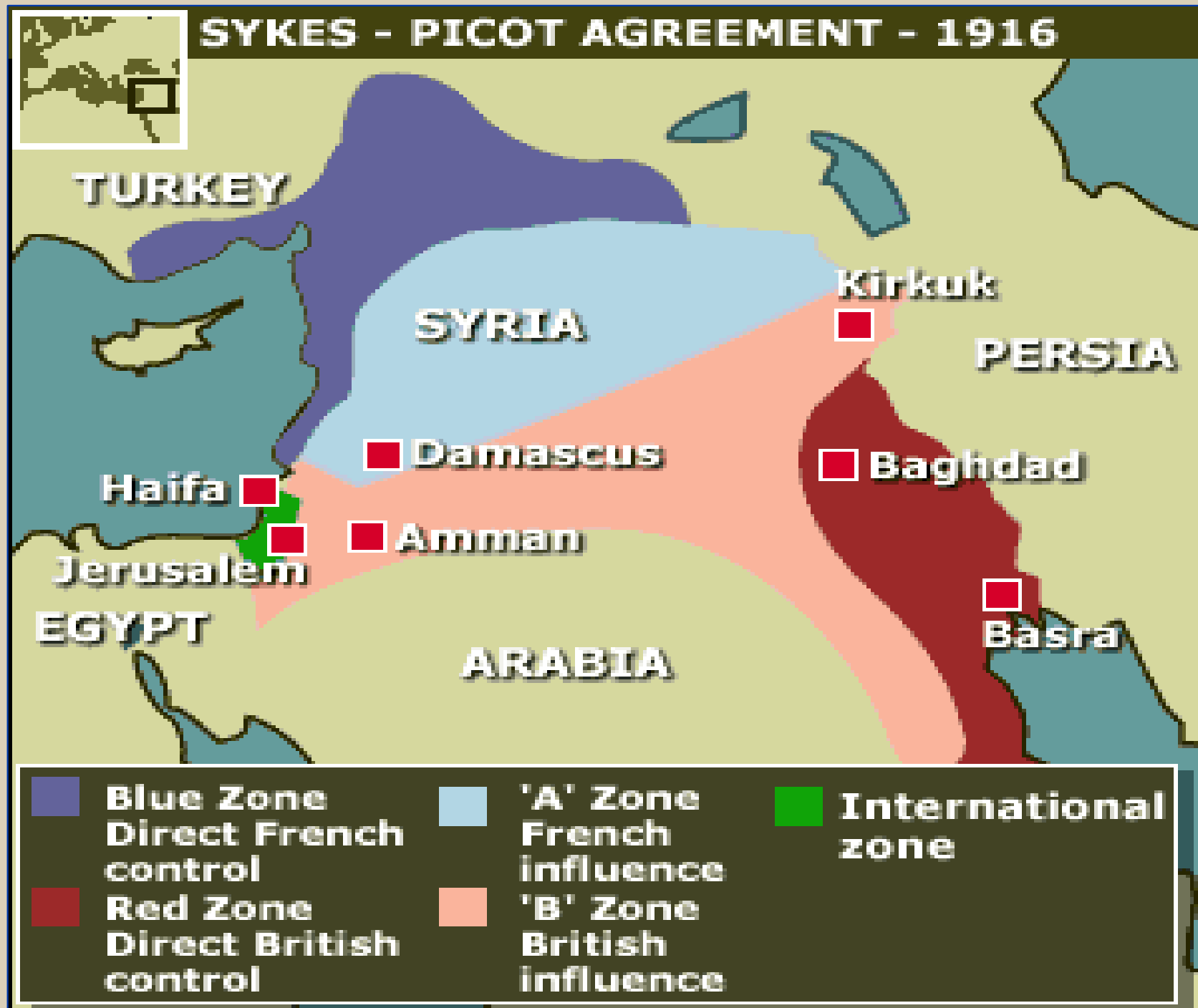
Modern Nation

- Mustafa known as **Kemal Atatürk**, “father of the Turks”
- Tried to modernize Turkey, end Muslim influence
- Made government secular
- Other advances

The Middle East in 1914



Sykes-Picot Agreement: 1916



Balfour Declaration: 1917

Foreign Office
November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild.

I have much pleasure to convey to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations {hopes} which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment **in** Palestine of **a national home** for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate {assist} the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that **nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine**, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR
British Foreign Secretary

The British Mandate in Palestine: July, 1922



League of Nations Mandates in the Middle East



China after World War I

World War I devastated much of Europe; postwar treaties and political unrest reshaped many nations. China also faced postwar unrest.

May Fourth Movement

- 1917, China declared war on Germany
- Hoped Allied Powers would return German-controlled Chinese territories
- Treaty of Versailles gave Germany's Chinese territories to Japan
- May 4, 1919, angry students began strikes, protests

Uneasy Partnership

- Guomindang nationalists had support of some Chinese
- Others believed communism best way to modernize China
- Communist Party of China formed, 1921
- Communists, Guomindang formed partnership, fought warlords who controlled much of China

Gains, 1920s

- **Jiang Jieshi**, also known as Chiang Kai-Shek, led Guomindang
- Continued to fight warlords, soon controlled much of China
- Eventually turned against Communist allies, attacked in several cities
- This marked beginning of Chinese Civil War

The Long March

- **Mao Zedong**, others survived Jiang's attack, tried to rebuild
- 1934, Communists under Guomindang pressure, tried to escape
- Mao led 100,000 supporters on 6,000 mile trek through China
- **Long March** tried to find safe place for Chinese Communists; only 8,000 survived

Changes in India

The early 1900s also saw the rise of nationalist feeling in India. This soon led to increasing tension between Indians and their British rulers.

India and World War I

- 800,000 Indians served with British in World War I
- Fought on Western Front, in Middle East
- Returned home to find sacrifices had not won them any new freedoms
- Britain planned to keep firm control over India
- Anger, unrest grew

Rowlatt Acts

- Rowlatt Acts passed, allowed Britain to act harshly against opposition in India
- British soldiers opened fire on peaceful, unarmed Indian demonstrators in Amritsar, April 1919
- **Amritsar Massacre** convinced Indians they must rid themselves of British rulers

Gandhi's Protest

Protests organized

- Indian lawyer **Mohandas Gandhi** began to organize protests against British
- Gandhi believed in two concepts, nonviolence, civil disobedience
- First nonviolent action, boycott of British products, 1920

Spinning wheel

- Gandhi stopped wearing clothes made of British cloth
- Indians began to make own cloth; spinning wheel became movement symbol
- Protest against British monopoly on salt, 1930; Indians produced own salt

Gandhi's progress

- Inspired millions to resist British rule
- Arrested often, increased public sympathy for cause
- Some changes occurred, limited degree of self-rule granted, 1935

Nationalism in Africa

World War I Africa

- Africa almost entirely under rule of European colonial powers during war
- Hundreds of thousands of Africans served in European armies during war
- Tens of thousands of Africans lost their lives during war
- Wartime experience increased nationalist feeling in Africa

Nationalism Grows

- Africans believed they earned independence through wartime sacrifices
- War caused economic hardship
- Trade with Europe dried up, European spending in Africa slowed

Little to Show

- Africans felt they had suffered for Europe, had little to show for it
- No Africans involved in negotiations of Treaty of Versailles
- Did not grant independence; transferred Germany's colonies to other countries

Working for Independence

Pan-African Congresses

- Frustrations with European powers led to seeking greater independence
- Organized by Africans worldwide, Pan-African Congresses began, 1919
- Conferences led to series of demands for African independence

North African Arabs

- Sought independence in British-controlled Egypt, took demands to British
- Members of group arrested, protests swept country, many Egyptians killed
- British finally formally declared Egypt independent, February, 1922

Victory for Nationalism

- Egypt's independence a victory, but did not start trend
- Most of Africa remained under European control in 1920s, 1930s
- Desire for reform and independence continued to grow

League of Nations Mandates in Africa



The Costs of the War

Human Costs

- Nearly 9 million soldiers killed in battle
- Millions wounded, taken prisoner
- Almost an entire generation of young German, Russian, French men died, were wounded in war
- Deadly outbreak of influenza spread by returning soldiers killed tens of millions worldwide, spring 1918

Economic Costs

- War destroyed national economies
- Farmland, cities devastated
- Economic chaos in much of Europe
- Cost Europe role as dominant economic region of world
- U.S., Japan, others prospered during war

Political Changes

- World War I caused widespread political unrest
- Communist revolution in Russia
- Monarchies in Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire overthrown
- Political, social turmoil would shape world in years to come