

# World War II Comes to the Middle East

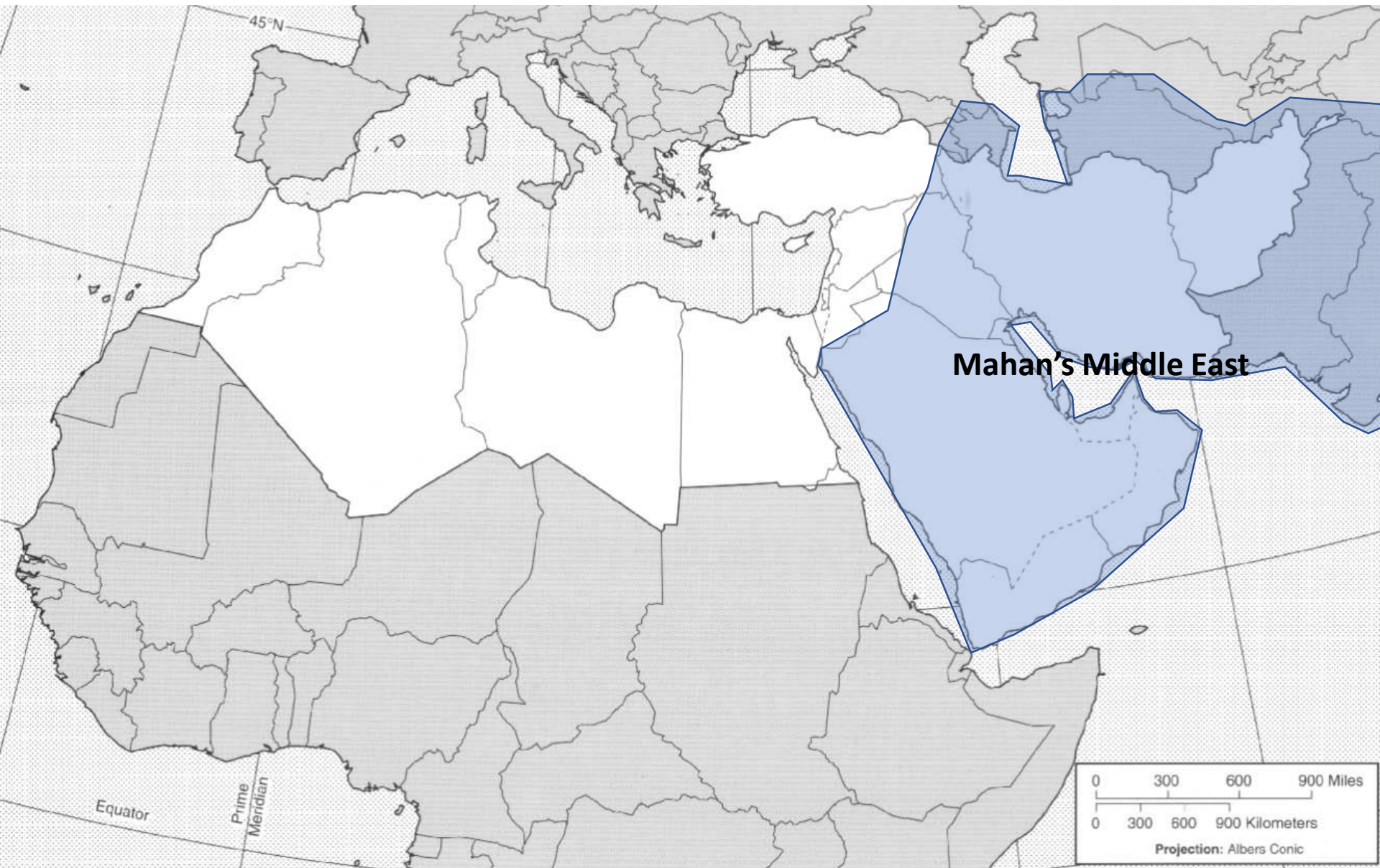


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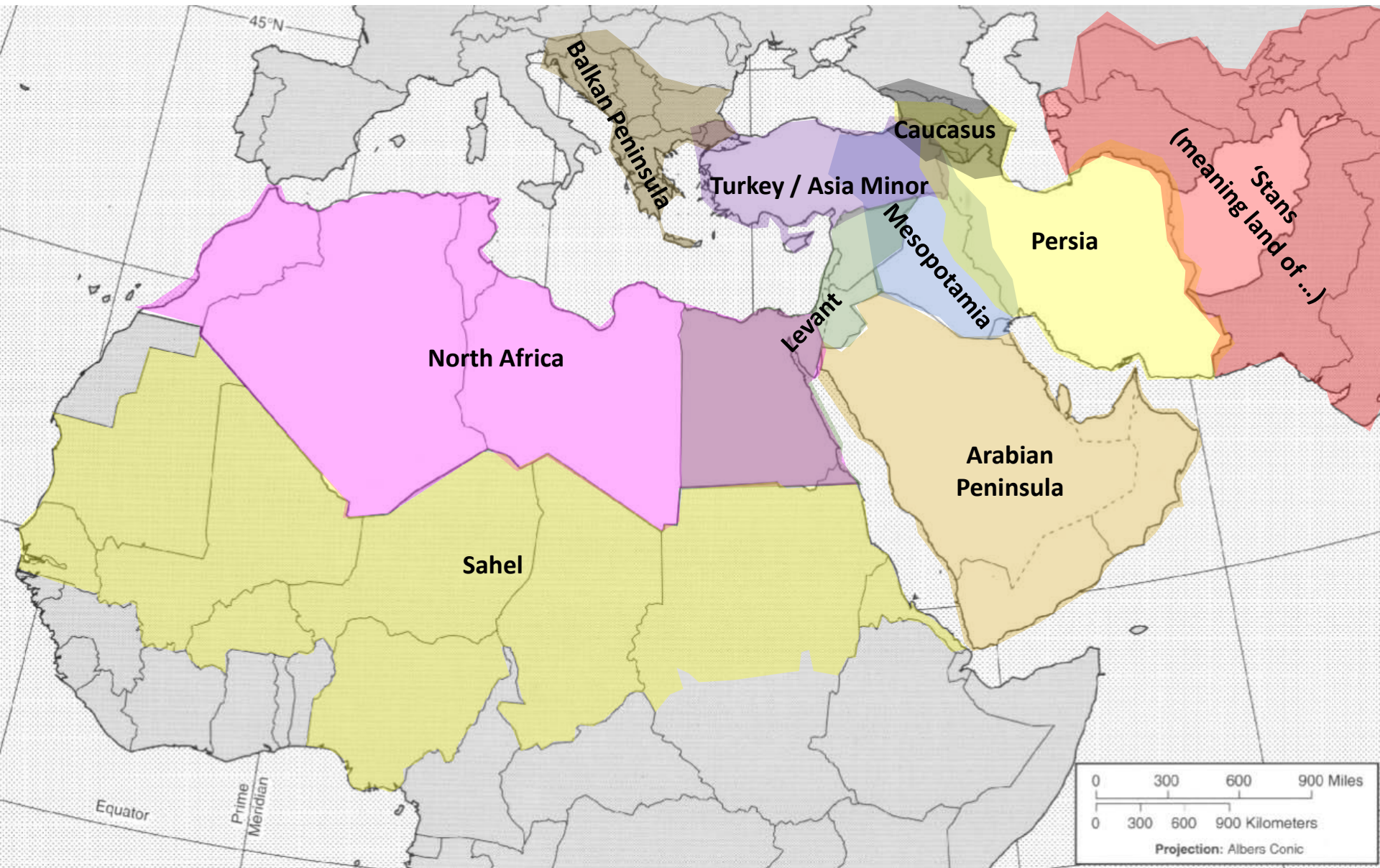
# Presentations

- 26 Mar WWII Comes to the Middle East
- 8 May The US Meets the Middle East in WWII
- 18 Sep WWII Leaves the Middle East with Scars
- 6 Nov The War on Terror:  
Why Does the Enemy Do What They Do

# Middle East Explanations



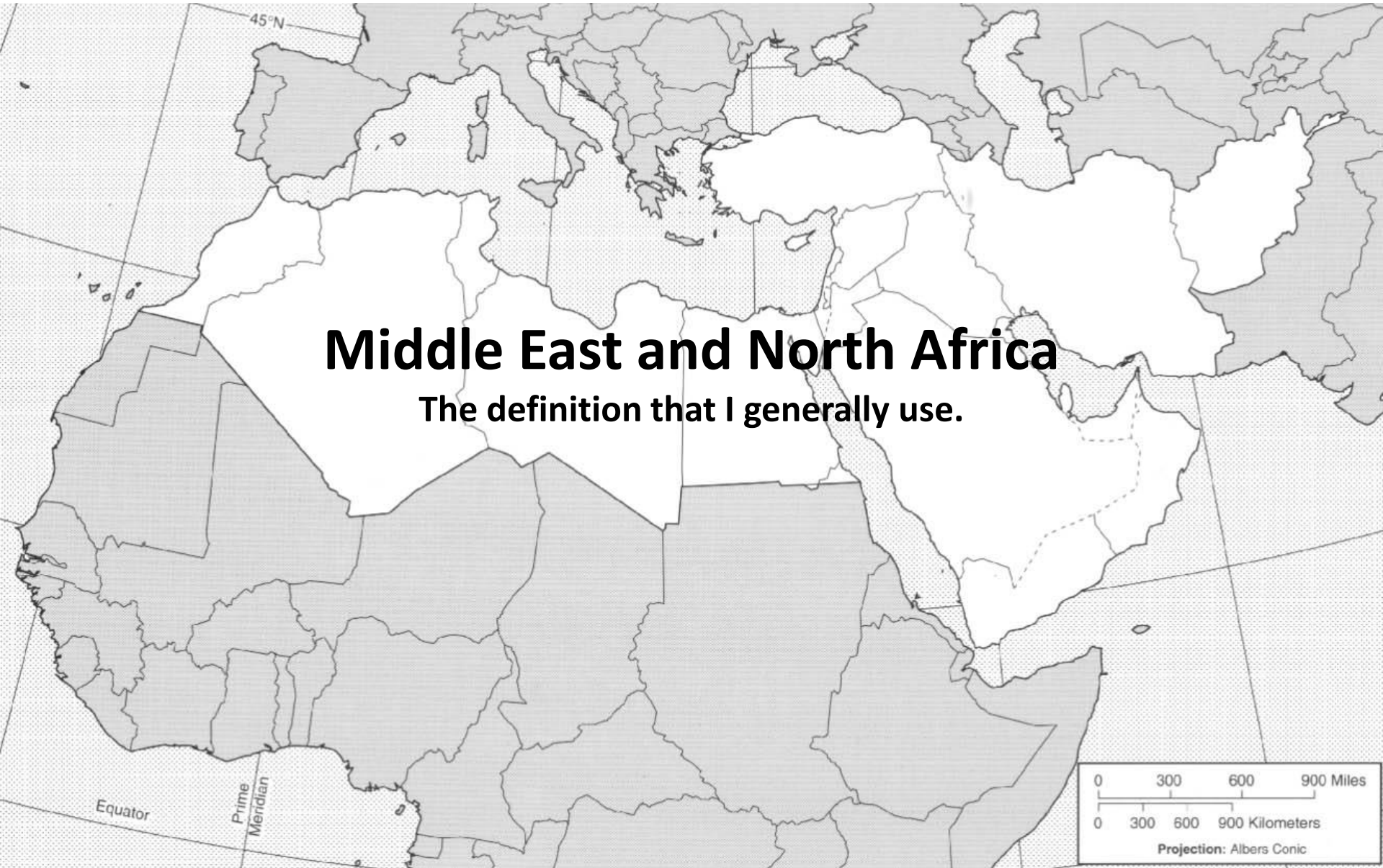
# Middle East Explanations



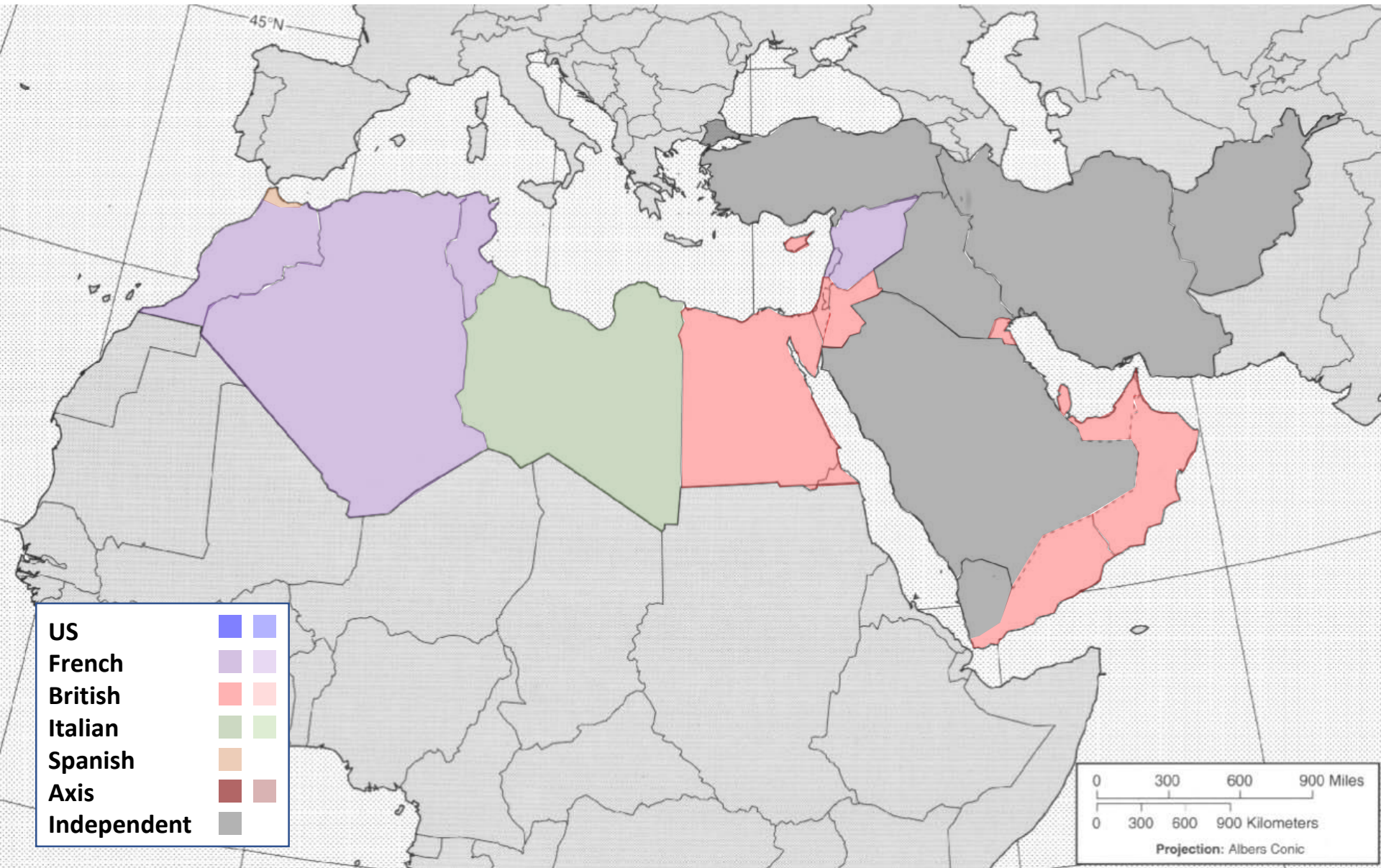
# Middle East Explanations

## Middle East and North Africa

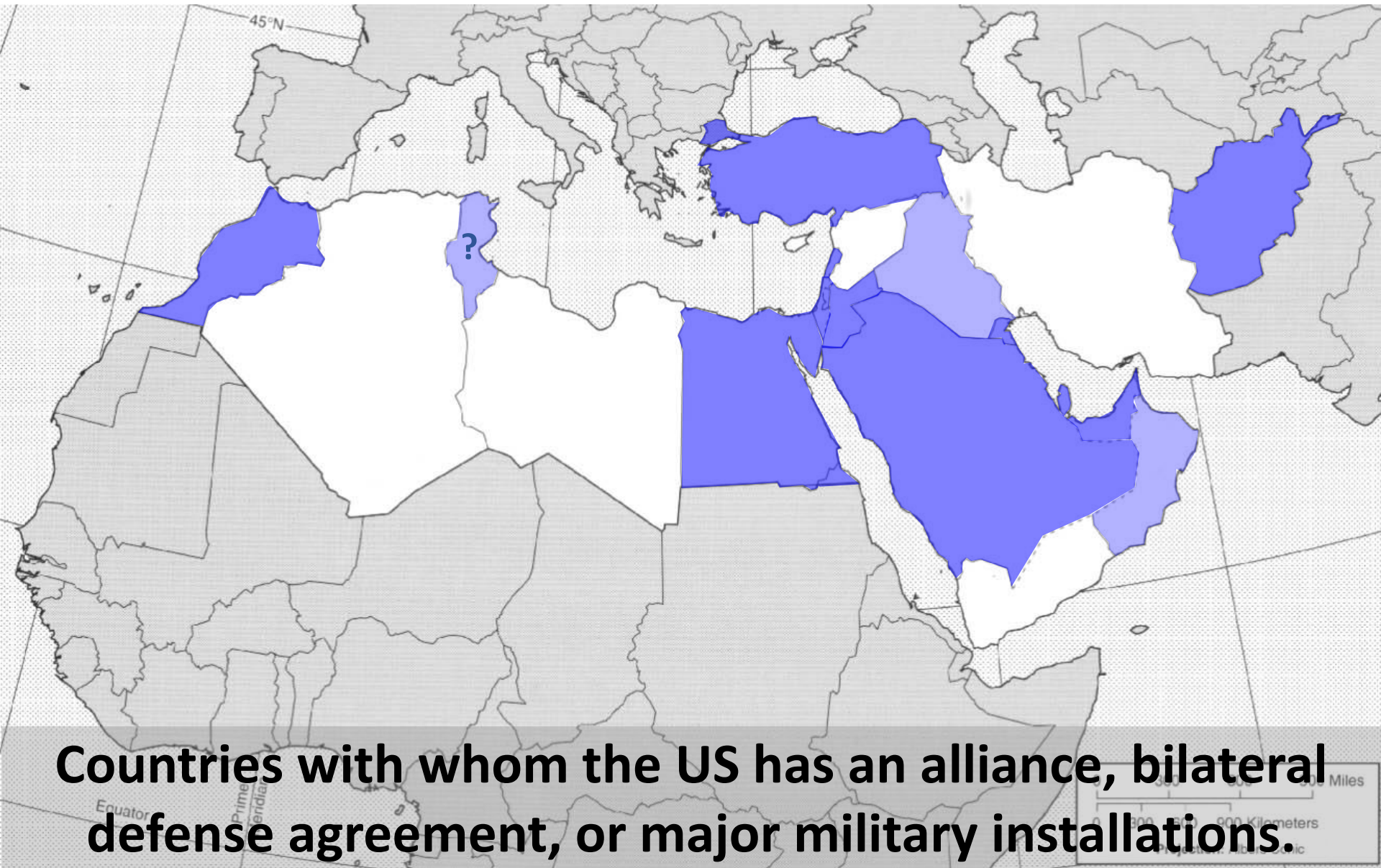
The definition that I generally use.



# Middle East Influence – 1939



# US “Protectorates” – 1939 to 2019



**Countries with whom the US has an alliance, bilateral defense agreement, or major military installations.**

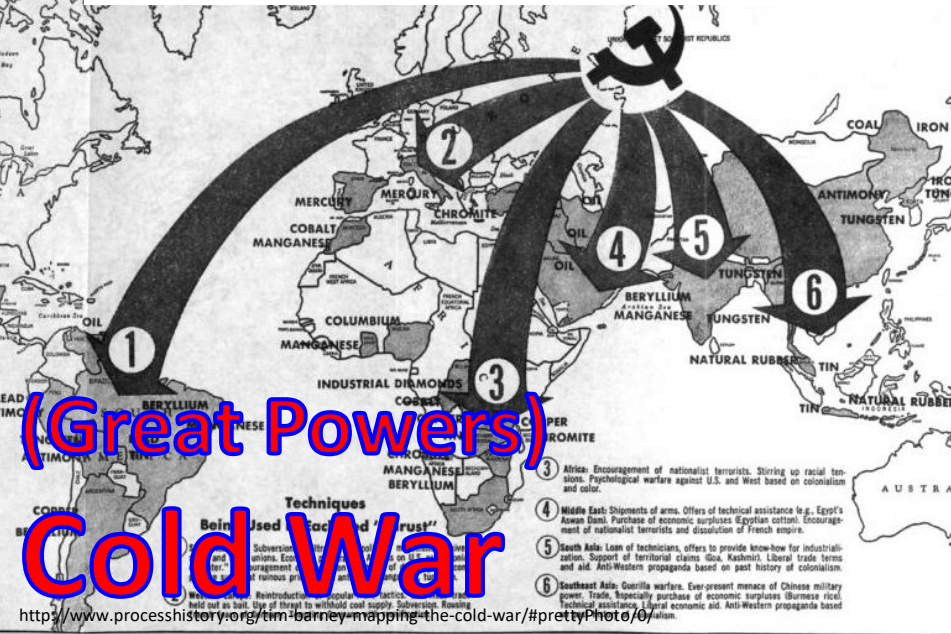
# Oil



# Zionism (Religion)



## Why is the U.S. in the Middle East?



# (Non-State Actors) Terrorism



# Major Themes

- Ever changing Middle East
- Changing imperial influence
- Challenge and Response

# Big Questions

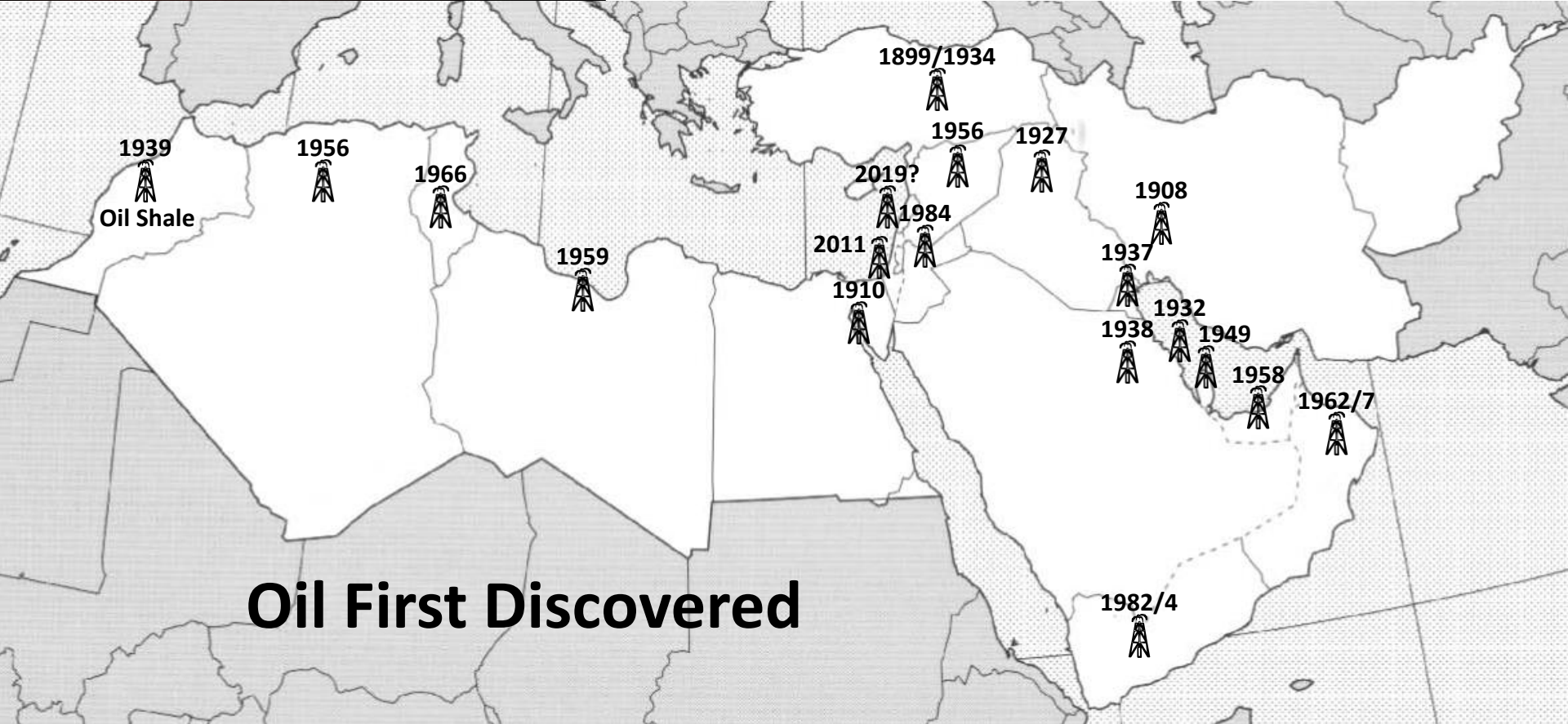
- Why is the US in the Middle East?
- How did the US go from no role in the Middle East in 1939 to the present circumstances?



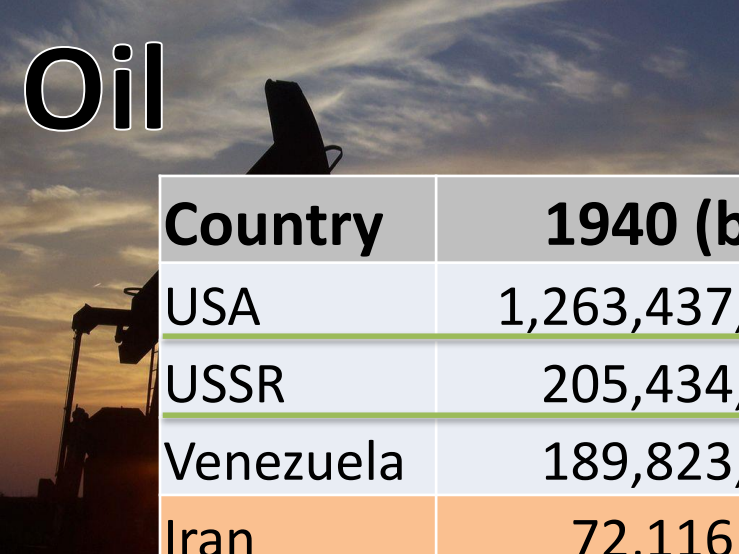
# Oil

## Major Oil News

- 1908 – First commercially viable production
- 1910 – First production outside Mesopotamia
- 1927 – Largest oil field of the time discovered
- 1938 – Oil discovered in Saudi Arabia
- 1948 – Saudi Ghawar oil field discovered



**Oil First Discovered**

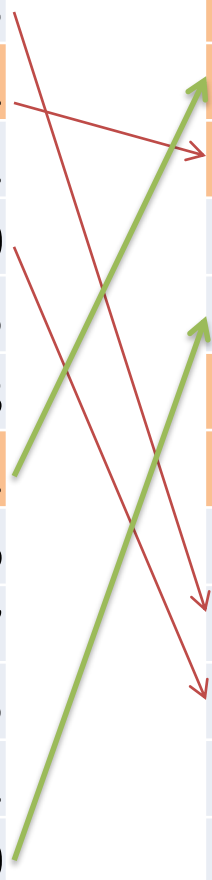


# Oil

# Production

Country	1940 (bpy)
USA	1,263,437,747
USSR	205,434,783
Venezuela	189,823,123
Iran	72,116,601
Indonesia	54,914,032
Mexico	46,489,130
Romania	39,869,565
Columbia	25,150,198
Iraq	23,780,632
Argentina	19,858,696
Trinidad	19,671,937
Peru	12,284,585
Burma	7,525,692
Canada	7,484,190
Egypt	6,425,889

2016 (bpy)	Country
4,380,000,000	USA
4,088,000,000	Russia
3,818,159,150	Saudi Arabia
1,624,803,340	Iraq
1,456,698,940	Iran
1,452,937,250	China
1,336,883,310	Canada
1,133,718,105	UAE
1,067,196,125	Kuwait
918,142,535	Brazil
831,092,955	Venezuela
798,210,105	Mexico
729,958,025	Nigeria
645,909,475	Angola
601,510,875	Norway



# Balfour Declaration

(2 November 1917)

Dear Lord Rothschild,

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

*"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate 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.

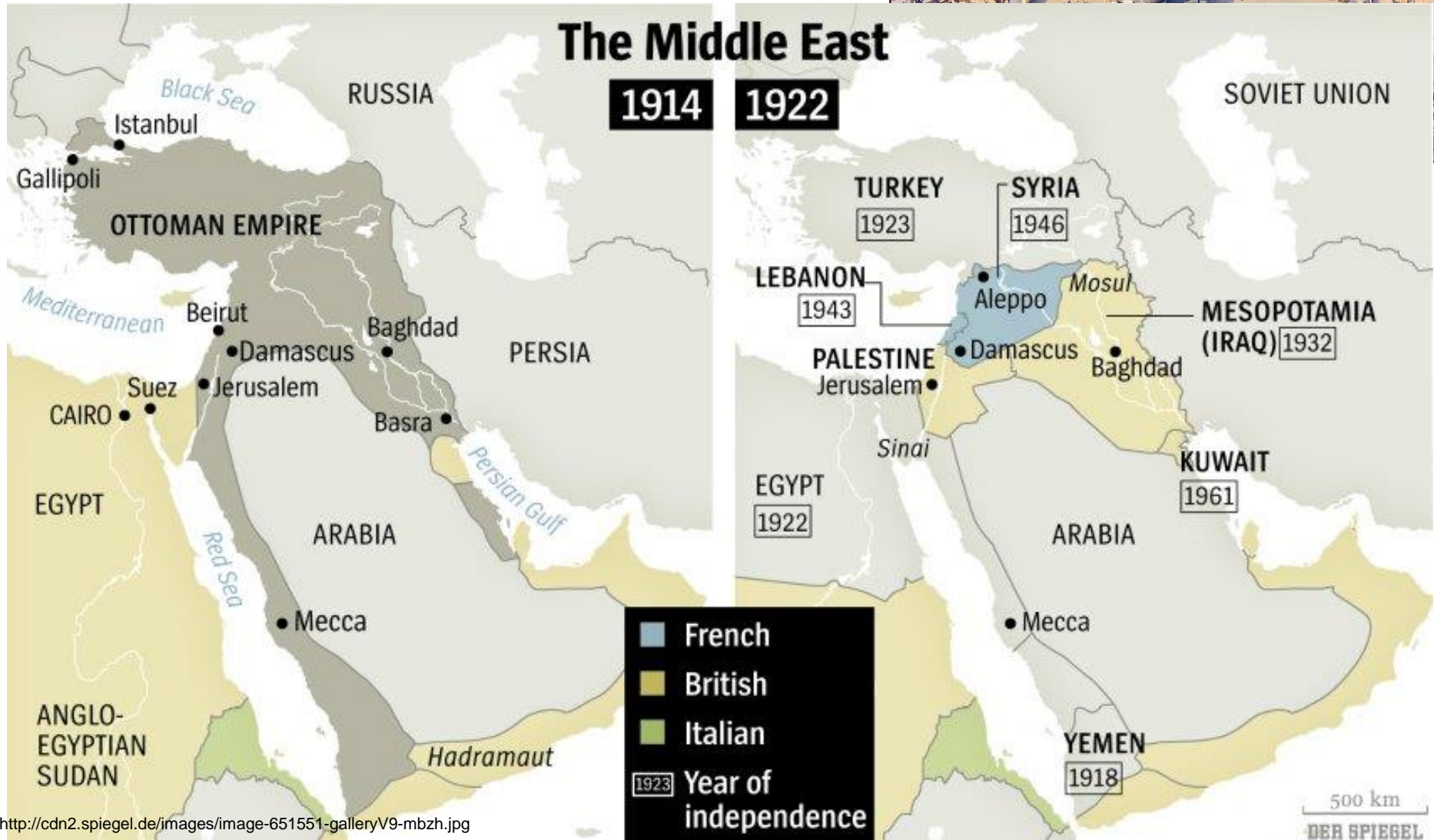
Yours sincerely,  
Arthur James Balfour

Arthur James Balfour  
UK Foreign Secretary

Walter Rothschild  
MP and Baron



# After World War I



# How the Map was Redrawn



Hussein – McMahon Correspondence	1915 – 1916
Sykes-Picot Agreement	November 1915 – March 1916
(announced by Bolshevik Russia 23 November 1917)	
Balfour Declaration	2 November 1917
Armistice of Mudros	30 October 1918
Treaty of Sèvres	10 August 1920
Cairo Conference	February – March 1921
Abolition of Ottoman Sultanate	1 November 1922
Declaration of Republic of Turkey	29 October 1923
Abolition of Caliphate	3 March 1924
Treaty of Lausanne	24 July 1924

# Zionism

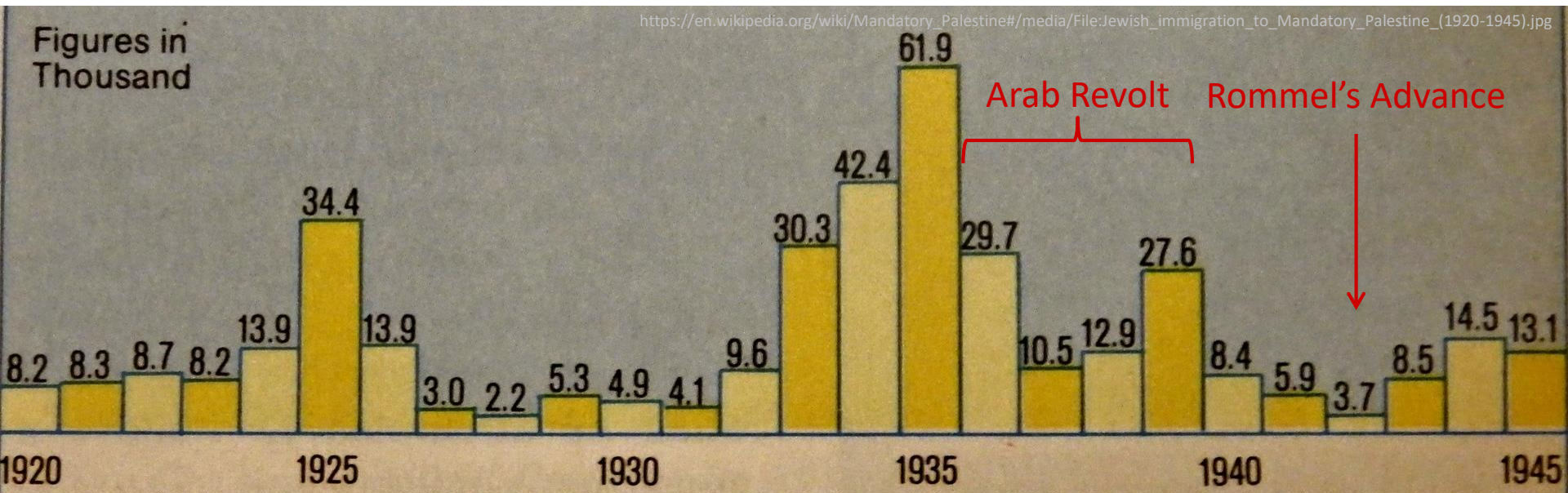


World Zionist Organization	1897	Theodor Herzl
Jewish Agency	1908/29	Chaim Weizmann
	1935	David Ben-Gurion

## Aliyah

1 <sup>st</sup> Aliyah (1882-1903)	4 <sup>th</sup> Aliyah (1924-1929)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Aliyah (1904-1914)	5 <sup>th</sup> Aliyah (1929-1939)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aliyah (1919-1923)	Aliyah Bet: Illegal immigration (1933-1948)

## Jewish immigration to Mandatory Palestine



# Jewish Groups

Haganah (the defense)

Palmach (acronym: strike force)

Irgun (abbr: the national military organization in the land of Israel)

Lehi (Stern Gang) (acronym: fighters for the freedom of Israel)

“In fact, there is a division of roles; one organization advocates individual terrorism (Lehi), the other conducts sporadic military operations (Irgun) and there is a third organization which prepares itself to throw its final weight in the decisive war.”

– Menachem Begin (*Blood in Zion*, p12)





# Arab Opposition

- Franco-Syrian War (Mar-Jul 1920)
- Black Hand formed (1930)
- Arab Revolt (1936-1939)
  - April-October 1936 Arab Strike
  - Revolt continues in autumn of 1937
- Arab Higher Committee (1936)
- Peel Commission
- Axis Propaganda



1895-1974



Amin al-Husseini  
Grand Mufti of Jerusalem  
(in office 1921-1948)



... the framers of the Mandate in which the Balfour Declaration was embodied could not have intended that Palestine should be converted into a Jewish State against the will of the Arab population of the country. ... it is not part of their policy that Palestine should become a Jewish State.

... [nothing] to support the view that the establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine cannot be effected unless immigration is allowed to continue indefinitely. If immigration has an adverse effect on the economic position in the country, it should clearly be restricted ...

**If in these circumstances immigration is continued up to the economic absorptive capacity of the country**, regardless of all other considerations, **a fatal enmity between the two peoples will be perpetuated, and the situation in Palestine may become a permanent source of friction amongst all peoples in the Near and Middle East.**

... owing to the natural growth of the Arab population and the steady sale in recent years of Arab land to Jews, there is now in certain areas no room for further transfers of Arab land ...

# White Paper

(23 May 1939)

'We will fight the White Paper as if there is no war, and fight the war as if there is no White Paper.'

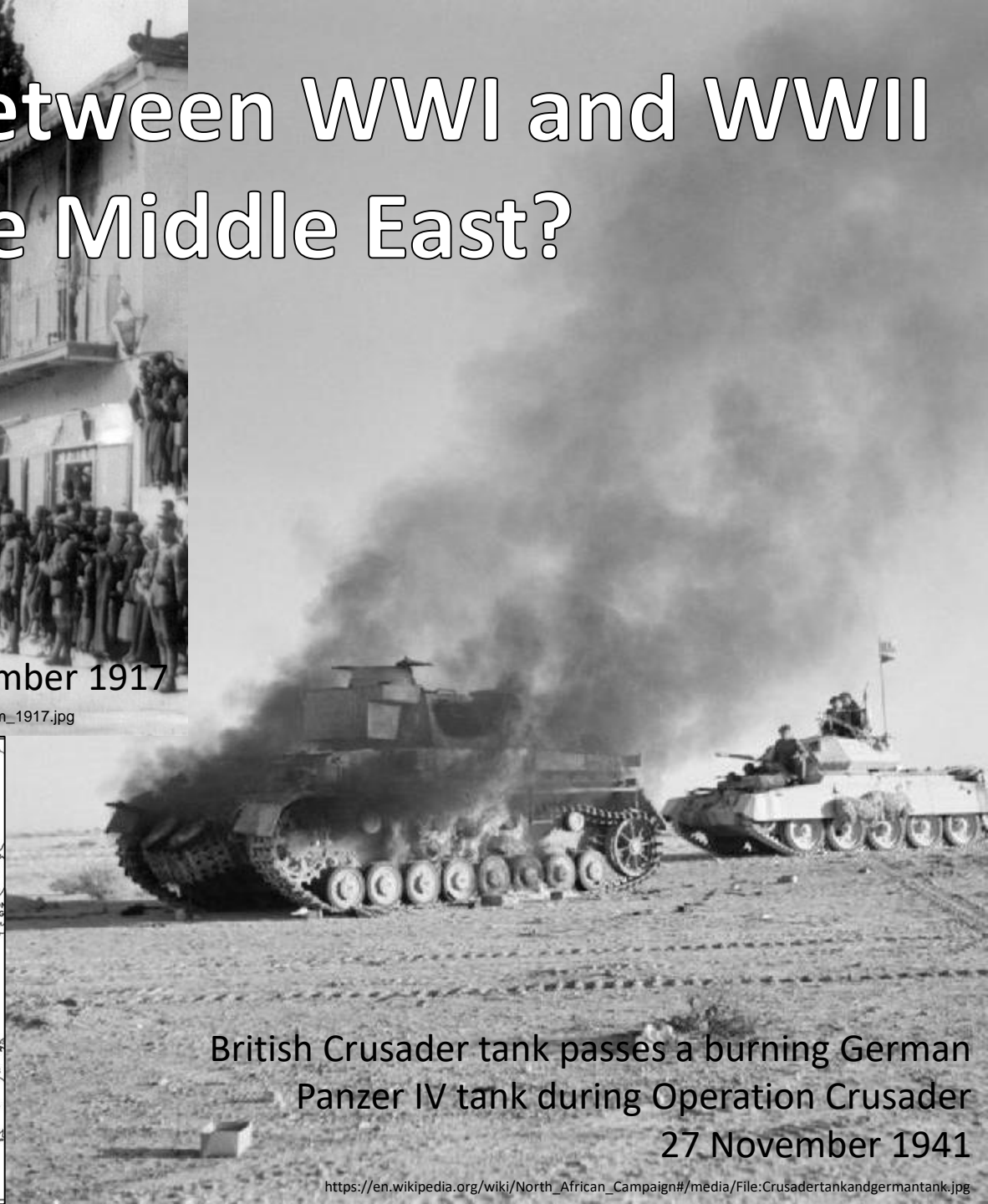
– David Ben-Gurion  
September 1939

# Differences between WWI and WWII in the Middle East?



11 December 1917

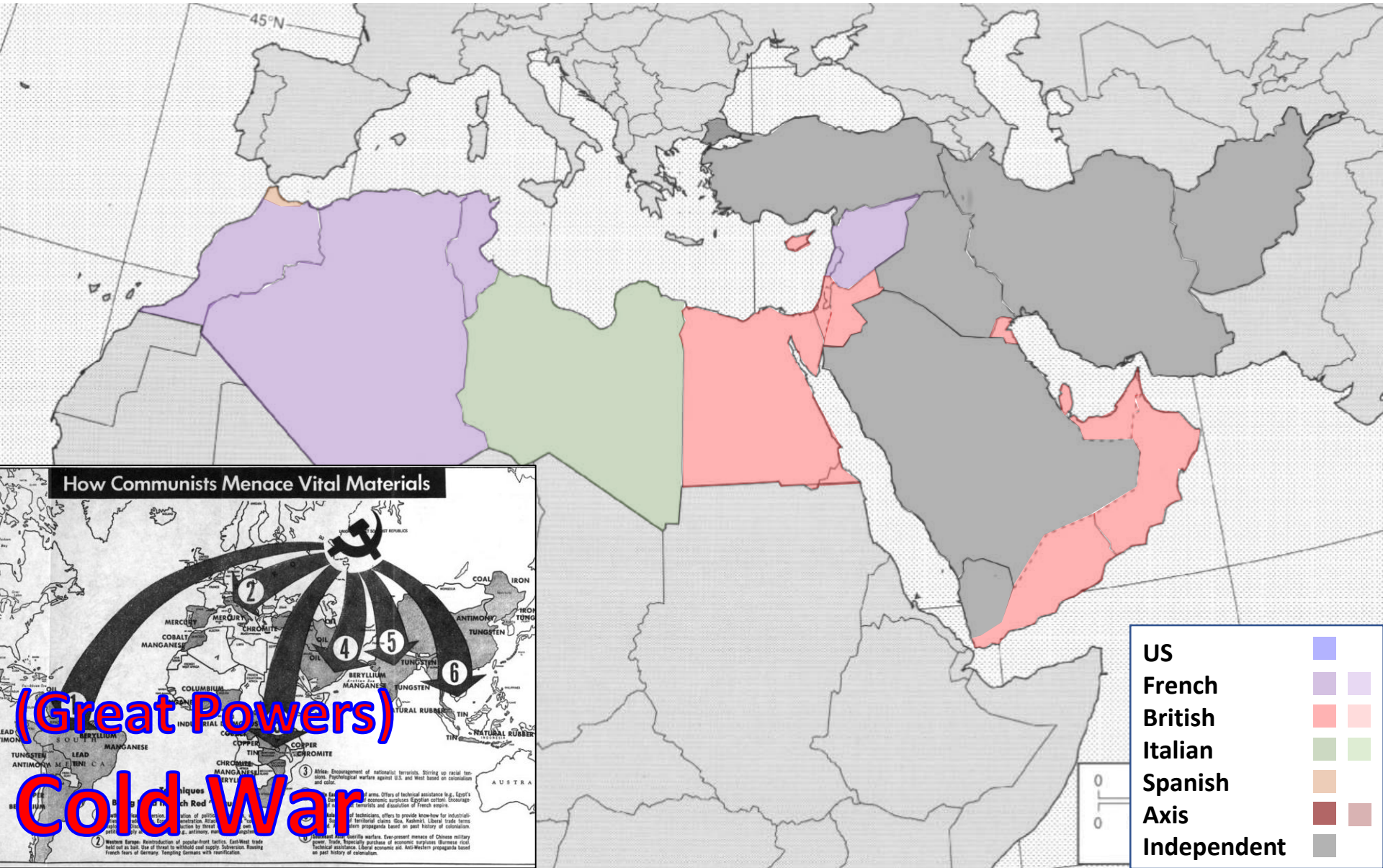
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Jerusalem#/media/File:Allenby\\_enters\\_Jerusalem\\_1917.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Jerusalem#/media/File:Allenby_enters_Jerusalem_1917.jpg)



British Crusader tank passes a burning German Panzer IV tank during Operation Crusader  
27 November 1941

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North\\_African\\_Campaign#/media/File:Crusadertankandgermantank.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_African_Campaign#/media/File:Crusadertankandgermantank.jpg)

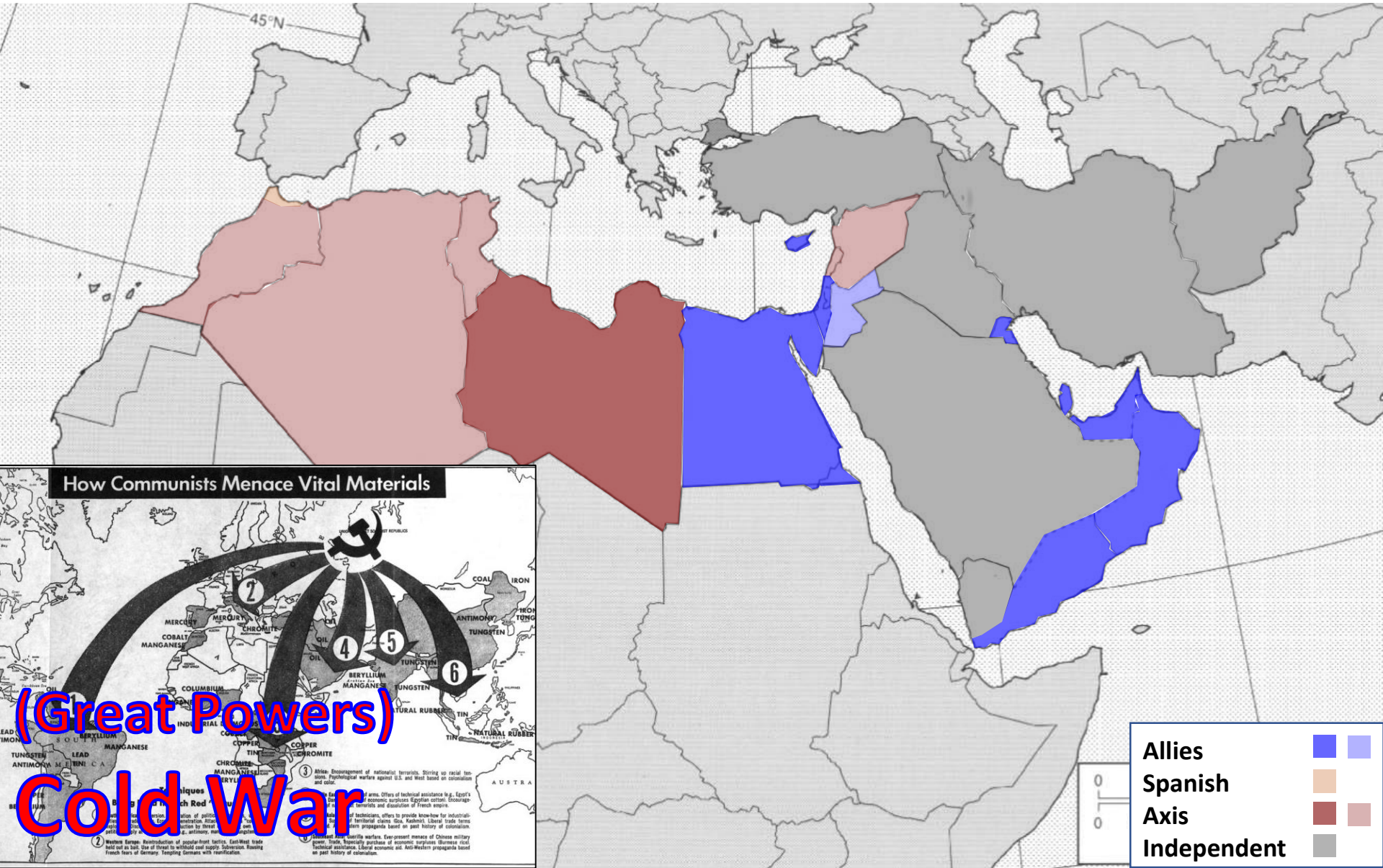
# Middle East Influence – 1939



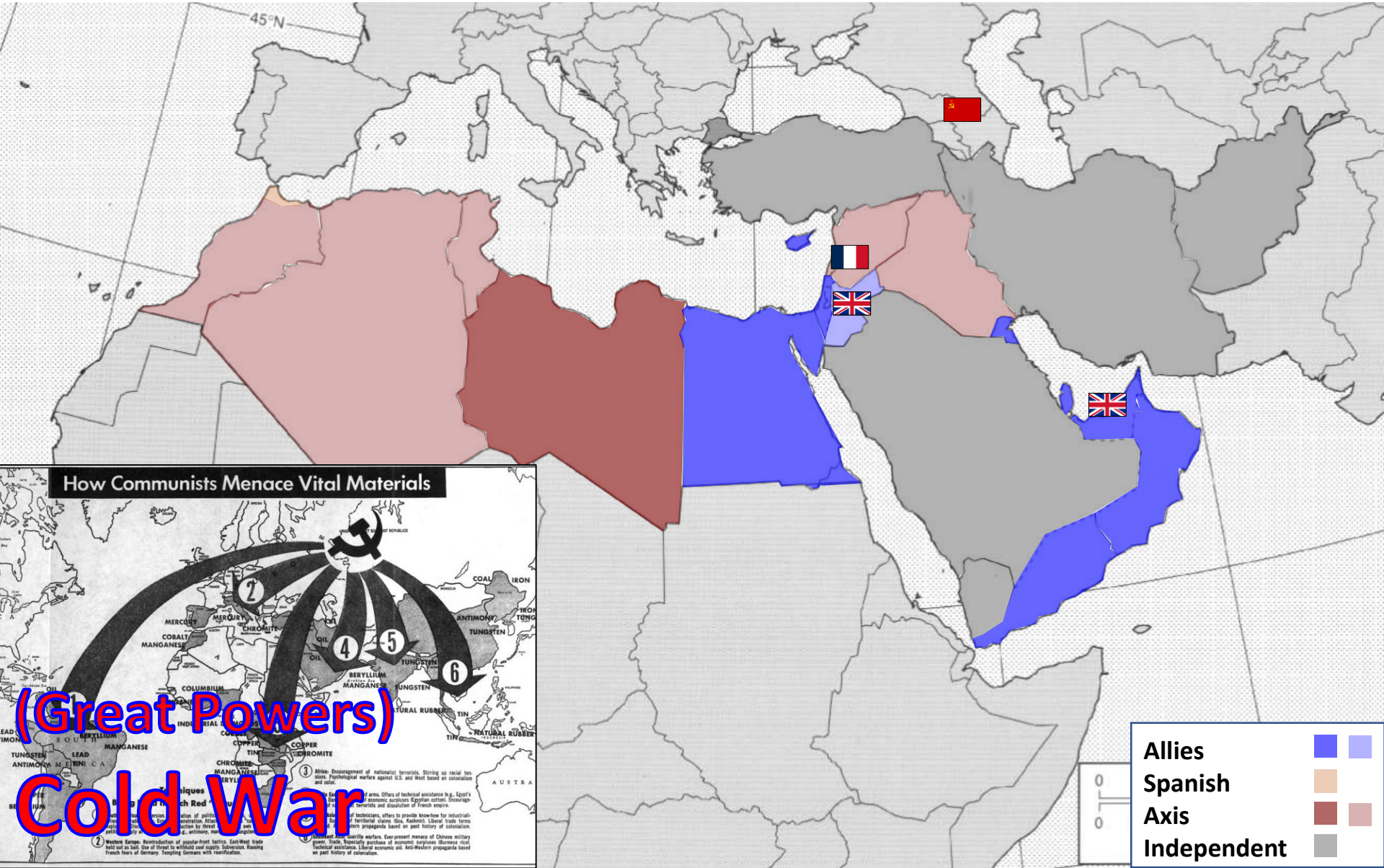
**(Great Powers)**

**Cold War**

# Middle East Influence – 1940



# Middle East Influence – 1941

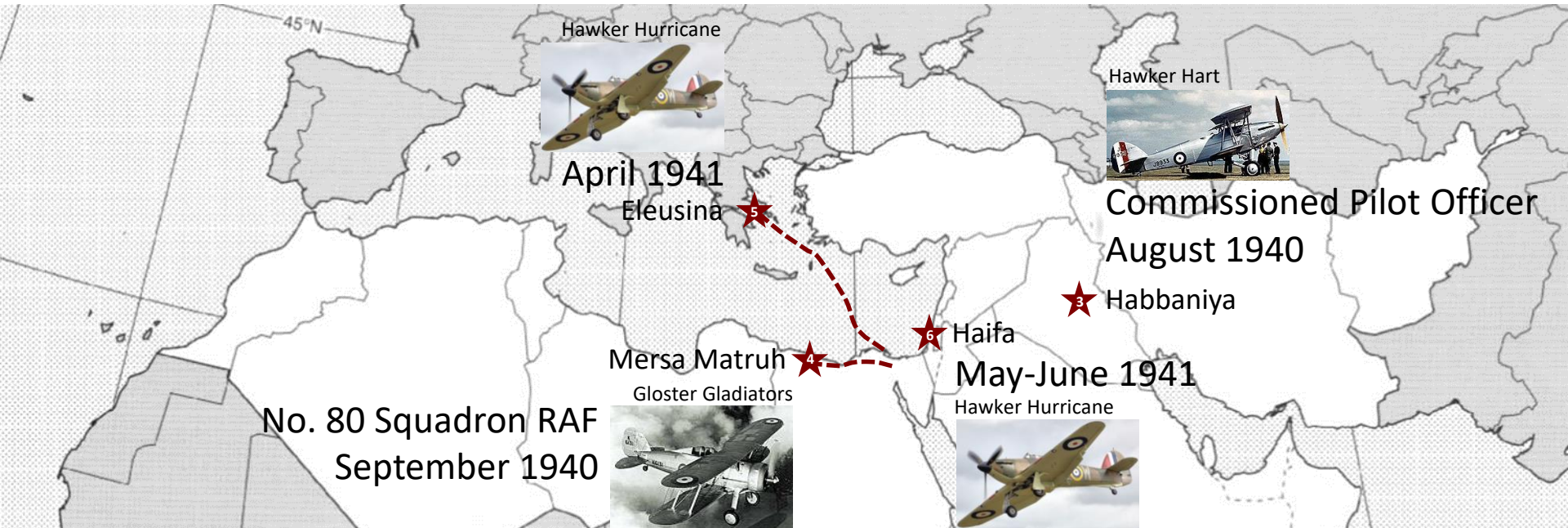


How Communists Menace Vital Materials



(Great Powers)  
Cold War

# Roald Dahl



# Arab Legion Activity

Campaign against Iraqi revolt  
Campaign against German intervention  
in Syria  
Expansion of the  
Arab Legion





# Preview of North Africa and Lend-Lease



<http://www.estarte.me/world-war-2-in-europe-and-north-africa-map.html/world-war-2-in-europe-and-north-africa-map-of-wwii-major-operations>



- Great Britain
- Egypt
- Saudi Arabia
- Iran

# Conclusion

- Transformation of global economy to oil
- Reshaped Western view of a Jewish state
- Non-state actors are THE actors in Palestine
- WWII ends the Great Power struggle in Europe  
– that struggle moves to the Middle East

## Major Themes

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- Challenge and Response

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# Contact Information

**Brian L. Steed**

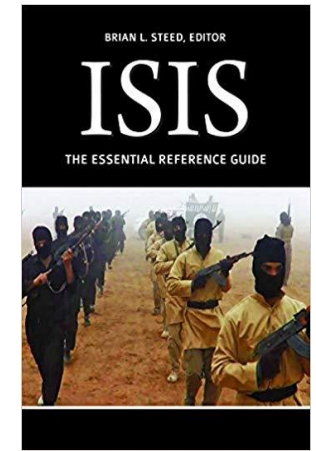
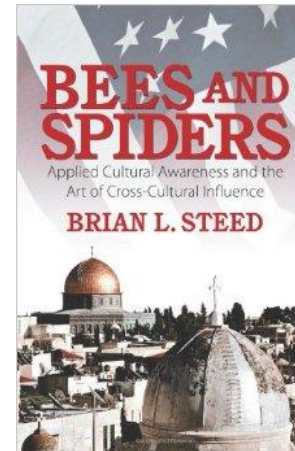
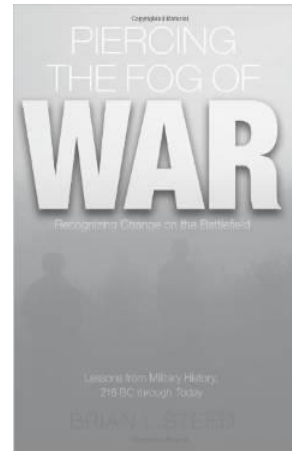
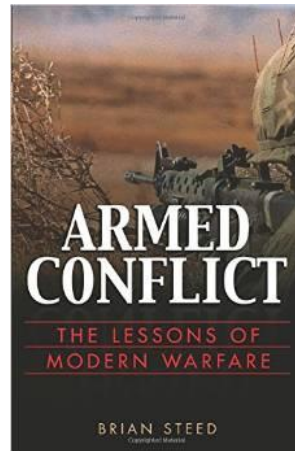
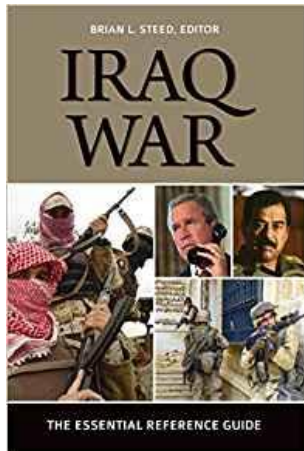
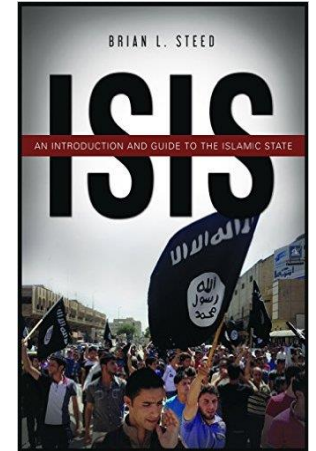
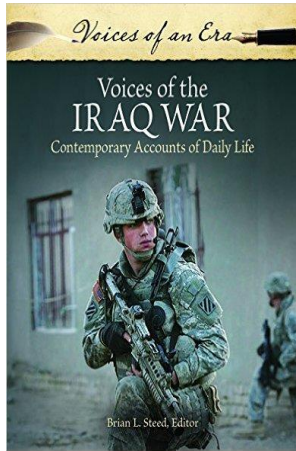
[www.narrativespace.net](http://www.narrativespace.net)

[www.narrative-strategies.com](http://www.narrative-strategies.com)

[brian.l.steed.civ@mail.mil](mailto:brian.l.steed.civ@mail.mil)

[narrativespace.net@gmail.com](mailto:narrativespace.net@gmail.com)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/brian-l-steed/>



# Where is the Middle East?

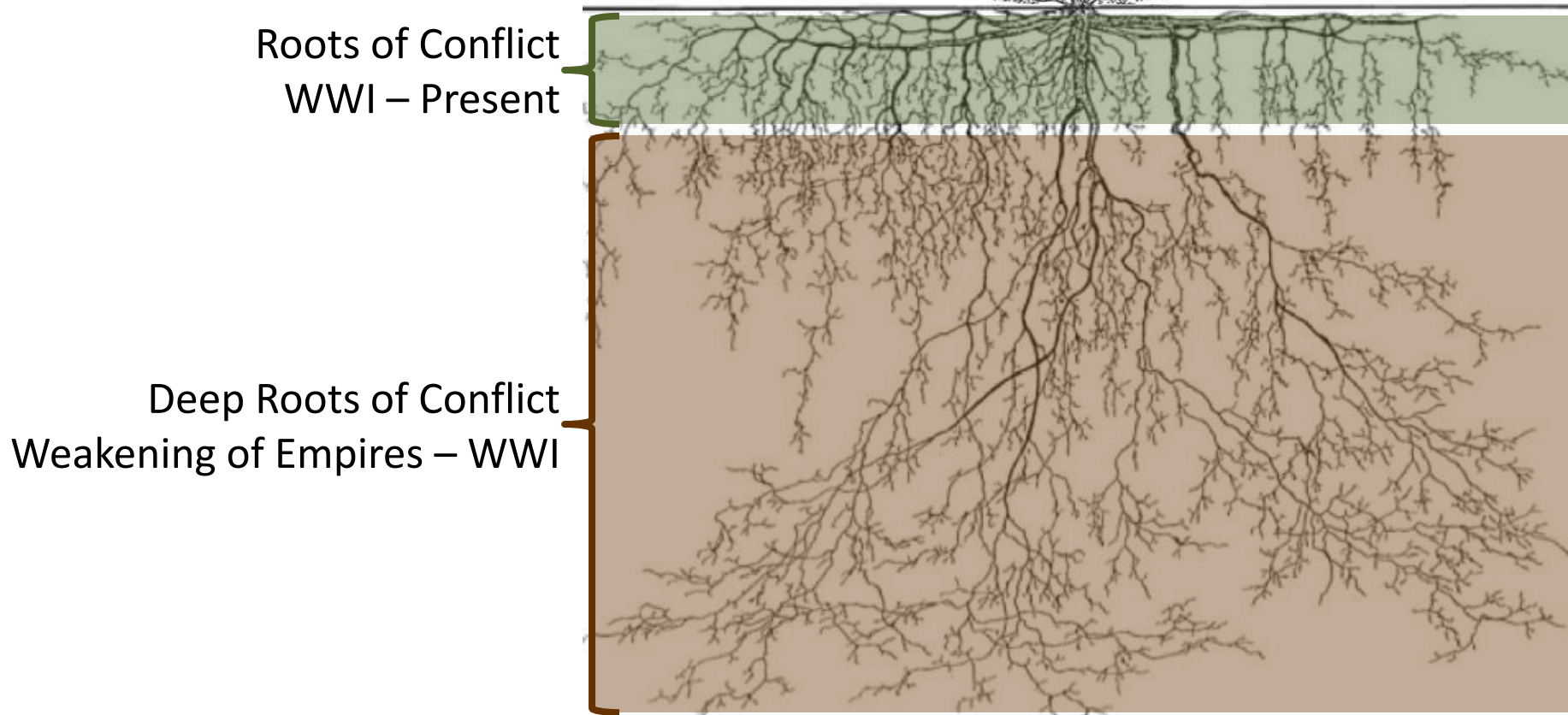


Who gave us the term Middle East?

# What are the Roots of Conflict in the Middle East?

How it really is.

Conflict



# Cairo Conference

(12 March 1921) Transjordan

... establishing a Jewish National Home in Palestine west of the Jordan and a separate Arab entity in Palestine east of the Jordan. Abdullah, if installed in authority in Transjordan, could preside over the creation of such an Arab entity.

Winston Churchill  
H.M.G. Secretary of State for the Colonies  
February 1921

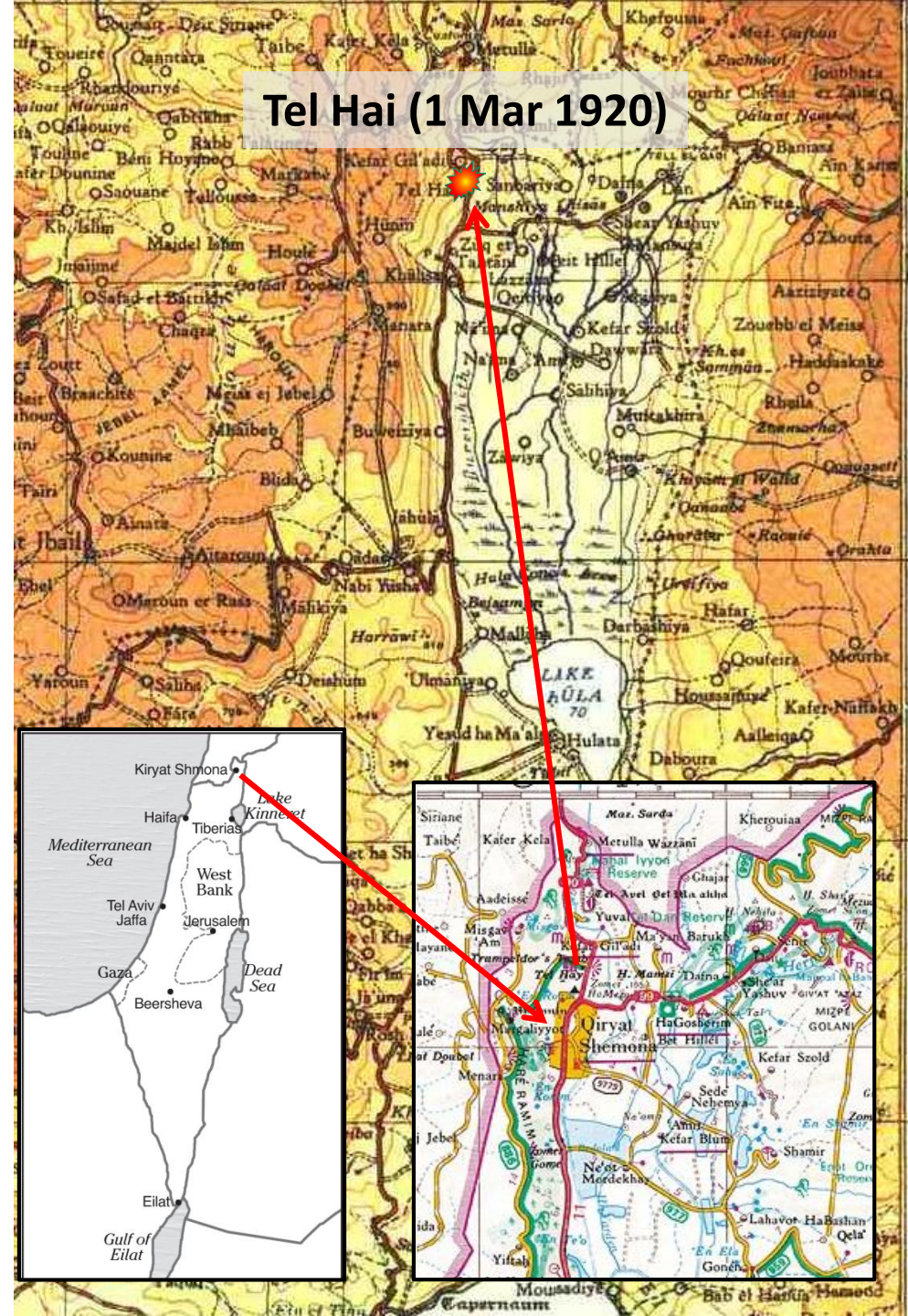


# Battle of Tel Hai

“Birth of the Fighting Jew”

- Associated with the Franco-Syrian War
- Tel Hai was in the French Mandate
- A Shiite Arab militia attacked the Jewish settlement
- Eight Jews and five Arabs were killed
- Joseph Trumpeldor, former Russian officer and decorated 1905 war hero died of wounds

“The Alamo of the Jews in Palestine”





# Hussein-McMahon Correspondence

(1915 – 1916) (24 October 1915)

The districts of Mersin and Alexandretta, and portions of Syria lying to the west of the districts of Damascus, Homs, Hama and Aleppo, cannot be said to be purely Arab, and must on that account be excepted from the proposed delimitation. Subject to that modification, and without prejudice to the treaties concluded between us and certain Arab Chiefs, we accept that delimitation. As for the regions lying within the proposed frontiers, in which Great Britain is free to act without detriment to interests of her ally France, I am authorized to give you the following pledges on behalf of the Government of Great Britain, and to reply as follows to you note: *That subject to the modifications stated above, Great Britain is prepared to recognize and uphold the independence of the Arabs in all the regions lying within the frontiers proposed by the Sharif of Mecca.*



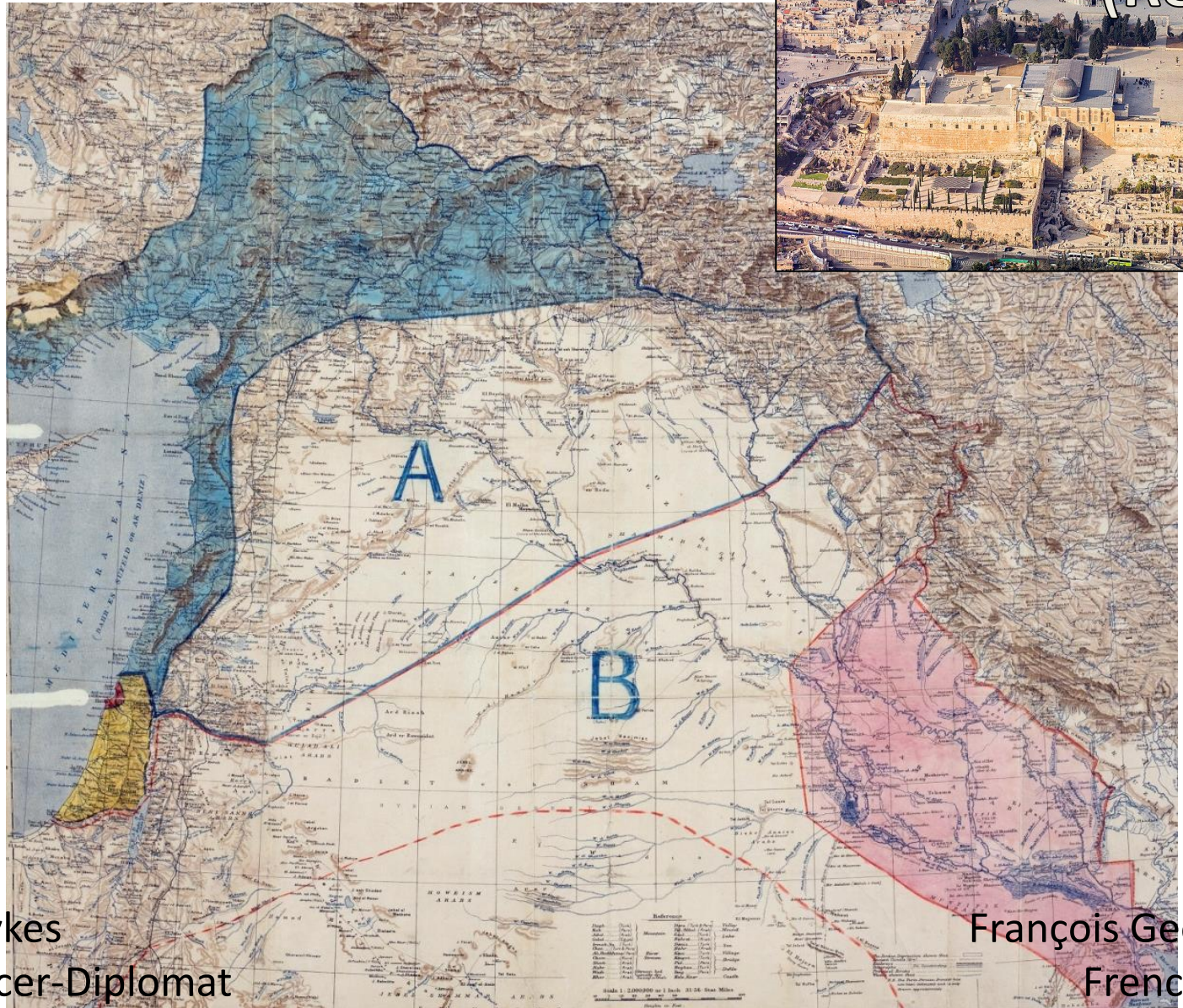
Henry McMahon  
British High Commissioner for Egypt

Hussein ibn Ali  
Sharif of Hijaz

# Sykes-Picot Agreement (1916)



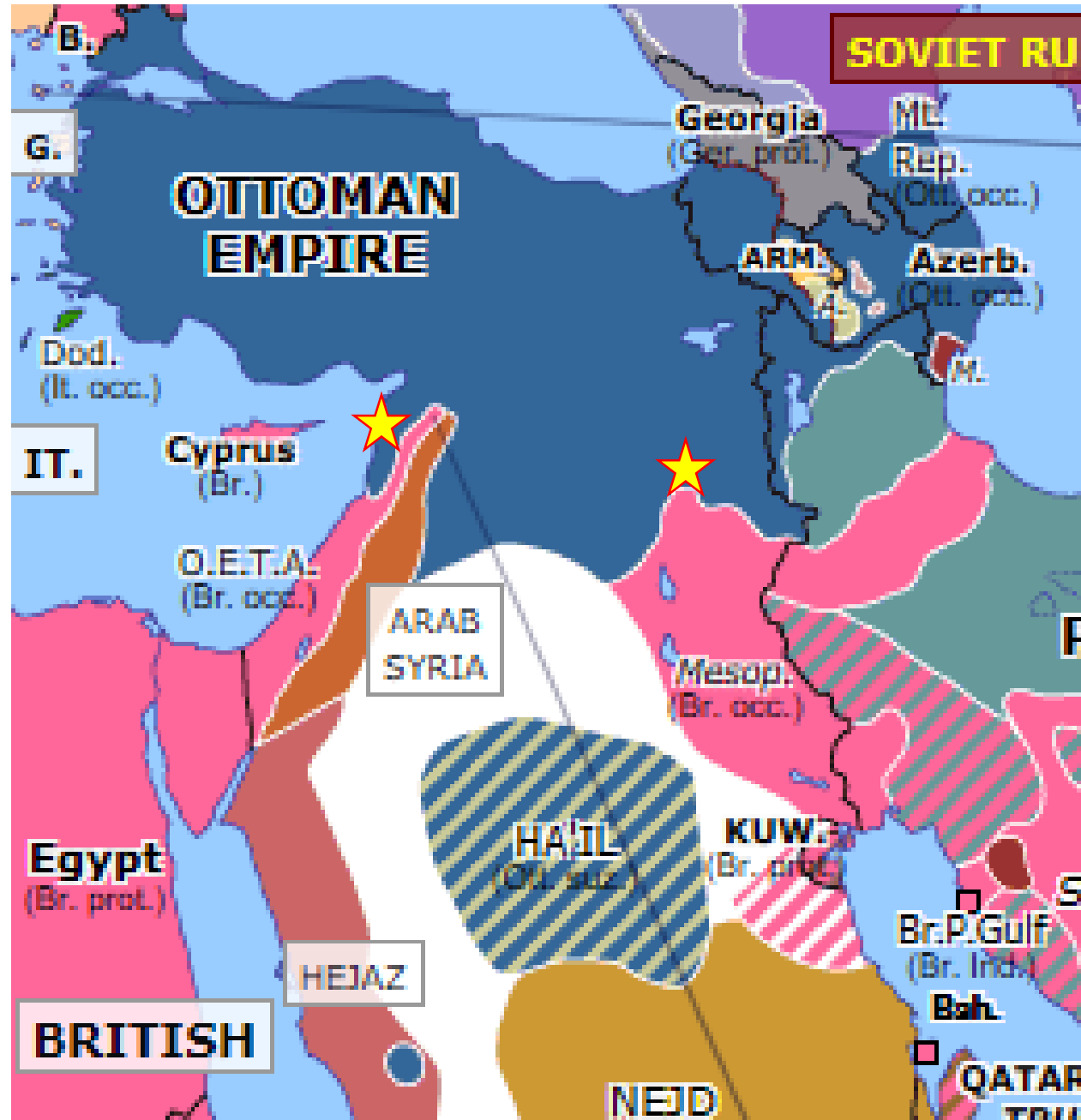
Zionism  
(Religion)



Sir Mark Sykes  
British Officer-Diplomat

François Georges-Picot  
French Diplomat

# Armistice of Mudros



# National Pact

## Misak-ı Millî

1. The future of the **territories inhabited by an Arab majority** at the **time of the signing of the Armistice of Mudros** will be determined by a referendum. On the other hand, the territories which were not occupied at that time and inhabited by a Turkish majority are the homeland of the Turkish nation.
2. The status of Kars, Ardahan and Batum [**Eastern Turkey-Armenia**] may be determined by a referendum.
3. The status of Western Thrace will be determined by the votes of its inhabitants.
4. The security of Istanbul and Marmara should be provided for. Transport and free-trade on the Straits of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles will be determined by Turkey and other concerned countries.
5. The rights of minorities will be issued on condition that the rights of the Muslim minorities in neighboring countries are protected.
6. In order to develop in every field, the country should be independent and free; all restrictions on political, judicial and financial development will be removed.

# Treaty of Sèvres

10 August 1920



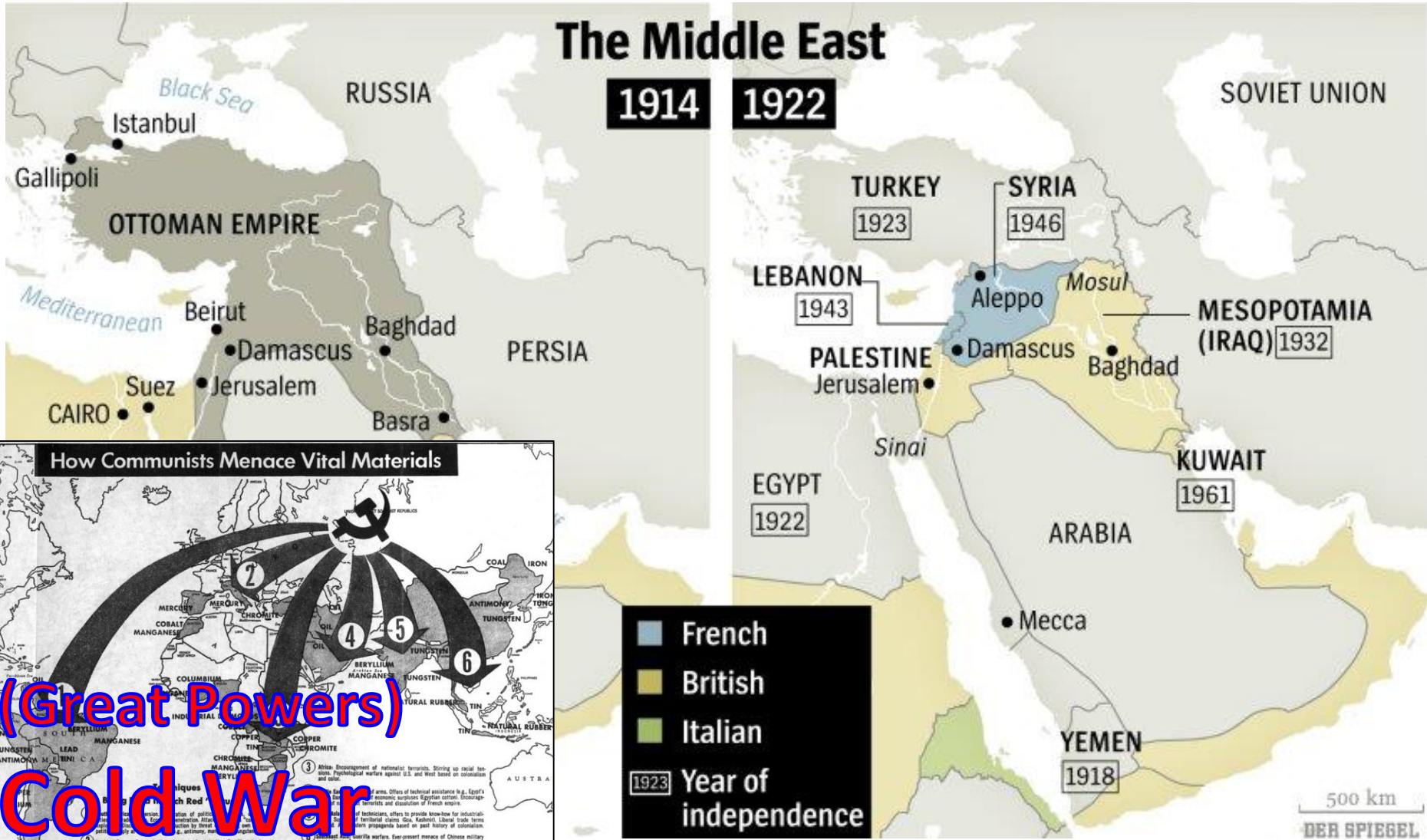
# Treaty of Lausanne

24 July 1923



# After World War I

## The Middle East



# Types of War

## Examples

### Maneuver

Annihilation  
Decision

Napoleonic Wars (III/IV)  
Mexican-American War  
World War II (1939-1941)  
OIF I (until 15 April 2003)

### Firepower

Hans Delbruck's Theory  
Exhaustion (Physical)  
Attrition

Napoleonic Wars (VI/VII)  
US Civil War  
World War I  
World War II (1942-1945)  
Chinese Civil War  
Korean War  
Syrian Civil War

### Narrative

Exhaustion (Will)

Assyrian Empire (circa 700 BC)  
American Revolution  
Vietnam War  
Iranian Revolution  
Afghanistan (1979-1989)  
GWOT / Arab Spring  
**ISIS**  
Ukraine

### Theorists





Law

Abū Ḥanīfa (702-772)

Sufism or Ṭaṣawwuf (702-772)

Battle of Karbala (680)

Husayn ibn Ali (626-680)

Battle of Siffin (657)

Khawarij (???-???)

Ahmad ibn Hanbal (780-855)

The Sack

South Asia

Mughul Empire (1526-1857)

Shah Waliullah (1703-1762)

Syed Ahmed of Rae Bareilvi (1786-1831)

Darul Uloom Deoband (1867-Present)

Abu Hamid Mhmd al-Ghazali (1058-1111)

Abbasid Caliphate (750-1258)

Crusades (1095-1291)

Mongol Empire (1206-1337)

Sack of Baghdad (1258)

Abbasid Caliphate Under Mamluk Rule (1261-1517)

Taqi al-Din Ahmad ibn Tamiyya (1263-1328)

Safavid Empire (1500-1736)

Ottoman Caliphate (1362-1924)

Arabia

Emirate of Diriyah (First Saudi State) (1744-1818)

Emirate of Nejd (Second Saudi State) (1824-1891)

Unification of Saudi Arabia (1902-1932)

Mhmd ibn abd al-Wahhab (1703-1792)

Ikhwan (1802-1929)

World War I (1914-1918)

Dissolution of the Caliphate (1924)

Egypt

Jamal al-Din al-Afghani (1837-1897)

Mhmd Abduh (1849-1905)

Rashid Rida (1865-1935)

Hassan al-Banna (1906-1949)

Muslim Brotherhood (1928-Present)

Six Day War (1967)

Seizure of Grand Mosque (1979)

Sayyid Qutb (1906-1966)

Nation

Oil

Abu al-A'la Maududi (1903-1979)

Iranian Revolution (1979)

Ruhollah Khomeini (1902-1989)

Yusuf al-Qaradawi (1926-Present)

Hassan al-Turabi (1932-2016)

Abd al-Aziz ibn Baz (1910-1999)

Oil Shock (1973-1980)

Juhayman al-Otaybi (1936-1980)

Soviets in Afghanistan (1979-1989)

Abdullah Azzam (1941-1989)

HAMAS (1987-Present)

Omar Abdel-Rahman (1938-2017)

Franchise

Mullah Omar (1960-2013)

Taliban (1994-Present)

Hezbollah (1982-Present)

Abu Qatada al-Filistini (1950-Present)

DESERT STORM (1990-1991)

9/11 (2001)

Osama bin Laden (1957-2011)

Ayman al-Zawahiri (1951-Present)

Mohamed abd al-Salam Farag (1954-1982)

Freelance

Oil Shock (2001-2008)

Abu Musab al-Zarqawi (1966-2006)

IRAQI FREEDOM (2003-2011)

al-Qaeda (1988-Present)

Egyptian Islamic Jihad (1980-2001)

ISIS (1999-Present)

Arab Spring (2010-2011)

Abu Bakr Naji (???-???)

Abu Musab al-Suri (1958-Present)

Abu Mhmd al-Julani (1974-Present)

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (1971-Present)

# Agenda

## WWII Comes to the Middle East

- Major Themes
- Middle East
- Roots of Conflict
- Why is the US in the ME
- Oil
  - History
  - Production
- Zionism (Religion)
  - Transformation of ME
- Terrorism (Non-State Actors)
  - Arab Opposition
  - Battle of Tel Hai
  - Jewish Groups
- Cold War (Great Powers)
  - Difference Between WWs
  - Middle East Influence
  - Changing Influence
  - Fall of France
  - Fighting in Levant
  - Roald Dahl
  - Preview of North Africa and Lend-Lease
- Conclusion