

The US Meets the Middle East in World War II

All opinions and suppositions expressed are entirely those of the presenter and in no way reflect the positions, opinions, or policies of the United States Government or any of its entities.

Review

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

Major Themes

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

Big Questions

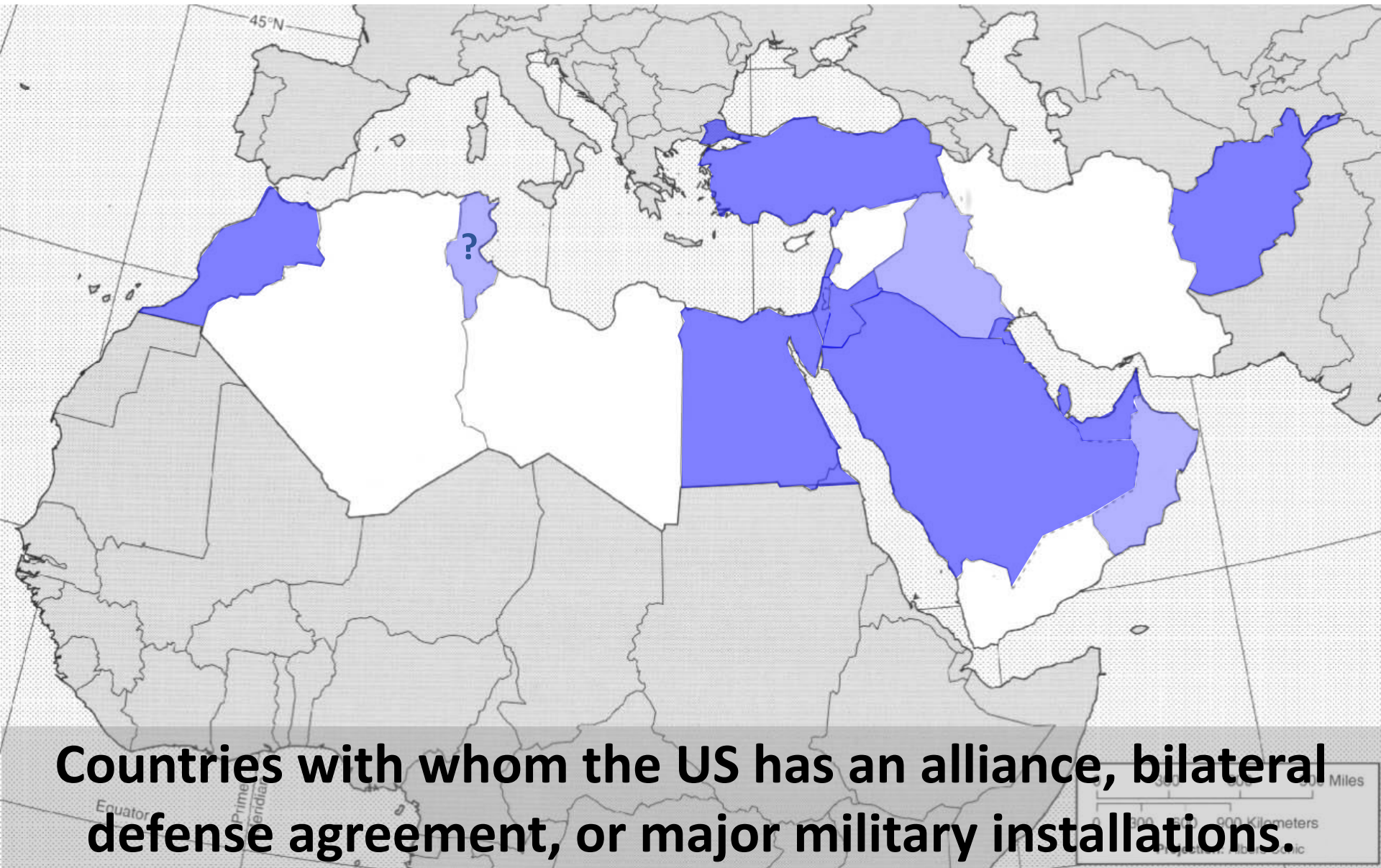
- Why is the US in the Middle East?
- How did the US go from no role in the Middle East in 1939 to the present circumstances?

This Presentation

Major Themes

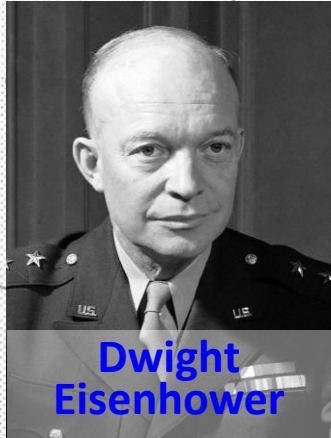
- Mobility and Combined Arms –
Clashes of Military Cultures
- Coalitions come from Compromise

US “Protectorates” – 1939 to 2019



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

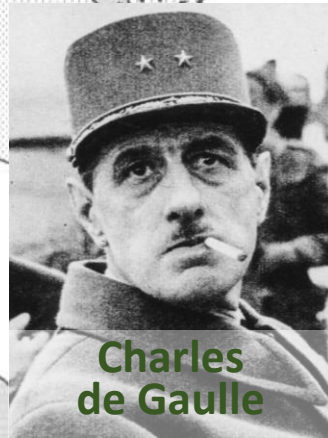
The Most Well Known Generals



**Dwight
Eisenhower**



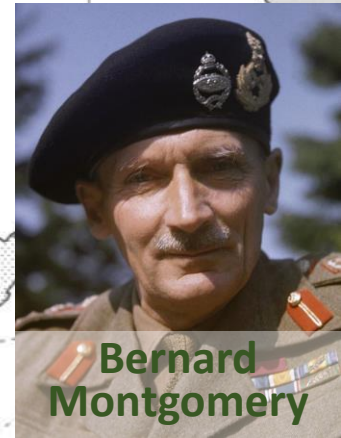
George Patton



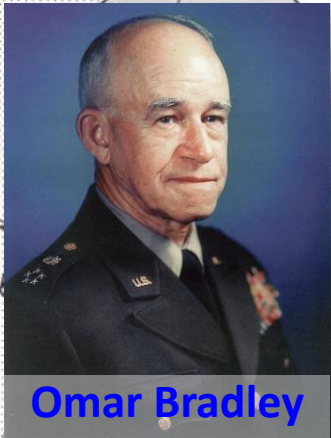
**Charles
de Gaulle**



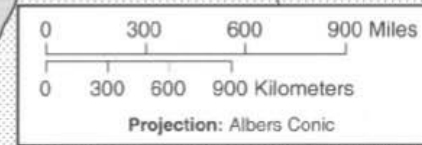
**Erwin
Rommel**



**Bernard
Montgomery**



Omar Bradley



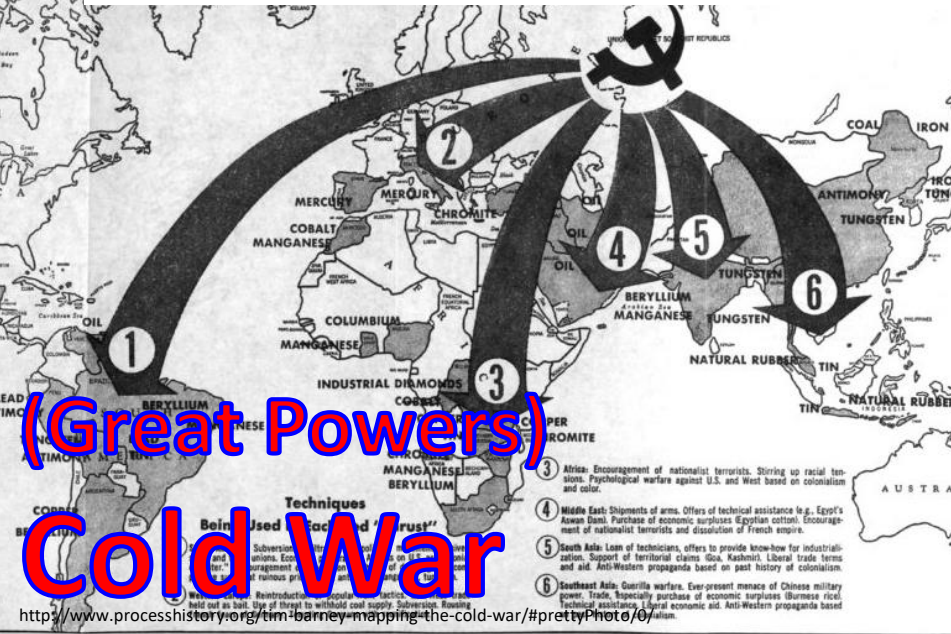
Oil



Zionism (Religion)



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



(Non-State Actors) Terrorism

Mobility and Combined Arms

The Rat Patrol (1966-1968)

Mobility

Thought Question

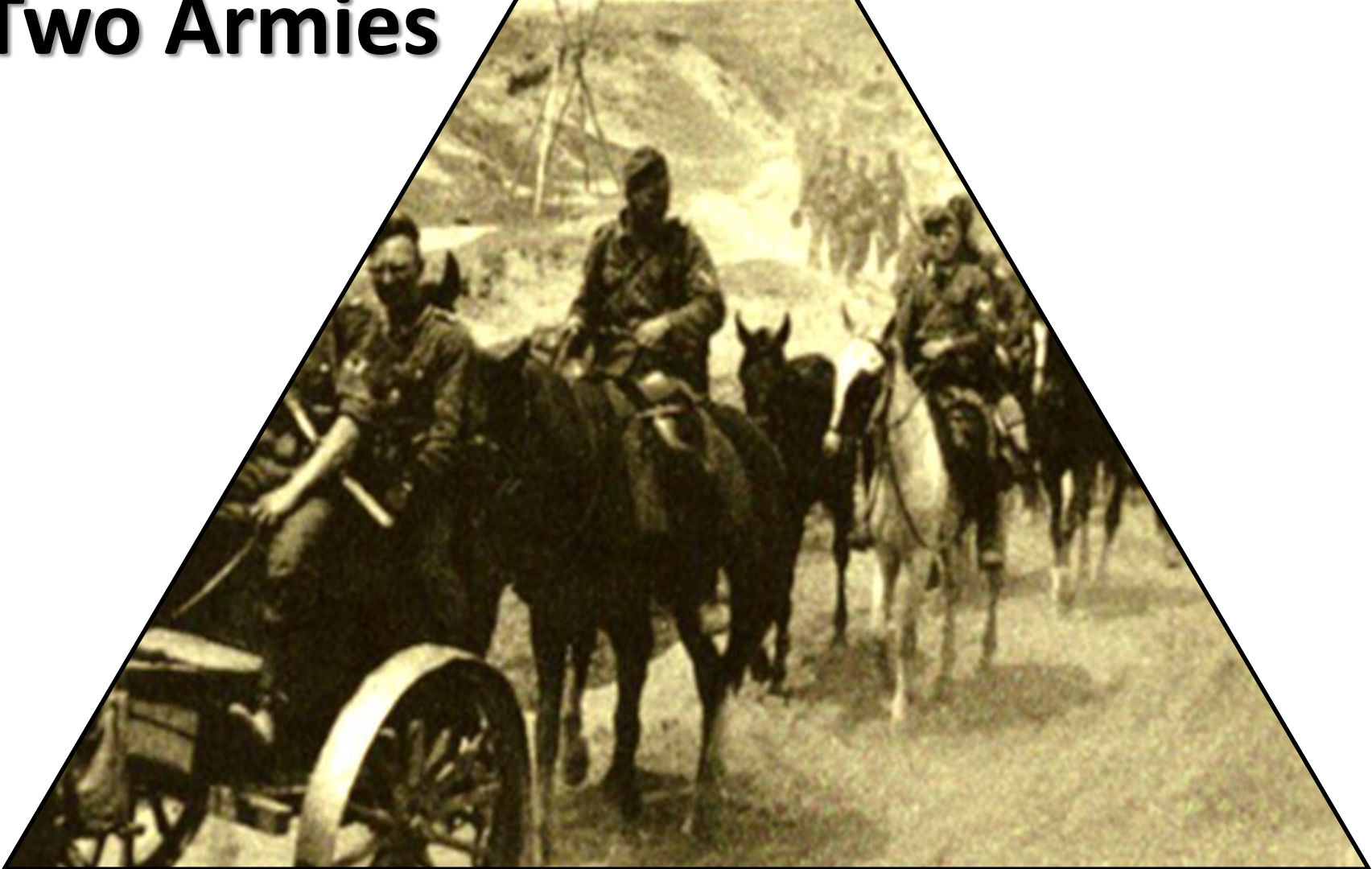
Ratio of Automobile Registration to Population (1940)

- 320:1 Japan
- 95:1 Italy
- 45:1 Germany
- 20:1 France
- 19.5:1 UK
- 8:1 Canada
- 4.3:1 USA

(132,122,446 people/27,372,397 autos)

Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, UK, USA

The Wehrmacht: Two Armies



Tanks

Tanks – Italian

Mk 14/41



Tanks – German

Mark III



Mark II



Mark IV



Mark IV Upgrade



Tanks – British

Crusader MkII



Churchill
Infantry Support

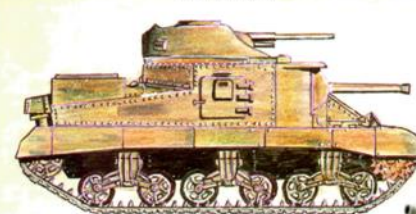


Valentine



Tanks – US

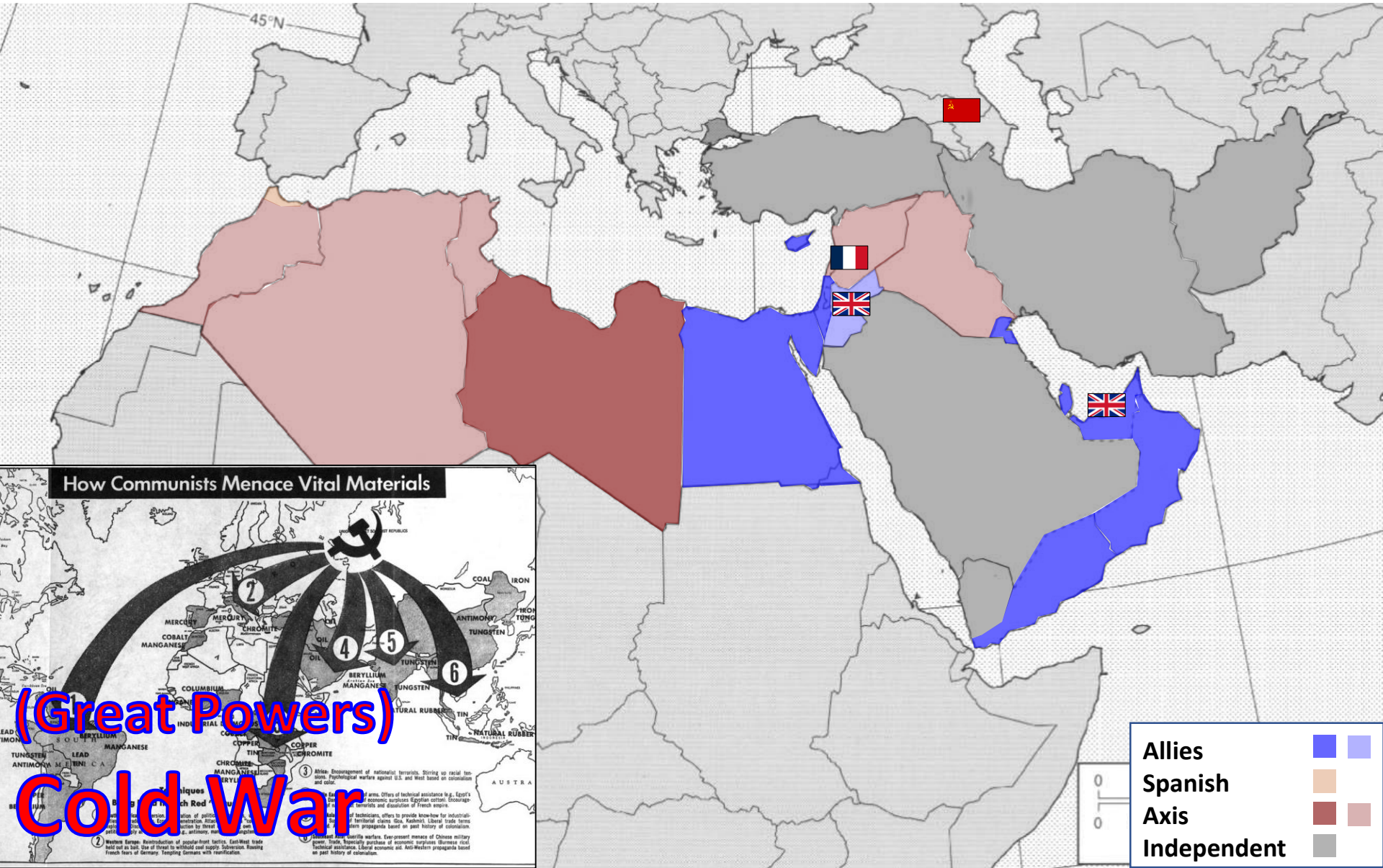
M3 Grant



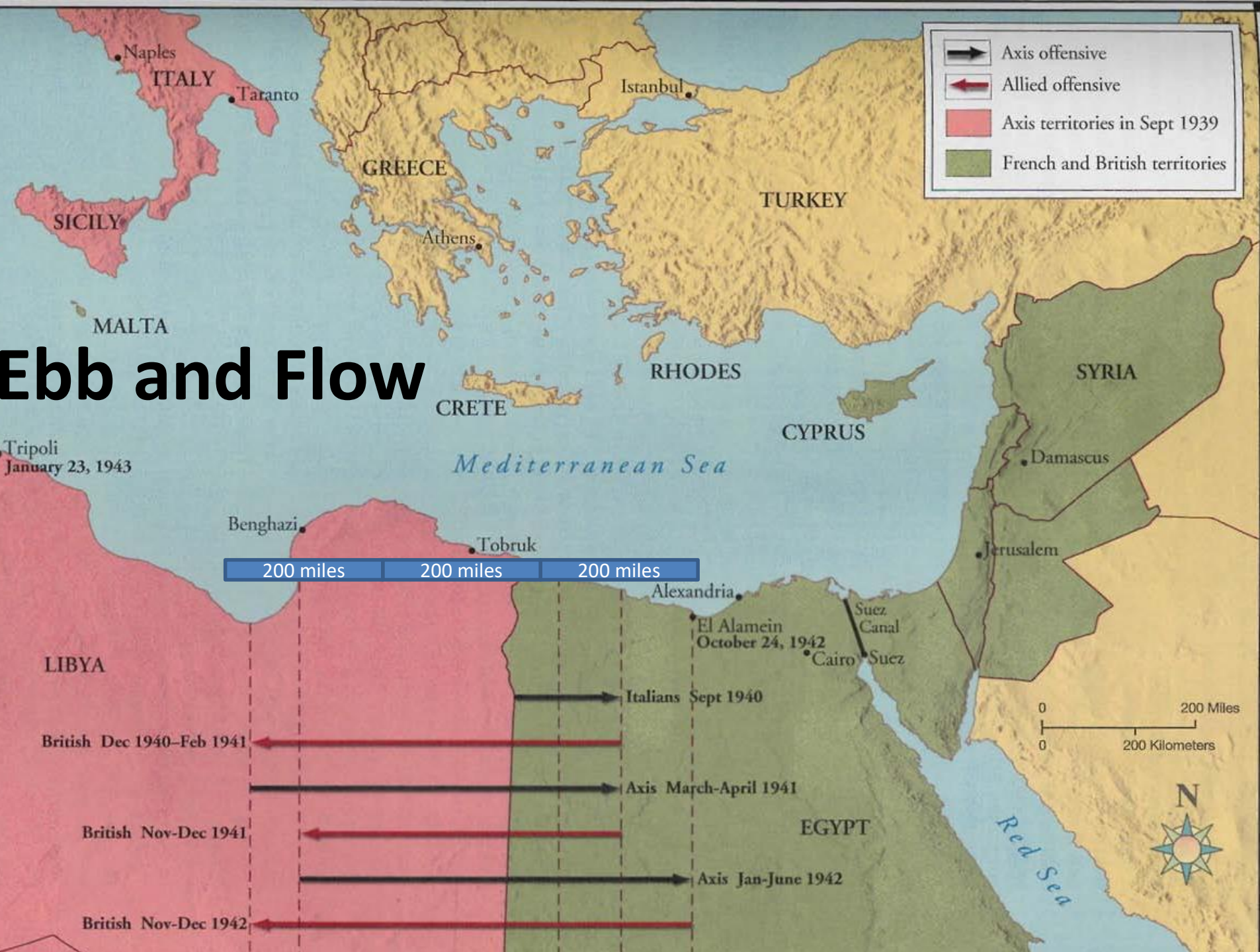
M4 Sherman



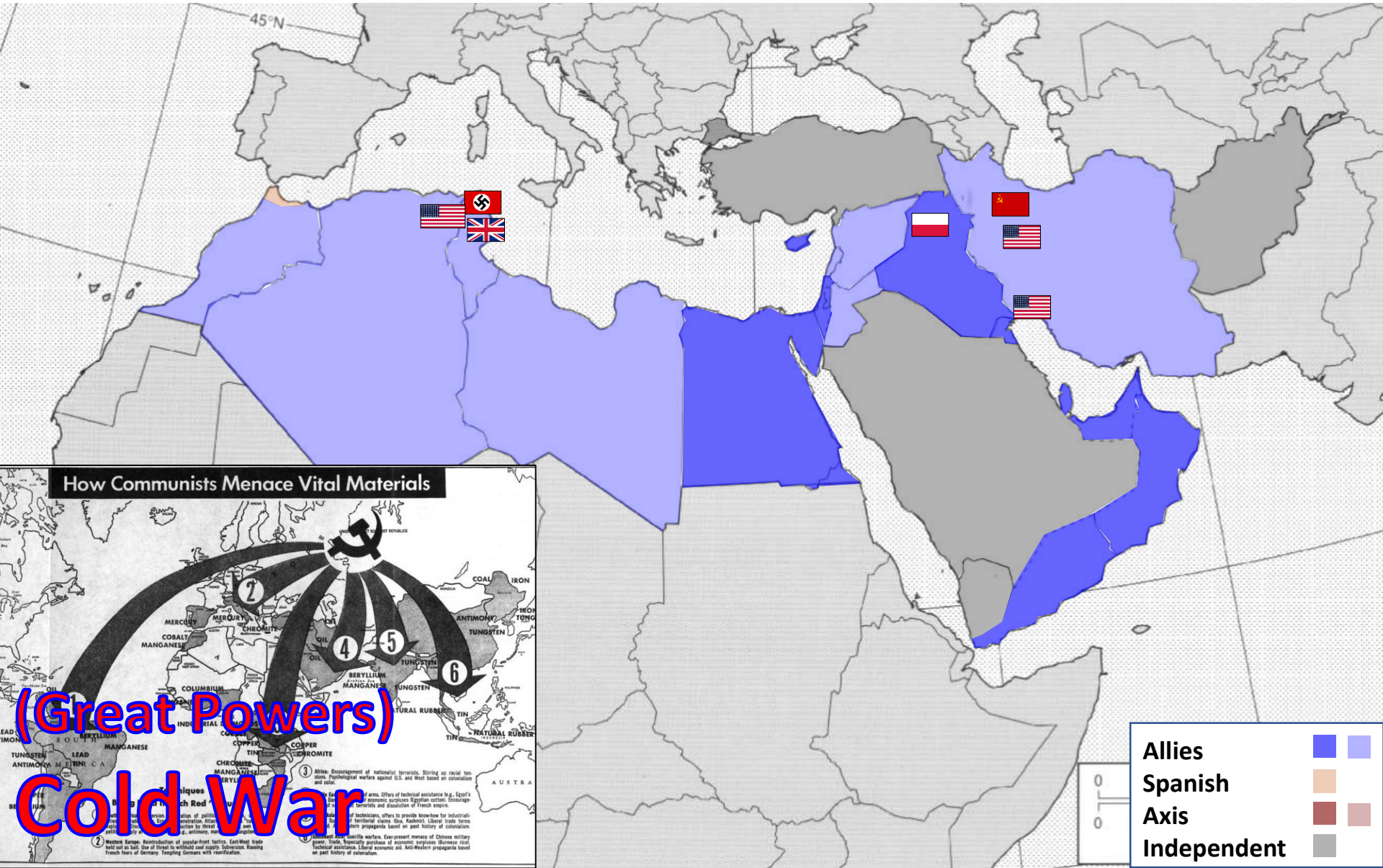
Middle East Influence – 1941



Ebb and Flow



Middle East Influence – 1943



Coalition Compromise

Patton (1970)



Operation Torch

- 8-16 November 1942

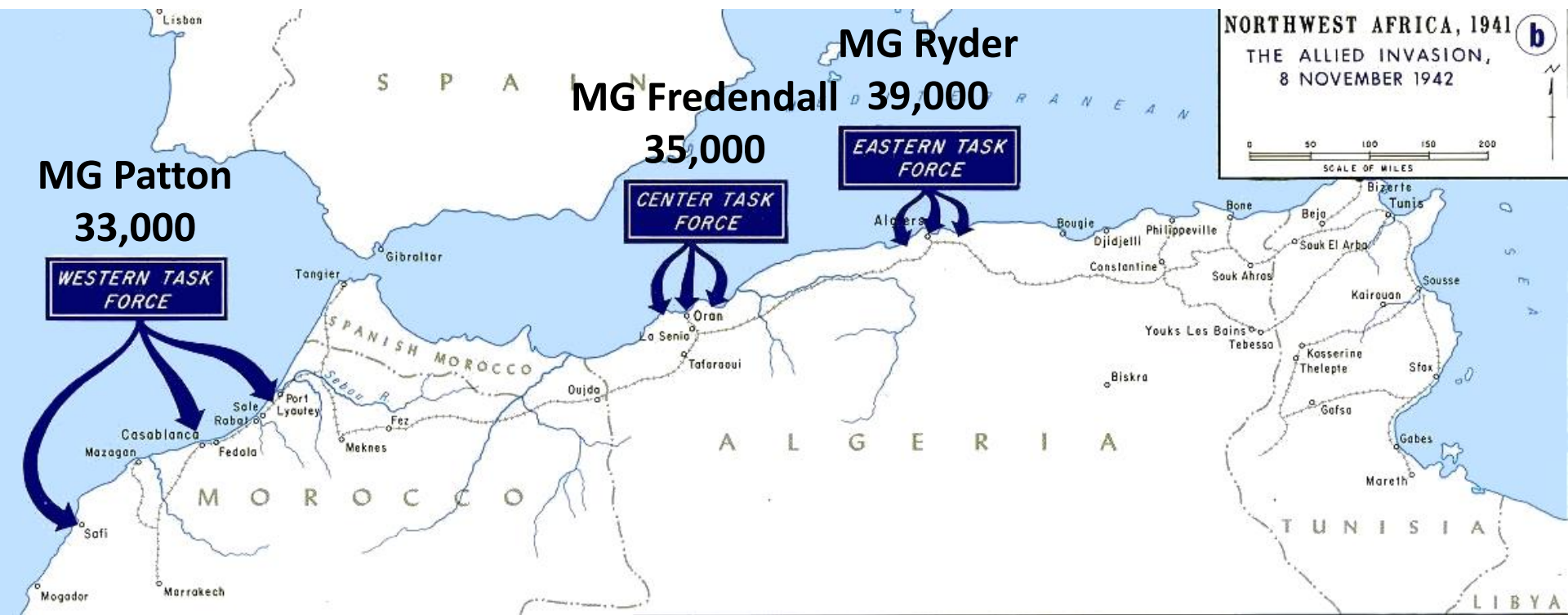
United States: 526 dead

United Kingdom: 574 dead

All Other Allies: 756 total wounded

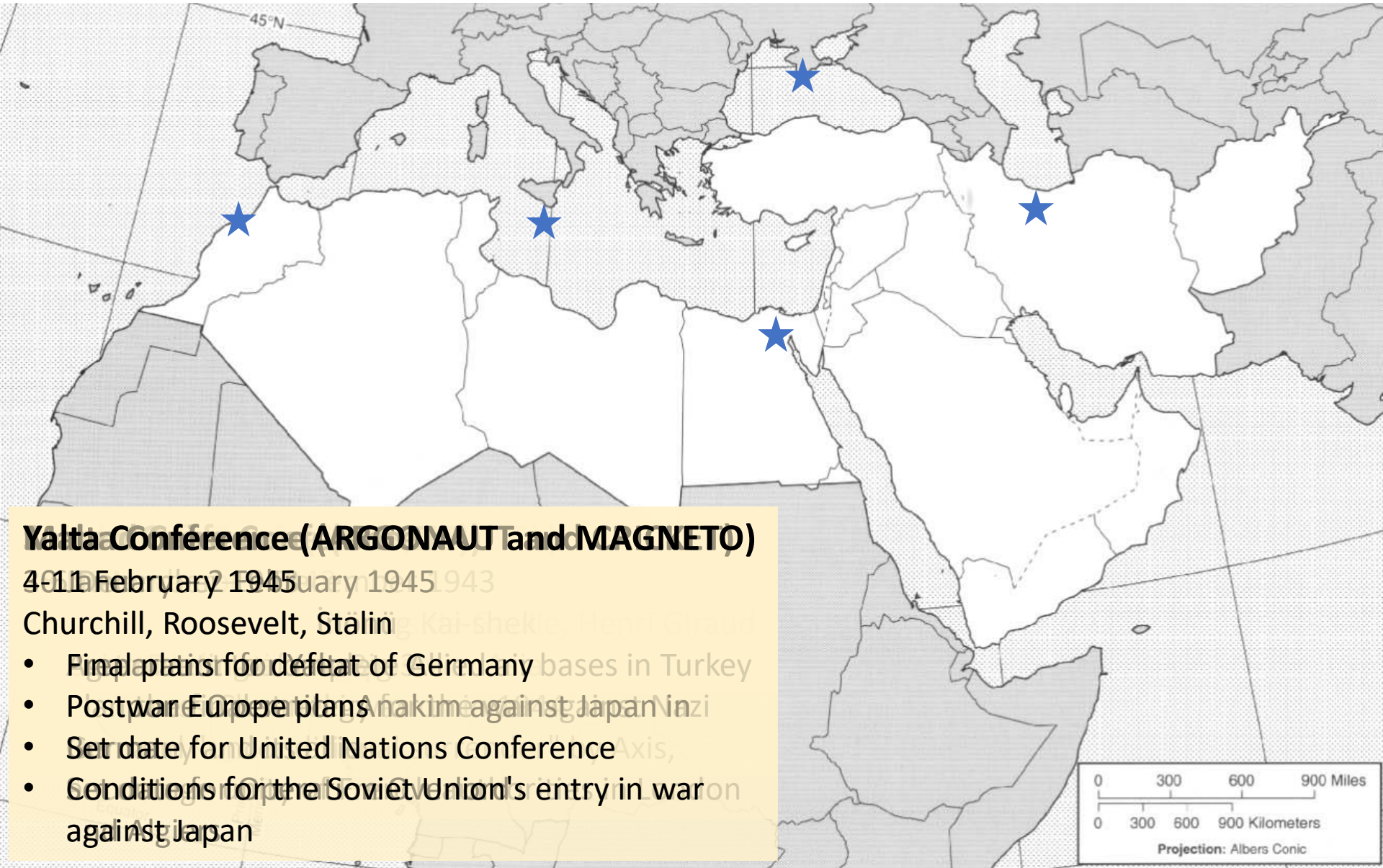
Vichy France: 1,346+ dead

1,997 wounded



Major Conferences in Region

(6 of 15 conferences involving two or more of the “big three”)



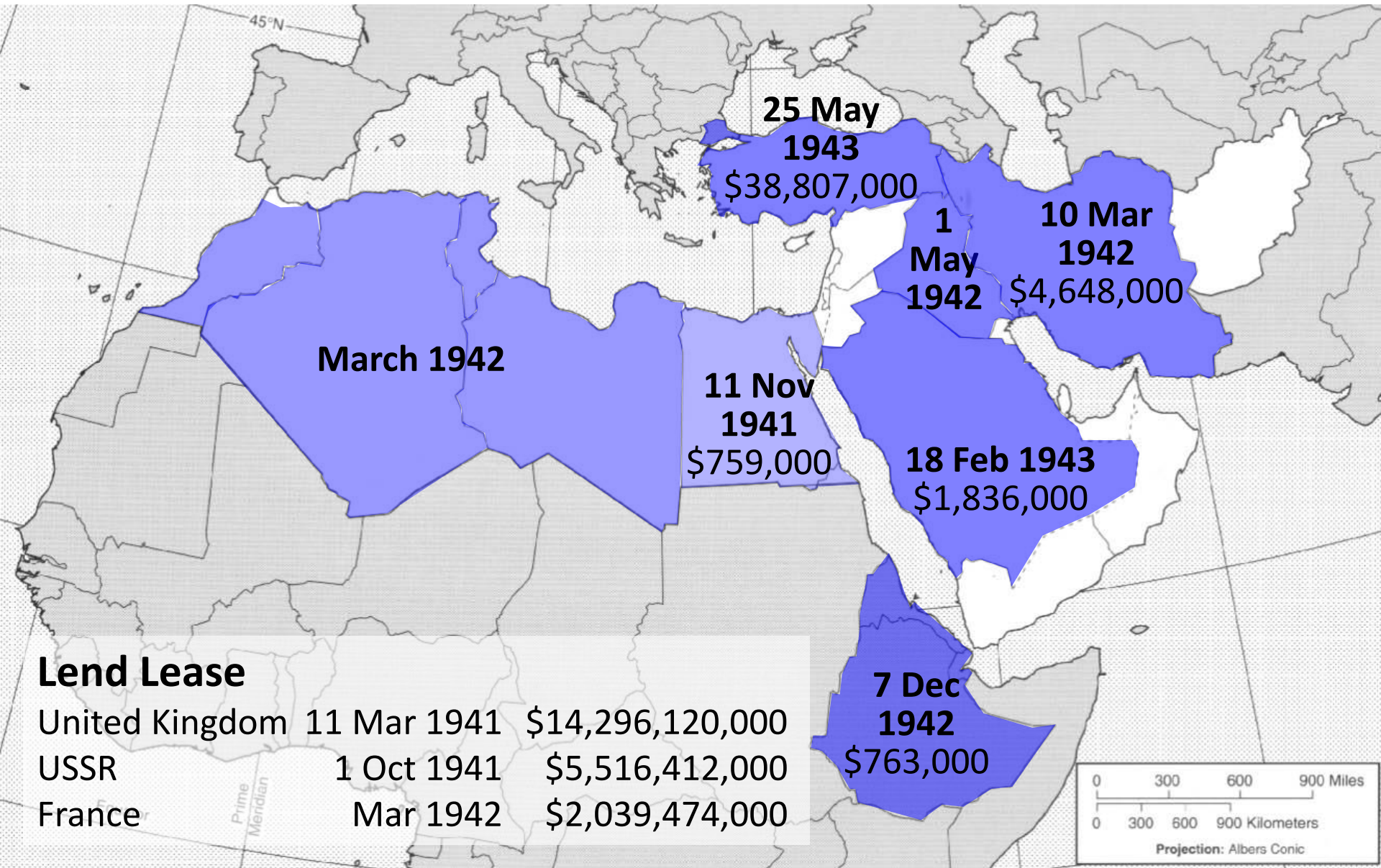
Yalta Conference (ARGONAUT and MAGNET)

4-11 February 1945

Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin

- Final plans for defeat of Germany
- Postwar Europe plans
- Set date for United Nations Conference
- Conditions for the Soviet Union's entry in war against Japan

Lend Lease to Region



Lend-Lease – USSR Perspective

Nikita Khrushchev

I would like to express my candid opinion about **Stalin's views** on whether the Red Army and the Soviet Union could have coped with Nazi Germany and survived the war without aid from the United States and Britain. ... He stated bluntly that **if the United States had not helped us, we would not have won the war**. If we had had to fight Nazi Germany one on one, we could not have stood up against Germany's pressure, and we would have lost the **war**.

(Khrushchev, Nikita (2005). *Memoirs of Nikita Khrushchev: Commissar, 1918–1945, Volume 1*. Sergei Khrushchev. Pennsylvania State Univ Pr. pp. 675–676. [ISBN 978-0271058535](#).)

Joseph Stalin

Today [1963] some say the Allies didn't really help us ... But listen, **one cannot deny that the Americans shipped over to us material without which we could not have equipped our armies held in reserve or been able to continue the war**.

(New York, Pittman Publishing Corporation, 1974), p.94, quoted in Albert L. Weeks, *Russia's Life-Saver: Lend-Lease Aid to the U.S.S.R. in World War II* (New York: Lexington Books, 2010), 1)

Iranian Politics

Aug 1941

USSR and UK invade Iran

Overthrow of the Shah

16 Sep 1941

Shah Mohamed Reza Pahlavi

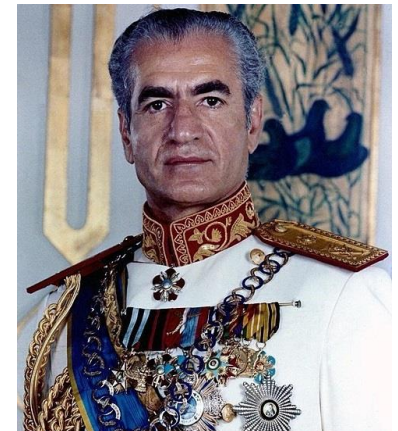
Sep 1943

Declared war on Germany

Signed Declaration by United Nations

28 Nov-1 Dec 1943

Hosted Tehran Conference



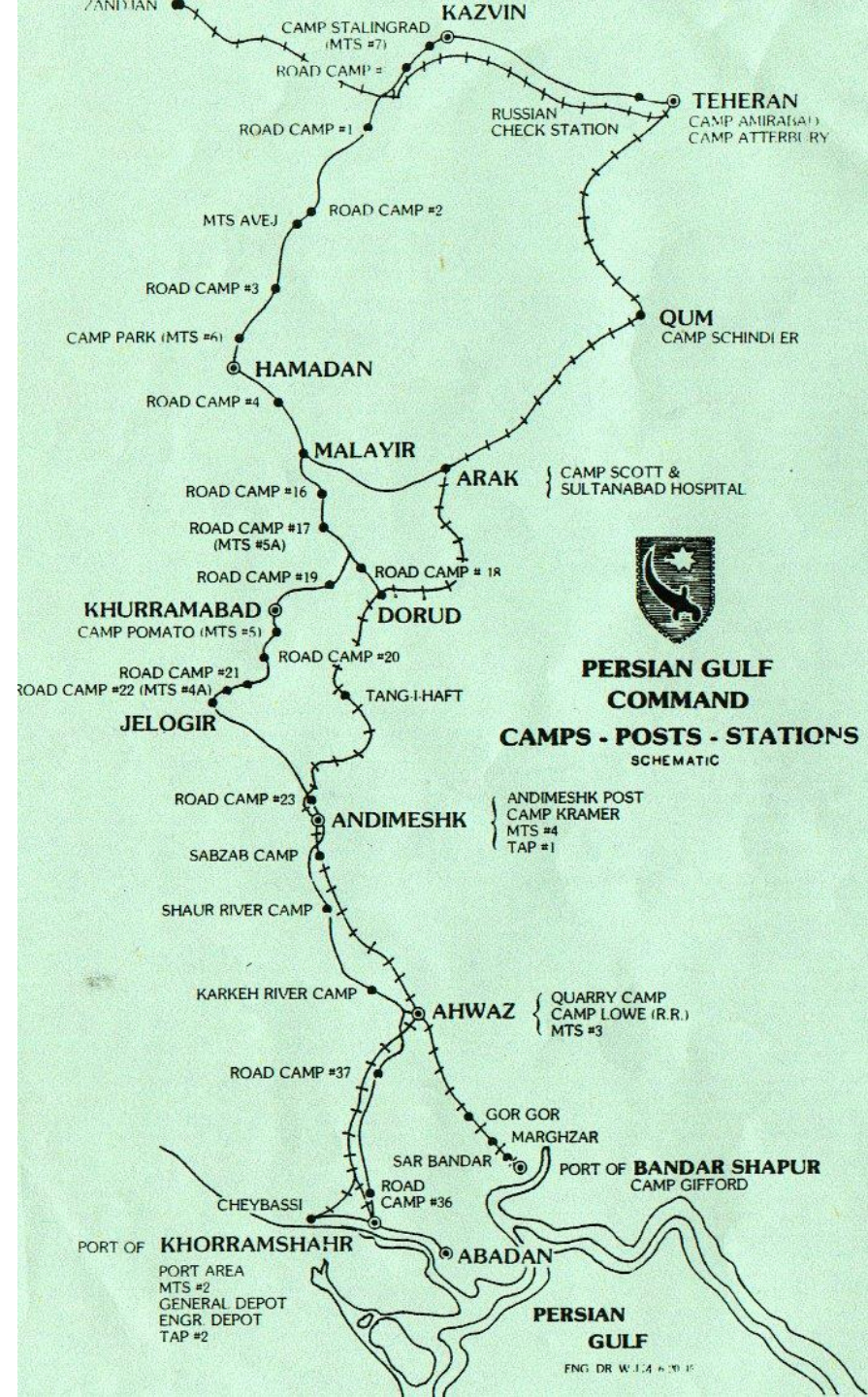
Persian Corridor

“As an American officer put the case during the first months of confusion, one nation [USA] was attempting to deliver supplies to a second nation [USSR] with the occasional interference of a third [UK] through the country of a fourth [Iran] in which none of the first three [USA, USSR, UK], save for the war, had any business to be.”



Persian Corridor

“It has been estimated that American deliveries through the Persian Corridor to the USSR were sufficient, by U.S. Army standards, to maintain sixty combat divisions in the line.”



T. H. Vail Motter. *United States Army in World War II: The Middle East Theater: The Persian Corridor and Aid to Russia*. Washington DC: Center of Military History, United States Army, 2000, 6.

Persian Corridor

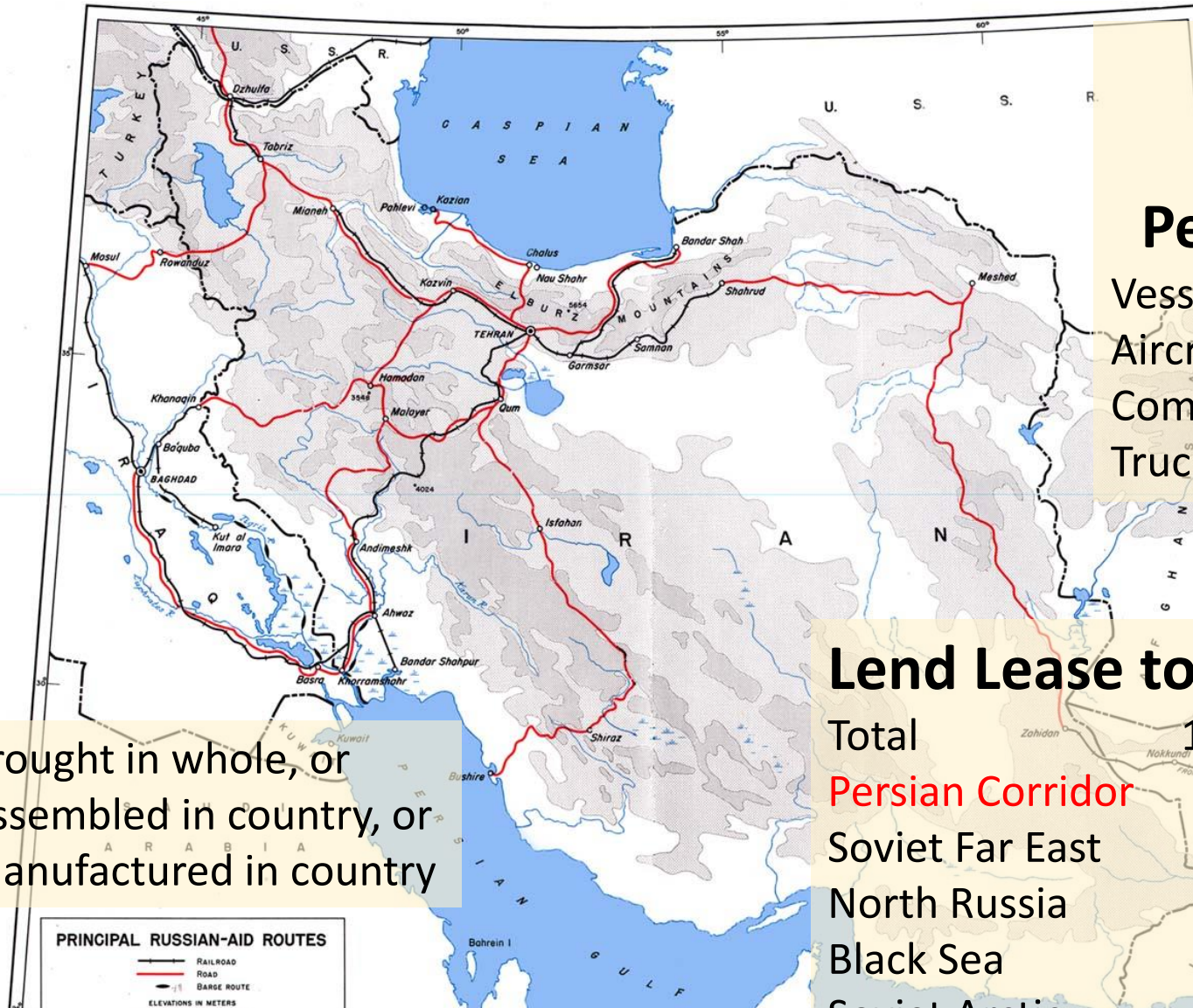
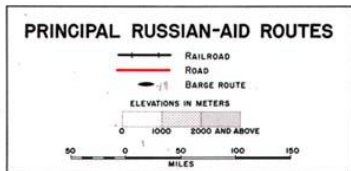
Stuff to USSR through the Persian Corridor

Vessels	646
Aircraft	39,645
Combat Vehicles	70,407
Trucks	873,846

Lend Lease to USSR (long tons)

Total	17,499,861	
Persian Corridor	4,159,117	23.8%
Soviet Far East	8,243,397	47.1%
North Russia	3,964,231	22.7%
Black Sea	680,723	3.9%
Soviet Arctic	452,393	2.5%

Brought in whole, or Assembled in country, or Manufactured in country



Oil



Petroleum Related Actions

- Security for Petroleum Production and Refining Facilities
- Pipelines
- Increased Refining Capacity
- Manufacture of jerrycans and oil barrels (May 1941)
- Supply of POL within the Command
- Gasoline for Russia

Oil Pipelines

- Ahwaz-Dizful-Hamadan 320 miles refined products
- Ahwaz-Dizful 100 miles fuel oil
- Abadan-Basra 35 miles refined products and fuel oil
- Baghdad-Khanaqin 110 miles refined products and fuel oil
- Kirkuk-Mosul 100 miles refined products
- Kirkuk-Baiji 66 miles refined products and fuel oil

731 miles total

Comments from George Kennan

Memoirs: 1925-1950

June 23-25, 1944, Baghdad

They [Middle Easterners (particularly Iraqis)] would be glad to use us as a foil for the British, as an escape from the restraints which the British place upon them.

If we give them these things, we can perhaps enjoy a momentary favor on the part of those interested in receiving them. But to the extent that we give them, **we weaken British influence**, and **we acquire** – whether we wish it or not – **responsibility for the actions of the native politicians**. ...

Are we willing to bear this responsibility? I know – and every realistic American knows – that **we are not**. **Our government is technically incapable of conceiving and promulgating a long-term consistent policy toward areas remote from its own territory**. Our actions in the field of foreign affairs are the convulsive reactions of politicians to an internal political life dominated by vocal minorities.

... the inevitable limitations on the efficacy of our type of democracy in the field of foreign affairs – then they [the American people] will restrain their excitement at the silent, expectant possibilities in the Middle Eastern deserts, and will return, like disappointed but dutiful children, to the sad deficiencies and problems of their native land.

Zionism (Religion)



Zionism

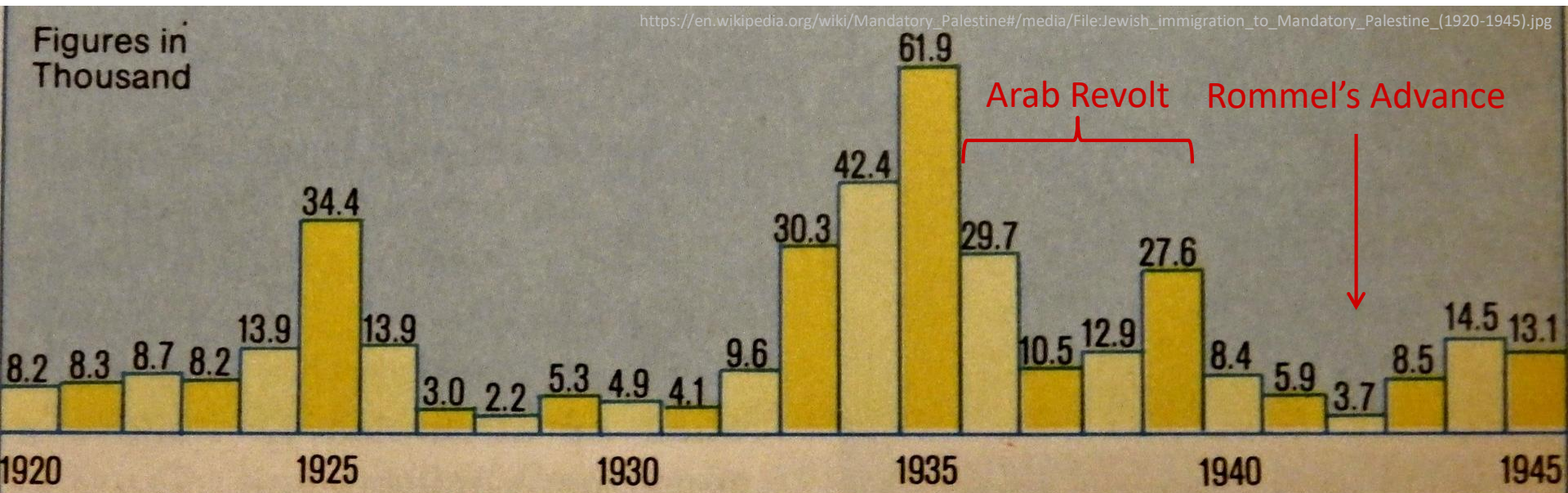


World Zionist Organization	1897	Theodor Herzl
Jewish Agency	1908/29	Chaim Weizmann
	1935	David Ben-Gurion

Aliyah

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

Jewish immigration to Mandatory Palestine





... 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

Jewish Brigade

- Volunteers in Royal Army Service Corps and Pioneer Corps (Companies 601 to 609), and other auxiliary units
- Palestine Regiment formed August 1942
- Jewish Brigade formed September 1944
- Former members include 2 IDF chiefs of staff, one IAF chief of staff, developer of the Merkava Tank, and the co-founder of Norwegian and founder of Carnival cruise lines.

Jewish Brigade Operations

- Served under 8th Army in Italy
- Spring Offensive 1945
 - Initiated two attacks
 - Senio River sector battle
 - 54 days of operations
 - 3 Mar – 25 Apr 1945
 - 30 killed, 70 wounded
 - Total casualties: 83 died, 200 wounded
- Bricha (aka Bericha Movement)

Joseph Wald, a Jewish Brigade soldier, carries an artillery shell. The Hebrew inscription on the shell translates as "A gift to Hitler."



Men of the Jewish Brigade ride on a Churchill tank in North Italy, 14 March 1945



Summary

- Actions are based on immediate needs and not some grand plan
- Cultures and traditions shape performance more than technology
- The war changes the global environment

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

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

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Why Does the Enemy Do What They Do

Contact Information

Brian L. Steed

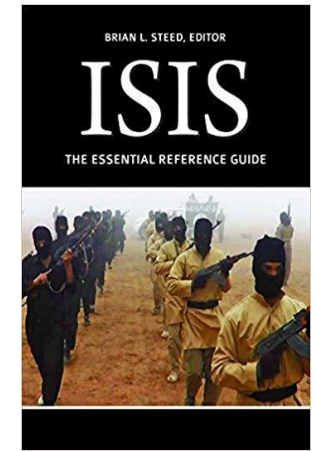
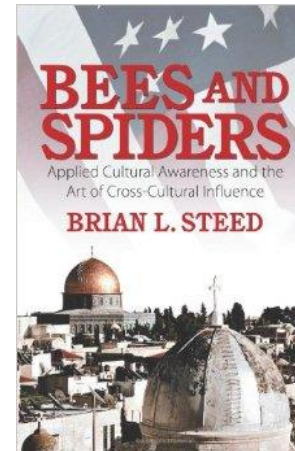
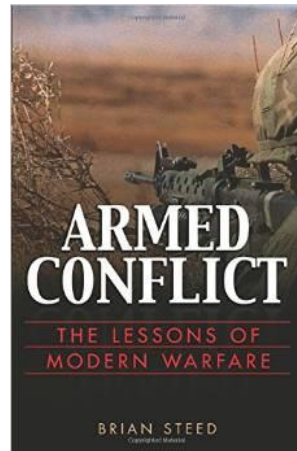
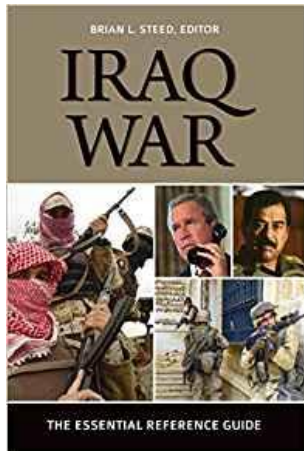
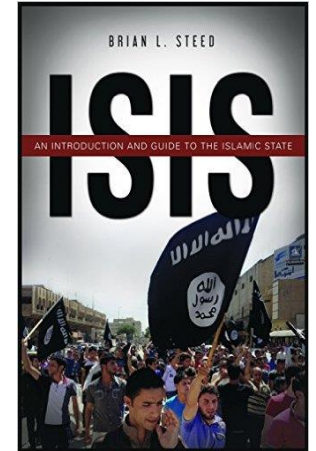
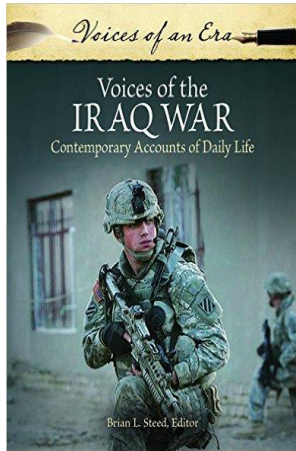
www.narrativespace.net

www.narrative-strategies.com

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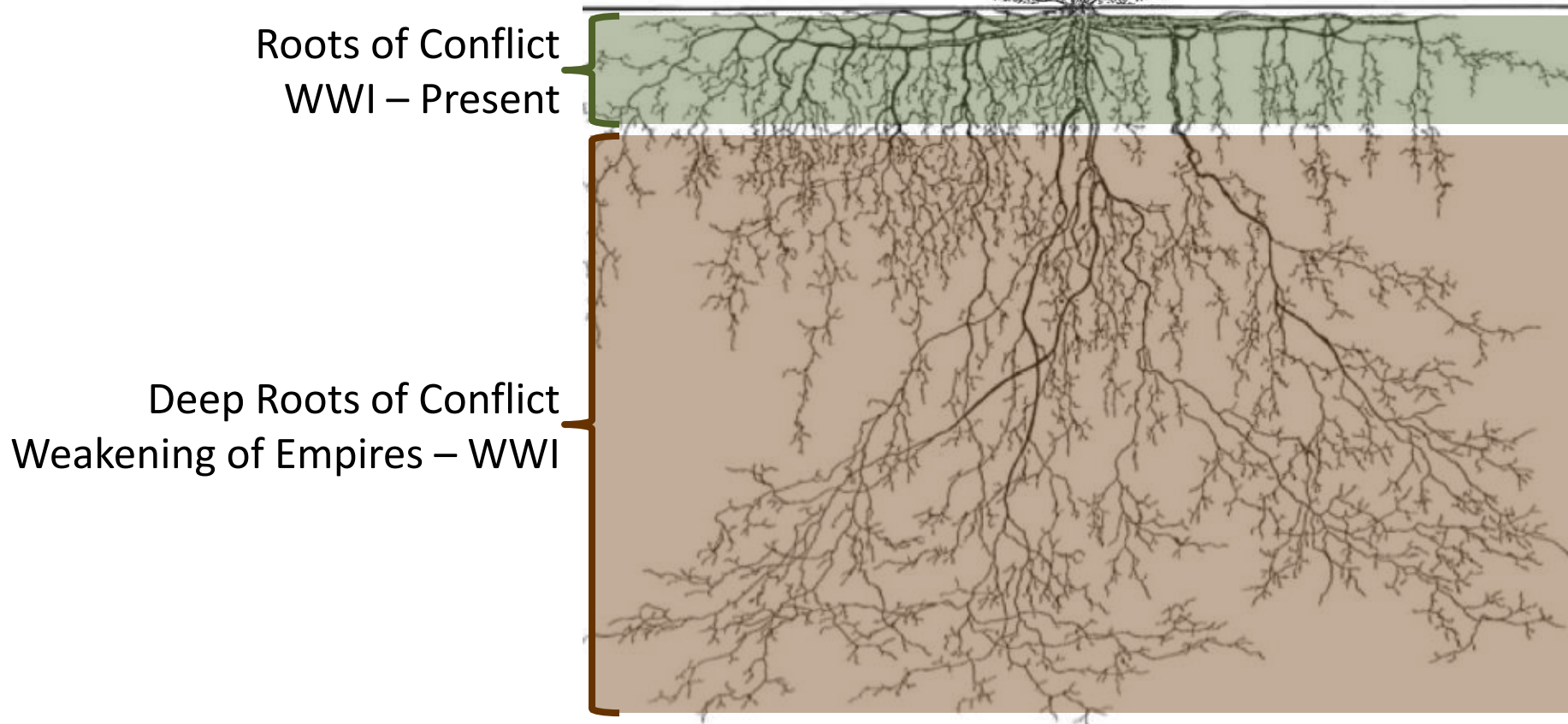
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/brian-l-steed/>



What are the Roots of Conflict in the Middle East?

How it really is.

Conflict



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 Barelvi (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)

Nation

Abd al-Aziz ibn Baz (1910-1999)

Oil Shock (1973-1980)

Six Day War (1967)

Seizure of Grand Mosque (1979)

Juhayman al-Otaybi (1936-1980)

Mhmd Qutb (1919-2014)

Sayyid Qutb (1906-1966)

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)

Abu Mhmd al-Maqdisi (1959-Present)

Soviets in Afghanistan (1979-1989)

Abdullah Azzam (1941-1989)

HAMAS (1987-Present)

Omar Abdel-Rahman (1938-2017)

Mohamed abd al-Salam Farag (1954-1982)

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)

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

The US Meets the Middle East in WWII

- Introduction
- Recap of 1st Presentation
- Oil
- Zionism (Religion)
 - Jewish Brigade
- Terrorism (Non-State Actors)
 - Arab Opposition
- Cold War (Great Powers)
 - British, Italian, German, Americans in North Africa
 - Challenge-Response in Terms of Tanks
 - America is Reluctant
 - Operation Torch
 - Germany Driven from Region
 - Iranian Conduit to USSR
- Conclusion



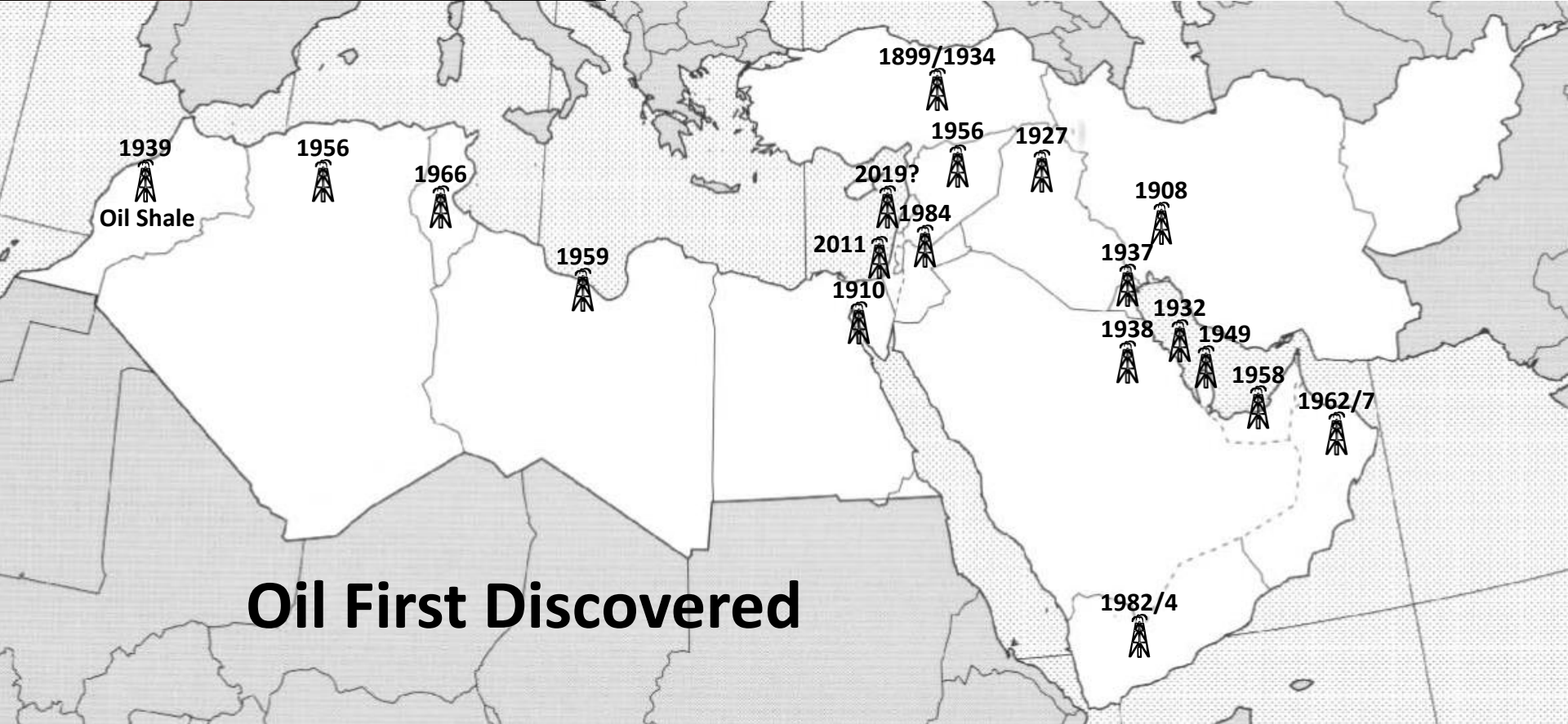
(Non-State Actors)
Terrorism



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



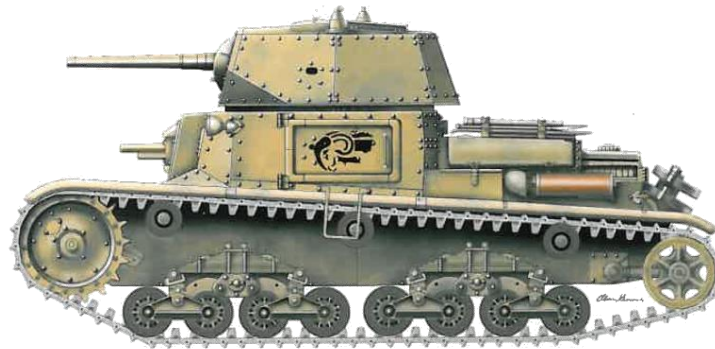
Production

Country	1940 (bpy)	2016 (bpy)	Country
USA	1,263,437,747	4,380,000,000	USA
USSR	205,434,783	4,088,000,000	Russia
Venezuela	189,823,123	3,818,159,150	Saudi Arabia
Iran	72,116,601	1,624,803,340	Iraq
Indonesia	54,914,032	1,456,698,940	Iran
Mexico	46,489,130	1,452,937,250	China
Romania	39,869,565	1,336,883,310	Canada
Columbia	25,150,198	1,133,718,105	UAE
Iraq	23,780,632	1,067,196,125	Kuwait
Argentina	19,858,696	918,142,535	Brazil
Trinidad	19,671,937	831,092,955	Venezuela
Peru	12,284,585	798,210,105	Mexico
Burma	7,525,692	729,958,025	Nigeria
Canada	7,484,190	645,909,475	Angola
Egypt	6,425,889	601,510,875	Norway

The diagram illustrates the evolution of oil production from 1940 to 2016. Red arrows show the transition of the top-producing countries: USA (1940) to USA (2016), USSR (1940) to Russia (2016), Venezuela (1940) to Saudi Arabia (2016), Iran (1940) to Iraq (2016), and Mexico (1940) to Mexico (2016). Green arrows indicate significant production growth for the USA, USSR/Russia, and Mexico over the period.

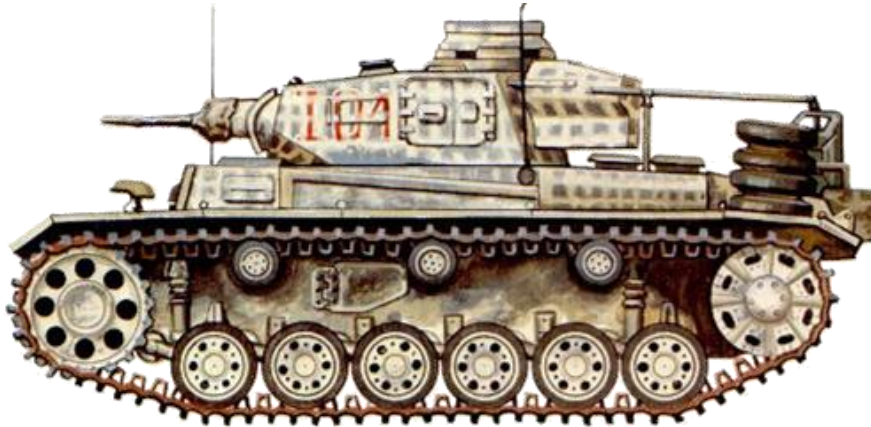
Tanks – Italian

Mk 14/41



Tanks – German

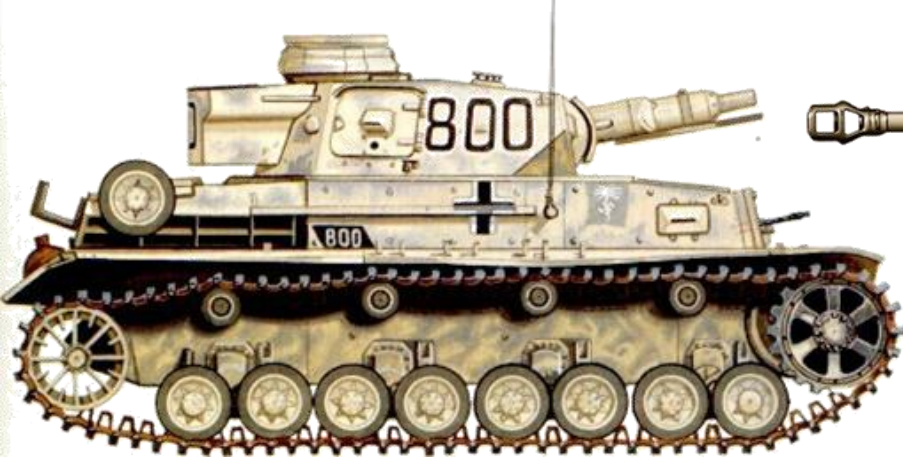
Mark III



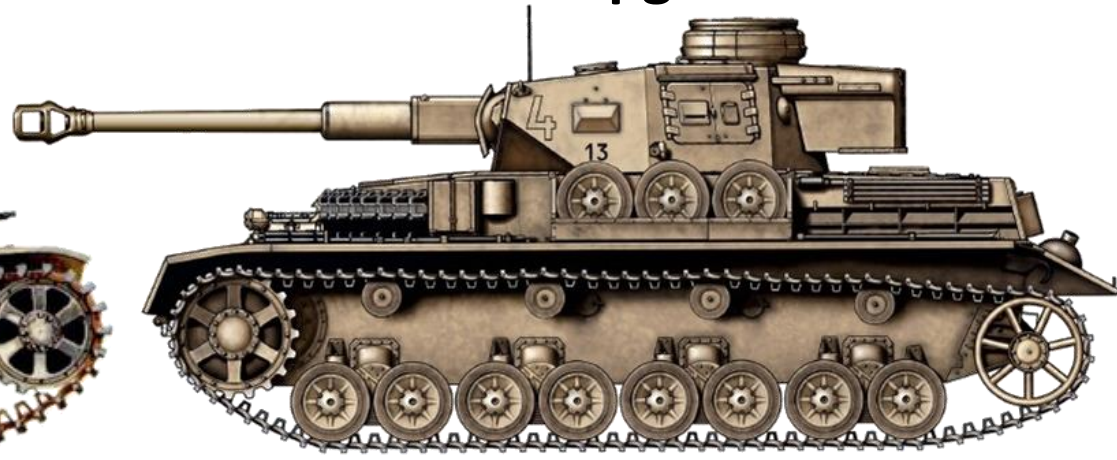
Mark II



Mark IV

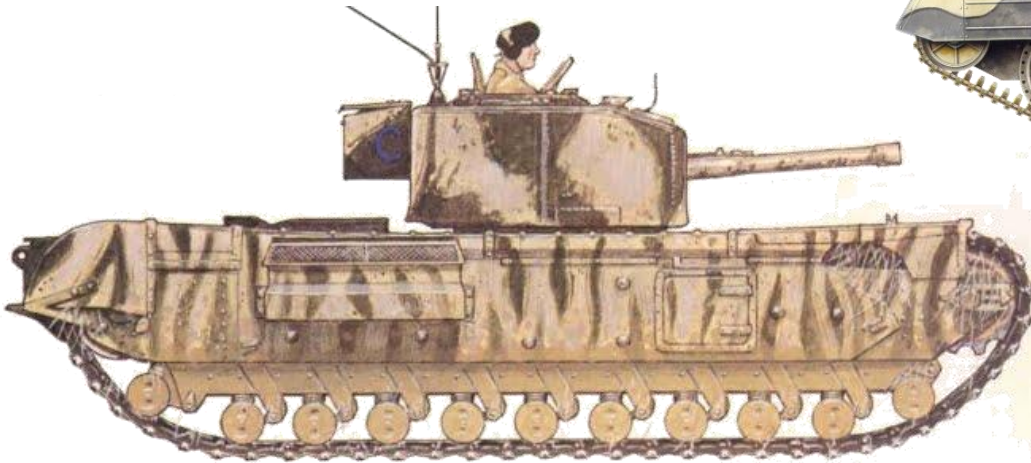


Mark IV Upgrade



Tanks – British

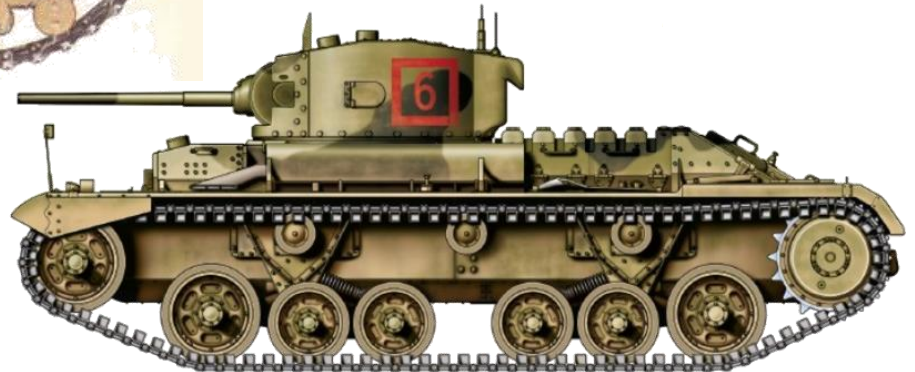
Churchill
Infantry Support



Crusader MkII

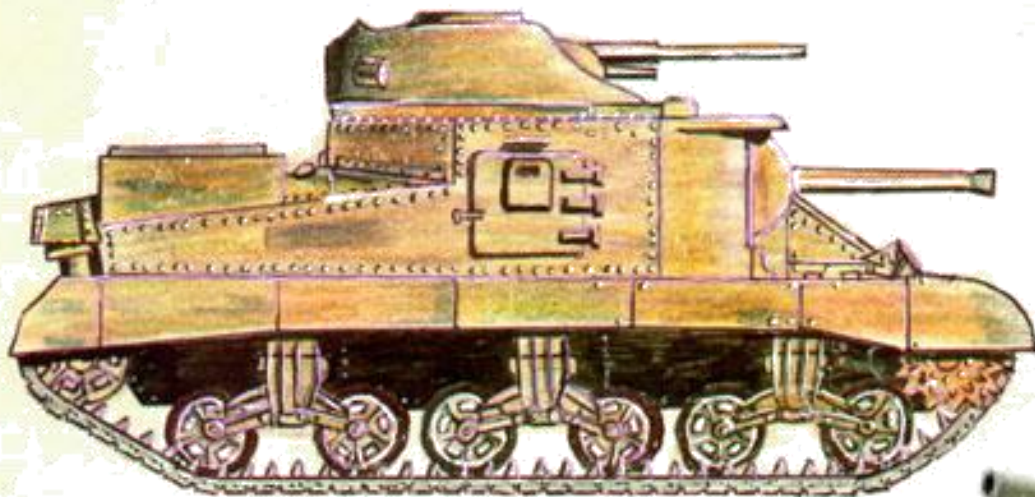


Valentine



Tanks – US

M3 Grant



M4 Sherman

