

WORLD WAR I

AMERICA TIPS THE BALANCE OF POWER

AMERICA MOBILIZES

RAISING AN ARMY

- **Selective Service Act**– men register, randomly chosen for service
- African Americans in segregated units, excluded from Navy and Marines
- Soldiers train for 8 months, often drill with fake weapons
- Women in army, navy, marines as nurses secretaries, phone operator



AMERICA MOBILIZES

MASS PRODUCTION

- To expand fleet to transport men, food, equipment to Europe, U.S.:
 - gives special status to shipyard workers
 - uses fabrication techniques
 - takes over commercial, private ships



AMERICA TURNS THE TIDE

U.S. NAVY CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Convoy system**—destroyers escort merchant ships across Atlantic; losses drop dramatically
- Navy helps lay mines across North Sea, keep U-boats out of Atlantic
- 1918, Germans have difficulty replacing boats, trained submariners



AMERICA TURNS THE TIDE

FIGHTING IN EUROPE

- After 2 1/2 years fighting, Allied forces are exhausted, demoralized
- American troops bring numbers, freshness, enthusiasm



FIGHTING "OVER THERE"

DOUGHBOYS IN EUROPE

- General **John J. Pershing** leads American Expeditionary Force
 - soldiers impressed by cities, shocked by battle



FIGHTING "OVER THERE"

THE FIRST MODERN WAR

- By 1917, British learn to use tanks to clear path for infantry
- Early planes flimsy, only do scouting; later ones stronger, faster
 - carry machine guns, heavy bomb
- American ace Eddie Rickenbacker, other pilots in dogfights
- Observation balloons used extensively, prime target of ace pilots









MODERN WARFARE

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THE WAR INTRODUCES NEW HAZARDS

NEW PROBLEMS OF WAR

- New weapons and tactics lead to horrific events injuries, hazards
- Troops amidst filth, pests, polluted water, poison gas, dead bodies
- Constant bombardment, battle fatigue produce "shell shock"
- Physical problems include dysentery, trench foot, trench mouth





ANIMALS AT WAR

[HTTP://WWW.THEATLANTIC.COM/STATIC/
INFOCUS/WWI/WWIANIMALS/](http://www.theatlantic.com/static/infocus/wwi/wwianimals/)

AMERICAN TROOPS GO ON THE OFFENSIVE

ALLIES STOP GERMAN ADVANCE

- Russia pulls out of war 1917; Germans shift armies to western front; come within 50 miles of Paris
- Americans help stop German advance, turn tide against Central Powers

Allied Victories, 1917–1918

INTERACTIVE

Ypres, 3rd battle, July–Nov. 1917
Allied victory costs over half a million casualties.

Cantigny, May 1918 U.S. troops fill gaps between French and British lines during German offensive.

Château-Thierry, June 1918
U.S. troops help stop the German advance on Paris.

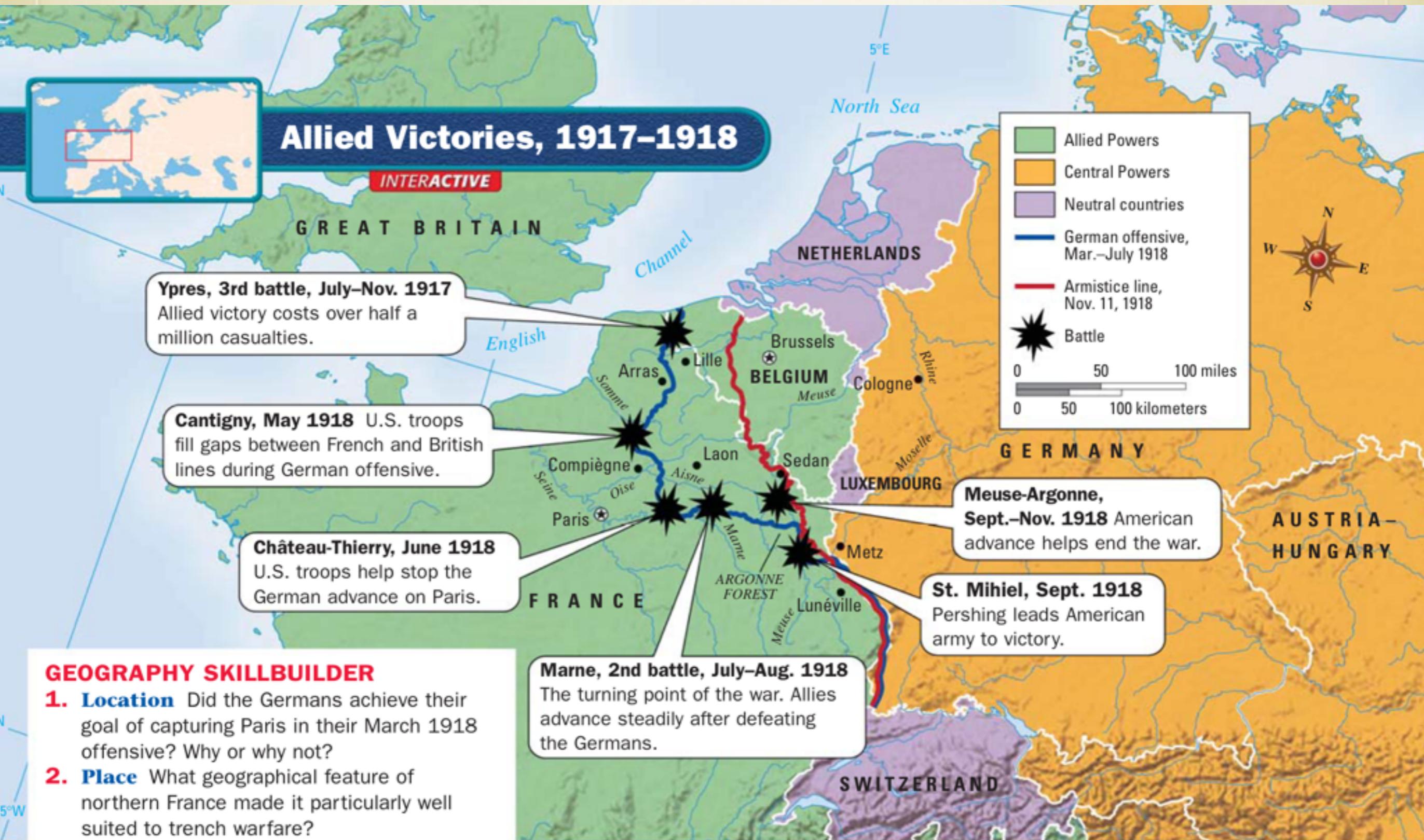
Marne, 2nd battle, July–Aug. 1918
The turning point of the war. Allies advance steadily after defeating the Germans.

Meuse-Argonne, Sept.–Nov. 1918
American advance helps end the war.

St. Mihiel, Sept. 1918
Pershing leads American army to victory.

GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER

- 1. Location** Did the Germans achieve their goal of capturing Paris in their March 1918 offensive? Why or why not?
- 2. Place** What geographical feature of northern France made it particularly well suited to trench warfare?



AMERICAN TROOPS GO ON THE OFFENSIVE

AMERICAN WAR HERO



- **Conscientious objector**—person who opposes war on moral grounds
- Originally a conscientious objector, **Alvin York** decides WWI is just
- Alone kills 25 Germans; with 6 others, captures 132 prisoners
- Promoted to sergeant; becomes U.S. celebrity

AMERICAN TROOPS GO ON THE OFFENSIVE

THE COLLAPSE OF GERMANY

- November 3, 1918, Austria-Hungary surrenders to Allies
- German sailors, soldiers rebel; socialists establish German republic
 - Kaiser gives up throne
- Germans exhausted; armistice, or truce signed November 11, 1918



AMERICAN TROOPS GO ON THE OFFENSIVE

THE FINAL TOLL

- World War I bloodiest war in history to date
 - more than half of the 22 million dead are civilians
 - 20 million more are wounded
- 10 million people become refugees







THIS WAS
FORGES





ARMISTICE DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 1918

The eleventh hour of the eleventh
day of the eleventh month

THE WEATHER

Fair tonight and Tuesday;
slowly rising temperature; light
variable winds.

THE LOWELL SUN

6
O'CLOCK

ESTABLISHED 1878

LOWELL MASS. MONDAY NOVEMBER 11 1918

14 PAGES 1 CENT

PEACE

Armistice Signed and World War is Over. Pres. Wilson Stops Draft. Lays Terms of Truce Before Congress

(BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

After 1567 days the greatest war in history ended this morning at 6 o'clock, Washington time. Announcement of the tremendous event was made at the state department at the capital at 2.45 o'clock this morning and in a few seconds was