

The End of WWII

The Germans Surrender

- Soviets reached Berlin first
- Adolf Hitler found dead in bunker—a suicide
- Berlin surrendered May 2, 1945; Germany five days later
- Victory in Europe (**V-E Day**) proclaimed May 8, 1945
- War in Europe finally over after nearly six years

The Atomic Bomb

- After Okinawa, mainland Japan was next
- The U.S. military estimated cost of invading mainland Japan-up to 1 million Allied killed or wounded

Option to invasion

- Atomic bomb successfully tested in 1945
- **Harry S Truman** U.S. president with Roosevelt's death in May 1945
- Forced to make decision—bomb Japanese city to force surrender

July 26, 1945

- Allies issued demand for surrender
- No response; Hiroshima bombed on August 6
- Still no surrender; second bomb dropped on Nagasaki on August 9
- 145,000 total deaths
- Japanese acknowledged defeat

Emperor **Hirohito** surrendered on August 15, 1945. This day is known as **V-J Day** for Victory in Japan. World War II was finally over.

The Postwar World

- End of war, Europe and Asia in ruins
- Tens of millions dead; heaviest losses in Eastern Europe
- Germany, Japan, and China had also suffered greatly
 - Physical devastation; cities, villages, and farms destroyed
 - National economies near collapse
- Millions uprooted
 - former prisoners of war, survivors of concentration camps, refugees of fighting and of national border changes

Planning for the Future

July 1941

- Allied leaders planned for years for the of war
- Churchill and Roosevelt met to discuss even before U.S. entered war

Atlantic Charter

- Joint declaration of Churchill and Roosevelt
- Outlined purpose of war
- Sought no territorial gains
- All nations could choose their own government
- Work for mutual prosperity

Tehran Conference

- December 1943
- Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin
- Agreed on schedule for D-Day invasion
- Would work together in peace after the war

Yalta Conference

- Held in Soviet territory in early 1945; Allies on brink of military victory
- Primary goal to reach agreement on postwar Europe
- Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill agreed on plans to divide Germany into four zones
- Stalin got his way with Polish territory, made promises for free elections

United Nations

- Roosevelt got Stalin to agree to join fight against Japan once war in Europe over
- USSR would join new world organization—**United Nations**
- Meant to encourage international cooperation and prevent war
- June 1945 charter signed with five major Allies as Security Council

Potsdam Conference

July 1945

- Small German city location for **Potsdam Conference**
- Growing ill will between Soviet Union and other Allies

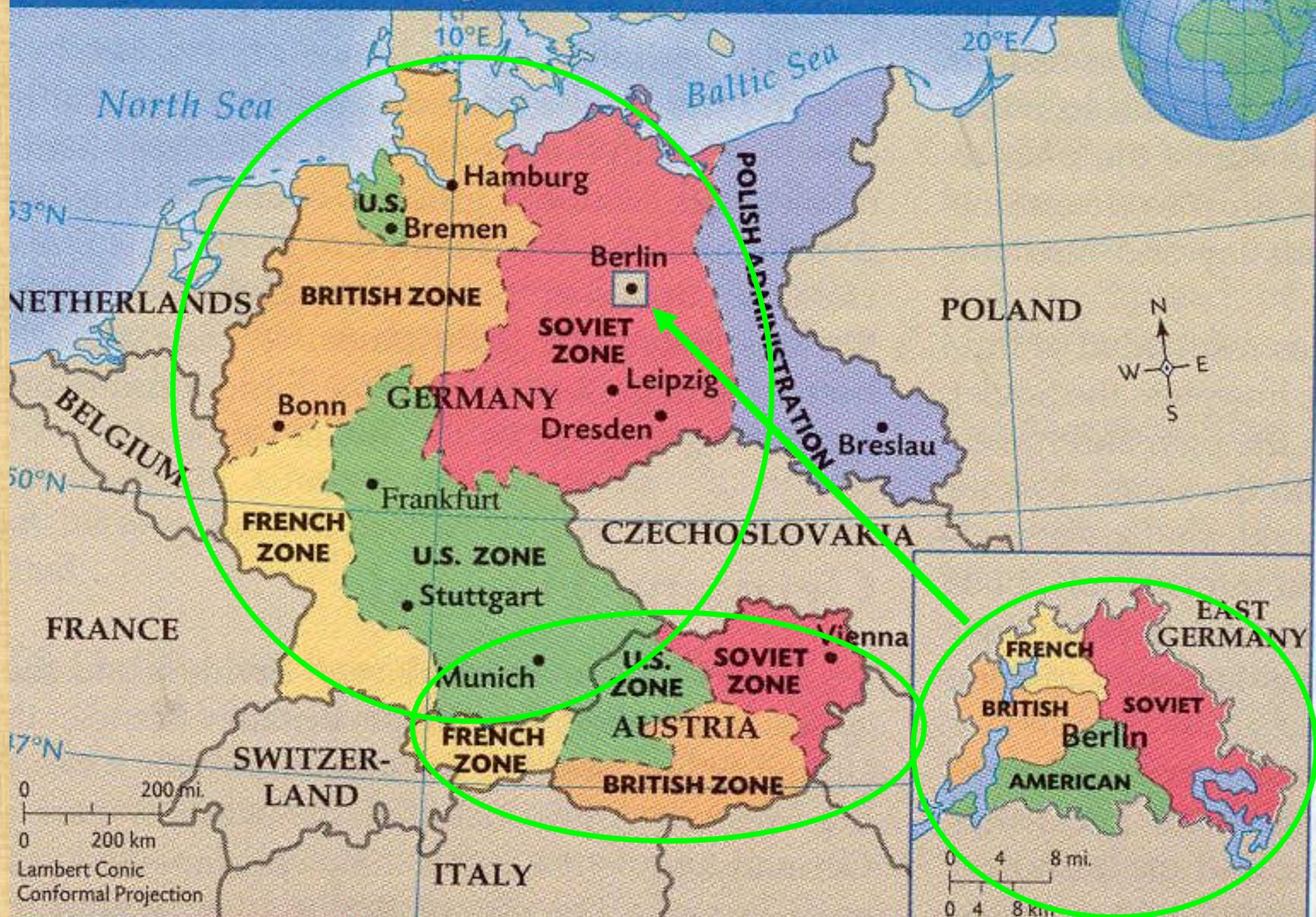
- Soviet Union, Britain, and United States
- Discussed many issues but had difficulty reaching agreement

- American and British leaders worried about Stalin's intentions
- Concerned about spread of communism, growth of Soviet influence

Stalin

- Soon broke his promises
- Did not respect democracies in Eastern Europe
- Another struggle beginning

Occupation of Germany and Austria 1945



CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF WORLD WAR II

QUICK
FACTS

CAUSES

- Economic hardship and political unrest following World War I
- Aggressive leaders in Germany, Italy, and Japan wanted to expand their nations.
- Germany invaded Poland, and Japan attacked the United States.



EFFECTS

- Millions of people were killed, and large areas of Europe and Asia were damaged or destroyed.
- The Allies occupied Japan and parts of Europe.
- The United Nations was created to help prevent future wars.
- Conflict began between the Soviet Union and the other Allies over the fate of Eastern Europe.
- The United States and the Soviet Union emerged as the world's two major powers.

Cost of WWII

Table of Military Deaths (in approximate figures)

Soviet Union: 7 million (at least; the actual figure may be as high as 13 million)

Germany: 4 million

China: 3.5 million

Japan: 1.2 million

United States: 405,399

United Kingdom: 244,000

France: 200,000

Italy: 165,000

Hungary: 120,000

Poland: 120,000

Czechoslovakia: 10,000

Table of Civilian Deaths (in approximate figures)

China: 10 million

Soviet Union: 7 million (at least)

Poland: 6 million

Germany: 1.6 million

Yugoslavia: 1 million

Romania: 465,000

France: 400,000

Czechoslovakia: 330,000

Japan: 380,000

Hungary: 280,000

United Kingdom: 60,000

The total cost was more than 1.6 trillion dollars.

1. U.S : \$296 billion (roughly 4.104 trillion dollars today)
2. Germany : \$272 billion
3. Britain : \$120 billion
4. Soviet Union : \$192 billion
5. Italy : \$94 billion
6. Japan : \$56 billion

Germany and Britain destroyed each other at the end of the war, Germany was turned to rubble and Britain was virtually bankrupt. Also the European economy had collapsed with 70% of its infrastructure destroyed.