

## THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES

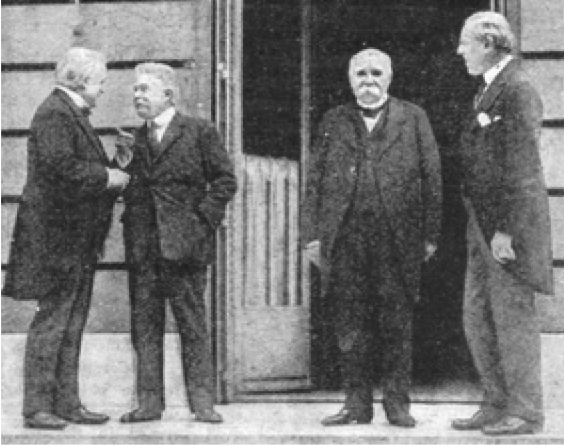
### The Big Four at Versailles

Vittorio Orlando from Italy

Lloyd George from England

George Clemenceau from France

Woodrow Wilson from the United States

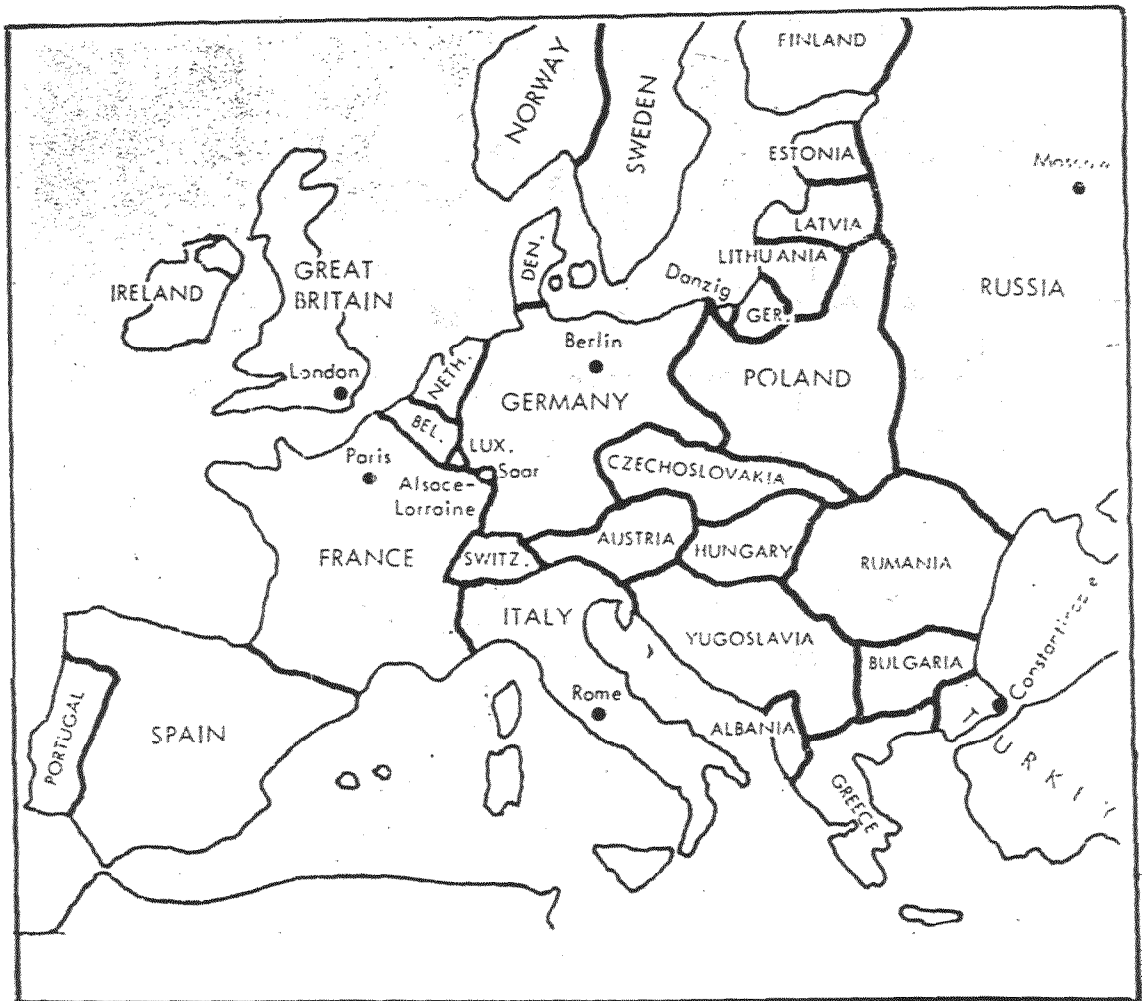


World War I ended in 1919 when Germany signed the **TREATY of VERSAILLES**. Just 20 years later World War II began. Some historians believe that the Treaty of Versailles helped to cause World War II. Let us look at the Treaty of Versailles so we can decide if it helped to cause World War II.

Germany did not **SURRENDER** in World War I. Germany agreed to an **ARMISTICE**. This meant that the fighting would stop and peace talks would begin. Germany was promised a fair and just peace. In 1919, Germany signed the Treaty of Versailles. The Treaty affected Germany in the following ways.

1. Germany gave Alsace and Lorraine back to France.
2. Germany's Saar Valley was given to France for 15 years. The valley was rich with coal mines. After 15 years the people in the Saar Valley decided if they wanted to be part of France or go back to Germany.
3. The country of **Poland** was created from land that belonged to Germany and Russia.
4. Destroy all of her Air force.

5. The German city-of Danzig (see map) was taken from Germany
6. Germany lost all her colonies.
7. Germany could no longer have submarines. Her mighty army was cut from 8 million to 100,000 men.
8. Germany had to admit **GUILT** for starting World War I
9. Germany had to pay **REPARATIONS** for the war.
10. A League of Nations was formed. This was like the United Nations that exists today.



**Questions:** Answer the following questions

1. Why is it true to say that Germany did not surrender in World War I? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. List the "Big Four" and name the countries they came from. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Give four provisions of the Treaty of Versailles. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Explain two ways the map of Europe changes after World War I. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. A German complained that the Treaty of Versailles "stabbed Germany in the back," and killed her. He told Germans to rip up the Treaty of Versailles and refuse to follow it. If you were a German, would you agree with him? Explain your answer giving examples from the Treat of Versailles. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. The German who took the position given in Question #5 was Adolf Hitler. Why did the Treaty of Versailles help to bring Hitler to power in Germany? \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why do some people believe that the Treaty of Versailles helped to cause World War II? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Why did the "Big Four" believe the League of Nations would help to keep world peace? \_\_\_\_\_  
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