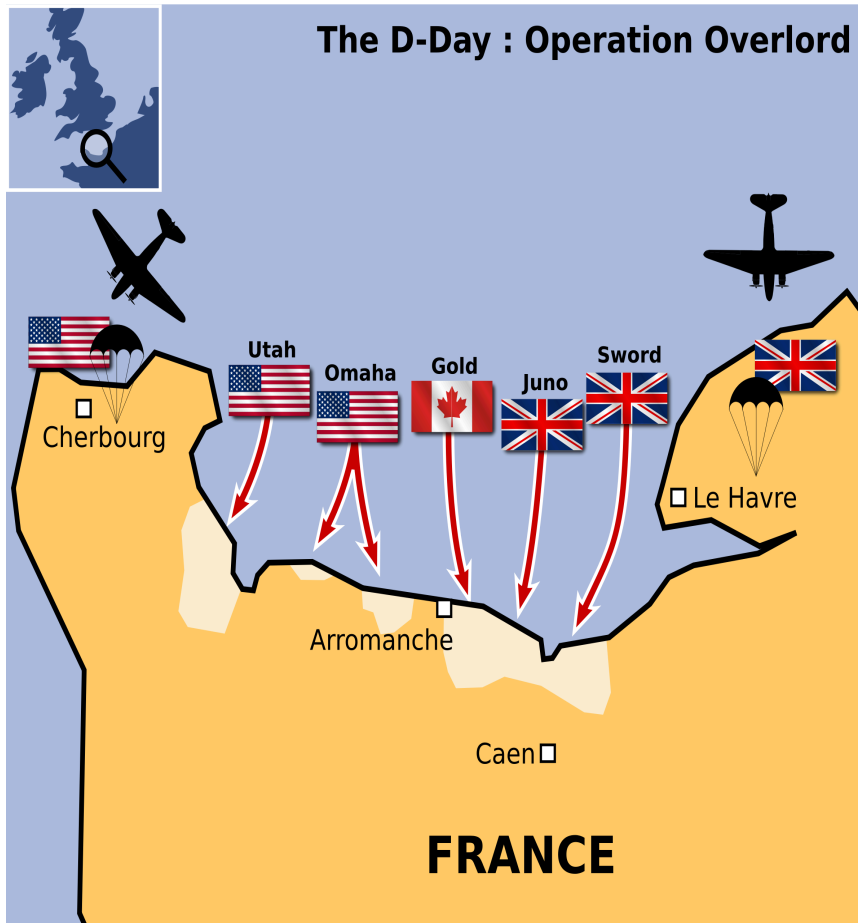




Map Activity - Allies Take Back Europe

Directions: Read the passages below and analyze the map data to answer the questions that follow.

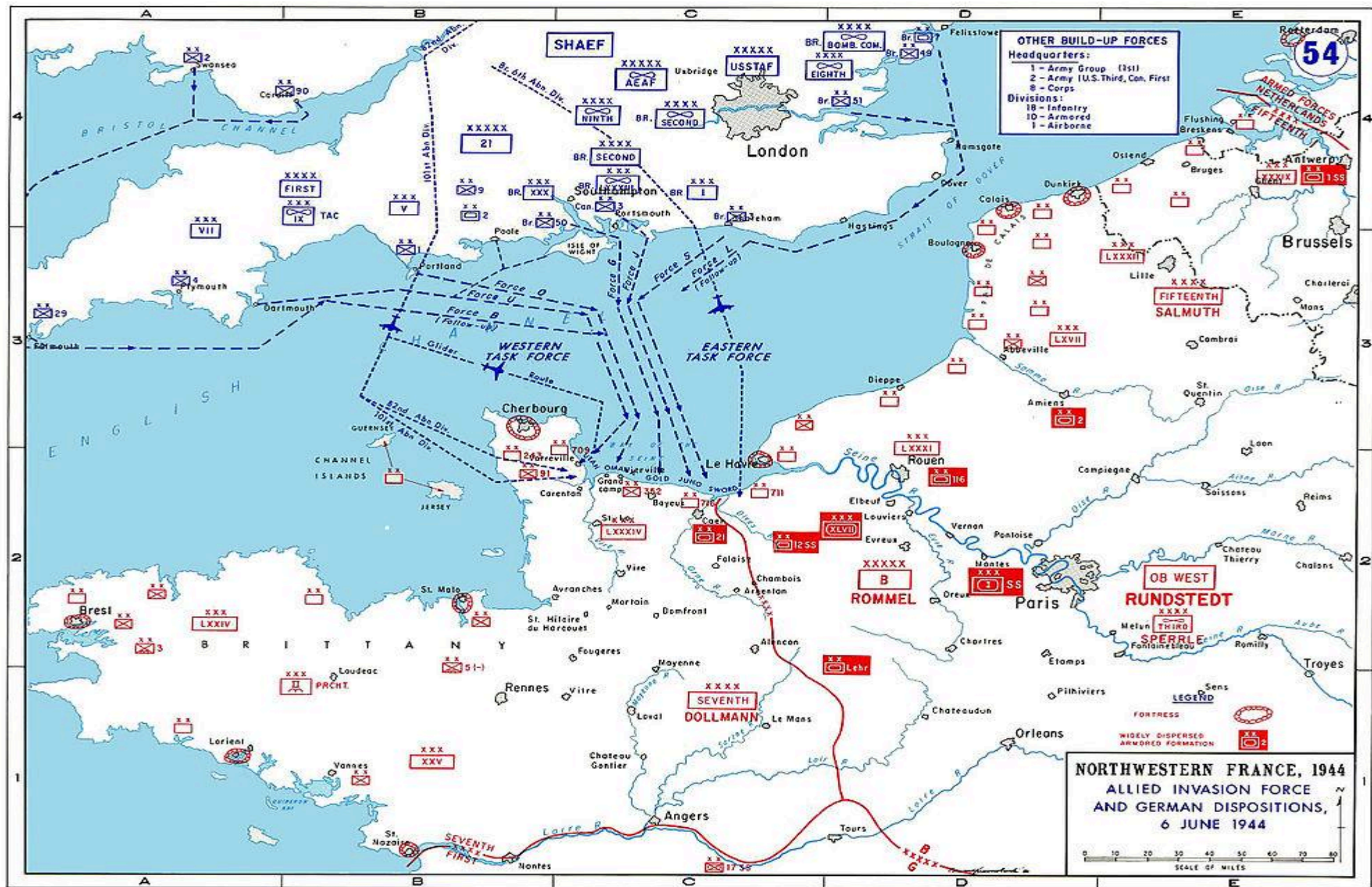


After Pearl Harbor, America was on the ropes and England was playing defense. The Axis Powers, notably Germany and Italy, had conquered most of Europe and were in control of large parts of Africa. Would America be able to stage a comeback? Study the maps and read the passages that follow. Maybe do a little research on your own.

Have you ever taken on a big task and felt like it might be impossible? During this era, D-Day (aka Operation Overlord) might have been that kind of task. It was planned in secret by the Allied countries with the goal of retaking Europe. It was a huge gamble and an even bigger undertaking. If you can imagine moving all the people of Wisconsin (their belongings and vehicles) across Lake Michigan in two days; you might be able to understand the size and magnitude of this operation.

As you can see from the map (left), there were five landing zones and two major parachute drops. The Germans knew it was coming and were prepared to defend their turf; however, they did not know exactly where or when the Allies would strike.

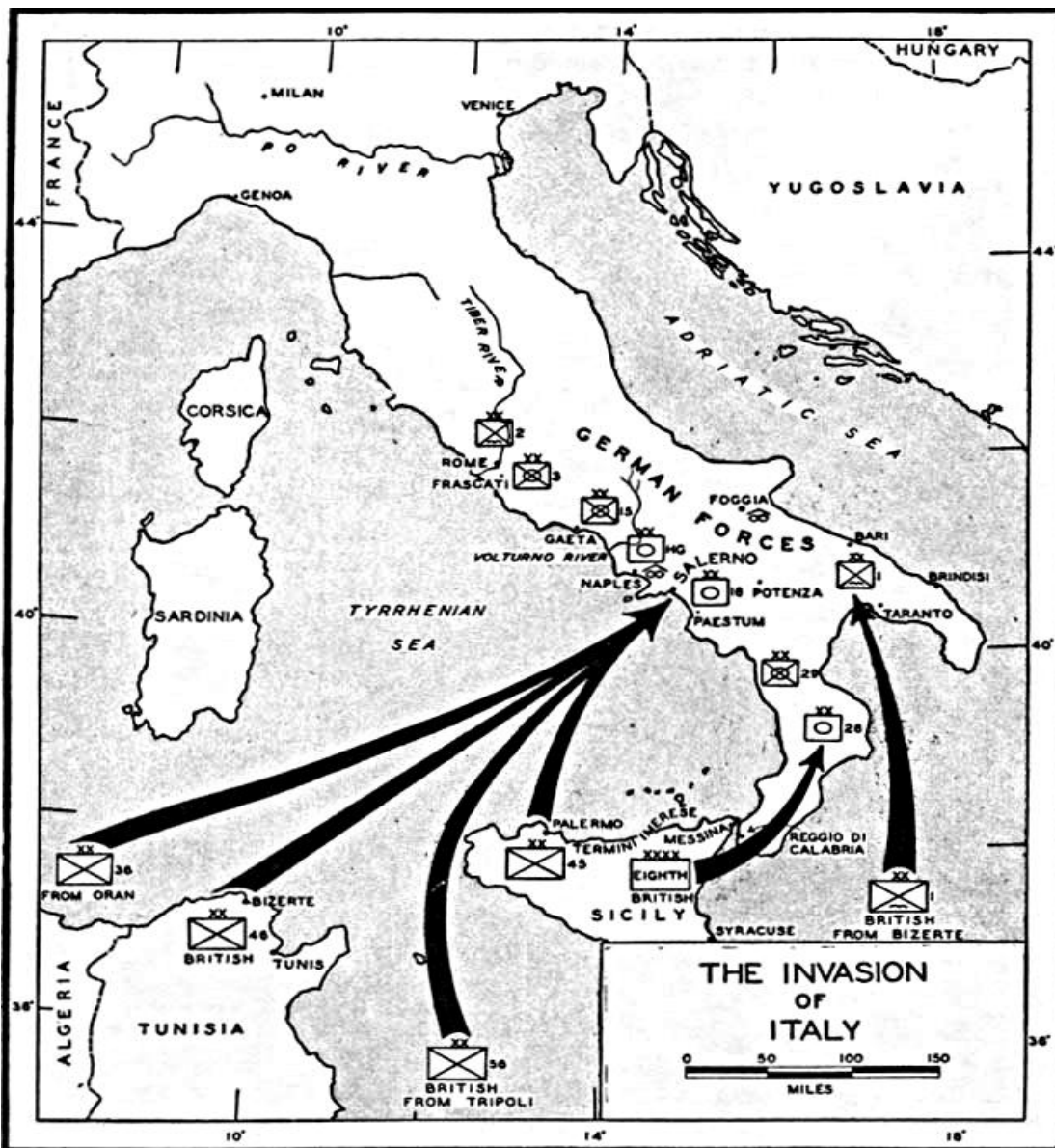
1. What country **was not** involved in the D-Day invasion?
A) Omaha C) Canada E) United States
B) France D) England
2. The D-Day invasion took place in the country of...
A) Spain C) England E) France
B) Canada D) Ireland
3. When did the D-Day invasion take place?
A) June 6, 1944 C) June 24, 1943 E) June 4, 1904
B) June 14, 1945 D) June 13, 1954



Map from public domain

4. What country did the Allies leave from?

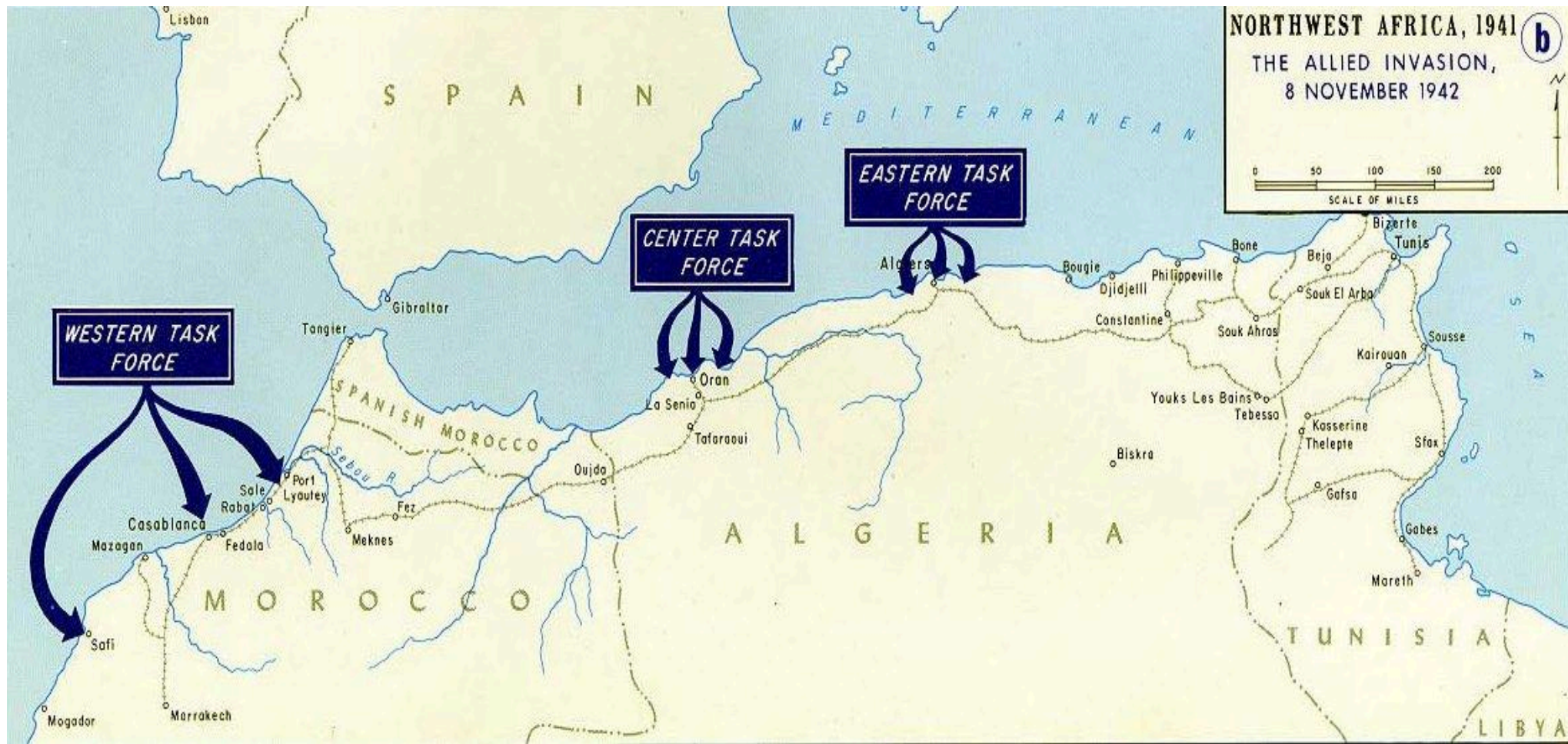
- A) Spain C) England E) France
 B) Canada D) Ireland



In September, 1943, the Allies attacked mainland Italy. You might notice part of the Allied strategy by this point of the activity. Allied forces were hoping to put the squeeze on the Axis by attacking to their south via Africa and then through Italy. They would also add pressure to the Axis north with the D-Day invasion. The Soviet Union would keep Germany occupied on the Eastern front. I still wonder why Adolf Hitler broke the Non-Aggression Pact with the Soviet Union. He was a crazy dude! Thought he would have figured out that it is nearly impossible to fight an opponent on three fronts.

5. Using the map (left), what body of water is to the north of Italy?
 A) Mediterranean C) Pacific Ocean E) Indian Ocean
 B) Atlantic Ocean D) Adriatic Sea
6. What Allied country is leading the attack in the map (left)?
 A) Spain C) England E) France
 B) Canada D) Ireland
7. Using the scale, what was the longest approximate travel into battle?
 A) Over 300 miles C) About 100 miles
 B) Under 300 miles D) About 50 miles

Map from public domain



[Map from public domain](#)

8. Does the map describe the fighting before or after D-Day?

- A) Before B) After

9. Do the arrows represent the....

- A) Allies or B) Axis powers

10. What continent is best described in the map above?

- A) Asia C) Africa E) Central America
B) North America D) Australia

<http://goo.gl/tpE64E>