

UNIT 9

Revolutions and Imperialism

1775 to 1914

1785
Steam-powered loom is invented.

1815
Napoleon is defeated at Waterloo.

1821
Mexico wins independence from Spain.

1775

1800

1825

1775-1781
American Revolution frees United States from Britain.

1789
French Revolution begins.

1819
Bolívar becomes first president of Gran Colombia.

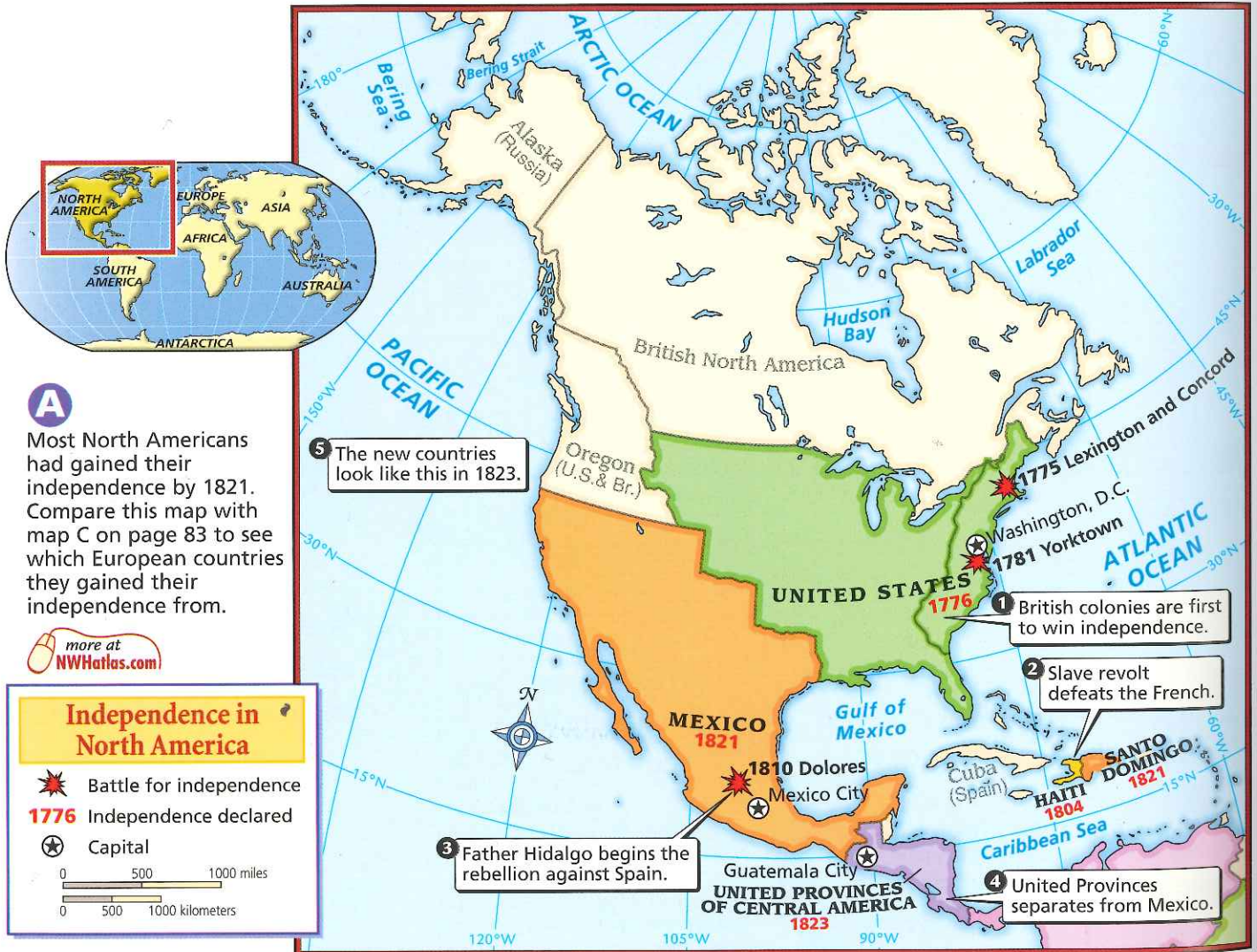
Independence in the Americas

Most colonies in the Americas—British, French, Spanish, and Portuguese—won their independence over a period of just 50 years.

- Colonists throughout the Americas resented European rule. They could not govern themselves. Their businesses were hurt by taxes and trade limits. Their protests were ignored by European governments.
- In 1776 colonists in 13 British colonies rebelled. Their struggle encouraged colonists in other parts of the Americas to fight for independence.

How does a revolution turn things around?

When King George III of England took away some of his colonists' rights, they declared a **revolution** (a circular movement) to get them back. The result was American independence. Now a "revolution" means an extraordinary change.



A

Most North Americans had gained their independence by 1821. Compare this map with map C on page 83 to see which European countries they gained their independence from.

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Independence in North America

★ Battle for independence

1776 Independence declared

★ Capital

0 500 1000 miles
0 500 1000 kilometers

1848
Revolutions erupt throughout Europe.

1857
Indian troops mutiny against British commanders.

1869
Suez Canal links Red and Mediterranean Seas.

1895
Sino-Japanese War ends.

1898
Spanish-American War

1900
Boxer Rebellion pits Chinese against foreigners.

1850

1853
Perry's fleet opens the way to U.S.-Japanese trade.

1875

1867
Japanese emperor regains power from shoguns.

1884-1914
Control of Africa is seized by European powers.

1900

1910
Japan annexes Korea.

1925

B Simón Bolívar, the "George Washington of South America," fought the Spanish for six years. He succeeded in gaining independence for South American countries, but his plan for a United States of South America failed.



C Colonies in the south fought for their independence about the same time colonies in the north were being liberated. Who led South Americans in their battles for freedom?