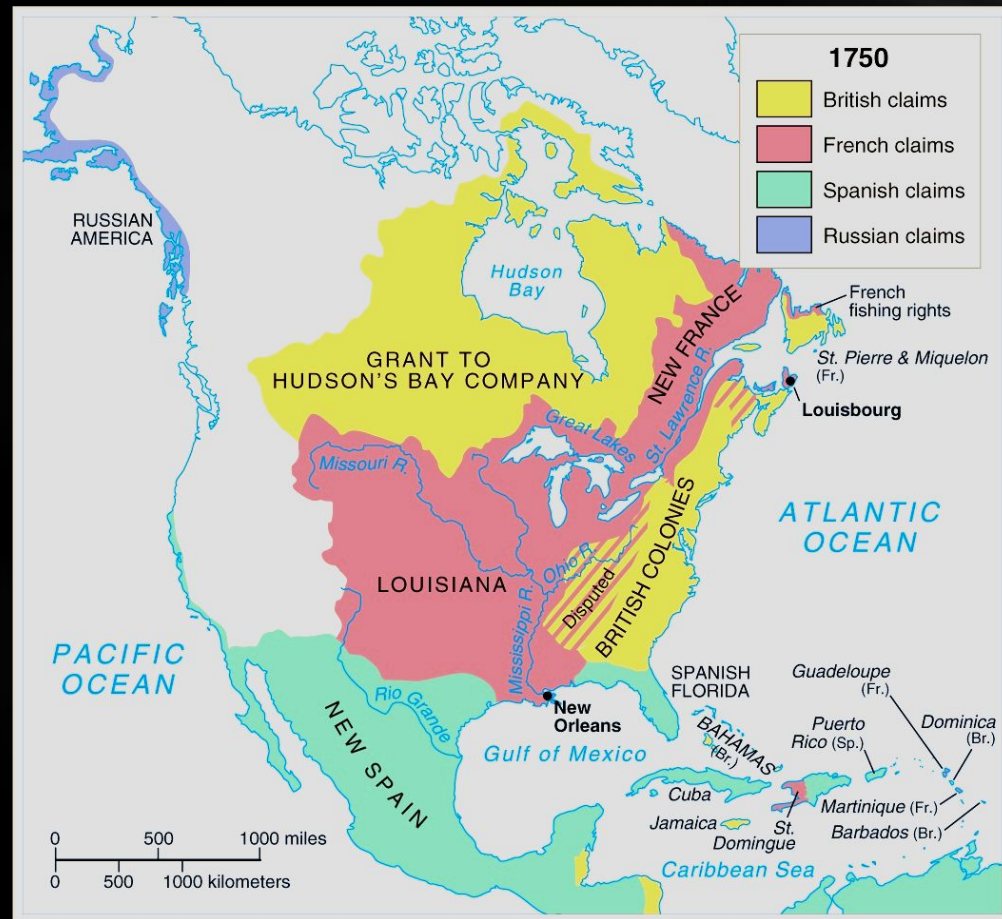


French and Indian War

Competing Claims

- Big powers in America: Spain, France, and Britain.



Conflict in the Ohio Valley

- France: “Drive from the Ohio River any European foreigners, and do it in a way that will make them lose all taste for trying to return.”
- French system of forts
- Ohio River Valley very fertile
- English traders moving west and hoping to take over the profitable French trade with the Indians.



Native Americans Choose Sides

- They had hunted and grown crops there for centuries.
- “You and the French are like the two edges of a pair of shears. And we are the cloth which is to be cut between them.”
- But the growing conflict too much, so they choose sides.



Allies for French

Both sides are looking for allies.

- French expect Indians to side with them.
- Had a pretty good relationship with the Indians.
- Gained support from Algonquins.
- Also built friendly relations with the Hurons.
 - Negotiators between French and other Indian nations.



Allies for English

- English mostly farmers who ignored Indian rights and ways.
- However, they won over the powerful Iroquois nations, who were old enemies of the Algonquins and Hurons.
 - William Johnson
 - Had an Indian wife (Molly Brant) and the Iroquois loved him.
 - Molly was the sister of the Mohawk chief Thayagane (Joseph Brant), who became a valuable ally for the English.
- Some Indians supported the English because they charged lower prices for trade goods than the French, which made the French mad.



Tensions mount and
soon...Fighting Begins!