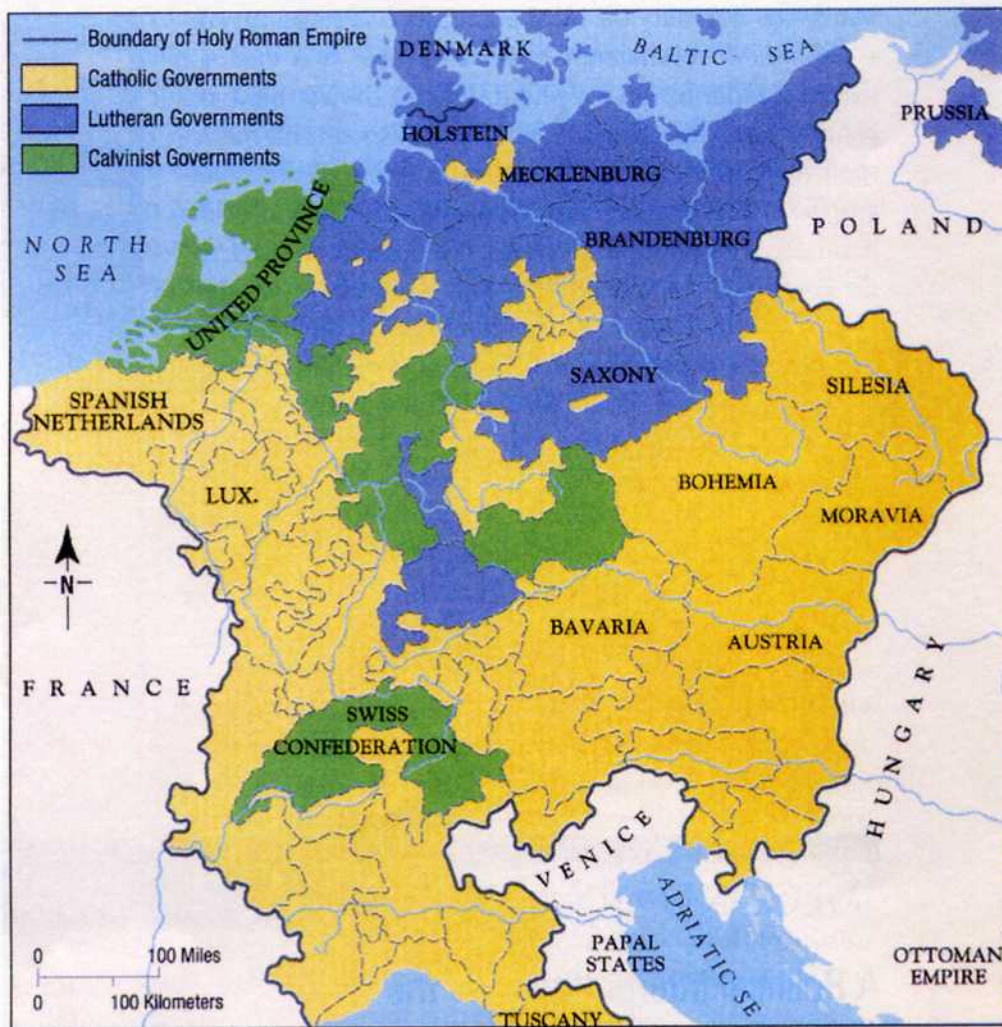


MAP 4-1 POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS DIVISIONS



MAP 4-2 MAIN WAR ZONES



Germany and the Thirty Years' War. These maps center on circumstances in Germany during the Thirty Years' War. The first map (map 4-1) shows the approximate political and religious divisions at the beginning of the war. This map is simplified for clarity in a number of ways. It does not show areas of minority religious allegiance or areas where Protestant sects other than Calvinists or Lutherans made up substantial portions of the population. It denotes only some of the political divisions, which numbered close to 300 in this area. The second map (map 4-2) shows the main areas of battle during the Thirty Years' War. Map 4-3 indicates the changes in population, primarily due to war and plague, between 1618 and 1648.

Together, these maps reveal some of the political and religious problems facing Germany. Despite the theoretical existence of the Holy Roman Empire, Germany was in reality the most politically and religiously divided area in seventeenth-century Europe. It is thus not surprising that historians find it difficult to determine the political and religious factors causing this war and the responsibility for its long continuation. Some of the demographic effects are indicated through a comparison of the main areas of battle and changes in population. Indeed, the continued political and religious division of Germany after this war, along with such massive destruction of the area and the population, helps explain Germany's weakness and inability to unify for the following two centuries.

MAP 4-3 POPULATION CHANGE: 1618-1648

