

## D Day A Historic Day To Remember



Causes pg2-7  
Techniques pg8-12  
Consequences pg13-18  
Views pg19-24

Before this battle the German Army still firmly occupied France and the Low Countries, the Nazi government still had access to the raw materials and industrial capacity of Western Europe, and local resistance to Nazi rule was disorganized and not very effective. On June 6, 1944, a date known as D-Day, a mighty armada crossed a narrow strip of sea from England to Normandy, France, and cracked the Nazi grip on western Europe. The D-Day operation of June 6, 1944 brought together the land, air and sea forces of the allied armies in what became known as the largest invasion force in human history. The operation, given the codename OVERLORD, delivered five naval assault divisions to the beaches of Normandy, France. The beaches were given the codenames UTAH, OMAHA, GOLD, JUNO and SWORD.

What were the causes that led to the requirement of subterfuge?



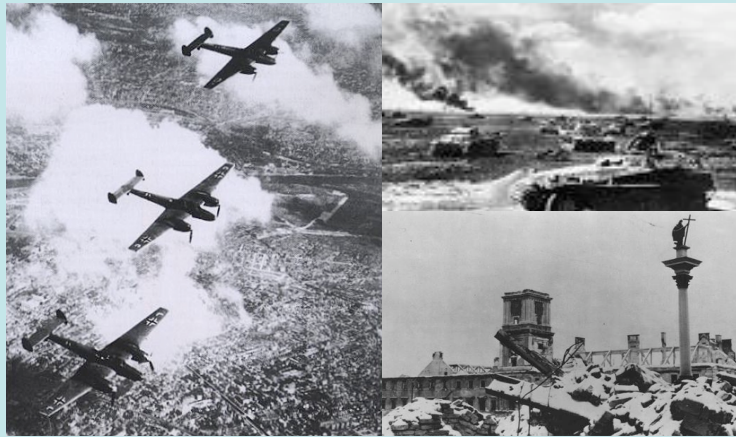
As the German forces invaded through western Europe taking over countries to make as part of Germany. All the allied countries were falling into the hands of Nazi Germany. Germany invaded France officially because France had declared war upon Germany when Germany invaded Poland, an ally and friend of France. But Germany was deeply wounded and her foreign policy was to reclaim the areas lost in the previous war, which would have led to war with France. Germany wanted the war with France.

## Superior artillery



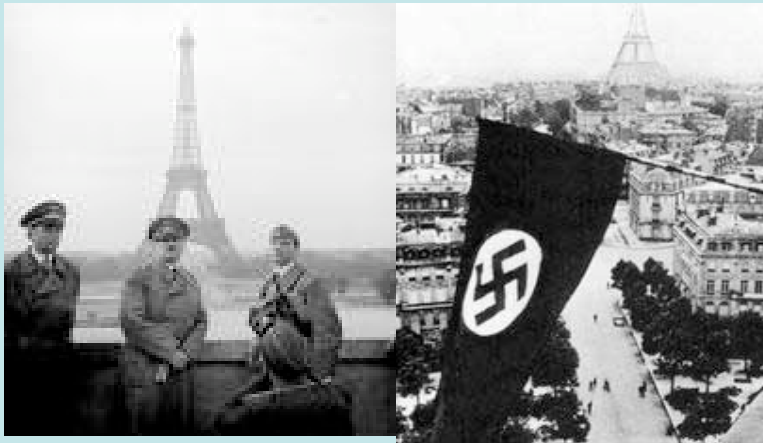
Some of the Heavy ammunitions and weaponry the Germans possessed during their campaign across Europe invading several countries. The allies could not face them head as they could suffer a huge loss. With fighting out they had one choice and that was deception. When Dwight Eisenhower outlined his intentions for the Normandy Invasion, the list began, firstly to land on the Normandy Coast and secondly to BE\build up the resources needed for decisive battles in the Normandy-Brittany region. But the resources were in England -- troops, tanks, artillery, ammunition, gasoline, supplies. Where to land them? Because existing port facilities (Le Havre and Cherbourg) were heavily defended and impossible to seize quickly

## Blitzkrieg in Poland



Following the annexation of Czechoslovakia, Hitler turned his attention to Poland. In March, 1939, he declared that the non aggression pact signed in 1934 was void and that the issue of ownership of Danzig had to be dealt with. Diplomatic activity heightened as the European powers attempted to prevent a German invasion of Poland. The French had a long standing agreement with the Poles, dating back to 1921. The British sought to discourage German aggression by pledging to use force to protect Poland in the case of an invasion. Both sides now turned to Stalin. Hitler won the race to ally with the Soviet Union. On 23rd August 1939 the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact was agreed. Unknown to the bemused outside world, this agreement contained a clause that agreed to the partitioning of Poland between the two powers in the event of a war in Poland. That war would come but one week later. On 1st September 1939, German forces invaded Poland. Blitzkrieg was now put into practice. German forces attacked on a number of fronts. The map below illustrates these assaults. Black arrows indicate primary assaults, red arrows indicate a secondary assault. The arrows to the right hand side of the map, coming from the East into Poland, signify the Soviet advance into Poland that followed the German invasion.

## Paris Occupation



The occupation of France which led to the requirement of subterfuge, with France out what was Great Britain to do and what was to become of western Europe? The Germans now in control of their old and current rival France, the only major threat left was Great Britain. As a result of the defeat of the French and its Allies in the Battle of France, the French cabinet sought a cessation of hostilities. An armistice was signed 22 June 1940 at Compiègne. Under its terms, the north and west of France were occupied by the German Army. The remaining third of the country was directly controlled by a French government located at Vichy headed by the aging Maréchal Philippe Pétain. Both the unoccupied and the occupied portions of France remained legally under the control of the Vichy government. When the Allies invaded North Africa on 8 November 1942, the Germans and Italians immediately occupied the remaining free part of France.

What techniques were used to deceive the German?



Here is the image of allied planes dropping silver foil to give the impression of massed planes crossing from Dover making the Germans believe that the Normandy landing was a diversion. This action had deceived the Germans making them concentrate somewhere else and by sending their troops there, making their defence in Normandy weaker.

## Operation FORTITUDE NORTH

Dummy Boston aircraft of the type used in FORTITUDE NORTH.



The deception plan was called FORTITUDE which set out to persuade the Germans that there were to be possible landings in Norway, Pas de Calais and the Bay of Biscay and that German reserves would have to be deployed accordingly. Fortitude North was the fictitious assault on Scandinavia. It consisted of two parts: first, a plan to re-occupy any parts of occupied Scandinavia that might be weakened by withdrawal of German troops; second an assault on Norway. The (fictional) unit assigned to this operation was the British Fourth Army, which was located in Scotland. Since it was highly unlikely that a German reconnaissance plane could make it to Scotland and back to German-controlled territory without being shot down, the primary means of deception was the use of double agents. In addition, the radio traffic of the imaginary units assigned to the Fourth Army was simulated by radio operators. British diplomats began negotiations with neutral Sweden to obtain concessions that would be useful in the event of an invasion of Norway, such as the right to fly reconnaissance missions over Sweden and the right to refuel planes that made emergency landings. These negotiations were made not in the hope of obtaining the concessions but with the intention that news of the negotiations would reach the ears of the Germans.



## Operation FORTITUDE SOUTH



An invasion of France at the Pas de Calais. FORTITUDE SOUTH was the key deception of when and where the D-Day invasion would actually occur. It made sense for a variety of reasons. The distance from Dover to the Pas de Calais was the shortest across the notoriously difficult English Channel. It was the shortest route to the heart of Germany, which resulted in quick turn-around time for ships and air cover. This was a logical strategic choice for an invasion since it was the closest part of France to England and its beaches were not easily defended. While it was hoped that this would reduce the number of troops in the Normandy area at the time of the invasion, even more important was to dissuade the Germans from reinforcing the Normandy battleground in the days immediately after the invasion. To this end the Allies hoped to convince the Germans that the Normandy invasion, when it occurred, was a diversion, and that the main invasion was still to come near Calais.

Both Fortitude North and Fortitude South were related to a wider deception plan called Operation Bodyguard.



## Operation Bodyguard



The overall Allied strategic deception plan in Europe for 1944, carried out as part of the build-up to the invasion of Normandy. The major objective of this plan was to lead the Germans to believe that the invasion of north-western Europe would come later than was actually planned, and to threaten attacks at other locations than the true objective, including the Pas de Calais, the Balkans, southern France, Norway, and Soviet attacks in Bulgaria and northern Norway. The main part of Operation Bodyguard was the plan to deceive the enemy as to the timing, weight and direction of the Normandy invasion. There were three main goals of this part of Bodyguard 1. To induce the German command to believe that the main assault and follow up will be in or east of the Pas de Calais, thereby encouraging the enemy to maintain or increase the strength of his air and ground forces and his fortifications there at the expense of other areas, particularly of the Caen area. 2. To keep the enemy in doubt as to the date and the time of the actual assault and 3. During and after the main assault to contain the largest possible German land and air forces in or east of the Pas de Calais for at least fourteen days.

# Operation PLUTO



PLUTO (Pipeline Under The Ocean) was the code name given to the different methods of supplying petrol to the Allied troops in France after D-Day. The aim was to provide a constant flow of supplies that would not be interrupted by the weather or enemy action, and at the same time relieve the pressure on the already overstretched tanker force and the overcrowded assault beaches. The scheme was developed by Arthur Hartley, chief engineer with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. Allied forces on the European continent required a tremendous amount of fuel. Pipelines were considered necessary to relieve dependence on oil tankers, which could be slowed by bad weather, were susceptible to German submarines, and were also needed in the Pacific War.

## D Day double agents



Double agents were spies in Britain that the Germans valued, trusted and relied upon for strategic warning. The problem from the German standpoint was that they were all, without exception, working for British intelligence. Of all the stories surrounding those agents, none were as dramatic or as funny as that of 'Garbo,' the code name of Juan Pujol Garcia, double agent. Pujol, from Barcelona, was a Nationalist veteran of the Spanish Civil War. Anti-Communist and anti-Nazi, in January 1941 he decided to volunteer as a British spy. Following a trip to Portugal, he persuaded Gustave Knittel, a Madrid-based agent of Germany's Abwehr intelligence service, code-named 'Frederico,' who had a visa for England and would be able to spy there for Germany. Pujol became Abwehr agent Arabel, with invisible ink, secret codes and 600 pounds for expenses.

What were the consequences of the subterfuge on both the allies and the opposing enemy?



An example of subterfuge where a person would be tricked or deceived to think of something else.

The consequence of the subterfuge on the allies was that it took a lot of time and some of the deception had to be done perfectly or else the whole plan was ruined. For the enemy the consequence was that it fooled them to diverge their attention to other places like Pas de Calais.

## D Day problems



The allies had faced a terrible storm problem which was making the trip to Normandy more difficult. Also with high tides when the soldiers jumped into the water many drowned. The weather on June 6 was tolerable but not ideal. Strong winds scattered the paratroops, some of whom overshot the Cherbourg Peninsula and landed in the sea and were drowned. However, the Germans were also obliged to scatter their defences. Large waves swamped 27 out of 32 amphibious tanks, and all the artillery was lost on the run into Omaha beach, where the Allies suffered their greatest losses of the day and briefly considered withdrawing. At the end of the first day, Allied casualties were 12,000 killed, wounded and missing, as against an estimated 75,000 if surprise had not been achieved. The weather that northern summer was among the worst on record. Several days after the landing, a storm wrecked one of the artificial harbours that had been built and caused four times the losses in ships and equipment that occurred during the landing.

## German consequence



Result of an Allied air attack on a German column-  
in this case transport of  
9th SS Panzer Division  
(IWM)

Germans had lost their own soldiers as shown in the picture with the loss of Hitler's main force, the Panzer division. "Now and then, construction work unearths bones and skeletons from soldiers. This happens fairly often," said Fritz Kirchmeier, a spokesman for the German organization that tends the 80,000 graves for German soldiers in Normandy. Calculating German casualties is even harder. The D-Day Museum says the number is not known but is estimated at 4,000-9,000. Kirchmeier at the German graves commission said many records were destroyed in the Allied bombing of Berlin.

## Atlantic wall



The Atlantic wall was an extensive system of coastal fortifications built by the German Third Reich in 1942 which along the western coast of Europe was used to defend against an anticipated Allied invasion of the mainland from Great Britain. Many major ports and positions were made part of the Atlantic wall and received heavy fortifications, Hitler ordered them all to fight to the end and some of them remained in German hands till the unconditional surrender of Axis Forces on May 8, 1945. Several of the port fortresses were resupplied by submarine after being surrounded by Allied forces. The defenders of these positions included Slavic soldiers and SS troops. Hitler's Atlantic Wall on the coast of Normandy had been breached. The Allies, at a cost of 9,500 casualties compared with 4-10,000 Germans, were ashore in Fortress Europe. Also after their victory in the Atlantic in 1943, the allies could maintain seaborne logistics without considerable difficulty



## Lost soldiers



Soldiers who died at Omaha beach. Biggest lost out of all the landing with more than 2000 men lost either drowned caused by the bad weather or killed off by opposing forces. The beach was located on the northern coast of France, facing the English Channel, and was 5 miles (8 km) long, from east of Sainte-Honorine-des-Pertes to west of Vierville-sur-Mer on the right bank of the Douve river estuary. Landings here were necessary in order to link up the British landings to the east with the American landing to the west at Utah beach, thus providing a continuous lodgement on the Normandy coast of the Bay of the Seine.

## Allies takeover



With the allies attacking the beaches, the Germans could do nothing but defend. All the beaches were taken over by the allies which forced the German to retreat. By July 1944, some one million Allied troops, mostly American, British, and Canadian, were entrenched in Normandy. During the great invasion, the Allies assembled nearly three million men and stored 16 million tons of arms, munitions, and supplies in Britain. The occupation of Normandy was crucial for the Western Allies to bring the war to the western border of Germany. The map shows the areas which each country invaded UTAH, OMAHA, GOLD, JUNO and SWORD beach.

What are some of the different historians and veterans view about D Day and its outcome



This is a memorial for the soldiers who gave their lives to fight against the antagonist Germans. The image is the national memorial to the D-Day veterans of World War II. it is located in Bedford, Virginia because this city lost more men per capita on D-Day than any other U.S. town or city. Richard So. Reynolds Sr garden is what this place is called in tribute to him an industrialist who took uncommon risks to prepare the American Aluminum industry for war.

## D Day veterans at Omaha



Those who fought on D Day go back to remember those who fought with their lives to protect the people they love. Friends and family, these veterans come to commemorate the true heroes of this world. People in the photo were few of tens of thousands of young Americans who on June 6, 1944, took part in the D-Day landings. The soldiers all came on 6 June 2006 to pay respect to fellow soldiers as they remember the past and their friends who risk their life to protect their loved ones.

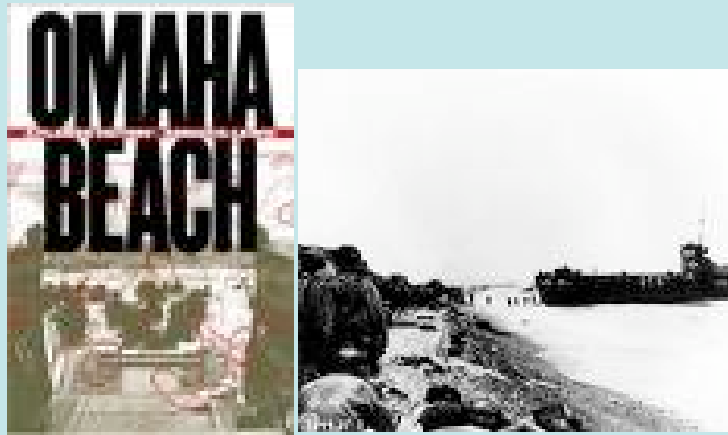
# Dwight D Eisenhower



But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

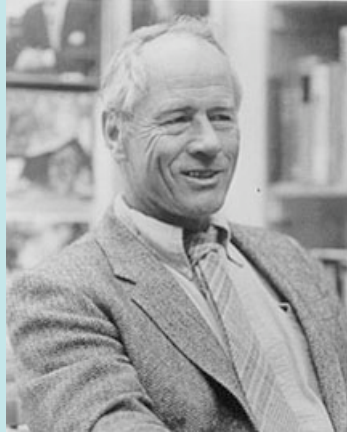
This is Dwight D. Eisenhower speech to his Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force! He used this to encourage his men that although the enemy had superior weaponry they still had a chance for victory.

## Adrian Lewis' view



Adrian Lewis, the author of Omaha beach considered the the victory at Omaha beach a flawed victory. His thoughts on d day showed the invasion plan was flawed as the beach was a natural defence with its rocky cliff terrains.He also states how the invasion violated common sense as a assault during daylight seemed to be the most costly way to assault a beach. He argues that whilst the blame for the disastrous losses traditionally lay with leaders at the site, responsibility belonged to higher levels of operations and strategy planning.Had Allied forces at the other landing sites faced German forces of the quality and quantity of those at Omaha Beach, Lewis says, they too would have suffered heavy casualties and faced the prospect of defeat.

# Stephen Ambrose



A veteran and author of a novel

His thought on D Day was that it was the pivot point of the 20th century. It was the day on which the decision was made as to who was going to rule in this world in the second half of the 20th century. Is it going to be Nazism, is it going to be communism, or are the democracies going to prevail? If we would have failed on Omaha beach and on the other beaches on the 6th June in 1944, the struggle for Europe would have been a struggle between Hitler and Stalin, and we would have been out of it.



## Von Rundstedt



"Had I been able to move the armored divisions which I had behind the coast, I am convinced that the invasion would not have succeeded."

Lack of air power, and interference from higher levels, played major roles in the defeat of the German Army after the Normandy invasion, according to Field Marshal von Rundstedt. But the former German commander-in-chief in the West has admitted that the Allied commanders outsmarted him several times to make the situation even worse.

Von Rundstedt, the former commander -in-chief of the German. He talks about what was the cause of his defeat. Caught in the position of a boxer up against an opponent with both a good left hook and a good right cross, Von Rundstedt guessed incorrectly that the right cross—the invasion of the Cotentin Peninsula—was merely a feint to the landing of the left hook—an invasion of the Belgian or French coast farther north. By the time he and his successors discovered that the right cross was really the knockout blow, it was too late to save anything but remnants of the German Army in France.