

D-Day 6 June 1944 75th Anniversary



SMSC and Hazeley Values

What was D-Day?

- **The D-Day landing** in 1944, during **World War Two (WW2)**, was the biggest invasion by sea in history.
- It's a key date in the story of WW2.
- It happened on **6 June 1944** after five years of war with Germany. The whole operation was codenamed **Overlord**.
- A **massive military force** set out from the **UK towards France**.



Landing craft headed
for Normandy beaches

What was the aim of D-Day?

- D-Day was going to overthrow **Nazi Germany** and its leader **Adolf Hitler**. The Nazis had taken over nearly the whole of Europe.
- The Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, in France, and started to **break through the German army's defences**.
- They began an attack that lasted for **eleven months** and took them all the way to the German capital Berlin, to the **bunker** that was Adolf Hitler's headquarters.



Allied boats and
aircraft at Normandy

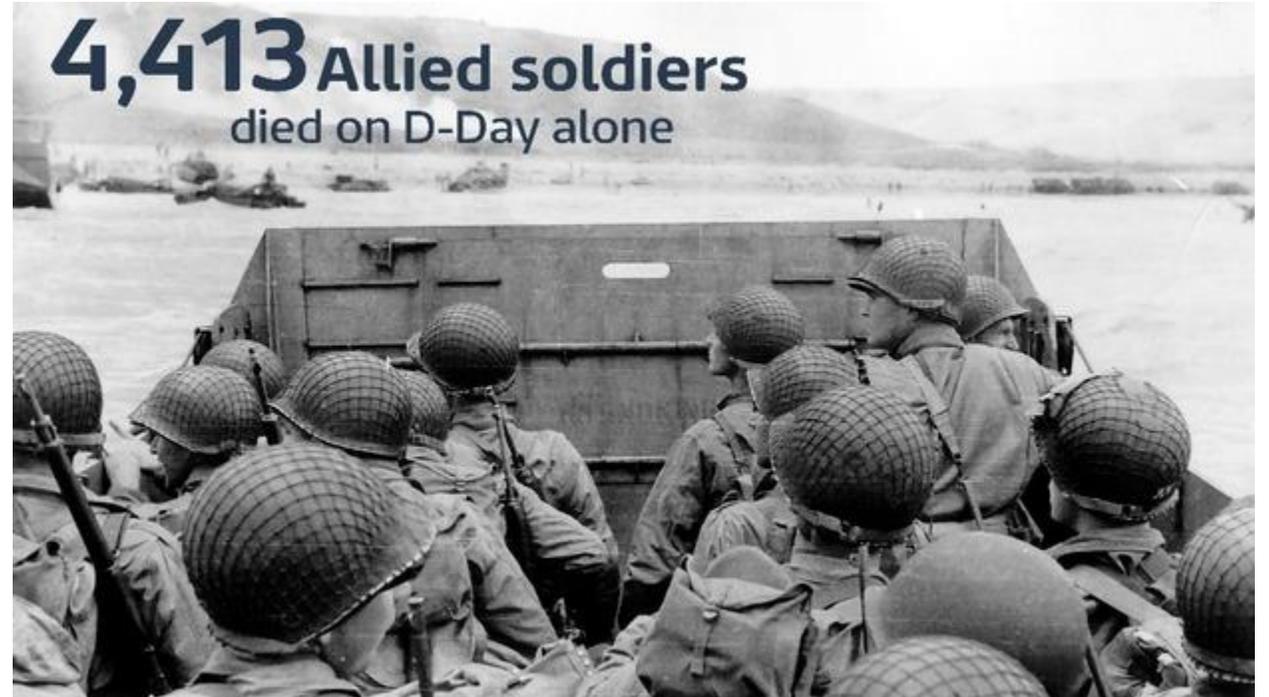
What happened on D-Day? The largest seaborne invasion in history...

1. Allied planes and warships bombed German positions along the beaches to damage the defences making it easier for the troops to get ashore.
2. At the same time planes dropped tens of thousands of allied soldiers behind the German defences. They took control of important roads and bridges. This made it harder for the German army to rush extra men towards areas where the troops were landing.



What does the 'D' stand for on D-Day?

- The '**D**' in **D-Day** does not stand for anything, 'D-Day' is a **name** the military use when planning an event.
- The military started planning the details of the invasion before they knew the date when it would take place. In order to organise things like when the troop ships should leave England they referred to it as D-Day.

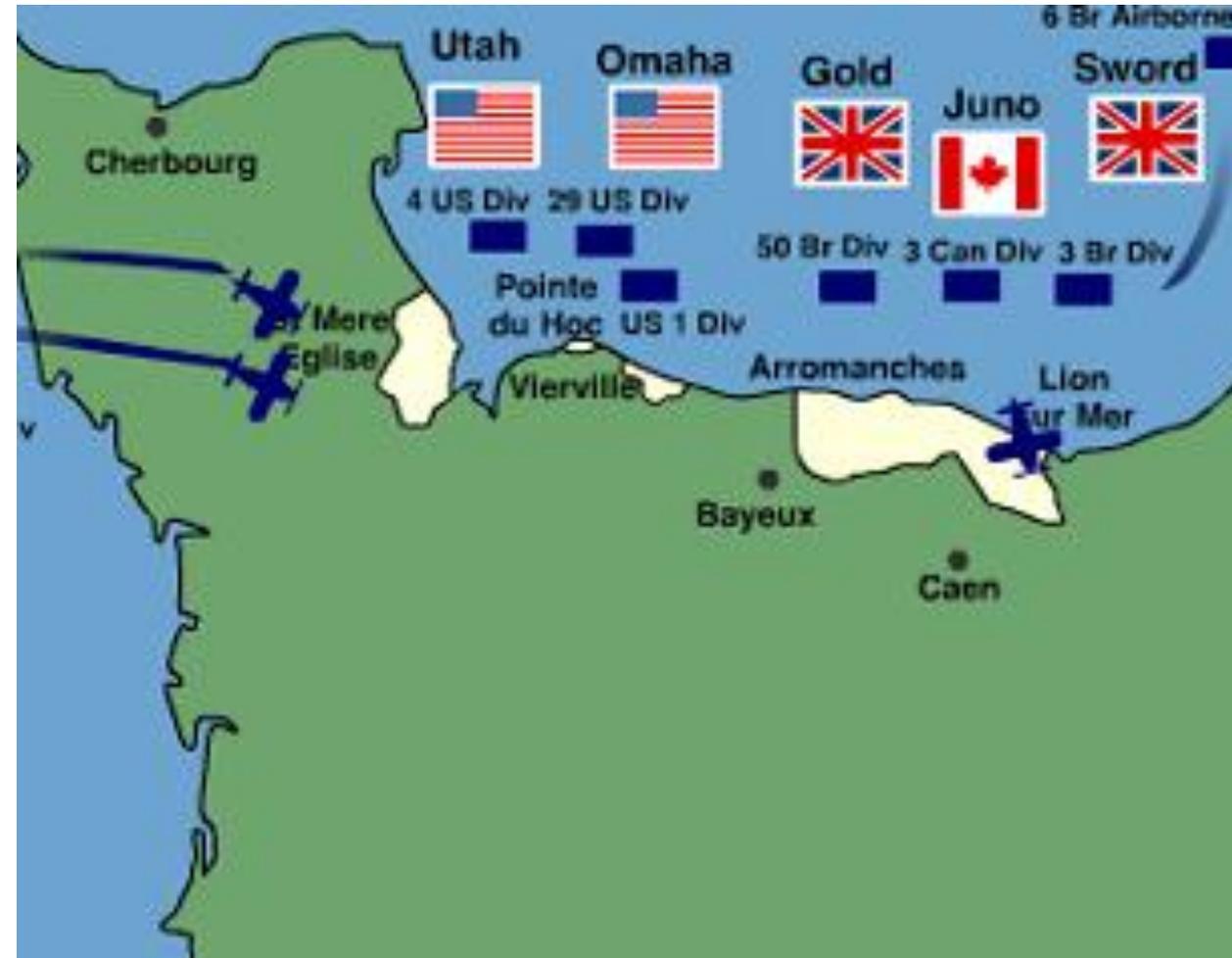


Each of the landing beaches were given a name
– Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword

- The map shows which countries were involved in D-Day.

Who are the main three countries?

- Other countries also involved on D-Day were:
Australia, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Greece, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Poland



75th Anniversary of D-Day commemorations

- Commemorations for the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings are take place this week.
- The Queen, US President Donald Trump and other heads of state are all due to attend.

Why?

- Resistance by the German army was fierce. By the time the Allies liberated Paris, in late August 1944, about 10% of the two million allied troops who had by then reached France were dead, wounded or missing.

