



ACTIVITY 1.

Reading a Map – Troop Movements on D-Day

a. Preliminary Research

Use books and/or the Internet to answer the following questions:

1. Where is Normandy located?

.....

2. Where is Normandy in relationship to London? And in relationship to Paris?

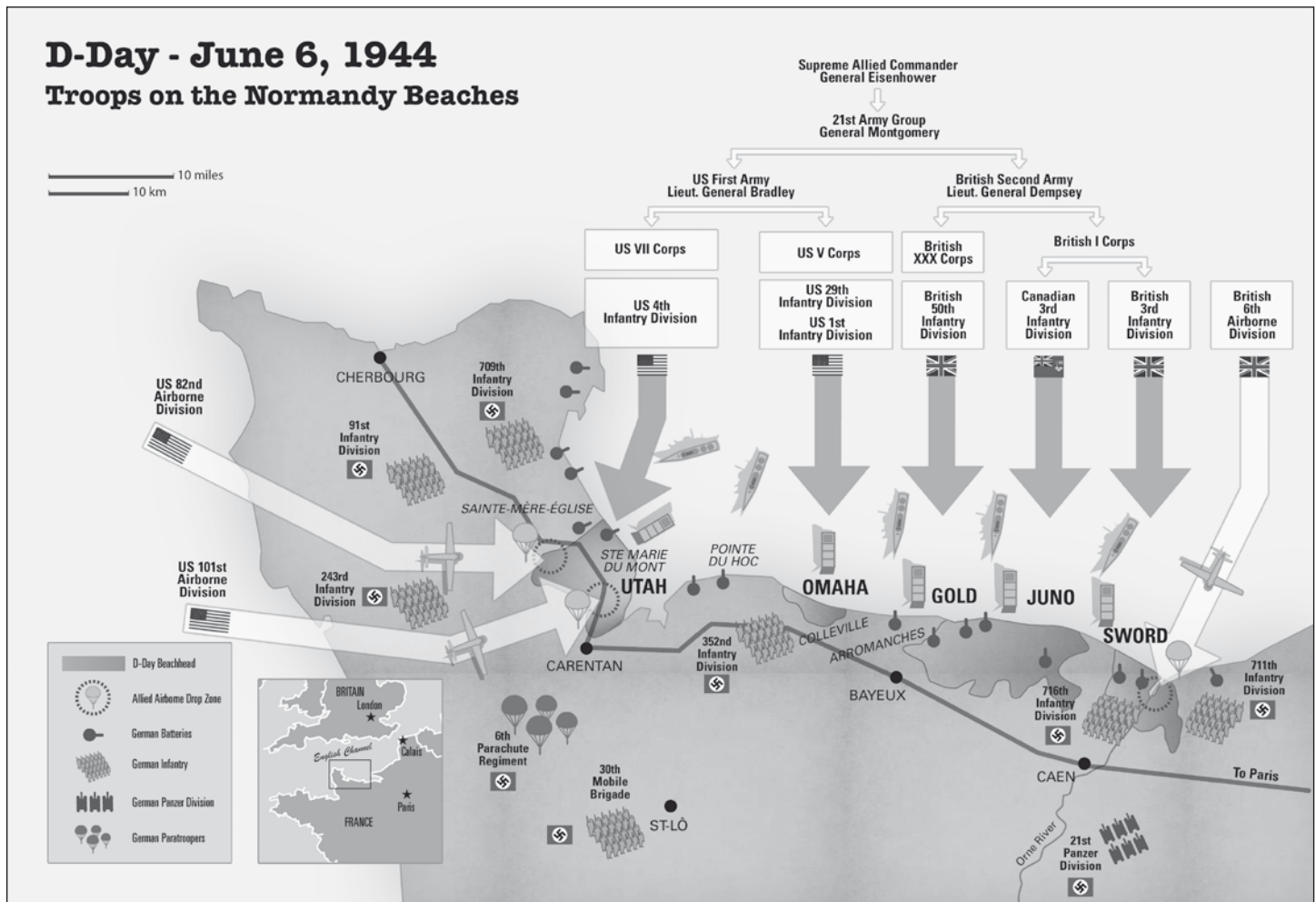
.....

3. Where are the French cities of Calais and Cherbourg located in relationship to the coast of England?

.....

4. To get from Normandy to Germany, which direction do you travel?

.....



b. Reading a Map - Analyze the map on the left page and answer the following questions:

1. Where were the Allied parachutists dropped?

.....

.....

2. How many US divisions took part in the landing? Name them

.....

.....

3. How many British divisions took part in the landing? Name them.

.....

.....

4. What is the nationality of the troops that landed on Juno Beach?

.....

.....

5. Using the map scale, determine the length of the invasion area.

.....

.....

6. How many German divisions can you locate? Name some of them.

.....

.....

7. How different is the German 21st Division?

.....

.....

8. Which geographical obstacle prevented the German 21st Division from attacking the Allies on D-Day?

.....

.....

9. What are the five biggest cities in the area? Name them.

.....

.....

10. Why do you think the city of Cherbourg was strategic for the Allies?

.....

.....



ACTIVITY 8.

A Bit of Logistics

How do you supply an army with food, equipment, medical supplies, ammunition and the rest of what would be needed?

D-Day was a complex and enormous undertaking assembling hundreds of thousands of soldiers, thousands of boats and planes alongside millions of tons of equipment and supplies. Logistics played a crucial role in the success of this mission.

Let's get an idea of the magnitude of the things that were needed... by calculating the following:

1. Feeding the Troops

1a. One soldier needs an average of $2 \frac{3}{4}$ pounds of food a day. 73,000 US soldiers landed by boat on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day.

How many tons of food per day were needed to feed them?

1b. The famous "2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck" was used to bring food for these 73,000 US soldiers to the depot.

How many of these trucks should be loaded per day just to carry food?

2. Ammunitions

2a. Assuming that US soldiers during WWII needed 30 lbs. of ammunition per day for their M-1 Garand semi-automatic rifle, **how many tons of ammunition were to be provided for per day for the 73,000 US troops?**

2b. The "2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton trucks" were bringing these ammunitions to the depot.

How many truckloads a day were required per day to bring the ammunition to 73,000 US soldiers?



On D-Day large transport ships brought some 132,000 infantrymen 10 nautical miles near the beaches. These troops were then dispatched and transported from ship to shore in smaller landing craft. The most well-known assault landing craft was called the Higgins boat. Each Higgins boat contained 36 men, usually 32 soldiers and a crew of three or four sailors. The speed of Higgins boats that day because of poor weather was 5 knots (5.8 mph). It took 3 minutes to swiftly embark the troops from the ship and another 3 minutes to disembark them on the beach.

Consequently, how many Higgins boats would you need to make sure all your troops can be transported to the beaches?

Imagine that you need to bring supplies to the troops from the deep-water harbor of Cherbourg to a depot in Caen that is 80 miles away. You use $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton trucks that each get 4 miles per gallon.