



EDUCATIONAL BOOKLET

Welcome to the Utah Beach Museum!
Raised on the very ground where American troops landed in Normandy, the museum honors the soldiers who risked their lives to free France during the Second World War.

You will discover the events that unfolded on this beach June 6th, 1944.

HAVE A GOOD VISIT!!

FROM THE BUILDING TO THE MEMORIAL

You are in the entrance hall:

Have you noticed what type of building the museum was built over?

- An American blockhouse
- A German blockhouse
- An old French farm

Read the panels to your left:

In what year was this museum built?


- 1944
- 1962
- 2011

By who? Why?

.....

.....

.....



THE GERMAN DEFENSES

« THE ATLANTIC WALL »

You are entering the blockhouse:



Erwin Rommel was a German general Hitler charged with defending the Normandy coasts. After having actively participated in the battle of France in 1940 and commanded the Afrika Korps during the battle of El Alamein in 1942, he is the one who ordered the reinforcement of the Atlantic Wall (coastal defense system) in the Cotentin.

How many people were mobilized to build this wall?

.....

In what way does the construction of this wall show the level of mobilization during the Second World War?

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.....
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What is this machine's name? What does it do?

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.....
.....

Which one of these boots' characteristics reflects the cruelty and barbarity of Nazi Germany?

.....
.....



THE COTENTIN UNDER OCCUPATION

After having passed the window showing the various pharmaceutical vials and bottles used by the German army, you are in the space dedicated to the Occupation and Resistance:

In the text of « The Cotentin under occupation », find 4 words that reference the dictatorship and terror occasioned by German occupation:

-
-
-
-

MONTOIRE'S INTERVIEW

When did it take place?

Who are the two people in the picture?

What name was given to the alliance of the two countries made that day?



« ON AVAIT UNE VIE DE MISERE, UNE VIE DE PLUS EN PLUS DURE, DE PLUS EN PLUS MALHEUREUSE. »

Michel De Vallavieille

What is Jules Fafin's situation during the Second World War?

How many others were in his situation ?



Give two examples of German requisition:

-
-

Complete the following sentence:

« In April, a kilo of butter costs francs, in February it will cost francs. »



JUNE 18th, 1940 CALL TO ARMS
Who sent this?

To whom?
Why?



What was this TSF's purpose?

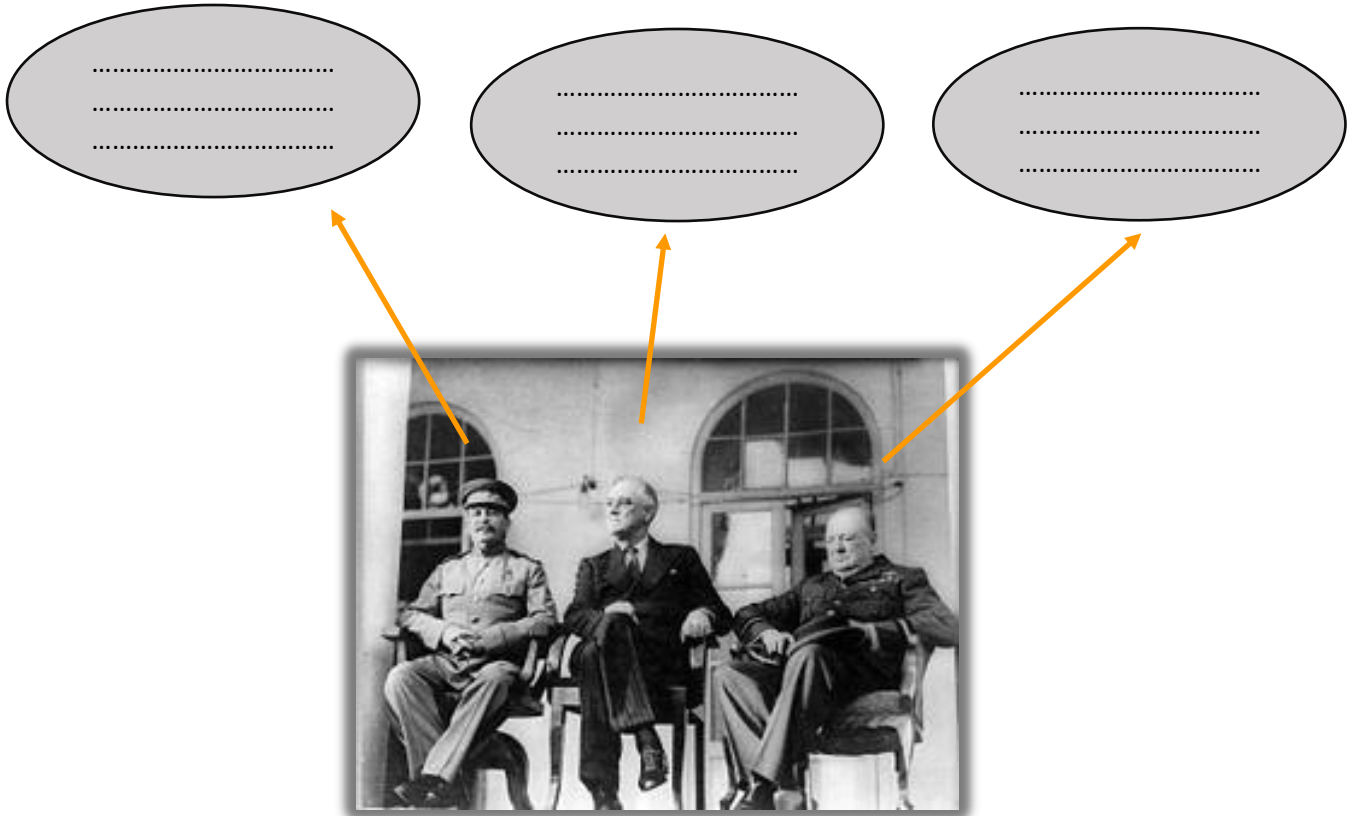


What role did the Cotentin Resistance play in the allied invasion?

Who wrote this flyer? Why?

ALLIED STRATEGY

Who are these people and which countries do they represent?



Where did they meet? What great decision did they take during this conference?

.....

.....

Who was General Eisenhower?

What was his role in the Normandy invasion?

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.....

.....

What office did he take in 1952 and again in 1956?

.....





What codename was given to the Normandy invasion?

.....

Place Utah Beach on the map.

What are the other beaches? Name them on the map below:



ALLIED NAVAL FORCES

What was « Force U »:

- The naval force landing at Cherbourg
- The naval force landing at Utah Beach
- The aerial force in charge of destroying German fortifications

Describe this poster: What do you see? What is the message?

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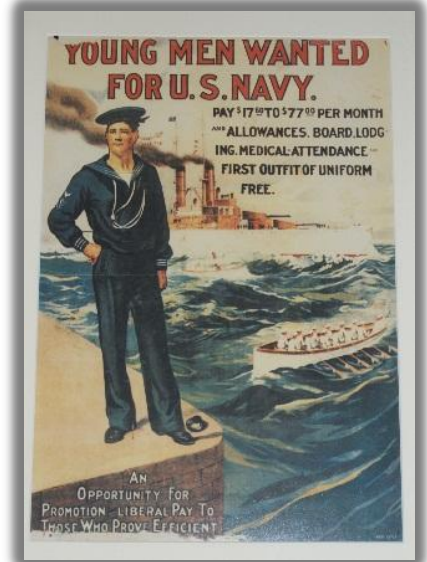
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Look at the five branch star in this window. What do you think it is made of? Can one say it is a symbol of unity?

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In what way is the Water Buffalo « amphibious »?

- Because it can transport men and supplies
- Because it can move on ground or in water
- Because it can catapult munitions



AERIAL FORCES

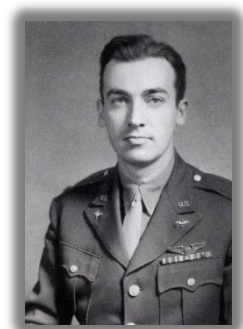
You are entering the section dedicated to aerial forces. Start by the recess to your left:

What does the acronym FAFL mean?

F..... A..... F..... L.....

How many soldiers were assigned to the FAFL?

.....



Who was David DEWHURST?

.....

.....

Go through the glass doors and enter the replicated hangar (its architecture is similar to those they had at the time):

What is the name of the plane in the hangar?

.....

Who piloted this particular one?

.....

How many machine guns does this plane have?

- 5
- 8
- 11



Leave the Hangar and enter the « Briefing room » on your right. Feel the atmosphere and listen to the commentary.

What tools, used today in geography, were used to meticulously prepare Operation Overlord?

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.....

SAINT EXUPERY' S LETTER

After leaving the Briefing room, take a right and read Saint Exupery's letter to an American on the left-handed panel.

What message do you think Antoine de Saint Exupery was trying to communicate?

.....

.....

In what year was it written?

.....



LAND FORCES

Walk along the landing craft and read the information to your right:



Who was Theodore Roosevelt?

- President Franklin Roosevelt's nephew and the son of former President Theodore Roosevelt
- President Franklin's cousin and son of former President Theodore Roosevelt
- President Franklin's uncle and cousin of former President Theodore Roosevelt

Why can we say he demonstrated great bravery during the invasion?

.....

.....

.....

Go around the craft and read the information on the various panels:

Find two objects that demonstrate the violence of the firefights on Utah Beach on the morning of June 6th 1944.

Justify your answers:

.....

.....

.....

.....

Find the everyday objects the Americans brought with them during the 1944 invasion. Write down three of them:

-
-
-

6 JUNE 44 D DAY ON UTAH BEACH

Climb the stairs and pass the walkway. You will come to a large round room with a view of Utah Beach. Begin your descent. All the information necessary is provided on the window panels:

Link each event on the morning of June 6th 1944 with the appropriate time:

Naval bombardment	6h30
H Hour	7h
Capture of WN5	7h15
Anti-tank wall use	6h33
USS CORRY's grounding	6h40
Amphibious tank landings	5h36

Name two of the men in the picture? What are they doing?

.....
.....



LINK-UP



What type of soldiers made up the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions?

- Paratroopers
- Pilots
- Infantrymen

Who was Lieutenant Winters? What battle did he win?

.....

.....

.....

What is the « link-up »? Why was it crucial in pushing the Germans back?

.....

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.....

FROM UTAH TO CHERBOURG

« The war of the hedgerows »

Leave the main hall and enter the space titled « From Utah to Cherbourg »

Why do you think the Americans nicknamed the battle for Normandy “the war of the hedgerows”?

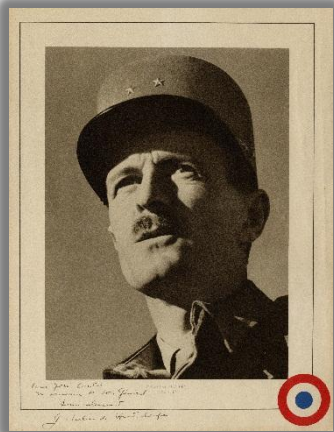
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What is the Medal of Honor?

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How many soldiers were awarded it during the battle of Normandy?

.....



What French general, known for his liberation of Paris, landed at Utah Beach on August 1st 1944?

.....
.....

Why do you think Cherbourg was a crucial objective for allied forces?

.....
.....

Americans invested a lot in the medical field.
Their progress in this domain is in full swing.
What First Aid innovations were used? List two:

-
-



In your opinion, why does the American army expend so much effort to save wounded soldiers?

.....

ARTIFICIAL HARBORS

Why did the Americans build a harbor on Utah Beach?

.....

.....

.....

How many men landed thanks to this harbor in the summer of 1944?

- 23000
- 836 000
- 1 million

OUTDOOR MONUMENTS

Link each photo to the appropriate description:

Monument of the 1st US Engineer Brigade



Monument of the 4th US Infantry Division



Monument of the 90th US Infantry Division



US Federal monument



US Navy monument



THE DUTY OF REMEMBERANCE

What is the purpose in remembering historical events?

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.....

In what year was the Universal Declaration of Human Rights written? Why then?

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.....
.....



GLOSSARY

Water Buffalo:

Amphibious tank used during the invasion.

Blockhouse:

Fortified emplacement, protected from enemy fire.

TSF emplacement:

TSF is a wireless radio receiver that allowed locals and allies to listen to London's clandestine radio stations.

Briefing room:

Meeting room in which soldiers would meet to organize and plan the invasion.

Naval artillery:

Equipment used by Allied ships to bombard the beaches.

WN5:

Name of the German blockhouse on Utah Beach. It is here that Arthur Jahnke and his men fought the Americans landing on the beach.

Antitank wall:

Wall built by the Germans to slow the Allied advance and prevent their tanks from getting through.

KEY DATES

September 1st 1939:

German invasion of Poland. Start of the Second World War.

June 18th 1940:

General De Gaulle's call to arms.

June 22nd 1940:

Marechal Petain signs the armistice between France and Germany.

December 7th 1941:

Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

February 2nd 1943:

First German failure, at Stalingrad, of the Second World War.

June 6th 1944:

Allied invasion (Americans, British, Canadians, Danes...) of the Normandy beaches.

August 15th 1944:

Allied invasion of Provence, in the south of France.

April 30th 1945:

Soviet occupation of Berlin and Hitler's suicide.

May 8th 1945:

Surrender of Germany. End of the World War.

August 1945:

The United States drop the first and only two atomic bombs of History on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the 6th and 9th of August, respectively.

September 2nd 1945:

Japan surrenders.