

# D – Day Invasion



# Goal

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- Invade occupied Germany
- First step in liberating Europe & forcing Hitler to surrender

# The Plan

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- Dwight Eisenhower in charge
  - Knew Germany was expecting an invasion of France
- Knew it was dangerous but we could do it !



# Facts

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- Largest sea-to land invasion
- Germany planted mines and stretched barbed wire
- German soldiers waited in bombproof bunkers



# D-Day

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- Designated Day
- June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944
- Crossed English Channel and landed on five beaches in Normandy



# Figures

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- 6,000 ships
- 11,000 planes
- 156,000 men



# Battle

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- Americans landed on two beaches
  - Omaha and Utah
- Fighting on Omaha was the worst
  - 3,000 men killed or wounded



# Victory

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- By the end, all five beaches were secure
- Allies began driving east through France





# Two Questions

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- What did Eisenhower mean when he said, “The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you”?
  
- Why do you think D-Day succeeded?