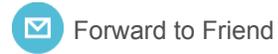


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GENERAL 'LY SPEAKING

June 6, 2019

#DDAY75

Dispatches From
The Eisenhower Memorial Commission

Remembering D-Day

June 6, 1944 - June 6, 2019



General Eisenhower talking to paratroopers as they prepare for the invasion of Normandy, June 5, 1944, Greenham Common, England

“75 years ago the decision whether to launch the



Countdown to Dedication

336

DAYS

- MAY 8, 2020 -

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largest amphibious invasion in history rested on the shoulders of one remarkable leader. The success of that operation and the progress of the last 75 years were possible, in substantial measure, because of the leadership of Dwight D. Eisenhower. We still have much to learn from his example.”

- [Representative Mac Thornberry \(R/TX\)](#),
Eisenhower Memorial Commissioner and
Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Committee

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Ike's Timeless Legacy: Special D-Day Edition

Today marks the 75th anniversary of D-Day, the Allied invasion of Normandy. Under the supreme command of General Eisenhower, roughly 160,000 British, Canadian, and American troops engaged in the largest amphibious invasion in history, successfully gaining a foothold on the European continent. Less than a year later, the Allies liberated the people of Western Europe from Nazi tyranny.

General Eisenhower and all of the brave men and women of the Allied Forces deserve our reflection and gratitude for liberating Europe and defending the people of the free world. 75 years later, let us salute the heroism and sacrifice of the "Greatest Generation!"

"Order of the Day"

Written to motivate and encourage, Eisenhower's *Order of the Day* was distributed to each sailor in advance of the invasion. It is likely best known for the iconic line, "We will accept nothing less than full Victory!"

Make a Contribution

Join us in honoring and celebrating Ike's life and legacy by memorializing him in our Nation's capital.

Donate at
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Appointment Pending



"Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force! You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you..."

– General Eisenhower,
Excerpted from the *Order of the Day*, June 6, 1944

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Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely.

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!

I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.



Dwight D. Eisenhower

Anne Eisenhower
Susan Eisenhower
Mary Jean Eisenhower

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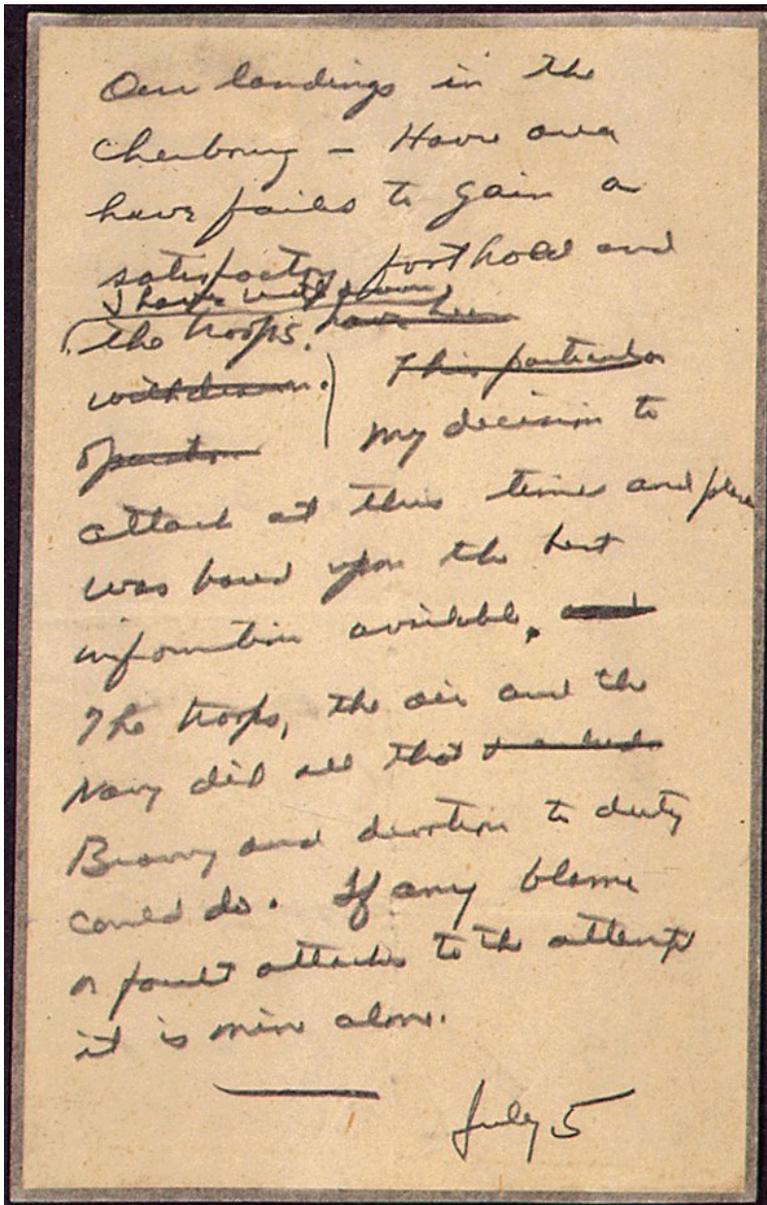
Nancy Kassebaum Baker
Leonard Boswell (1934 - 2018)
Nicholas F. Brady

"In Case of Failure"

In addition to the *Order of the Day* for June 6, 1944, General Eisenhower also penned a lesser known document. Ike knew that he was about to thrust the soldiers, sailors, and airmen of the Allied Forces into the largest amphibious invasion in the history of mankind and that the decision to do so was his alone. Therefore, Ike prepared the *In Case of Failure* note on June 5, stating:

"Our landings in the Cherbourg-Havre area have failed to gain a satisfactory foothold and I have withdrawn the troops. My decision to attack at this time and place was based upon the best information available. The troops, the air and the Navy did all that bravery and devotion to duty could do. If any blame or fault attaches to the

attempt it is mine alone."



The letter is mistakenly signed July 5 instead of June 5. A possible indication of the immense burden General Eisenhower alone carried.

D-Day, 1944: The Decision that Changed the World

Beverly Butcher Byron

Bob Bennett (1933 - 2016)

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Blanche L. Lincoln

Ray McGrath

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Jim Slattery

Todd Tiahrt

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Leaders of Industry

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Fred Malek (1936 - 2019)

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Frederick W. Smith

John Whitehead (1922 - 2015)

Leaders of Arts & Culture



[VIDEO]

[D-Day, 1944: The Decision that Changed the World](#)

The E-Memorial enables visitors, especially students and their teachers, to engage with the history and legacy of D-Day and Eisenhower's command in greater detail.

The Pivotal Moment feature film [D-Day, 1944: The Decision that Changed the World](#) provides an overview of the magnitude of Ike's decision to launch the invasion and various [substories](#) provide in-depth looks into the planning and execution of the largest amphibious invasion in history.

Bringing Ike's D-Day Legacy to the Classroom

Tom Brokaw

Harold Burson

Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel

Tom Hanks

Norman Lear

Distinguished Americans

John Duke Anthony

Merrill Eisenhower Atwater

Judy Burgess

Gerry Cassidy

Andy Demetriou

Adriana Echavarria-Eisenhower

Larry Field

Lou Galambos

Jane Gosden

Larry Harlow

Vernon Jordan

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Tom Lorentzen

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Tim McGivern

Ralph Mecham (1928 - 2019)

Paul O'Day (1935 - 2017)

Roswell B. Perkins (1926 - 2019)

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Gilbert A. Robinson

Matt Schlapp

John Shlaes (1942 - 2015)

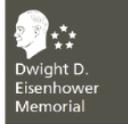
Jill Sommers

C. Langhorne Washburn
(1918 - 2011)

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Frank O. Gehry
Memorial Designer

Nick Benson
Inscription Artist



NATIONAL EISENHOWER MEMORIAL
EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

LESSON

D-Day: Advising Eisenhower



Duration

One 45-minute period

Grades

7-12

Cross-curriculum Application

U.S. History, World History, Geography, English

Lesson plans developed by George Mason University's Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media complement the film and substories, enabling students to think about the role that deception played in a successful invasion and to learn about Ike's leadership qualities as captured in the iconic photo of his visit with the troops before D-Day and the Memorial's sculpture grouping.

- [Art of Deception: Selling a Story to the German Army](#)
- [Eisenhower and the Troops: A Story of a Photograph](#)
- [D-Day: Advising Eisenhower](#)

Download all lessons from the E-Memorial [website](#).

Test Your Ike'spertise

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Tomas Osinski
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Waging Peace: Jack Foust Matlock, Jr.

Little Rock: David Nichols

Space Race: Roger Launius

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The Eisenhower Institute at
Gettysburg College

The Eisenhower Fellowships

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Presidential Library and Museum

The Eisenhower Foundation

People to People International



The United States Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1915, Gettysburg, PA

Eisenhower graduated from West Point on June 12, 1915. Which nickname was given to his graduating class?

- A) The class of the leading stars
- B) The class that redefined The Point
- C) The class the stars fell on
- D) The class of the courageous cadets

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Trivia Answer: C) The class the stars fell on

The West Point graduating class of 1915 would become known as "The class the stars fell on." More than 1/3rd of the class attained the rank of General, the highest percentage in the history of the Academy. Two members of the class — Eisenhower and Omar Bradley — reached the Five-Star rank of General of the Army during their service in World War II. There were also 2 Four-Star Generals, 7 Three-Star Lieutenant Generals, 24 Two-Star Major Generals, and 24 One-Star Brigadier Generals. For Ike, the memories of cadet life resonated with increasing importance in his later years. One of Ike's oldest friends who served with him during WWII, General Mark Clark, described a visit to Ike on his deathbed: "But you know, all he wanted to talk about was West Point. Not about being president, not about being supreme commander, about D-Day, none of that. West Point was all, ever."

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