



Company E—16th Infantry Division attacks Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6th, 1944.

June 6, 1944

The invasion of German occupied France was finally ready by the summer of 1944. Allied commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower faced many problems with such an attack. First, keeping it a secret from the many German spies was critical. He also had to find a way to transport the enormous invasion force across the English Channel and provide it with enough supplies. Thirdly, Germany knew the attack was coming but they just didn't know where. Finally, on June 6th, 1944, over 5,000 Allied ships crossed the English Channel and attacked the French coast near Normandy. Despite the intense fire and loss of life (90% of the men in the 1st wave of the attack were wounded) the Allied armies held the beach and turned the tide of the war in our favor.

1. Identify a potential danger you see in the photo.
2. Who was the commander of the invasion?
3. What 3 problems did the commander face?
4. Which of the 3 problems do you think was the hardest to solve? Why?
5. Video: How long had the Allies been planning D-Day?
6. Video: How did FDR speak to the nation that evening?
7. Video: What is the narrator implying at the end of the video clip?