

A TEENAGE SOLDIER LANDING NORMANDY

On 6th June 1944, at dawn, landing in Normandy began. Europe was occupied by the Nazis. The Allies decided to land in France on Normandy coasts. They wanted to put to flight the Germans. Stan Anderson, a young American soldier, only 20 years old, landed onto Omaha beach.

How did you arrive in Normandy ?

We left Portland in the west of England at dawn. The Canadians left Portsmouth in the middle of the British coast and the British left Newhaven and Shoreham in the East.

We joined the meeting point in the Channel in a flat-bottomed ship. After that we sailed towards the beaches of Normandy.

Some of my regimental comrades-in-arms arrived in Normandy by plane.

What was your role on D-Day ?

During the first two waves, my regimental comrade paratroopers arrived by planes. Their goal was to cut the German lines of communication.

I was a soldier of the third wave. I had to cross Omaha beach to fight the German soldiers.

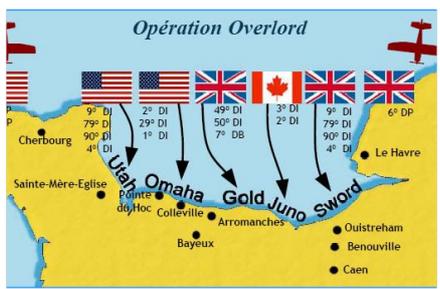


Arrival on the beach

<https://en.normandie-tourisme.fr/discover/history/d-day-and-the-battle-of-normandy/main-phases/>

What was your feeling when the ships were ashored ?

The beach was covered with « asparagus » to help the ship to land on the beach. When the doors opened, I was scared and anxious. The noise was just unreal. There was a lot of shellfire, the Germans shot us with machine-guns. They were protected by the Atlantic wall. It was just terrible and frightening. We had to cross the beach, I saw a lot of my regimental comrades fall. The casualties and the dead people covered the beach. With my heavy equipment the crossing of beach was rude.



Were you proud to take part in the D-Day ?

Yes sure ! It's a big event for the world ! It's a pride for me to have taken part into the landing in Normandy.

The beaches of Normandy

<https://www.pinterest.fr/pin/477663104201094437/>

