Allied Deceptions in WWII

Shelby Mason
Junior Division
Individual Exhibit
Project: 497
Process paper: 500

My original topic was going to be about female spies and how they communicated to each other in World War II. When I was reading a book about spies, I came across information which interested me about a ghost army. I found out that the Allies were deceiving the Nazis with a fake army. I decided to change my topic to Allied Deceptions in World War II because the idea of the Allies tricking or deceiving the Axis powers attracted me. I liked the different ways that they communicated false information to make the Axis powers believe something that was not true even if it involved a dead body or fake dummies.

I started my research by searching the public library catalog to find books on the ghost army and on WWII deceptions. I also searched for websites, videos, and pictures with information on military deceptions. At first, it was hard to find books at my level, but the information I found gave me the names of Allied deception campaigns. I used these names to search for more articles, documentaries, and online videos. I told my grandma about my project and she found a book she had on WWII covert operations. While getting information, I wrote down what I thought was interesting and this information led me to other areas to research. I also found a number of books and websites with interesting information on deception used by the U.S. military before and after WWII. Particularly interesting to me was that the Union Army used fake "Quaker" cannons here in New Mexico at Fort Craig that discouraged the Confederate Texas unit from attacking the fort directly and helped prevent the Confederates from having success in New Mexico. I mostly used books, website articles, videos, and some documentaries as sources.

I chose an exhibit for my presentation category. The exhibit board is visual and easier for me to organize my thoughts for presenting my information. During my research, I found that the pictures from the World War II deceptions made me more interested in my topic and I wanted to

use them in my presentation. Exhibit boards are visual which adds color and interest and uses

my artistic capabilities. I chose the colors to complement the black and white photos, the maps

and each other.

"Allied Deceptions in WWII" relates to the theme "Communication in History: The Key

to Understanding" because the Allies used deception campaigns against the Nazis to

communicate false information which influenced the outcome of the war. They communicated

disinformation through their physical actions, with decoys, dead bodies, technology, and with

written and verbal lies. The false information was successful in strengthening the Nazis' belief

the Allies would invade at Calais. The Allies got a foothold in Normandy which led to them

winning World War II. Knowing this information helps us understand how communication can

be manipulated to achieve a specific outcome. Deception is still part of military doctrine and

was used as recently as the Gulf War.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary

D-Day: Archive video of the Normandy Landings. U.S. National Archives.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbXtUZoPL2o

This Archive video gave me a feeling for what D-Day was about and its importance. This video did not have anything about deceptions on D-Day. The video showed how harsh war can be as well as how plans were made back then in World War II.

Amidon, A. (2014) The First D-Day Documentary. National Archives the Unwritten Record.
https://unwritten-record.blogs.archives.gov/2014/09/09/the-first-d-day-documentary/

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Major Martin's ID card [Photograph]. (n.d.). National Archives of UK.

The ID card helps show what the body's fabricated personal information was like, his birthday, rank and more, to deceive the Germans to believe the identity was real.

Items on dead body [Photograph]. (n.d.). National Archives of UK.

This helps show some of the items planted on the corpse to make the body's backstory more believable.

Major Martin's body [Photograph]. Evans, M. (n.d.). National Archives, London/The Image Works.

This Mincemeat photo helps judges and people know what the body appeared like; It also adds visual interest to the story.

Deception Plane [Photograph]. (n.d.). National Archives and Records Administration.

The photo helps viewers know what deception planes look like as well as to know that they were used to deceive the Germans.

Secondary

Kagan, N., & Hyslop, S. G. (2016). *National Geographic the secret history of World War II: Spies, code breakers & covert operations*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic.

This book had tons of information that was useful to me and my project. I read information about deceptions and how they made the Nazis believe all of the deceptions and lies. This book gave a splendid information and had real photographs and pictures to reference the deceptions in World War II. The book really gave me a lot of my information to support my project.

Linn, J. (2020, Mar 31). Ask a Curator: Ghost Army: The Combat Con Artists of World War II. Retrieved December 13, 2020, from *https://www.nationalww2museum.org/visit/museum-campus-guide/hall-democracy/senator-john-alario-jr-special-exhibition-hall/ghost-army and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSjfpkCQkmc*.

This interview with a curator of the National WW2 Museum gave me new information on the Ghost Army. It included a video of someone who was actually a part of the deception talking about what and how he was involved with Operation Bodyguard as well.

Murphy, B. (n.d.). Patton's Ghost Army. Retrieved December 14, 2020, from http://www.americainwwii.com/articles/pattons-ghost-army/

Patton's Ghost Army website had a lot of detailed information on the Ghost Army as well as General Patton himself. The Allies believed his role would strengthen the deception to trick the Germans to believe that the attack was going to be in Calais.

Bearce, S. (2015). *Top secret files: World War II*. Waco, TX: Prufrock Press.

Top Secret Files: WWII was the book that made me interested in deceptions because it introduced me to the Ghost Army. This book was a good introduction to information on the Ghost Army and Operation Mincemeat. It was mostly about spies so I only got some information on the disinformation topics.

Klein, C. (2014, June 03). Fooling Hitler: The Elaborate Ruse Behind D-Day. Retrieved December 13, 2020, from https://www.history.com/news/fooling-hitler-the-elaborate-ruse-behind-d-day

The website gave interesting information about how the Allies made the Nazis and Hitler believe D-Day would happen in one area. The website mainly helped my project by giving me more background information on the D-Day plan and the importance of the deceptions.

D-Day's Parachuting Dummies and Inflatable Tanks. (n.d.). Retrieved December 13, 2020, from
https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/d-days-parachuting-dummies-and-inflatable-tanks

This D-Day website has a good picture of an inflatable tank. Although it doesn't have a lot of new information, it helped strengthen my understanding and provided information on how they used to deceive the enemy using "window" to confuse the German radar.

Bielski, PhD., M. (2016, June 16). Operation Fortitude. Retrieved December 13, 2020, from
https://stephenambrosetours.com/operation-fortitude/

This website gives an overview of Operation Fortitude (part if Operation Bodyguard) divided into the South and the North. It told me that the Germans thought that there were more divisions than there was in reality. I also learned that they did not have a plan B for D-Day.

D-Day Deception: Operation Fortitude South. (n.d.). Retrieved December 14, 2020, from
https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/dover-castle/history-and-stories/d-day-deception/

This was a good website but it had paragraphs of information on British intelligence and Dover Castle's tunnels that didn't directly relate to the information I wanted to talk about in my presentation. It did give me how they succeeded during D-Day that the other websites did not.

Army Support to Military Deception. fas.org/irp/doddir/army/fm3-13-4.pdf.

This manual is the U.S Army's instructions on supporting military deception. The site showed three basic categories of deception: Physical means, Technical means, and Administrative means.

Baker, Richard. "The Lost and Found Art of Deception." *Www.army.mil*,
www.army.mil/article/66819/the_lost_and_found_art_of_deception.

This article gave me examples of the military's use of deception throughout U.S. history from the Revolutionary War, Civil War and up until the Gulf War. It let me know that deception was used before and after WW2.

"Fort Craig: The United States Fort on the Camino Real: Free Download, Borrow, and
Streaming." *Internet Archive*, archive.org/details/fortcraigtheunit00unse.

This book from the Bureau of Land Management shows that before WW2, the Union Army used fake cannons, called Quaker guns, at Fort Craig, NM. The Quaker guns helped deter the Confederate Army, which by-passed Fort Craig.

JP 3-13.4, Military Deception - National Defense University.
jfsc.ndu.edu/Portals/72/Documents/JC2IOS/Additional_Reading/1C3-JP_3-13-
4_MILDEC.pdf.

This is the U.S military's instructions for planning deception today. From this publication, I got quotes on the military's definition of deception and why it is used today.

Staff, HistoryNet. "Hoodwinked During America's Civil War: Union Military Deception."
HistoryNet, HistoryNet, 20 Oct. 2016, www.historynet.com/hoodwinked-during-americas-civl-war-union-military-deception.htm.

This article discussed how deception was used in the Civil War in more detail than the other websites I found. From this, I understood what a Quaker gun was and that they used this deception here in New Mexico. I found it really interesting that fake weapons were used in my home state long before WW2.

Yeide, H. (2014, March 1). *Fighting Patton: George S. Patton Jr. Through the Eyes of His Enemies.* Zenith Press.

This book discusses how the Germans viewed General Patton based on papers that survived the War and interviews with German soldiers after the War. It says that the Germans didn't connect him with the Ghost Army until after they had already been convinced the main invasion would be at Calais. I found this interesting because it shows that what the Allies were trying to communicate may not have been understood by the Nazis in the way the Allies intended.

Winston Churchill [Photograph]. (n.d.). Central Press/Hulton Archive/Getty Images.

This helped me see what he looks like and personalizes his quote on deception.

Inflatable Tank [Photograph]. Roger-Viollet. (n.d.). Getty Images.

This tank image helps show what inflatable tanks looked like during WWII which they used in operation fortitude.

Loud Speakers [Photograph]. (n.d.). Ghost Army Legacy Project.

This loud speaker picture helps show what they used to project noises of tanks, trucks and people talking to help the illusion.

General Patton [Photograph]. (n.d.). PhotoQuest/Getty Images.

The photo helps me know what Patton looked like. This also helps people know that he is the one who I am talking about in my paragraphs on Operation Bodyguard.

Adolf Hitler [Photograph]. Hoffmann, H. (n.d.). Munich.

This picture helped me know what he looks like as well as personalizes his quote.

Juan Pujol (Garbo) [Photograph]. (n.d.). National Smith Rafael Film Center.

The picture of British spy Juan Pujol, codenamed Garbo, personalizes the quote that he sent to the intelligence officers in Berlin. He is one of the many Double-Agents in WWII and he was actually awarded a medal by the Nazis for the information he provided.

Dummy Paratroopers [Photograph]. Morton, E. (n.d.). National WWII Museum, New Orleans.

This Photo shows a dummy paratrooper that was used to drop down to look like a soldier parachuting to a base camp.

Mr Ziyu Qiu. (n.d.). *Terracotta Warrior*. photograph, Liverpool.

The picture shows a terracotta warrior because Sun Tzu was also a Chinese warrior and was a military strategist near the time period the terracotta warriors were created. It helps show how Sun Tzu might have looked.

Spillett, R. (2019, May 8). The tramp that fooled Hitler: Colin Firth will play British spy who plotted with Ian Fleming to dress dead homeless man as naval officer then dump body off Spain with top secret papers to dupe the Nazis. *Daily Mail.com*. https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7005209/Colin-Firth-play-British-spy-new-Operation-Mincemeat-film.html.

This article provided a map that shows where the Welsh Laborer's body was planted to deceive the Nazis.

Chambers, G. (2019, June 6). *Famous quotes from Churchill and others on D-Day anniversary*. London Evening Standard | Evening Standard. https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/dday-quotes-famous-lines-from-winston-churchill-dwight-d-eisenhower-other-figures-as-the-world-commemorates-75th-anniversary-of-dday-a4160771.html.

This article gave me a quote from President Bush saying that the D-Day invasion at Normandy helped win the war.

Wright, D. P. (n.d.). *Deception in the Desert - Army University Press*. Deception in the Desert. https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Books/Browse-Books/iBooks-and-EPUBs/Deception-in-the-Desert/.

This article tells us how the U.S. Army used deception to win the Gulf War by making Iraq think that the U.S. would invade in the south on the Kuwait border or from the Persian Gulf. Instead, we invaded in the west.

Allied Deceptions in WWII

Left Panel Top Photo

"Appear weak when you are strong
And strong when you are weak."

-Sun Tzu   *The Art of War*

Deception was a part of military strategy throughout history, from the Trojan Horse to current military doctrine. Chinese strategist Sun Tzu wrote in c500 BC that *"All warfare is based on deception."* The Allies used physical, technical and written means to deceive the Nazis.

"Military deception is actions executed to deliberately mislead adversary military, paramilitary, or violent extremist organization decision makers, thereby causing the adversary to take specific actions (or inactions) that will contribute to the accomplishment of the friendly mission."

Joint Publication 3-13.4 Military Deception

Mr. Ziyu Qiu/liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Source credit-
Terracotta Warrior; Mr. Ziyu Qiu/ liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

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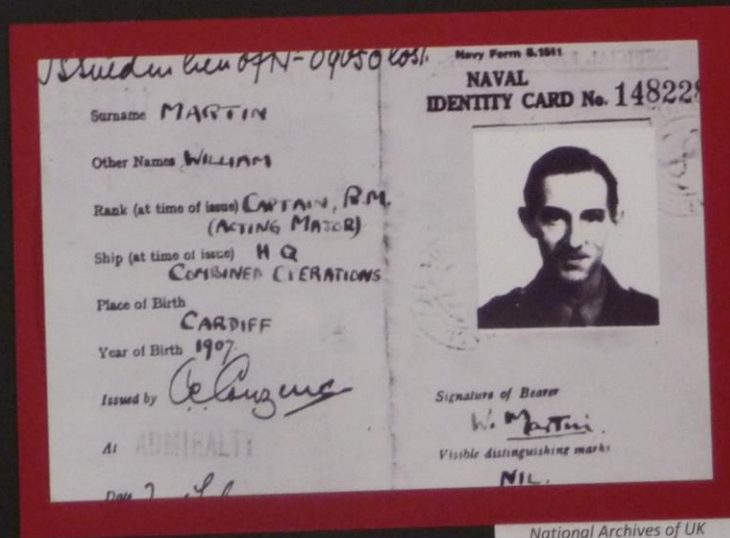liverpoolmuseums.org.uk*

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Left Panel Center Photo

Operation Mincemeat

Operation Mincemeat was a deception campaign to make the Germans believe that an attack was going to happen away from the real invasion place, Sicily. In April 1943, the Allies dressed the corpse of a homeless Welsh laborer in a major's uniform and created a new identity.

Source credits-
National Archives of UK

Left Panel Bottom Photo

Planted on the body were items to make a realistic backstory, and a briefcase handcuffed to his wrist held letters hinting the Allies were planning to invade Greece and Sardinia.

The body was found in waters south of neutral Spain so it didn't appear it was planted. The Allies begged for it back, making the pro-German fisherman who found the body give it to the Germans.

Source credit-
National Archives of UK

Source credit-
Mary Evans/ National Archives, London/ The Image Works

Source credit-
www.dailymail.co.uk

Left Panel Bottom

The body of the Welsh tramp; Glyndwr Michael aka Major William Martin RM.
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE ref: WO 106/5921

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① April 1943
Body dropped near the Spanish coast

FRAN

SPAIN

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Allied Deceptions in WWII

During World War II, the Allies carried out deception campaigns to *communicate* false information to the Nazis. These deceptions aided the Allies in winning the war.

"In wartime, truth is so precious that she should always be attended by a bodyguard of lies."

-Winston Churchill

The Secret History Of World War II;   N. Kagan & S. Hyslop

Central Press/Hulton Archive/Getty Images

Source credit-
Central Press/Hulton Archive/ Getty Images

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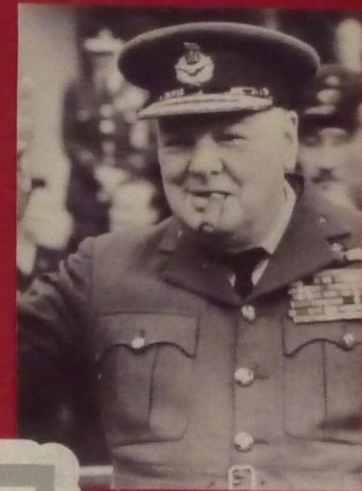
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Center Panel Center Photo

Operation Bodyguard

"Deception noun
: the act of causing someone to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid"
-Merriam-Webster

Operation Overlord was the Allied plan to invade Normandy, France on D-Day in June 1944. Its success was helped by deception plans, code named Operation Bodyguard, that made sure Hitler believed the invasion would happen at Calais which kept him from strengthening German defenses in Normandy.

"When properly resourced and integrated, deception has the potential to deter or induce actions that are favorable to the force and can increase the success of friendly activity."

-FM 3-13.4 Army Support to Military Deception

"Military deception is intended to deter hostile actions, increase the success of friendly defensive actions, or to improve the success of any potential friendly offensive action."

Joint Publication 3-13.4
Military Deception

In January 1944 the U.S. Army's first deception unit was set up in northwestern Europe. 30,000 Allies used phony reports, visual, sonic, and radio deceptions to trick the Germans. They blasted noises of tanks moving, men talking and pretend radio traffic to convince the Germans the camp was real. This Ghost Army was named from how it appeared to be there one day but gone the next.

National Geographic

gettyimages

Ghost Army Legacy Project

Source credit-
National Geographic

Source Credit-
Loud Speakers; Ghost Army Legacy Project

Source credit-
Inflatable Tank; Roger-Viollet/Getty Image

Center Panel Center

Operation Bodyguard

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Source Credit-
Loud Speakers; Ghost Army Legacy Project

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National Geographic

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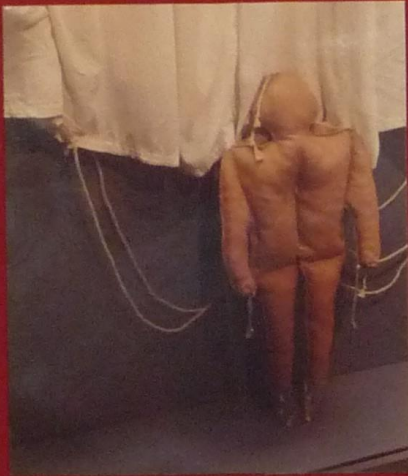
FM 3-13.4 Army Support to Military Deception

Center Panel Bottom Photo

Roger-Viollet/Getty Images

Allies set up inflatable tanks and trucks, fake airplanes and dummy paratroopers to make it seem like there was an immense army waiting to attack. They had men go to a local bar to act drunk to give "information" on the camp.

Ella Morton/National WWII Museum, New Orleans

National Archives and Records Administration

The "Ghost Army" was led by General George Patton. The Allies mistakenly believed this would strengthen the Germans' belief that something was happening in pas-de-Calais.

PhotoQuest/Getty Images

"The notion that Patton could be used to deceive the Germans appears to have arisen from a presumption about German thinking in Washington rather than any evidence that the Germans had a particular interest in the general's activities."
                                        -Harry Yeide

Center Panel Bottom

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Source Credits-
Inflatable Tank; Roger-Viollet/Getty Image
Fake Plane; National Archives and Records Administration
Dummy Paratrooper; Ella Morton/National WWII
*   Museum, New Orleans*
General Patton; Bettmann/PhotoQuest/Getty Images

"The notion that Patton could be used to deceive the Germans appears to have arisen from a presumption about German thinking in Washington rather than any evidence that the Germans had a particular interest in the generals activities."
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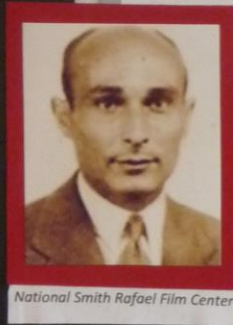
Right Panel Top Photo

Operation Overlord

"These operations [in Normandy] are a diversionary maneuver designed to draw off enemy reserves in order then to make a decisive attack in another place."

-Juan Pujol in a post-D-Day report to intelligence officers in berlin.

The Secret History Of World War II;   N. Kagan & S. Hyslop

National Smith Rafael Film Center

Source credits-
Juan Pujol/National Smith Rafael Film Center

Source credit-
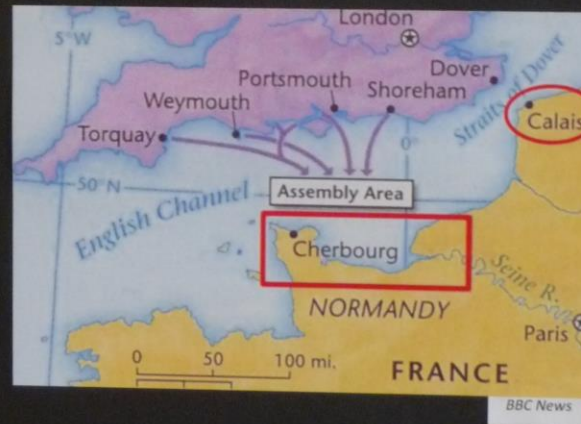*BBC News*

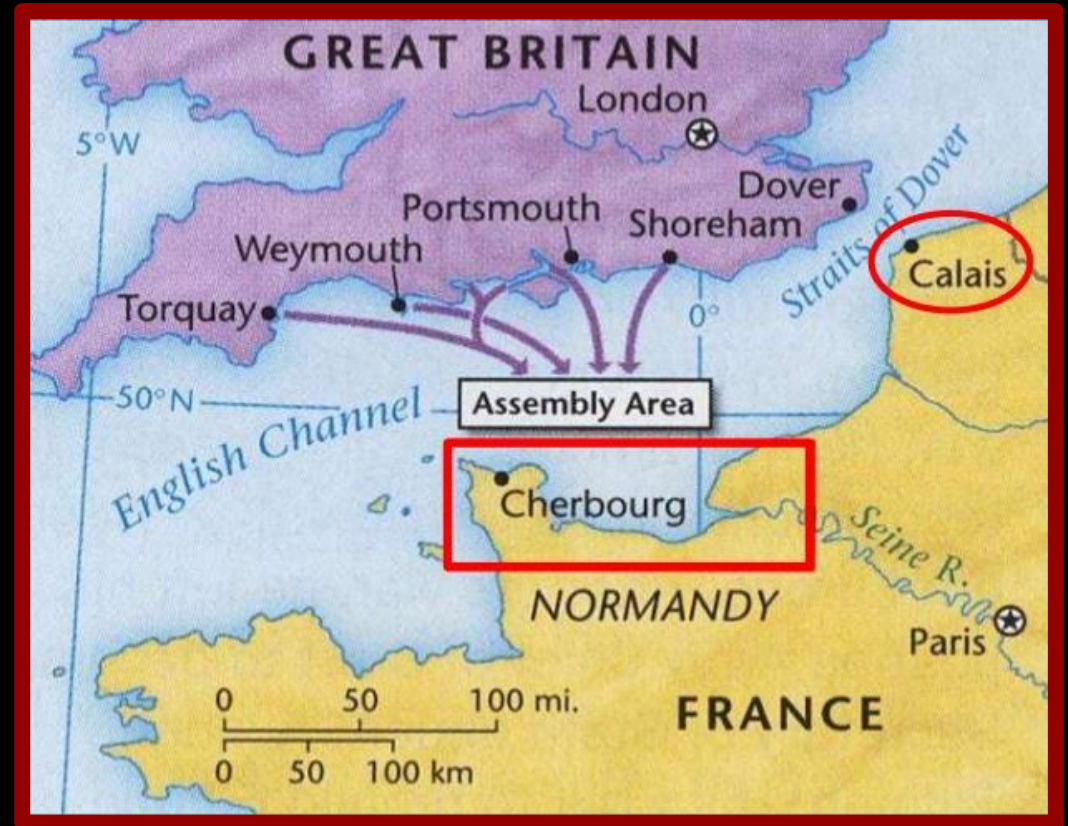## Operation Overlord

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The Secret Of World War II; N. Kagan & S. Hyslop

Source credit-
*Juan Pujol/National Smith Rafael Film Center*

Source credit-
BBC News

Right Panel Center Photo

British double-agents like Juan Pujol fed information to the Germans that helped strengthen Hitler's confidence the Allies' main invasion would be in Calais. The deceptions were so successful that when the Allies landed in Normandy, the Germans thought the landing was a feint and did not send reinforcements to Normandy. Hitler stated to the Japanese ambassador:
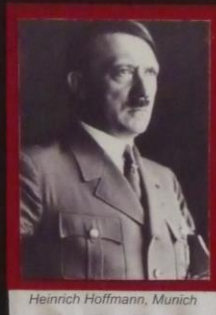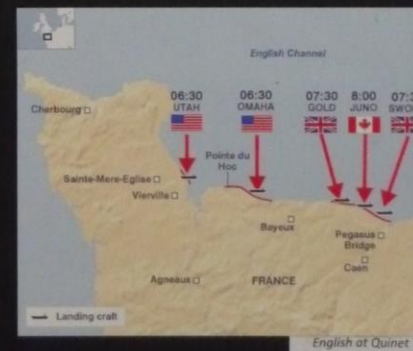
Heinrich Hoffmann, Munich

"When they have established bridgeheads in Normandy and Brittany...They will then come forward with an all-out Second Front across the Straits of Dover."

The Secret History Of World War II;   N. Kagan & S. Hyslop

Source credit-
Heinrich Hoffmann, Munich

"That road to V-E day was hard and long, and travelled by weary and valiant men. And history will always record where that road began. It began here, with the first footprints of the beaches of Normandy."

– President George W. Bush

Source credit-
English at Quinet

Right Panel Center

English Channel

Cherbourg □

06:30 UTAH 06:30 OMAHA 07:30 GOLD 8:00 JUNO 07:30 SWORD

Pointe du Hoc

Sainte-Mere-Eglise □
Vierville □

Bayeux □

Pegasus Bridge □
Caen □

Agneaux □ FRANCE

Landing craft

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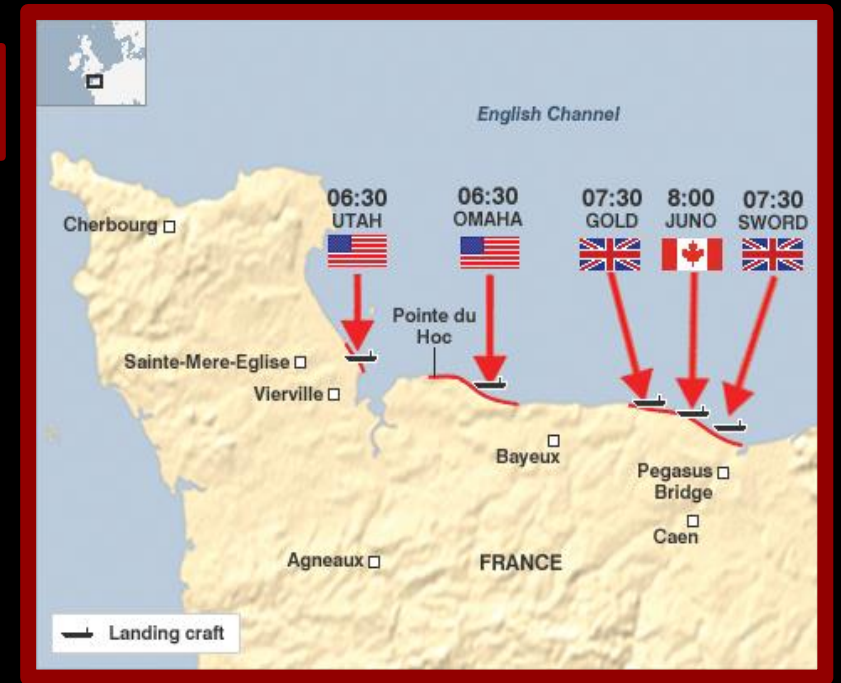
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Right Panel Bottom Photo

Aided by the false information the Allies communicated during deception campaigns, the Allied invasion on D-Day was successful and led to the defeat of Nazi Germany. Since WWII, the U.S. wrote deception into military doctrine. Just as the Allies distracted the Germans away from Normandy, General Schwarzkopf used deception during the Gulf War to focus Iraq's attention on a sea invasion and away from his plans to invade in the west.

"Amphibious operations focused enemy attention on the threat from seaward and tied down at least seven Iraqi divisions, even after the coalition ground campaign was well under way."
Department of the Navy, Naval Historical Center
Joint Publication 3-13.4 Military Deception

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