

They Were On Omaha Beach

Describes the Allied landing on the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944, from the point of view of four soldiers who were there. On June 6, 1944, Ugo Giannini landed on Omaha Beach at H+70 minutes as one of a platoon of military police assigned to the 29th Division. Ugo's team was to control the incoming traffic. There were thirty-seven men in his platoon; they were decimated in the first ten minutes. Six men got to the beach. Someone told Ugo that he was needed on the bluff above. He climbed the Vierville Draw, jumped into a crater made by naval bombardment, and spent that day and part of the next day as an eyewitness to the greatest invasion ever conceived by the military. Remarkably, he began to draw. These are the only drawings made that historic day, as well as the next. This book is the story of one man, in the context of World War II; a man who was a poet, an artist, and had the strength of a boxer. A civilian used to the comforts and hysteria of an immigrant Italian family, in love with his childhood sweetheart, plunged into the hell of war. Presented here are the sketches from that historic day and the days that immediately followed. Drawn in pencil and pen, in a gritty, realist style, the images show heavily burdened infantrymen trying to stay afloat in the seawater, crawling on the beach

or dead among the ruins of a bombed-out village. Interwoven with letters home written by a young man to his family and his girlfriend, the words and images portray the horror of war in a deep and personal way. The abstract paintings that appear at the end of the book provide a powerful statement, composed years after the initial experience, about the complete disintegration, both physical and spiritual, caused by war.

This key title in the acclaimed Battle Zone Normandy series explores the US attack on Omaha Beach at dawn on D-Day 1944 and its aftermath.

A companion to the Utah Beach publication, provides a historical narrative dealing with American military operations in France during the month of June 1944 including D-Day in Normandy. Prepared by the 2d Information and Historical Service, attached to the First Army, and by the Historical Section, European Theater of Operations. Other products in the American Forces in Action Series are listed below: Salerno: American Operations From the Beaches to the Volturno, 9 September - 6 October 1943 is available here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00196-9> Papuan Campaign: The Buna-Sananada Operation (16 November 1942-23 January 1943) is available here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00205-1> The Capture of Makin, November 20-24, 1942-Print Hardcover/Clothbound format can be found here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/>

008-029-00206-0 Guam: Operations of the 77th Division, July 21-Aug. 10, 1944 is available here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00204-3> Fifth Army at the Winter Line (15 November 1943 - 15 January 1944) --Print Paperback format can be found here:<https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00198-5> St. Lo -Print Paperback format is available here:<https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00127-6> From the Volturno to the Winter Line, 6 Oct.-15 Nov. 1943 -is available here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00197-7> To Bizerte With the II Corps (23 April - 13 May 1943) -Print Hardcover/Clothbound format can be found here :<https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00207-8> Utah Beach to Cherbourg (6 June-27 June 1944) can be found here:<https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00129-2> Merrill's Marauders (February - May 1944) -Print Paperback format can be found here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/008-029-00203-5> World War II resources collection can be found here:<https://bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/us-military-history/battles-wars/world-war-ii>
Normandy June 6 1944 (2nd Edition)
D-Day, June 6, 1944
The Long March of Sergeant Bob Slaughter
Drawing D - Day
Forgotten
American Heroes of World War II
Operation Overlord

A visceral and momentous narrative of the first twenty-four hours of D-Day on Omaha Beach: the most dramatic Allied landing of World War II.

Of the tens of thousands of American soldiers, sailors, and airmen who took part in the invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944, only 235 were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Medal of Honor for acts of extraordinary heroism. For the first time, the stories of the incredible acts of courage are told through the eyes of those who witnessed them. In addition, a number of first hand accounts of that day by the recipients themselves are also included. This book puts these first hand witness and recipient accounts in the larger context of the invasion. The book includes over one hundred photos of the battlefield, weapons, and equipment, with over forty rare images of German fortifications and weapons found on Utah Beach, Pointe du Hoc, and Omaha Beach. Detailed maps of German defenses on Utah and Omaha Beach in the book are drawn from defense overprint maps used to plan the invasion. The award citations of all of the recipients are included in the book, along with 268 photos of the recipients—many of which were taken at the ceremonies as they were awarded the medals—putting faces with the names and actions of these incredibly courageous men. This is the first in a series of books about American heroes of World War II written by Phil Nordyke, the author of six highly acclaimed books about the World War II 82nd Airborne Division. Using awards files, interviews, memoirs, and after-action reports, Nordyke has successfully woven these accounts of incredible heroism into the D-Day timeline, creating a powerful and compelling narrative which puts the reader into the middle of the action. A New York Times bestseller! The untold story of what really

*happened on D-Day. The Rangers' mission was clear. They were to lead the assault on Omaha Beach and break out inland. Simultaneously, other Ranger units would scale the cliffs at Pointe du Hoc to destroy the ostensibly huge gun battery there and thus protect the invasion fleet from being targeted. But was the Pointe du Hoc mission actually necessary? Why did the Allies plan and execute an attack on a gun battery that they knew in advance contained no field guns? And more importantly, why did they ignore the position at Maisy that did? Using personal interviews with the surviving Rangers who fought on the beach and at Pointe du Hoc, *The Cover-Up at Omaha Beach* presents exceptionally detailed new research that takes the reader into the middle of the action with the Rangers. Gary Sterne has made a painstaking study of what the Allies actually knew in advance of D-Day, including what was known about Maisy Battery. Maps, orders, and assault plans have been found in American, British, and German archives, many of which have only recently been released after staying classified for more than sixty years. Radio communications of the Rangers as they advanced inland have been found, and Royal Air Force intelligence evaluations of bombing missions directed at the site have now been released. All of this combines to make *The Cover-Up at Omaha Beach* one of the most up-to-date references on the subject. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every*

title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

Experience the greatest amphibious assault in the history of warfare through the eyes of those who made history on D-Day, June 6th, 1944, in the exact same places where they fought! As you walk a mile-long stretch of "Omaha Beach" in Normandy, this book will take you through the D-day invasion of occupied France, explaining it through the terrain you'll be walking and the stories of the people who fought exactly in those places on D-Day. You will start at the American military cemetery at St. Laurent-sur-mer; you will follow the allied and German planners through their respective plans, down to the "Colleville Draw". You will meet Franz Gockel and his fellow German soldiers of WN62 - the German stronghold which lays all the way from the 1st Infantry Division monument to the beach itself, and understand how they tried in vain to stop the invasion, and how did they feel facing the greatest invasion ever. You will walk the beach, understanding allied mistakes and failures in planning and execution of the landing, failures which made "Bloody Omaha" the hardest beach of them all, nearly jeopardizing the whole plan. You will trace the route taken by the famous photographer Robert Capa and walk past the places where he took his famous photographs of D-Day. You will meet the small groups of brave American soldiers who survived the carnage and snatched victory from the jaws of defeat, even as their high command struggled to get a clear picture of the battle. You will climb back to the American cemetery following the footsteps of Lt. John Spalding and his small band of brothers from Easy Company, 2nd battalion,

16th infantry, on their lonely fight to reach the top of the cliffs overlooking one of the most famous beaches in history. By the end of the tour, returning to the American military cemetery, you will have a clear picture both of the battle and of the men who waged it. Dr. Yagil Henkin teaches military history at the Israeli Army's Command and Staff College. He regularly leads battlefield tours, both in Israel and Western Europe. He is the author of several books in Hebrew and English, among them "Exodus in Reverse: the 1956 Suez war and the new world order in the Middle East". Dr Henkin is also an avid hiker, and co-authored (with Jaacob Saar) guides to the Israel National Trail and other long-distance trails in Israel (<http://www.amazon.com/Israel-National-Trail-Jerusalem-Hike/dp/9659124945>). This book was originally published under the title "Uneasy Red" (6/2014)

The Longest Day

D-Day 1944 (1)

Force Mulberry - The Planning and Installation of Artificial Harbor Off U.S. Normandy Beaches in World War II

You are my brother

The Story of the Allied Invasion Told by Those Who Were There

Normandiefront

Dawn on Omaha Beach

D-Day, 6 June 1944 is a day that is emblazoned in history, witnessing the first day of the Allied Operation Overlord – the mass invasion of Normandy. Planned for many months and executed swiftly, these landings saw over 160,000 troops embark from specially designed craft onto a 50-mile stretch of the Normandy coast. It was the largest amphibious operation of all time and involved 73,000 American troops, over 61,000 British troops and 21,400 Canadians, with over 6,000 ships

and landing craft being deployed. As the troops set foot on the five designated beaches: Gold, Juno, Sword, Utah and Omaha they were met with resistance and in some cases heavy machine-gun fire, with over 12,000 casualties being sustained. The D-Day Story is packed with stunning photographs and maps, making it the perfect introduction to this historic event.

The story behind D-Day begins in 1939 when Nazi Germany, led by Adolf Hitler, attacked Poland and ignited World War Two. The following year, the Germans occupied France and Western Europe and launched a vicious air war against Britain. In 1941, they invaded the Soviet Union. Seemingly unstoppable, the Nazis now held virtually all of Europe. They imposed a ruthless system of control and unleashed the horror of the Holocaust. However, by 1943, the tide had begun to turn in favor of the Allies, the forces opposed to Germany. In the east, despite huge losses, the Soviets began to force the Germans back.

Of the five beaches attacked on 6 June, Omaha saw the sternest fighting. Well-placed defenders on the high ground and extensive beach defenses did their job. On top of this, so much had gone wrong with the first wave: many of the amphibious DD Sherman tanks didn't reach the beach. They were released from their landing craft too far away where the greater swell swamped them and the troops landing on Omaha missed their firepower. Another problem was that many units landed in the wrong place. Strong tides and winds carried the landing craft off line and led to confusion. Finally, the German emplacements and defenses were well-placed on high ground and the only cover on the beach-- the seawall-- was over a killing ground. There were 32 fortified areas located between the Vire River and Port-en-Bessin: in all, 12 of these strongpoints were able to direct fire on Omaha Beach. The attacking forces-- units of the US 29th and 1st Inf

Divs-- suffered over 2,000 casualties, many of them drowned during the approach, but led by US Rangers, themselves misplaced (they were the follow-up troops to Rudder's Rangers who had scaled the Pointe du Hoc) the American troops pushed forward and by nightfall, they had gained hold of the beach and its immediate hinterland. Despite the casualties, 34,000 troops had been landed by the end of the day.

Cornelius Ryan's account of 6th June 1944, takes the reader from the planning of the world's greatest ever amphibious landing up to its implementation. In interviews with survivors, this text captures the horror and the glory of D-Day.

*D-Day, the US Rangers, and the Untold Story of Maisy Battery
Voices from D-Day*

Landing on the Edge of Eternity

A Navy Soldier on Omaha Beach

Omaha Beach, Easy Red Sector

*The Memoirs of Eugene G. Schulz During His Service in the
United States Army in World War II*

The First Wave

The Allied victory at Omaha Beach was a costly one. A direct infantry assault against a defense that was years in the making, undertaken in daylight following a mere thirty-minute bombardment, the attack had neither the advantage of tactical surprise nor that of overwhelming firepower.

American forces were forced to improvise under enemy fire, and although they were ultimately victorious, they suffered devastating casualties. Why did the Allies embark on an attack with so many disadvantages? Making extensive use of primary sources, Adrian Lewis traces the development of the doctrine behind the plan for the invasion of Normandy to explain why the battles for the beaches were fought as they

were. Although blame for the Omaha Beach disaster has traditionally been placed on tactical leaders at the battle site, Lewis argues that the real responsibility lay at the higher levels of operations and strategy planning. Ignoring lessons learned in the Mediterranean and Pacific theaters, British and American military leaders employed a hybrid doctrine of amphibious warfare at Normandy, one that failed to maximize the advantages of either British or U.S. doctrine. Had Allied forces at the other landing sites faced German forces of the quality and quantity of those at Omaha Beach, Lewis says, they too would have suffered heavy casualties and faced the prospect of defeat.

Samuel West talks about his life as an Afro-American in New York at the 30s and the beginning of the war. Werner Höfken talks from his Nazi Germany in Cologne. Both their youths join the training as soldiers and the war effort in foreign countries. In the winter of 1944 their fateful meeting as mortal enemies occurs during the Ardennes battle. For the author were his experiences as a young soldier a trauma that attaches to him for a lifetime. With the books, he provides readers not heroic epic, but they are coping with the worst time of his life.

Book Description: Pat was a teenage boy who came of age during the tumultuous times of World War II. He entered the Army during his eighteenth year as a voluntary inductee. Basic training was administered at Ft. Bragg N. C. After basic training, he was scheduled to be shipped to the South Pacific as a member of a pack artillery unit but an untimely bout of the flu forced a change in his assignment. He was placed in a replacement pool, a pool of young soldiers who would step into the vacancies caused by the inevitable

casualties that would occur during the planned invasion of Europe, codenamed "Operation Overlord." Pat shipped over seas in a small wooden vessel that once carried fruit from South America to Boston. It had been requisitioned to carry troops to Great Britain. It was a very large convoy that included Pat's ship. The speed of the crossing was no greater than the speed of the slowest vessel in the fleet. The crossing took weeks in a constant attempt to evade German U Boats by an erratic course across the Atlantic. The port of debarkation was Liverpool, England. A troop train transported the soldiers from there to a military establishment in Cardiff, Wales. Here the soldiers continued to train and bide their time, waiting for the inevitable invasion of Europe. Soon the soldiers were transported to the Channel Coast where they remained on standby alert for the invasion to commence. D Day, June 6, 1944, arrived, Operation Overlord was unleashed. The gruesome casualties of Omaha Beach were endured and the beach head prevailed. Six days after D Day, the contingent of replacements that included Pat landed on Omaha Beach and fulfilled the purpose of their existence. They replaced the soldiers that had been killed or wounded in the preceding six days. Pat was assigned to the first howitzer gun crew of A Battery, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. The Fifteenth Battalion was the artillery support and a part of the 9th Combat Team (9th CBT) that included the 9th Infantry Regiment of the 2nd Infantry Division. Pat learned his job as a 105 howitzer gun crew member as A Battery fired their guns in support of the 9th Infantry, moving from position to position through the French hedgerow country. He learned his job well and eventually was assigned the job

as loader for his crew. Pat formed two close friendships in his military experience, Ed who he had known since basic training and Ben, the Texan on his crew, who became his pup-tent partner. After the successful conclusion of the Normandy Campaign, the 2nd Division was ordered to subdue the port city of Brest on the Breton Peninsula. A 220-mile road march brought the 2nd Division to the outskirts of the city. Brest was defended by a garrison of 36,000 German soldiers, the core of which were the vaunted 2nd Paratroop Division. After the surrender of the German garrison at Brest. Pat 's unit had a short respite before embarking on another road march of 710 miles through liberated France to the German boarder. The 15th Battalion took defensive positions in the Schnee Eiffel forest. Here for the next month, the 15th Battalion 's Artillery Batteries engaged in counter battery, observing and harassing fire missions in this sector of a thinly held front. Log bunkhouses and mess halls were constructed to combat the increasingly severe winter weather. German Buzz Bombs were observed here for the first time. Early December found the 9th CBT on the road heading north to begin an attack on the Siegfried Line. Pat and his buddies reluctantly gave up their comfortable quarters to a green division fresh from the States that relieved them. After heavy fighting and artillery bombardment, a critical crossroads on the Siegfried Line, Wehlerscheid, was taken, only to be given back the next day. The Germans had started their infamous winter offensive, The Battle of the Bulge. Our troops were ordered to withdraw several miles and establish a defensive line. This unprecedented withdraw

Includes numerous maps and illustrations. This monograph

provides first-hand accounts of Destroyer Squadron 18 during this critical battle upon which so much of the success of our campaign in Europe would depend. Their experience at Omaha Beach can be looked upon as typical of most U.S. warships engaged at Normandy. On the other hand, from the author's research it appears evident that this destroyer squadron, with their British counterparts, may have had a more pivotal influence on the breakout from the beachhead and the success of the subsequent campaign than was heretofore realized. Its contributions certainly provide a basis for discussion among veterans and research by historians, as well as a solid, professional account of naval action in support of the Normandy landings.

The D-Day Warriors Who Led the Way to Victory in World War II

Normandy 1944

Allied Intelligence and the Cover Up at Pointe Du Hoc

The Untold Story of D-Day's Black Heroes

Destroyers At Normandy: Naval Gunfire Support At Omaha Beach [Illustrated Edition]

Beachhead Normandy

D-Day

The extraordinary and compelling story of the 6th of June, 1944, Operation Overlord and the Battle for Normandy is told here through first-hand testimonies from civilians and soldiers on both sides. It features classic accounts by soldiers such as Rommel and Bradley, together with frontline reports by some of the world's finest authors and war correspondents,

including Ernest Hemingway and Alan Melville. Highlights of this unique collection include the break-out from Omaha beach as told by the GI who led it, a French housewife's story of what it was like to wake up to the invasion, German soldiers' accounts of finding themselves facing the biggest seaborne invasion in history, a view from the command post by a member of Eisenhower's staff, combat reports, diaries and letters of British veterans of all forces and services, and accounts of the follow-up battle for Normandy, one of the bloodiest struggles of the war. The Allied armada involved over 5,000 craft, which had by the end of 'the longest day' succeeded in landing 156,000 men, and in breaching Hitler's much vaunted defensive wall. Dramatic and historic though the events of D-Day were, they were but the opening shots of a much larger and equally remarkable battle - the battle for Normandy. It took the Allies ten weeks of bloody fighting to get out of Normandy, during which the infantry casualty rate rivalled that of the Western Front in the First World War. This book is the story of that fateful day, the preparations which led up to it, and the ten weeks of fighting in Normandy which followed it, told by the men and women who

were there, who witnessed it at first hand. It is compiled from interviews with scores of veterans, from diaries, memoirs and letters. Occasionally, exact chronology has been sacrificed in the interests of communicating better the experience of Normandy, for above all this is a book about how the invasion looked and felt to those who were there. It is often brutally honest, far removed from the comfortable romantic version of D-Day and the battle for Normandy. (For example, there are accounts here of crimes committed against German POWs by Allied soldiers.)

U.S. Army troops weren't the only ones storming Omaha Beach on D-Day; many Navy sailors were called upon to be foot soldiers as well in this decisive and pivotal battle. *A Navy Soldier on Omaha Beach* is the personal account in words, pictures, and illustrations of the D-Day and World War II experiences of Gilbert H. Dube, USN, 7th Naval Beach Battalion (NBB), Company B-6, as told to and written by his son. It includes a detailed history of the formation, training, and use of NBBs in Normandy, as well as the combat experiences of several NBB members on June 6, 1944, on Omaha Beach and in the Normandy campaign that followed. The book

also describes the veteran's poignant return to Omaha Beach for the first and only time some 55 years later.

A fresh and incisive examination of one of the Second World War's crucial campaigns, the battle for Normandy in the months after D-Day. What happened to the Allied armies in Normandy in the months after D-Day, 1944? Why, after the initial success of the landings, did their advance stall a few miles inland from the beaches? Why did the British take so long to capture Caen? Why did the US infantry struggle so much in the bocage south of Omaha beach? Who was right about the conduct of the land campaign - Eisenhower or Montgomery? How did the Germans, deprived of air support, manage to hold off such a massive Allied force for more than two months? And if Enigma was allowing the Allies to read German battleplans, why did things go wrong as often as they did? **THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY** re-examines the demands and difficulties of the campaign and sheds new light on both with the aid of accounts from veterans on both sides. (Oral history forms a large part of the book.) It also analyses in detail the plans and performance of the commanders involved: Eisenhower, Bradley, Patton, Montgomery, Crerar and, of course, Rommel.

Controversial and at times catastrophic, the Battle of Normandy was the last great set-piece battle in history and is long overdue for reassessment.

Volume 1 of this two-part work puts the reader firmly into the footsteps of the 2nd and 5th Rangers as they arrive in England in 1943. It follows them during their intensive training with the Commandos and the Royal Navy as they head towards D-Day - including cliff climbing, assault landings and the Slapton Sands 'dress rehearsal'. The orders given to the Rangers, along with dozens of aerial reconnaissance photographs of Omaha Beach, Pointe et Raz de la Percée, Pointe du Hoc and Maisy - as well as French Resistance reports - detail the information given to the Rangers' commander Lt. Col. Rudder. Shown in chronological order and in their original format, many of the documents are still marked TOP SECRET and were only recently released after nearly 70 years. The author fills in the gaps that many have only guessed at concerning the Rangers' real missions on D-Day, and in Volume 2 he explains why a battalion commander was removed whilst onboard ship prior to the landings, why the individual Rangers were not briefed on all of their D-Day objectives - as well as the

extraordinary role that Lt. Col. Rudder played at Pointe du Hoc. Described by US historians as 'one of the most detailed works about the D-Day Rangers ever written', this work is the culmination of four years of detailed research within the US Archives and backed up by evidence uncovered in Normandy. It is a real historical game-changer that pulls no punches as it challenges conventional studies of one of the most iconic battles of WWII. There can be no doubt that this work will change the way that historians view the Pointe du Hoc battle from now on.

Uneasy Red

D-Day to Saint-Lô Through German Eyes

The Fury of Battle

They Were on Omaha Beach

D-Day Invasion

Allies

World War /France1944/D-

Day/Normandy/Ardennen-Battle of the Bulge

This book guides the reader through the battle for the V Corps beachhead, the fiercest and bloodiest of the Landings. A must for those inspired by Saving Private Ryan and many more.

Original publication and copyright date: 2007.

The D-Day landings of 6 June 1944 were the largest amphibious military operation ever mounted. The greatest armada the world had ever seen was assembled to transport the Allied

invasion force across the Channel and open the long-awaited second front against Hitler's Third Reich. Of the landings on the five assault beaches, Omaha Beach was the only one ever in doubt. Within moments of the first wave landing a third of the assault troops were casualties. Yet by the end of D-Day the Atlantic Wall had been breached and the US Army's V Corps was firmly entrenched on French soil.

NATIONAL BESTSELLER □ Alex Kershaw, author of *The Longest Winter* and *The Liberator*, returns with an utterly immersive, adrenaline-driven account of D-Day combat. "Meet the assaulters: pathfinders plunging from the black, coxswains plowing the whitecaps, bareknuckle Rangers scaling sheer rock . . . Fast-paced and up close, this is history's greatest story reinvigorated as only Alex Kershaw can."—Adam Makos, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Spearhead* and *A Higher Call* Beginning in the predawn darkness of June 6, 1944, *The First Wave* follows the remarkable men who carried out D-Day's most perilous missions. The charismatic, unforgettable cast includes the first American paratrooper to touch down on Normandy soil; the glider pilot who braved anti-aircraft fire to crash-land mere yards from the vital Pegasus Bridge; the brothers who led their troops onto Juno Beach under withering fire; as well as a French commando, returning to his native land, who fought to destroy German strongholds on Sword Beach and beyond. Readers

will experience the sheer grit of the Rangers who scaled Pointe du Hoc and the astonishing courage of the airborne soldiers who captured the Merville Gun Battery in the face of devastating enemy counterattacks. The first to fight when the stakes were highest and the odds longest, these men would determine the fate of the invasion of Hitler's fortress Europe—and the very history of the twentieth century. The result is an epic of close combat and extraordinary heroism. It is the capstone Alex Kershaw's remarkable career, built on his close friendships with D-Day survivors and his intimate understanding of the Normandy battlefield. For the seventy-fifth anniversary, here is a fresh take on World War II's longest day.

Praise for *The First Wave*: "Masterful... readers will feel the sting of the cold surf, smell the acrid cordite that hung in the air, and duck the zing of machine-gun bullets whizzing overhead. *The First Wave* is an absolute triumph."—James M. Scott, bestselling author of *Target Tokyo* "These pages ooze with the unforgettable human drama of history's most consequential invasion."—John C. McManus, author of *The Dead and Those About to Die*

Eyewitness accounts from the Battles of Normandy

A Bloody Dawn

An LCT's Odyssey

Twenty-Four Hours at Omaha Beach

The Battle of Normandy 1944

A Self-Guided Journey Around Omaha Beach, Following in the Footsteps of Those Who Fought There on D-Day

Omaha Beach and Beyond

From Alan Gratz, the highly acclaimed, New York Times bestselling author of the blockbuster *Refugee*, comes a thrilling new multi-perspective novel, this time centered around D-Day. D-Day, June 6, 1944: the most expansive military endeavor in history. No less than world cooperation would bring down Hitler and the Axis powers. And so people -- and kids -- across the globe lent their part. From the young US soldiers in the boats to spies in the French countryside, the coordination of thousands came together. Alan Gratz, author of the New York Times bestselling *Refugee*, explores the necessity of teamwork and heroism in dismantling tyranny in this epic, yet personal, look at D-Day in time for the 75th anniversary of the operation.

From the author of *Fire and Fortitude*, a white-knuckle account of the 1st Infantry Division's harrowing D-Day assault on the eastern sector of Omaha Beach--acclaimed historian John C. McManus has written a gripping history that will stand as the last word on this titanic World War II battle. Nicknamed the Big Red One, 1st Division had fought from North Africa to Sicily, earning a reputation as stalwart warriors on the front lines and rabble-rousers in the rear. Yet on D-Day, these jaded combat veterans melded with fresh-faced replacements to accomplish one of the most challenging and deadly missions ever. As the men hit the beach, their equipment destroyed or washed away, soldiers cut down by the dozens, courageous heroes emerged: men such as Sergeant Raymond Strojny, who grabbed a bazooka and engaged in a death duel with a fortified German antitank gun; T/5 Joe Pinder, a former minor-league pitcher who braved enemy fire to save a vital radio; Lieutenant John Spalding, a former sportswriter, and Sergeant Phil Streczyk, a truck driver, who together demolished a German strong

point overlooking Easy Red, where hundreds of Americans had landed. Along the way, McManus explores the Gap Assault Team engineers who dealt with the extensive mines and obstacles, suffering nearly a fifty percent casualty rate; highlights officers such as Brigadier General Willard Wyman and Colonel George Taylor, who led the way to victory; and punctures scores of myths surrounding this long-misunderstood battle. *The Dead and Those About to Die* draws on a rich array of new or recently unearthed sources, including interviews with veterans. The result is history at its finest, the unforgettable story of the Big Red One's nineteen hours of hell—and their ultimate triumph—on June 6, 1944.

"This is probably the best book ever written about Omaha Beach."

--Bill Stone, *Stone & Stone Second World War Books* "Balkoski's

depiction of 'Bloody Omaha' is the literary accompaniment to the white-knuckle Omaha Beach scene that opens Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan*." -- John Hillen, *New York Post* In this unforgettable narrative of D-Day, Joseph Balkoski describes the minute-by-minute combat as it unfolded on Omaha Beach, allowing soldiers to speak for themselves as they recall their attempts to maneuver bombers through heavy cloud cover, the claustrophobic terror aboard transports, and the relentless fire that greeted them on the beach. Equal parts oral history and meticulous reconstruction, *Omaha Beach* is the closest the modern reader can get to experiencing the Normandy landings firsthand.

Many of the earliest books, particularly those dating back to the 1900s and before, are now extremely scarce and increasingly expensive. We are republishing these classic works in affordable, high quality, modern editions, using the original text and artwork.

They Fought to Free Europe from Hitler's Tyranny

The D-Day Story

The History of the 2nd and 5th US Army Rangers, 1943 - 30th April 1944

We Were There

The Ghost in General Patton's Third Army

A Flawed Victory

V corps' Battle for the Normandy Beachhead

The tale of an all-black battalion whose crucial contributions at D-Day have gone unrecognised to this day

*The epic Allied invasion of German-occupied Normandy on D-Day, 6 June 1944, has been extensively chronicled. The largest seaborne invasion in history, it began the liberation of German-occupied France, and later Europe, from Nazi control, laying the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front. What is less well known, however, is that thousands of Irish and members of the Irish diaspora were among the Allied units that landed on the Normandy beaches. Their vital participation has been overlooked abroad, and even more so in Ireland. There were Irish among the American, British and Canadian airborne and glider-borne infantry landings; Irishmen were on the beaches from dawn, in and amongst the first and subsequent assault waves to hit the beaches; in the skies above in bombers and fighter aircraft; and on naval vessels all along the Normandy coastline. They were also prominent among the D-Day planners and commanders. This Irish contribution to the most extraordinary military operation ever attempted in the history of warfare is at last told for the first time in *A Bloody Dawn: The Irish at D-Day*.*

Omaha was the make-or-break Allied beach on D-Day—in (perhaps) the make-or-break campaign

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of World War II. If American soldiers couldn't gain a foothold there, then D-Day was unlikely to succeed. On June 6, 1944, U.S. troops on Omaha suffered the worst casualties of any of the five Allied invasion beaches—so many casualties, and so much tactical difficulty, that Omaha almost didn't succeed. One big reason why Americans gained a foothold on Omaha was Gen. Norman “Dutch” Cota. A graduate of the West Point class of 1917 (alongside famous classmates Matthew Ridgway, Mark Clark, and Lightning Joe Collins), Norm Cota played football with Dwight Eisenhower, who graduated two years earlier. From March 1941 to February 1943, Cota served with the famous 1st Infantry Division, the Big Red One, as division intelligence officer, plans/training officer, and finally chief of staff. He performed so well in the North Africa campaign that he was sent to England to help plan D-Day. After laying the tactical groundwork for the amphibious landings, Cota was made assistant division commander of the 29th Infantry Division. On the eve of D-Day, he told his men, “You're going to find confusion. The landing craft aren't going in on schedule, and people are going to be landed in the wrong place. Some won't be landed at all. . . . We must improvise, carry on, not lose our heads.” On June 6, 1944, under heavy fire, Cota landed with the second wave of the 29th Infantry Division on Omaha Beach, about an hour after the start of the invasion. He

personally rallied the survivors of the landings and led the opening of one of the first exits off Omaha. Cota seemed to be everywhere that day. Coming upon a group of Rangers, the general told them, "Rangers, lead the way" (hence the Rangers' motto). He is also known for saying, "Gentlemen, we are being killed on the beaches. Let us go inland and be killed." And, to a captain uncertain how to proceed: "I'll tell you what, captain. You and your men start shooting at them. I'll take a squad of men, and you and your men watch carefully. I'll show you how to take a house with Germans in it." Having demonstrated the task, Cota asked the officer, "Do you understand? Do you know how to do it now? . . . I won't be around to do it for you again. I can't do it for everybody." Great quips—which American military history will always remember and which show the character, in every sense, of Dutch Cota. Cota was a fighter—a fighting general, a D-Day general—and his contribution to D-Day will remain his rallying of demoralized troops and his blazing the trail toward the breakout and victory on Omaha. Ted Roosevelt Jr., who landed at Utah Beach, has always received credit as the D-Day general (like Cota, Roosevelt also demanded that he land on D-Day—and then died of a heart attack a month later), but Cota is the hero-general of the day, having landed early on D-Day on bloody Omaha. Portrayed by Robert Mitchum in the grand D-Day film *The Longest Day*, Cota

has not yet received his due—and there's a campaign now afoot to award him a belated Medal of Honor. His story cries out to be told. Now, with the cooperation of the Cota family, Noel F. Mehlo Jr. tells the compelling story Dutch Cota on Omaha Beach, revealing new information and never-before-seen photos.

In 1983 the Eisenhower Center at the University of New Orleans began a project to record the recollections of as many people as possible -- civilians as well as soldiers -- who were involved in one of the most pivotal events of the century. Skillfully edited by Ronald J. Drez and first published on the fifty-year anniversary of D-Day, the award-winning Voices of D-Day tells the story of that momentous operation almost entirely through the words of the people who were there.

The Irish at D-Day

The Cover-Up at Omaha Beach

Voices of D-Day

Omaha Beach

How Dutch Cota Saved Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944

A Self-guided Journey Around Omaha Beach in Normandy, Following the Men who Fought There on D-Day

An Artist's Journey Through War

Eugene G. Schulz was born on a farm in Clintonville, Wisconsin in 1923. He graduated from high school in May, 1941, and worked on his father's farm and at a

truck manufacturing plant until he was drafted into the army in January 1943. Schulz received his basic training at Camp Young, California at the Desert Training Center, and later at Camp Campbell, Kentucky. He was assigned to the IV Armored Corps (later named the XX Corps) where he was a typist in the G-3 Section. His duties included the typing of battle orders developed by Colonel W. B. Griffith, the G-3 of XX Corps Headquarters. The XX Corps sailed to England in February 1944 on the Queen Mary with 16,000 soldiers on board, completing the voyage in five days. After final training in England, the XX Corps landed on Utah Beach in Normandy on D+46. His unit was attached to General Patton's Third Army and spearheaded the drive across France, through Germany and into Austria where they met the Russian Army on V-E Day. Schulz was awarded the Bronze Star medal when the war ended. He served in the Army of Occupation in Germany, then returned to the States and was discharged on December 1, 1945. He enrolled at the University of Wisconsin Madison taking advantage of the GI Bill of Rights, and earning Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Business Administration. Schulz met his wife, Eleanore, at the University and they were married in 1949. Schulz worked as an investment research officer at the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company in Milwaukee for 36 years. The Schulz's have been retired since 1988

and continue to live in Milwaukee. They are world travelers. They have five sons, all married, and sixteen grandchildren.

New B-format paperback edition. A unique description of what the D-Day landings were like, combining the detail of Antony Beevor with the human insights of Stephen Ambrose, including the experiences of French and Germans in the fighting. Normandy depicts the planning and execution of Operation Overlord in 96 full-color pages. The initial paratrooper assault is shown, as well as the storming of the five D-Day beaches: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword. But the story does not end there. Once the Allies got ashore, they had to stay ashore. The Germans made every effort to push them back into the sea. This book depicts the such key events in the Allied liberation of Europe as: 1. Construction of the Mulberry Harbors, two giant artificial harbors built in England and floated across the English Channel so that troops, vehicles, and supplies could be offloaded across the invasion beaches. 2. The Capture of Cherbourg, the nearest French port, against a labyrinth of German pillboxes. 3. The American fight through the heavy bocage (hedgerow country) to take the vital town of Saint-Lô. 4. The British-Canadian struggle for the city of Caen against the "Hitler Youth Division," made up of 23,000 seventeen- and eighteen-year-old Nazi fanatics. 5. The breakout of General Patton's Third

Army and the desperate US 30th Division's defense of Mortaine.⁶ The Falaise Pocket, known as the "Killing Ground," where the remnants of two German armies were trapped and bombed and shelled into submission. The slaughter was so great that 5,000 Germans were buried in one mass grave. ⁷ The Liberation of Paris, led by the 2nd Free French Armored Division, which had been fighting for four long years with this goal in mind.

World War II naval history has been discussed and examined from almost every possible angle. One story that has never been told in detail, however, is that of the U.S. Navy's vessel designated the landing craft, tank (LCT). Even though they are known for ferrying troops and supplies to the beaches of Normandy, LCTs were more than mere transports. In fact, the little craft had permanently assigned crews and participated in nearly all forms of naval warfare. Beachhead Normandy combines the history of LCT operations with a detailed look at a specific ship, the LCT 614, which landed at Omaha Beach under heavy fire. Tom Carter has gathered material from the U.S. Navy's archives, the National Archives, and personal stories from several members of the 614's crew, including the ship's skipper and second officer, to give readers a clear picture of the LCT's role in one of World War II's most pivotal moments. He also analyzes the role of LCTs in the Pacific theater, including the 614's participation in the occupation of

China while supporting the marines' famed First Division. Drawing on both technical analyses and personal accounts by the actual participants, including the author's father, Beachhead Normandy is a rich and varied history of the key services these ships performed during and after World War II.

A Graphic History of D-Day, The Allied Invasion of Hitler's Fortress Europe

Omaha Beachhead (6 June - 13 June 1944).

D-Day General

Normandy

A D-Day Landing As It Happened

The Dead and Those About to Die

D-Day: The Big Red One at Omaha Beach

You probably already know the basic story of what happened on D-Day - but it is almost certain that your knowledge is based upon books written from the Allied perspective. "Normandiefrent" provides a fresh and unique exploration of the greatest seaborne invasion in history. It also explains just why the Americans on Omaha beach suffered the Longest Day of all. As the ramps went down and the Amis plunged into the water, their commanders expected them to face just one battalion of mediocre occupation troops - but the veterans and the new recruits of the 352nd Division were waiting instead.

Authors Vince Milano and Bruce Conner have interviewed the surviving members of that formidable fighting force - at the same time amassing a collection of German and Allied photographs and documents, many of which are published here for the first time. The fight to get off the

beach and then the seemingly interminable struggle through the bocage - from hedgerow to hedgerow, as the German line fell back only to reform and counter-attack time and time again, all the way to the ruins of St Lo - was one of the most intense ever experienced by any army. Generalleutnant Dietrich Kraiss' deployment of his men is a fascinating military case study in itself. The General, responsible for the stretch of coastline that included Omaha beach and part of Gold beach, was an Eastern Front veteran, as were many of his men. He was therefore used to facing an adversary who outnumbered and outgunned his forces and was well versed in the tactics of defence and counter-attack. The division actually expected to be sent East any day and had been trained for it. Denied the use of one third of his division during the crucial first hours of the invasion that had been held in reserve by higher commands, he tenaciously held his ground until they were released and then mounted a skilful defensive campaign. The reinforcements needed to contain the Allied breakout from the beachhead never came - partly because German High Command refused to accept that Normandy really was the main invasion target and not Pas de Calais. As the authors point out, 'Any Grenadier in the 352nd could have told them differently.' With over 200 photographs and those priceless interviews with German veterans, "Normandiefront" is an important addition to the literature of World War II, telling as it does the story of how one German division changed the course of the invasion and almost the entire war. Experience history's largest amphibious assault through the eyes of those who made history on that day, in the

exact places where they fought! This self-guided trip guide to a mile-long stretch of "Omaha Beach" in Normandy, takes you from the somber American military cemetery at St. Laurent, to the "Colleville Draw," past the American 1st Infantry Division monument, the German fortifications at Wierderstandsneest 62, then along the beach and back up to the cemetery. Along the way, American invasion plans are explained, as well as the failures in planning and execution; the German attempts to stop the invasion; the carnage on the beach, and then; the Allied breakout – using almost exclusively recorded descriptions of events by the men who made history at these places. They'll explain from their own perspective what happened and why. That includes Private Franz Gockel of the German Army who'll tell what it was like to face the greatest invasion force in history. The guide traces the route taken by the famous photographer Robert Capa and what happened in his vicinity; and finally we'll accompany Lt. John Spalding and his small band of brothers from Easy Company on their lonely fight to reach the top of the cliffs overlooking one of the most famous beaches in history. And that's exactly where our tour ends. Many others will be mentioned, as the reader goes past the places where they fought and some died. And since the events that took place along this route were representative of the whole Omaha Beach landing, it is possible to tell the story while keeping it strongly connected to its surroundings – what happened here explains very well how and why the battle was fought and why it ended with a secure beachhead and a solid allied foothold in Normandy. Dr. Yagil Henkin teaches military history at the Israeli army's

Command and General Staff College. He regularly leads battlefield tours, both in Israel and in western Europe. Dr Henkin is also an avid hiker, and co-authored (with Jaacob Saar) guides to the Israel National Trail and other long-distance trails in Israel (<http://www.amazon.com/Israel-National-Trail-Jerusalem-Hike/dp/9659124945>),