

0. DECEPTION - Story Preface

1. THE WEATHER BREAKS

2. A CROSS-CHANNEL ATTACK

3. WHO WILL COMMAND?

4. D-DAY COMMANDERS

5. LET'S GO!

6. CROSSING THE CHANNEL

7. DEATH ON THE SHORE

8. DIGGING IN; FIGHTING ON

9. UTAH BEACH

10. OMAHA BEACH

**11. DECEPTION**

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13. BRITS LAND AT GOLD BEACH

14. ...AND SWORD BEACH

15. STUNNING D-DAY FACTS



To deceive Germany about the actual “Overlord” plans for the Normandy Invasion, Allied planners created a subterfuge known as “Operation Bodyguard.” It included various landing points, which were given sub-operation names (such as “Fortitude North”), to attack German-occupied territory. This map image shows those bogus landing points. Map image by “Errant X.” Online via Wikimedia Commons. License: [CC BY-SA 3.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/).

As they put together "Operation Overlord," the Allies released false information about their real objectives. They hoped the Germans would believe the deception set forth in "Plan BODYGUARD."

Eisenhower and his generals also hoped to divert enemy attention from Normandy to the Pas De Calais area. If Hitler's forces believed the main assault would take place there, near the city closest to Britain, fewer German soldiers would be in place to defend the real landing spots.

The deception worked. Members of the Fuhrer's high command were so afraid to tell their boss about the Allied invasion that they waited until 10 a.m. to wake him on the morning of June 6th.

Meanwhile, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel (a brilliant commander who earlier had troubles in Africa because Hitler would not allow him to evacuate his men) was so confident all was well that he'd traveled away from his troops to celebrate his wife's birthday. The new pair of shoes he gave her marked the last birthday present she ever received from him.

Long before June 6th of the following year, Rommel was dead by his own hand. His forced suicide had been ordered by Hitler.

Nothing Hitler could do, however, could save him or his regime. The Normandy assault marked the beginning of his final rout.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/DECEPTION-Normandy-Invasion)

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See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/DECEPTION-Normandy-Invasion)

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**Questions 2 Ponder**

**Are Lies Ever Necessary?**

Sometimes spreading a falsehood could be a necessary part of defending ourselves in times of war or conflict.

Take "Plan BODYGUARD," for example.

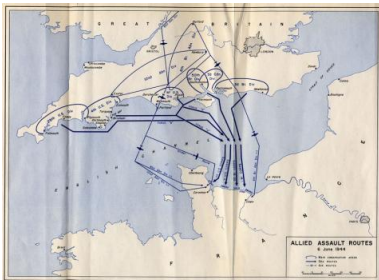
Extremely worried that Hitler and his commanders would figure-out the Allies' plans in "Operation Overlord" - as the Normandy Invasion was called - Overlord planners developed an alternative strategy which was completely false.

The point of "BODYGUARD" was to distract German intelligence with a plan of deception which, despite its falseness, made sense. It was so thorough that made-up landing points were given mission names and bogus maps were created and released.

We grow up being told not to lie and learning, firsthand, the consequences of telling a lie. How would you compare that approach to life in general with the subterfuge which the Allies created with "Plan BODYGUARD?"

After learning about the Allies' plan of deception, to keep Germany from finding-out (or figuring-out) the truth about "Operation Overlord," do you agree or disagree that lies might sometimes be necessary? Explain your answer.

## Media Stream



### Allied Assault Routes - Map

Map image online, courtesy the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum.

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View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Allied-Assault-Routes-Map>



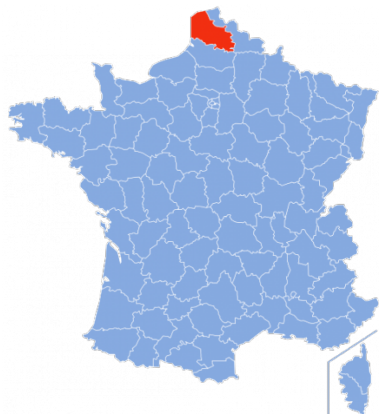
### Eisenhower and his Generals

Image online, courtesy the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum.

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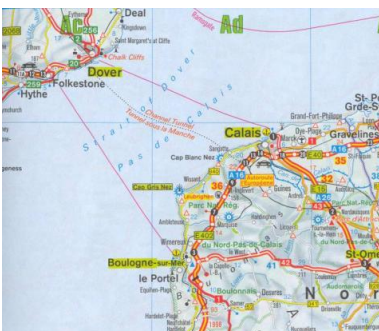
### Pas De Calais - Map Locator

Map, depicting location of Pas-de-Calais in France, by Marmelad; online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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### Calais, France - Map Locator

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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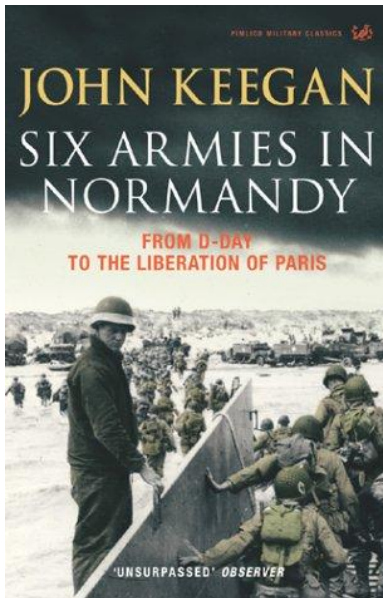
### Map - Depicts England and France Proximity

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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### Six Armies in Normandy - by John Keegan

Book-cover image, online courtesy Google Books.

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### Field Marshal Erwin Rommel

Image online, German National Archives.

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### Rommel - Death by Suicide

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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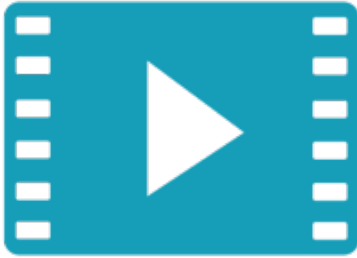
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## DECEPTION

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## Rommel's Defeat in Africa

Video, online courtesy U.S. National Archives.

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