

Class 6

review

May 22, 2018

Housekeeping

BAM, play, Normandy

- Tomorrow morning:
 - 7:30 AM (sharp; we have a ferry to catch). Outside metrogate.
 - Euro's! (money changers)
 - Bag
 - Passport, letter!
- Tonight: "Peter Pan" at Regent's Park Open-air theatre
 - Starts at 7:45
 - We meet at Gloucester at 6:30 (18:30), Travel Piccadilly to Green Park;
 - Change at Green Park to Jubilee, alight at Baker Street Station.
 - A fifteen-minute walk from Baker Street to the theatre
 - Collect will-call tickets
 - Adjacent bar/grill if we are early
- 12:30 Gloucester tube for BAM; early start, early finish so you can pack.

From Anthony Beever *D-Day*

- p.32: "they lacked sufficient concrete for bunkers ... because Hitler had given priority to massive U-boat shelters." Did the submariners/navy lobby for this?
- p. 35; "The Kriegsmarine had lost the battle of the Atlantic, but still believed a new generation (of U-boats could win the war...)"
- "Rommel was exasperated by Hitler's refusal to bring the Luftwaffe and Kriegsmarine under a centralized command ... Hitler preferred to maintain rival organizations which only he could control from the top..." " ... Goring's empire building..."
- p. 36: " fierce debate" Rommel: forward defense; Guderain, Geyr: panzers in reserve around Paris, ready to strike. Rommel knew Allies controlled the air.
- "Predictably, a bad compromise: neither R or Geyr had control-had to get H's approval.
- Your ideas?

Normandy vs Calais

Normandy/WWII

Casualties/perspective

U.S. Active Military Personnel (1939-1945)

Year	Army	Navy	Marines	Total
1939	189,839	125,202	19,432	334,473
1940	269,023	160,997	28,345	458,365
1941	1,462,315	284,427	54,359	1,801,101
1942	3,075,608	640,570	142,613	3,585,791
1943	6,994,472	1,741,750	308,523	9,044,745
1944	7,994,750	2,981,365	475,604	11,451,719
1945	8,267,958	3,380,817	474,680	12,123,445

D-Day Combatants

Country	# of Soldiers on D-Day	Percentage
*United States	95,000	34%
*Great Britain	60,000	21%
*Canada	20,000	7%
Germany	105,000	38%

- 2499 American D-Day fatalities and 1915 from the other Allied nations, a total of 4414 dead (new estimates www.dday.org)
- Older estimates: U.S.:1465 dead, 3184 wounded, 1928 missing and 26 captured. Of the total US figure, 2499 casualties were from the US airborne troops (238 of them being deaths). The casualties at Utah Beach were relatively light: 197, including 60 missing. However, the US 1st and 29th Divisions together suffered around 2000 casualties at Omaha Beach.
- Caen Museum figures: about 50 KIA on Utah, 300 on Sword, 1600 on Omaha.
- From internet (<https://history.stackexchange.com/questions/25/how-many-troops-died-on-d-day>): "2499 casualties were from the US airborne troops (238 of them being deaths)."

- (from internet) "Over 425,000 Allied and German troops were killed, wounded or went missing during the Battle of Normandy. This figure includes over 209,000 Allied casualties, with nearly 37,000 dead amongst the ground forces and a further 16,714 deaths amongst the Allied air forces. Of the Allied casualties, 83,045 were from 21st Army Group (British, Canadian and Polish ground forces), 125,847 from the US ground forces."

Causalities of World War II

Country	Tot. Deaths	% of Pre-war Pop.	Military Deaths	Civilian
USSR	20,600,000	10.4%	13,600,000	7,000,000
Germany	6,850,000	9.5%	3,250,000	3,600,000
France	810,000	1.9%	340,000	470,000
U. S.	500,000	0.4%	500,000	—
G.Britain	388,000	0.8%	326,000	62,000

Normandy and bombing

Classification

The theory of strategic bombing— in either mode, precision or area— had been straightforward and attractive. In the memorable, quaint language of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey (USSBS), “strategic bombing bears the same relationship to tactical bombing as does the cow to the pail of milk. To deny immediate aid and comfort to the enemy, tactical considerations dictate upsetting the bucket. To ensure eventual starvation, the strategic move is to kill the cow.”

"Strategic bombing . . . is aimed at the systematic destruction of those resources which will most weaken the enemy by denying him the materials or weapons he needs to prosecute the war. Strategic bombing is ... the use of air power to strike at the very foundation of an enemy's war effort— **the production of war material, the economy as a whole, or the morale of the civilian population**— rather than as a direct attack on the enemy's army or navy. ...

Normandy and bombing

Classification

" ... While **tactical air power** uses aircraft to aid the advance of forces on the ground or on the surface of the ocean, usually in cooperation with those forces, **strategic air power** usually works in relative independence of armies and navies."

Brauer, Jurgen; van Tuyll, Hubert. Castles, Battles, and Bombs: How Economics Explains Military History (Kindle Locations 4371-4383). University of Chicago Press. Kindle Edition.

Normandy and bombing: a review

Accuracy

- Vertical versus horizontal
- You will see Pont d Hoc! Why? (Monte Cassino, myriad other examples).
- Successes? Fixed, non-protected highways, railways. Ruled the air.

Other issues on air power

See what you want to see; careerism

- United States Strategic Bombing Survey (USSBS)
 - "a problematic document which epitomizes the problematic nature of strategic bombing as a concept. Thus, determining strategic bombing's true efficacy is inherently difficult if not impossible" (Review by Mike Hankin of *How Effective Is Strategic Bombing?: Lessons Learned from World War II to Kosovo*, By Gian P. Gentile).
 - "the Survey reports have taken on the aura of a document that contains the truth about strategic bombing in World War II. In fact, the Survey is a secondary source that interprets the past." The Survey is merely the analysis of the men who authored it. It is not in itself an objective source of facts and data, although many facts and data points are contained within the reports. Gentile argues that too often, this distinction is forgotten or ignored, yet remembering this is key to correctly understanding the Survey." (BR)
- "desire of senior AAF officers to use the Survey's results as a tool for creating a postwar independent air force"

- Bayeux Tapistry

- Burning/disabling boats?
- Friedman: "Commanders throughout history have been confronted with the problem (of getting men to fight) and have come up with a variety of ways to make it in the interest of their soldiers to fight and, if possible, in the interest of the enemy soldiers to run away. ... "burning your bridges behind you."
- Greed: 1066: "The Norman Conquest not only changed the legal and social structure of England, but also led to an almost total change in the people holding land and therefore power. William I left only two major English landowners (Thurkill of Arden and Colswein of Lincoln) in possession of their estates, giving the rest to his Norman and other followers." ... "Only one of 12 Earls remained English after four years." <https://faculty.history.wisc.edu/sommerville/123/123%209%20Norman%20>
- Leadership: William in the front.

- D-Day: Getting men to fight: Could soldiers shirk? Remember the pictures with men crouched behind the beach obstacles? SPR movie: the weenie translator/clerk hiding.

More on Normandy

- How is film footage obtained? Accuracy?
- Draftees versus enlistees? (BR1 vs 101st)
- SPR, B of B: investing in identity?
- Twin Towers and Normandy Beaches: how to honor sacrifice.
- B of Bros: Captain Sobel