D-DAY

Friday, June 6, 2014 is the ***70th Anniversary*** of D-Day, a very important day in the history of the United States of America. We should never forget the ultimate sacrifice that 9,000 (either killed or wounded) of our brave soldiers made that day on the shores of Normandy, France. Please read the attached information that has more details about D-Day.

Thank you,

Linda Puglisi
Supervisor

D-Day

June 6, 1944, 160,000 Allied troops landed along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified French coastline to fight Nazi Germany on the beaches of Normandy, France. General Dwight D. Eisenhower called the operation a crusade in which "we will accept nothing less than full victory." More than 5,000 Ships and 13,000 aircraft supported the D-Day invasion, and by day's end on June 6, the Allies gained a foot-hold in Normandy. The D-Day cost was high -more than 9,000 Allied Soldiers were killed or wounded -- but more than 100,000 Soldiers began the march across Europe to defeat Hitler.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower
1953-1961
34th President of the U.S. – 5 Star General in the US Army during WWII and Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe – In charge with planning and carrying out the Allied assault on the coast of Normandy code named "Operation Overlord", the liberation of Western Europe and the Invasion of Germany.

His words prior to the invasion:

"Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force! You are about to embark upon a great crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers in arms on other fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one.

Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle hardened, he will fight savagely.

But, this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man to man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their

capacity to wage war on the ground. Our home fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to victory!
I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full victory! Good luck! And let us all beseech the blessings of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking!"

- Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower