

The Purpose of D-Day

OVERVIEW

The D-Day invasion of World War II was codenamed Operation Overlord. Its purpose was to establish a safe entry point into Europe for the Allied Forces, and force Nazi Germany to fight on two fronts.

Germany had already conquered most of Western Europe, which allowed Germany's Nazi dictator, Adolf Hitler, to invade the Soviet Union to his east. Allied leaders believed that Hitler's forces could be defeated if the Nazi's had to split their resources and fight on two fronts. Therefore, Allied invasion plans were made to attack on the Normandy beaches of Nazi-occupied France.

DID YOU KNOW?

"D-Day" is a military term used to mean the date on which any military operation will begin. The day before D-Day is known as "D-1," while the day after D-Day is "D+1," and so on. This done so that a projected date of an operation can change, but the plan does not also need to be changed. The term "H-Hour" is also used to refer to the time an operation will begin. The WWII invasion at Normandy is simply the most well-known D-Day.

