Description: This is an extract from a COSSAC (which later became known as SHAEF) meeting report. It points out that 1) an outline for a cover plan for Operation Overlord was considered and should be put in place immediately, and 2) that strategic surprise of Overlord was no longer possible, so the cover plan would address the tactical surprise of date, strength of forces, and location.

Date on document: November 30, 1943

Location: Eisenhower Presidential Library

Box 60: SHAEF Office of Secretary, General Staff: Records 1943-1945

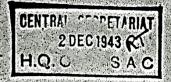
File 381: Fortitude, Operation Fortitude [1011-1150]

(IKEducation scan #175)

Officer. It was pointed out that strategic surprise was no longer possible in the matter of "OVERLORD"; our only hope was to obtain tactical surprise as to date, strength of forces employed, and direction of thrust, to which end the cover planwas designed.

THE COMMITTEE:-

Approved the implementation by COSSAC of the particular items of the cover plan for "OVERLORD" as set out in paragraph 3 of his covering Memorandum, it being understood that the visible results, such as the crection of tenage, etc. in the East of England, should be delayed as long as possible.







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Extract from COS (43) 292nd Mtg (0) Item 6 held 30th New 43.

6. "OVERLORD" - COVER PLAN

(0,0,5,(43) 735 (0)) . (MSAL (43) 63).

THE COMMITTEE had before them a Memorandum by COSSAC, submitting an outline cover plan for operation "OVERLORD". Cortain features of the plan required to be put in hand immediate in order to be ready by the target date.

There was general agreement with the limited proposals submitted by COSSAC which had the approval of the Controlling Officer. It was pointed out that strategic surprise was no longer possible in the matter of "OVERLORD"; our only hope was to obtain tactical surprise as to date, strength of forces employed, and direction of thrust, to which end the cover plane was designed.

THE COMMITTEE:-

Approved the implementation by COSSAC of the particular items of the cover plan for "OVERLORD" as set out in paragraph 3 of his covering Memorandum, it being understood that the visible results, such as the erection of tenage, etc. in the East of England, should be delayed as long as possible.

CENTRAL COLETARIAT
2 DEC 1943 COL
H.Q. C. S. A.C.

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