



# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE NORMANDY LANDINGS

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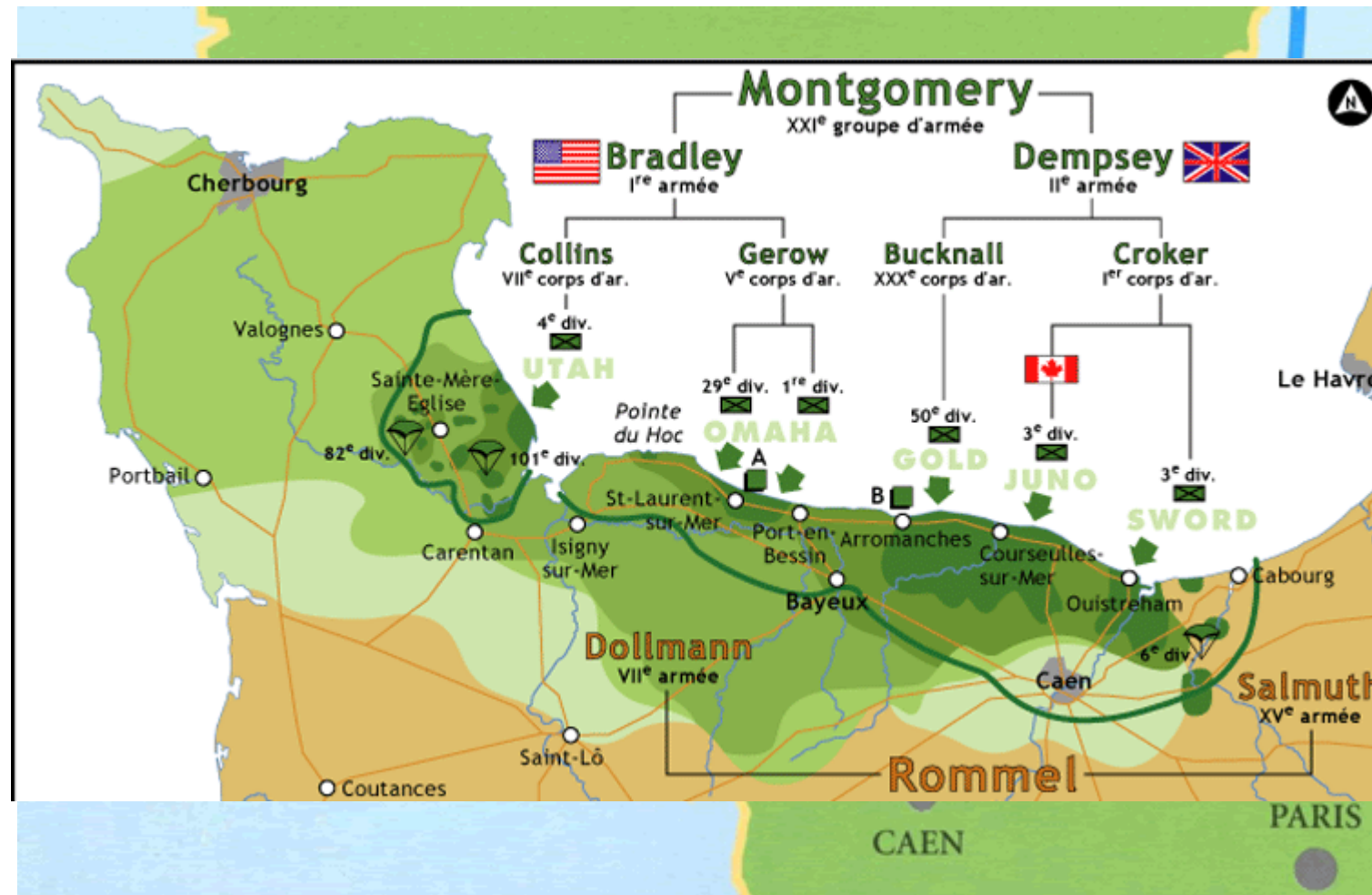
# REMINDER OF THE FACTS

**June 6, 1944**

**156,000** Allied soldiers  
(total: 2,5 million)

**10,500** Allied losses

**6,939** Ships deployed  
▪ **59** sunk ships



# PURPOSE

June 6, 1944: a military success

Still remains from this Allied assault → Any impact?

**Memory** – conservation of the remains  
*and/or*

**Conservation** – preservation of the environment



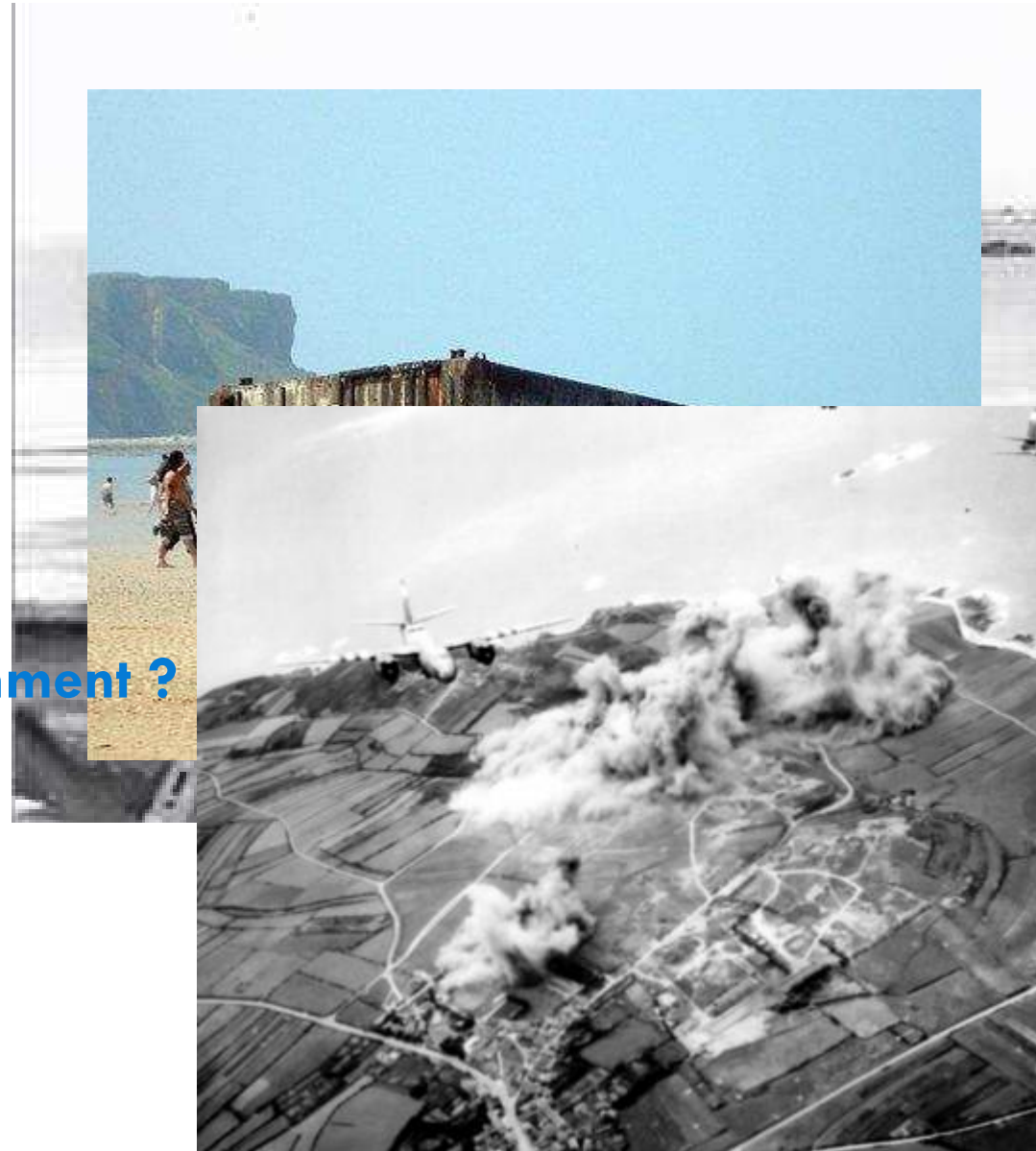
# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- **59** sunk ships
- Two artificial harbours not completely dismantled
- Pipeline installed between Britain and Normandy
- High consumption of petrol – fumes released

## What was the impact on the marine environment ?

- Bombing of the coast by 2,500 bombers  
(**8,000 tons** of bombs)
- Heavy artillery from the warships

## What was the impact on the coast ?



# METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES (1)

## 1. What was the impact on the marine environment ?

Navy reports → where the ships sank

Submarine plots → consequences ?

Fishermen's reports from 1940-1950

Interviews from the local inhabitants who were alive during the landings

*Scientific research*

Data about the diffusion of petrol in the sea / fumes in the atmosphere

Petrol consumption by the vehicles/ships

# METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES (2)

## 2. What was the impact on the coast ?

Erosion: Comparison thanks to pictures and movies taken by soldiers or civilians

Reports from the Air Force/Navy

Farming efficiency from the local farmers: interviews/written assessments

Tank tracks damages: idem from the locals

Indirect consequences: remains on the landing beaches (not dismantled) – reports from compo  
cemeteries: preserved areas? – foreign embassies

QUESTIONS ?

