

Mintlings
by THE ROYAL MINT



The 80th Anniversary
of D-Day



Activity Pack



What was D-Day?

During the Second World War, Germany occupied most of Western Europe. On 6 June 1944, 150,000 soldiers landed on the beaches of Normandy, which is in Northern France, on what became known as 'D-Day'. It was the largest military operation in history and started the beginning of the end of the Second World War.



Did you Know?

Each beach was given a codename.
The names were:

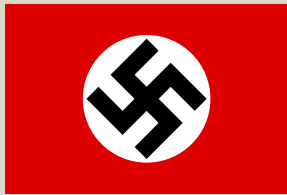
- Utah
- Omaha
- Gold
- Juno
- Sword





Who was Involved?

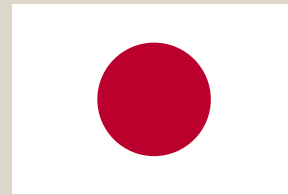
The Second World War involved countries from all over the world. The Germans, who were led by Adolf Hitler, were part of a group known as the Axis powers, which also included Italy and Japan.



Germany



Italy

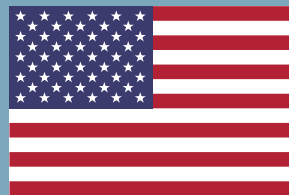


Japan

Fighting against the Axis powers were the Allied powers. This group of countries included the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, China, New Zealand, Australia, France, India and the USSR (the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).



United Kingdom



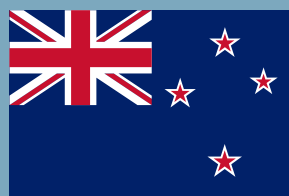
United States



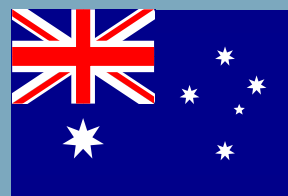
Canada



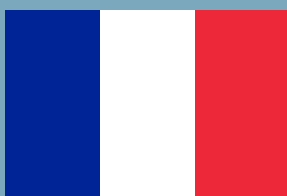
China



New Zealand



Australia



France



India



USSR





Planning D-Day

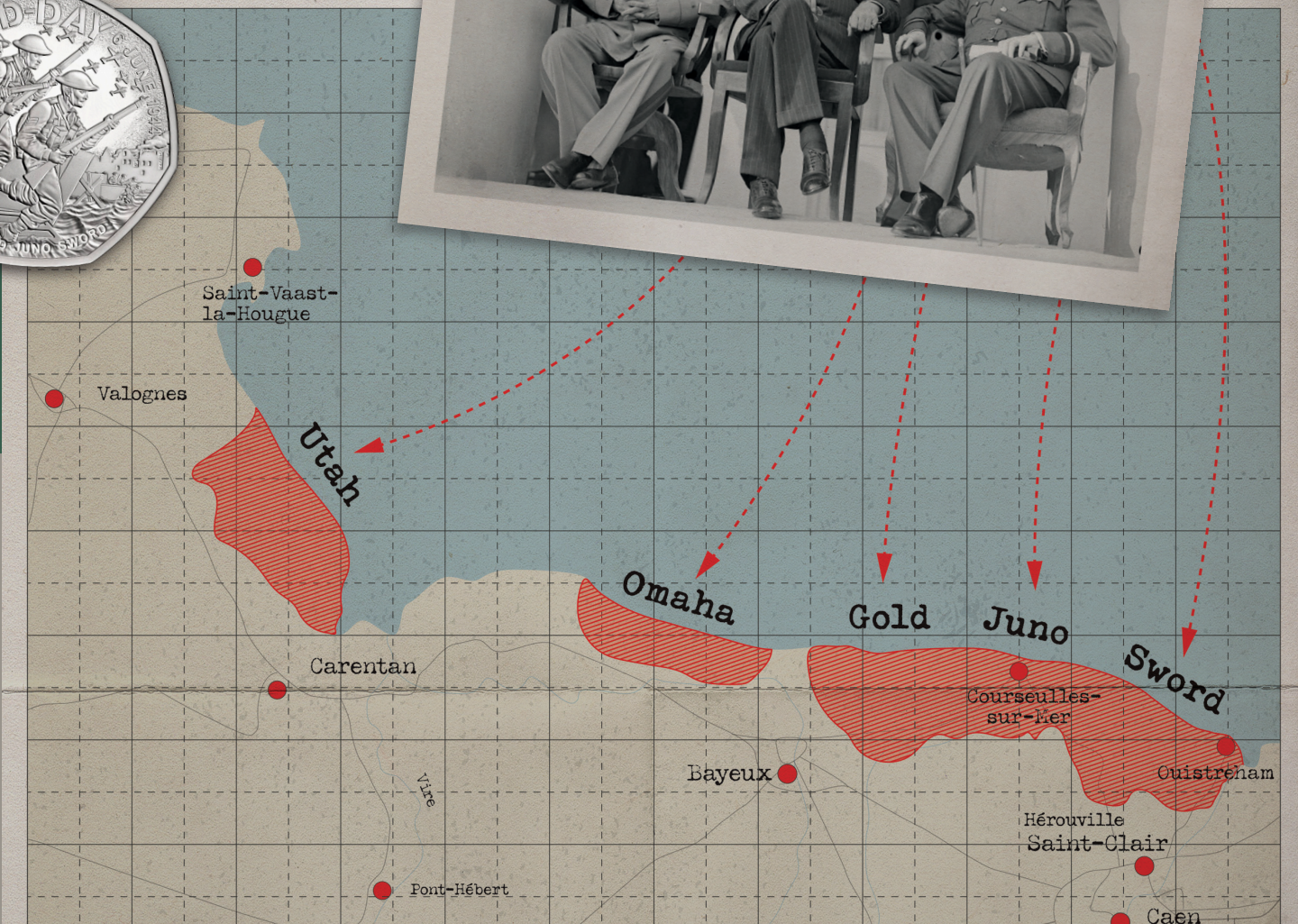


At the end of 1943, the Allied leaders met in Tehran, Iran, to discuss opening a second front against Nazi Germany. These leaders included British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Soviet Premier (leader) Joseph Stalin. An invasion, codenamed Operation Overlord, was agreed upon and required careful planning to be a successful military campaign. It was originally planned for 5 June 1944 but was delayed by a day due to bad weather.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Winston Churchill

Joseph Stalin





Codebreakers

It was common during the Second World War to communicate in code to keep information secret. For some time before D-Day, Allied codebreakers were breaking coded messages the Germans were sending each other and some of these messages revealed that the Germans were planning to invade the UK.

D-Day had its very own codename. Can you crack the code below to find the answer?



Key

D	V	I	A	E	P	L	O	R	N	V	T

Activity





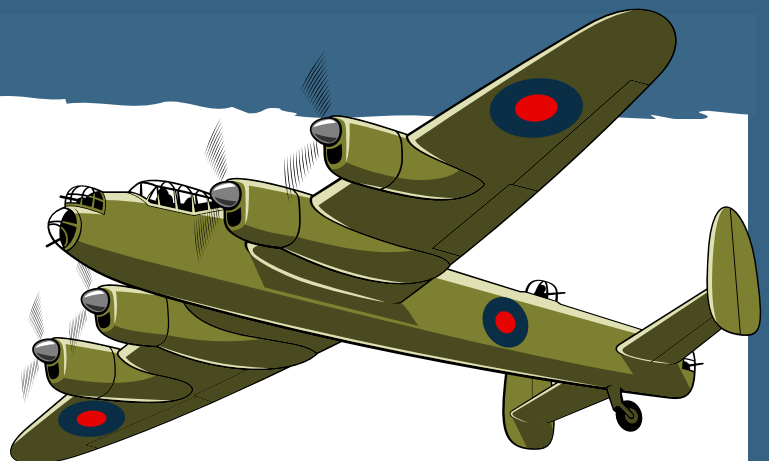
D-Day Wordsearch



Find these hidden words relating to D-Day.



U B C H U R C H I L L D E M R T C A
 N E I P F U P P G R G W G F D W X C
 J M B V Z H Q H U N M T O T A N K L
 I N J E H R X T O W X W A I R J O U
 T N O I A V F V B Z V J I P X R I J
 X J F R F C S B O Z O Q R M L O L F
 E U F A M A H T E I Z S C A V L T T
 Y H O P N A T H B V K Y R T B O I S
 H E L M E T N A E O H S A I N F C C
 R A K Z I V R D O A A Q F D V I M V
 P G F E X U W Y Y X D T T E Q V B V
 P Z K G P P L W J J Z T C N U B S D



Churchill

Normandy

Beachhead

Aircraft

Infantry

Boat

Tank

Helmet



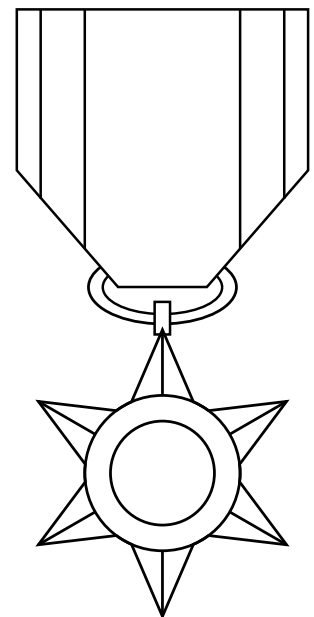
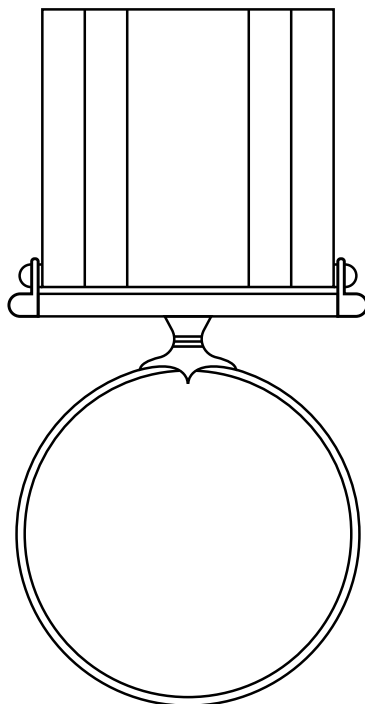
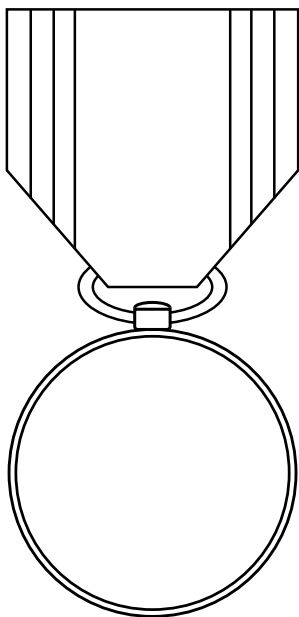


Design Your Own Medal

Although The Royal Mint is famous for making coins, we also have a long history of making medals. During the Second World War, we made many medals that were awarded to people in the military and to civilians who had helped with the war effort.

Design your own medal using the templates below. When designing your medal, think about ...

- What is your medal being awarded for?
- Who will you give it to?
- What images will you choose?
- What do these images mean to you?
- What colour will your ribbons be and what do these colours mean?



Mintlings

by THE ROYAL MINT



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There's a whole host of activities
and coin-related fun!

royalmint.com/mintlings



Imperial War Museums records and tells the stories of those who have lived, fought and died in conflict since 1914. © IWM

With thanks to Imperial War Museums for their assistance in this project.