

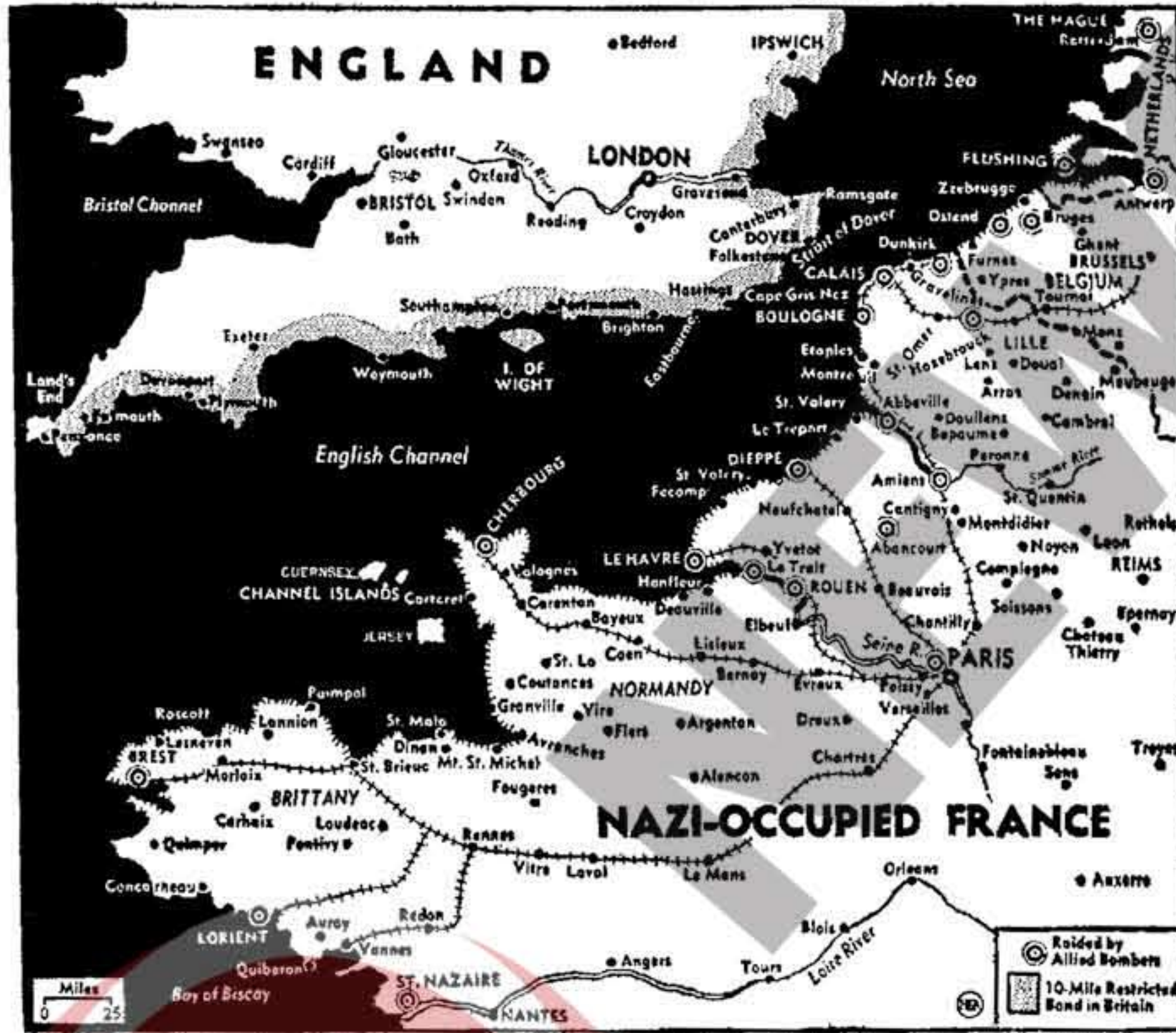
EXTRA!

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INVASION!

The Invasion Coast Lies Close to Supplies



Allied Troops Land In Northern France

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED EX-PEDITIONARY FORCE, (AP) - American, British and Canadian troops landed in Northern France this morning, launching the greatest overseas military operation in history with word from their supreme commander, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, that "we will accept nothing except full victory" over the German masters of the continent.

The invasion, which Eisenhower called "a great crusade," was announced at 7:32 a. m. Greenwich Mean Time (3:32 a. m., Eastern War Time) in this one-sentence communique No. 1:

"Under the command of General Eisenhower, Allied naval forces supported by strong air forces began landing Allied armies this morning on the Northern coast of France."

It was announced moments later that Britain's Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery hero of the African desert, was in charge of the assault

The locations of the landings were not announced. Eisenhower himself wished Godspeed to the parachutists who were the first to land on the enemy-held soil of France.

For three hours previous to the Allied announcement the German radio had been pouring forth a series of flashes reporting that the Allies were landing between Le Havre and Cherbourg along the south side of the Bay of the Seine and along the north coast of Normandy.

This would be across the channel and almost due south of such British ports as Hastings, Brighton, Portsmouth and Bour-nemouth.

The Germans also said parachutists had descended in Normandy and were being engaged by Nazi shock troops.

The landings had been in progress for several hours before the Allied communique was issued. Allied soldiers leaped onto the shores which the Germans have spent nearly four years in fortifying, while Allied planes and ships hurled into those defenses barrages which the Nazis admitted were terrific. The fleet included several battleships, which the Germans said set the whole Seine Bay area ablaze with their fire. The Germans announced also that American reinforcements began landing at dawn, aided by artificial fog, and that in some places dummy parachutes were dropped to confuse the defense. French patriots previously had been warned by Allied radio broadcasts to get out of areas within 35 kilometers (22 miles) of the coast to escape the shock of battle and the gigantic aerial bombardment. The Germans said the bombers ranged as far north as Dunkerque, the unhappy port from which the beaten British army escaped almost exactly four years ago. All England resounded with the thunder of their coming and going. An Associated Press correspondent flying over the French coast in a B-26 Marauder reported seeing the fields inland strewn with hundreds of parachutes and dotted with gliders, while great naval forces fired into the coast fortifications.

In a special order of the day issued to all soldiers, sailors and airmen under his command, Gen. Eisenhower said: "We will accept nothing except full victory." Eisenhower told his men they were "embarking on a great crusade toward which we have striven these many months" and warned them that they were facing a tough well-prepared enemy. Berlin said the "center of gravity" of the fierce fighting was at Caen, 30 miles southwest of Le Havre and 65 miles southeast of Cherbourg. Caen is 10 miles inland from the sea, at the base of the 75-mile wide Normandy peninsula. Heavy fighting also was reported between Caen and Trouville. One of Berlin's first claims was that the first parachute invasion was badly mauled. General Montgomery, hero of the African desert, was leading the assault of the Allied liberation army. No other Allied commanders were announced, for the thousands of battle-trained Allied troops, although Gen. Omar Bradley has been in command of American ground forces in England for several months. Bradley participated in the Tunisian victory. Thousands of battle-trained American, British and Canadian troops hurled themselves at Hitler's western defenses after months of preparation. Huge troopship armadas slipped out of English ports in the darkness and sped toward Europe where four years ago almost to the day Britain brought back the last battle-worn defenders of Dunkerque. The Germans also declared that Calais and Dunkerque, immediately across the English Channel from Britain were under heavy air attack.

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Nazis Report Allies Swarm Ashore In Area Between Cherbourg-LeHarve

LONDON (AP)—The Berlin radio said today that "combined British-American landing operations against the western coast of Europe from the sea and air are stretching over the entire area between Cherbourg and Le Havre."

The broadcast declared that grand scale amphibious operations are under way on a broad front between the mouth of the Seine and the Estuary of the river Vire.

"A large number of Allied landing boats of various types and light Allied Naval forces in considerable strength are taking part," Berlin added.

"Six heavy Allied warships and 20 destroyers are off the mouth of the Seine."

The river Vire empties into the Atlantic 30 miles southeast of Cherbourg, indicating that the reported invasion was occurring all along the northern side of the Normandy peninsula stretching along the Bay of the Seine between Cherbourg and Le Havre.

"Fierce fighting against Allied forces in the Caen area," 10 miles inland from the Normandy coast and 30 air line miles southwest of Le Havre, was reported by the Germans.

Caen is near the base of the Cotentin or Normandy peninsula. Cherbourg is at the tip of the peninsula.

"Considerable parts of the parachute units on the Normandy peninsula and on the river mouths were wiped out," Berlin said.

The first British parachute division was declared badly mauled. Another Berlin "flash" said the "first center of gravity is Caen," the big city at the base of the Normandy peninsula.



GEN. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER... supreme Allied commander... canny Kansan who knit together American, British and French forces in North Africa into unified command... "Ike" left West Point, 1915, was lieutenant colonel, 1918... after the war went through Infantry Tank School, Command and General Staff School, War and Army Industrial colleges... 1935 to Philippines as MacArthur's chief of staff... there learned to fly, planned island defenses... 1942 to England to head U. S. forces... in five months trained amateur army for successful invasion of North Africa... Sicilian invasion was "his baby" on which Tunisian-won reputation hung — and stuck... decisive, but diplomatic, his manner at first seems breezy and brash... but trust and affection he commands from both U. S. and British officers proves he's leader, rather than driver, of men.