

Worksheet 1

Read the text and answer the questions

“Order of the Day” - statement as issued to the soldiers, sailors and airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force on 6 June 1944

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Soldiers, sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples in Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely.

But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940/41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the German great defeats, in open battle, man to man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

- When was this document signed? Which historical event does it refer to?

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- What are the purposes set by the American general Eisenhower?

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- What was established with the Conference of Teheran? When did it happen?

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- What was the Overlord operation? How did the German troops react?

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- What was the effect of the Normandy landings in 1944?
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