D-Day: 75 years after
D-Day Beach traffic, photographed from a Ninth Air Force bomber on June 6, 1944. Note vehicle lanes leading away from the beach. (US National Archives).

An LCVP from the USS Samuel Chase disembarks troops of the US Army’s 1st Infantry Division on the morning of June 6, 1944 (D-Day), at Omaha Beach. US soldiers disembark a landing craft at Normandy, France, June 6, 1944. By the end of the day, some 150,000 Allied troops had landed on five Normandy beaches and three airborne drop zones. The invasion marked the beginning of the final phase of World War II in Europe, which ended with the surrender of Germany the following May. (US National Archives).

US Army Air Forces Douglas C-47A Skytrain (43-15174 in front) from the 88th Troop Carrier Squadron, 438th Troop Carrier Group, 53rd Troop Carrier Wing, 9th Troop Carrier Command, tows Waco CG-4A gliders during the invasion of France in June 1944. On June 6, 1944, the squadron dropped the 101st Airborne Division’s 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment soon after midnight in the area northwest of Carentan, France. (USAF—National Museum of the US Air Force, photo 050606-f-1234P-039)

An LCVP from the USS Samuel Chase disembarks troops of the US Army’s 1st Infantry Division on the morning of June 6, 1944 (D-Day), at Omaha Beach. (US National Archives).

Normandy Invasion, June 1944—Troops in an LCVP landing craft approaching Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Note helmet netting; faint “No Smoking” sign on the LCVP’s ramp; and M1903 rifles and M1 carbines carried by some of these men. Source: Photograph from the Army Signal Corps Collection in the US National Archives.

D-Day: 75 years after
Troops watch activity ashore on Omaha Beach as their LCVP landing craft approaches the shore on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Photograph from the Army Signal Corps Collection in the US National Archives.

A USAF P-38 participating in the invasion of France, as indicated by the invasion stripes. (US National Archives).

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower gives the order of the day, “full victory—nothing else” to paratroopers in England, just before they board their airplanes to participate in the first assault in the invasion of the continent of Europe. June 6, 1944. 111-SC-194399. National Archives Identifier: 531217

Normandy Invasion, June 1944. Landing ships putting cargo ashore on one of the invasion beaches at low tide during the first days of the operation, June 1944. Among identifiable ships presents are USS LST-532 (in the center of the view); USS LST-262 (third LST from right); USS LST-310 (second LST from right); USS LST-533 (partially visible at far right); and USS LST-524. Note the barrage balloons overhead and Army “half-track” convoy forming up on the beach. This image was most likely captured on June 9. (US National Archives).

An aerial view of Omaha Beach, Normandy, France, taken June 6, 1944, showing landing of two infantry regiments—the 18th and 115th—with vehicles and landing craft. (US National Archives).

The first Allied amphibious troops hit the beaches of Normandy at 6:30 a.m. on June 6, 1944. Constant air cover was flown over the vast sea armada and the assault beaches, and only three Luftwaffe airplanes were sighted the first day. This is an aerial view of a part of the invasion coast, overlooking Juno Beach at Courseulles-sous-Mer. The photo was taken from a US Army Air Force Lockheed F-5 Lightning reconnaissance plane. (US National Archives).