

Leader's Summit

Historical Committee

MSMUN 2025

Chair

Antonia Arango

Luciana Badel

Official Language

English

Topic

D-Day

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1. Letter from the chair

Dear and esteemed delegates,

We would like to welcome you to 2025 version of the Marymount Model of United Nations, we are extremely excited to have you as our delegates and hope that the coexistence inside the committee will be enjoyable.

During three days you will be discussing an extremely important topic that changed World War II path; *D-DAY*. Both subjects have a very important impact on the international community and its future welfare.

Leader's Summit is primarily responsible for bringing the most important leaders of the world when some specific and impactful conflicts occur. It identifies threats to peace, recommends peaceful resolutions or even solutions which require the use of force and can authorize military action or design military strategies (as in this case) when necessary. This summit will establish how World War II and specifically D-Day will unfold. The commission is intended to find a solution to the NAZI cause and we as your presidents hope that you, as representatives, will discuss these issues and will follow your country's policy on the chosen topic and adhere to the moral values and constitution of the nation you will be representing. As said in the US Constitution (Article III, Section 3): "Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort" (This same statement shall apply to nationals of other nations).

Furthermore, it is of vital importance to follow orders from the supreme commanders or politicians, which will help to plan movements faster and with everyone's collaboration.

President Arango and President Badel, trust in your abilities as representatives and your personal moral principles that will reflect your qualities inside the commission. Do not

hesitate at any time to contact us, we will be available at any time to resolve all the doubts you could possibly have.

Sincerely,

Luciana Badel & Antonia Arango

Presidents of Leader's Summit

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2. General information about the Committee

2.1. History

As stated in the chair's letter, This fictional real-based committee consists of important Leaders of any specific conflict. In this case, D-Day, a famous and one of the biggest amphibious operations, took place on the beach of Normandy against the Third Reich. The urge to find a way to end Nazi Germany, which in 1940, conquered France, was expanding at a massive level. The urge for a solution, made all important diplomats meet, name the commanders of the expeditionary forces and start planning the biggest operation ever.

2.2. Purpose

The commission's purpose is to give an alternative unfolding to the operation. In fact, the committee will start on June 5th, 1943, when all the leaders are called for an urgent summit, where they will meet to start planning the famous operation. The idea is to start

naming the operation, how to plan the attacks, and the procedure while the representatives are planning it.

Through directives, the chair and crisis will define how future updates will occur and while in the commission, time will be moving on, continuing with Normandy's disembarking, French liberation and winning or not the war. That is the purpose of the three days, the time is distributed in this way (Mind that this is a proposal the chair gives you): For the first day, 1943 and half of 1944, for the second day, the advances of 1944 and the last day 1945.

The purpose is to find a difference to the real solution to the conflict, and depending on how the delegates write the directives, plan the operation, and have leadership abilities, will define how the war will evolve. Remember that this is not the exact scenario of the war, but rather an alternate plan to the operation where you can adhere to some original plans. Failing to be original would only cost the Allies massive losses.

2.3 How would it function?

This committee works almost exactly as any other regular UN model committee, with formal and informal debates. However, now that this is a historical committee is going to change in some aspects. Crisis could appear in the course of the debate, which have various additions that change the timeline and other aspects that are going to be told in the time of the debate. Moreover, during committee sessions either on lobby time or in moderated caucus delegates would be able to send directives which will help crisis to modify history.

2.4 Execution guidelines

Leaders summit works with one or two topics, according to what way is given, either historical, or normal committee. This will be the main focus of the debate. It will also include crisis updates provided by the chair to alter the outcomes, covering aspects such as the before and after, operations, interventions, specific timelines, among other elements, as they are part of the framework and development of the topic to create a comprehensive and appropriate approach for these types of crises

On this committee, delegates will represent a character who will have different opinions on the D-Day, and will have to put the honor of their leader that acted for a country upon the war, and their interests as an individual, first and foremost. Having to prove their point and convince others of the reason. Delegates must create other operations or other strategies that possibly didn't happen but could have been used. Since crisis updates are likely to change the order of events, allies, solutions, and even bring more problems, so delegates should seek alliances with whomever they believe best protects their ideals.

3. Topic A: D-Day

3.1. Introduction

Operation Overlord, most commonly known as D-Day¹, marked the turning point of WWII and has been considered one of the most significant operations in history. On June 6, 1944, the Allied forces launched a colossal and sudden amphibious assault on the beaches of Normandy, Nazi Germany-occupied France, aiming to liberate Europe from Nazi occupation and establish a base for further military advances on land (which was the uneasiest task).

¹ D coming from the word day

This committee focuses on the strategic and political dimensions of D-Day, providing a chance to change the course of the war. Allies may win again or if there is a lack of leadership and planning, losing against the Germans, giving the Nazis relief to then focus on the USSR and be successful with the formation of the Lebensraum. Delegates are supposed to coordinate any actions and advances by the Allies, the Axis response, and the future war results.

This recreation of the actual event aims to examine the operational challenges, taking into account elements like intelligence and decoding of encryption, logistical planning, and, ultimately, how to defeat the Nazis. On this critical day, ally attendees will determine how to influence history through dialogue and strategic planning.

3.2. Theoretical Framework

D-Day, behind all its problems, had various strategic uses of military actions and planning that made this day successful in winning for the Allies. This caused classical matters to evolve and become more modern, so let's look at which of these were applied in D-Day:

1. Amphibious Attack Doctrinal Framework:

These types of assaults were among the most difficult operations to be completed (Curatola, 2024). The need of men, materials, aircrafts, machines gave a modern precedent, making

nations place this idea of assault in the “too hard to do” category. With six components necessary for a successful attack, it emphasized things like: Command and Control, Ship-to-Shore Movement, Naval Fires Support, Air Support, Establishment of a Beach Head, and Communications and Logistics (Curatola, 2024). Creating an understanding of the complexity of such an amphibious attack, this was the work behind a successful winning.

2. Combined operations:

For these attacks to be completely victorious D-Day exemplified a combined operation that included all the Allies to combine forces of military and warfare, especially United States of America and the United Kingdom which were the most advanced in their land, naval and air forces which were crucial to achieve victory by awe and undeniable strength at designated landing sites (Fontenot, 2024). Which achieved extensive coordination and communication to unite forces.

3. Classical Military Theories:

Based on the strategy and tactics that involve the execution of military actions included science theories to be successful like Clausewitz’s concept of centers of gravity and Jomini’s lines of operation were the main logics aimed to strike the german forces and have a successful end (Betson, 1987).

4. Deception operations:

To ensure success, the allies applied another strategy to confuse German forces on the real landing site causing confusion for the Germans, making the allies be one step ahead of them it was called Operation Fortitude (Hammond, 2019). This made a great distraction and diverted attention away from the target.

5. Logistics: Concentrating and Sustaining the Force:

The Allies developed innovative solutions such as prefabricated docks (Mulberries) to facilitate supply routes once troops arrived on the beaches (Hammond, 2019). This logistical planning made it possible to make permanent inland operations without immediate reliance on occupied ports, which exemplified an understanding of the durability of operations in military campaigns (Hammond, 2019).

3.3. Historical context

On 6 June 1944 – 'D-Day' – Allied forces launched the largest amphibious invasion in the history of warfare. Codenamed Operation 'Overlord', the Allies landed on the beaches of Normandy marked the start of a long and costly campaign to liberate north-West Europe from Nazi occupation. In 1943, the Allies began secretly building an invasion force in Great Britain. They planned to launch an attack on Germany held France across the English Channel (*World History: Patterns of Interaction : McDougal Littell : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive, 2017*).

In the months leading up to the invasion, the allies conducted operation bodyguard Which was an overall strategy designed to mislead the Germans about the date and location of the actual landings (Elsworth, 2023). The Allies set up a huge dummy army with its own headquarters and equipment. This make-believe army appeared to be preparing to attack the French seaport of Calais. By early June, the number of troops present in Britain reached more than 2 million Americans along with 250 000 Canadians in preparation for the Normandy invasion (Elsworth, 2023).



Image from National Museum of the United States Air Force (Team, 2024).

By using the amphibious landing strategy, a military strategy launched by air, land, and sea forces to invade hostile shores, U.S., British and Canadian forces simultaneously landed on five separate beachheads of Normandy, France (*Air Power (U.S. National Park Service)*, n.d.). The British army landed in the east, on the code-named beaches sword and gold, the Canadians on Juno Beach, and the Americans on Omaha and Utah Beach.

After a prolonged and costly battle against the German defenses and despite suffering more than 3,000 deaths on only the first day of the Normandy invasion, the Allied troops successfully stormed the Normandy beaches. After consolidating their beachheads, the Allies launched breakout operations to penetrate deeper into Normandy and expand the front line (Elsworth, 2023). A month later, after D-day, the Allies marched triumphantly into Paris. This marked a significant turning point in the war, as Allied forces continued their push across France and into Germany, ultimately leading to the defeat of Nazi Germany (*World History: Patterns of Interaction : McDougal Littell : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive*, 2017).

On April 30th of the following year, Adolf Hitler committed suicide. 9 days later, Germany signed its unconditional surrender, marking the official end of World War ii.

3.4. Current situation

The United States, now involved in WWII after the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941, led to the U.S. and Britain declaring war on Japan. Later on, many battles happened, and the Allies were able to take back N. Africa (1943), and Italy (1943) after the U.S. was able to provide military resources (WWII Foundation, 2024).

With German territory now being weakened by the Allies, it is the time to strike. Preparation for the operation Overlord begins.

The preparation for attack was now beginning after the Tehran Conference, which was a conference held on the 28th of November 1943 with Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin. This meeting brought a union between the leaders and was held to strategize their militaries to go against Germany and Japan (*Milestones in the History of U.S. Foreign Relations - Office of the Historian*, n.d.). In December of 1943, General Dwight D. Eisenhower led a command team to begin the arrangement of the air, land, and naval operations (Imperial War Museums, n.d.). This plan has to be perfect with no room for error, the pressure is on.

3.5. Antecedents

D-Day, or Operation Overlord, was planned due to the compilation of many global crises and most significantly, World War II, leading to the invasion on June 6, 1944. The main antecedents go as follows:

1. The French Occupation

The Second World War began in 1939 when Germany invaded Poland, provoking Britain and France to declare war. By 1940, Germany had launched a series of successful campaigns, which quickly resulted in the conquest of much of Western Europe, including

France. In one year, the Axis powers controlled most of Europe, creating a fortified Atlantic Wall around Europe's western coastline to defend against any Allied invasion attempts.

2. The Entry of the United States into the War

The attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, led the United States to enter World War II. Then Germany declared a state of war against them, bringing significant military and industrial resources to the exhausted Allied powers in Europe, turning around the Axis dominance in Europe and the Pacific.

3. The Casablanca Conference (January 1943)

At this meeting with the leaders of the most important allied nations, their leaders: Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill declared the strategy of "unconditional surrender" for Axis powers. The conference also had as a purpose to plan an invasion to Western Europe, to relieve pressure on the Eastern Front, where the Soviet Union was bearing the brunt of the fighting against Nazi Germany.

4. The Tehran Conference (November 1943)

The first meeting between Roosevelt, Churchill, and Joseph Stalin formalized plans for Operation Overlord. The Soviet Union urged the Allies to open a second front in Western Europe to divert German forces from the Eastern Front, opening a second front for German forces to lose focus on one and having less defense abilities.

5. The Success of the North African and Italian Campaigns

The Allied victories in North Africa (1942–1943) and the subsequent invasion of Italy demonstrated the feasibility of large-scale amphibious operations. These campaigns did provide new lessons on dos and don'ts for what the upcoming invasion would be like.

6. The Development of the Atlantic Wall

Adolf Hitler, der Führer, heavily fortified the western coastline of Europe to defend themselves from any invasion. This armoured wall, known as the Atlantic Wall, included bunkers, artillery placements, and obstacles designed to delay any attacks coming from water. Unfortunately, these were placed in areas where the allies did not disembark, except for example with Omaha beach.

7. Improvements in Military Technology and Logistics

The Allies prepared special equipment, including the Mulberry harbours-perfectly portable docks-and the PLUTO pipeline for carrying fuel across the English Channel-to sustain the invasion and not run out of fuel, to which the Germans were notoriously vulnerable. Furthermore, the months of training and coordination among the various Allied forces meant that they would be prepared for such a multifaceted operation.

8. The Role of Deception: Operation Bodyguard

To mislead the Axis about the place and time of invasion, the Allies designed an overall deception plan. Operation Fortitude was an operation within the larger plan of Operation Bodyguard, including fake armies, dummy equipment, and false intelligence to make the Germans believe that the invasion would take place at Pas-de-Calais and not in Normandy, which would be a logical choice.

9. The Air Campaign over Europe

The Allies had engaged in heavy bombing attacks on all aspects of German infrastructure, transportation networks, and industrial sites prior to D-Day. This was supposed to weaken the German defenses and impede their efficiency in responding to the invasion.

10. The Resistance Movements Grow in Occupied Europe

The underground resistance groups in France and other occupied territories played a vital role in intelligence gathering, especially in the South under the leadership of Charles de Gaulle, sabotage against German operations, and support of the Allies during the invasion. Their contribution helped rebellions take place and weakened German morale in the French-occupied territory.

This background collectively created the necessary conditions for Operation Overlord, determining the strategic, logistical, and tactical planning of one of the most dangerous missions in history as there was a 50% chance of winning or losing.

3.6. Possible outcomes

The outcomes of the D-day and decisions will depend on the strategies, the directives written and the actions taken by the delegates representing key stakeholders involved. These outcomes may follow a path similar to what occurred eighty years ago, or diverge from them. Here are some potential scenarios we as the chair give you:

1. Successful Allied Invasion of Normandy

The Allied forces may achieve a successful landing, resulting in a rapid advancement on the beaches of Normandy. This outcome would result in some similarities with historical events, enabling the Allies to establish a strong base in Western Europe and accelerate the liberation of Nazi-occupied territories by pushing from the West and the Soviets from the East. This requires communication, leadership, dialogue and more importantly, good strategic tactics, difficult to intercept from the enemies.

2. Failed Allied Invasion:

If there is poor coordination, miscommunication, enemy decoding, poor strategy, or unanticipated resistance from Axis forces, it could lead to the failure of the Normandy invasion. This outcome would have deep effects, the prolongation of the war, the

strengthening of the Axis powers, and the delaying the eventual liberation of Europe or even for the Nazis to dominate after the conflict ends with harsh treaties against the allies.

3. Alternative Strategies for the Invasion:

If the committee chooses to implement a completely different strategy from the ones historically employed, such as alternative landing sites, changes in timing, or shifts in resource allocation, these decisions could lead to varied outcomes, including faster victories or unexpected complications that could reshape the course of the war.

4. Axis Forces Repel the Allies

A well-organized defence by the Axis powers could result in the Allies being forced to retreat. This outcome would reinforce Axis control over Europe and require new strategies for the Allies to regain momentum in the war.

5. Extended Civilian Impact

Decisions that prioritize military objectives over civilian populations could lead to significant humanitarian crises, such as mass murders or socio-political instability in the long term in the affected regions chosen for the disembarkation.

6. Changes in Alliances and Diplomacy

Committee deliberations might have impacts on the political dynamics of the time, as a war is growing: the relations among the allied nations foster new alliances, or even internal divisions, that might affect the purpose of D-Day.

Decisions made will have a determining effect on the development of the immediate success or failure of the operation, but also the trends in the following years. The delegates are motivated to consider the far-reaching implications of their strategies while balancing military objectives against political, social, and ethical factors.

3.7. Useful sources

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3.8. Expectations for debate

As your presidents, we both expect the best out of everyone. D-day is a very interesting and complex topic to understand and retake, especially in the debate. We have given you data and resources that help you understand this crucial date, so bare in mind the whole story . We also expect that everyone understands o the historical background of the event within the context of how it led to occur, andwe expect data that can be applied during the committee. We hope that all of you give your best to this committee so we can make the best out of it.

It is also expected for the delegates to have a good and strong leadership in this committee. Teamwork between the delegations is crucial for a productive debate, this to be able to consider everyones opinions and perspectives on the issue at hand. Collaboration is necessary to maintain a pleasant discussion, and ensuring everyone's voices are heard will cultivate a proper environment to share everyone's ideas. These aspects are key to reaching a constructive outcome.

4. QARMAS

1. How did your leader contribute to the primary objectives of D-day, and how did they align with the overall strategy of their country?

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2. How did the planning and execution of D-Day demonstrate the importance of international cooperation among Allied nations?
 3. What other operations were included, and how did your leader support for the construction or development of the operation?
 4. What role did technology and logistics play in ensuring the success of the D-Day invasion?
 5. What were the specific tactical approaches used by Allied forces during the airborne assaults preceding the beach landings, and how did they contribute to the overall success of the operation?

5. Delegations List

1. Dwight D. Eisenhower
2. Arthur William Tedder
3. Bernard Law Montgomery
4. Franklin Roosevelt
5. Winston Churchill
6. Bertram Home Ramsay
7. Omar Nelson Bradley
8. George Smith Patton Jr.
9. Trafford Leigh-Mallory
10. Frederick Morgan
11. James Stagg

12. Percy Hobart
13. Georgy Zhukov
14. Raymond O. Barton
15. Theodore Roosevelt Jr.
16. Norman Cota
17. George A. Taylor
18. Charles de Gaulle
19. Rod Keller
20. John T. Crocker



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