

## **D-DAY TIMELINE: THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF WW2**

### **VIDEO TRANSCRIPT – H-Hour**

*[Voice of Jonathan Dimbleby]*

The assault on the beaches began at six thirty in the morning. Landing craft big and small face a barrage of deadly obstacles as they attempt to deliver men and equipment from the sea to the land.

The troops, British, American and Canadian, have to wade their way ashore, holding their rifles above their heads, while murderous fire from the German defenders pours down upon them.

Many don't make it to the beaches, especially on Omaha. Bodies float in the sea and become entangled on the obstacles. In some places the water is running red with blood.

Elsewhere, the German defenders are astonished to see tanks emerge from the water. These specially converted Shermans can swim, but as they drop their canvas surround they bring their guns to bear directly on enemy positions.

The sea is a mass of ships and boats of every size and shape. It's the greatest sea-borne invasion in history.

Overhead, fighters and bombers form a protective shield. On many of the beaches, the Germans are swiftly overwhelmed. But elsewhere, resistance is stubborn.

Blockhouses and other strongpoints rain devastating fire and casualties among the Allies are mounting.

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