

“It was no good hiding away in a corner and thinking it was going to get better ‘cause it wasn’t”



BIOGRAPHY:

At the age of just 17, Harry served on armed trawlers and minesweepers, initially part of the escorting Atlantic Convoys. He escorted American landing craft over to Normandy at D Day.



LISTEN TO HARRY TALK ABOUT D-DAY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KhRJDdNZe3M>

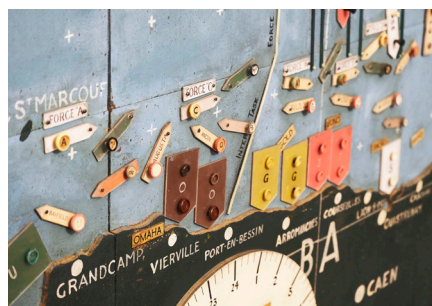
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ma-giPgEC6A>

ROLE IN D DAY (OPERATION NEPTUNE):

The leading ships of the invasion force were minesweepers which Harry was a part of who cleared a path for the bombardment ships to start their attack. The personnel ships followed landing troops on the beaches; in total, 132,815 men landed over the five beaches



“You had two enemies, you had the Germans and you had the sea and I can assure you the sea is more powerful than anything”.



Map link: Omaha beach sector St Laurent
<https://dday.nmrn.org.uk/>



Harry in naval uniform



DISCOVER MORE ABOUT D-DAY using these primary sources from our online collections portal:

View from a landing ship as the Invasion Fleet heads to Normandy, June 1944:

<https://collections.nmrn.org.uk/Details/museum/30723>

This is the sort of torpedo heading Harry’s way: Type of torpedo used against the allied invasion:

<https://collections.nmrn.org.uk/Details/museum/358396>

D Day operation planning had the highest level of secrecy and subterfuge. This is a fake map of the landing area:

<https://collections.nmrn.org.uk/Details/museum/10053981>