NAVY MEDICINE FAST FACTS

80th Anniversary

BATTLE OF NORMANDY

June 6 - August 30, 1944



June 2074



- The Battle of Normandy, codenamed Operation Overlord, was the Allied invasion of northern France on June 6, 1944 (D-Day). It is the largest amphibious operation in modern history.
- Paratroopers landed before dawn, followed by massive seaborne landings on five beaches (Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, Sword).
- Though facing fierce German defenses, especially at Omaha Beach, the Allies secured a foothold and began pushing inland. The success at Normandy paved the way for the liberation of France and the eventual defeat of Germany.

73,000+

U.S. personnel supporting Normandy operations

Navy physicians, hospital corpsmen, hospital corps officers, and dentists, could be found on ship and shore:



Aboard landing craft bringing the Army V Corps to the fight



Aboard battleships, cruisers, and destroyers that pounded German fortifications and cleared the way into the beaches



Embedded with the 2nd, 6th and 7th Naval **Beach Battalions on Omaha and Utah Beaches**



Navy Landing Ship Tanks (LSTs) at Normandy specially designated as "emergency hospitals"



personnel





Navy medical 2,300+ assigned to LSTs at Normandy

casualties transported by Navy **LSTs from Normandy to England**



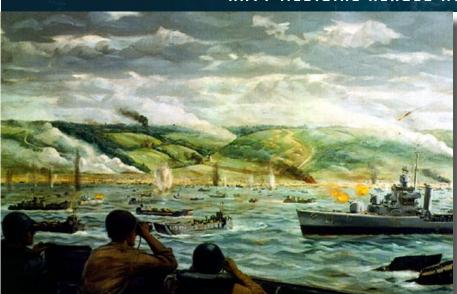
battalions.



NAVY MEDICINE FAST FACTS



NAVY MEDICINE HEROES AT NORMANDY



Lt (j.g.) Frank Hall, 7th Naval Beach Bttn

- Navy physician Lt. (j.g.) Frank Hall was part of the initial assault on Omaha Beach when his landing craft was sunk three miles from the beachhead. Salvaging what medical supplies he could, he then swam through the cold ocean water to the distant shore.
- Despite extreme exhaustion, and facing relentless enemy fire, Hall "resolutely" assumed command of the "medical work," leading the triage and attending to numerous casualties until they could be evacuated.
- Hall was later awarded the Navy Cross for his actions.



Navy medical personnel at Normandy were awarded 2 Navy Crosses, 5
Silver Stars, and 12 Legions of Merit

Lt (j.g.) Frank Ramsey & PhM3c Byron Dary, 6th Naval Beach Bttn

- Navy physician Lt. (j.g.) Frank Ramsey, Jr., and Pharmacist's Mate Third Class Byron Dary landed on Omaha Beach with the 6th Naval Beach Battalion on June 6, 1944.
- Upon hitting the beachhead, the physician and hospital corpsman rushed to the aid of wounded Army personnel lying near a burning half-track.
- In minutes, the vehicle exploded spraying shrapnel across the battlefield
 and taking Ramsey out of the fight. With little protection against this
 onslaught, Dary dragged Ramsey to a foxhole and administered lifesaving first aid. He then ran through machinegun and shellfire to aid a
 severely wounded Army colonel, all while being targeted by an enemy
 sniper.
- Dary was later awarded the Silver Star for actions at Normandy and go on to receive a posthumous Navy Cross for actions on Iwo Jima, 1945
- Lt (j.g.) Ramsey was awarded the Bronze Star in 2012 at the age of 96 years old in a ceremony aboard USS New Jersey.



NAVY MEDICINE AT NETLEY

- Once safely back in England, Navy medical personnel triaged patients, conducted emergency surgery, and stabilized the injured until they could be evacuated to other hospitals in Britain or back to the United States for more definitive treatment.
- One of the hospitals designated to care for the casualties
 of the D-Day invasion was US Navy Base Hospital Number
 12. The facility occupied the thousand-bed Royal Victoria
 Hospital at Netley, adjacent to the major Channel port of
 Southampton.
 - 740+ U.S. Navy physicians, nurses, dentists, hospital corps officers and hospital corpsmen at Netley cared for patients night and day. Their dedication and skill ensured a 97 percent patient survivability.