

1 Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

2 You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

3 Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely.

4 But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

5 I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

6 Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

—Order of the day for June 5, 1944

1. PART A: Which of the following best identifies the central idea of this text? [RI.2]
 - A. Americans' independence and freedom relies on the troops' performance.
 - B. Victory is uncertain, given the Nazi's strength in Europe.
 - C. The Allies are positioned to succeed so long as men fight bravely.
 - D. Only God can ensure an Allied victory over the Germans.
2. PART B: Which phrase from the text best supports the answer to Part A? [RI.1]
 - A. "The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you." (Paragraph 2)
 - B. "Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41." (Paragraph 4)
 - C. "We will accept nothing less than full victory." (Paragraph 5)
 - D. "And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking." (Paragraph 6)
3. How does paragraph 3 affect the development of Eisenhower's central ideas? [RI.5]
 - A. It admits that the fight ahead will be difficult.
 - B. It convinces the troops that the enemy will be easily defeated.
 - C. It claims that bravery is stronger in the face of savagery.
 - D. It laments that many of those reading will die in battle.
4. Which statement best describes the relationship between the war during 1941 and 1944? [RI.3]
 - A. In both years, the Germans are winning the war, making 1944 an urgent moment to surprise them.
 - B. In 1941 the Germans were winning but in 1944 the Allies had dealt them many losses.
 - C. In 1941 and 1944, the Allies were winning but not quite able to destroy the German army.
 - D. In 1941, the Germans were better trained than the Allies are in 1944.

5. Why was this event so important to the Allies?