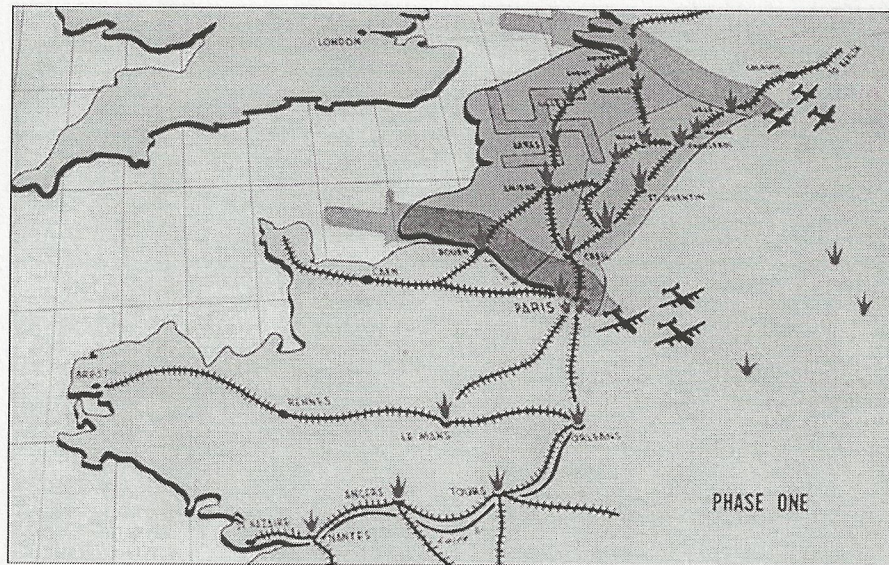
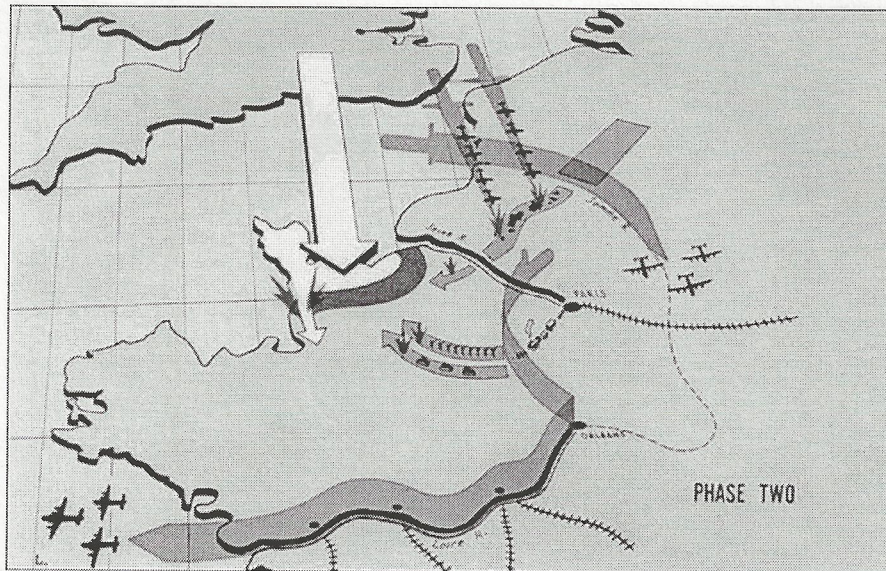


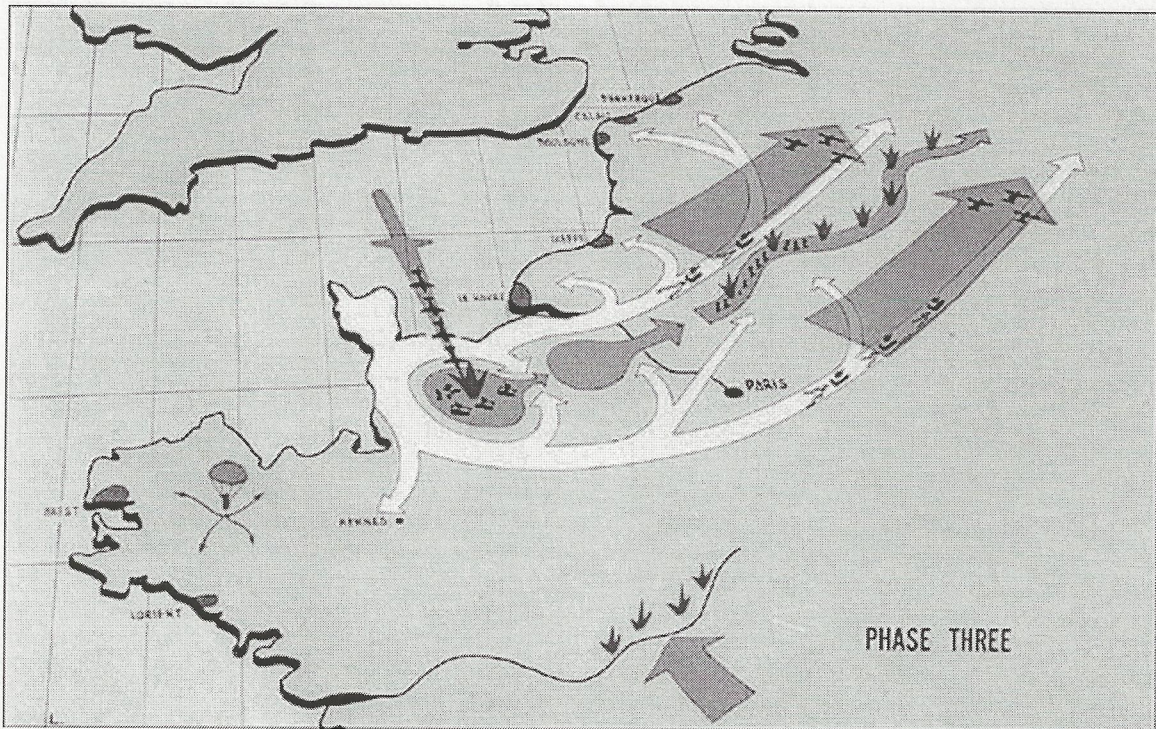
The Allied Invasion of Europe "D-day"



PHASE ONE (90 days leading up to D-day) – The campaign began with Allied air bombings of major Nazi supply lines in France (mainly railways). 12,000 Allied planes made sure the German Luftwaffe would not be a major threat. Bombings were focused in the northeast of France (between the thick lines above) to make the Germans think that the landing would occur there.



PHASE TWO (D-day and the next 55 days) – Under heavy air cover over 5,000 ships transported 130,000 troops to Normandy on June 6th, 1944, (west of where the Germans were expecting). The Germans tried to circle around the beachhead to prevent further invasion, but were subjected to constant Allied bombings from the air. The beachhead held.



PHASE THREE (55 days after D-day and on) – On July 25th 1944 the German line broke, and Allied forces poured into occupied France, liberating the country as they went. The Germans tried to reinforce their forces from the south, but were held back by Allied air cover. Allied parachutists secured Brittany (west of Normandy). The Germans began to retreat.

- Based on a report by the American Air Force, submitted 27 February 1945. Found at <http://www.wpafb.af.mil/museum/history/wwii/aaf/aaf-37.htm>

