**Legacy of D-Day – Corroborating Sources**

Canadian and World Studies Dept.

**Task:**

1. Get into groups of 3
2. As a group read the 3 accounts on D-Day.
3. After you will discuss how they are similar and how they differ.
4. Based on your investigation/discussion you will decide which one is the most credible in determining the legacy of Canada and D-Day.

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| **Source 1**  Account of Canada’s success at D-Day  John Maker, Canada War Museum  The Canadian assault beach at Juno was among the more successful. Canadians began landing at around 7:30 in the morning. The assault batallions took heavy casualties in the first waves. Through strength of numbers, fire support, artillery, and armoured squadrons, by about two hours after landing they had started to come off of the beach and began landing their reserves about an hour after their initial landings. The reserve brigade, which brought in three new batallions, came in at about 11:30 in the morning. At the end of the day, June 6, the Queen’s Own Rifles had actually captured its objective, which was short of the overall divisional objective but goes to show that some of the Canadian units were quite successful in the first hours. |
| **Source 2**  Article on overall success of D-day  Anthony Beevor, The Guardian  It is too easy to look back on the Normandy landings of Operation Overlord and assume that success was inevitable because of the allies' overwhelming strength. In fact, the break in the weather that allowed the invasion to go ahead was critical. The German navy never put to sea on the night of 5 June, and despite the legend of "bloody Omaha", allied casualties were far lower than the 10,000 expected. With around 3,000 servicemen dead, the figure was no more than the number of French civilians killed that day. |
| **Source 3**  Details on the Canada legacy at the Battle of Normandy  Veterans Affairs Canada  Against difficult odds, the Canadians advanced against the best troops the enemy had. Victory in the Normandy campaign, however, would come at a terrible cost. Three hundred and forty Canadians were killed on Juno Beach on D-Day alone and the Canadians would suffer the most casualties of any division in the British Army Group during the Battle of Normandy. More than 5,000 made the ultimate sacrifice, losing their lives, and lie buried in a place far from their homes and loved ones. Others returned home with injuries to body and mind that they carry to this day. |