

UNITED STATES NAVAL FORCES IN EUROPE
Photo Montage

Top-Three Pictures

Landing craft exercising and on the beach at Appledore on the west coast of England. Appledore was chosen for training of landing craft crews and army units because tidal conditions were comparable to those on the Normandy coast -- a difference of about 30 feet between low and high tide.

Down-Right

- 1) Seaman watching tank being unloaded from an LST (Landing Ship, Tank)
- 2) Commodore Edgar/Rear Admiral Wilkes. Commodore Edgar was Commander of the troop ships for the invasion; Rear Admiral Wilkes was Commander, Landing Craft and Bases. Wilkes commanded the United States naval bases on the south coast of England (about 125,000 men in some 10 locations) and was responsible for the amphibious training of U.S. naval units.
- 3) Seaman watching landing craft exercising at Appledore.
- 4) Rear Admiral Kirk with British officer (unidentified). Rear Admiral Kirk commanded Task Force 122, a unit of the Twelfth Fleet which was commanded by Admiral Stark who was also Commander, U.S. Naval Forces in Europe. Task Force 122 included all the U.S. naval units committed to the Normandy invasion, from battleships to landing craft. For the invasion operation, Task Force 122 was under the command of Admiral Ramsey, the British Admiral who commanded all the allied naval forces.

Bottom-Two Pictures

- 1) LCI 84 (Landing Craft Infantry) preparing for unloading.
 - 2) LST 325 (Landing Ship, Tank) with unloading bay doors open.
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Up-Left

- 1) Rear Admiral Hall, Commander of the U.S. naval forces at Omaha Beach. His unit was a part of Task 122.
- 2) Rear Admiral Struble, chief of staff to Rear Admiral Kirk.
- 3) Barrage Balloon/Rear Admiral Kirk with Aide.
- 4) LST 332 with unloading bay doors open.

Center

- Top - King George VI and Admiral Stark.. Admiral Stark was Commander, United States Naval Forces in Europe (COMNAVEU) and Commander, Twelfth Fleet.
- Center - Seamen on LCVF (Landing Craft, vehicle (1 jeep), personnel (10 men)).
- Bottom - Rear Admiral Moore with Aides. Moore was Commander of the U.S. naval forces at Utah Beach. His unit was a part of Task Force 122.

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Eugene Shedden Farley Library
WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703
October 22, 1981

Mrs. Edwin W. Semans
4952 Sentinel Drive
Sumner Village Apt. 402
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Mrs. Semans:

As you may know, I acknowledged receipt of the "Number Twenty..." photograph of your father's Grosvenor Square headquarters to Attorney David W. Richmond whom I also thought was its donor.

In response to my letter, Mr. Richmond provided more information about the picture and corrected my assumption about the donor.

Thank you once again for your active concern with your father's memorial in the Library exemplified by this most recent gift of the "Number Twenty..." photograph from his estate. Please, also, dear Mrs. Semans, convey our appreciation to Mrs. Gillespie and Mr. Mulligan.

Cordially,

Dale A. Buehler
Dale A. Buehler
Chief Librarian

*This picture is over the table to the right
of the door going into the Adm. Staff Room*

Description of tray given to Admiral Stark by the officers of his staff (Naval Force in Europe) on his 64th birthday , November 12, 1944.

- (1) Made by Crichton who is one of the best Silversmiths in London.
- (2) It is a copy of Early George II Design about 1730 - This was considered a very good period for silver design.

INSCRIPTION:

Admiral Harold Raynsford Stark
United States Navy
Presented
on the occasion of his Sixty-fourth Birthday
by the officers who have had the
honor to serve under his Command
in the
United States Naval Forces,
Europe
November 12, 1944