



Smashing Hitler's Atlantic Wall: The Destruction of the Nazi Coastal Fortresses

By Patrick Delaforce

Thistle Publishing. Paperback. Condition: New. 296 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.5in. x 0.7in. When, in September 1940, Adolf Hitler cancelled Operation SEALION, the proposed invasion of Britain by secret edict, he ordered the construction by the Todt Organisation of 1,500 miles of Atlantic Wall defences along the French, Belgian and Dutch coastlines. Every seaport was turned into a fortress. Hitler designed the layout and military defences of each one and specified the quality and quantity of cement and steel required. He personally appointed the commandants who swore an oath of allegiance and promised to fight to the finish. Winston Churchill and his generals meanwhile were planning how to break into the Atlantic Wall fortresses. After the stunning success of D-Day and Operation OVERLORD, Allied forces had to seize key fortress-ports to get supplies landed. The Mulberry harbours on the Normandy beaches were vulnerable to the weather and could supply only a fraction of the Allies requirements. The Americans fought their way up the Cotentin Peninsula to try to capture Cherbourg, St Malo, Brest, Lorient and St Nazaire. At the same time the Canadian and British forces were hammering their way up the left flank, capturing Le Havre, Dieppe, Boulogne, Calais...



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