If you are a veteran, or know a veteran, of one of these campaigns – contact Don Patton at cell 612-867-5144 or coldpatton@yahoo.com
congestion on the beach and tough house to house fighting in Courseulles-sur-Mer, the Canadians were only got within sight of the Carpiquet airfield by D-Day nightfall.

Gold Beach, five miles wide at the center of the Normandy landings, included the coastal towns of La Riviére and La Hamel, and, on the western end of the beach, the small port of Arromanches. The British objective here was to cut the Caen-Bayeux Highway, link up with the Americans at Omaha Beach to the west at Port-en-Bessin, and link up to the east with the Canadians. By the end of June 6th the British 50th Infantry Division had hooked up with the Canadians six miles inland but not with the Americans from Omaha Beach. The No.47 (Royal Marines) Commandos took the small town of Port-en-Bessin the next day.

The initial assaults on the three beaches went well. The Canadians and the British on Gold linked up and moved inland, but were unable to seize the Caen-Bayeux Highway and the Carpiquet airfield. The biggest failure of D-Day was the failure to take Caen as scheduled. That night, The 12th Panzer SS Division (Hitler Jugend) moved into place. It took the British-Canadian forces a month to take the city.

Officials British histories attribute this failure to unexpectedly high tides, congestion on shore, the strength of German opposition, and a lack of urgency.

Over the next month, the American troops moved west toward St. Ló and Cherbourg, while the British and Canadians moved southeast toward Caen. The Germans Atlantic Wall had been breached.

Further Readings:
Terry Copp, Fields of Fire (Univ. of Toronto: 2104).
Ted Barris, Juno: Canadians at D-Day: June 6, 1944 (Markham, ON: Thomas Allen Publishers, 2004).
David Bercuson, Maple Leaf against the Axis (Red Deer, ON: Red Deer Press, 2004).
Lance Goddard, D-Day: Juno Beach: Canada’s 24 Hours of Destiny (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2004).

Announcements:
Twin Cities Civil War Round Table – Sept. 16, 2014 – Atlanta Campaign - www.tccwrt.com - info@tccwrt.com
St Croix Valley Civil War Round Table – Sept. 29, 2014 – Antietam - 715-386-1268 – rossandhaines@comcast.net
Rochester WWII History Round Table –507-280-9970; www.ww2roundtable-rochester.org

See our programs on YouTube at http://youtube.com/ww2hrt

Honor Flight - Jerry Kyser - crazyjerry45@hotmail - 651-338-2717
CAF - Commemorative Air Force - www.cafmn.org 651-455-6942

Friends of Ft. Snelling, www.fortsnelling.org

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Round Table Schedule 2014 - 2015
11 Sept. British-Canadian Beaches at D-Day
2 Oct. Glider Operations (note day change)
23 Oct. Thai-Burma Death Railroad
13 Nov. Deutsch Lecture: The OSS
11 Dec. Christmas at Bastogne
8 Jan. Myth of the German Offensive
12 Feb. Italian Struggle
12 Mar. Logistics of War
26 Mar. Return to the Philippines
9 Apr. Air War in the Mediterranean
14 May Retrospective: Goals of WW2 Leaders