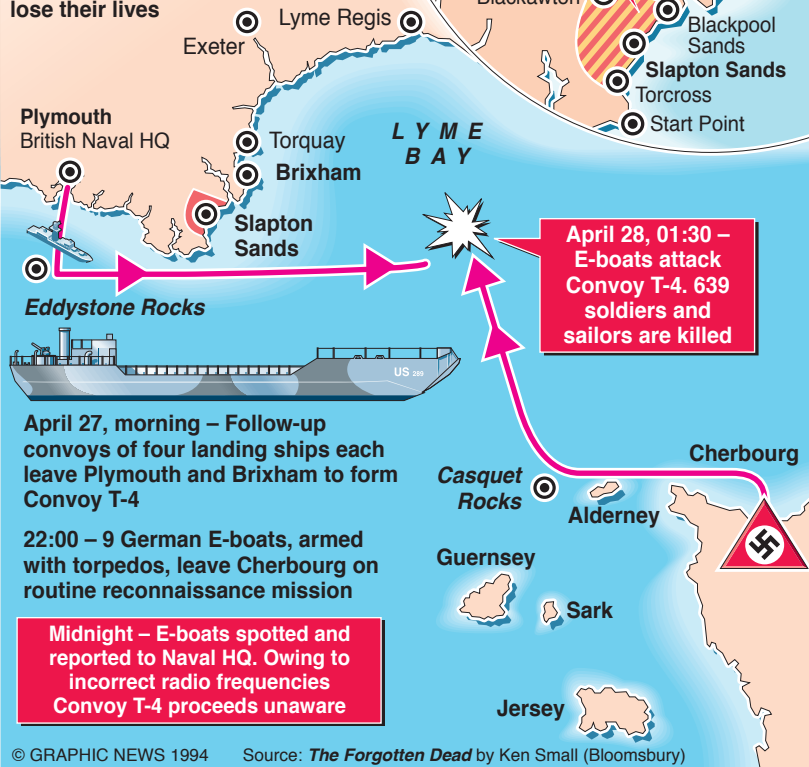


# The forgotten dead of Slapton Sands

April 27, 1944: A D-Day rehearsal goes tragically wrong when typing errors in a list of radio frequencies cause chaos between Allied forces. Many troops are unaware that live ammunition is being used and landing craft miss a vital warning. Almost 1,000 U.S. servicemen lose their lives

Casualties mount as Allied ships pound beach with live shells. Random cross fire between U.S. 'invaders' and 'defenders' causes further deaths



Plymouth  
British Naval HQ

Exeter  
Lyme Regis

Torquay  
Brixham

Slapton  
Sands

LYME  
BAY

Blackawton

Blackpool  
Sands

Slapton Sands

Torcross

Start Point

Eddystone Rocks

April 28, 01:30 –  
E-boats attack  
Convoy T-4. 639  
soldiers and  
sailors are killed

April 27, morning – Follow-up  
convoys of four landing ships each  
leave Plymouth and Brixham to form  
Convoy T-4

22:00 – 9 German E-boats, armed  
with torpedos, leave Cherbourg on  
routine reconnaissance mission

Midnight – E-boats spotted and  
reported to Naval HQ. Owing to  
incorrect radio frequencies  
Convoy T-4 proceeds unaware

Casquet  
Rocks

Alderney

Guernsey

Sark

Jersey

Cherbourg

