



Their mission: to liberate France!

American soldiers* Bob and Jim are brothers.

On 6 June 1944, they land* in Normandy.

Their mission is to liberate* France, which is still* occupied by Nazi Germany* after four years of war*.



Midday*, 6 June 1944. The captain of the 4th Infantry* Division speaks to his soldiers*, who have just landed* on Utah Beach, France.



Boys, our mission is to liberate* the port of Cherbourg!



Our tanks did a great job!

Yes, Jim. They wiped* out the German* defences.

WHAT?

The **Normandy landings*** were the military operations to liberate* France during **World*** **War II**.

WHEN?

The Normandy landings*, or **D-Day**, took* place **80** years ago*, on **6 June 1944**.

WHO?

The **Allies** (the **USA**, **Britain** and **Canada**) landed* troops on Normandy's **beaches***.

HELP!

ago (80 years): il y a 80 ans

beach: plage

German: allemand

Germany: Allemagne

infantry: infanterie

land: débarquer ; faire débarquer

landings: débarquements

liberate: libérer

midday: midi

soldier: soldat, militaire

still: encore

took place (p) take place (inf): avoir lieu

war: guerre

World War II: Seconde Guerre mondiale

wipe out: anéantir

HELP!

asleep: endormi

beach: plage

broken (pp) broke (p)
break (inf): casser

careful: faites attention,
soyez prudents

cross the countryside:
traverser la campagne

die: mourir

dig a hole:
creuser un trou

field: champs

flood: inonder

German: Allemand

later: plus tard

leg: jambe

parachute drop:
largage de parachutes

plane: avion

poor guy: pauvre gars

shoot: tirez ! feu !

still: toujours

trap: piéger

The 4th Division starts to cross* the French countryside.



10pm.



A few days later*, near the village of Montebourg.



After 12 days of fighting*, the Americans liberate* Montebourg. They try to communicate with people in the village.



HELP!

ammunition: munitions

cider: cidre

fighting: combats

finally reach:
atteindre enfin

German: allemand

hardly any left (I've):
il ne m'en reste
quasiment plus

hide in the cellar:
se cacher dans la cave

liberate: libérer

scared: effrayé

surrender: se rendre

whatever the cost:
coûte que coûte

On 27 June, the 4th Division finally* reaches Cherbourg.



Jim must attack a German* bunker.



HELP!

back home: chez moi

beans: haricots

between fields:
entre les champs

Coke: Coca

countryside: campagne

damn: mince !

destroy: détruire

finally: enfin

German: Allemand

Germany: Allemagne

hands of (in the):
sous contrôle de

hedge: haie, buisson

hide everyone:
cachez-vous tous,
baissez-vous

hunt down: pourchasser

land: débarquer

leave: quitter

rebuild: reconstruire

shower: douche

since: depuis que

suddenly: soudain

taken (pp) took (p) take (inf): prendre

thankfully:
heureusement

thousands: des milliers

Wehrmacht: l'armée
du III^e Reich sous Hitler

Cherbourg is finally* liberated at the start of July!



In Germany*, Hitler is furious.

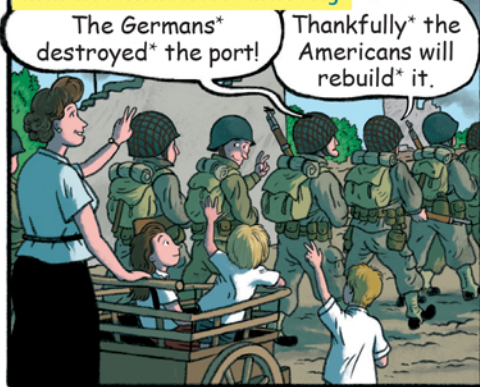
Cherbourg is in the hands* of the Allied troops! The officers of the Wehrmacht* are incompetent!



In Jim and Bob's camp.



Then the soldiers leave* Cherbourg.



They hunt* down the Germans in the countryside*.



Suddenly*.



On the German* side...



At the start of August, the soldiers have a little time* off...



HELP!

brothers in arms:
frères d'armes

by (someone's) side:
à ses côtés

die: mourir

fed up (to be):
en avoir marre

fight: combattre

German side (on the):
du côté allemand

let them come closer:
laissez-les s'approcher

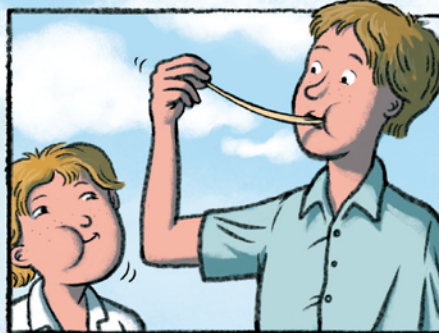
strong: courageux

time off: temps libre

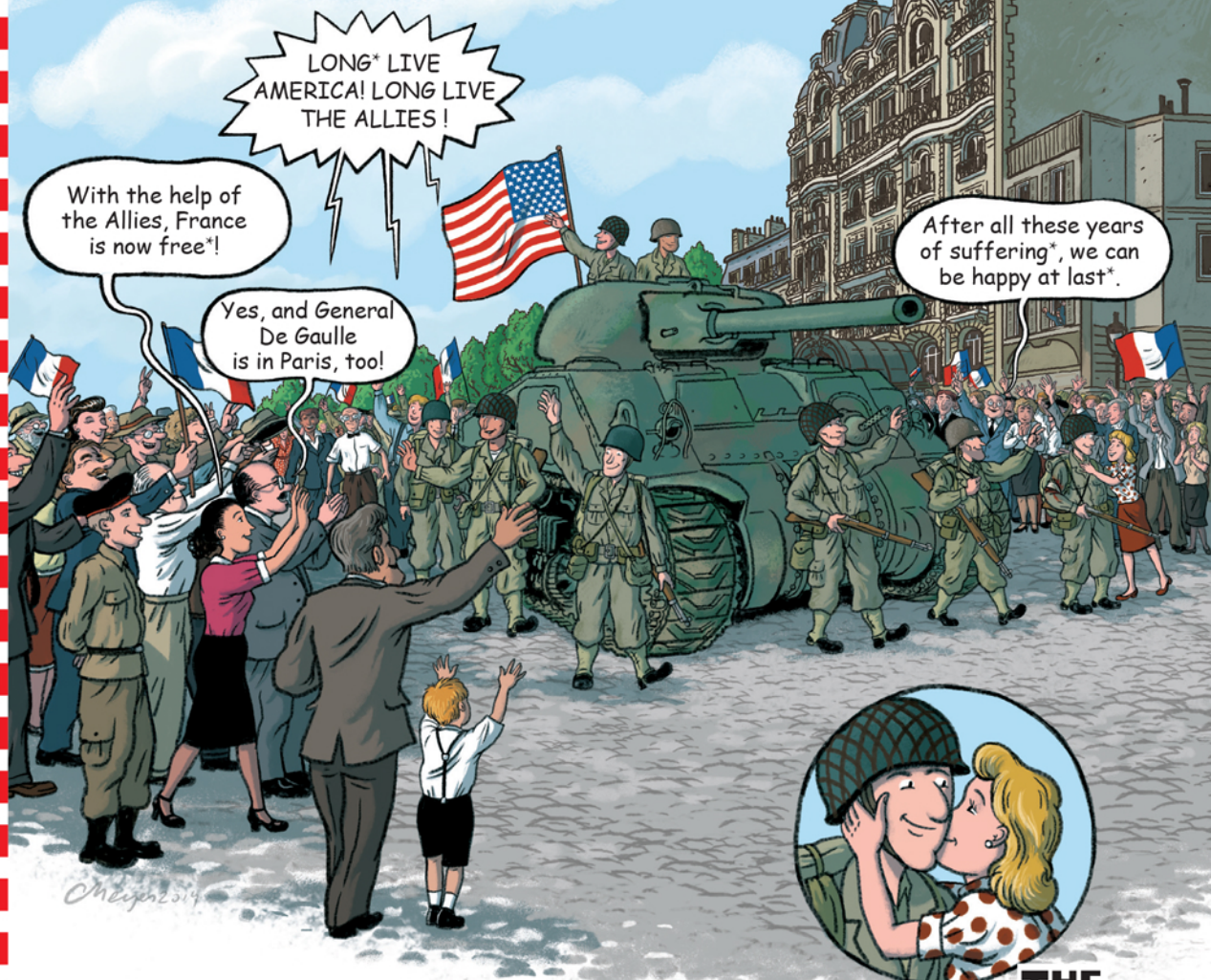
war: guerre

HELP!

- arm: bras
- bullet: balle
- chew: mâchonner
- free: libre
- German: Allemand
- graze the skin: érafler la peau
- here: tiens !
- infantry: infanterie
- last (at): enfin
- long live: vive
- nothing: rien (de grave)
- retreat: battre en retraite, se retirer
- suffering: souffrance



On 25 August 1944, Bob and the 4th Infantry* Division of the US Army enter Paris.



**THE
END**

Textes : Catherine Loizeau. Illustrations : Cyrille Meyer. Reprise Images Doc n° 306. Adaptation : Lesley Ormal-Grenon.