

## D Day on the Roseland 2

The American soldiers, mostly 18 and 19 year olds, from the 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, were the ones who came to this area and were sent to Tolverne and Turnaware. These areas had been selected as places where the allied forces could load troops, guns and tanks onto landing craft.. At Tolverne hundreds of local men built the hard and a large jetty stretching half way across the river. They built a hard and 2 jetties at Turnaware. The narrow lanes to both these areas had to be widened and concreted to allow the convoys to deliver the men and equipment to the area. The beaches and the jetties were strictly guarded with 40mm AA guns as the operation was very secret..



The troops camped in the woodlands and fields, well camouflaged under canvas and in corrugated huts, The dense woodland also hid holding tanks, jeeps, trucks, artillery and ammunition waiting to be transported to Normandy. The men waited and trained for the event, practising running landing craft on to the beach in St. Mawes harbour at low tide. The remains of these piers and camps can still be seen. The decision for “Operation Overlord” to begin was made.



However bad weather delayed the departure so on the night of June 1st 13 landing craft left Tolverne and Turnaware for assembly with other South coast units off the Isle of Wight before leaving for Omaha Beach. A total of 11,000 tons of supplies were dispatched every day from the south coast embarkation points to the battlefields of Normandy. Although many men lost their lives during the invasion the success of the invasion signalled the beginning of the end of WW11.