

navigation, as many of the convoy tracks had perforce to cross each other, due to the fact that the troops embarked in convoys sailing from Oran were required for the Southern Sector of the assault beaches. A special channel was swept through the minefields between Sicily and Tunisia to allow the assault forces to pass West of Sicily.

7. The decision by Commanding General Fifth Army to advance H-Hour by 30 minutes was not taken until 24th August and was one which involved a considerable number of alterations to the convoy sailing and routeing programmes, all of which had to be signalled, as by that time the Operation Orders were in course of distribution.

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