

Pegasus Bridge



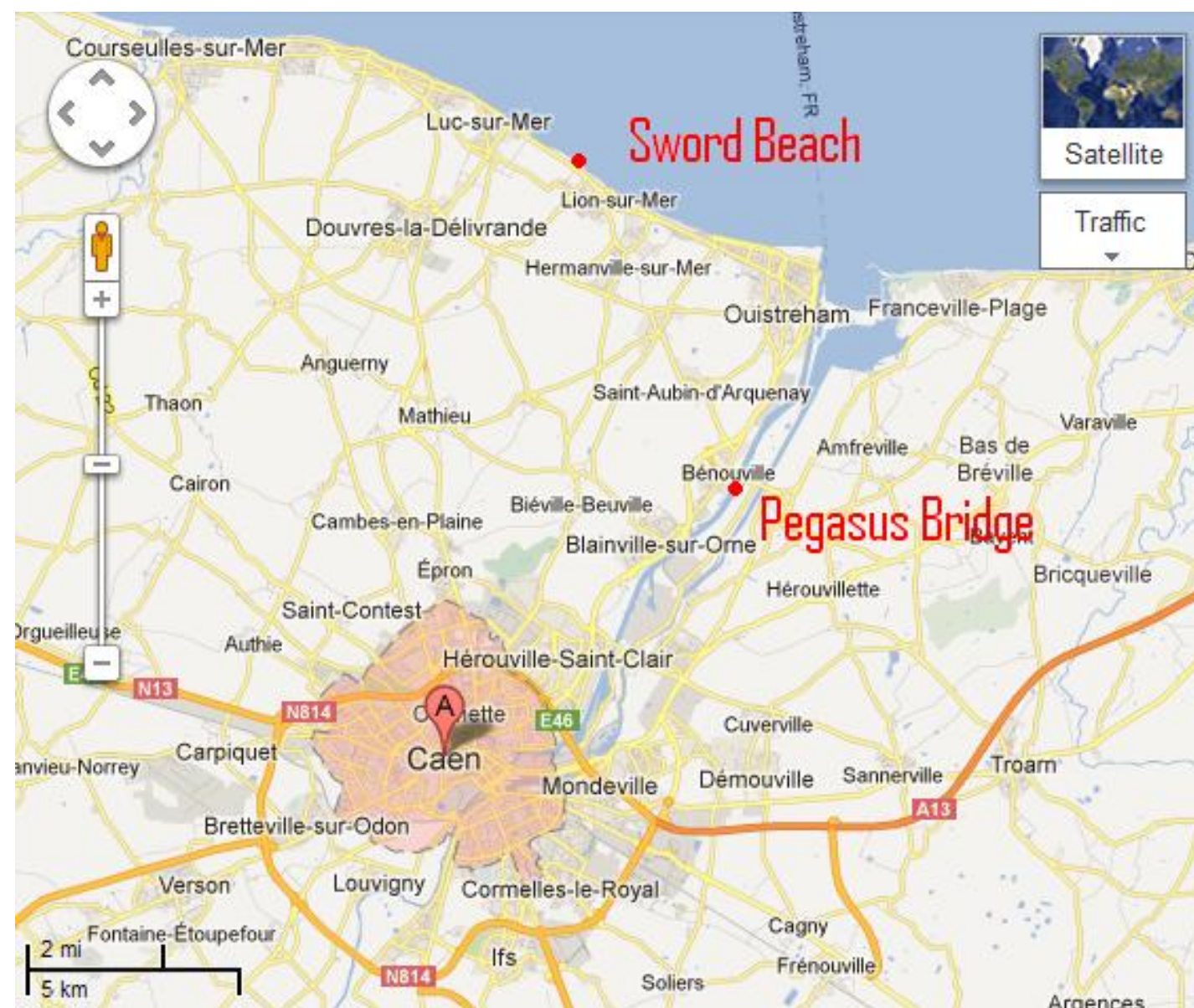
The first victory of D-Day
6 June 1944



British
airborne soldiers



D-day / 6 June 1944 / Operation Overlord
/ 156,000 Allied troops / British /
American / Canadian / 5 beaches /
Western Europe liberation



Near Sword Beach / reinforcements could move quickly / attack (Germans) / move inland (Allies)



Pegasus Bridge, 9 June 1944; [Horsa gliders](#) can be seen top right where they landed. 

Operation deadstick

Major John Howard / 181 British soldiers/
capture/ Bridge / intact / no / destruction



A silent attack

no parachute / wooden horsa gliders /
silent approach / land together / heavy
equipment / accuracy



landing : 50 metres / bridge

CAPTURING THE BRIDGE



Time: Around 00:16 on 6 June 1944
Capture / 10 minutes

One of the first British soldiers
killed on D-Day was Lieutenant
Den Brotheridge during the
assault.

Holding Pegasus Bridge



British troops / defend / bridge /
until / reinforcements

Why Was the Mission Successful?



Excellent planning/ Months of training/Surprise/Accurate glider landings/Strong leadership by Major Howard /Teamwork and determination.

Why Does Pegasus Bridge Matter Today?



Protect the eastern flank of the D-Day landings /
Prevent German tanks from attacking Sword Beach quickly/
Allow Allied forces to advance inland.

Today:
The original bridge is preserved in a museum.
A new bridge now stands in its place
Thousands of visitors visit the site every year to remember
the soldiers.

