

Download Operation Avalanche; The Salerno Landings 1943

Invasion of Italy; Part of the Italian Campaign of World War II: Troops and vehicles being landed under shell fire during the invasion of mainland Italy at Salerno, September 1943. Some forty years later, the Allied landings on the Italian coast at Salerno before dawn on September 9, 1943, seem only a part of one of the half-forgotten campaigns of World War II. Operation Avalanche, or the battle of Salerno (9-18 September 1943) was the main part of the Allied invasion of the Italian mainland, and saw a joint Anglo-American force land in the Gulf of Salerno, where it had to fight off a severe German counterattack before the position was fully secured. Operation "AVALANCHE" – Assault Landings at Salerno D-Day, 9th September 1943 . In Operation Avalanche, the task was "to seize the port of Naples and to secure the airfields in the Naples area with a view to preparing a firm base for further operations." (1) The Gulf of Salerno, south of Naples was chosen as the landing place for the assault.