

**Bushy Park Historical Collection**

Study resource booklet

**Brief**

The Royal Parks had a limited spend for this 24 page booklet telling the vital part Bushy Park played during the lead up to D-Day. Imagery was supplied as original archive photographic prints, photocopies and many precious original items.

The brief specified a piece of literature which could be sold for a small cover price in park outlets.

**Solution**

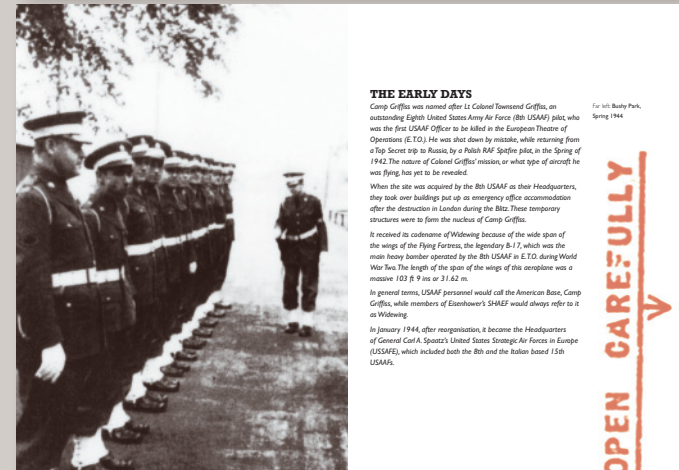
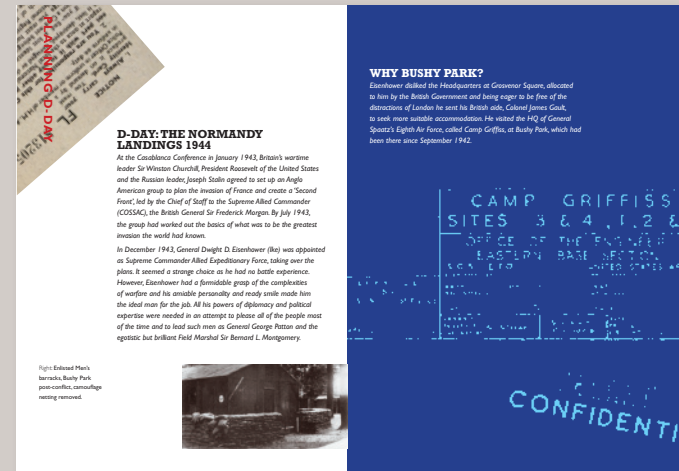
Our copywriter teased the salient facts from a well documented history to create a simple narrative of the build-up to the D-Day invasion in the park.

We researched the use of camouflage during World War II and discovered a textured pattern used on the Dennison smocks by British paratroopers. It was perfect for a background image on the cover design and also suited the 'utility grade' recycled stock.

**Result**

Now in its third edition, frequent and regular reprints have been testimony to the success of the booklet.

1 of 2 pages



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2 of 2 pages



**SUPREME HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE  
CAMP GRIFFISS  
BUSHY PARK**

- 1. Eisenhower's Office
- 2. Tedder's Office
- 3. Morgan's Office
- 4. A Block
- 5. B Block
- 6. C Block
- 7. D Block
- 8. Warren Plantation
- 9. Chestnut Avenue

PLANNING D-DAY

**EISENHOWER'S OFFICE**  
The site of Eisenhower's office along with the remains of Camp Griffiss were demolished in the early 1960's when the Americans finally vacated the site. The office was modest. Key Summersby, his British driver and companion, wrote '...it shocked visitors who expected grandeur in the Supreme Commander's inner sanctum'. The office covered some 400sq ft, his desk was square with three flags on the top, his own four star general's flag and those of the USA and Great Britain. There were two buzzers, one to call Key and the other summoned his personal secretary Mattie Pinette. He had two telephones on a table nearby, one of them his green 'scrambler' for secret conversations.

Around him hung pictures of his wife, Mamie, his son John and his mother, Ida. There were also signed photographs of US President Roosevelt, Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, (first Sea Lord and Sir Winston Churchill's principal naval strategist), and General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff. The walls also held secret maps which were locked behind silver screens when anyone under the rank of Lieutenant came into the room. A swivel chair, a couch and two armchairs completed the furnishings.

It is not surprising that he needed rest and relaxation, which he got reading Whitstons and riding horses in Richmond Park. He even tried his hand at sketching, drawing pine trees from his office window, which may have been those which can be seen still in Warren Plantation to the southeast of his office. He was not pleased with his efforts, writing across a sketch of Telegraph Cottage the word 'batony'?

Office building in camp Griffiss including one under camouflage net on right. Six machines were dug when they started arriving. Photo: Alan Pearson, War History, NJ

The eyes of the world are upon you...

Captain Samuel L. Effington (C.O.) Sergeant Jack Frank Sergeant John Powers, Cox Colonel Sam, Bushy Park

PLANNING D-DAY

**THE TEAM**  
Eisenhower assembled around himself and Tedder the team who were to put the icing on General Morgan's invasion cake. It was Sir Winston Churchill who proposed the appointment of Admiral Bertram Ramsey to lead the predominantly British Naval forces. Ramsey had commanded at Dunkirk, and at the landing in North Africa; his experience would come in useful if things became difficult on the beaches.

Montgomery was designated Commander of the Ground forces – an appointment which was to prove fateful, as his constant disagreements with the American Army commanders over strategy and tactics disrupted the close cooperation which Eisenhower considered vital for the smooth running of this team.

Entrance to the D Block, Camp Griffiss

PLANNING D-DAY

Air Chief Marshal Leigh-Mallory took command of the newly formed Allied Tactical Air Force, which comprised the British 2nd and the American 9th Air Forces.

The plans and ideas of these men and their staffs, hatched in this quiet spot, were destined to write the pages of history and to secure the future of the free world.

**THE HISTORIAN'S TALE**  
Stephen E. Ambrose records in his book, Eisenhower, The Soldier, how Patton visited the Supreme Commander on 6 March 1944. He was shown into the office while Ike was talking on the phone to Tedder 'Now listen, Arthur, Eisenhower was saying, 'I am sick of dealing with a lot of prima donnas. By God you tell that bunch that if they can't get together and stop quarrelling like children, I'll tell the Prime Minister to get someone else to run this damn war. I'll quit!'

Another visit by Patton, recorded by Ambrose, occurred on 1 May 1944. He was to be hailed over the coals for remarks he had made to the press.

'Patton was ushered into Eisenhower's office. An old hand at getting out of a fix, Patton let out all the stops. He was plunged into despair, said he felt the death, but he would fight if they would let him. He dramatically offered to resign his commission to save his dearest friend from embarrassment.'

Eisenhower decided not to send him home, Ambrose says '...the very qualities that made him a great actor also made him a great commander and Eisenhower knew it.'