PLAYING THE NAZIS FOR DUMMIES!

During the night/early hours of the 6th of June 1944, Allied aircraft dropped 500 'paradummies' over 4 different locations to pretend that paratroopers were landing in areas away from where the actual troops were to land. The aim of this was to confuse the Germans as to where an invasion would be taking place.





The dummies were called 'Ruperts' and were made of cut canvas material and filled with straw or sand to form the shape of a person.

Some Ruperts were fitted with a small explosive charge designed to burn the canvas after landing. This made it harder for the Germans to figure out what was going on.

For instructions on how to make your own Rupert, please turn over...



HOW TO MAKE A RUPERT PARATROOPER DUMMY.



You will need: 1 circular parachute (20 x 20cm), 2 pieces of string, 1 piece of paper, sticky tape, glue.

Tip: use baking parchment to make your circle.

Step one:

Fold the circular parachute in to quarters.



Step two:

- Tape or tie the first string from the top corner to the bottom corner.
- Tape the second string from the left corner to the right corner.



Step three:

- Pull the strings away from your parachute and use your fingers to 'plump' it out.
- Where the strings meet, attach a small piece of sticky tape to tie them together.



Step four:

- Fold the paper in half and then fold it in half again.
- Draw a 'half man' shape on one side, making sure the head is where the top fold is. Carefully cut out your half man, making sure you do not cut any of the attaching folds.



Step five:

- Unfold your man and 'hook' him over the sticky taped string.
- Glue his two sides together.
- Hold your paratrooper dummy by the edges of the parachute, lift him high above your head and let go!