

## Video 3

### Explosive weapons in the Battle of the Bulge



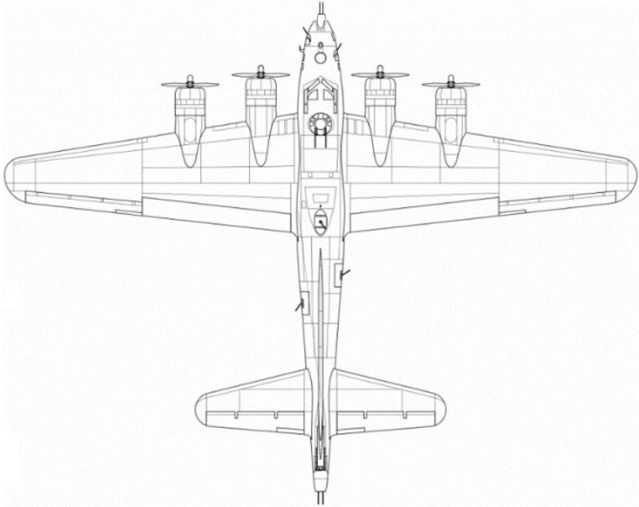
#### 1. Why did Hitler plan his major offensive in December 1944?

Choose the correct answer.

- The German tanks were more effective in the snow than American tanks.
- Hitler hoped bad weather would prevent American warplanes from participating heavily in the battle.
- An attack shortly before Christmas was meant to demotivate the American opponents.
- Hitler believed that American soldiers from warmer regions of the U.S. (Texas, Florida, California, ...) would perform poorly in winter combat.



2. The „B-17“ was an American heavy bomber of the Second World War, nicknamed “*flying fortress*”, because it carried multiple heavy machine guns to defend itself against enemy fighter planes.

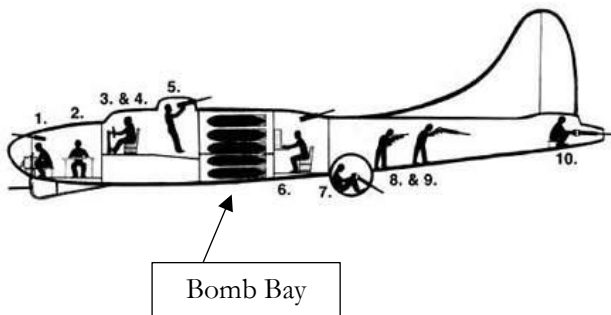


Machine gun : Browning M2 .50 cal

Take a look at this model and find out how many machine guns the „B-17“ was equipped with.



3. The „B-17 carried its bombs in the „bomb bay“.



What are bombs called, which fail to explode after being dropped and remain dangerous?

- Sleeping bombs
- Duds
- Deviators
- Explosive scraps



4. Label the objects below with the fitting name.



1. S-Mine („*Bouncing Betty*“)
2. M1A1 anti-tank mine
3. Mk2 hand grenade
4. Sprengbombe Dickwandig 2 („*Butterfly Bomb*“, or „*Teufelsei*“ [= „*Devil's Egg*“])
5. Stockmine 43 („*Stick mine*“)
6. Schützenmine 42 („*Rifleman's mine*“)
7. Aerial bomb
8. Glasmine 43 („*Glass mine*“)

The *Glasmine 43* was a German anti-personnel mine used in the Second World War.

The *Glasmine 43* was designed with as few metal parts as possible, in order to reduce its discoverability with mine detectors. Glass shards are also very hard to see on x-ray images, making them harder to remove and increasing the danger of infection. So even if a wound looked fairly light from the outside, it could be life-threatening to the victim.



5. The *S-Mine* was a particularly cruel German landmine. Due to the way it worked, the Americans called it "*Bouncing Betty*".



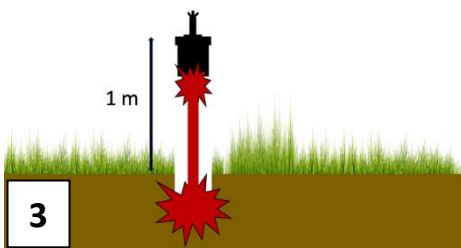
Match the pictures with the correct explanations.



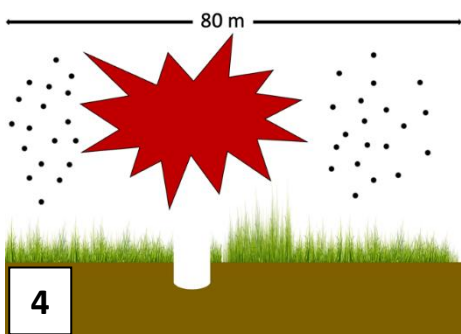
Three antennas and a stretched wire cause a first explosion when a victim trips over the mine.



Then there's a second explosion, spreading the mine's contents up to 80 meters in each direction.



The mine is buried and carefully camouflaged.



The mine bounces up to a metre into the air.

The mine contains sharp metal balls, rusty nails and sometimes even glass shards, all of which pierce the opponent's skin. They cause dangerous wounds and infections. Often, such mines would wound multiple soldiers at the same time, since they exploded into all directions.