

War Games - Operation Market Garden

Come watch a re-fight (in miniature) of the historic battle for Arnhem towards the end of World War 2, from 19 - 26 September 1944.

Race to the Rhine...

The battle for Arnhem, or more accurately Operation Market Garden, was a bold attempt by the British XXX Corps, supported by two American Airborne Divisions (82nd and 101st), and the British 1st Airborne Division, to break through the weakened German front lines, race across seven rivers (including the Upper Rhine River), and capture the northern Dutch town of Arnhem. (The Chavonnes Battery is a Dutch Fort)

This daring plan was conceived and executed by Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery, who claimed that, if the Operation was successful, the Allies could mount a massive 'right hook' into Germany, and the war could be over by Christmas. Resistance was expected to be weak at best, but the Allied planners failed to take into account two crack Panzer Divisions that had been sent to the Arnhem area to rest and re-fit...

A Bridge Too Far...

The original plan had the Allies entering Arnhem on 23rd September; and, had the plan worked, it is highly likely that the war could have ended sooner than it did. But alas, the plan did not work, and the Allies were eventually thrown back across the Rhine by the Germans, after suffering horrendous losses.

Peninsula War Games Group

The re-fight of this historic but ill-fated battle will be conducted by the members of Peninsula War Games Group; the Allied players will be attempting to 'change the course of history' - and the German players will be as determined as their historical counterparts to stop them!

So come along and see for yourself; will the Allies win this time around, or will the Germans remain undefeated.....?

The Chavonnes Battery was the first coastal fortification to protect Table Bay besides The Castle.

Built in 1714 and completed in 1726 by the then Governor, Maurice Pasque, Marquis de Chavonnes.

The Chavonnes Battery was buried when the Alfred Basin was built in 1860. One hundred and forty years later, when Nedbank/BOE built their new offices, the ruins were discovered and turned into a museum - The Chavonnes Battery Museum is the only museum to showcase the Early History of Cape Town and is located on the original Cape Town shoreline.

Step below sea-level, experience the ambience, wear an 18th century tricorne hat and take photos with the cannons. Staff in period costume execute drills and marching routines, occasionally firing the cannons.

The museum is open Monday to Sunday from 9am to 4pm. Guided Tours of the museum and the V&A Historical Walking Tour are available by pre-booking. This distinctive setting is suited to memorable events, adjacent to a state-of-the-art auditorium, Clock Tower Square, V&A Waterfront.

Date: 15 December 2012 to 17 December 2012

Time: 09:00 - 17:00

Venue: Chavonnes Battery Museum, Cape Town

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