SS.912.A.6.1 World War II - Example 11 Answer

The excerpt below is from an order issued in Florida during World War II.

You are hereby requested to take the following steps to comply with the recent blackout order . . .
(1) . . . have extinguished all street lights on water front streets and highways at once . . .
(2) Screen water front side lights on all streets running down to the water front . . .
(3) Screen all advertising lights and lighted windows near beach front . . .
(4) Screen all bright lights on seawards side, directly visible from the sea, and within two miles from the water front . . .
(5) In case of brightly lighted installation near beach have the light so directed and screened so that no direct light can be seen from off shore.

By order of the: Palm Beach Civilian Defense Council
O.B. Carr, Executive Director

Why did the state of Florida issue this order?
A. to limit community social activities during the war
B. to conserve scarce energy resources during the war
C. to conceal coastal military operations from German spies
D. to protect coastal settlements from German submarine attacks

Answer

D. to protect coastal settlements from German submarine attacks

During WWII, German submarine attacks were disastrous to the movement of supplies to Europe. The Allies also feared the long range capability of the German submarines and whether or not they could reach such places as the U.S. Coast. These orders were mandated to protect against the possibility of a German Submarine attack that would be able to recognize a city because of its lights shining out towards the water.